100,000 TAKE CONTROL OF LONDON'S STREETS

For workers control and international socialism

Socialist Worker Reporters

ON OCTOBER 27, 100,000 marched on the most militant demonstration seen in Britain since the war.

The mobilisation for a victory for the National Liberation Front in South Vietnam is in no way like the pacifist CND marches of the 1960s. Last Sunday the marchers took command of the streets. There was no confrontation with the police because the political and political strength of the demonstration forced the state to retreat and allow the marchers to dictate their terms.

Real threat

This tremendous self-confidence and discipline goes a long way to dispel the threat to the capitalist system. Yet if the anti-war movement can link up with struggles and campaigns for the dismantling of the war machine, then the basis for a revolutionary movement can be consolidated.

And it is this real and political threat that the press deliberately played down. The drumbeat of the attack was carried out on the hundreds of thousands of marchers in a small and less patriotic section to Grovehouse Square for a press conference with the police.

Bad day

The press spotlighted every move of the march, knowing these punches would give their working-class enemies a field day. The marchers, on the other hand, were playing a campaign of self-defence. They were not marched on by the police. They smashed their way through the police and actually pushed them out of the way.

The marchers were warned of a plot to seize the stations by the police. The police used their powers to hold back the marchers but they were simply pushed back by the mass of people.

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Protest at Ulster visit

NORTHERN IRELAND Prime Minister James Chichester-Clark is in London this week to see Prime Minister Edward Heath. His visit is expected to be a difficult one for Heath, who is trying to maintain a balance between Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK.

Czech youth fight on

CZECHOSLOVAK RESISTANCE to the armed invasion by Russian imperialism goes on.

The demonstration by some 3,000 young people in Prague on Monday (the anniversary of the foundation of the Czechoslovak republic) was a huge gesture of defiance. The marchers shouted that their "protest" could bring the tanks rumbling back, with more indiscriminate killing of civilians.

Fervour

Now this has been largely replaced by nationalist fervour and opposition to all Russian responsibility for this must lie with Dubcek and company. They sought mass support in their struggle to oust the Soviet regime in order to modernise Czech state capitalism, not to transform it into socialism. If the present ferment among young Czech workers and students develops a reliance on rank and file activity and the creation of a genuine mass movement, then their struggle for liberation may bypass the national state and open up the real possibility of the workers' power.

AEF CHOICE

President Richard Nixon's choice of Henry Kissinger as his new national security advisor has led to speculation that the US may be planning a war in Vietnam. The move has been seen as a signal that the US is determined to keep Vietnam in the war.

ENGINEER'S CONVERSION TO PRODUCTIVITY

No, 95 November 21, 1969
The engineers’ leaders are using rank-and-file pressure to win new concessions

How do things stand now with the engineers’ pay claim? The Times reported on October 25 how the Amalgamated Engineering and Foundryworkers Union will soon be sending round a detailed account of the negoti- ations with the Ministry of Defence, which caused it to ‘encourage’ them to call meetings of stewards to discuss it. The talks will certainly have the effect, the report went on, of stirring up militant elements in unoffi- cial industrial action in view of rank-and-file opposition to productivity concessions.

The executive of the AEF has proposed its new pay claim from November 4 to 22, and by that time, there should be enough trouble to make employers and government anxious to resume the negotiations. And the negotiating teams of the leading unions, the AEF could come again have the initiative.

The employers’ leaders, on the other hand, are under pressure from the threat of rank-and-file pressure to force further concessions. But they can still use the threat of a return to a national strike to back up the demands. And how much can be left at stake by then?

The gap at the breakdown of negotiations on October 25 has already so narrowed that, together with the failure of the leadership to conduct a real and active campaign to explain the demands to the rank and file, much of the head of steam will already have escaped.

What do the concessions by the employers amount to? The Observer on October 20 calculated their claim to have included 63 per cent over four years, but on union calculations, an 80 per cent increase. A drop in prices of 10 per cent in 1973 has hit the coming wage talks hard, and the cost of living rise must be factored in. By today’s time a substantial increase will, in union terms, mean a substantial increase in the terms of reference of the JCUC.

On October 9, the AEF executive decided not to campaign against the government’s intention to cut pay and conditions, however, as it was a new move in the strategic plan for industrial action. From now on, the AEF leaders are seeking the demands of the JCUC and the new work of the stewards, who are seeking to promote the idea of a national strike, and to use the threat of strike action to force concessions.

In the meantime, the AEF leaders are sending a message to the employers that they will not accept the conclusion that the government has reached, and that they will not be bound by the JCUC. They are asking for a meeting to discuss the future of the JCUC and the new work of the stewards, and to use the threat of strike action to force concessions.

And on productivity, Scahon has dropped his earlier insistence on an acceptancr of productivity before even discussing it, and according to the British Steel Corporation’s plan to accept shift-work, time-motion analysis and other techniques of ‘respective practices’. An active and militant rank-and-file militants can still save the day, but the only way to understand how things come to a head is by intense discussions.

In an interview with the Socialist Journal, New Left Review editor, who had earlier called for a national strike, said: “They will not accept the conclusion that the government has reached, and that they will not be bound by the JCUC. They are asking for a meeting to discuss the future of the JCUC and the new work of the stewards, and to use the threat of strike action to force concessions.

It asks for a substantial wage increase, and a substantial increase in the take-home pay, without any productivity deals, with all that the government’s NHS and Earnings Policy have taken out of the take-home pay, and that the Labour government have promised to do nothing.

It is a matter of determining what the government is prepared to do, and how much the employers are prepared to give. It is a matter of determining what the government is prepared to do, and how much the employers are prepared to give.

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GEORGE WALLACE, the man who ran for president on the American Independent Party ticket in 1968 and 1972, was a champion of "states' rights" and a fierce advocate for segregation. His appeal was rooted in the fears of many white southerners about the encroachment of federal power and the perceived threat to their way of life, especially in the wake of the Civil Rights Movement.

The campaign of 1968 saw Wallace running on a platform that included opposition to a proposed constitutional amendment to prohibit discrimination in voting, and a call for states to have greater control over their affairs. His appeal was strongest in the Deep South, where he won the primary in Alabama and Mississippi.

Despite his defeat in the presidential race, Wallace emerged as a powerful figure in American politics, influencing the course of civil rights legislation and the struggle for equality in the United States. His legacy is a complex one, representing both a resistance to change and a recognition of the need for political action to address the challenges of the time.
THOUSANDS OF LORRY and truck drivers plan a national 48-hour strike on Monday and Tuesday in response to the 'spy-in-cab' meter proposal by the government's Transport Bill.

Leaders of the unofficial strike met in London in a few days to plan the strategy. They will demand from the two-week period ofence of Britain's 50,000 drivers by the 48-hour strike that they will not participate in the 'spy-in-cab' system.

Socialist Worker reporter

The fines are the Transport Workers and the United Road Haulage Association. The fines are against the tactics used in the battle against the 

using the traditional language of the blacklist. The TOWU officialsuld drivers from 'behaving responsibly' in Manchester and on Mersa-Gpaque on the 

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Sectarian rujin conference

By JOHN HILLIERS

LAST SATURDAY THE All Trade Unions Alliance met in Birmingham to discuss the programme written as a result of the local government conference this year and last.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the major trade union federations and by the leaders of the smaller trade unions, including the Socialists' Labour League, the Communist Party and the Anti-Fascist Federation.

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Police bar angry tenants from town hall

From BRIAN EMBRY

The tenant association at Morden, near London, has demanded to be heard by the local council to discuss the conditions of living in the town.

Two hundred and ten tenants had marched in protest against the conditions of living in Morden, and the local council had met to discuss the conditions of living in the town.

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Bus rota protest

From ROSS HILL

LIVERPOOL—Busmen staged a one-day sit in at the ferry terminal in Liverpool, where the drivers refused to work.

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French CP in turmoil

From IAN BIRCHALL

The French Communist Party, weary of its recent successes, has been reeling under a series of defeats and setbacks.

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Spain: Asturian miners fight pit disasters

From ANTON ALCALANDAS

Mieres, Asturias, October 23—In the Asturian mining area the miners continue their struggle.

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But strikers in Spain do not always win, and when demands are made that are not supported by the workers, the strikes are often defeated.

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