

# TRUTH



Forward to the Second Congress of the Revolutionary Worker Youth!

## NO "VICTORY" FOR CARTER!

# THE US WORKING CLASS WILL CONCEDE NOTHING!

STATEMENT OF BARBARA PUTNAM AND FRED VITALE, CANDIDATES OF THE TROTSKYIST ORGANIZATION OF THE USA FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

It is traditional in bourgeois politics that after the elections are over the losing candidates concede defeat and congratulate the winners, wishing them good luck. The spectacle of Ford, holding back tears at the dreadful prospect of having to play golf and ski full-time instead of part-time, using \$100,000 of our money each year for his recreation is a perfect example of bourgeois hypocrisy. As the only candidates this year running on a Platform for a WORKERS PARTY and a WORKERS GOVERNMENT, we concede nothing to Jimmy Carter and his Democratic Party. We have not been defeated and we have no intention of wishing Jimmy Carter good luck.

The same holds true for the US working class and its youth. Despite the fact that another bourgeois politician has been elected, despite the fact that the victory of Jimmy Carter would not have been possible without the votes of a substantial percentage of the US working class, the US working class has not been defeated in these elections and the coming weeks and months will prove that the US working class and its youth will concede nothing to the Jimmy Carter regime and its plans to attack the US working class. On the 20th anniversary of the Spanish Revolution and the 40th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution, which are being celebrated this week by the working class and its youth throughout the world, the consciousness and the mobilization of the vanguard of the US working class goes far beyond what the election results indicate, goes far beyond any hope that Jimmy Carter and his allies in the labor movement may have of chaining the US working class to the anti-working class regime under the leadership of the Democratic Party. This week has not been just a week for bourgeois elections, it has been a week as well in the US of support to the world revolution and it is the revolutionary tradition of the US working class which expresses the mood and the determination of the US working class today, a mood and determination that cannot be expressed in election figures.

The election "victory" of Jimmy Carter and the Democrats cannot hide this revolutionary mobilization of the US working class. A majority of the workers in the US, especially in the large industrial centers, over 94% of the blacks voting voted for Jimmy Carter and the Democratic Party because they felt that these elections marked an important turning point in US politics, because they felt it necessary to throw out the anti-working class Nixon-Ford regime and its policies and unemployment and social decay, and because they still have illusions that there is a slight chance that Carter and the Democratic Party have something to offer the US working class. And most important, in these elections, the working class felt the absence of its own mass party, able to confront the capitalist politicians on a mass scale.

But the US working class has proven time and time again in the past and will continue to prove that they will concede nothing to Jimmy Carter and the Democratic Party. Despite their votes, as well as the workers who did not vote, the US working class has proven that it has no intention of holding back its struggles in the futile hope

that it will get something from the Democratic Party. The "victory" of the Democratic Party and the praise now being showered on the heads of the union bureaucrats for "getting out the vote" cannot hide the very deep crisis of the Democratic Party. The same workers who Woodcock and CO. claim to control, are the workers who time and time again have shown their refusal to accept the stranglehold of their leadership. In the strikes and mobilizations of the US workers in the last months, in every daily action in the factories, the workers have sought to throw out this leadership, to break its grip on the working class and to construct and new leadership for the workers and oppressed in this country.

Jimmy Carter and Woodcock have gotten the votes of the workers, but they have gotten very little else. Even as we go to press, there is a strong likelihood of a strike by the 118,000 Chrysler workers in the US. The votes in the elections can do nothing to cover up the fact that today the Democratic Party and its trade union bureaucrats are totally incapable of containing the mobilization of the working class for their own party and government. The promises of the Democratic Party will do nothing to hold back the struggles of the US working class and its youth for their own demands.

The future is a bleak one for the Democratic Party and it is just as bleak for those parties in the workers movement in the US who cover up for this crisis in front of the workers. Just as the working class has no intention of conceding anything to the Democratic Party, it has no intention of supporting those parties in the workers movement who stand in the way of their revolutionary mobilization. The bankruptcy of the campaigns of the American Communist Party (CP) and Socialist Workers Party (SWP) is linked to the like-bankruptcy of the Democratic Party. We haven't yet seen the figures on the election results of their campaigns but just as with the Democrats, no matter what "successes" they may claim, cannot cover for the fact that their campaigns represented no alternative to the Democratic Party.

The "10 Point Program to Meet the Needs of All the People" of the CP and the "Bill of Rights for Working People" of the SWP said nothing about the revolutionary aspirations of the working class and its youth. Instead these parties gave the US workers a left version of Jimmy Carter "advice" to the Democratic Party on how to reform the capitalist state. The SWP, which once was the party of the Fourth International in the US, proved its complete abandonment of the fight for the International by seeking to tie the US workers totally within the boundaries of the US. Not a single demand, not a single word in their campaign was directed toward the mobilization of the US workers in defense of their revolution which is approaching throughout the world. They demonstrated in practice where their true stand on Stalinism lies by running a campaign totally indistinguishable from the Stalinists, by openly supporting Stalinism in the trade unions in the US.

But just as important as the fundamentally opportunist character of the

campaigns of the CP and the SWP was their sectarian character, their total isolation from the living struggles of the workers. These candidates had time to spend in court suing to get on the ballot and appear on TV, but had not time to spend in the strikes of the US workers. Just as the bourgeois candidates, the only time the SWP was present during the recent auto strike, was for half an hour to have a picture taken "with the workers." The call of the SWP for a "labor party" was exposed for its true character -- a demand for Woodcock and CO. to pressure the Democratic Party. For the workers in auto and throughout the country who were seeking in these elections to build a mass, independent party of the working class, they did not find the SWP which only showed them the true character of centrism -- sectarian toward the workers and their youth, opportunism toward the Democratic Party, the liberals and the trade union bureaucrats.

Even though the results of our campaign in terms of votes and even a mobilization were small, we believe that our campaign was the only one in the US that can truly claim victory in these elections.

Because our campaign represented the road forward for the US working class, because our campaign represented the future of the working class in its fight to construct its own party independent of the Democrats and Republicans. Contrary to the Democratic Party and the SWP and CP, we believe that the real voice of the US working class has not yet been heard. The mobilization that the Trotskyist Organization and the Revolutionary Worker Youth began in this country, in Detroit and Chicago, against the bourgeois elections, for a WORKERS PARTY and a WORKERS GOVERNMENT, to throw out the Woodcock leadership in the auto strike, against the repression against the youth in the streets, for the defense of the Spanish revolution, for the support to the workers imprisoned in Poland, for the unity of the working class in North and South America, represented the only policy of class independence of the working class in these elections. Against all those who fought in these elections to reform the capitalists' state, or against all those who called on the workers to abstain, thus giving backhanded support to the Democratic Party, we proved that the working class in the US could wage a fight around a revolutionary platform and program in the living struggles of the US working class.

These elections were a victory for us because it gave a powerful impetus to our mobilization to rebuild the US Section of the Fourth International against the centrist leadership of the SWP. The workers were able to see in practice what the policy of the Fourth International stands for in the US against all others. Thus, these elections are a small but important beginning of the fight of the US working class to construct its own party, a step forward has been taken in the construction of the WORKERS PARTY, USA, Section of the Fourth International.

We thank all of the workers and youth in the US who supported us in this election and call upon them to join us in

the Second Congress of the Revolutionary Worker Youth which must consolidate our forces and deepen the fight that has already begun. The RWY will be in the forefront of the struggle and is open to all those who want to join the struggle against the new Carter regime and all the plots against the working class, national and international, that it has in store for us.

JOIN THE FIGHT FOR A WORKERS PARTY AND A WORKERS GOVERNMENT!

JOIN THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL!



"CRIMINALS" CONTINUED FROM BACK

out of the workers movement," despite the fact that taking the agents of Stalinism before the bourgeois courts has proven to be a necessary means of defense for the Fourth International.

In fact, the so-called principles of the leadership of the Spartacist League have been developed, not in accordance with the demands of the workers revolution and its party, but in accordance with the sole objective of the destruction of this party.

If honest militants need any further proof of this, they need only ask the leadership of the SL why its representative refused to join in the defense of the militants of the Trotskyist Organization of the USA being attacked by the bureaucrats and the Stalinist leaders of "Time-to-Unite" at the UAW Local #600 Hall. Because non-UAW members have no right to be on UAW property, they will be informed.

Another principle of the leadership of the SL -- the protection of UAW property from "trespassing" by militants of the workers movement.

Who is doing the work of the bourgeoisie, the trade union bureaucrats, the Stalinists and their courts? Who are the real criminals? The Fourth International, World Party of Workers Revolution, or the leadership of the Spartacist League, working at the side of Lambert and Just, with "objectivity" and "principle"?

Detroit  
November 3, 1976

**PUBLIC MEETING of the TO**

**The meaning of the Elections and the road forward--  
the meaning of the Anniversary of  
the Spanish and Hungarian Revolutions in the US**

**SAT NOV 6 8 PM**

3310 Junction (2 blocks south of Michigan) 895-3614

**PARTY AFTERWARDS**

# An Open Letter to Militants of the SWP/YSA in Auto

Comrades,

We address you on a topic of crucial importance to the entirety of the U.S. working class -- the recent auto strike. This event marked a definitive turning point in the struggle of American workers because it laid bare the true relations between the workers and their leaderships. Practically every auto worker is aware now that the agreement with the Big Three was pre-determined by the support of Woodcock to the Democratic party, by his offer to serve in Carter's cabinet, and by the whole policy of "labor peace" of the trade union lieutenants of Capital.

At a moment of such a decisive confrontation when the workers themselves were searching and fighting for a true policy to oppose to the collaboration of the trade union bureaucracy and liberalism (see articles in TRUTH dealing with auto strike) the Hansen-Barnes leadership of the Socialist Workers party intervened to support liberalism putting forward a policy utterly indistinguishable from that of the stalinist Communist Party -- USA.

## HANSEN/BARNES BETRAYAL

This letter and the proposals to the SWP made by the Trotskyist Organization in the auto strike are not the first attempts of our party to unite with the militants of the SWP in defense of the interests of the auto workers and the construction of a revolutionary leadership in the UAW. The TO/USSFI waged a long struggle at Ford River Rouge plant to found the Revolutionary Worker Youth and to send its delegation to Berlin and the founding of the Revolutionary Youth

International in the fall of 1975. It was among the young auto workers that this mobilization found its greatest support and through the proposals of joint action to the SWP/YSA a young militant from the YSA was also won. Likewise with the rebuilding of the Fourth International in which the TO/USSFI and the RWY fought for the independent organization of the auto workers -- to oust Woodcock, elect strike committees, and launch a general strike of auto. During this entire period the leadership of the Socialist Workers party remained silent on the tasks facing the auto workers, one of the most advanced sectors of the U.S. proletariat.

But in the face of the mobilization of the auto workers the silence of the SWP had to give way to some "policy." At Ford River Rouge the auto barons together with the trade union bureaucrats prepared a blow against the auto workers with the lay-off of 1500 Engine plant workers. This plot, a response to a winter of struggle by Rouge workers against harassments, suspensions, and speed-up, saw the SWP surface at Ford River Rouge but only to observe the treachery of the labor lieutenants.

At every turn the TO/USSFI sought to unite with the militants of the SWP on the basis of its proposals for the independent organization of the workers. We warned at that time that the silence of the SWP represented an actual policy of betrayal on the part of the Hansen-Barnes leadership and could only give way to an actual capitulation to stalinism and reformism.

And the auto strike forced Hansen and Barnes to do precisely this. Why?

Woodcock sought to bind the workers to the Democratic party and to deliver a "peaceful" settlement, the candidates of the SWP Camejo and Reid restricted themselves to a brief appearance at the Rouge picket lines to show "we are behind you all the way." Their was no attempt to warn the auto workers of the danger of Woodcock's offer to become a cabinet member and its implications for the working class. To the contrary, the fruit of the SWP's "new strategy," (see Militant Oct. 8, '76), "... rewriting union contracts, and a political fight by labor for a revision of the federal wages and hours law," is as old as the stalinists support to the the Humphrey-Hawkins bill for full employment. How is this "new strategy" different from the policy of "peaceful coexistence" long practiced by the stalinists with the UAW bureaucracy? Why should an auto worker vote for Camejo-Reid if the federal government can be pressured into revising its system in order to eliminate unemployment and high prices? What kind of leadership, reformist or revolutionary is necessary in the trade unions? All the questions of the auto workers about the policy of the SWP were answered in the course of the auto strike. And these answers cannot help but give rise to new questions on the part of the militants of the SWP who seek to clarify the tasks of the Fourth International trade unions.

The policy of the Fourth International and its US section is based on the need for a revolutionary leadership of the trade unions. This strategy, which led to the construction of the Revolutionary Workers Faction -- UAW is the policy of Trotsky. For us the

fight in the auto strike could hardly be one of merely another union contract (or even less of pressuring the federal government!) but rather of the necessity to construct the independent organizations of the workers -- strike committees, militant picket lines, and defense guards -- and the construction of the Workers Party against Woodcock's attempts to bind the auto workers to the Democrats.

The TO/USSFI is convinced that many militants of the SWP/YSA have begun to draw a similar balance of the policy of Hansen-Barnes. Not only those militants in auto but all of the SWP is concerned with the developments auto strike which bring to the fore some of the most important tasks facing the U.S. working class. We believe that the policy of the T.O. has been a fundamentally correct one basing itself on all the revolutionary acquisitions of the Fourth International and the U.S. working class. But above all we seek to clarify the true policy with the militants of the SWP whose party once represented the pillar of the Fourth International. It is this party that the T.O. seeks to re-build standing on the strength of the workers own mobilization in the United States. Therefore, we open, in preparation of the Congress of the Trotskyist Organization, with this letter a column in the pages of TRUTH for these militants to present their views and clarify with the TO/USSFI the tasks of the construction of the party in the United States.

Secretariat of the Trotskyist Organization/US supporter of the Fourth International  
Nov. 2, 1976

## DEFEND THE 4<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL AGAINST THE STALINIST GANGSTERS OF THE FRENCH OCI!

On October 1st, in front of the Mutualite in Paris, France, the militants of the Ligue Ouvriere Revolutionnaire (Revolutionary Workers League/Section of the Fourth International) were distributing leaflets rallying the French working class and its youth against the attacks of the Gierak bureaucracy on the Polish workers, denouncing the centrists for their complicity with the Stalinists in this attack, when they were viciously attacked by the "defense squad" of the French Organisation Communiste Internationaliste (OCI).

The objective of this goon squad, led by Sam Malapa who takes his orders from none other than Lambert and Just, was not simply to intimidate and disperse the militants of the LOR, their usual objective, but to disable them, to prevent them by whatever means necessary from continuing their political struggle.

While many working class militants came to their defense, our comrades remained outnumbered by the professional goons of the OCI and several were badly injured, in particular, Alain Assouline, Christian Delair, and O. M.

### HANDMAIDENS OF THE STALINISTS

The leadership of the OCI seeks at all costs to defend the tenuous coalition that they have realized with the leadership of the French Communist Party and the French Ligue Communiste Revolutionnaire (Pabloite) which pretends to fight the attack on the working class in the "West" and the "East," while it passes over the Stalinist repression in Poland with silence.

It's been the political struggle waged by the Ligue Ouvriere Revolutionnaire de France, in the course of the tremendous mobilization of the French working class in the last weeks, against this coalition, to regroup the young workers in the French section of the Revolutionary Youth International to build the Revolutionary Workers Party of France, to unite the workers in Western and Eastern Europe in the fight for the Socialist United States of Europe, a struggle which has deepened the crisis of the OCI and the other centrist organizations, which has obliged the leadership of the OCI to out do itself in what has been a four-year campaign of slander and attacks.

Once again, the leaderships of the organizations which decided to constitute themselves an "Objective" Commission of Inquiry, against the



OM  
-- A BROKEN COLLAR BONE



ALAIN ASSOULINE  
-- 4 TEETH KNOCKED OUT  
-- A BROKEN NOSE  
-- A CONCUSSION



CHRISTIAN DELAIR  
-- A CONCUSSION

Commission organized by the Fourth International against these attacks -- the LCR, Lutte Ouvriere, the US Socialist Workers Party, and the Spartacist League -- have proven themselves to be at best passive supporters of Lambert and Just. The LCR and LO denounced the attacks but refused to participate in the organization of our defense. The leadership of the SWP has remained silent. The leadership of the SL has escalated its attacks.

### DEFEND WORKERS DEMOCRACY!

The Ligue Ouvriere Revolutionnaire de France is deepening its fight against the gangsterism of the OCI, fighting to organize workers defense guards, to win more subscribers to the WHITE PAPER OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY and insure its publication, to gather support for the suit which Alain Assouline is bringing against Sam Malapa for damages.

The Trotskyist Organization of the USA calls on all the youth, workers, and militants of the workers movement, especially those at the Rouge who have faced these same methods, to support this fight for workers democracy by subscribing to the WHITE PAPER, sending contributions to support our suit, and demanding of all the organizations which claim to represent the working class to take a stand in this struggle.

It's necessary to drive these methods and the perpetrators out of the workers movement!

The Secretariat of the TO/USA  
Detroit  
November 2, 1976

## Le Monde

MERCREDI 6 OCTOBRE 1976

● Rouge, quotidien trotskiste publié par la Ligue communiste révolutionnaire, proteste dans son numéro daté du 4 octobre contre l'agression dont ont été victimes, selon lui, des militants de la Ligue ouvrière révolutionnaire, scission de l'organisation communiste internationaliste (également trotskiste l'une et l'autre) au cours d'un meeting organisé vendredi 1<sup>er</sup> octobre à Paris par cette dernière. Les membres de la L.O.R. distribuaient des tracts lorsqu'ils ont été brutalement pris à partie et blessés par le service d'ordre de l'O.C.I., précise Rouge, qui condamne « ces pratiques stalinienne ».

## Who are the real "criminals"?

By Margaret Guttshall  
When the goon squad organized by the enemies of the Fourth International, the Lambert-Just leadership of the French OCI, charged the militants of our French section, distributing leaflets in defense of the Polish workers in front of the Mutualite in Paris only four weeks ago, the representatives of the Spartacist League fled. Our comrades found them hiding in the subway, with their heads down, unwilling even to speak.

Now the leadership of the Spartacist League has decided to characterize the Fourth International and its militants as "criminals," as "allies of the capitalist state in its attempt to destroy the workers movement," because our French section, the Ligue Ouvriere Revolutionnaire (LOR), has decided to bring a suit against Sam Malapa, the leader of this goon squad, who beat our comrade Alain Assouline, breaking his nose, knocking out four of his teeth, and giving him a concussion while two of his friends held down our comrade. The leadership of the SL has even decided to call into question the truth of this statement, using the word "allegedly" in its account.

As usual, the leadership of the SL

tries to cover these cowardly attacks on the Fourth International with pretenses of objectivity (it chides the OCI for its "direct attacks against workers democracy") and adherence to principle. Some time ago and many times since we demonstrated the falseness of the SL's pretenses to "objectivity. Now let us examine their latest "principle" -- "the courts must be kept out of the workers movement" -- under the guise of which they wish to continue to lend their support to the agents of Stalinism seeking to destroy the Fourth International, beginning with its French section.

Forty years ago Trotsky proposed to the French section to take its centrist opponents to court for stealing his articles and publishing them in their journals. Somewhat later he demanded that the French police make a full investigation of the murder of his son Leon Sedov, find and prosecute the Stalinist agents responsible. Then when Trotsky himself was attacked by armed agents of Stalin in Mexico, he did the same. So did the US Section of the Fourth International, then the Socialist Workers Party, when Stalin's hired hand finally succeeded in assassinating Trotsky.

The youth, workers, and militants of the workers movement can only assume that the "principles" of the SL would have led it to open campaigns on these occasions to "keep the courts

TROTSKYIST ORGANIZATION  
PO BOX 07066,  
DETROIT MI 48207

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