IRAN: Holy War against the Left

Save the Iranian Trotskyists

Hamed Shahabi, Masafu Gorgazadeh, Kambiz Lajvardi three of the 14 Iranian Trotskyists jailed and in danger of death in Akoad.

As an army tank guards the road into Paveh

The Khomeini Baazar government in Iran has declared war against the Kurds. The Kurds' [sic] largest party has been outlawed and its leaders hunted by the army and the Islamic Guards. The government has also banned 23 papers, demanded the handing over of all arms, and banned all demonstrations unless they have express permission. Demonstrations protesting against these moves come under attack from pro-Khomeini gangs. Strikers are killed and newspaper offices sacked by Iranian Guards, and head quarters of left-wing political parties are besieged by reconstitutions supporting the government.

IN THE NORTH... members of the Socialist Workers' Party of Iran, are to be hauled before Islamic tribunals on Thursday 23rd and may be executed soon after.

This is a decisive time in Iran. The open attack against the left and the national minorities paves the way for an all-out attack on the organizations of the working class which as yet are too strong to be confronted head-on.

The government's aim is to break the recent social momentum of the movement which overthrew the Shah, leaving only the reactionary enemy 'return to Iran'.

It is trying to restore the instruments of bourgeois order: above all the army, which since the Shah's downfall has been distinct in differentiating as a reliable force.

Khomeini is trying to rally the army against the Kurds, sending them to the border town of Paveh and the provincial capital of Sanandaj to "crush the Kurds in 24 hours". Khomeini claims that the Kurds attacked the Sanandaj garrison. This is a lie.

Troops at the Sanandaj garrison were ordered to Paveh to 'restore order' there, but refused, realizing they were being asked to join the reactionaries in an attack on the local population. The soldiers then handed their arms over to the Kurdish militiamen in Sanandaj.

In Paveh, fighting broke out when a group of pro-Khomeini Guards who had been fighting on the side of landlords and the right wing against the peasants and Kurdish militiamen in Akoad recently tried to set up a base in the town. This could only mean an attempt to reinstate landlords and kick peasants off the land. The inhabitants of Paveh therefore tried to throw out the guards.

Kurdistan will surely see the beginning of a long guerrilla war against the Iranian government. For the Left, this is a decisive stage of counterrevolution. For the workers' movement, it means the beginning of a fight in which the legal existence of all its organisations is threatened.

The government is strangling democracy in Iran in order to strengthen the prospect of socialism. Every socialist in Britain must support the Iranian left, the Kurds and the other oppressed minorities in Iran, and the workers' movement there.

JAMES DAVIES

FUND DRIVE

Previous total ............................................... £59.52
Cardiff ........................................................... £15
East London .................................................... £79.52
Needed to reach our £200 monthly target ... £121.48
Workers' Action will not appear next week because our staff will be working in the September Socialist Organiser.

This gives us more time to reach our monthly target. We are making a special appeal for bankers' orders giving a regular monthly contribution to the fund. There is a form on p.4.

Send money to Fund, WA, PO Box 135, London N1 0DD, Cheques etc payable to Workers' Action.

ON FRIDAY 17th August more than 14,000 workers from Govan and Scotstoun shipyards went on a half day protest strike. They have now banned overtime working and have promised 'no ship will move, no ship will be launched. No ship will go on trial', in the words of Sam Gilmore, Govan convenor.

On Monday 20th, 4,000 workers at Sunderland Shipbuilders also struck. They decided to ban overtime, as did the Tyne and Rob Caledon (Dundee) yards. Scottish shipbuilding shop stewards will meet before the Thursday (23rd) meeting of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, and may push for a national ban on delivery of completed units.

The reason for this action is the announcement by British Shipbuilders of 10,000 threatened redundancies in the merchant sector, including the closure of four yards in Scotland and one in Sunderland. The yards that BS want to close are: Scotstoun, Cardonald, Bowling, and Robb Caledon in Scot- land; and North Sands in Sunderland.

The closure threat for the Scottish yards has rocked the workers' confidence in BS. They had just worked their summer holidays and relaxed working practices in an effort to complete the Polish order which hit the news a few months ago.

The closure of these yards is only part of BS's cuts, which also include 1,000 at Cammell Lairds in Mersey- side.

Obviously other yards around the country will be affected, and BS is now looking at plans to cut more than 6,000 jobs from the repair yards, that is, on top of the 10,000 in merchant shipbuilding.

So far BS have had it all their own way, with no real struggle against job cuts. This has mainly been because of the attitude of the Confed leaders, who accept BS's arguments about profitability versus jobs, with jobs losing every time. The union leaders are still not opposed to this 'rationalisation', but they want it to be carried out through natural wastage and voluntary redundancy as opposed to enforced redundancy.

They fail, in their role as junior assistants to the bosses, to see their members who are already on the dole and in need of more employment not less. Whatever way these jobs go, they are still jobs lost. We cannot let ourselves be tied down by arguments of profitability.

There are ways to solve our jobs. On Merseyside, the Workers Action Leaflet Bulletin of 21st August said:

"We must have mass meetings as soon as possible to decide on how we are going to fight this attack.

The main demand must be 'cut the hours, not the jobs'.

The work that exists in the yards should be shared out among the workers by reducing the hours with no loss of pay. Management won't give us this; it involves a struggle to achieve control in this yard and throughout the country."

We should not accept the redundancies, but fight them by any means at our disposal, including occupation of the yards. It is up to the unions to take control of the workplaces to stop redundancies. It is up to the rank and file to make sure it happens.

The redundancies must not go through.

LOL DUFFY

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The 'respected' CP member who is a hatchetman for the bosses page 2

September 29: March against racism
A COALITION of organisations at the black community is calling for a demonstration for September 29th, round three issues: racism, police, and the trial of juries. 342 people were arrested in the huge police operation to defend a National Front meeting in Southall on April 23rd. The Tory Government's plan for more curbs on immigration.

Over the last two months, there have been three racial killings. Kayynes Anakalia was murdered at Bromley-le-Bow underground station in August. Another Asian, Mr. Khan, was killed in Brixton last month, and Mr. Mazumder, an older man, in Woolwich two months ago. Also, on the same day, the Bow Killing, a Bangladeshi youth was stabbed at Chalk Farm underground station and very severely injured. The demonstration organisations see Tory government policy as encouraging racist violence. "Racists are now much more legitimised," said Bhajan Chatterjee of the People's Charter on September 26th. The NF police have been taken up by the Tories, said the Indian Workers' Action. New curbs on immigrants are due to come before Parliament in October, taking away the right for husbands to join their wives in Britain.

The 28th September demonstration will start from Black Park and Dovin Street. The Newham Defence Committee initiated it, and was expected from all the Indian Workers' Action, North Eastern, Southall Youth Movement, and the Hackney and Tower Hamlets Defence Committee. The organisations hope for a trade union backing.

Bhajan Chatterjee told Workers' Action that he hoped the demonstration organisers could link up with the Chamber of Commerce. The Southall local Act.

POLICE VET THE JURY IN ANARCHISTS' TRIAL

The jury in the People's Union for Freedom, who have already been vetted. This was approved by the Home Secretary, on August 10th, at the request of the Home Office. Jury vetting and the sentences, which apparently were first revealed in the Advocate last year, are the official secret trial in the autumn 1976. The trial was for seditious solicitation, and of the two defendants, one by the Met, he was said to have been in prison in late 1975. It is expected that a jury's political convictions or affiliations will be checked, and that the Met is to be given the power to exclude people on the right to question jurors, by removing information on juror occupations, and by cutting the number of jurors involuntarily. However, it is likely that they will prove to be a case for a fair jury, and will be inclusive through checks with the Criminal Records Bureau, Social Record, and CID.

The People's Union for Freedom was founded important since 1973, when the prosecution of sitting for jurors through to sympathetic to left-wing issues. The jury in the People's Union for Freedom was held in 1973, and was known to have been legal.

In every known case jury vetting has been a matter of checking for jurors thought to be sympathetic to left-wing and political issues. The People's Union for Freedom was held in 1973, and was known to have been legal.

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Rhodesia. Regime massacres Sithole's people

REPORTS are emerging from Zimbabwe - Rhodesia, where the regime of black assissins have killed and wounded hundreds of troops as "a regrettable affair." Military police are acting as a regular army as Security Force auxiliaries. The official army account is that these auxiliaries, who were poorly disciplined, were gathered for retraining with new recruits. The regime are using the army, sealing off an area of land near the metal mining town of Chirungo, and stopping and searching "relevant" people. A two-year old baby has been threatened with an 18-month sentence in Chirungo. The army have been seen standing guard at the party headquarters of the ruling party, and have been seen standing guard.

Rohesia's Regime massacre Sithole's people
LAMBERTH
FIGHT NOW OR PAY LATER

BULT HUTS traffic around Kennington was brought to a standstill last Tuesday, (August 14th) by Lambertth residents protesting against the cuts. Up to 600 plotters, vassal and Inns were also among the throng, which included motorists and other vehicles from the Shawcross League's Black Taxi campaign. Shawcross and Kennington Lane were deepo closed and traffic jams were formed.

The cutbacks carried placards and the Tory cuts — "No cuts in Kennington — £1.4 million unemployed, no more!"

Brother Denis O'Sullivan, NUPE treasurer, at Kennington Lane depot, told, Workers' Action: "We had a meeting on fighting the cuts this morning. The Shawcross league left their vehicles around Vauxhall on the same system as the new ones on the fourth.

They were too late to change their minds and to stop traffic crossing the river.

The meeting coincided with the morning's meeting of the Tory Transport Minister, presenting all Lambeth Council requirements to the Government. The meeting coincided to set up a committee and just to widen the board, the last meeting coincided with the meeting.

It is more likely that the Conservative group are going to use the Rate Support Grant to help them with local services, for instance they don't need extra spending in the area to rent next year.

This just shows that the Tory Council's right to rent now is correct.

CODING BY MING

COVENTRY
ON WEDNESDAY 15th, Coventry City Council Labours decided to oppose Tory government cuts of 5% of the £10 billion cuts announced by the government. But the leader of the Labour group, Councillor Vaughan Smith, has stated categorically that enough is enough. No more reductions can be made without drastic cuts.

At the moment the council apparently intend to organize a delegation to Environment Minister, Michael Heseltine, to persuade him to allow Coventry to spend more, and to avoid cuts by increasing rates heavily.

MERSEYSIDE
ABOUT 50 delegates from local TUC affiliated trade unions (mostly in the public sector) met on Monday August 28th to help devise a campaign to resist the cuts on Merseyside.
The meeting agreed it was necessary to attempt to do everything possible to prevent the cuts, such as backing protests around the region.

A similar meeting was held in the North West of the region, and a campaign was launched to resist the cuts.

An important step forward was taken in the Blackpool City Council's, the Regional Representative, Alas Davitt successfully negotiated the that the next meeting of the Trades Coun-

HOW TO BE RICHER ON THE SAME MONEY

The government is out to show that you're not as bad as you think. They have published a new 'Tax and Price Index' which shows a rise of only 12% over the last 12 months. (This is the Retail Price Index rise of 15%)

The TPI is supposed to measure the increase in price necessary to maintain household standards and the benefits of income tax cuts from '55 to '75. However, the benefit to the TPI does not equal the increase in prices necessary to maintain household standards and the benefits of income tax cuts from '55 to '75.

The index includes all prices, including those which the RPI does not. The RPI would show a bigger rise than the TPI because it includes the biggest proportion of the household budget.

The TPI is not used in practice, it is only measured by the government for the purposes of the budget.

Recently, the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) produced a report based on the same principle as the TPI but with the aim of measuring the real changes in prices. However, the results of this study show that the TPI is in fact even lower than the RPI.

The Institute concluded that the government was not giving a true picture of the figures to show the maximum possible benefit from the Budget tax cuts.

According to the government, the index shows that the budget income tax cuts have completely offset both the VAT increases and the Higher Rates of Income Tax. But while the TPI increase was at a time higher than the RPI, the IFS concludes that this figure is not an accurate measure of the change in prices needed to offset the effects of the budget.

The TPI figures are used by taxing authorities to calculate the cost of living index. The figures are then used to make tax cuts to the better-off and tax rises to the worse-off. In other words the figures are used to tax the better-off and cut taxes for the worse-off.

By increasing income tax for the better-off, the TPI underestimates the cost of the tax cuts (even those introduced by the government in April) over 9 months if the 'better-off' don't make up their minds on this.
Why Khomeini wants gallows in the streets

Throughout the six months of the Khomeini-Bazargan regime there have been frequent demonstrations and strikes. The government has been at pains to stamp out all resistance, and the resultant atmosphere of fear and repression has led to an upsurge in the number of people seeking sanctuary in the United States and Canada. The government has been at pains to stamp out all opposition, and the resultant atmosphere of fear and repression has led to an upsurge in the number of people seeking sanctuary in the United States and Canada.

Now the government is stepping up attempts to eliminate the elements of dissent and to control the situation and return to an Iran dominated by the Islamic Republic of Iran. The government has been at pains to stamp out all resistance, and the resultant atmosphere of fear and repression has led to an upsurge in the number of people seeking sanctuary in the United States and Canada.

The anti-Shah movement was a mass movement

Khomeini, in one of his speeches, declared that what brought down the Shah was the Islamic Revolution, not the Shah himself. He said that the Shah had failed to understand the underlying causes of the revolution. Khomeini, in one of his speeches, declared that what brought down the Shah was the Islamic Revolution, not the Shah himself. He said that the Shah had failed to understand the underlying causes of the revolution.

The Shah's fall, the slogan of the Islamic Republic has been the battlecry of those who are trying to break the radical socialist movement. The Shah's fall, the slogan of the Islamic Republic has been the battlecry of those who are trying to break the radical socialist movement.

Workers in Khorasan protest against arrests of militants

Khomeini's Guards simply employed in its offshore oil committees. But the regime's information minister made it clear that 'we will not be intimidated' by the demands of the demonstrators. The government's information minister made it clear that 'we will not be intimidated' by the demands of the demonstrators.

One day, I drew up a bill of complaint and referred it to one of Khomeini's officials. Khomeini's information minister made it clear that 'we will not be intimidated' by the demands of the demonstrators. But the regime's information minister made it clear that 'we will not be intimidated' by the demands of the demonstrators.

The regime, with the help of some of the opposition, has been able to use the demonstrations to show its strength. The regime, with the help of some of the opposition, has been able to use the demonstrations to show its strength.

Khomeini deals with the workers

On the eve of the Shah's fall, Mehdi Bazargan, today Khomeini's chief ideologue, was the figure of the hour. He used his influence to try to get the workers to end their strike. A strike coordination committee was set up by Khomeini's supporters in a successful effort to destroy the existing mass strike. The workers were asked by the coordination committee, which had welcomed students, teachers and socialists and its meetings and had discussed opening the books of the industry.

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In Khorasan, south-western Iran, the government has tried to use the demonstrations to show its strength. In Khorasan, south-western Iran, the government has tried to use the demonstrations to show its strength.

In the town of 14 Trokotaksh, 3,000 Iranian workers have been arrested by the regime's secret police in the past three weeks. In the town of 14 Trokotaksh, 3,000 Iranian workers have been arrested by the regime's secret police in the past three weeks.

In both instances, the workers have been arrested by the regime's secret police in the past three weeks. In both instances, the workers have been arrested by the regime's secret police in the past three weeks.

We should try to improve the situation and return to a normal situation.
The war in Afghanistan was instigated by the Soviet Union as a way to isolate and weaken the Afghan People's Democratic Republic (APDR) and to support the pro-Soviet Communist Party of Afghanistan (CPA) in its struggle against the US-backed mujahideen resistance. The CPA had long been seen as a threat to Soviet interests in the region, and the war was viewed as a way to assert Moscow's dominance in Central Asia. The Soviet military intervention began in 1979 and lasted until 1989, during which time over 1 million Soviet soldiers were deployed to Afghanistan. The war was a failure for the Soviet Union, leading to significant losses of life and resources, and ultimately contributing to the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.
From Kautsky to Eurocommunism: Always waiting for a better time to fight

INTRODUCTION

by Bruce Robinson

IN THE FINAL PARTS of “A New Strategy,” Kautsky fully develops his own conception of the mass strike and gives the content of the “strategy of attrition.” He rests his arguments on the conceptions developed between 1907 and 1914, the sharp separation of the political mass strike from other types of strike and a view of such a mass strike as the final battle between the classes, if the ruling class chooses to resist a Social Democratic majority in the Reichstag.

Kautsky develops at length a scenario of how a mass strike could occur; its effects on the state machinery and the conditions for its success. For Kautsky, before a mass strike can be successful — and thus before one should be considered at all — the overwhelming majority of the working class must be mobilized and ready for battle.

He therefore postulates the mass strike until social democratic organisations and economic development have brought together those preconditions for success: “The conditions for success of the mass strike are incrementally present, partly because of economic development, partly because of our activity, and thus the prospect of victory in the mass strike is increasingly improving.”

For Kautsky, the conditions which make possible the mass strike are precisely those that create the general preconditions for socialism. This is not surprising, given the concept of the mass strike as either a desperate defensive measure forced on the working class by the bourgeoisie, or the means to overcome residual bourgeois resistance once the general preconditions for socialism exist.

Kautsky argues that once the general preconditions for a mass strike exist, it is nonsense for social democrats to try to bring it about, it will arise spontaneously, and is “possible only under the pressure of a tremendous event.” More succinctly, Kautsky says: “It is unrealistic to expect, or to defend, the idea that the mass strike is one of the conditions of its success.” “The point in time of its arrival does not depend on us, but on its victory.”

At first sight, it appears odd that Kautsky should be arguing this conception against Rosa Luxemburg, who often described as a partisan of mass strug- gle. Yet in reality Kautsky’s conception of the role of the socialist party gives far less importance to leadership of mass strike than Luxemburg’s. For Kautsky, the SPD’s role is general social education and propaganda, without political action, or even general opposition to the existing state. Naturally this conception gives electoral activity a far greater importance than Luxemburg’s, as it allows the SPD to put to its socialist ideas across. As long as this party activity continued, the SPD would be able to make steady progress would be made up to the point when the rev- olutionary situation was ready to appear. Even if the mass strike might be necessary as a final blow to the capitalists’ futile resistance. In Kautsky’s famous words: “We are a revolutionary, not a revol- ution-making party.”

Kautsky’s idea of how a revolution occurred had been correct, the “strategy of attrition” would have made sense. It would be right not to be provoked into a decisive battle as long as we are the weaker party”. In reality, however, as Luxemburg understood, revolutionary conditions are not guaranteed; it needs the active struggles of the working class and an ability to launch a revolutionary campaign. The passive refusal of the working class to fight can have far worse consequences than an honourable defeat of the military in a war. This was to become clear when in 1914 the SPD collapsed under the pressure of an imperialist war, justifying capitulation to the monopoly capitalism that caused the war. The conclusion was that the only alternative was a working class defeat and the destruction of the capitalist state.

Kautsky justifies the “strategy of attrition” by claiming that it had served the working class well from its late 1860s. In reality, the SPD had come to concentrate more and more on routine parliamentary, trade union and propaganda activities, as its activity had become increasingly identified with a majority in Parliament. Yet opportunities had existed after the repeal of the Anti-Socialist Law in 1890 for the SPD to mobilise the working class and to go on to the offensive. Luxemburg argued for the SPD to take the opportunity offered in the struggle for suffrage in Prussia, while Kautsky argued: “On the contrary, we have come to go over to a strategy of overthrow”, and that it was necessary to work in reality, for such a time, the time never right for the “strategy of overthrow” — the struggle always involves too many risks, and the time to fight for socialism is pushed further and further into the future.

Karl Kautsky: A New Strategy

6. Conditions for the political mass strike

THE VIEW which I here develop is not some product of the moment, nor is it the result of any attempt to appease theLuxemburgians. Luxemburg discovers and censures me. I developed this view more than six years ago. In my articles entitled “Revolutionary Miscellanea,” of which the third article is specially concerned with the mass strike (SRB, 1893, p. 658), I wrote: “A strike of the whole proletariat at that time was a policon with a Polish comrade who reproached me for my “timidity” and urged me to write an article in the question of the armed uprising. Only my opponent of that period did not see at once that I did not seem to me to be superfluous to enshrine the thought of that article and to stress these points, and to expand these with a few words which are relevant to our present discussion.

Even then, I was narrow minded and pedantic enough to recognize the difference of the mass strikes and other types of strikes and to examine the various conditions for their success. I showed that the conditions of the economic strike are completely different from those of the political strike: “All economic factors which favour the success of the economic strike, i.e. the mass strike the more it becomes a widespread, a general strike.”

Nothing is wronger than the opinion that the mass strike achieves its effect by starving out the capitalists. They do indeed live from the labour of the proletariat. But they are not the only ones. The proletarians themselves live from it and are not allowed to starve, at least: those of those more distant than others.

Starving out the exploiters cannot lead the mass strike to victory: only disruptions of the government’s power by the proletariat organisation can do that. It is the last and the highest form of the struggle between the voluntary organisation of the proletariat which rests on the discipline of selfless participation, as much as of the state, which rests on the discipline of terror, it becomes the decisive test for the two.

The mass strike is the effect by forcing the state to use its power to an extraordinary extent, and at the same time by paralysing its action as much as possible. It achieves this because the masses are involved. It is all the more effective if it enters into it, not merely in the large towns and the industrial districts, but also in the countryside, which are particularly suitable for political events if the farmers on the large estates were also to enter into it.

The mass strike is therefore always certainly always have to be the starting point — but it is one of the conditions of its success that it proceeds from such a general agitation in the people and that it intensifies this mood to such an extent that a few days of the strike are enough also to allow it to lead forward in the out-of-the-way districts.

As the strike becomes more general, the large property owners — the masters of the state and government — fear increasingly for their property and life, and call more and more strenuously for military intervention. Every man, every woman, every factory, every telegraph line, every stretch of railway has to be guarded. For this the army is not sufficient. The soldiers can never stop, therefore, they are sent everywhere dangerous gatherings are taking place; they are soon exhausted without having taken part in any great battle and victory without which, for wherever they arrive the crowd breaks up and meets else-where, where the troops have not yet arrived and gone.

When the strike makes itself felt on the soldiers it will make itself felt on many workers and state authorities who have the closest of connections to the mass strike. They are afraid that those who know them, are related to friends and thus, more than others, with whom they are afraid of the soldiers, more the more its terrorism loses its capacity to instill fear. Gas and the electricity works come to the end of their danger to cease to run. Finally even the post and the railways are gripped by the strike fever: at first the workers in various workshops are isolated, and then the strike, since then, the strike, the strike, the strike, the strike.

The state power attempts to help itself by calling up reserves all the quicker and more unanimously, for thereby it incorporates into the body of the army those elements which are the least reliable against the enemy within, elements which are already in the grip of the strike fever and now bring it into the barracks.

There then met soldiers whom are exhausted as a result of the never-ending sentry duty, and are rushed to and fro by tiring orders, all the more as it makes as much as they respect their authority. The relax- ation of discipline takes place all the more easily as the si- tuation of the police prevails in the establishment of working together, the more it necessitates the trusting the smallest of details to the watchmen guarding all the infinite number of threatened points; details which for they are the less able to see a higher office but on the other hand are always surrounded by peaceful fellow citizens who can work on these the most diverse ways.

If these situations the government and its higher representatives lose their bearing and their confidence in how easily that stage is now reached! On the one hand, its supporters (the last to do so) are those who are able to make the other people in order to pacify them and to prevent the working people on the other hand (the other, in other words) go to work and to drown the uprising in blood. Pulled one day in one direction, the next day in the opposite direction, exposed to the illusions and motives of these people, who change violently in step with the changing news, it can today add fuel to the fire by inciting people with false hopes, who change violently in step with the changing news, so that before the streets of curiosity, in order tomorrow to collapse at the news that the government may be backing down, “folding one’s arms”.

The conclusions for such a strike are however increasingly present, partly because of economic development, partly because of our activity, and thus the prospects of victory in the mass strike is increasingly appropriate.

Economic development increases the number of proletariat, which concentrates them. Our activity in the party organi- sations, in the trade unions, in the press, the legislative body, and the civic authorities, already provides them with discipline and an awareness of their strength, but also with political education and an insight into the organisation of the state as a whole.

During a mass strike, it will not simply be a matter of following the advice of the police, but of the whole unifi- city of the proletariat across the whole empire. We must be on the spot for the facts, and at the head of the strike all our representatives are arrested and our news- paper suppressed. But even if “the bureaucrats and the officers’ will then have to lead the struggle. They must ensure that the individual groups remain in contact, and also with the different organisations of the state, so that even the reports from the countryside can be allowed them to be provoked into street fighting but are also inserted into the body of the movement, which is in itself an activity. They must know exactly what our demands are, and above all the organisational detachments. The more must however also make sure that the struggle does not dissolve into separate struggles about local grievances, but that in the greatest breadth of self-discipline, of political understanding, of unity of thought and action, in the tradition of trade union activity.

On the other hand, the success of the mass strike presupposes that the confusion among the masses on which the government is based is exploited to open up new possibilities. As was the case in France. Military terrorism can suppress such expressions of doubt. The more deeply discontent sets in, the more military obedience becomes a hypocracy which is dispensed as an illusion. Once the power of those commanding seems threatened.
NORMA RAE
ORGANISING THE UNION, REORGANISING HER LIFE

MARTIN Ritt's film Norma Rae tells the widespread net-
work distribution, is about a woman fighting for better wages.
Deep South textile mill and recognizes her own life.
That is itself an unusual cinematic achievement. Norma
Rae is about the struggle of a few workers against the
losing battle with its social and political forces.

NORMA RAE, the heroine of the film, is a New York worker who opera-
ates a textile mill and is determined to improve her condi-
tions. She is a member of the textile workers' union and
supportive of the union's activities. The film portrays
the struggles of the workers against the management and
the efforts of the union to improve working conditions.

NORMA RAE has the makings of a militant massa
-namely a mill girl- and an irreverent, peasant-
like heroine. She is not the typical worker from a
company like Borg-Warner or General Motors.
Norma Rae, her father, her mother, and her workers
work in the small town mill. They are under the threat of
multiple health hazards, but it's the only job she has.

Norma Rae stands out in the textile industry as a
woman who is able to organize and win a union
contract. She is a symbol of the struggle against
exploitation and for workers' rights. The film shows
how Norma Rae's organizing efforts lead to
improvements in working conditions and wages.

The film also highlights the role of union leadership
and the challenges faced by the union in organizing
new members and dealing with management opposition.

Credibility is something that when Norma
Rae is portrayed as having the qualities of a
militant union leader, she"s not afraid to speak
her mind, and she doesn't shy away from a
challenge. The film shows how Norma Rae's
efforts lead to changes in working conditions and
wages. However, the film also highlights the
hardship that Norma Rae and her family face.

Even so, it's a good and interesting film to see even
if the fight is toned down. It's on the right side of
the battle line. 

SOPHIA CAPLAN
THE CONFD leaders have been given all the support they can from the action for their pay claim. They have had help from the leaders of the GMWU.

In a circular dated July 24th, National Federation Presi-
der Frank Cotton instructed members in BSC Plants who follow some or all of the BSC agreements to carry out the National Engineering Agreement, negotiated between the CSRU and the EROP.

They should not partic-
take in the strike being taken by the CSRU against the BSC Plants branch of the GMWU.

A meeting of the CSRU will be held on August 12th to discuss planned BSC strikes.

At the CSRU meeting, L. Travers, General Secretary, said that the CSRU would support any action taken by the CSRU.

The CSRU will continue its support of the CSRU's action on BSC and will issue a circular to all members in BSC Plants who follow some or all of the BSC agreements to carry out the National Engineering Agreement, negotiated between the CSRU and the EROP.

All out say Birmingham engineers

1,000 BIRMINGHAM engineering workers are on a rally at Digbeth Hall on Monday 25th for strike support calls for an all-out strike.

In Liverpool a real minority of 350 workers at a rally at the BSC site have been supported by the trade unions.

Barry Williams, president of the Birmingham Engineers' Section, told the meeting that the lack of support for the strike is due to the fact that the CSRU has not taken a firm stand on the issues.

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