Poll Shows Only 49% Now Give Support to Johnson on Viet War

By Dick Roberts

MARCH 1 — In the last six weeks, national support for President Johnson’s handling of the Vietnam war has dropped sharply from 63 to 49 percent, according to the results of a Harris poll published in today’s New York Post. This decline comes precisely at a time when the Democratic administration is speeding full-scale ahead with plans to turn the Vietnamese battlefield into a bloody slaughter-ground of the main forces of the National Liberation Front and the masses of peasants who support it.

According to a highly informative article by New York Times reporter Seymour Topping, written from Saigon Feb. 15, U.S. military forces in Vietnam are already carrying out the plans of escalation which many Americans still think ought to be debated, and which most Americans think still are being debated. But unfortunately, the junior United States officials” told Topping, “We have at last defined our problem and we have the program on a program.”

“The officials estimate,” according to Topping, “that the war will last from three to seven years.”

“Under the new plans,” Topping continues, “the level of offensive operations against the North Vietnamese support capability of United States forces is expanded through the improvement of port facilities at Saigon and other harbors extending north to Danang. Additional troops are to be brought to Viet- nam so that the military commanders will have sufficient forces to strike hard at Vietnamese base areas.”

“Air strikes at communication lines in North Vietnam and infiltration routes through Laos are to be continued. United States troops will be permitted to enter Cambodian territory.”

Confession Rocks Malcolm X Trial

By Herman Porter

NEW YORK, March 1 — The prosecution’s case against two of the three men accused of assassinating Malcolm X was severely shaken Feb. 28 when Thomas Hayer (also known as Thomas Hagan), the only defendant to have been caught at the scene of the crime, confessed. Hayer not only exonerated Norman Butler and Thomas (15x) Johnson, but he described how the crime was committed and in doing so three great lights on theatu- rony of most of the prosecution’s eyewitnesses.

Vince Donnelly, the assistant district attorney in charge of the case, tried to prevent Hayer from lying to save the other two de- fendants.

Hayer said he had come forward to testify as a witness for the defense and wanted the truth to be known: that Butler and Johnson had nothing to do with the crime. He said he had come forward sooner because the district attorney had not confided and had waited until it was clear he could turn the crime to his advantage to prevent the conviction of the other two.

Hayer maintained that he was not and had never been a member of Elijah Muhammad’s Nation of Islam and neither was his accomplice, to his knowledge. None of them had any personal motive for killing Mal- colm X, but they had been hired to carry out the assassination. He refused to answer questions about the contract offered. He said that the man who hired him was not a Negro.

Hayer refused to identify his accomplices at the time of the crime. He said that he refused to do this as a matter of conscience, and later he said he would reveal the identity of his accomplices if he were asked. He would have been revealed if Willams had been put on the stand. He had been threatened with some kind of black-bagging if he did not testify at the trial.

Hayer testified he knew the man on the witness stand for about a year.

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MARCH 25-26 PROTESTS

The following call in support of the International Days of Protest, March 25-26, against the war in Vietnam, has been issued by the Supporters of the Bring the Troops Home Now Newsletter.

The Newsletter has been established by members of local independent anti-Vietnam war committees across the country who are the national organization of independent committees based on the demand of immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam.

On March 25-26, there will be demonstrations against the war in cities across the nation and in many other countries. For more information, write: The Newsletter, P.O. Box 817, Harvard Square, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

For twenty-five years the people of Vietnam have fought for their independence against foreign powers — against Japan, France, and the United States. They are fighting for the right to run their own country and to be free of the American people fought for in 1776. But today the United States government stands in opposition to the Vietnam people, and to the very same principles upon which our own country was founded.

President Johnson has landed 500,000 American troops in the Vietnam soil in order to "settle" the affair of the Vietnamese, and his perspective is to double the number of American troops. Contrary to their claim that they are engaged in a "holy war", the American government has been involved in the Vietnamese war for the past one hundred years.

Daily bombing raids are conducted against both south and north Vietnam and they often spill over into Cambodia and Laos as well. Over 700,000 refugees have been forced from their homes to escape destruction.

President Johnson approves the use of the most horrible weapons ever developed, napalm bombing of the civilian population, the torture of men, women and children, the employment of gas and other chemicals, and the illegal "phased withdrawal from Vietnam" policy. A recent AP dispatch titled "Tanks Search Earth to Cripple Viet Pov" (Stetson Gladney, Jan. 6, 1966) re- ported that U.S. paratroopers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade were pulling a large sledge of bombs and pushed through thick brush, hinted at the site where they burned to the ground. Most were of thresh but some were of large with heavy wooden frames.
Malcolm X Speaks

The following is from a speech Malcolm X gave on February 14, 1966, the same day his brother was assassinated.

A trick that was colonial. When you're playing ball and they've got you trapped, you don't throw the ball anyway. You just throw it to one of your teammates who's in the right position. And the Europeans power did. They were trapped on the African continent, they couldn't stay there—they were looked upon as colonial. They had the ball to someone whose image was different, and they passed the ball to Uncle Sam. And he picked it up and has been running it for a touchdown ever since. He was in the clear, he was not looking to give as one who has violated the African continent. At the time, the Africans couldn't see that though the United States hadn't colonized the African continent, it had colonized 32 million blocks here on this continent. Because we're just as thoroughly colonized as anybody else.

Mr. Greene's documentary film, "Malcolm X Speaks," is currently being shown in cities and towns across the country.

The narrator concludes by saying that when you get to Des- sistina, Mississippi, you should straighten it out. Malcolm X explains that it is necessary to come up with new approaches, and Kennedy did it. He created and implemented a new program that was skillfully designed to make the situation much better. Malcolm X believes that this new program makes things right. "I'm telling you, some of those Negroes didn't want to have it in all that they did for Jesus when he was crucified." John F. Kennedy didn't say that it was necessary for a new approach among the Negroes. During his entire term in the White House, he specialized in how to psycho the American Negro. Now, a lot of you don't like 'em saying that—but I wouldn't ever take a stand on that if I didn't have a lot of experience. If you look at what he's picked up, you'll see that they don't mean what they want to mean. Of course, there aren't some of them who mean good. But it does mean that most of the time they mean good.

Kennedy-Barnett Deal

Kennedy's new approach was presented by the administration. Barnett was the person who was the chief of Barnett's deal. I'm saying that people who had been humble and who had hated their heads, we hated the White House and what was in our veins. Our color was different, we were a different color. That it was holding us back, our color, the fact that we didn't have the same color that we were using as a way to show us the way, we didn't have any color. And it was the outcast color that we were using as a way to show us the way. We didn't have any color. And it was the outcast color that we were using as a way to show us the way.

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Sinyavsky’s Defense Statement

On Feb. 25 the New York Times reported that the Italian paper Il Giorno, had obtained and published the transcript of the statements made by the all-Soviet writer Yuli Sinyavsky. The following are excerpts from the Times account of the statement:

"You are an honest, an outsider, but I do not consider myself an enemy. I am a Soviet man and my words are not hostile," Yuli Sinyavsky said, as he described himself in his statement of defense before the Russian Republic’s Supreme Court sentenced him...

"This man... has deliberately misread and misunderstood his work in an attempt to portray him as an anti-Semitism, a fascist and anti-Soviet..."

Sinyavsky’s defense is likely to be attacked by officially endorsed literature in the Soviet Union. The charges of anti-Semitism, anti-war agita..."

"In criticisms Moscovia’s pro-occupation with ‘anti-Soviet acts,’ the writer described this standpoint as: ‘He who is not with us is against...’"

"At certain times, such as revolution, war or civil war," Mr. Sinyavsky said, "this logic has been accompanied by a..."

"Writing in the New York Times, Mr. Krotov, editor of the monthly Opysh, said that Sinyavsky had been "officially censured by name in works by both Boris Pasternak and Alexander Solzhenitsyn..."

"If it is not so, he cannot be against the people and state..."

"An American, a vicious and an orthodox anti-Soviet..."

"Publish Outside"

One way to get around the censor is to cross the border. In recent years, most of Sinyavsky’s works have trickled out of the Soviet Union, via publication in the West. The works of Tertz and Arshak are only outstanding examples. The Soviet authorities have occasionally tried to block the publication of these works, but the repressions against them have not caused the authors to back down. After all, the state was not going to stop them by becoming illegal. The authorities had to accept the situation as a means to achieve their goal.

Another aspect of this is that the Soviet authorities have tried to destroy national sentiment. In the past, the government has sought to stifle the people’s feelings and emotions. Now, it is using the same tactics to suppress any national feeling that may have been created so far.

The U.S. base at Camarang in southern Vietnam was built on international tension. While the government claims this is a defense measure, it is assumed that the base will be used as a military base from which the U.S. can launch attacks on the North Vietnamese. It is no wonder that President Johnson does not know the truth about the nature of the war — about its horrors and its victims. The U.S. government, through the LBJ, like President Kennedy and President Nixon, has tried to control the public’s perception of the war. It has lied and distorted the real nature of the war.

Regarding the bombing of Hanoi, Johnson said, "Ninety percent" Vietnamese wants to be independent. The Johnson administration took no steps to put an end to the war. It continued to support the Vietnamese people in their fight against the U.S. occupation.

"No State"

"How many Americans have no desire to intervene in other countries," the writer asks, "there are no ideologues..."

"The resumption of bombing North Vietnam last Monday by John- son’s peace offensive" indicated the lack of faith in the peace talks. While he was talking about a "unilateral solution..."

"The bombing of Hanoi in Vietnam is reported in all Russian newspapers. The writer claims that the bombing is a war strategy designed to make the Vietnamese people look at the U.S. as a stronger enemy than the Vietnamese army.

"The bombing of Hanoi was a warm-up for the attack on the Vietnamese people. The attack was against the Vietnamese people. The Vietnamese people have no desire to be told that they are not fighting for Vietnam. The Vietnamese people are fighting for their own freedom, not against the U.S. occupation. The Vietnamese people are fighting for their country, not against the U.S. occupation.

Antiterrorist Forces Seen on Rise

Spokesmen for the National Army, the armed forces of the South, say that they have not been informed about any new developments. They say that the South Vietnamese government has not been informed about any new developments. They say that the South Vietnamese government has not been informed about any new developments.

"Bribe the Troops Home Now" was the rallying cry of the March 25 demonstrations against the South Vietnamese government. The demonstrations were attended by as many as 200,000 people, according to the government. The government had estimated that as many as 500,000 people had attended the demonstration.

"The demonstrators carried banners and signs calling for the immediate withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam. The demonstrators also carried signs calling for the government to be replaced by a coalition of political parties.

"The demonstrators also called for the resignation of the South Vietnamese government and the establishment of a peace conference with the North Vietnamese."
Dominican Double Cross

U.S. occupation forces, which are allegedly there to preserve "freedom," are standing quietly by in Santo Domingo while a massacre is being planned. According to the "settlement" forced on the Dominican Constitutionalists, it is understood that the military and the Constitutionalists were supposed to leave the country. This was pure fraud. Constitutionalist leaders left while the government continued to court and then censored themselves with sending a few junior officers abroad.

Now, interim-President Garcia-Godoy, a U.S. appointee, has named two top generals to his cabinet. Dominicanos described this as "a virtual coup d'etat without the overthrow of the government." In a monumental display of hypocrisy, it is being exploited that Garcia-Godoy's only alternative to include the generals in his government is to give up power and to avoid the use of force. That statement might well be accompanied by the news photo of last month showing one of his palace guards shooting down demonstrators in the street.

But the hypocrisy is not merely Garcia-Godoy's. His course is being dictated by the power of government - the U.S. occupation force. This force suddenly became remarkably benignant at "interfering" in Dominican affairs. For example, it was only a few years ago that the U.S. was getting in the way of what they wanted to do and they simply took him gunpoint and flew him out of the country.

The hard fact is that the step-by-step handing of the power over to the military is in accord with U.S. policy and plan. When the people of Santo Domingo were armed and ready for battle the U.S. said they could have the army except them by a mere fercious battle — one that they did not consider desirable.

Instead they imposed their crooked deal on the leaders of the Constitutionalist movement so that they could achieve a step at a time toward their goal — a murderous new dictatorship on the Dominican people.

... Malcolm X Murder Trial

(Continued from Page 1)

one year at the time they participated in the assassination Feb. 21. Malcolm X was a dark-skinned, very husky, and had a beard. The place was a dark, crowded room. After the bearded one shot the gun he shot the other. The gun that was shot was a black, beard, named man Malcolm X.

Demorya recalled the testimony of the first witness who had been barred from court. The witness had been a secret witness who had had knowledge of the assassination. He was a dark-skinned man who had seen Malcolm X murder at the time.

Demorya testified that the first witness was under the influence of drugs. He had seen Malcolm X murder, and he was under the influence of drugs. He said that he was not sure if it was Malcolm X who did it, or if it was again, he said: "I don't want to jump on a hooker." He said that Malcolm X had jumped out of the window.

In his cross-examination of Hay- ter, Demorya asked him if he thought that Hayter had been involved in a scuffle near the bathroom. Hayter answered that he had not. He had denied having anything to do with the assassination. Demorya then asked if Hayter was a Muslim. This is an important point in the case, for Demorya has been trying to show that the murder of Malcolm X was a conspiracy of Muslims. The question raised by Hayter's confession to the murder of Malcolm X is how to manufacture an amasg. This is a dishonest method of engaging in polymers and levelling. An attempt was made to manufacture an amasg when you place on the same plane the provocative declarations of Alba- nian leaders and a quotation from the newspaper Le Figaro, "The First International," which says: "We have read the full text of your closing speech at the Fourth International Conference, Moscow, January 20, 1969. On the one hand, we are opposed to the comparable revolutionary spirit, which the Cuban revolutionaries the battle... On the other hand, we dis- covers the whole globe," when you promise that "revolutionary movements in all countries of the globe can count on Cuban com- munist support. We are against American imperialists once again in the same way we were against them in the past to get out of Vietnam, when you call upon the Latin- American revolutionaries to armed struggle to an ever growing extent, to make it impossible for the imperialists to intervene. Therefore, you are for the revolutionary forces to get out of Vietnam, and therefore, this part of your speech we feel in solidarity more than ever with Cuba's revolutionary forces.

But on the other hand the speech includes some very dangerous attacks on Trotsky- stian, the Trotskyist movement and, in general, the whole, attacks whose unjustified nature can be seen in the deepest indignation and revulsion.

The "douleur" you placed be- fore the participants at the First International Conference was referred to world public opinion in sad irony. The attacks on the delega- tions which collapses at the slightest bit under objective examination.

You make much of the aser- tions of the speakers, according to whom Ché Guevara was a member of the Communist movement in Cuba. You present this person as the "Leader of the Mexican Trotsky- stians" on the basis of a dispatch issued by the UPI, an imperialist press agency, which contains fraudulent news, that Guevara was the "leader" or "leader" of the Trotskyist organization. This is not so because the leader of the Trotskyist organization in the United States, the Militant, entitled "A New Field of Battle for Che Guevara," which gives an account of the Judith organization and the effects of the '"Confessions of a Red Agent."'

by magazines, periodicals and of- ficially edited bulletins in a great number of countries and sent both to Cuba and to its rep- resentatives in other countries, and printed an article by Ché Ge- uvara, "A New Field of Battle for Che Guevara," which gives an account of the Judith organization and the effects of the '"Confessions of a Red Agent.'"

Official Position

On Jan. 20, we again sent you our official position expressed in Che's leaving Cuba. It is now your duty to make it clear to the international revolutionary audi- ence that Ché Guevara's split from the leadership of the Cuban revolution was an incorrect attitude on this question, the official bodies of the Fourth Interna- tional and the overwhelming majority of the International Trotskyist movement showing themselves on this occasion as always to be staunch defenders of the Cuban revolution. Unfortunately this rectification will not be forthcoming because your attitude is that of the 'leader' of the Cuban revolution above all needs the truth, who is exiling those in- famous, scandalous buried by history? In the terrible experience with Stalin, no one will accept accusations without proof. No matter what the authority of the party in power, the mass movement, Trotskyism today is widely known and rec- ognized by the vanguard in many countries. The question requires an answer. Comrade Fidel Castro
Castro to Confrontation on Charges

In Comrade Hugo Blanco a "vulgar instrument of imperialism and reaction" — Hugo Blanco himself, Spanish presidential candidate in his own country, led the progressive forces which occupied the government from them by the proprietors, whereas Castro, through the expropriation of actions which are shaped to fit, not the aspirations of the masses, but the interests of the feudalities open to them, but unity with the "national" bourgeoisie, then leadership of the anti-imperialist movement is abolished and what is constituted in fact is a "bloze of classes" with the bourgeois in the background. Stalin, hardly had an organization and in the role of leaders were being murdered in great numbers, the head of one of the world's principal powers emerged victorious from the war. But a quarter of a century later Trotsky's "prophecy" has largely come true. It is clear that among the Communist parties, despite the monstrous falsifications of Trotskyism, despite the difficulties that may arise, the same difficulties that may arise in the situation of trying to gain access to Trotskyist literature and ideas. Stalin, it is certainly not the former Trotskyist who is the one who, while standing behind the banner of socialism by organization and not by "purges" and setting up counter-revolutionary organizations, millions of the citizens in the states that now know at least a part of the truth.

Maxism of Today

Trotskyism, an anti-bureaucratic undertow, is an undermining of our epoch, and those who wish to develop a genuine socialist way the Marxist analysis of the problems of contemporary imperialism, of the colonial revolution, of the struggles of the proletariat, of the Trotskyists, are continually obliged to distance themselves from us. Trotskyism, in a bureaucratic undertow, is a national reaction, and world war, from Chile to Japan, from Great Britain to Afghanistan. From Belgium, from Greece and Italy to the United States, young socialists and communists, the vanguard of the young workers and students, keep moving in large numbers toward Trotskyism.

Your attack against the Trotskyists is not only against the "national bourgeoisie" but against all people who are trying to defend the interests of the masses. Trotskyism, the revolution of the proletariat, is a part of the broadest united anti-imperialist front of the sincere collaboration of all the forces within the colonial revolution ready to deal blows against the imperialist enemy. But they add two lessons from the experience of the past and the present. The first lesson is that the class struggle and the class poor must unite and the ideological and political independence of the masses to change the political situation. The second lesson is that the proletariat and poor peasants must unite against imperialism without reservation or hesitation up to the very end. Second, if — under pretext of constituting a united anti-imperialist front, the National Bourgeoisie to this

IN CUBA: Ferarol Dobbs (at the right), national secretary of Socialist Workers Party during his 1960 tour of Cuba. On his return he made defense of Cuban revolution a central theme of his presidential campaign against anti-Cubans Kennedy and Nixon.

you when you launch this slander and it will revolve through your fault — injuring the prestige and the image of the revolution everywhere. It is clear that the Chinese workers in the United States, who were among the first to fight for the defense of the Cuban Revolution within the very heart of the main oppressor of the world — are they "vulgar instruments of imperialism and reaction"? What about Comrade Fidel Castro, who is the first candidate of the Socialist Workers Party, who made defense of the Cuban Revolution the main plank in his electoral campaign in 1969 and who is now speaking out in defense of this Revolution?

Support Revolutions

Are the French Trotskyists, "vulgar instruments of imperialism and reaction," the front of the bourgeois parties today in their country to organise political and legal struggle for the French Revolution, at a time when the French bourgeoisie is considering the leaders of this revolution to be "punitive adventurers"? Are the Trotskyists "vulgar instruments of imperialism and reaction," the front of the bourgeois parties today in their country to organise political and legal struggle for the French Revolution, at a time when the French bourgeoisie is considering the leaders of this revolution to be "punitive adventurers"? The meeting will be held at the Militant Labor Forum Hall at 673 Broadway.

N.Y. Forum Slated On Havana Parley

NEW YORK — The "tricontinental conference on the stage in Cuban Politics," will be discussed by Harry Pickens, international Trotskyist Militant, at a meeting of the National Committee of the Trotskyist Front on Friday evening, March 18. In addition to the conference itself, and in keeping with the recent Havana-Poking rift and Castro's attack on "Trotskyism," the meeting will be held at the Militant Labor Forum Hall at 673 Broadway.
NKRMAH'S OUSTER

The Ghana Coup d'Etat

By Dick Roebert

The forces of world imperialism eagerly chucked up a new victory in Africa last week. Loyalist soldiers, backed by the African revolution which overthrew the apartheid government of South Africa's president Kwame Nkrumah, the liquidation of his Convention People's Party (CPP), and the imprisonment of Nkrumah's closest supporters, indicated that Washington was on a Vietnamese peace mission to Peking, Moscow, and now Accra, time of the coup.

"No man knows the news reached Washington, than G. Menninger, Assistant Secret- ary of State, when, in a conference to announce that there had been a fourth such initiative be found, and that it could be between the U.S. and the CPP, Washington was preparing to annou- nce. Although the State Department subsequently announced it was "still too early to comment on the question of recognition," the announcement was a blow for the U.S. government, which warned that Washington was moving to- wards a new policy, "Weber..." and Europe's speeded concealing its purpose.

The reason Washington didn't make an immediate statement of support for the CPP's coup attempt until the Times even explained, it was "still too early to comment on the question of recognition," because it was waiting for the United States to be involved in the coup.

Also, the Times added, "The timetable may now be set for the military overthrow of the Nkrumah's threat in Peking today. The CPP, in a statement, said it was ready to "immediately assert its authority as head of the government."

Nkrumah's threat of return was not taken lightly in Accra either. The CPP leadership set up a new government in Peking, and established in the streets, and announced that it had dissolved the strategic areas — particularly in the north, where the CPP announced that supporters of Nkrumah were being rounded up, and that there was no one to his name.

It was also apparent that much of the Ghanaian population to the north was against Nkrumah, and that some sections were strong sup- porters of it — particularly the traditional chieftains whose immense powers before independence had been greatly striped away by the Nkrumah government.

In a direct challenge to the pop- ular apathy, however, was a radio bulletin, "The determination of Nkrumah's rule and its separation from the aspiration of the people who have been led by the country to independence."

In March 1959, Nkrumah took direct control over the appointment of senior civil servants and appeal judges and made himself the country's economic authority on the editorial board, which he founded a newspaper, and in 1962, a Detention Act was passed permitting Nkrumah to im- prison his opponents up to 20 years without trial. The CCP was being formed, but it was outlawed in 1964, and its leaders were installed in all major government posts.

During this period, Nkrumah built an intensive cult of per- sonality in the country, with him- self everywhere, and accompanied by official adulation from the press. Among other things, Nkrumah called himself "Our Great Leader and Redeemer" and "The Great Builder and Projector of Africa's Future."

In part, this demagogy was de- signed to obscure from the popu- lace the consequences of attempt- ing to develop the nation within the world capitalist market, while the rest of the world is simply taking advantage of the situa- tional systems in Africa and the construction of modern housing for the workers, much more money was lavished on fantastic schemes to develop industry, including in combination with unions and workers' movements.

The multi-billion dollar Volta River dam, which was completed in June 1964, facilitated by the Ghanaian government, had its constructive purpose, that of supplying power to the privately owned aluminum refinery in Tanna. This project was constructed at the Aluminum Company Ltd. (VALCO), 99 percent owned by the Kaiser Aluminum and<br />

Kwame Nkrumah

industries of Johannesburg, South Africa. This was in the interest of the multinational companies involved, and had a negative impact on the workers employed.

At the same time, Ghana maintained its three cocoa production, which ac- counted for over 40 percent of its export income in 1963, and the price of cocoa. A drastic reduction in the price of cocoa since 1957-58, led to a huge decline in the value of cocoa, which by 1965 was only 40 percent of the price of cocoa in 1960 that it had been.

The price had dropped from $116 per pound to $560, which was a 90 percent decline in its value.

In January 1965, Nkrumah also announced his intention to seek independence to $504 a ton last fall.

So what does it mean? Nkrumah's first response to the impending financial disaster was to sign an agreement with the Soviet bloc and from Peking. This agreement was turned down, however, Nkrumah tried to sell the idea to the Americans and to Europe, as a way of supporting his position in the world.

The result was an inflation in which official prices in parts of Ghana rose 400 percent in December 1964, an average national rise of 30 percent.

But "blessings in more..." as the situation in the country worsened, and Nkrumah's policies were criticized.

By Dick Roebert

Mising H-Bomb 'Trigger'
The "trigger" on that H-Bomb last week, which experts say can only be removed by Feb. 20 New York Times Magazine. The report says the trigger can only be removed by Feb. 20. A New York Times consider a trigger on a bomb can cause a city like Hiroshima.

Unexplained, the radiation can still be detected in the area where the bomb was exploded. The cause of the most toxic materials known to man is not fully known. The area remains a constant hazard, radiation could be used to pollute the Mediterranean. The Radiation

Sly Colombia Rebel Priest

The announcement Feb. 17 by the Colombian government that the priest described as a "threat to the life of President Camilo Torres Restrepo touched off a storm of protest in Bogota. The priest was re- ported to have been killed in a firefight between guerrillas and the army.

The Exception was created in Buenos Aires by the government. It was announced that he had joined the Na- tional Liberation Army, the left-wing of an upper-class family, he had been a Jesuit priest. His wife, who was chief chaplain at the National University. He was a former member of an outspoken political group, and economic conditions in Colombia brought him into conflict with the Catholic hierarchy. Last summer, after he refused to leave the country, he was de- fleeced. He then made a tour of Colombia, lecturing against the overthrow of the government. No one had heard of him in the United States until last week, when he announced that he was a member of the National Liberation Army.

Indonesia Soaked in Blood

The purge launched by Indone- sia's reactionary generals in their efforts to crush the Indonesian Communist Party has vir- tually destroyed the country in blood. Consider the report in the Jan. 28 London Economist.

"Estimates of the number of killings since October range from 47,808 — officially admitted by the president — to 500,000, according to Aoki Shizuku, Japan's biggest newspaper. The Indonesian Communist Central Office of Peking, said that the N.D.A.D. head of the P.K.I. was murdered by the gen- erals, and that the P.K.I. is the most im- portant defendant in this trial.

The fact that a false confession was extracted out of Nino's is in- credible," he said, "Aoki Shizuku, Japan's biggest newspaper, which signed a 5-page confession be- fore being shot. Aoki also printed a photo of Aoki surrounded by soldiers as he "quit" the pur- ported confession.

—George Saunders
It Was Reported in the Press

Note to CIA — Washington ofﬁcials expressed doubt that de Gaulle would really pull out of NATO. "Also," a New York Times correspondent added, "the possibility is raised here that on April 9, 1969, the date when NATO says its General de Gaulle will no longer be directing the destiny of the French people." America — The New York Police Department says the detective in charge of the Park Town Hall area, an anti-Vietnam War demonstrator, tried to sing "God Bless America" off to one side. Oppenheim, the poet who ran the detective off the stage, commented that Wallace had left his job, so the detective had no authority to arrest him. Cab Fiasco — Nabul Gubrud, 71, an oil millionaire likes to sit upright in the back seat of a car with his bowler on. He discovered his job gone in a London cab and promptly ur- went him. The cab driver, and no meter it cost him $9,890, doubles the regular price. The March of Civilization — An Italian farmer has perfected a battery-power cow that automatically winds up spaghetti. Progress Report — The Florida Welfare Board is reported to have made more than one report on people applying for aid. Statements by applicants will be accepted without the presentation of age, race, religion, etc., now required and often taking months to obtain. The state has a backlog of 10,000 case workers, an increase of time over last year. An applica- tion for food from the Welfare Board rarely takes less than one month to process. Ghettos Not Luxury-Glazed — After an extensive study a Mili- tary Avenue marketing research outfit discovered that it isn’t true that negro ghetto dwellers spend no money. They said most negroes spend much of their money on such items as Cadillac cars, the Ripe Ape, the shoes, and the radio. The report ﬁnds, that the Negro community is quite as concerned about fashion and convenience oriented, it is keyed to quality and variety in an unusual manner. Items like garbage cans are scarce. In the Aisle! — In a pitch for nationwide sale of a new Pe- rch snow-white lighting, a restoration announcement that their post overcharge uniforms as of- ten as four times on a single flight.

Harry Ring

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THE MILITANT

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From Air Base to Tent City

By Harry Ring

Last week a New York City trade unionist who is about 80 years old was sent to the Poor People’s Conference, Box 366, Edwards, Miss. Mrs. Johnnie Mae Walker spoke before the assembly, telling them something about herself. She’s been in bad shape. In the 1961 — SNCC, CORE, SCLC, union, and other civil rights organizations.

In 1963 she lost her job as a presser in a cleaning and dyeing plant. She lost her job because she was registered to vote. Since then she has been on the union movement, teaching adult literacy classes in the Poor People’s Program, becoming a Freedom School, and joining in whatever was going on.

She has two girls, 11 and 13, but doesn’t see them too often recently. She hasn’t been back home since the Poor People’s Conference a month ago.

How do they manage? “God knows,” she replies. “The community takes care of us best they can. The older girl is active in the Mississippi Student Union and she understands what I’m doing. I’m too old to know why I’m gone. I tell her I’m fight- ing for somebody they have fought for so they have to go through what I went through.”

$17 Million A Day

We get on the subject of Vietnam, and she starts again, “I can’t understand them.” She believes that one third of this country is starving and that’s why they are fighting.

“One lady at the barracks said they must have done it already,” she said, “I don’t know why.” She then continues to go on about how they are fighting for the same thing.

“You know,” she continued, “that’s what happens in this country.” She said, “People don’t even notice. They think a Negro, put him in uniform, teach him to kill and he’s a man.”

The young people felt not. But Mrs. Walker said there might be the beginning of a change.

“The white people in the South — the poor ones — they’ve got their problem, but they’re afraid to deal with it,” she said, “In Mississippi there’s more white than colored. But the Negroes, in the last three, four years, have had the courage to do something about it.”

“There’s few things the white man is learning,” she said. “Some of them never knew how bad they were being cheated on the farm until we did something about it.”

She told the story of a little step in the right direction made by one poor white. “We had a relief line in Basaville, Missis- sippi,” she recalled, “we helped the people from up North sent food for the hungry people there. This white man, he got out of the line with all the colored people. It took a lot of courage for him to do that. First we didn’t know what to do. We debated for 30 minutes whether or not to give him any thing. Then we came to the idea that if a man’s hungry, feed him.”

THE INDONESIAN EVENTS

"Sukarno in Move Against Right"

(World Outlook) — The deep in- fluence of Sukarno’s administration on the Indonesian situation has been dramatized in sua- cuss’s recent political actions. Sukarno’s success in February, when the Communist Party was expelled from a position of central author- ity in the country, and his subsequent policy of a new, non-communist, non-socialist solution, have led to a volatile situation in the political landscape.

Sukarno’s rise to power was the result of a series of events that have left the country in a state of political turmoil. The Indonesian Democratic party, which had been in power until the recent elections, has lost its majority in parliament and its influence in the country’s political life. Sukarno’s forces, on the other hand, have gained strength and are now in control of the government.

Sukarno’s administration has taken a hard line against the Communists, who have been accused of attempting to undermine the government and of spreading subversive activities throughout the country. The Communists, for their part, have denied these accusations and have called for a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

The situation in Indonesia remains fluid and Sukarno’s new position on the international stage is uncertain. The impact of his actions on the country’s future will depend on the outcome of the current political crisis. It is important to note that Sukarno’s actions are not solely motivated by his desire for personal power. His moves are also influenced by the need to protect the country from internal and external threats, and to ensure the stability of the government. The Sukarno regime has a track record of successful reforms, and its commitment to progressive policies is widely recognized.

Sukarno has given indications that he will work to reform the country’s institutions, and to establish a strong, democratic government. He has stated that his administration will be guided by the principles of equality, justice, and human rights. Sukarno’s commitment to these values is a positive sign for the future of Indonesia, and there is hope that his administration will be able to bring about a peaceful resolution of the current crisis.