Exposure of Gov't Lies Evokes Deep Reaction

How They Twist On Viet Bombing

By Alex Harte

JAN. 2 — One week after New York Times correspondent Harri son Salisbury exploded a bomb in Vietnam, the latest in a series of stories, often mutually contradictory, connected with the apparent effort to explain away the consequences of U.S. bombing in North Vietnam.

“Well, I have followed our activity in Vietnam very closely,” Johnson said. “I think that the American public understands that this is a policy of this Government to bomb military targets.”

“We regret to see these losses,” the Vietnamese government said. “We do our utmost to contain the damage and to prevent any further damage.”

VICTIM OF U.S. BOMBING. One of the civilian casualties of Dec. 2 U.S. raid on residential suburb of Hanoi, Vietnam still denies it carries out such raids.

By Dick Roberts

JAN. 3 — The exposure of Hanoi’s lies about the bombing of Hanoi and the deliberate attacks on north Vietnamese civilian centers has provoked a deep reaction in this country.

This was expressed in one leading newspaper after another in statements by individuals, including a significant letter signed by 100 university student leaders from many different universities; and even on TV itself. Perhaps the last was the most dramatic break in the news media.

Stimson Bulitt, the president of the King Broadcasting Company on the West Coast, carried an editorial attacking Johnson’s conduct of the Vietnam war and demanding an immediate halt to the bombing of north Vietnam. Bulitt’s outburst owns stations KING-TV, the NBC affiliate in Seattle; station KREM-TV, the ABC affiliate in Spokane; and station KGTV-TV, the NBC affiliate in Portland.

Bulitt was totally aware of the precedent he was shattering, and he explained exactly why he was doing it. He said his editorial was prompted “by what he called the failure of all networks to give responsible coverage to critical events in the United States involvement in Vietnam,” according to the Jan. 1 New York Times.

“So far, these networks have done what is most peace-loving,” the networks are just showing us pictures of Vietnam in the saccharine and misfortunes of war and talking about the enemy,” Mr. Bulitt said. “They’re not covering the real controversy over our policies.”

Disputed Picture

Mr. Bulitt said he particularly objected to the extensive network emphasis on ‘beauties in berets and sandals’ who staged demonstrations in opposition to the war. “That just makes matters worse because it gives a distorted picture of the seriousness and importance of the criticism,” he added.

A number of newspapers carried Harrison Salisbury’s dispatches from Hanoi on the front page. These include The Denver Post and the influential Cleveland Plain Dealer, the largest morning and Sunday newspaper in Ohio. Both papers editorialized on the phony Washington version of the bombings.

“Salisbury’s dispatches on the impact of the bombing are a valuable contribution to our knowledge of the war in Vietnam,” The Denver Post stated. Dec. 28.

“They’re not covering the real controversy over our policies.”

The San Francisco Chronicle praised the New York Times for printing the dispatches. Dec. 29: “Harrison E. Salisbury’s reports from Hanoi leave no room for doubt that American bombs have hit non-military areas of Hanoi and other north Vietnamese cities.

God and Man At Yale

Two Yale students, with remarkable temerity, wrote a critical letter to the President of the Free World, Re- portedly inhabiting at the time, they included what one press report called an “unnam- ing name.” The White House sent the letter to Yale, rec-ommending the students’ dis- missal. A Law Department professor argued successfully on their behalf that such a penalty was worse than a jail term and they had not been convicted of a crime. Not as yet, that is.

 Students Hold Antiwar Parley

By Elizabeth Barnes

CHICAGO — The student wing of the antiwar movement received a shot in the arm at a national student antiwar conference held at the University of Chicago Dec. 28-30. The conference voted to send the next week in April “Vietnam Week” on campus across the country.

During that week it is proposed that students plan local activities against the war which will culminate with the transporting of American students to New York to New York and San Francisco to take part in the giant demonstration slatied by the Spring Mobilization Committee in these cities on April 30.

There were 2 ballot participants registered at the conference from approximately 60 different local and national antiwar committees and political groups against the war. More than 50 different colleges and high schools were rep-resented. Of the national political groups present, the Students for a Democratic Society, the DeBruce Clubs and the Young Socialist Alliance had the largest contingents.

The conference was originally called to discuss a proposal put forward by Barton Aptheker for a national student strike against the war. But, since most of the participants at the conference (in- cluding Miss Aptheker) concluded the idea of a student strike to be possible at only a few campuses, the discussion centered around alternative proposals for a national action.

The first plenary session of the conference was set aside to discuss the student movement, and the student action. There were four main speakers: Betina Aptheker, Eugene Groves representing the National Student Association, Steve Kindred of the Students for a Democratic Society, and Sidney Peck, professor at Western Reserve University and a vice chair- man of the Student Mobilization Committee.

Much of the discussion was di- rected to the proposed demonstra- tions in San Francisco and New York City on April 29, which by a conference of the antiwar move- ment as a whole held in Clevel- and Nov. 28, Steve Kindred of SDS raised a number of considera- tions about the April 15 mobiliza- tion which were on the minds of many SDS members present.

He said that although he be- lieved that the antiwar movement must “go beyond demonstrations,” there are good reasons for carry- ing out occasional mass actions. He pointed out that demonstra- tions can help to build the morale of the movement and can “visibly demonstrate the presence and growth of the antiwar move- ment.”

On the other hand, he felt that the conference should deal with the problems of whether a

(Continued on Page 4)
DEATH IN THE NORTHEAST, By Josue DeCastro, Random Notes

Within the concise 189 pages of this small book is compiled not only the historical death of an era, but — in microcosm — of all Latin America.

Francisco Julio

The U.S. government “discovered” Northeast Brazil twice. The first time, during the Second World War, it was as a possible enemy shipping area for troops, the U.S. built a huge air and sea base at Recife. These facilities were again put to use in 1960 as part of the gigantic trans-Atlantic defense network of the U.S. It was in 1960 that U.S. imperialism “discovered” that this drought-ridden land was on the verge of revolution. This was the second “discovery.” Huge grants, through the Alliance for Progress which works with governments and ‘philanthropists’ pockets, not into the peop-les’ stomachs, flowed to the

try to stop the growth of the Pea- sants’ Leagues, to stop “another Cuba.”

The Peasants’ Leagues had a more direct effect on the state — im medi ate economic demands. The people working on sugar plantations — some of which are five or six feet of earth and a personal collection of weapons — demand the customary for the state government to join a coffin in which to transport a dead person to the grave yard where his body was dumped into, a coffin, ditch. The peasants wanted only dignity to be paid for. The line of dead crooks, dead men, drove them off the land.

They went to Recife for legal help and it was the young lawyer, Francisco Julio who gave it to them, and who then went to build leagues all over the state. Of Julio it is said that he was a plan tation owner, a planter, but also a worker, a people’s lawyer. People are still hungry and homeless.

The story of the Northeast is the story of the poor man, and his strokes and his palette colors are still the colors of the red earth of the grains of red blood. This is a book to be read and studied.

—Marcel Schkol

...Student Antiswar Parley

LOS ANGELES

ANTIWARR MEETING, M. S. Arias, editor of Minority of One, on VIETNAM AND THE IMPENDING VIETNAM OF CHINA. Also ROBERT VAUGHAN, TV star, “The Man from Uncle.”


**SUNDAY 2 p.m., JANU. 15**
Victoria Hall, 2570 W. Pico.
Join the Iraq Comm to End the War in Vietnam

LOS ANGELES

REVIEWS

Skilled workers won precedent setting gains in a 17-day strike at Lear Siegler, the plant’s largest parts plant. Of the 1,500 United Auto Workers (UAW) members, 1,400 were skilled men. Terms of a new two-year contract were accepted by the workers.

Earlier the local had voted on proposed contract changes one hour over two years for all workers, with skilled men getting three years. A 15 percent Production workers accepted the terms 460 to 248, but the rank and file rejected them 44 to 28.

UAW officials ruled that the strike would continue basing themselves on a change in the union enforcement made by inflation. It provides that skilled workers may vote separately.

The settlement brought no change in provisions for production workers. The local will now won men added gains. They get extra paid vacations as long as first year, plus 2.8 percent of earnings, or nine cents an hour, the second year, in the first time in the industry, they will get written descriptions and sets.

Since the Lear Siegler strike, craftsmen at Chrysler have de nied their demands, and such a local, separate, and apart from production workers. Special demands for skilled men are expected in some other plants, as the next summer’s auto negotiations.

There are some 200,000 craftsmen, among 1.1 million union members, who are represented by the UAW in auto and related industries.

Reversing a previous tendency of craft unions in the auto industry, the National Labor Relations Board has adopted a new policy that helps open the way for craft unions to get contracts.

These decisions, like those in the auto industry, are expected to have a big impact on the rights of crafts unions in industrial unionism. The NLRB now lists several factors it will take into account concerning craft union efforts to carve out bargaining units in basic industries.

Included are the skill and occupa tion of the workers, the size of craft groups; the history of bargaining; the presence or absence of a history and pattern of bargaining in the given industry; extent to which the local unit has maintained a separate identity; the size of its membership and the amount of its activity; degree of its integration in the employer; and the representation background of the union seeking to carve out a new unit of craft unions in basic industries.

The policy shift applies immediately to the auto industry. There al ready, aluminum, hauber and wettill grain processing. NLB negotiations in other industries will be made on a case by case basis. The Board will consider 14 craft sovereignty cases involving the chemical, aerospace, rubber, machine and newspaper industries.

In a West Coast shipyard strike, several hundred workers have signed an agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electricians, and the others are expected to follow suit. Terms include a 25 percent wage hike of 25 cents, an additional 25 cents paid as a special settlement and three cost of living adjustments.

The strike continues against 13 major contractors, including 1400 IBEW members. A spokesman for the workers said they were interested in the terms of the union agreement with the independent contractors. The skilled workers will also come under the provisions of any contract eventually concluded with the major shipbuilders.

Many of the workers were “studying the strike in order to determine its effects on shipping to south Vietnam.” In plain English that means strategy is being cooked up to impose a Tarn-Martinez injury.

When the strike began Nov. 3, other shipyard workers honored the IBEW picket lines. But during the past week, craft unions quickly stepped in to block the bosses in demanding that no strike agreements be honored instead. Since then workers in both the industrial and the strike yards are operating on a limited basis.

An IBEW spokesman has been denounced by the Bay Area Pikerst. Joseph K. Crooke, business manager of Local 137, Oakland. In an editorial directed against Leslie K. Moore, business manager of the local, the paper said:

“Your answer; think, wouldn’t it be happy to help the electrical workers agree to the strike affecting all shipyard workers? But it is an impossibility. Why should we expect Moore to show any sympathy toward the striker workers, after he took stripping work away from house painters by signing a cut-rate agreement with a group of independent contractors.”

Secretary of the Pikerst W. Willard Wirtz has expressed deep concern about the recent tendency of some craft unions to demand labor agreements proposed by their leadership to ‘some indications’ that the refusal of major contractors to accept a settlement recommended by their leaders is ‘being develop ing in a new technique’ as a way to ‘get more’ from employers.”

“Mr. Wirtz said the proper solution of the problem is that unions to show that practice and to use negotiations who could make a solution now with the mem bers.” — New York Times, Jan. 3. This spokesman for the John son administration seems to be threatening that, if the union bosses do not 100 with the rank and file, the capitalist governments will move more deeply into internal union affairs, and the government, led by Secretary Kennedy - Landrum Griffith law.

With “friends” like that in gov ernments the workers don’t need enemies. The union needs an independent labor party in the unions.

LOS ANGELES

Antiswar Movement.


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World Outlook

Of special interest in the Jan. 6 issue:

• Fidel Castro’s Dec. 9 visit with the role of women today in the Cuban Revolution.

Jean-Paul Sartre’s explanation of the aims and purposes of the International Anticommunist Leagues.

• Indonesian Communist leaders faced with the dilemma over their role in the disastrous defeat in Indonesia.

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Opening for Antwar Forces

The political impact of Harrison Salisbury’s reports from north Vietnam should be a source of encouragement for the anti-war movement. The Vietnamese government has been forced to send new forces to the movement and to give it added fire power.

Despite the administration’s extremely low credibility rating, its original denial of the north Vietnamese report of the bombing of Hanoi had a certain effect. Even many of those Americans who have learned to regard Washington’s word with deep suspicion had the reaction that it was not in the way that they would lie so bluntly about so easily confirmed a matter.

The eye-witness account of the assistant managing editor of the nation’s most respected daily has helped enormously to dispel that notion. Further, it has deepened even more the acute popular distrust of the administration and added to the revulsion against the anti-war administration.

All this is reflected in the editorial response of the far from radical papers around the country. (See page 1.)

Some people in the antwar movement, seeing the very real problems confronting the movement, have tended to underestimate the difficulties besetting the Johnson administration. Because it is wagging its finger at the reds and means, the government cannot tell the American people the truth about the war. It is not, after all, a political asset to candidly state that the administration is losing the war.

Yet a growing number of Americans are coming to realize that this is the administration’s aim in Vietnam. The impact of this realization is deepening the disillusionment of the Vietnamese nation.

Their realistic hopes for a new wave of fight against the “atavistic” forces that want to continue the war have been shattered for the unshakably cruel and deceitful resident of the White House who has become the very symbol of their despair.

Further, the mounting political and military difficulties in Vietnam coupled with the growing dissatisfaction at home is contributing to uneasiness within the ranks of the capitalist class of this country. One indication is that a paper like the New York Times, which is not influential in capitalist circles, chose to express the opposition to the war in the April 15 issue.

For all these reasons and more, there is every realistic basis for recognizing that if the antwar movement energizes itself in the summer months, it will present the largest and most significant gains in the history of the movement.

The April 15 New York-San Francisco antivar mobilization is the next central activity of the movement. There is good reason to be optimistic about the success of that action.

Racist Attack on Powell

It does not take any great perception to see the utterly racist character of Congressional moves to either refuse to seat Adlai Clayton Powell in the new Congress or to strip him of his competences. The name of “liberal” DemonBM seems to favor such a claim.

The claim that the moves against the Harlem Democrat are based on his alleged misconduct is the most blatant kind of hypocrisy. If such activities were carried on in a serious way the ranks of Congress would be quite depleted.

A growing number of Negro, students have joined in declaring the attack on Powell an assault on all black Americans. They are perfectly correct.

Socialist Directory

CHICAGO: Socialist Workers Party and Socialist Workers Press, 1400 W. Montrose, Chicago, Ill. 60613.
LOS ANGELES: Socialist Workers Party, 1250 S. Spring St., Los Angeles 17, Calif. 90015.
COLUMBUS, O.: Socialist Workers Party, 116 N. Front St., Columbus, Ohio, 43215.
The Indonesian Debacle

By Joseph Hansen

[The following article is the introduction to a new pamphlet, "The Catastrophe in Indonesia," which analyses the bloody defeat the international workers movement and the colonial revolution have suffered in Indonesia since October, 1965 (see advertisement below). Besides the introduction, the pamphlet contains three articles: "Lessons of the Defeat in Indonesia" by Ernest Mandel, "The Lesson of Indonesia, Statement of the United Secretariat of the Fourth International," and "Lessons from a Defeat" by T. Soedarso. The latter article is of special importance, as its author is a member of the Indonesian Communist Party, who comes to grips with the reasons for the defeat of his party.]

The three documents reprinted here as a pamphlet deal with a defeat to the world socialist revolution — a major defeat that is still reverberating in world politics. The documents attempt to analyze the defeat and to draw some critical lessons from it. It is quite fashionable among revolutionists to talk about the need for criticism and self-criticism in relation to setbacks to their cause. Unfortunately, the breach between acknowledgment of the need and actually carrying it out is a wide one.

There are a number of reasons for this:

First of all, the struggle for socialism is a difficult one. Of all the great tasks which humanity has faced in the slow upward climb from savagery and barbarism toward genuine civilization, the battle for socialism is perhaps the most difficult. It involves the enormous task of organizing the world's workforce and it must be carried out in the face of an unrelenting and complicated struggle. To compensate for this, there exists a strong tendency to concentrate on the heartening signs, the successes, that prove that progress is indeed being made. The other side of this is a readiness to offset the demoralizing consequences of serious setbacks by excluding the real situation from consciousness.

Failure to Explain

These psychological reflexes are given strong emphasis in a deliberate reinforcement by the narrow-minded or self-seeking bureaucracies to be found in many, if not most, international Communist trade-union bureaucracies who prefer to completely ignore defeats like the one in Indonesia when they do not actually cheer the crushing of "Communists." But opportunistic leaders of political parties whose programs are ostensibly dedicated to socialism are just as guilty. The most pernicious are those who claim to stand in the tradition of Leninism but who have converted criticism — the application of ruthless objective analysis into a mere ritual that aims at covering up and even prettifying costly and damaging setbacks to the workers' movement.

In the case of Indonesia, neither the Komin nor Peking has offered even a ritualistic simulacrum. An entire year has passed since the disaster that shattered the largest Communist Party in the capitalist world, yet not a single attempt, however superficial, has been made by either of the centers to analyze what went wrong and why.

Certainly sufficient resources are available to both governments to make such an analysis. Moscow has proved its capacity to secure first-rate photographs of the other side of the moon and Peking has recently provided most convincing proof of its capacity to produce a hydrogen deterrent to war. Surely either of them, or both of them combined, should be able to crack the secret that enabled a handful of reactionary generals in a backward country to overcome a huge mass party able to count on the experience and advice of both the U.S. and Moscow!

It requires no James Bond or Superintendent Maitrej to discover why Mao and Brezhnev are in the field of analyzing the defeat in Indonesia. The policy of each is to say nothing. To put it bluntly, they have a tacit agreement not to probe into this delicate area where the only real difference concerns which was most to blame — the counter-revolutionaries — and much broader circles! — it is nonetheless a vital matter, even a life and death matter, to understand serious defeats and how they could have been prevented. Thus in Indonesia, it was precisely the lack of widespread understanding of the defeats and setbacks suffered by the socialist revolution in the twenties and thirties, and again in the postwar period in Europe, that paved the way for another defeat comparable to the one suffered by the workers of Germany at the hands of Hitler in the early thirties. And it is precisely because the working class generally still does not understand the role played by Stalinism in the events leading to World War II that the world today stands at the brink of a new conflict.

The series of defeats in a number of countries, above all in Germany, gave rise to the delusion of a temporary setback that could plunge into a world war without thereby signing a death warrant for capitalism. They were confirmed in their belief by what happened in the civil war in Spain where Stakoe, to prove to imperialism his capacity to play the role of savior of their system and thereby win for the Kremlin at least forbearance from attack, deliberately blocked a socialist victory. Spain, as Leon Trotsky pointed out at the time, constituted the "last warning" for humanity; inasmuch as the imperialist powers, by intervening in the civil war, were converting Spain into a proving ground for World War II.

Today the course of the conflict in Vietnam offers many striking parallels to the tragedy in Spain. Not the least of these is the parallel between the defeat in Germany and the defeat in Indonesia. The events in Indonesia can be glossed over only at risk of paying a most fearful price!

Is analyzing what happened in Indonesia, it is possible to make a serious mistake in methodology. This is to confuse the analysis to the Indonesian defeat alone, leaving out the international context. Such an error would emphasize what is peculiar to the archipelago and tend to obscure the general pattern that applies to other countries as well. It would likewise tend to isolate Indonesia from the overall context of international events and block an understanding of the reciprocal play of cause and effect on a world scale.

To fully appreciate the enormity of the debacle in Indonesia, it is necessary, for instance, to see it as the culmination of a series of setbacks that occurred after the colonial revolution reached a high point with the victory of the Cuban Revolution in 1959. The immediate consequence of the triumph in Cuba was to provide fresh inspiration and hope to the masses throughout the colonial world. This was particularly visible in the upsurge in the Congo and elsewhere in Africa, as in Algeria and Zanzibar.

Then a series of setbacks occurred, some due to adventurist actions associated with a wrong appreciation or wrong application of the lessons of the Cuban victory, some due — and this was much the more decisive and widespread — to "class-collaboration, "peaceful coexistence" policies.

In one country after another, the military caste seized power in coup d'états and proceeded to crush or drive underground the revolutionary movements seeking an agrarian reform, national liberation, a planned economy. The biggest defeat before the one in Indonesia occurred in Brazil in April 1964. Other sharp setbacks occurred in the Congo and Algeria, to name but the most prominent. Since the defeat in Indonesia, Ghana has been added to the list.

In brief, the series of defeats in a number of other countries in the colonial world increased the potentiality for a defeat in Indonesia.

Thus, instead of being provided with a new example like Cuba — one that would serve both to provide fresh inspiration to the masses and also a model more applicable perhaps to conditions in their own country — the Indonesian

The Catastrophe
In Indonesia

Three articles on the fatal consequences of Communist Party policy including a revealing account by a surviving Indonesian Communist.

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LEONID BREZHNEV, General Secretary of the Soviet CP. Neither Soviet nor Chinese CPs offer any explanation of catastrophic defeat in Indonesia.
masses were confronted with a series of depressing setbacks. It was all the more important, therefore, that the Chinese Communist Party to play a positive role and to do its utmost to help put the Indonesian Communist Party on the right track. The Chinese Revolution had exiled masses of people on the Indonesian masses, as if it did on the masses throughout the colonial world. The successes and bitter reversals of the Chinese Revolution in China — despite the errors and limitations — further impressed the masses, especially the newly rising masses in Indonesia. The Chinese Revolution thus reconstituted to the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, lending extraordinary authority to their attitudes and appeal.

Mao's Responsibility

But the history of the Mao leadership was to cover up even and foster the opportunities of the abort group in the Indonesian Communist Party. Thus in relation to Indonesia, Mao played a role comparable to that of the German events. Just as Stalin, out of passing diplomatic needs, blocked the German Communists from joining the international movement, so Mao closed the party's eyes to developing a revolutionary policy that could have stopped Hitler and put the German working class in power, so Mao chose to put the conservative masses into the road to victory. If the connection between the defeats in other countries and the defeat in Indonesia is understood, this holds all the more true for the international repercussions that followed upon the defeat.

In Vietnam the struggle against the free fighters at once became ten times more difficult. A victory in Vietnam would have meant a great new powerful ally in the camp of the workers' states. It needs hardly be said that the masses turned towards China and how and why it was possible for the Chinese to turn such a pernicious role in these same masses away from the road to victory. If the connection between the defeats in other countries and the defeat in Indonesia is understood, this holds all the more true for the international repercussions that followed upon the defeat.

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Effect on Vietnamese

Instead of this, the defeat in Indonesia acted as a new depressant on the Vietnamese freedom fighters. That they have been depressed in spirit as well as materially as they have despite this shows how serious the situation really is.

The defeat in Indonesia also had grave repercussions for the colonial revolution in other countries. The political struggle in general through the encouragement it provided the most bellicose leaders of the ruling class — those that want to get on with the grandiose scheme of spreading their empire until it gives the globe. The physical liquidation of the Indonesian Communist Party deprived Johnson of one of his main arguments for intervening in the civil war in Vietnam; namely, the argument that if the U.S. did not shore up the Saigon regime it would fall and that would mean a whole row of dominoes going down. By way of compensation, the blood of the ultra-reactive coup d'etat in Vietnam greatly strengthened the position of the U.S. armed forces in Southeast Asia and thereby reduced the risk inherent in further escalation of the war in Vietnam.

The ultimate consequences of the defeat in Indonesia can thus be seen in the flow of American casualties from Vietnam and the heightened danger of a nuclear arms race. The ultimate consequences of the Chinese Revolution thus redounded to the leader- ship of the Indonesian Communist Party, lending extraordinary authority to their attitudes and appeal.

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...How They Twist on Viet Bombing

(Continued on Page 1)

14 hours after a calm New York Times of the following day, "United States officials acknowledged for the first time that Ameri- can military planes have been bombing military targets in Hanoi."
This was the New York Times' interpretation of events, but not all may go as one of the most elaborate exercises in distortion and manipulation of the history of Washington obfuscation. The Times disclosed on Monday in a lengthy conference held by State Department press officer Robert J. McCloskey, "Does it remain American policy not to reveal military target locations?" the Times' editors asked. "Is it not American policy to use military force?" "We have never talked about this in the past and we do not plan to talk about it in the future," McCloskey replied.

"Well, could these military as- sistance targets be located within the city limits of Hanoi?"

"Some Are Close"

"I don't know what the city limits are," the Times' editors are told. "Some are close and some are far. We have no way of knowing what is or is not a populated area by definition."

"And a reporter, apparently speaking for the State Department, added: 'Directly above Hanoi,' which means that there is no geographical definition of the city limits," the Times reported.

Cyclical Story

"That version rests on the lunacy of asserting that the anti-aircraft gunners in Hanoi are Vietnamese gunsingers against the United States. It also implies that the Saigonese city simply fell back on the city. Washington, however, was not unprepared in its response to a comic-book interpretation, alleged to be prepared in some quarters."

"The Times" reported that on Dec. 16, 1963, "New York Times continued, "had said yesterday that targets hit by American planes have not been con- sidered, in the parlance of the Times, "urban" or " metropolitan" Hanoi."

And the State Department in its own interpretation of the story, McCloskey said, "There is no fixed geographical definition of the city limits," it reaffirmed at a noon- time briefing on Monday.

The closest in this first series of statements that Washington was giving was that a "limited number of Hanoi bombings was in an article by Mr. Johnson," that "Vietnamese gunners against the United States has been acciden- tal, and well-known mouth- openers," said Sen. Styles Bridges, R-N.H., Dec. 17.

"Targets or any important - VIP Vietnamese have been hit by the American planes," the Times reported.

"We have not. What do you mean by Hanoi?" McCloskey re- plied.

On the following day the official line was that "the Times has since been writing to the Times," In Saigon, Gen. Westmoreland, the American commander in the Vietnam, issued a categorical denial: "A complete review of pilot reports and photographs of the 14-December air strikes on the Vannid stock depot and the 15-December air strikes on the Hanoi railroad yard showed that all ordnance..." Westmoreland concluded. "None fell in the city of Hanoi." But in Washington, there were those who quoted a "casual assessment," according to the Dec. 16, 1963, "New York Times," "that reports that had been damage on non-military targets during the raids this week, the question of whether American planes have been hitting targets in Hanoi has been..."

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Letters From Our Readers

Thought for the Week

"Marshall Ky is reported to have been ousted at the Manila conference of the leaders of the allied states because he was the only participant who did not arrive in a first-class cabin. A New York Times Saigon dispatch explaining why Ky is putting pressure on the U.S. to give him some jet airliners.

Your courageous work in raising your voices above the defensiveness of capitalist propagandists, in our supposedly "free press." You are a brightly burning light in a darkened world.

In our neo-fascist society one must fight in constant resistance. If he lifts his hands in protest to the tyranny of the "Great White Fathers" Imperialist Crusaders and murderous economic gangs, in a society where young men are imprisoned for refusing to murder for industry's guns, where black men are forced to kill their Asian brothers and then come home and find their house burned down by some gangland goon, or a gang land, "Big Brother" and his henchmen try fanatically to abolish all hope for humanity, it gives me strength to see a paper like The Militant striving so diligently to give American working people the one thing they have always been so long without, the truth.

Your call for work and hope 1967 will have a great stride in the struggle for peace and fraternity.

Kenneth Kirk

We're Reported in the Press

We're Doubled by Experts —  
Fast, Accurate Speech — When a cop grabs you by the back of the neck it may be "socially necessary" to reply with some simple four-letter Anglo-Saxonisms, according to the American Civil Liberties Union. The ACLU made the free-speech argument in an appeal heard before a panel of a federal court of appeals for relaxing doubly ever for expressing his res

Ralph Malms Can Relax — Dr. Ull H. Olin, a UN population expert, says northern sambar, such as is typical of city life, res

Betty Inman: Jesse Lee, a Hollywood strap-er, has organized Exotic Dancers of America to boycott competition from topless waitresses.

Harry Ring

Marxism Refuted (I) — Our analysis of that great country of the entire globe has been exploded by the American press. The Times and the New York Times, "A $1.50 bottle of men's cologne and a six-cent bottle of cologne remover had allegedly been found under his costume. However, on Dec. 28, the store's president ordered the charges dropped "in the interest of the store and the public.

Marxism Refuted (II) — The makers of Persilium, a cough syrup, have invested $250,000 in advertising for the aged can be left in the hands of private doctor. By theft launching a sweatpants contest with some 50,000 prizes, designed "to help thousands of American families plant their drug and medical bills in 1967." There will be five first prizes, of $1,000 and $500, second prices of clinical thermometers. Rectal, no doubt.

Sociology Lesson — Michigan farmers, organized into the Chippewa County CIO union, have found some ways to deal with the forces of nature. One is to establish a cooperative weather service, organized to protect their landowners. Chippewa CIO has launched a comprehensive, organized campaign to block their development of a cooperative weather service, organized to protect their landowners.

Lit Fire Under Officials — More than 8,000 New Yorkers phoned City Hall to protest the decision to fire the Christmas weekend to report they were working at least 10 hours. The group of East Harlem tenants got action, however. After waiting for three days, they obtained the children to gather Christmas trees, some of which have been arranged. A huge bonfire in the street has been lit. The adults formed a picket line, lovely dogs with plumed and got the heat back on.

Chippewa Group — Recently we reported that a British Rock and Roll group called themselves the Gnomes of Zurich. They apparently have no part in the work of our "rock 'n' roll groups as Big Brother and The Holding Company, and Dow Jones and the Industrials.

We Goofed — In our various reports of the gift specials available at Tiffany's we probably offered some non-existent Tiffany's material that we didn't discover until after the Chicago story. We have only learned now that four masked gunmen knocked the store over last Oct. 15. The police, with the help of some 1,000 people, paid Tiffany's $795,000, which they were allowed to keep because the wholesale price of the jewelry that was carted off. It must have filled an earlier story, however.

Early Subversive Nailed — The penman who auditioned the Congressional Bill of Rights, has been identified as William Lambert, a Virginian. The identification was made by the FBI.

Ha-Ha Dept. — "Rebirth of Naz.

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Defenders of Hugo Blanco are continuing to win significant support. However, no wide-flung campaign to save the revolutionary Peruvian peasant leader who faces possible execution.

An impressive indication of the scope and determination of the struggle was the decision of Amnesty International to intervene on Blan-
co's behalf. An influential organi-
zation, Amnesty is a non-governmental organiza-

tion with its center in London and

other national offices.

The campaign has been backed by numerous people who are full of anger and
dedicated to the defense of their country and to the establishment of a just and
democratic society in Peru.

In a letter to its national sec-

tions summarizing the conflict between the government and the peasants of the region, the London office of Amnesty International said that a demonstration by 2000 peasants was
too big for the force of the government in the area.

The letter stated that at least 25 people have been arrested.

The demonstration was peaceful and the government forces used tear gas to disperse the crowd.

The government has arrested and imprisoned several leaders of the demonstration, including Hugo Blanco, the leader of the movement.

The government has also imposed a state of emergency in the area, which authorizes it to use force against any opposition.

The situation is critical and the struggle continues. The movement is determined to fight for the rights of the peasants and to defend the democratic process in Peru.