

The Week

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A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS
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**LESSONS of
OCTOBER 22**



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Events which took place in Grosvenor Square yesterday have received a great deal of publicity. Unfortunately this has led to a complete absence of publicity about the meeting which took place at Trafalgar Square beforehand. As a result over emphasis has been made on the fact that "peace demonstrators" reacted to police provocation.

1. The Trafalgar Square meeting and subsequent 10,000 strong march was organised by the October 22nd Vietnam Ad Hoc Committee on the initiative of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign. As its name suggests, the policy of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign is full support for the National Liberation Front and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and their fight against U.S. aggression.

2. All the speakers in Trafalgar Square, including the representatives of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, The Week, Universal Coloured Peoples Association, V.S.C., Labour Worker, and the American Protest Movement made it quite clear that although our aim is peace in Vietnam this peace cannot be obtained as long as the U.S. and its allied remain in that country. The victory of the Vietnamese people is an essential pre-requisite to peace in Vietnam. Therefore, the demonstration was not one merely protesting against American aggression but the vast majority were also demonstrating for the victory of the Vietnamese Revolution.

3. The wide-spread police brutality against demonstrators in the United States was a factor in so many people demonstrating in London in solidarity, not only with the Vietnamese but also with the American anti-war movement.

4. In Grosvenor Square there was a complete mis-handling of the situation by the police. Permission had been received for the March to enter the Square and stop while the delegation presented a letter to the Embassy. A police barrier at the entrance to the Square tried to thin down the March to a line 3 or 4 wide. This caused a bottleneck which broke when the demonstrators surged onto the grass area where they reassembled. The mounted police then provoked the demonstrators by riding their horses through this essentially static group. This, plus the use of dogs, resulted in a perfectly predictable reaction and needless injury to both demonstrators and police.

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OCT. 21ST VIETNAM MOBILISATION IN EDINBURGH from Bob Purdie

One of the largest demonstrations in Edinburgh for a number of years took place on Saturday 21st October, when 400 people marched in solidarity with the U.S. anti-war movement.

The March assembled at 2.15 p.m. outside the N.U.R. rooms in Hillside Crescent, and moved off at 3 p.m. down Leith Walk, the heart of one of Edinburgh's most populous working-class districts, to a rally on Leith Links. There were contingents from C.N.D., Labour Parties, Trade Union branches, C.P. and Y.C.L. The youthful V.S.C. contingent included the banners of Napier College Labour Club, and Edinburgh South L.P.Y.S. The V.S.C. badges and N.L.F. flags which were sold before the March, made a colourful contribution, and copies of the new V.S.C. Trade Union pamphlet were bought eagerly.

On Leith Links, the chairman of the rally, Bill MacLean of the N.U.M., last year's chairman of the Scottish T.U.C., denounced U.S. aggression in Vietnam,

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OCT. 21ST VIETNAM MOBILISATION IN EDINBURGH (Cont'd.)

expressed the solidarity of the rally with the demonstrations all over the world, and in particular the courageous actions in the U.S., and expressed the view that if negotiations were to take place it would be necessary for the U.S. to stop bombing North Vietnam, and withdraw the troops from South Vietnam; so that the Vietnamese could decide their own future, free from outside interference. The Rev. Clynes Middleton of the Church of Scotland, said that it was important that so many people of differing views were united against the war. Christopher Norwood M.P., examined the history of the Geneva agreements, and showed how the U.S. and the Saigon Regime had frustrated every hope of peace in Vietnam. He declared that the only hope of world peace was the recognition by the Imperialist powers of the rights of National Liberation. In the middle of his address, when he was asked by one of the crowd, why he had not voted against the Defence Estimates, he launched into a complicated defence of the Left M.P.s.

It is obvious that the failure of the Parliamentary Left to mount an effective opposition to Wilson, is leaving them way behind the growing militancy amongst the rank-and-file of the Labour Movement. The Edinburgh Demonstration is an indication of that militancy. ** ** ** **

REPORT ON 'TRIBUTE TO CHE' MEETING by Claude Anderson

A capacity audience of 500 took part in the meeting held at Mahatma Gandhi Hall on Tuesday, to pay tribute to Ernesto Che Guevara. The particular atmosphere of the meeting and the feelings expressed by the audience were certainly in harmony with what Che would have wanted. A feeling of grief was also present, and this could hardly have been otherwise as to all of us Che's life, and final sacrifice were an expression of our deepest hopes and aspirations. But the overriding mood was one of solidarity with all that Che stood for and gave his life for. Perhaps Robin Blackburn summed it up best of all at the beginning of his speech: "No words can pay tribute to Che ... the real tribute to Che was paid on Sunday evening outside the U.S. Embassy". The comment was greeted by great applause. Stan Newens (Labour) M.P. representing the movement for Colonial freedom spoke of his Internationalism and the heroic example of his action of leaving his work in Cuba to carry on again the fight against Imperialism on another front in South America. Stan Newens also spoke of the necessity of injecting this consciousness of International Solidarity and especially alignment with the third World struggles, into the British Labour Movement. Ken Coates spoke of the humanism and purity of Guevara's attitude towards the task of building socialism in Cuba. He spoke of Guevara's influence in directing the Cuban revolution towards Socialism, and his struggles for the establishment of Socialist values in Cuba by the replacement of "Material incentive" with "Moral incentive".

Che's great contribution and example to us was his life, his deeds. His written work was a weapon. And although his writings were few, their richness and intensity were great. Ken Coates expressed his belief that Guevara would be given a place in history alongside such other revolutionaries as Rosa Luxemburg and Trotsky.

Present on the platform was Santiago Diaz from Cuba, who received a tremendous ovation from the audience - a fine expression of Solidarity with Cuba, and the people of that country who feel the loss of Che more than anyone. Pat Jordan was Chairman and the meeting was sponsored by MCF, NLR, and BRPF.

'CHE' ON VIETNAM AND WORLD REVOLUTION

New uprisings will occur in these and other American countries, as has now occurred in Bolivia, and these will continue to grow, with all the vicissitudes which this dangerous occupation of the modern revolutionist involves. Many will perish, victims of their own errors, others will fall in the harsh combat that is looming; new battlers and new leaders will arise in the heat of the revolutionary struggle. The people will continue to form their fighters and their leaders within the selective framework of the war itself, and the Yankee agents of repression will increase in number.

This is the Vietnamese road; the road which the peoples must follow, the road which the Americas will follow, with the special feature that armed groups can establish something like coordinating committees to make the repressive efforts of Yankee imperialism more difficult and to help their own cause.

The Americas, a continent forgotten in the latest political struggle for freedom, which is beginning to make itself felt through the Tricontinental by means of the Cuban Revolution which is the voice of the vanguard of its peoples, will undertake a much more outstanding task - the creation of a second or third Vietnam, or the world's second or third Vietnam. In short, it must be remembered that imperialism is a worldwide system, the final stage of capitalism, and it must be beaten in a worldwide confrontation. This means a long war. And, we repeat it once again, a cruel war.

Let no one be mistaken on this when he sets out to initiate it and let no one vacillate in initiating it out of fear of the results which it can draw upon his own people. It is almost the only hope for victory. We cannot evade the need of the hour.

Vietnam teaches us this with its permanent lesson in heroism, its tragic daily lesson in struggle and death in order to gain the final victory. Over there, the imperialist troops encounter the discomforts of those accustomed to the standard of living which the North American nation boasts. They have to confront a hostile land, the insecurity of those who cannot move without feeling they are walking on enemy territory; death for those who go outside of fortified redoubts; the permanent hostility of the entire population. All this continues to provoke repercussions inside the United States; it is going to arouse a factor that was attenuated in the days of the full vigor of imperialism - the class struggle inside its own territory.

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A N N O U N C E M E N T

T H E U. C. P. A. [Universal Coloured People's Association]
is holding a massive International Dance called
AN EVENING WITH CHE & MALCOLM X
at Porchester Hall, Epsom, Surrey, W.2 on Friday 3rd November, 7.30 p.m.

To those who complain against the BLACK-POWER exclusiveness, this is their opportunity to meet our members.

The IVAN CHIN STEEL BAND is playing.

Pat Jordan's article (16th October) emphasises what is in my opinion one of the greatest difficulties to be overcome by progressive movements in this country. This fear of "Communism" has been deliberately fostered by the attitude of the Government, so that it, along with the word "Trotskyist", can be flung at anyone who criticises Labour Party policy. How cosy it must be for the Labour Party to huddle up to their failures and their Party Line, while Frank Allaun has to point out that in all probability a motion (as important as calling for defence cuts) might be passed by the Parliamentary Labour Party, and then nothing would be done. We have now reached the Olympian heights where all the Labour Party machinery can be churned into action, only to be brought to a grinding halt by the Civil Service. This would be hilarious if it weren't so pitiful and dangerous.

It is this fostered fear of Communism which keeps the peace movements apart (the issue of Vietnam is continually bedevilled by, "Whose atrocities do you prefer? The Left or the Right? Why, the Right, of course"). "I am very much afraid that if the North wins in Vietnam there will be terrible reprisals", said Peter Cadogan to me recently (speaking critically of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign). I envy him the ability to put his head down at night with only this Vietnamese problem on his mind. Personally, my fears are present-day American murder and devastation, and the possibility that Johnson might go completely out of his tiny mind and drop an "H" bomb. But every man to his taste.... Of one thing you can be sure: if you really care about Genocide in Vietnam and elsewhere, the raising of the standards of lower paid workers, adequate provision for the dispossessed, the solution of racial problems, the proper functioning of trades unions, then you will be regarded as a "Communist", because democracy in the form of the Labour Government no longer recognises its own hall marks.

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HOW MUCH IS AN M.P. WORTH

by George Cunvin

Dr. David Kerr, M.P. is complaining about his pay as a Member of Parliament. £3,250 a year, it seems, is not enough once you deduct expenses for secretarial help, postage, meals, living accommodation in London and so on. He will, no doubt, have the sympathy of old age pensioners and the millions of working men and women who take home under £10 a week. Quite a number of his parliamentary colleagues, of course, keep themselves above the breadline by outside activities such as journalism, directorships and other perks for which they seem to have plenty of time when not engaged in parliamentary duties. Dr. Kerr, also objects that it is "never the right time to propose a rise for M.P.'s." Just before freezing workers' wages was certainly a most inappropriate time for their last pay rise.

But really there is a simple solution. All M.P.'s should receive the average basic pay prevailing in industry (with appropriate rates for overtime ministerial duties, etc.). This, in common with all wages and salaries, should be pegged to the cost of living. As the cost of living goes up so will M.P.'s salaries. Legitimate expenses should be paid by the State. In this way M.P.'s - Labour M.P.'s at any rate - will be living the same sort of life as their working-class supporters. It will establish a bond of solidarity between them which would ensure electoral success every time. True, careerists and opportunists will no longer find a parliamentary career quite so attractive as at present. But the Labour Party will be all the better for their absence and the workers will be served by men and women who share their way of life and their desires.

WHO IS KNOCKING THE UNIONS?

by Charles van Gelderen

The great drive is on to destroy the trade unions - to turn them into tame integral parts of the machinery of government.

It started, of course, with the Labour Government's "Prices and Incomes" policy which had nothing to do with prices and only affected the incomes of the wage-earning majority. The small coterie drawing dividends, rents and interest were hardly touched.

Disillusioned with the Labour Government, the organised workers are turning more and more to militant trade union action in their determination to defend their rights and their conditions. This has called forth the full wrath of the establishment.

Leading the assault is that doughty Papal Knight, Lord Carron. The wave of militancy was all part of an international Communist plot to undermine the British nation - if it was not the Kremlin or Peking directed Communists, then it was the sinister "University people" - you know, those who control papers like "Voice of the Unions" and "The Week". Or perhaps it was a combination of all these fearful forces.

Always ready to take a stab at the workers, Ray Gunter - with the full backing of Harold Wilson, it is said - has now joined in the fray. He talks openly of an "unholy alliance" of Communists and Trotskyists, who "aim to destroy our hopes of economic recovery and hope to bring to ruin the social democratic movement".

Not for the first time, these so-called Labour leaders show their contempt for the workers - fools who can be manipulated by cunning left-wing plotters. This only shows how big the gap is between the leadership and the rank-and-file. When Trade Union leaders become Lord This or Baron That, can it be wondered at that Joe Bloggs at the bench thinks of them as creatures of a different world and prefers to follow leaders of their own choosing who share their way of life.

This is the reality of the situation. The T.U. Lords and the Gunters of this world are openly identifying themselves with capitalism. Their aim is to preserve at all costs, to strengthen it and defend it. Their future is tied up with the existing social system. The future of the workers is tied to the cause of socialism which can only triumph if capitalism is destroyed. They elected a Labour Government to realise this aim. Betrayed by that Government they try other methods.

It is the Carrons and the Gunters who are seeking to destroy the trade unions - not the striking workers at Arundels, the Barbican or on the Railways. If this is a plot it is a capitalist plot and Carron and Gunter are part of it.

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The struggle against the agreement signed by the E.T.U. and the National Federated Electrical Association continues, with an increase in militancy amongst the men and a corresponding escalation of witch-hunting and smear tactics on behalf of the employers and the E.T.U. E.C.

William Davies of the Guardian predicted that Wilson would pre-empt the Tory Conference by bashing the unions. On cue, Gunter, Carron and Chappel rallied to the cause. Chappel complained of the violence offered to him by delegates from the contracting electricians. Razor gangs and mob violence were at large. The reality is a little less dramatic than the "convalescent" Mr. Chappel would have us believe. When confronted by delegates who wished to hold a meeting to discuss the new contract, Mr. Chappel refused outright to do any such thing. One old electrician was so incensed by this that he threw a totally ineffectual punch at Chappel but was held back by his mates. Chappel at this point began to insult Jack Morgan of the Earls Court delegation and poke at him with a rolled bunch of documents. Jack Morgan kept his temper and turned his back on Chappel. It is the opinion of many of the delegates present that Chappel was out to deliberately provoke the delegates. As it was, he failed and when he called the police one constable was enough to quell the supposedly rioting bunch of hooligans. The delegates went on to discuss the contract and to arrange the October 19th meeting in Coventry.

The "battered" Mr. Chappel recovered sufficiently to send out a witch-hunting circular to discover whom the delegates were. When this was received at the Ratcliffe on Soar site, the site committee promptly sent a letter back saying that they had sent down four properly appointed delegates. All signed the letter to avoid any victimisation.

The meeting on October the 19th was held in the Matrix Hall, Coventry. It was the widest and most representative meeting of the E.T.U. rank and file in recent times. Delegates came from London, Essex, Tyneside, South Wales, Northampton, Nottingham, Derby, Yorkshire, Southampton, Bristol and Manchester. A pledge of support also came from the Glasgow and West Scotland E.T.U. contracting shop stewards. A delegate from the Nottingham area estimated that there were nearly 2,000 men present. The mood of those assembled could be gauged by the banner in front of the platform that read: "Cannon - Balls!". Another encouraging feature was that attendance was not just restricted to contracting electricians but included maintenance and supply men.

The first issue that had to be sorted out was the suggestion that a break-away union be formed. This was decisively defeated as it was felt that it could isolate the militants. It was this appreciation of the need to reach out and form links with other sections of the working class that was the most impressive aspect of the proceedings. The meeting went on record as pledging their support to the dockers and railway men. The meeting further decided to refuse to sign the grading forms for joining the new Joint Industrial Board. A National Action Committee was formed and area site liaison committees were set up. It was agreed to launch a one-day stoppage on November the 10th. A mass demonstration was to be held in London and delegations would be sent to the NFEA and the ETU E.C. at Hayes. The mood of the meeting was clear on one point - both the contract and the Executive of the Union had to be thrown out.

Last Sunday's Vietnam demonstration in London was one of the most important marches to have taken place in this country since the War. It was this for a number of reasons, among which the actual numbers taking part was perhaps not the most important. The size of the demonstration was, of course, extremely encouraging; at its peak some eight to nine thousand were marching, and there were over five thousand in the 'invasion' of Grosvenor Square. It would be impossible to list all the organisations participating; there were numerous Constituency Labour Parties, Y.C.L., Young Liberal and Y.S. branches; university groups from, among others, Oxford, Warwick, Reading, Cambridge, Leicester, Southampton, London, Essex and Sussex; contingents behind the banners of the Irish Workers' Group and 'The Week'. The most prominent groups were those behind the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign banner, which led the march, and the large number of Americans who followed the Stop-It Committee American 'tank'. The only absence to be regretted was that of trade union branches and groups (though many trade unionists were present individually), with the Barbican Workers the sole organisation represented here. This absence can perhaps be explained in terms of a failure on the part of the political organisations in the Vietnam movement in this country, and it is to be hoped that the V.S.C. trade union conference on December 3rd will bring advances here. The long term future of the anti-imperialist movement in this country clearly depends upon it.

More important than the actual numbers participating, however, was the nature of the demonstration itself. Firstly, its solidarity position; and, secondly, its militancy. What was important was the political position for which so many thousands marched - a full and conscious solidarity position. The speeches at the Trafalgar Square meeting - notably those of John Palmer and Pat Jordan - made it quite clear that the demand of the march was for an NLF victory; in a dramatic speech Tariq Ali linked the Vietnamese struggle with that in Latin America ('Che Guevara is fighting in Vietnam!'), and Obi Egbuna with the Black Power movement. If there was any doubt that this was a full solidarity demonstration, the slogans on the route and in Grosvenor Square must have ended them. Attempts to chant uncommitted peace slogans were immediately drowned by the roaring of 'Victory to NLF' by the vast majority in the Square. The lesson from this must be clear. For a number of years V.S.C. has been subject to the criticism that the only way to achieve a large and effective protest movement is to create a broad front by putting forward a minimum demand ('peace'). V.S.C. has constantly argued against this, maintaining that the only way an effective and dedicated movement could be gathered is to adopt a non-mystified position; to demand not negotiations but solidarity. Last Sunday's events must be seen as vindicating this latter strategy.

The second advance was in militancy. The atmosphere of the march as it entered Grosvenor Square was an uncompromising one; people were packed closely together, and could not see what was happening at the front, yet there was never any doubt about what would happen to the police cordon around the gardens; it was clear from the entry into the Square that the demonstration would confront the Embassy from inside the gardens. Two years ago the sight of thousands of people chanting 'Victory to NLF' in front of the U.S. Embassy was a distant aim; on Sunday it became reality. Police efforts to break the demonstration - horse charges and skilful anti-riot tactics - were met with a degree of resistance not often seen here in protests on 'international affairs'.

I do not intend to repeat the excellent arguments which have already been made on this platform about Vietnam. I want to address myself to one topic only: "What can we do best to assist the people of Vietnam to defeat American imperialism". First, and most obvious, we must build-up the movement in this country which takes the line of immediate American withdrawal because this is the most principled and most effective way of opposing the war. As other speakers have explained to limit one's self to call for ending the bombing and negotiations leads one into a trap. It is impossible to build a protest movement on these lines because it will be immediately confused by the so-called peace initiatives of Johnson, backed up by his faithful follower, Wilson. This much is obvious.

But there are wider issues: how can we really bring about a change in Government policy? Or to put it another way, can we bring about a change in Government policy? I want to say most emphatically that I believe that we can and must force a change. But we can only force a change in the sense that the Government manoeuvres. This Government is totally committed to the defence of capitalism and imperialist domination of the third world. Whether it be open domination or disguised in the form of neo-colonialism. That is the whole meaning of its foreign policy. Therefore the only lasting thing that we can do to help the people of Vietnam, and other countries, in their fight against imperialism, is to replace the present Government with one which is anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist. How do we do this?

Comrades, this week that man Gunter talked of an unholy alliance of Communists and Trotskyists who are trying to wreck the British economy. That is dangerously like the talk of Hitler and Mussolini when they justified their destruction of the German and Italian labour movements. But I want to pose an alliance in another form of words: A united front of all left wingers in this country on the issues of a struggle against imperialism and a struggle for the social transformation of Britain.

Comrades, all over Britain workers are going into action to defend their living standards: the dockers, printers, busmen, building site workers, postmen, electricians and others. Tomorrow, they will be followed by huge new sections of the working class. I propose that we fuse and integrate the struggles against the wage freeze with that of the struggle against American aggression in Vietnam. The anti-Vietnam movement and the militant trade unionists have much to learn from each other: those in the anti-Vietnam war movement can learn from workers' struggle that only the might of the workers can, in the last analysis, bring about basic changes in Britain. Militant trade unionists can learn from the anti-Vietnam war movement that opposition to Government policy must be total. That one cannot isolate the wage freeze from the Government's support of the Americans in Vietnam: it is an integral part of an overall policy.

Comrades, the thousands of people on this demonstrations must solidarise themselves with the dockers, building site workers, electricians and all other workers engaged in struggle. Just as you have turned up here today to show your support for the Vietnamese people you must also show your support for the dockers, electricians, building site workers. You must join their demonstrations, collect money for them, get your organisations to support them, argue their case. But we need to also win the militant trade unionists for opposition to the war in Vietnam. Out of the fusing of these two great protest movements we can build a united front. A united front with no bans or proscriptions. We are tired of

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The important achievement was this break-through in attitude by the anti-war movement. The next protest cannot move backwards; a solid position has been reached, and it is from this point that future activities must advance. It is not an exaggeration to say that last Sunday saw a leap forward in the consciousness of the anti-war movement. No future Vietnam demonstrations can be effective on anything less than a solidarity platform, and no future march into Grosvenor Square will be satisfied with standing in the streets around the Square.

Once the march had broken into the gardens, it took on a momentum of its own. That is why it is, perhaps, a little irrelevant at this stage for us to talk of tactics; the talk, the on-going movement, must be concerned with the strategy of the struggle. Tactics in demonstrations such as these will develop with a large degree of spontaneity once people learn to go prepared; the impotence of hurling lumps of turf at the Embassy is unlikely to be repeated. The way in which the police line was broken, and the manner in which individuals were time and again seized back from the police to prevent arrests, are evidence of how pointless were the discussions on tactics that took place before the demonstration. The vital tactics were improvised.

The real task for the anti-war movement now is to bring more people out on marches, for advances in tactics will only really follow with advances in numbers. 20,000 people in solidarity demonstration will produce militant tactics of their own. It is the number of people and the strength of their beliefs which will determine the nature of future activities. We must concern ourselves with the strategy which will bring more people out on solidarity demonstrations. In addition to spreading the solidarity case, which has been V.S.C.'s principal activity, an advance must be made into the trade union field by extending the arguments about the totality of the struggle against imperialism. It is not sufficient just to shout 'Vietnam-Bolivia-Mytons: One struggle'; the anti-imperialist movement must concern itself far more with the rising industrial militancy in this country, must give it its active support, and must try to show how that militancy must be seen in a fuller context. As I said earlier, it is to be hoped that the V.S.C. trade union conference in December will be one step in this direction.

Sunday 22nd October was a day of great importance for the anti-war movement in this country. As David Robinson said, it is not the end of a struggle but the start of one. Solidarity has been established as the position of that movement. The need now is for a broad front of support behind that radical slogan.

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V I E T N A M S O L I D A R I T Y C A M P A I G N

MEETING AT TOYNBEE HALL, THURSDAY NOV 2nd AT 7.30 p.m.

Toynbee Hall is three minutes from Aldgate East tube

This meeting is being held to discuss what kind of action the Vietnam movement can undertake as a follow up to the successful mobilisation and march last Sunday. Also to be discussed are the future activities of the V.S.C. especially the Trade Union conference set for December 3rd.

being told that we can't work with certain people because they are communists, trotskyists, maoists, anarchists. Lets get rid of this macarthyism once and for all.

There is only one yardstick by which we can judge people: Whose side are they on in the living struggles of the day? We judge people by what they do today, not what they say about history. Comrades, all of you here can help to form this united front. If the leaders of your organisations won't agree, disregard them, ignore them and, if necessary, throw them out. Let no one stand in the way of the united front. Let this united front embrace all those who are willing to fight imperialism and British capitalism and its representatives. Let us bring into the united front the communists, the trotskyists, the maoists, the left-wing labour, the left catholics, young liberals, young socialists and non-party people. Let us end once and for all the witchhunts of the past.

Comrades, we owe a great debt to the Vietnamese people. Their heroic example, their determination to fight to the end against American imperialism, their noble courages has inspired us all. All over the world young people have been won for anti-imperialism, for socialism by the strength of this example. Our debt is deep. Let us repay it. Let us go forward from this meeting to make one of the most militant anti-imperialist demonstrations Britain has ever seen. Let us go forward from this demonstration to build the united front. Let us build through the united front a mighty movement against imperialism and against British capitalism's attempts to cut workers' living standards. Let us take this united front on to the offensive, with the aim of building a movement and the necessary organisations to destroy capitalism in Britain. Let us pledge ourselves to build a new society in Britain through this struggle. A new society which will help to build up the terrible damage done by the imperialist wars of aggression. A new society which will pay its debts to the people of Vietnam.

Comrades, let us pledge ourselves to do all we can to help the world-wide struggle for national liberation, social advance and social justice. Comrades let us show by our actions that we are the conscience of the West. Comrades let us today and tomorrow show the same fighting spirit as the Vietnamese. Comrades let us start doing all things today.

NOTTINGHAM VIETNAM SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN

TRIBUTE TO CHE GUEVARA

Speaker: Tariq Ali

Albert Hall Institute, Derby Road, Nottingham, Notts.

Friday

November 3rd.

8.00 p.m.

For further information on the above and other Nottingham Vietnam Solidarity Campaign activities contact: Martin Turner, 27, Cliffgrove Avenue, Chilwell Nottingham.....Tel: Nottingham 257850

SMALL BUT SUCCESSFUL VSC TRADE UNION CONFERENCE IN SCOTLAND

The Glasgow and Edinburgh branches of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign jointly initiated a conference of Scottish Trade Unionists to discuss the possibilities for medical and technical aid to the Vietnamese revolution. Taking place on 14th October it commenced with a summing up of the reasons why trade unionists should give their support to Vietnam by Willie Boyle (DATA) and Bob Purdie (AEU). In the afternoon Pat Jordan, National Secretary of VSC, put forward a number of specific proposals for the manner in which projects of material solidarity could be initiated. There was a welcome eagerness on the part of those present to discuss practical proposals and it seems likely that as a result of the conference some real progress will be made in Fife and in the Falkirk and Stirling areas. Ian Miller was able to report that as a result of the appeal sent out to branches over the names of a number of prominent Scottish Trade Unionists over £50 had already been received and money was still coming in. It was agreed that attempts should be made to secure the acceptance of a solidarity position by the Scottish Trade Union Congress, which has consistently condemned American action in Vietnam. It must be admitted that we had hoped for a somewhat larger attendance than the 40 odd who came to the conference. But the discussions held there and the degree of enthusiasm shown by those present augur well for the future campaign in Scotland.

OCTOBER 21ST: 3000 STRONG DEMONSTRATION IN GLASGOW

The march and meeting organised by the Glasgow Vietnam Autumn Mobilisation Committee in response to the American anti-war movements' call for sympathetic demonstrations all over the world, proved to be the largest on this issue yet seen in Glasgow. As the Morning Star pointed out, hundreds of marchers carried National Liberation Front flags and it was apparent from the applause given to Tariq Ali at the rally that the sentiments of the audience were in full support of the Vietnamese. A disused warehouse on the Broomielaw quay by the Clyde was the scene for the speeches and for the showing of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation photographic exhibition which made a big impact. VSC supporters sold more than £10 worth of literature, badges, flags etc., during the afternoon. A party in the evening raised £13 for VSC funds.

FUTURE PLANS OF GLASGOW V.S.C.

At the AGM of Glasgow VSC held 15th October plans for future activity were discussed. As well as concentrating on the follow up to the Scottish Trade Union Conference members will be making regular monthly pub and shop collections for the Vietnamese. Monthly members' meetings will be held. The first, on November 18th, will be addressed by Dave Riddell on the 'History of the Vietnamese Conflict'. It is hoped that different aspects of the war will be examined at these meetings.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST REVIEW

CONTENTS OF NOVEMBER-DECEMBER ISSUE

(The November-December Issue of ISR will be a special issue containing materials and an evaluation of the historic First Conference of the Latin American Organization of Solidarity (OLAS) recently held in Havana, Cuba. It will contain the following items):

1. The complete text of the speech by Fidel Castro to the closing session of OLAS. In his speech, Castro not only deals with the problems of the Latin American revolution, but expresses the solidarity of the Cubans with the Black Power struggle in the US in addition, Castro mounts a major offensive in his speech against the concept of "peaceful coexistence" especially as practiced by the Venezuelan Communist Party and their co-thinkers. The speech constitutes a major policy statement reflecting the views of the Cuban delegation to OLAS.

2. Text of the General Declaration on Revolutionary Policy adopted unanimously by the First Latin American Conference of Solidarity (OLAS). This policy declaration sets forth the guidelines for revolutionary action in Latin America. It specifically rejects the concept of the "peaceful road to power" in Latin America and calls for a general revolutionary mobilization to carry forward the struggle for power by any and all means necessary with special emphasis on guerilla warfare.

3. An evaluation of the OLAS conference under the title: The OLAS Conference - An Evaluation by Joseph Hansen, editor of The Militant, who attended the conference as a reporter for The Militant and International Socialist Review. Hansen has written extensively on the development of the Cuban revolution and his evaluation is drawn as a Marxist balance sheet of the aims, purposes and accomplishments of the First Conference of OLAS.

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MEETING ON RHODESIA & SOUTH AFRICA

TUESDAY, November 14th at 7.30 p.m.

Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1.

Tickets 2/6d

Further information from Anti-Apartheid Movement, 89 Charlotte St. W.1.

The Barbican Battle

MASS MEETING OF LONDON BUILDING WORKERS

to
PROTEST AT POLICE BRUTALITY AGAINST PEACEFUL MARCH OF BARBICAN
BUILDING WORKERS AND THE ARREST AND CHARGE OF 24 PICKETS

Show your support for the twelve months old struggle of Myton
Workers against sackings of steel fixers and victimisation of
six stewards.

at

D E N I S O N H O U S E V A U X H A L L B R I D G E R D.
(3 mins from Victoria Station)
T H U R S D A Y O C T O B E R 26th 7.15 p.m.

This meeting concerns every building worker and every trade
unionist. The future of site organisation is in peril. Attacks
on trade union organisation are the forerunner of an attack on
bonus, pay, and conditions.

SUPPORT MYTON'S BARBICAN

DEMONSTRATE ON NOVEMBER 2nd

On Thursday November 2nd, 24 men will be placed on trial.
Their "crime"? Picketing the Myton's Barbican site. For the
second time in a few weeks police provocation and violence
has been used as a means to break picket lines and introduce
scab labour.

At Myton's as at Roberts-Arundel, Stockport, where 40
Trade Unionists were arrested, there has been massive police
intervention on the side of the employers.

WE CALL on all Trade Unionists to demonstrate their
solidarity with the Barbican workers in the 12 month struggle
against victimisation.

WE CALL on all Trade Unionists to demonstrate their
solidarity with the 24 men on trial for picketing.

WE CALL on all Trade Unionists to demonstrate in defence
of Trade Union organisation free from government and
police intervention.

ALL OUT ON NOVEMBER 2nd

Assemble Mytons Barbican Site 7.30 a.m. onwards

**Demonstration 12.30 a.m. from Barbican
followed by a mass meeting**

A Defence Committee has been formed to assist
financially the 24 men on trial.

A National Appeal is being made.

All donations to:-

H. Treasurer.

Bro. B. Gordon.

20 Goldsworthy Gardens.

Silwood Street, London, S.E.16

Issued on Behalf of 1,000 Barbican Building Workers
c/o 10 Nicosia Road, S.W.18