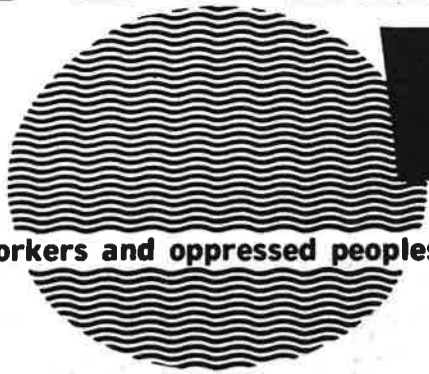


workers world



Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

Women United fights rising food prices	p. 3
Fascists attack Kawaida project	p. 4
Chilean election	p. 7
Sudan: who are the terrorists?	p. 8
Behind the "energy crisis"	p. 9
The Paris Commune	p. 10
Viva la huelga	p. 16

Vol. 15, No. 5

March 16, 1973

25 cents

Native Americans continue historic battle...

Demand self-determination at Wounded Knee



By CAL BONNER

MARCH 14—Over two weeks ago, 200 members of the American Indian Movement (AIM) liberated the village of Wounded Knee. With this one act they created a historic symbol of the struggle for self-determination of Native Americans.

The eyes of the entire world are now focused on the tiny besieged village, encircled by U.S. federal agents who are armed to the teeth with armored personnel carriers and machine guns. But the strength of the Native Americans themselves, combined with the sympathy and support their action has won from all oppressed and progressive people, has so far prevented the U.S. government from once again carrying out a massacre at Wounded Knee.

On March 11, after negotiations with the U.S. government broke down, the Oglala Sioux militants declared themselves to be a sovereign nation. They put the area under a state of war readiness and declared that if any U.S. government agent entered the boundaries of the newly declared nation, the action would be "treated as an act of war and dealt with accordingly."

The U.S. government responded to the declaration by resealing the area with roadblocks and some 300 armed federal troops and government agents. A 21-member grand jury in Sioux Falls was

convened on March 12 to investigate the occupation of Wounded Knee and to bring down indictments against the AIM leaders.

An ominous note was added to the resealing of the area when the chief of tactical operations for the 300 armed federal officers said on March 12, "We are going to be a lot more hard-nosed about this than we were before." So far, one FBI agent and several Native Americans have been wounded, none seriously, in sporadic gunfire.

The U.S. federal marshals and FBI agents are armed with M-16s and other high-powered rifles, have about 15 armored personnel carriers, and are loaded down with pistols, machine and submachine guns, flak jackets, and other Vietnam war era paraphernalia. They seem to be itching to force an entry into the Indians' territory.

The brothers and sisters at Wounded Knee began their action on February 27 as an attempt to draw world attention to the 500-year-old policy of genocide, of slow but sure physical, moral, and cultural annihilation by the racist European colonizers who later set up the U.S. government. This foreign domination over Native Americans has resulted during less than 86 years in the loss of more than 90 million acres of their land, under the watchful eye and helping

(Continued on page 5)

New York

Come to a

Night of solidarity with Wounded Knee

Friday, March 23 7:30 p.m.

Washington Irving Auditorium, 17th Street and Irving Place (east of Union Square). Speakers will include a representative of the American Indian Movement from Wounded Knee.

Rochester

Hear Meredith Quinn, legal representative of the Oglala Sioux Nation, speak on Tuesday, March 20.

Buffalo

Meredith Quinn is also speaking in Buffalo on Wednesday, March 21.



index

- 2—Decline & Fall
- 3—Women United fight food prices; Daycare cuts, rent decontrol fought
- 4—Cops attack at Kawaida Towers; United Rubber Workers seek int'l solidarity
- 5—YAWF solidarity with Wounded Knee; The 1890 massacre
- 6—Answer to CP-SWP on Black September; Capital punishment; Black sailors defended
- 7—Right set back in Chile elections; Devaluation of the dollar
- 8—YAWF demonstrates for Palestinian cause; Behind the fuel crisis
- 9—Who are the terrorists?; Protest LNG tanks on S.I.
- 10—The Paris Commune; Int'l Women's Day celebrated
- 11—McGovern vs. Viet reparations; A P.S. on peace; Rochester anti-war activists framed
- 12—Chicana reports on NWPC; Gays demonstrate N.Y., Chicago
- 13—Black community honors murdered STRESS victims; Police terror in Milw.
- 14—U.S. election laws; 1199 victory
- 15—Prison struggle news
- 16—Viva la huelga; 200,000 Vietnamese prisoners



"Defenders of Liberty"

"CLEVELAND, Feb. 25, UPI—Beginning tomorrow, city police will be forbidden to wear swastikas on their uniforms while on duty. Mayor Ralph Perk said there had been 'complaints' about the wearing of belt-buckle swastikas, symbol of Germany's Nazi party."

When the new ordinance goes into effect, the cops will be allowed to wear their nazi swastikas while "off duty."

A Man's Home Is His Castle?

"NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 27, UPI—The victim of a mistaken police raid in Dallas two years ago cannot collect damages because officers who broke into his apartment and shot him and his wife made a reasonable mistake, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled yesterday.

"The court upheld a lower court ruling denying Thomas Rodriguez \$10,000 damages from a raid by police on February 18, 1971.

"The police later found the two men they were after hiding in an apartment next door.

"Mr. Rodriguez said the policemen had ambushed his house without warning.

"The appeals court said that police may make 'reasonable' mistakes in the execution of their duties."

Pigs Claim Meat Shortage

"WASHINGTON, Feb. 30, Reuters—'Americans might improve their health and their wallets if they ate less meat,' Arthur F. Burns, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, said today.

"He told the Joint Economic Committee of Congress that it might be a good idea for people to observe one meatless day a week.

"Meatless days were ordered during World War II because of shortages."

President Herbert Hoover said it better in 1932: "People should cut down on the non-essentials. They should eat less."

Green Beret Hero Bitter

"DURANGO, Mexico, NANA—This is where John Wayne is making his 208th movie.

"'I've worked hard all my life,' he said, sprawled in a leather chair with 'Duke' stenciled on it.

"'And I guess I'll go on working ('working?') until the man upstairs pulls my plug.' (Soon, we hope.)

"'I've usually been attacked by those dirty... when I've made a film that stands up for America,' Wayne said.

"'The Alamo for instance or The Green Berets. I directed both of those.

"'Patriotism is a dirty word to those...! They attacked me for The Green Berets, but in three months I had a check for \$8,000,000 from the distributors.'"

The American Servicemen's Union, a GIs' and vets' organization, called for demonstrations against The Green Berets. The fascist movie closed after several nights of demonstrations in New York City, during which NLF flags were raised on the stage in front of the screen and mounted cops entered the theatre exits on horseback. Nevertheless, that \$8,000,000 smelled mighty patriotic to Wayne.

Professor Assails Tax Loophole

As both Nixon and McGovern admitted, the average worker's entire paycheck for five months out of every year gets taken by government taxes. It seems that we are taxed for everything we do, even if it's only buying a hotdog from a vendor on the street. There must be nothing left to tax, right?

Wrong.

Dr. William Vickrey of Columbia University has come up with something even Nixon hadn't thought of.

Vickrey believes we should be taxed for using the streets (that we built).

"Motorists should be charged for using city streets, at about \$6.00 for a peak rush-hour," Vickrey says.

"Electronic readers could be embedded in the pavement and identifier units attached to cars to activate roadway devices. These identifier units could be installed on a car at only about a \$50 expense to the drivers. Computers could bill motorists

monthly for their driving."

Now that Vickrey has solved this problem, he could consider that many of us are paying no tax for breathing. That we insist on breathing the same air as the bosses is bad enough, but should we get off scot-free and go untaxed for this luxury?

Vickrey still has much work cut out for him. □

Rocky likes Brennan

Peter J. Brennan, the new U.S. Secretary of Labor, must really be looking out for our interests.

He was praised as a "great labor leader" with "tremendous concern" for equal opportunity for all workers—especially the Black and Latin workers who are trying to get into the New York City construction industry.

Brennan has been president of the N.Y.C. Building and Construction Trades Council for some years. And nine years after the Civil Rights Act of 1964—not to mention the 108 years since the Civil War—a Black construction plumber is still as rare as hen's teeth and a Black sheet metal worker is yet to be found at all in a union building project.

But WHO says Brennan is a "great labor leader"? WHO says he has "tremendous concern" for the oppressed?

Why, none other than that super-oppressed, hard-working, union-conscious, picket-walking, long-suffering multibillionaire, Nelson A. Rockefeller!

He said it at a swank reception at the Hemisphere Club in New York last month, where 300 leaders of labor and big business, including, of course, George Meany, were honoring Brennan for getting the government job—that is, for his latest sellout to Nixon. □

Subscribe for prisoners

The Workers World subscription blank on this page offers FREE subscriptions to prisoners. Our policy of sending free subs to prisoners, who cannot afford to pay for subscriptions on the slave wages paid them in the U.S. concentration camp system, has been in effect for over a year now. Literally hundreds of prisoners have taken advantage of this offer to receive Workers World. We get scores of letters from prisoners expressing their appreciation for getting news, through our newspaper, about the struggles of the oppressed all over the world.

In order to continue to supply our paper free to the prisoners we are asking that the people on the outside help our incarcerated brothers and sisters by buying subscriptions for them. Four or five dollars may not be so much for those of us on the outside who work, but for a prisoner, that amount might represent pay for a whole month's work! Buy a subscription for a prisoner! Send contributions to Workers World, 46 West 21 St., New York, N.Y., 10010. □



MARCH 16, 1973
**for a
 WORKERS
 WORLD
 subscribe**

6 months \$2.00
 1 year \$4.00
 first class \$6.50
 air mail (U.S.) \$9.00
 name
 street
 city state zip

Fill in coupon and mail to **WORKERS WORLD**
 46 West 21 Street
 New York, N.Y. 10010

Do you pay for porterhouse when you buy hamburger?

Join Women United — Roll prices back!

By SHARON SHELTON

NEW YORK, March 7—"Shoppers are really concentrating as they buy these days. There's a certain grimness now as people shop. I've seen women demand a penny or two back when a checker makes a mistake, whereas a year or two ago they would have let it go. It's what happens when you've been pushed to the limit."

It may not explain why food prices went up an officially admitted 6.6 percent during January and February.

But it might be important to know that Nixon's new Assistant Secretary of Agriculture is a BANKER.

Robert W. Long, the new official and "formerly" San Francisco banker, knows a lot about food farms, though. He has publicly favored "agribusinesses" like conglomerate Tenneco's million-acre "farm" over the interests of thousands of small farm families.

And in his job as chief of agricultural loans for his bank, he learned a great deal about giving credit to big corporate farms and foreclosing the mortgages of small ones.

As a banker, he also favored the two recent U.S. money devaluations—almost as a matter of faith.

And these devaluations make it easier for his agribusiness clients to sell more of their farm produce abroad, in competition with small peasant farms there. This, in turn, creates relative food shortages in the United States, which result in higher prices.

With higher food prices, the food conglomerates and the banks that finance them—and own them—will make that much more money. And money is the name of the game. The business of U.S. capitalism, and the government that serves it, is not to make food, but to make money.

So naturally, under this system, it makes sense for a banker to be in charge of food—because he is in charge of so much money. □

The speaker is a mother of two children and a spokeswoman for Women United for Action, an organization of women of all ages—women who work, women on welfare, women with families, and single women. She describes the plight of many shoppers who find themselves frustrated trying to make ends meet and at the same time provide decent meals.

Yet, the women of Women United are not frustrated; they are busily engaged in a number of activities aimed at easing the burden on shoppers. Their eventual goal: a 25 percent rollback in food prices.

One of the issues most recently taken up by the group is unequal pricing.

"I take my daughter to the doctor every week in a predominately white working class neighborhood. I often go into the store there—a Bohack—that has lower prices and quality meat, which I can't get in my own neighborhood (Black and Spanish—ed.), even though there is a Bohack there," explains one member of the group.

Another recounts a story told to her by a woman who works in midtown Manhattan and lives in Harlem. The woman bought tangerines at an A & P near her workplace at a cost of ten for 49 cents. Later, she decided to buy more tangerines at an A & P in her neighborhood, and she expected that the price would be the same. But there, in Harlem, the tangerines cost 98 cents for ten, almost twice the midtown price in the same supermarket chain!

PROJECT EQUAL PRICING

As part of its campaign called Project Equal Pricing, Women United has been distributing price lists to chain store shoppers throughout the city to see exactly the extent of discrepancies in prices. And some of the results have shown wide discrepancies. For example, at an A & P on the West Side, which serves many white professional workers, a pound of chopped chuck costs 99 cents and a 5-pound bag of rice, 93 cents. Yet, in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, a poor Black community, the price of a pound of chopped chuck is \$1.40 and the rice \$1.25—this also at an A&P.

The basic demand of this campaign is that all prices be lowered, regardless of neighborhood, to the lowest price currently charged in the city. The group sees this as an important step in the rollback effort.

Of course, Women United has not abandoned its basic goal of the 25 percent rollback. They have worked toward achieving this goal for the past year through leafleting, petitioning, and talking to shoppers outside the grocery stores. They also have had picket lines outside the White House and the Price Commission (which is supposed to keep food prices down), and on these demonstrations they were joined by branches of Women United from nearly a dozen cities across the country.

They have carried out other actions, such as dousing Price Commission head C. Jackson Grayson with flour after the Commission granted Pillsbury an 11 percent price increase. They also entered their own float into the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade to the delight of cheering spectators.



Getting out the work at the office of Women United for Action, 58 West 25 Street, New York, N.Y. (212-989-1252).

on welfare is not fanciful. Thousands of New York mothers must work to meet the skyrocketing costs of food and rent; and private daycare costs \$40 to \$60 a week, according to findings of The New York Times. Many mothers net little more than that when they work.

If Nixon's proposed cuts go through, welfare mothers will be about the only ones eligible for daycare. But if they then get a job after having placed their children in daycare, they become ineligible for childcare—which means they'll have to quit work and go back on welfare!

No wonder then, that so many angry women demonstrated to save the present daycare setup. The cost for my granddaughter is \$4.50 a week at present—it could be \$40 or more in the future.

Back in Albany, while all 5,000 of us listened in grim silence at the foot of the Capitol steps, sleek legislators, standing in front of the pile of white marble which cost the working people of New York State \$1,500,000,000, gave glib and facile promises.

Each one ended his little oration with the words, "God bless you! We'll all be senior citizens some day, and in helping you we'll be helping ourselves."

But Walter Newburgher, the 80-year-old President of the Council of Senior Citizens of Greater New York, said, "Albany has never given us anything." He hoped it would be better this year.

The fact is that legislators, both state and federal, are always too busy creating tax loopholes, government contracts, and

It consisted of a money-gobbling paper mache turkey under a banner reading, "How many families can't afford a Thanksgiving meal?"

CRISIS FOR SHOPPERS

Currently, Women United is planning other activities similar to these, because they feel food price increases in the last few weeks have created a real crisis for most shoppers. What's more, they are enraged by recent "solutions" to this crisis offered by the government, the food processors, and the women's magazines.

One of the women expresses annoyance at the recent deluge of snack and convenience foods such as "Hamburger Helper," which is just an attempt by the processors to capitalize on the fact that shoppers are having to stretch their money by using cheaper meat and filling.

Commenting on Nixon's advice to eat fish, another complains, "You don't see them eating fish. They just want us to adjust to the way things are. The women's magazines, too: they're just apologists for the chains."

"These are no solutions," she continues. "What we're trying to provide is an alternative to the frustration over the high prices of food. The only way you can get around it is to struggle until the prices are rolled back." □

Daycare, old age benefits cut back; you're either

Too young or too old

By ELIZABETH ROSS

Last week two demonstrations in two cities on the same day gave notice to state and federal administrations that both the young and the old are going to put up a stiff fight against Nixon's and Rockefeller's assaults on their living standards.

In Albany, 5,000 elderly women and men—some on crutches and in wheelchairs—came to demand of one of the world's most corrupt and self-seeking legislatures that rent controls in New York be reinstated, that benefits lost after the piddling little 20 percent raise in social security be restored, and that the thousands of apartment houses abandoned by slumlords in New York City be taken over by the state and renovated for the use of many thousands of New York's needy.

They also demanded that minimum social assistance be increased to the amount recommended by the 1971 White House Conference on Aging—\$4,500 for a retired couple and \$3,375 for a single person.

On one of the 96 buses that went to Albany, I sat next to a widow of 75, who had risen at 4:30 every morning of her working life in order to get to her job at a Brooklyn hospital by 6:00.

She told me she couldn't adjust to the

ease of retirement and still got up at 4:30 each day. In order to keep the small pension she had earned, she was forbidden by her former bosses to work at her trade, and so she was doing unpaid labor at a hospital for the blind.

"I can't somehow live without being busy," she said. "But I wish I could still earn a little more money."

At the same hour we arrived in Albany, my daughter, with 3,000 other young mothers, demonstrated in New York City against the threatened closing of daycare centers. They marched from the fancy new Federal Building in Foley Square to City Hall, halting traffic in lower Manhattan. Some 300 moved onto the Brooklyn Bridge, stretching a human barrier across its Manhattan end, halting traffic for ten minutes.

The angry mothers, and some fathers, made up a new verse to the old children's "Knick-knack" song:

Tricky Dick, he don't care
If mommy and daddy are on welfare
With a bang-bang, shoot 'em up
Take away our schools?
Tricky Dick is a goddamn fool.

The line about mommy and daddy going

Super Welfare for the rich to bother their heads about the needs of the poor—whether young or old. After the working people fought long and bitterly for such crying necessities as the 8-hour day, unemployment insurance, social security, and health benefits, politicians always tried to claim the credit.

But in truth, they always gave in grudgingly and stingily—not out of benevolence, but out of fear. Is there any reason to believe they have had a change of heart lately?

Those two demonstrations on the same day last week are only a harbinger of the upheavals to come in answer to Nixon's arrogant but futile attempt to legislate America back to the Stone Age. □

Working Women —Our Stories and Struggles

A PAMPHLET PREPARED BY
WOMEN OF THE CENTER
FOR UNITED LABOR ACTION

25 CENTS

ORDER FROM: Center for United Labor
Action, 167 W. 21 St., New York, N.Y.

Cops, fascists gang up on Black project

By JIM KOWALSKI

NEWARK, March 3—Racist violence has been unleashed in Newark once again. On February 22, Cheo Mfuasi, President of Kawaida Towers, was shoved by young stooges of Anthony Imperiale, vigilante-turned-politician. Newark Tactical Police followed up on the attack. Brother Mfuasi and two associates were beaten across the head, thrown over fences, kicked in the face, and clubbed with lead-filled nightsticks.

The racist hysteria, being led by Imperiale with the open cooperation of the police, against the \$6.4 million housing project resulted in the ambush of a Black worker on March 2, when he went to get coffee for other workers at the site. In an interview with *Workers World*, Ba Ba Mshauri, ("father-adviser") of the Temple of Kawaida, described the attack: "The coffee was knocked out of his hand. He was knocked to the ground, and then he had to be taken to receive hospital care for nose and head injuries.

"Now the cops did nothing at this particular time. They were sitting over in their cars, and they leisurely got out and walked over. And when the brother finally got to his feet, they asked him what was the matter and said, 'Don't worry. You know—we didn't see who did it.'"

Ba Ba Mshauri debunked the myths of police protection: "They are racists. They have no intentions of functioning as policemen up in that area. All they do up there is condone and help those people commit acts of violence. In fact, they are the chief perpetrators of violence."

STRUGGLE AGAINST RACISM

What began as an attempt by Black people simply to build decent housing for themselves has quickly been turned into a

fundamental struggle against racism. Like the struggle around the housing project in Forest Hills, N.Y., the lines have been clearly drawn between white racists, who want to prevent Black and Latin people from living in white neighborhoods, and the oppressed people's demand that they be able to get decent housing in any area they choose to live.



Cops drag away representative of Kawaida Towers. Can you imagine a white real estate agent being treated this way?

All the racist, fascist elements in this struggle (including the cops) have gathered around Imperiale. Ba Ba Mshauri relates: "They carry those American flags around and shove it into your face and tell you that you have to 'Pledge allegiance to this!' It's like in the old times when they had what they called the roustabouts. They would have a gun, and they'd say to you: 'Dance!'"

And they would shoot at you to force you to dance.

"Imperiale claims he is an American. But what kind of an American is he, and what kind of a country is this, that they tolerate a man up there who incites people to stop the building of decent housing, as badly as housing is needed here in Newark."

The Afro-American group sponsoring the construction of Kawaida Towers recently won a victory in the State Superior Court, when it thwarted an attempt by the Newark City Council to rescind a tax abatement they had granted to the Towers. The white-majority council claimed that the abatement, which allows the cooperative housing project to pay a certain percentage of the rent instead of taxes, was granted before they knew that Imamu Amiri Baraka was connected with the apartments.

OPEN TO ALL RACES

Noting that the Towers will be open to people of all races, Ba Ba Mshauri described some of its features: "We are finally building something decent for people to live in, with rent subsidies so that poor people can still come into a modern building with all the modern facilities—audio-visuals and all, a daycare center for the youngsters, a theater, all built into it. And they say, 'No, no, that's too good for Black people.'"

"According to them, we belong in the slums and we should live in slum conditions. They want to deny us the right to determine where we can live and how we should live. They say, 'No! It's too good for you.' They don't actually say it, but their behavior patterns show what they're thinking."

The struggle to build Kawaida Towers is continuing, in spite of police harassment, racist vigilantes, and the noncooperation of racist-dominated construction unions. Kawaida Towers has become a rallying point for the struggle against racism and the right of Black people to self-determination. While its sponsors are determined to build the houses, to succeed they need the support of all those who consider themselves foes of racism and injustice. □

Rubber workers seek solidarity from overseas unions

By VINCE COPELAND

Will the United Rubber Workers (URW) lead the way in organizing workers of U.S.-owned multinational corporations into mighty multinational unions?

Labor events and company pressures are pointing in that direction.

Like nearly all production workers in the United States, the members of United Rubber Workers are faced with de facto wage cuts and runaway shops, many of the latter running away from the North American continent itself.

As they go into contract negotiations this month with the Big Four (Goodyear, Goodrich, Firestone, and Uniroyal), one of their principal demands is going to be a hefty severance pay for every worker laid off due to plant removal to the South or anywhere else.

The union's policy statement calls for severance pensions and insurance "in such amounts to discourage the company from closing a plant or a portion thereof, whether due to threat of imports, relocation to a lower wage area, or for any other reason which threatens employees with the loss of equity built up during their years of service."

If the URW wins anything substantial on this, it will be a "first" for American labor. And a very important first it will be. It will slow down and severely inhibit the whole runaway plant system.

But the big rubber companies are now so powerful on a world basis that in at least one case—Uniroyal—they produce more abroad than at home. Thus the imports do not really represent competition from foreign countries, but rather help these same U.S. companies bust the unions.

So the union is now taking steps to gain the solidarity and cooperation of European unions in the plants owned by the U.S. tire companies.

Union President Peter Bommarito is visiting Paris and Geneva in an effort to get European unions to cooperate with their U.S. counterparts in holding down the U.S.-owned companies.

That is, he is asking them to refuse overtime during any strike against the companies' plants in the United States. And there is some evidence that he can persuade some actually to go on sympathy strikes.

This knife cuts both ways, though. The U.S. labor leadership is so backward on the question of international solidarity that no union in the U.S. has supported a sister union abroad for generations. What union in the U.S. will go on strike or even refuse overtime to help its brothers and sisters in France or England—not to mention Japan or Vietnam?

But U.S. union leaders are beginning to get the message that they'd better take a new look at this sort of thing.

MESSAGE GETTING THROUGH TO THEM!

They didn't get the message from the solidarity of the Japanese longshore workers during the U.S. West Coast longshore strike. And they didn't get the message from the solidarity of the Australian workers in fighting the U.S. shipowners during the U.S. bombing of North Vietnam.

But they are getting the message from the murderous attacks of the corporations against their own unions—attacks which could destroy their own positions as well as the workers' living standards.

Bommarito is even aiming at an organically united union in all Firestone and Goodyear plants over the globe.

But there seems to be an element of gimmickry in all this.

How will the U.S. union prove its seriousness to the European union workers, for instance? How will it appeal to their imaginations and fire up their enthusiasms?

UNION'S INSPIRATION— ONE-AT-A-TIME!

Again the union leadership seems to be settling for the one-at-a-time strategy (picking Goodyear for the strike target). And this may prove to be a relatively weak approach, despite the enormity of the Goodyear empire. The workers at Goodyear's European plants may shrug their shoulders at it if they see the U.S. workers still working at other U.S. tire companies and not going out on strike.

The rubber workers are capable of truly great struggles. And such struggles will be required in order to defeat the Akron giants, not to mention vanquishing their global power centers.

But ever since the great sitdowns in Akron of 1936 (even before the GM sitdown at Flint, Michigan) the rubber companies have been centralizing their antilabor strategy while they decentralized their plants.

If any industry needs to be hit hard and hit all at once, it is the rubber industry, particularly the tire-manufacturing part of it.

Leaving aside the multinational character of the industry, there is still a very great deal of organizing to be done in

the United States itself.

The tire companies are now dotting the hills of the U.S. countryside, perching upon the rivers of the South, and sprawling over the plains of the Midwest. They are trying to blunt the concentrated striking power of the workers, as they sharpen their antilabor ax against the workers' rights, organization, and living standards.

MAIN ENEMY STILL AT HOME!

The URW has organized a great many of these plants, it is true, but usually at lower rates of pay than in Akron.

And there are new plants going up all the time.

Uniroyal is just going into massive production at Ardmore, Oklahoma, and planning still newer plants at Opelika, Louisiana. Michelin is spending no less than \$200 million on new plants in South Carolina (after just building \$100 million worth in Nova Scotia last year). Goodrich is adding a multimillion-dollar plant in Miami, Oklahoma. Kelly-Springfield is putting one up in Cumberland, Maryland. Goodyear is building at Union City, Tennessee.

And these have only been planned and built in the past few months, or two years, at most. They comprise only a tiny fraction of the total rubber runaways inside the U.S.

The international move of the union leadership is certainly a move in the right direction. But without supplementing this with a bold and relentless campaign of struggle in the South and West of the United States, the plan for a really international "International" of rubber workers may never get off the drawing boards. □

YAWF organizes wide support for AIM



Sister Mary Ann Red Cloud

WW Photo: Fabian Truncellito

The response of Youth Against War & Fascism to the seizure of Wounded Knee was both immediate and militant.

On Friday, March 2, and again on March 8, Detroit YAWF picketed the Federal Building, chanting, "No more lies, no more broken treaties!" At the second Detroit demonstration, called by the Associated Indians of Detroit (AID), at least 150 people marched from AID's office and rallied right on the steps of the Federal Building.

Maryland-Washington, D.C. YAWF turned out in front of Nixon's "Justice" Department on Wednesday, March 7. The passersby on the street responded enthusiastically to the YAWF chants of "No more massacres—No reprisals."

The same day, Milwaukee YAWF gave financial support to the local American Indian Movement (AIM) chapter for food, medicine, and arms which AIM was sending to Wounded Knee.

YAWF also held a demonstration with the American Indian Movement on Wednesday in New York City. Called on less than 24 hours' notice, 150 members of YAWF and

AIM held a joint picket line at the Federal Building at Foley Square, chanting, "No massacre in '73—U.S. troops out of Wounded Knee."

Nick Frankel of YAWF chaired the rally that followed and introduced Grey Horse, a New York State activist from the American Indian Movement. Brother Grey Horse led those present at the rally in a traditional Native American song in commemoration of those who have died and those who today continue to face death at the hands of the U.S. government.

Grey Horse stated that "This is the first time that non-Indians have come to our aid in such numbers."

A statement from Vernon Bellecourt, the National Director of AIM, was read by Native American Brother Frank Harmon, and a statement from the American Servicemen's Union in support of the Wounded Knee seizure was read by ASU activist Leon Daniels.

Mike Soriano from YAWF spoke, comparing the treatment of Native Americans at the hands of the racist capitalists who run America with the

slaughter of the Attica inmates by billionaire Nelson Rockefeller.

Remarks by Sister Mary Ann Red Cloud, a great-great-granddaughter of Chief Red Cloud who led the resistance of the Sioux Nation at Wounded Knee, held the rapt attention of the scores of women, men, and children standing in the wind at Foley Square. She had only recently come from the site of the armed struggle being carried out by her people in South Dakota.

On Friday, March 9, YAWF demonstrated downtown in both Buffalo and Rochester. At the Rochester action, Millie Cook, a Mohawk woman who had taken part in the occupation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs last November, told the rally that "The struggle of the Native American people is no longer the struggle of any particular tribe, but of all our people for self-determination."

YAWF has been active in organizing demonstrations for the Native American people in the past in Buffalo and Milwaukee, and, during the November 1972 occupation of the Justice Department, in Washington, D.C.

The Native American people, like the Black, Puerto Rican, and Chicano people, are an oppressed nation within the territorial boundaries of the United States, and YAWF will continue its support until final liberation. □

By RUTH McCORMICK

On December 29, 1890, at Wounded Knee, South Dakota, more than 250 Native Americans of the Sioux tribe were brutally slaughtered by the U.S. 7th Cavalry. American history books usually refer to this bloody incident as the "Battle of Wounded Knee Creek." However, when the facts are known—only a few of the Sioux were armed, and a large number of those killed were elderly people, women, and small children—it is ridiculous to dignify this massacre by calling it a "battle." To do so would be like calling another more recent incident of racist mass murder, the "Battle of My Lai."

In order to understand the significance of the massacre at Wounded Knee, it is important to realize, first, that the kind of wholesale bloodletting that occurred at Wounded Knee had many historical precedents. From the time the white colonialists first landed on this hemisphere, they have dealt murderously with the native inhabitants.

A particularly notorious example of this U.S. policy was the massacre of Sand Creek in 1864, in which over 300 Cheyenne (almost all infirm, women, and children) were shot, bayoneted, and burned to death. The leader of this expedition, the Rev. J.M. Chivington, Colonel of the Colorado Volunteers, exhorted his men to "Kill and scalp all big and little; nits make lice."

Second, it is well known that almost all Native American tribes were peaceful peoples who at first greeted the white colonialists with friendship and trust; the list of lies, treachery, murder, and broken treaties on the part of the colonialists is so long that it could, and in fact has, filled innumerable volumes. The so-called savagery and violence of Native American tribes are only racist epithets used to depict their desperate and heroic struggles to defend themselves and at least a small part of their land from the encroachment of greedy planters, ranchers, land speculators, gold prospectors, and railroad tycoons.

DAKOTAS DRIVEN OFF LAND

Third, it is important to know why the people of the great Sioux Nation were

Wounded knee in 1890 The final betrayal



Bodies of Sioux people slaughtered at Wounded Knee were thrown by U.S. troops into a mass grave.

singled out by the U.S. colonialists for the most vengeful hatred. Originally, the Sioux, or Teton Dakotas, were not inhabitants of the plains, but of the forest, and lived in the lake region around the head of the Mississippi River. They were members of a confederation of tribes called Dakota, meaning allies or comrades, but were renamed "Sioux" by French traders who coined the term from the Algonquin word meaning "enemy." Of course, the real enemies were these traders, who, by the end of the 18th century, had driven the Dakota

people westward and stolen their land.

The Teton Dakota tribes moved to the great plains of the two states that now bear their name. Here they came to be formally known to the white man as the Sioux Nation. The Tetons themselves, as they grew in number and moved in different directions, formed a confederation of seven tribes—the Oglala, Brulé, Hunkpapa, Miniconjou, Sans Arc, Two Kettle, and Blackfeet.

For a time, they fared well on the plains: they grew proficient with firearms, they learned from other tribes of the plains

one-third of that \$1,500 comes from leasing Indian land to white ranchers."

The Native Americans at Wounded Knee are demanding their right to determine their lives free from the oppressive, racist, capitalist government. They are also demanding that the U.S. government honor the terms of the hundreds of treaties with the Native American people which it has broken.

Contributions for their struggle should be sent to: Wounded Knee Defense Fund, United Bank of Denver, 17th and Broadway, Denver, Colorado 80202.

the care and training of horses, and they discovered what was to be their main source of sustenance—the buffalo.

However, by 1851, thousands of white settlers were moving westward, and with them came the various entrepreneurs and speculators who always swarm like roaches wherever there are potential customers. The U.S. government decided to clear the plains tribes from the Platte Valley route to the west. This led to the signing of the first of several treaties with the Sioux, which would rob them step by step of their hunting grounds and their freedom.

RESISTANCE AGAINST GENOCIDE

In the 1870s, gold was discovered in the Black Hills, and the U.S. government prepared to force a new treaty on the plains people. By now, many of the Sioux had settled on the reservations, and the U.S., through its Bureau of Indian Affairs, was making an all-out effort to crush the culture of the Native Americans. The government allowed missionaries of all religions to proselytize among the "pagans." It also sent Native American children to schools where only white language, history, and values were taught. The great buffalo, so integral to the lives of the plains tribes, were systematically slaughtered.

Among the Sioux, there were those who resisted military and cultural genocide, and their leaders are still heroes to Native Americans and progressive people everywhere. Among these were the great Hunkpapa war chief Sitting Bull, the Oglala warrior Crazy Horse, and the Chief of the Miniconjou Big Foot. Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse led the successful counterattack against the 7th Cavalry that resulted in the deaths of George Armstrong Custer and all his men at Little Bighorn in 1876.

However, until recently, Little Bighorn was the last Native American victory in their struggle for freedom and self-determination. The U.S. colonialists increased their repressiveness and vengefulness from then on. Both Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull were later tracked down and murdered.

The massacre at Wounded Knee was a last-ditch attempt to break the resistance of the plains peoples. It was the result of a "punitive expedition" against Big Foot and the Miniconjou Sioux, in which many of the officers who directed that search-and-destroy mission were former associates of George Custer, bent on revenge.

After Wounded Knee, the U.S. imperialists congratulated themselves upon having "pacified" the natives of America. But the struggle of the Native American people for self-determination still goes on, as recent events have made clear. □

-Wounded knee

hand of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

On the 2,500-square mile Pine Ridge Reservation (11,000 Native Americans live here, making it the second largest in the country), per capita income is \$1,500, infant mortality is three times the U.S. average, and life expectancy is a little over 40 years.

In an interview with this reporter at the March 7 demonstration sponsored by the

American Indian Movement and Youth Against War & Fascism, Mrs. Mary Ann Red Cloud, direct descendant of Chief Red Cloud, one of the Oglala Sioux's great leaders, spoke of the bleak life for her people at the Pine Ridge Reservation.

Having recently come from the scene of armed confrontation at Wounded Knee, Mrs. Red Cloud pointed out that "the industry at Pine Ridge is token and inadequate, consisting of a moccasin factory which employs few people. And although the average resident of Pine Ridge Reservation makes \$1,500 yearly, more than

Tactics not the issue in Mideast

It should be clear to anyone with a shred of progressive sympathy that the real terrorists and aggressors in the Middle East are the United States and its partner in domination, Israel. None among the so-called Marxist parties would contradict this—or would they?

Unfortunately, they would.

Both the Militant and the Daily World, organs of the Socialist Workers Party and Communist Party, respectively, have now joined their voices to those of every shade of bourgeois opinion and attacked the Black September movement for "terrorism." They use the argument that they are the real friends of the Arabs and Palestinians fighting for liberation, while this Palestinian commando group is only hurting the Arab cause.

The Militant of March 16 says that the tactics of Black September in Khartoum "could not have been more wrong. Such acts of individual terrorism...do not aid in mobilizing the masses of Palestinians and other Arab masses in struggle," Caroline Lund of the Militant informs us. Instead, the execution of the U.S. and Belgian diplomats "undercut the worldwide sentiment against Israel for its shooting down of the Libyan airliner."

The Daily World in a March 6 editorial went even further, characterizing the commando group's execution of these career officers (one a former CIA agent) as "mindless savagery." Black September is "an enemy of the Arab peoples," says the Daily World, and is actually "providing justification for the Israeli attacks on the Arab liberation forces and the refugee camps, for establishing the CIA's Phoenix murder program in the Middle East."

Since when have the oppressors needed an excuse to carry out their criminal acts? Did Israel need an excuse for its recent raids into Lebanon? The mere presence of Palestinian refugees was enough. And how does any action of an oppressed people against those who choose to represent the oppressors give "justification" to their oppression?

Both papers speak so confidently of how the Arab people must react negatively to the executions carried out by Black September. But is that really what they are so worried about?

We see no evidence that the Arab masses have recoiled in revulsion from the Black September commandos. As a matter of fact, it is obvious that many of them see the act as a just retaliation for Israel's murder of the airline passengers and its raids on Lebanon.

But even if we assume better tactics could be used at this time, what needs to be said in this country?

It is not going to help the cause of Palestinian liberation for anyone in this citadel of world imperialism to join the bourgeoisie in condemning this or that tactic when the combatants are a genuine part of a broad liberation movement which is in the process of developing an ideology and an approach to the masses.

The point is that it is the liberals here who are panicky about the reprisals taken by the Black September movement. It is they, not the revolutionary Arab masses, who are recoiling before what they call "individual terror," and who don't want to be in any way associated with such tactics (even though they might be for giving a little aid to Palestinian refugees once in a while, or some such gesture).

It is not the Arab masses who the Daily World and Militant are afraid of alienating. It is these parties' allies in the liberal bourgeoisie here. But because they pose as Marxist parties, and wrap themselves in revolutionary tradition, they must use the masses as an excuse for their political cowardice.

This is not the first time that these two parties have capitulated to bourgeois pressure when a crisis came along. They have shown before that when the heat is on, and the ruling class and its media are whipping every one in line to show which side they are on in the struggle, these two will heed the pressure and line up on the side of the class they claim to be fighting. □

Black sailors in Norfolk defended by GI union

Special to Workers World from the American Servicemen's Union

NORFOLK, Va., March 3—Thirty-five people demonstrated here today to show their support for 14 Black sailors now in solitary confinement in the Camp Allen brig at Norfolk Naval Base. The 14 Black sailors are facing charges of mutiny, attempted murder, assault, riot, and others. These charges stem from a disturbance that took place in the brig last November 27, when a white Marine guard attacked and beat a Black prisoner and other Black prisoners came to his defense.

Just six days prior to the outbreak, more than 20 Black sailors incarcerated in the brig met with Captain Anders, Commanding Officer of the Norfolk Naval Base. Their demands were an end to the brutality of the Marine guards against Black prisoners; that the blatant racial discrimination against Black prisoners be stopped; that Black Navy lawyers be assigned to Black defendants (there are no Black lawyers in the 5th Naval District and only one in the whole Navy!); that the prisoners be fed decent food; and that there be more recreation for the prisoners. Captain Anders, quoted in the local establishment press, said, "...in some cases they had some very valid complaints."

Three Black sailors have already been tried and sentenced by military courts-martial. On February 27 Seaman Recruit Mark W. McIntosh, 18, received four months at hard labor in the brig, \$600 in fines, and a Bad Conduct Discharge. Airman Recruit James E. Sweatt, 19, was sentenced to two months confinement in the brig at hard labor, a \$300 fine, and a Bad Conduct Discharge. The third Black sailor, Seaman Bruce Taylor was tried on February 15 and received the same sentence as Sweatt.

Article 32 hearings, which will determine how many other sailors will face courts-martial, are now under way at the Norfolk Naval Base.

Despite the protests of his lawyers, the Article 32 hearing for Seaman Apprentice A. Q. Johnson has been closed to the public on orders of the investigating officer, Lt. M. Hittel. Defense attorneys tried unsuccessfully to have representatives of the American Servicemen's Union (ASU) and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) admitted to Johnson's hearing.

SECRET TRIALS

"Certainly the defense doesn't object to having the hearing open," said attorney William P. Robinson, Jr., "so why does the Navy, unless they have something to hide?"

Under the law, Sweatt's and McIntosh's courts-martial were open to the public; nevertheless, guards at the base's main gate had orders to keep all spectators out. Even the civilian defense lawyer was detained 20 minutes before being allowed to enter. Representatives of the ASU, the ACLU, and the Prisoners Solidarity Committee finally succeeded in gaining entry after threatening court action.

It is little wonder that the Navy has been afraid of public scrutiny of the courts-martial, which are in themselves clear indictments of the racist military "justice" system.

Brothers Sweatt and McIntosh pointed out, during a recess of the kangaroo court, that most of the defense witnesses had been conveniently discharged from the Navy during Admiral Zumwalt's recent purge of "undesirables," so that they were unavailable to testify. The two sailors told of the prosecution's Marine guard witnesses meeting to coordinate their accusations against the prisoners. They also spoke of the racism and the harassment in the brig—the original causes of the rebellion.

"The Marine guards come right up to our cells to try to provoke us into doing something they can bust us for," said Sweatt.

Virtually all of the prisoners in the maximum security cells (known as SOUL BLOCK) are Black or Latin, Sweatt pointed out. One Puerto Rican prisoner named Casado was thrown into maximum security simply because he was willing to testify for the defense.

Most of the accused sailors have been in maximum security since November, in spite of defense efforts to have them released into the general population of the brig. Attorney William T. Mason, Jr., wrote to the Commandant of the 5th Naval District:

RACIST DOUBLE STANDARD

"The adamant refusal of the Corrections Officer and the Commanding Officer of the Naval Station to remove these Black sailors from maximum security—while Lt. Calley, whose conviction of murdering innocent civilians is being appealed, is permitted to reside in his officers' quarters—is a flagrant example of a military racial double standard."

The sailors who are being charged were singled out by Marines afterward—not because of anything they did during the rebellion, but because of their known opposition to racism and harassment. Sweatt, McIntosh, and Taylor were convicted on flimsy, often contradictory, testimony by white Marine guards. The charges against Sweatt included spilling a glass of milk on a Marine Sergeant—assault!

In response to the Black prisoners' request for public support, the American Servicemen's Union organized today's demonstration. Over 5,000 leaflets were distributed, calling on all progressive people in the Tidewater area to come to the defense of these 14 Black sailors. The demonstration was very militant, in spite of a steady rain. The spirited demonstrators chanted: "They are innocent, Free the Black sailors"; "Enlisted men unite! Support the Black sailors"; "Free the Black Sailors! Jail the racist Navy Brass"; "Sink the Navy Brass to the bottom of the sea, all the Black sailors must be free."

"The racist frameup of the 14 Black sailors in the Camp Allen brig is just one more attack on Black sailors and all rank-and-file servicemen and women," said ASU organizer John Lewis of Norfolk. "It is the duty of all enlisted men and women to support these 14 Black sailors in their struggle against the Navy Brass for justice."

FREE THE CAMP ALLEN 14!

For more information contact: American Servicemen's Union, P.O. Box 7007, Norfolk, Va. 23509, (703) 857-4816.

Why Nixon wants death penalty

No one who heard President Nixon's March 10 speech on capital punishment could mistake the dangerous implications of his call for the reimposition of the death penalty. And no one who read the list of "crimes" he would make punishable by death could mistake the ominous political character of this threat.

Denouncing "softheaded judges" (few Black, Latin, or poor defendants have ever met one) and "permissive philosophy," Nixon called for Congress to pass a law to restore the death penalty in cases of assassination, treason, kidnaping, air hijacking, and the killing of a cop or prison guard.

The call for such a law, under the guise of "protecting society," can only be viewed as an open threat to hold the possibility of frameups on capital charges over every liberation struggle of the oppressed people, every anti-war movement, and every political organization in this country that seeks to redress the grievances of the working and poor people against their capitalist exploiters.

This proposed law raises the spectre of the execution of the Rosenbergs in the 1950s on fraudulent treason charges; it threatens every prisoner who would rebel against the brutal conditions of his or her life behind

bars; it is calculated to fan the racist hysteria against Black people which allows white cops to gun down Black citizens in the streets, but calls for death for Blacks who would defend themselves against the police occupying armies.

Such a law would be a threat to anyone who protests against the government's war policies, whether in Vietnam or in the Mideast, for fear of the charge of treason; and it leaves open the possibility of the U.S. framing up the heroic Native Americans at Wounded Knee on phony charges of kidnaping or treason.

To denounce capital punishment simply as morally unjustifiable, as a New York Times editorial of March 13 did, is really to avoid the political question. Certainly a workers' state or a national liberation movement has the right to impose the death penalty on enemies of the people. But that is because such a state or movement represents the vast majority of working and oppressed people and acts in their interests to safeguard their struggles against capitalism and imperialism.

Nixon and the class he represents, however, are a tiny majority of rich bankers and corporate bosses. They use the death penalty, not to "safeguard society," but to perpetuate their own murderous rule. □

A NEW PAMPHLET By VINCE COPELAND

Southern populism and Black labor

Published by World View Publishers

46 West 21 Street, New York, N.Y. 10010

75 cents

Left gains in Chile election

By P. MEISNER

The Allende government in Chile has survived the latest assault launched by the rightwing opposition in the March 4 parliamentary elections. The Popular Unity coalition (UP) gained 43.4 percent of the vote, a substantial improvement over Allende's 36.6 percent in 1970. This held the reactionary opposition's majority to 54.6 percent, far short of the two-thirds majority needed to impeach Allende. The UP now has 63 Deputies (9 more than in 1970) out of a total of 150, and 20 Senators (2 more than in 1970) out of a total of 50.

However, the UP is still a minority in the Chilean Congress. Consequently, the opposition is demanding that Allende roll back his socialist measures, claiming that the opposition's majority should be accepted as a plebiscite on Allende's policies. This claim, of course, has no legal or constitutional basis whatsoever.

But many elements of the bourgeois opposition vowed that the challenge to Allende's government would not be limited to parliamentary means. This can only mean that a counter-revolutionary mobilization is again imminent, and it may be the most desperate and violent attempt yet, since Allende doesn't come up for reelection until 1976.

By any standard, the electoral results must be viewed as a victory for the UP. But while these results show that the Chilean left has gained more mass support, they cannot be divorced from the far-reaching effects of the 26-day shutdown by truck owners, shopkeepers, businessmen, and professionals in October 1972. The shutdown (called a "strike" by its organizers) was aimed at either bringing down the Allende government altogether or making it completely capitulate to the demands of the Chilean capitalist class.

WORKERS INTERVENED

Food and fuel distribution was crippled temporarily, but the intervention of the workers taught them an historic lesson—that they can take the productive and distributive powers into their own hands without relying on the capitalist bosses. Progovernment truck drivers defied rightwing threats and delivered essential food and fuel. Workers' committees were organized to see that a sufficient number of shutdown stores be reopened.

Workers made sure to keep all factories operating and not shut down in sympathy with the truck owners. Student brigades

helped in unloading and distributing food and grains. Many of the conditions for a proletarian seizure of power were present. But a revolutionary response was not to come from the UP, dominated by the revisionist Communist Party (PC) and the moderate wing of the Socialist Party (PS).

Instead of relying on the revolutionary initiative of the workers, students, and peasants to resolve the crisis, Allende turned back to the bourgeois status quo. All charges were dropped against the "strikers"; all vehicles and property seized were returned to their owners; state regulation of trucking was dropped; and the wholesalers' combine (CODINA) was returned to private ownership.

Allende also passed a gun-control law demanded by the rightwing opposition parties to prevent any armed mobilization organized by the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), a critical supporter of the UP government. The law gave the capitalist military all legal control of arms in Chile.

But the most disastrous capitulation was the cabinet shakeup which brought three generals from the armed forces into key cabinet posts, including the powerful position of Minister of the Interior. The PC called it a "deft maneuver," but PS leader, Senator Carlos Altamirano, said it was "a victory for the reactionaries." And just a few weeks ago, General Viaux's 20-year prison sentence was reduced to two years, allowing the fascist general to be immediately released. Viaux had been convicted for his role in an attempted coup against the Allende government in 1970, which failed, but led to the assassination of the head of the Armed Forces, General Rene Schneider.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS

The October crisis was both a political and economic crisis. In the first year of Allende's administration, the Chilean bourgeoisie seemed to quietly accept the new government, despite 30 percent wage increases granted to most workers and the redistribution of much land to poor peasants.

But in 1972, Chilean capitalists began to withdraw a lot of their invested capital from many businesses and consciously started to sabotage the economy, so as to discredit the radical Allende government. Black markets were organized by the same businessmen—many press photos revealed

working class.

We can clearly see what the devaluation of the dollar means from another perspective. While the U.S. was funneling a couple of hundred billion dollars into its war of aggression in Indochina, the rest of the capitalist industrialized world was spending its money on modernizing and upgrading its industrialized plants and equipment.

The socialist economies were rising to new heights, witness the development of atomic power by People's China and the fact that the Soviet Union has now outstripped the U.S. in steel production. The U.S. ruling class, with nothing to show in Indochina in the way of new markets, emerges from ten years of war weaker economically, and its currency reflects this.

DOLLARS VS. MARKS AND YENS

The basic mechanism in international trade is the buying and selling of goods and services in two separate currencies (instead of only one currency, as in domestic trade).

basements of bourgeois homes stocked with goods in heavy demand.

The Chilean reactionaries' attack on the economy was also aided by Washington's and Wall Street's economic blockade of Chile. The giant U.S. Kennecott Copper corporation had shipments of Chilean copper seized in France on fraudulent claims of compensation. The U.S. also prevented Chile from getting any new loans from the U.S.-dominated World Bank. Wall Street manipulated copper prices downward (by 20 percent) on the world market, thereby drastically reducing Chile's export income. This combined powerful economic blockade and sabotage, however, have not been able to topple the UP government.

WHICH ROAD FOR CHILE?

Even after these elections, the fundamental question for the Chilean proletariat still remains: which road, revolution or counter-revolution? The elections have only perpetuated a stalemate in the class struggle in Chile. They have not resolved the question as to which class and social system will rule Chile. And the Chilean left is seriously divided at this very moment on how socialism can triumph in Chile before the bourgeois counter-revolution can bring on fascist rule.

The Chilean PC and the moderate wing of the PS, led by Allende, are still dominant

in the UP government and are pursuing a policy of "peaceful transition to socialism," relying on the bourgeois army to protect the UP government. The PC has gone even further to the right by proposing an alliance between the UP and the Christian Democratic Party, the stronger and more moderate of the two main capitalist parties.

The PC also proposed a bill that would return many nationalized properties to private hands, thus asking the UP to accommodate itself still further to the Chilean bourgeoisie. Working class reaction was immediate and powerful. Interfactory committees staged huge marches and demanded that the worker-run industries be left intact. Combined with pressure from the leftwing of the PS and other parties of the UP, the workers defeated the pro-restoration PC bill. PS leader Altamirano stated:

"Returning the industries to former owners would represent a giant step backwards, both in terms of the material bases necessary for socialism and in terms of worker mobilization."

One of the most significant errors committed by the UP government was not to hold a referendum calling for the abolition of the bourgeois Congress and for replacing it with a People's Assembly. Allende admitted this political error at a factory visit with workers in Santiago on January 18. Allende said that the referendum would certainly have won, at a time when the government was in the midst of economic successes.

ROLE OF MIR

Perhaps the biggest barricade to the capitalist counter-revolution is the militant

(Continued on page 14)



Leftist Chilean youth volunteer for farm work.

The two currencies have an established rate of exchange, for example, \$1 for 4 German marks, \$1 for 5 French francs, or \$1 for 300 Japanese yen. At any given time, these exchange rates tend to fluctuate according to the supply and demand of dollars. Take West Germany for example. The supply and demand for dollars in Germany is a reflection of trade and investments between Germany and the U.S. Thus when Germans sell goods to the United States, or U.S. businessmen buy plants in Germany, Germans get dollars. And when Germans buy goods from the United States or make investments in the United States, they must pay in dollars.

The supply (German sales to the U.S.) and demand (U.S. sales to Germany) for dollars have to be in balance over a period of time for the dollar to retain its relative value. If Germany sells more to the U.S. than it buys, Germany earns excess dollars. If Germany buys more from the United States than it sells, then it owes dollars to U.S. businessmen or bankers.

The devaluation by itself won't solve U.S. imperialism's problems. Take the relation between the U.S. and Japan. Japan can be viewed as one huge industrial plant importing almost all of its raw materials, turning them into manufactured products, and exporting these goods. It is true that the

price of Japanese manufactured products will be somewhat increased for U.S. buyers, thus temporarily helping U.S. manufacturers to compete.

But an increase in the value of the yen also increases the yen's purchasing power and has the effect of reducing Japan's raw material costs. This in turn makes Japan more competitive with the U.S. The U.S. business oligarchy thus continues to face the problem that the Japanese economy is stronger, compared to the U.S. economy, than it was before the Indochinese war began. The same is true, to a slightly lesser degree, for the industrialized capitalist economies of Europe.

The U.S. business establishment will attempt to reestablish its competitive position by more intensively exploiting the U.S. working class. Already, we see the brutal cutbacks announced by Nixon against all social welfare programs that were a product of the rebellions from Watts to Newark. We have witnessed phases I, II, and III of Nixon's new economic policy, which boiled down to higher prices, higher profits, reduced real wages, and a clear erosion of living standards.

The devaluation is a continuation of this. Imports will cost working people more, working conditions will continue to deteriorate, and devaluation will probably follow devaluation.

Why and how— a dollar ain't a dollar any more

The recent devaluation of the U.S. dollar, among other things, clearly foreshadows a major decline in the standard of living of American workers. Both the employed and the unemployed reserve labor force in Third World and poor white communities can expect to lose by it.

The ability of the U.S. to sell or compete in other countries (foreign markets) is a measure of the strength of the U.S. economy. Thus when the U.S. economy, right after World War II, was clearly the most powerful in the world, the U.S. dollar was supreme. All capitalist countries wanted dollars, were prepared to hold them as a reserve for their own currencies, and never had enough of them.

But with the general decline of U.S. imperialism, accentuated by U.S. defeats in Indochina, the awesome strength of the U.S. economy declined in relation to the socialist world and the other industrialized countries. This is now reflected in the continued devaluation of the U.S. dollar. This decline will surely be paid for by the American

"No blood money for Israel's wars"

By JOEL MEYERS

NEW YORK, March 6—Tonight's visit of Israeli Premier Golda Meir to this city provoked a demonstration by 200 people across the street from the plush New York Hilton Hotel, where she was being banqueted.

The demonstration was called by Youth Against War & Fascism, along with the Organization of Arab Students, the Iranian Students Association, and others.

The many Arab, Iranian, and Greek nationals who joined the protest did so in spite of a history of terror waged against activists and their families by the pro-U.S. military dictatorships that rule their countries.

Golda Meir's appearance at the Hilton was part of a national tour she has been taking, following her friendly meeting with Nixon, who sympathetically listened to her request for more war materiel.

Tonight's banquet was sponsored by the United Jewish Appeal, which specializes in

fund raising for Zionist causes and the Israeli government. It is the leading organization through which "private" U.S. corporations, banks, and individuals funnel tax-exempt contributions to supplement the hundreds of millions of taxpayers' dollars given by the U.S. government to Israel.

The demonstration lasted more than an hour and a half, with nearly continuous chanting. Chants included, "Golda Meir works for Standard Oil!" and "No more Vietnam wars, no arms for Israel!" Demonstrators also shouted with enthusiasm, "Vietnam has won, Palestine will win!"

About half a dozen large banners with similar slogans told passersby, the public, and the press what the message of the demonstration was.

One spontaneous chant that broke out with special enthusiasm among the Arab and Iranian groups was "U.S. out of the Middle East, Golda go back to Milwaukee!" (The Israeli premier was born a U.S. citizen in that city.)

A feeble counterdemonstration by about two dozen JDL-type Zionists and U.S. rightwingers was staged across the street from the anti-Meir picket line.

On several occasions, a few of its less than two dozen members gestured as if physically to attack the anti-Meir demonstration, but meekly allowed the police to restrain them, for their own good, from coming too near. Police had to arrest one grimacing Zionist who took out his frustrations on a mounted police horse with what appeared to be a lead pipe.

The highly successful demonstration by supporters of the Palestinian cause took place here tonight in the difficult, charged atmosphere of vilification against the Palestinian movement, in the wake of events in the Sudan. However, the organizers were determined to carry out the action and defend it against all attacks.

police were trying to provoke a fight (many of the protesters face deportation if arrested), the demonstrators marched chanting loudly, "Arab land for the Arab people."

Finally, the police tried to detour the march onto a side street. When the Iranian students protested, they were arrested and severely beaten. In spite of all this, the demonstrators regrouped and continued the march to the Israeli consulate, where a strong picket line was held without further incident. —Barbara Dunn

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 1—Over 150 demonstrators picketed outside the White House here today as Golda Meir met with Nixon. The demonstration, sponsored by the Free Palestine Movement, the Iranian Students Association, the Organization of Arab Students, and Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), easily repulsed several attacks by 50 members of the Jewish Defense League. Spirited chants of "U.S. out of the Middle East, Palestine will win" let Nixon know that there is an opposition to the U.S. sponsoring another Vietnam-style war in the Middle East.

DETROIT, March 3—A large contingent of supporters of the Palestinian movement, including large numbers of Arab people and a delegation from YAWF, marched through the streets of downtown Detroit today to protest the downing of the Libyan passenger plane and to affirm their solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people.

WALTHAM, Mass., March 6—About 250 people demonstrated outside Brandeis University today to protest against Golda Meir, who was receiving an "honorary degree" from the university. A contingent from YAWF led chants of "Stop Israeli terror against the Arab people," and many Palestinians led chants in Arabic.

HOUSTON, Feb. 26—Youth Against War & Fascism sponsored a successful action outside the Israeli consulate here today. Despite police harassment, the demonstrators refused to yield their ground. The demonstrators expressed their anger over the downing of the Libyan airliner with chants and banners.

SEATTLE, March 1—Thirty-five people demonstrated at the courthouse in downtown Seattle today to demand an end to the U.S.-backed Israeli campaign of terror against the Palestinian people. □

Mideast protests

Youth Against War & Fascism took part in several protests around the country to denounce the Israeli murder of 106 passengers on the Libyan airliner and to picket Golda Meir on her visit here.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 24—Police arrested and brutally beat three members of the Iranian Students Association here today, in an attempt to disperse a demonstration called to protest the downing of a Libyan airliner by Israel. However, the demonstration, called by a coalition of revolutionary Mideast groups, was not dispersed.

Eighty people from various Mideast groups as well as representatives from Youth Against War & Fascism gathered at the Chicago Civic Center Plaza to begin their march to the Israeli consulate. Because the majority of the marchers were from the Mideast, the racist cops felt free to harass the group.

First, the demonstrators were ordered to fold up their banners and flags or face arrest. Then, they were told they couldn't use any sound equipment. Knowing that the

The second form of control has been exercised through the U.S.-dominated international oil companies (of which only two, Shell and British Petroleum, are not primarily U.S.-owned). Wherever there is oil in the nonsocialist world, these giants dominate its exploration, production, refining, and distribution.

A most dramatic example of total control by the world oil cartel was seen in Iran, whose vast oil reserves used to be primarily controlled by the British. In 1951, a popular, progressive government headed by Mohammed Mossadegh nationalized Iran's oil and was strongly supported by the masses. But then the government was helpless as the oil companies launched a totally effective boycott of the nationalized oil. Iran could find no buyers for its oil, while the cartel merely compensated for the lost Iranian oil by producing more oil in nearby Kuwait. After half a year of this economic war, the CIA staged a coup against Mossadegh, replacing him with the current Shah of Iran, who has established one of the world's most totalitarian police states. Not coincidentally, Iranian oil is now dominated by U.S., rather than British, companies.

The benefits to U.S. imperialism of its control over so much of the world's oil are immense. Aside from the factor of political control over oil, there are the tremendous oil profits—the U.S. oil companies have been making \$2 or \$3 billion a year from their foreign investments. No other foreign investments yielded such a high return. These profits helped finance the U.S. takeover of European industry during the sixties; they helped finance the stationing of U.S. troops

all around the world; and they helped finance the Indochina war.

But the past is gone and the future is coming, and the future will find the U.S. increasingly dependent on the oil imports from areas it would rather not depend on—specifically, the Middle East, North Africa, and possibly the Soviet Union (which among them have 85 percent of the world's proven reserves). According to the chairman of Humble Oil (Exxon's domestic subsidiary), by 1985 the U.S. will have to import more than 60 percent of its oil, with most of this coming from the Middle East. This compares with current imports of 28 percent, of which three-quarters comes from Western Hemisphere countries.

To understand the threat posed to U.S. imperialism by this prospect of heavy dependence on Middle Eastern oil, it is only necessary to compare the events in Iran in 1951 with the events in Iraq last summer. During the two decades that separated those two oil nationalizations, political developments in the Middle East have made it much more difficult for the oil companies to isolate a country that dares to nationalize. Nationalist regimes, all of them anti-imperialist to some extent, have come to power in Iraq, Algeria, Syria, Libya, and South Yemen, while the Palestinian struggle has become a force that cannot be ignored.

During the last few years, Libya and Iraq have set an example for the other oil-producing countries by successfully demanding large increases in the royalties paid them by the companies and, in the case of Algeria, by assuming 51 percent ownership of its oil resources. Their example was quickly followed by others,



Demonstration in Washington against Nixon-Meir meeting.

What's behind the "energy crisis"?

By EDWARD JAMES

The energy crisis, despite all the talk about it during recent months, has not arrived yet, not by a long shot. But arrive it will, and when it does, its ramifications for U.S. imperialism will rival the Indochina war.

The U.S., during most of its industrial development, has been able to supply itself with vital natural resources either from domestic sources or from foreign sources dominated by the U.S. militarily and politically. But these dependable sources are fast being used up, and petroleum presents the most critical situation. Only a general strike could shut down the U.S. economy faster than a major shortage of oil.

However, there will be no real shortage of oil and gas in the world during the foreseeable future. The energy crisis is only a crisis for imperialism, and it isn't related to the availability of oil, but to imperialism's slipping control over the world's oil.

Consequently, the only way the U.S. ruling class can hope to solve this problem is by launching a political offensive designed to reestablish control over the nonsocialist world's oil.

The U.S. has in years past strengthened its economic competition against both its capitalist allies and socialist enemies by control over two categories of oil production.

Its ability to supply itself from domestic sources, augmented by carefully controlled imports from Canada and Venezuela, has strengthened the U.S. hand during major international confrontations. For instance, during the Suez crisis of 1956, Western Europe was faced with severe oil shortages because of its dependence on the Mideast. However, the U.S. was not similarly threatened; and more than that, it was able to offer Europe some of the U.S.-controlled oil from Venezuela, increasing its economic leverage during the crisis. □

The real victims and the real terrorists

By EDDIE YOOD

MARCH 13—The United States government has opened a concerted campaign calling for the death penalty for the eight Palestinians who killed a Belgian and two American diplomats in the Sudan. You can scarcely pick up a newspaper or watch TV without hearing about those "sinister" Black September "terrorists" who may strike again, any time, any place, and against anyone. We are told that an international campaign must be mounted to "bring the killers to justice" and to wipe the menace and scourge of international terrorism from the face of the earth.

But just who are the ones hollering so much about this "spectre of international terrorism"? Is Mad Bomber Nixon really interested in wiping out international terrorism? Or is he just trying to keep us from pointing an accusing finger at him?

Terror is a daily reality for millions. It comes in the form of starvation, poverty, disease—and death from U.S. weapons. This terror has struck in the bombarded Palestinian refugee camps of the Middle East, in the napalmed villages of Indochina, in the blood-stained courtyards and cellblocks at Attica, in the Black and Latin ghettos of America, and in the deadly gas tanks of Staten Island, one of which buried 40 workers last month.

So isn't it really the murderers themselves who are now shrieking to high heaven "Terrorist"?

The real terrorists in Washington and Wall Street have always labeled the heroic National Liberation Front of South Vietnam,

the Black liberation fighters against racism and injustice, the rebelling prisoners of Attica and other jails, the gallant Native Americans at Wounded Knee, and striking workers as "disrupters," "rioters," "fanatics," and "terrorists." But they will defend the oppressors (and often murderers) in the army, National Guard, and the police force as "acting in the national interest," "defending law and order," and "representing the interests of the general public."

Their racist slanders against the Palestinian and Arab people must be seen in this same light.

WHO ARE THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE?

In the Middle East, great numbers of Palestinians are forced to live in deteriorating refugee camps, in crowded tents and corrugated-tin huts, on scant rations that breed disease and malnutrition. This tenuous and deprived existence is perpetuated by periodic Israeli bombing raids, always with the help of U.S. weapons—in a word, terror.

And terror against the Palestinians was the midwife to the birth of the Israeli state. Since 1948, the name Deir Yassin has meant to the Palestinians what Mylai means to the Vietnamese today.

The June 1967 war cost 35,000 Arab and 700 Jewish lives. It led to an expanded occupation of Palestinian lands and greater U.S. confidence in Israel as a pro-imperialist force in the Mideast.

Today in the occupied Gaza Strip, there are mass roundups of civilians, torture and

beatings of Arab suspects, looting of homes, stripping of Arab women in public by Israeli soldiers, and extensive curfews. Just last month Israeli commandos raided villages in Lebanon, killing scores of civilians. Then, with the help of U.S. Phantom jets, Israel downed a Libyan passenger plane flying over occupied Egyptian territory, killing 107 passengers and crew members in an undeniable act of terror.

TERROR REAPS RESISTANCE

Can anyone possessed of logic and reason expect that such atrocities, plus the daily terror the Palestinian people have had to endure for more than two decades, would not provoke some form of response from the beleaguered Palestinian masses? Wouldn't any family thrown out of their home and into the street, and told they could never return, fight to get back was rightfully theirs? Every downtrodden people has done it sooner or later. Would anyone dream of accusing the survivors of the Warsaw Ghetto of terrorism?

Considering all the persecution and suffering that have been inflicted upon the Palestinian people, there are not many methods open to them to conduct their long and difficult struggle. In September 1972 at Munich and again this month in the Sudan, Palestinians carried out dangerous missions to try to win freedom for Arab prisoners unjustly incarcerated in many lands, and to attract the attention of a world which too often has ignored their desperate plight.

But these acts of self-defense by an oppressed people under attack have been called "terrorist murders" by a U.S. media which failed to label even the Libyan air-

plane atrocity an act of terrorism. Nor has it raised one word of protest against the periodic Israeli raids on Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and Syria, the mass arrest of Palestinians in the Sudan, and the death sentences and executions of Palestinian freedom fighters in Jordan—not to mention the stepped-up government campaign of harassment and persecution of Arabs living right here in the United States!

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BLOODSHED IN THE MIDDLE EAST?

After all the anti-Arab hysteria has been cleared away, the responsibility for the bloodshed resulting from these so-called terrorist acts must fall on Washington and Tel Aviv. They brought it on themselves.

After the Black September fighters took over the Saudi Arabian mission in Khartoum in a clear reprisal against the U.S. for its role in the Libyan plane and Lebanon atrocities of February, President Nixon announced to the world that he would ignore the demands of the Palestinians, goaded the Sudanese regime into laying siege to the embassy with troops, and thus sealed the fate of his own Ambassador and diplomats.

So the issue remains: do we support the struggle of an oppressed people or not?

Now is the time for all progressive people to rise up and defend the Arab and Palestinian people. Their heroic struggle to build a democratic, nonsectarian Palestine where all its people, Arabs and Jews, can live in peace and justice, should be unconditionally supported. □

(See editorial on p. 6 for a discussion of the positions of other U.S. tendencies on this question.)

LNG tanks grow with 'energy crisis'

All this winter the big energy companies have been crying wolf about an immediate fuel shortage (see accompanying article).

For several years they have deliberately threatened reduced supplies of natural gas. Now they are trying to blackmail entire cities into accepting highway-robbery prices and time-bomb emplacements of liquefied natural gas (LNG) tanks in urban residential areas.

In their mad drive for ever more enormous profits, the big fuel company bosses care nothing for safety. They have responded to the recent Staten Island, N.Y., explosion in an "empty" LNG tank by renewing and escalating their threats.

Less than 30 days after the Staten Island explosion, The New York Times gave front-page coverage to a scare story put out by energy company officials. They claim that delays in the construction of two new tanks, each larger than the one that exploded, will cause a fuel shortage next winter.

The delays are the result of safety investigations started after the explosion proved how dangerous the tanks are!

These energy companies, controlled by the most powerful men at the top of the U.S. capitalist ruling class, show complete indifference to people's lives. Their profits mean more to them than people.

The people of Staten Island, who are opening the battle to save their lives from the callous greed of the energy profiteers, are facing men like John Connally, Nixon's right-hand Texas oil boss, and the Boston-Brahmin Lodge family, who sit at the top of the companies expanding on Staten Island with explosive force.

But even these companies, the biggest of the big, were afraid to face a meeting with representatives of a labor organization, the Center for United Labor Action.

Following are excerpts from a quarter-page article in the Staten Island Advance of March 2:

A spokesman for the Houston, Tex. Police Department confirmed yesterday that six persons claiming to be members of an activist labor organization, were arrested Tuesday on a charge of trespassing when they

attempted to enter the headquarters of the Texas Eastern Transmission Corp. in that city.

The six, members of the Houston chapter of the Center for United Labor Action, planned to present a list of demands to officials of the firm as part of a nationwide effort by the organization to bring a halt to the construction of liquefied natural gas storage facilities.

Texas Eastern (Tetco) operated the LNG tank in Bloomfield which exploded last month, killing 40 workers, and since that time CULA chapters both in Houston and New York have organized petition drives and other actions aimed at forcing the removal of similar facilities from populated areas around the country.

Wednesday six other members of the local chapter visited Tetco's Manhattan office at 320 Park Ave. with a similar list of demands and Mrs. Susan Steinman, one of the group, said a company secretary "ran around locking the executives' doors" when they arrived.

Milton Neidenberg, a spokesman for the CULA national headquarters in Manhattan, said the policy of confrontation was adapted "because we feel it is important to direct action at the corporations involved themselves."

"This is the area we're concentrating our efforts on," he added, "because the corporation has the power to remove the tanks just as easily as they moved them in." Neidenberg, who attended an open meeting with public officials on the Island Wednesday night, said that in dealing with politicians "the issues frequently get clouded over."

Since the Feb. 10 disaster, the local CULA chapter has conducted petition drives in the St. George ferry terminal and last weekend conducted a motorcade rally around Stater Island. □



and the relatively stable relationships that had formerly prevailed in the world of oil quickly unraveled. So in February 1971, the major oil companies and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries sat down and negotiated an agreement that was supposed to last for five years. Although there were some concessions to the companies, generally it was favorable to the producers. As Fortune magazine described it, "the traumatic confrontations thoroughly demolished the historic balance of power between the big oil corporations and the developing nations that supply 90 percent of the petroleum exports in the non-Communist world." What the producers were hoping for from the agreement has been renegotiated twice in less than two years: compensating the producing countries for the impact the dollar's devaluation has had on the value of their royalties.

This was the atmosphere when a major confrontation between Iraq and the international oil companies' Iraqi subsidiary, the Iraq Petroleum Company (IPC), began to develop in the spring of 1972. Actually, the conflict dated back to 1961, when Iraq nationalized the rich North Rumaila oil fields, for which IPC held a concession, but

which were not yet in production. Thanks to the technical and economic help of the USSR, Iraq was able to develop those fields on its own; in April 1972, Soviet Premier Kosygin visited Iraq, witnessed the first oil being pumped from North Rumaila, and signed a barter agreement that will enable Iraq to repay the Soviet \$200 million development costs with shipments of oil rather than hard currency.

IPC retaliated by reducing oil exports from Iraq by 50 percent during April and May. It also attempted to force a 35 percent cut in the prices negotiated in the Teheran agreement.

But Iraq in 1972 couldn't be isolated the way Iran had been in 1951. Rather than crumble before this economic onslaught, the Iraqi government went on the offensive. Iraq nationalized the rest of the IPC holdings, which produced 65 percent of Iraqi oil in 1971. The Syrian government followed by nationalizing IPC's pipeline running through their country.

The New York Times warned the next day: "The seizure of the Iraq Petroleum Company by the Iraqi and Syrian governments Thursday has the potential to become

(Continued on page 12)

First conquest of workers' power

By VICTOR BESSON

The frustrated efforts of the French left to take power through parliamentary means have many precedents among the discarded paths trod by workers in our forward march to Communism.

But it was our working class experience in France that led Marx and Engels to draw the conclusion that this path must be discarded and to insert their judgment into a preface of the already historical Communist Manifesto. On June 24, 1872, Marx and Engels wrote, "...one thing especially was proved by the Commune, viz., that the working class cannot simply lay hold of the ready-made state machinery and wield it for its own purposes!"

And in a letter to Ludwig Kugelmann dated April 12, 1871, while the workers of Paris held power, Marx wrote, "...I declare that the next attempt of the French Revolution will be no longer as before, to transfer the bureaucratic-military machine from one hand to another, but to SMASH it (Marx's emphasis)... and this is what our heroic Party Comrades in Paris are attempting."

The workers of Montmartre and Belleville (working class districts of Paris) had sparked many attempts to take power. In 1830, workers and students fought the cops for three days. Another uprising took place in 1837. War raged for five days in 1848, between the rulers and the workers, and the resolution of the issue swayed with the battles. The heavily armed bourgeoisie, terrified yet frothing with rage, killed mercilessly the people who tried to seize control of their own destiny.

Justice, although it is a significant element in the morale of the combatants, does not decide the issue. Historically, the issue has been decided by the power of the gun and the readiness to use that power when necessary.

But on March 18, 1871, the conditions were different. The workers had climbed the steps of several successful strikes. Seventy thousand Parisian workers belonged to the First International with its proclaimed platform of working class revolution. Most important of all, the workers stood with their feet wide and firmly planted and in their hands—a rifle. They had been given the rifles to defend the city from the militarily victorious Germans, who stood threateningly outside the gates of Paris. Mild-mannered, professorial, class-

conscious (the other class) Adolph Thiers (murderer of hundreds of thousands of Parisian workers), who was the head of the French government, knew the enemy when he saw it. He decided that the threat of armed workers organized into a National Guard with a democratically elected Central Committee was far more dangerous than a German army on French soil.

Although Thiers, safely ensconced outside of Paris in Versailles, had appointed a general and his staff to govern Paris, the Central Committee of the National Guard, supported by the people, was functioning as the administration in Paris.

Thiers' problem was to get the guns of the workers (who refused to give them up) using an army of workers. His commanders warned; the soldiers could not be trusted to attack their fellow Frenchmen. Theft, the time-tested tactic of the bourgeoisie, was the logical answer. The guns were to be stolen between 3 and 4 a.m. on the morning of March 18 while the people still slept.

On a terribly cold morning Thiers' troops slipped into Paris and surrounded the unguarded gun emplacements. Muffled, horse-drawn carriages were to pass by at 4 a.m. and pick up all the guns. They didn't show. As the light of morning filtered through the dark of night, early risers saw what was happening and spread the alarm. Louise Michel ran down the hill of Montmartre warning the people of treachery.

People at various stages of dress came out of their buildings and began crowding around the troops and the guns. General

Lecomte (Thiers' man) came galloping up to one of the growing crowds. He ordered his men to fire at the friendly crowd. Silence. Standing up in his stirrups, he again commanded his men to fire.

As the silence spread, the tension deepened. Both became unbearable.

Suddenly one soldier turned his rifle butt into the air. In an instant the other soldiers turned their butts into the air. The crowd cheered wildly and dragged the general down from his horse. Had some people not pulled him away, he would have been killed by the angry crowd. The incident produced a qualitative change in the situation.

That morning the Central Committee issued a statement reflecting the new situation. "The Proletarians of Paris, amidst the failures and treasons of the ruling classes have understood that the hour has struck... they have understood that it is their imperious duty and their absolute right to render themselves masters of their own destiny, by seizing upon the governmental power."

The tricolor of the Republic was taken down and the Red Flag of Revolution was raised. The surge of pent-up frustration was released in tears and speeches. For the first time in history the working class took power.

Although the followers of Auguste Blanqui (he coined the phrase "Dictatorship of the Proletariat") believed in coming to power through a small armed group, during the Commune when they were in power,

they energetically and conscientiously worked to educate and mobilize the people. And although the followers of Charles Proudhon believed in cooperative control over the distribution of commodities, when they were in power during the Commune they were quite willing to take over the factories of the absentee owners. Although they disagreed with Marx, they discovered when they had power that his methods alone had a chance of success.

And there were successes. Crime and prostitution simply came to a stop. Night work for bakers was eliminated. Governmental representatives of the workers received a worker's wage. In fact, if they lost the confidence of the people, they could immediately be recalled from office. But the Commune could not consolidate its power.

Let the price they paid be noted. Close to 400,000 people were denounced to the police. Fifty thousand were simply shot with their bodies piled against walls. Another 50,000 were arrested and shot after a while. Tens of thousands were exiled.

Much of Paris was burned to the ground. Cooks Tours ran special excursions for English tourists to view the ruins by moonlight. Some tourists complained because the city was no longer smoking.

Many people were buried alive in mass graves.

Some men standing around happened to glance at a rubble-covered street and noticed a hand struggling up through the dirt and sand. When it was free up to the arm, the fingers clenched into a fist of defiance. Thereafter, whenever workers wanted to keep the spirit of the Commune alive they would repeat that gesture of the clenched fist.

We still do today—all over the world.

There were many reasons for the defeat of the Commune. One of the main reasons was that time and energy, instead of being spent smashing the growing counter-revolution, were used to legitimize (according to bourgeois legitimacy) their seizure of power through elections. Another was their failure to seize the Bank of France which would have given them money and prestige with which to conduct their affairs.

The lessons of the Paris Commune, studied and learned by the Bolsheviks, enabled them to make a successful revolution. Lenin called the Paris Commune "...the embryo of Soviet Power." Leon Trotsky had this to say: "We can thumb through the whole history of the Commune, page by page, and we will find in it one simple lesson: a strong Party leadership is needed."

Remember March 18, 1871. Long live the Paris Commune!

Long Live the Multinational Working Class Party! □

won by Chicanas, the wives and children of the mine workers.

WOMEN'S DEMONSTRATION

In Rochester, New York, YAWF Women participated in a demonstration to commemorate International Women's Day. About 50 women gathered at the Liberty Pole, then marched to a large department store where the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America (ACWA) has been picketing against the sale of Farah slacks. (Chicana women in Texas are striking against the rotten pay and working conditions at Farah.) Fern Mindlin, of the Center for United Labor Action and ACWA, spoke about how the Farah strike is part of the women's struggle.

These militant women then marched to the County Office Building. Here Staffie English, from Welfare Rights, denounced Nixon's welfare budget cuts. They ended the demonstration by marching to the County Jail, where Kathy Diggs, who works with the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and J.D. Wilson Defense Fund, talked about women in prison.

On March 16, YAWF Women in Washington, D.C., will hold a workshop on women in prisons.

All over the country, women of YAWF pledged themselves to fight for the rights of women as a crucial part of the class struggle. □



The revolutionary people of the Paris Commune protect their guns from the police and Thiers' soldiers.

trade unions. Women told of the heroic struggles of Black, Chicana, Puerto Rican, and Native American women, the life of Clara Zetkin, and the meaning of women's liberation from a Marxist perspective. Also included in the program was a history of YAWF Women since its formation in 1970.

In Chicago and New York City, YAWF Women's forums were concerned with women and marriage under different social systems. In New York, 75 women heard a panel discussion on the history of women's oppression, beginning with the rise of private property and the system of slavery. They spoke of the great freedom women

enjoyed in relationships under primitive communism. They described the brutal and degrading treatment of Black women under slavery and the many ways in which the socialist system is laying the material basis for the complete emancipation of women. It was emphasized how the socialist countries have already far outstripped the so-called enlightened capitalist countries in legislation, abortion rights, daycare, education, and job opportunities for women.

YAWF Women in Houston, Texas, showed the film "Salt of the Earth." This moving film tells the true story of a mining strike in the Southwest that was fought and



On March 9, New York YAWF Women celebrated International Women's Day with an open forum on women and marriage under the various social systems.

International Women's Day celebrated

By JOYCE BETRIES

March 8, International Women's Day, is a very special day for revolutionary women. All over the world, it is the day we celebrate our strengths as women and our history and renew ourselves for the struggles to come. In commemoration of this day, the Women's Caucus of Youth Against War & Fascism held special activities around the country.

WOMEN'S FORUMS

Buffalo, New York, was the site of a forum held by YAWF Women. Over 40 women and men listened as four women explained the history of International Women's Day and spoke about women in the

McGovern nixes Vietnam reparations

Only last November, many liberals, progressives, and even radicals in this country were calling for the election of George McGovern, claiming that he would end the Vietnam war, while Nixon would prolong it endlessly. Believing that major decisions like war or peace can be decided by the election of one presidential candidate as opposed to another, many of the people who advocated the election of McGovern meant well, but failed to understand that it is the capitalist ruling class as a whole, and not individual politicians, who set the global policies of U.S. imperialism.

Of course, as everybody now knows, Nixon signed the peace treaty that McGovern had claimed only he would sign. Naturally Nixon did not sign out of any peace-loving intentions, but because the U.S. had simply been defeated in Vietnam, a defeat which McGovern openly admitted before the presidential elections.

Since McGovern based his whole demagogic campaign on ending the war (his domestic program consisted of supporting Nixon's brutal wage freeze and promising to "clean up the welfare mess"), you would expect that he and the other liberal politicians who said they opposed the war would now be in the forefront of those fighting to make Nixon live up to the Paris accords and pay reparations to the people of Indochina he so brutally slaughtered.

But never underestimate how low a capitalist liberal can sink. Only last October 10, McGovern said in a televised

campaign address that the "United States must join with other countries in repairing the wreckage left by this war."

Today McGovern has changed his tune, saying he "cannot be at all sympathetic now to any proposal for direct U.S. aid to North Vietnam. If we cannot police the world alone, neither can we put it right by our-

selves."

So much for his self-proclaimed sympathy for the victims of Wall Street's aggression. He only regrets that the U.S. can no longer "police the world alone." Other phony liberal politicians, who only a few weeks ago were beating their breasts in sorrow for the Vietnamese while asking for



Buildings in North Vietnam devastated by U.S. bombs.

money for their reelection campaigns, have joined McGovern in opposing reparations.

Mayor John Lindsay of New York City, Senators Proxmire, Mansfield, and others who passed themselves off as "leaders" of the anti-war movement have joined Goldwater, Buckley, and other fascist-minded politicians in calling for the U.S. to deny reparations to the Vietnamese people—reparations which are mandated by the Paris treaty.

Lindsay hypocritically complains, "We should not give money to Hanoi while the cities of the U.S. deteriorate," when he knows perfectly well that the cities of America have been decaying for a long time because funds for social services have been and are still being, diverted to the Pentagon warmakers.

Their callous attitude toward the Vietnamese and American peoples shows that, fundamentally, there is no difference between an Agnew and a Lindsay, a Nixon and a McGovern.

The U.S. dropped the equivalent of 600 Hiroshima bombs on Indochina, killing and wounding 6,000,000 men, women, and children. This bombing still goes on today in Cambodia.

The reparations that the Paris peace accords call for can never repair the broken homes and lives of the Vietnamese people. They will undertake that task themselves without any "guidance" from the U.S. war criminals who attacked them.

Nevertheless, the U.S. must live up to its signed obligation to give some material reparations to its victims, just as the defeated German capitalists were forced after World War II to give some compensation to those millions they had so monstrously oppressed. □

A P.S. to the polemic on the treaty

The SWP consumes a page and a quarter of its March 16 Militant rehashing its opposition to the Vietnam Treaty of January 27. In the light of all the outrageous U.S.-Saigon violations of that treaty, the SWP apparently thinks it now has a better case than ever.

The title of the article is "Out Now vs. Honor the Agreement." And that just about tells their story.

The idea is that the friends of the Vietnamese who are trying to make the U.S. honor its commitments are against getting the U.S. out of Southeast Asia altogether, whereas the SWP is the only force now fighting for that end.

For the Vietnamese or anyone else to call for "honoring" the treaty, say the sterling SWP revolutionaries, would be to honor the U.S. presence in Southeast Asia. But that is absurd.

The idea is to make the United States honor the treaty and submit to the liberation forces' rule of the freed territories. Everyone who reads the papers ought to be able to see that. Even the SWP must be able to see it.

Naturally it is right for the U.S. anti-war movement to insist that the U.S. get all the way out. But there is also a question of how to apply pressure of any kind in the United States to do this.

The demand that the United States honor the treaty is simply a demand that the imperialists live up to their commitments.

The U.S. has complied with some of the provisions of the treaty, such as ground troop removals, but by no means all.

The idea of demanding that they comply with the other provisions has the advantage of being a demand that very large masses of people can understand and one with which they might easily sympathize.

That, by the way, is exactly why the

U.S. imperialist news media tries to becloud and befuddle the issue and pretend that the "other side" is not honoring the treaty. It is well engrained in most people's minds that the U.S. government should live up to its treaties. The imperialists must avoid even the suspicion that they are not doing so.

Surely that is not too hard to understand, and surely in calling upon Washington to live up to its word on stopping its attacks against the Vietnamese, we don't have to give up the struggle to get the U.S. war machine out of Indochina — and out of the rest of Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and the United States, too!

We would take the SWP's fulminations on this big question more seriously, of course, if it showed any signs of fighting the U.S. war machine in the United States.

Even its purely verbal positions on the anti-imperialist movement at home and abroad have often conciliated with the ruling class. This is particularly true in cases involving the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China.

The SWP's positions on the rightwing Soviet intellectuals, the Chinese Cultural Revolution, the 50-megaton H-bomb, the China-India border conflict, the Hungarian and Czechoslovakian counter-revolutions, the 20th Congress of the Soviet CP, and a host of more subtle issues all involved the SWP's capitulation to its own bourgeoisie, that is, its left-handed support of U.S. imperialism.

The SWP's call for "Out Now," as opposed to demanding that the U.S. live up to its treaty obligation, is thus a suspicious business, at the very least. It should not be viewed as a mere mistake in logic or as a well-intentioned but brainless desire to be super militant.

On the contrary, it must be viewed as a piece of demagoguery closely connected with their participation in a middle class peace movement called NPAC. Their "out now" stand is not contradictory to, but flows from, the fact that they blocked repeatedly with fraudulent imperialist "peace" politicians in the U.S.

It is also a vote of "no confidence" in the Vietnamese leadership. Thus we cannot take their leftist phrasemongering seriously — especially when the "opposition" the SWP supports in the Soviet Union has been far more conciliatory to the U.S. and its imperialist crimes than even the already conciliatory Soviet leaders. □

Rochester to try foes of Viet harbor mining

ROCHESTER—On May 11, 1972, in the massive upheaval of public outrage against Nixon's mining of north Vietnamese harbors, a demonstration in support of the Vietnamese was called in this city by Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF). A rally organized by several local anti-war groups drew about 500 people and was followed by a march of about 250 led by YAWF.

The government was so anxious to crush public protest against their imperialist policies that they had the police force attack the legal demonstration in the middle of the downtown shopping district. Twenty-three people were arrested; three demonstrators and two cops were hospitalized.

So great was the public reaction to this brutal attack that when a grand jury investigation was called, over 100 people volunteered as witnesses for the defense. The victims of the attack filed charges

against the police, and the department was forced to fire one cop, James P. Riley, a few weeks later.

The government was forced to dismiss the charges against most of those arrested, but a few still face trial. On March 21, Robert Conklin, a 21-year-old worker at the Gleason Works plant here, will go on trial. Conklin, who is accused of assaulting a cop (cutting his lip), denies the charge. His plea of innocence was corroborated by a report in a local daily paper. It ran a story the next day in which witnesses are quoted as saying they heard the cop admit to accidentally clubbing himself!

Several of the other defendants are well-known movement leaders, singled out for attack by the police. These include Wayne Bonekemper, who spent 15 months in prison for destroying draft files in Rochester, Kathy Kramer of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, and Brian Curran of YAWF. Bonekemper and Curran received head wounds, each requiring nine stitches, and another defendant, Brian Becker, a factory worker, was treated for a cut lip.

YAWF intends to fight these frameups with a militant defense. Activities are being organized to publicize the facts, to build support, and expose the cops as tools of the rich and corrupt. Most important of all, the defendants are continuing to fight against U.S. imperialism and defend liberation struggles around the world. □



A NEW PAMPHLET NOW AVAILABLE FROM WORLD VIEW PUBLISHERS:

CHINA the struggle within

This pamphlet consists of articles that have appeared in the pages of Workers World newspaper over the last 13 years, most written by Sam Marcy, Chairman of Workers World Party.

ORDER FROM: World View Publishers 46 W. 21 St., New York, N.Y. 10010 \$1.00

Chicana reports on women's conference

The following article was written by a Chicana in the Raza Unida Party, who attended the National Women's Political Caucus in Houston recently.

By GLORIA GUARDIOLA

HOUSTON—Entering the Rice Hotel on February 8 to register for the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC) Convention, I was filled with mixed emotions as to how this affair would affect me, not only in terms of being a woman, but also as a Chicana. The registration lobby was filled with women, all white, all seemingly middle class liberals whose interests were purported to lie in the struggle for the liberation of women.

To Chicanas from Houston who participated in the Chicana caucus, there was no preexisting sense of unity or organization. All of us had heard there was to be a Chicana caucus meeting on Thursday night. The beauty of our initial meeting was that we all came together for a common objective, to put forth the issues which oppress Chicanas and the Chicano community, without any internal hassles.

On Friday night, resolutions were made

and we all participated in the writing of these resolutions, which included the following: recognition of Raza Unida as a viable third political party within the NWPC; support for the Chicano Welfare Rights Organization's efforts to fight the Talmadge Amendment in California, which forces women on welfare to apply for work, thus breaking up an already deteriorating family structure; support for the lettuce boycott and the Farah strikers; the need for establishing bicultural, bilingual childcare centers; greater participation of Chicanas in colleges and universities; and, most important, the establishment of state Chicana caucuses to be recognized by the NWPC.

OPPOSE CHICANA CAUCUS

The presence of a unified Chicana caucus began to be felt Saturday by the rest of the participants, especially by the Texas delegation. There was no overt hostility until Marta Cotera, voting delegate from Crystal City, presented the resolution calling for the right of Chicanas to establish

separate caucuses within their respective states. At that point, the white liberals lost their cool and gave full vent to their suppressed racial antagonisms. Many wild-eyed women opposed the resolution on the basis that it would set a precedent for other "minor" groups to start organizing.

We were accused of being racists and separatists; we were a "Chicana backlash"; we did not want to cooperate with our white "sisters" who were working so hard for our cause! We had not paid our full fees, so how could we participate? To sum it up we had destroyed the illusion that Texas provided a solid, unified front before the eyes of the nation. We had dared to probe beneath the scab and exposed a festering sore of racism in this giant, Bluebonnet state.

Sunday morning, the Chicana caucus had earned enough fear and respect to merit an "audience" with Sissy Farenthold, candidate for national chairperson. In meeting with Farenthold, we found her to be very defensive about her position of not supporting Raza Unida. And when questioned as to what she as chairperson

would do for us as women and as Chicanas, she replied, "I don't know."

When it became clear that Chicanas were not supporting Sissy Farenthold, we were besieged by followers of the "Superstar Clique," including Ms. Superstar herself, Gloria Steinem. She presented an eloquent plea for our support, insisting that she understood our problems. However, she declared if we could not bring ourselves to vote for Sissy, we should not vote at all. For over 300 years we have been struggling to get a vote and make our power felt, and now we are being asked not to vote! Seeing that her entreaties were falling on deaf ears, Ms. Steinem's parting words were, "If you don't know who your enemies are now, you will!"

What people like Gloria Steinem don't realize is that we have always known our enemy: it is people like her who don't recognize the enemy, because they are the instruments of the enemy.

My final analysis of the whole convention was that the majority of white women who are in the women's movement still need a lot more politicization, especially in the area of economic oppression caused by a capitalist system. The participation of Chicanas was very admirable, because this was the second time Chicanas have gotten together and worked for common goals, in spite of our differing ideology. We know our oppression and we recognize the need for a united front in our liberation struggle. □



GAA member Jim Owles after vicious attack by Michael Maye and other Inner Circle members last year.

Chicago gays battle racism and win!

Special to Workers World from the Chicago Gay Caucus of YAWF

CHICAGO, Feb. 16—The racist policies of PQ's, a well-known gay bar in this city, were protested last night by both gay and straight people. Organized by University of Chicago Gay Liberation, a picket line was set up outside the bar at about 10:30 p.m. While gays negotiated their demands inside, the protesters braved subzero weather and ankle-deep slush to maintain the picket line for over two hours.

The demands of the negotiators aimed directly at PQ's racist ID checks (five IDs are required for proof of age) enforced only against Black people. The first demand was for an immediate end to discrimination against Black people. The second demand was that the maximum number of IDs required be dropped to two. The third demand was for a Black person to be hired to check IDs at the door.

In the meantime, during the negotiations, the demonstrators had been chanting "Hey, hey, Ho, ho, PQ's racist policies got to go." This loud and insistent chant prompted the owners to call the cops, who had no trouble finding PQ's. Why should they? Along with their bulging paunches, cops fatten their billfolds overnight on the "take" from bars up and down Chicago's Clark Street.

The presence of cops, who repeatedly raid gay bars and brutalize homosexuals, in

no way intimidated the protesters. The picketline continued throughout the negotiations. A number of gays, attracted by a banner reading "Fight back! Smash racism and gay oppression," signed by the Gay Caucus of YAWF, joined the picket line, refusing to enter a bar that discriminated against their Black sisters and brothers.

By 12:30 a.m. the negotiators had wrung a concession from PQ's owners! The first and third demands had been agreed to. Although the owners acknowledged the second demand was discriminatory, they claimed it was necessary to keep out drunks and straights who wanted to harass gay customers. If this were true, why would the requirement for five IDs be used only against Black people? But they did agree that the Black person hired to check IDs could be chosen by the gays involved in the protest. However, before leaving the bar, the negotiators warned the owners that if their racist policies continued, the gay protesters and their supporters would be back, stronger than ever.

Gays uniting in a deliberate action to fight racism for the first time here made this action a significant struggle for the gay community at large. The demonstration showed in no uncertain terms that gays will fight not only against the institutions that oppress them, but against all the vicious forms of racism directed at Black and Third World people, gay or straight!!

Demo of 500 fights gay oppression

By BOB McCUBBIN

NEW YORK, March 3—The Inner Circle dinner is an annual extravaganza for some of the biggest pigs in New York City. You need not be a billionaire to get in, but you must have sold your soul, lock, stock, and barrel, to the interests of the capitalist class. So it happens that many New York area politicians and the "important people" of the local broadcasting and newspaper industries get together once a year to celebrate their common commitment to the maintenance of capitalist exploitation and oppression.

A fundamental part of the yearly ritual is a series of skits designed to reaffirm imperialist values, including sexist attitudes. At last year's banquet on April 15, this took the form of a skit ridiculing and demeaning homosexuals. Members of the Gay Activists Alliance (GAA), recuperating from a day-long trek to Albany and back where they had demonstrated for gay rights, got wind of the antihomosexual performance and, despite their fatigue, 20 members went uptown to the dinner, being held at the Hilton Hotel, to protest with leaflets.

The reaction of the diners was typical. Several gays were thrown down an

escalator. Others were knocked to the floor, then stomped. Michael Maye, as head of the New York Firemen's Union and a former gay bar bouncer, was singled out as a leader of the attack, but he was not alone. Predictably, though indicted on a city ordinance violation (not even a misdemeanor!) for the attack, he was acquitted.

But New York City's gay community has not forgotten the incident. Tonight, encouraged by extensive publicity generated by the GAA and a leaflet issued by the Gay Caucus of Youth Against War & Fascism, over 500 people gathered to demonstrate outside the 1973 Inner Circle dinner. While the pigs dined inside, hostile picketers ringed the Hilton on three sides. In addition to the many gay organizations present, a delegation of gay and straight members of Youth Against War & Fascism was present carrying placards and a large lavender banner which read, "Stonewall means fight back! Smash gay oppression!" Also present were members of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) carrying a banner urging support for Intro 475 (a gay rights bill) and for SWP political candidates. As usual, the SWP lost no time in attempting to derail this militant action into the confines of electoral maneuvering. □

— Chile

(Continued from page 7)

activities of the MIR. The MIR gave critical support to UP candidates, but has all along, since Allende's election, warned that the Chilean bourgeoisie will never yield peacefully. The MIR believes in the inevitable armed struggle of Chile's workers and peasants, not only to win the socialist revolution, but even to save the present Allende regime. Back in 1970, the MIR called for a People's Assembly. They have also advocated the retention of all forms of organization developed by Chilean workers and peasants during the October crisis, which, as has been said, were dismantled by Allende.

The MIR organized the Revolutionary Peasant Movement (MCR) in the countryside during the Frei regime. Since Allende's election in 1970, the MCR has

seized land for landless peasants and homeless squatters, moving far beyond the legal bourgeois limits observed by the UP government. The MCR has occupied more than 50 farms covering some 50,000 acres of land. Consequently, many of the super-oppressed Mapuche Indians have also joined the MCR. The MIR is very strong in the student movement as well, and it has made significant inroads into the labor movement by winning several union elections.

Along with the leftwing of the PS (accused by the revisionist PC of "courting the MIR") and two other parties in the UP, the MIR constitutes a real revolutionary threat to capitalist and imperialist reaction—while Allende and the Chilean Communist Party must eventually decide on whether to continue to rely on Chile's capitalist armed forces or turn to the revolutionary masses.

Honored by Detroit's Black community

By DIANE BUKOWSKI

DETROIT, March 7—A saddened and angry crowd of approximately 400 Black citizens packed a funeral home here on March 3, to pay a final tribute to Ibo, previously known as Mark Clyde Bethune. His funeral came fast on the heels of a similarly militant service for John Percy Boyd held earlier in the week in Alabama.

Today 600 Detroit Blacks rallied to hear Boyd's sister Melba and speakers from the Coalition to Abolish STRESS, the Republic of New Africa, and other militant Black groups eulogize the two brothers.

Bethune and Boyd were two of the three men accused in the December shootings of several Detroit STRESS (Stop the Robberies, Enjoy Safe Streets) police, which resulted in the death of one cop. A massive manhunt followed, ranging throughout the Black neighborhoods of Detroit and resulting in the deaths of at least five Black citizens, along with hundreds of complaints concerning police brutality.

POLICE EXECUTIONS DENOUNCED

Bethune and Boyd were gunned down by police in Atlanta, Georgia, during the last week of February. Regarding the circumstances surrounding their deaths, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee of Detroit issued a press release which read in part:

"The PSC cannot believe the ludicrous stories advanced by Atlanta police to explain the deaths of John Percy Boyd and Mark Clyde Bethune. The story that one policeman, following up on a report of a stolen bicycle, single-handedly disarmed

and killed Boyd and his half-brother, Owen Winfield, and that Bethune was supposedly found dead of suicide only the following day, vividly recalls the statements of their families at the January 18 City Council hearing on STRESS.

"There, Boyd's mother, sister, and others expressed their conviction that Boyd, Bethune, and Hayward Brown would be as good as dead if the police ever did catch up with them."

Despite efforts by the capitalist media to depict Boyd and Bethune as "mad dog killers," it was evident from the eulogies at Bethune's funeral that Detroit's Black community regards them as heroes who "gave their lives for their people," as Chokwe Lumumba of the RNA stated.

Attorney Kenneth Cockrel elaborated, "What happened December 4 (the day of the first STRESS shootings), is that a force inside of this community (STRESS), which has murdered our children, found themselves up against some brothers who were not going to allow any more of this to take place." He went on to state that the Black community would not allow the memories of Boyd and Bethune to die, nor would they allow Hayward Brown, presently in custody, "to rot in some prison."

3 FOUGHT AGAINST DOPE

It is now well known in Detroit that Boyd, Bethune, and Brown were dedicated members of a militant anti-dope organization which sought to eliminate the heroin scourge from the Black community. Mark Bethune was a Black revolutionary with a particularly long record of political

activism—from his high school days with the Association of Black Students, to his later participation in the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, the Detroit chapter of the Black Panther Party (which he helped form), and the All-African People's Party.

According to friends of the three brothers, the shootings of the STRESS officers were, in fact, a justified defense of the Black community. The history of Detroit's STRESS unit is one of wholesale slaughter of Black citizens, frequently directed at teenagers; the role of Detroit's police in the dope traffic is also no secret. Twenty-five

Detroit cops were recently indicted on drug-related charges.

Meanwhile, the massive movement in Detroit's Black community to abolish STRESS continues at a growing pace. Over 100 people recently picketed the main police headquarters shouting "End STRESS Now." The demonstration was called by the Coalition to Abolish STRESS specifically to protest the recent beating death of Robert Slaughter, a young Black man accused of wounding a policeman last February 9. Slaughter died of severe head wounds 9 days after his capture—the police said he "resisted arrest" and "had to be subdued."

Several other anti-STRESS picket lines have also been held outside the police headquarters and in front of the Federal Building. In addition, the Coalition to Abolish STRESS is planning a mass rally for this April, at around the time that the City Council meets to decide on funding for next year. □

The new voice of authority

Greater accuracy than other makes (6 lands and grooves instead of 5)

New barrel for greater holding stability (More weight in the front end)

Six-shot cylinder (Some makes have five)

Full streamlining for fast, slick draw (Feel and balance best of any short-barreled revolver)

Full ejector rod shroud for full protection (Streamlined silhouette)

Longer ejector rod stroke for positive ejection (No binding or hanging-up of empty cases)

New combat grips for better control under recoil (Full-contour with built-in grip adapter)

The all-new Detective Special .38, with 2 inch barrel. 23 ounces light, with the features you want in a concealable gun. For all the details, stop in at your nearby Colt's Registered Dealer or write Colt's Firearms Marketing Division, Hartford, Conn. 06102.

Colt Industries **Firearms Marketing Division**

For Dealer Service Information See Ad Index. LAW & ORDER • DECEMBER 1972

Police terror in Milwaukee reaps whirlwind of Black anger

MILWAUKEE—On the night of January 31, two white policemen were killed in Milwaukee's Black community. Almost immediately 100 cops were rushed to the scene (some with shotguns), and it became a night of police terror for inhabitants of the neighborhood. Scores of houses were broken into, all without any search warrants. At least 12 people were arrested that night and later released, after efforts to pin the shootings on them proved fruitless.

The death of these two cops evoked little sympathy in the Black community. People remembered the countless beatings, humiliations, and police violence in Milwaukee's Black community as well as elsewhere in the country. Just last year a young Black woman, Jackie Ford, was shot through the heart by a cop who said he did this accidentally as he tripped on a flight of stairs. With the policeman who murdered Jackie Ford was Patrolman Hempel, one of the two cops just killed.

As the press release issued by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee on the shooting of these two cops said, it was a case of "As ye sow, so shall ye reap."

This police terrorism must be seen in the light of national events—above all, Nixon's new reactionary budget cuts directed against the poor. On the one hand, Nixon is handing all working people (but particularly Black, Latin, Native American, all other national minority groups, and veterans) a raw deal, which cuts virtually every social program while increasing the "peace time" military budget by another \$4 billion. His recent devaluation of the dollar, making imported goods cost more, is a virtual wage cut for all who work. But at the same time Nixon forces the people to defend their standard of living, he simultaneously gives support to the most reactionary strata of the country, the police, by his support of

the various "law and order bills" in Congress. Nixon thus tips off the police and the hanging judges that he will back their racist and terrorist acts.

To paraphrase Huey Newton, for Nixon's reaction, the people will have their own revolutionary action. Already, individuals have used their own methods in combating this reaction. The results can be seen in New York, New Orleans, and Milwaukee, where some cops are now lying stiff and cold, in effect repaid by their constituents for their brutality. But what is needed, and what we can already see the beginning of, is a struggle of the broad masses against Nixon and the ruling class he represents.

The political situation in Milwaukee's Black community has changed remarkably since the shooting of the two cops. The concentrated police terrorism that night (which is continuing on a lesser scale) has sparked a universal demand from the Black community to control its own police.

The most dramatic response has been a call for a march on City Hall demanding that Mayor Maier oust Police Chief Brier. This call was made by a "Show of Solidarity" Committee, a group formed after the new police terrorism. It is composed of over 60 organizations and its leadership consists mostly of Black political figures, including two county supervisors, two aldermen, two state assemblymen, and one state senator. This march was later called off, but the community is smoldering, waiting for more militant leadership.

The reason that the Black community has not taken any more action in response to the police is that almost all the progressive organizations in the community have been smashed by the police, working under the direction of Mayor Maier.

From "Law and Order," the police journal. Over 50 years ago Lenin wrote, "The essence of the capitalist state is organized violence."

Several members of the Black Panther Party were arrested in the fall of 1969, before it was disbanded. The National Committee to Combat Fascism tried to carry on the work, but the frameup of the Milwaukee 3 on phony charges of attempted murder of a cop, for which they are serving 10- to 30-year terms, effectively stopped them.

The Republic of New Africa had its office raided. The NAACP Youth Council, which led 200 nights of marches in 1967 for an open housing ordinance, is no more. The People's Committee for Survival, an activist group that has set up a free busing to prison program as well as a free breakfast program, is currently under police attack.

A polarization is occurring in Milwaukee. While the Black community is gathering strength and demanding that racist cops must go, all the racist scum are being attracted to Judge Seraphim, known in Milwaukee as the most racist judge.

Seraphim is using the issue of the two dead cops in his campaign for a new judicial post. Since this judgeship is the only one in the county with the power to authorize wiretaps and to call grand juries, there is

opposition, even from bourgeois liberals, to a madman like Seraphim.

When the police finally got someone to pin the cops' deaths on, it was Seraphim who set bail at an outrageous \$200,000. The defendant, Ben Sanders, has already been virtually convicted in the newspapers with shrill headlines, sob stories about the cops' families, and every other Hearst-like journalistic device.

In the wake of all this, there have been other racist moves in the state. A bill was introduced in the state senate for a mandatory death sentence for the killing of policemen—in a state where the last execution was in 1852.

This polarization in Milwaukee has essentially pitted the Black community alone against the white racists, who are entrenched in their positions of power. Nixon wants this division to remain, in order to push all reactionary legislation under the fog of white chauvinism. But his recent acts ultimately affect all working people, and it is the duty of all progressive people to cut through that racist fog with the beacon of working class solidarity. | |

U.S. election laws and the "peaceful road"

By VINCE COPELAND

The U.S. Supreme Court has just permitted the state of Virginia to maintain its lopsided districting within the state legislature.

This electoral districting is set up so that some districts have 16 percent more population than others, while they each get one representative in the state assembly. This openly flouts the previous Supreme Court ruling (during the Warren period) that states must hew to a "one-person, one-vote" system in their internal elections.

Leaving aside the far more outrageous intimidation of millions of voters (especially Black ones), the lynchings, threatened lynchings of the past and present, the poll taxes, etc., this formal violation of democracy is still an important one.

But districting within states is very mild, indeed, compared to the violations where the political parties are more sharply opposed to one another and where there are class interests immediately at stake.

In France, for instance, a deputy (roughly like a U.S. Congressman) can be elected in some pro-Gaullist districts by one-fourth the number of people that it would take in a pro-Communist district.

That is why the tremendous Communist vote in France last week could only unseat a few Gaullist deputies.

And in Britain, many a Conservative

can be elected to Parliament by half or less than half of the people who elect a Labor MP. (This is due to the "rotten borough" system, which, though deodorized in recent years, has still not been entirely sterilized.)

But apportionment for the United States Senate is worst of all. (Its representation rules were made during a sharp faction fight between two sections of the ruling class—slaveholders and capitalists.)

Six hundred thousand people in Delaware are "represented" by two U.S. Senators. And 18 million people in New York State are also "represented" by two Senators.

And the U.S. Constitution explicitly provides that this rule cannot be amended.

Naturally, big business tells the Senators of both states what to do anyway, and the voters have nothing very much to say about it. So the extremely undemocratic Senatorial setup doesn't make much difference—now.

But just suppose the great majority of the people of New York State should support communism—as they undoubtedly will in the future. And suppose the capitalists were able for a time to continue bamboozling the majority of the people in Delaware.

In that case, one vote for capitalism in Delaware would equal 30 votes for communism in New York.

—Doesn't sound so hopeful for the "peaceful road to socialism," does it? □

publications available from world view publishers

46 West 21st Street, NYC 10010



PUBLICATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT MIDDLE EAST LIBERATION

China: the Struggle Within by Sam Marcy	\$1.00
Indonesia—Second greatest crime of the century by Deirdre Griswold	75 cents
Albizu Campos and the Ponce Massacre by Juan Antonio Corretjer	25 cents
Counter Revolution in Czechoslovakia by Sam Marcy	50 cents
The Crime of Martin Sostre (published by McGraw-Hill) by Vincent Copeland	\$1.95
Feminism and Marxism by Dorothy Ballan	\$1.00
Expanding Empire by Vincent Copeland	75 cents
Israel: Base of Western Imperialism by Abdel-Wahab el Messiri	35 cents
War in the Mid East by Rita Freed	\$1.00
An Israeli Worker's Answer by Mike Rubin	35 cents
Up Against the Brass (published by Simon & Schuster) by Andy Stapp	\$1.95
The Bond—monthly paper of the American Servicemen's Union	10 cents
Prisoners Call Out, Freedom	\$1.00
Organizing in the Prisons	25 cents
United Labor Action—monthly paper of the Center for United Labor Action	25 cents
Working Women—Our Stories and Struggles	25 cents
Battle Acts	25 cents

PUBLICATIONS OF THE AMERICAN SERVICEMEN'S UNION

PUBLICATIONS OF THE PRISONERS SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE

Also available—

From the Center for United Labor Action, 167 West 21 St., NYC 10010

From YAWF Women's Caucus
46 West 21 St., NYC 10010

Largest nonunion hospital cracks; workers vote in 1199

By a worker at the medical center

NEW YORK—The workers at Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital won a major victory here on March 1, when they voted for Local 1199, Drug and Hospital Workers Union, in a union representational election which the hospital administration had tried its hardest to prevent. Now the 1,500 mostly Black and Latin service workers, who do the hardest and dirtiest work in the hospital, are in a position to win a contract and end the long years of the hospital's tyrannical reign.

Until now, the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center was the largest unorganized hospital on the East Coast. The hospital and Columbia University, to which it is tied, are together the second largest slumlord in New York. Their boards of trustees are like an executive committee of the ruling class, with representatives from many of the largest corporations in the country. The size and power of the hospital are only surpassed by its racist, antilabor policies.

The union drive itself started two years ago, when two Black food-service workers were suspended after they protested the latest in a long series of racist provocations by their supervisor. Their coworkers supported them and 33 workers went as a delegation to protest to the administration. The next work day the boss fired all 33 Black and Latin workers by having the cops block their way when they came to work in the morning! While the struggle to have them rehired did not succeed, their supporters still in the hospital became the start of an organizing committee.

The card-signing drive started last summer, and the hospital did all it could to prevent a representational election. But a steadily growing committee that became over 100 strong passed out union literature and spoke to their coworkers until the great majority were convinced, despite the bosses' pressure and propaganda, that the union was their best chance to turn around the low pay, bad conditions, and racism on the job.

(It was not uncommon for older workers to be called "boy" or "girl" by their supervisor or for workers with more than 20

years on the job to be fired for a tiny infraction or even because the hospital didn't want to pay them their hard-earned pensions.)

ORGANIZERS HARASSED

Even when a large majority of union cards were filed, the hospital (with the cooperation of the labor board) delayed the election as long as possible. Two demonstrations—one by over 700 workers and supporters and one by a committee of 200—in front of the personnel office were necessary to convince the bosses that the workers were serious.

Before the election, several committee members were able to act as an informal grievance committee and prevent the suspension of a worker; several calls had to be made by the union to management, warning them to leave union supporters alone. Even so, one worker was fired for union activity.

The week of the election, union buttons were everywhere and the spirit was high. The polls opened at 6 a.m. but there was a group of about 20 union supporters already waiting for an hour to vote. Throughout the day there was a delegation on the street opposite the polls. After the day shift, the numbers started to swell. By 8 o'clock, when the results were due, the crowd had grown to 200.

A police car pulled up and a cop went inside the polls. He soon escorted out a collection of well-dressed bosses, tucking their heads in and almost running down the side street. Moments later the union poll watchers came out with clenched fists and V-signs.

The vote was 778 for the union and 507 against. A spontaneous victory demonstration broke out and proceeded to the Audubon Ballroom, where a victory party was held. Now the workers are electing a negotiating committee and organizing themselves, through their hard-won union, for the struggle at Presbyterian which is still ahead. □

— "Energy crisis" —

(Continued from page 9)

the greatest crisis in world oil since the nationalization of the Iranian oil industry by Premier Mohammed Mossadegh in the early nineteen-fifties. Unlike in the fifties, however, the Western companies and countries no longer hold all the cards and with the Russian bear now a familiar party in Middle Eastern politics, the semi-gunboat diplomacy of that period would appear out of the question."

The New York Times was right this time. After protracted negotiations, during which Iraq continued selling its oil on the world market, IPC agreed to pay Iraq \$360 million in back taxes and royalties and Iraq agreed to pay IPC \$330 million compensation for the nationalization. So what had started out as an effort by IPC to force Iraq to pay compensation for the nationalization that had taken place a decade ago in North Rumeila ended up with the loss of everything else IPC had in Iraq!

This is the kind of new-found strength among the more progressive oil producing countries that so frightens the U.S. ruling class, and for good reason. The threats of nationalization, of continually rising oil prices, and of significant U.S. dependence on the Mideast for its supplies raise four major specters for U.S. imperialism:

The loss of \$2 or \$3 billion in annual profits for U.S. oil companies.

A lower standard of living in the U.S. due to drastically higher oil prices, which might stimulate the class struggle at home.

Oil imports costing the U.S. balance of payments \$18 to \$24 billion annually by 1980, just at current prices. This compares with an average deficit of only \$8 billion during 1967-71 for the whole balance of payments.

Most dangerous of all, the possibility that an oil stoppage by a few Middle Eastern countries could cripple the U.S. economy rather quickly.

So, for the U.S. ruling class, the energy crisis is a very real thing, even if right now it is only a storm on the horizon. The stakes are monumental. It seems a foregone conclusion that they must sooner or later, before the storm is upon them, launch a military counter-offensive against the nationalist regimes in the Middle East, because they can ill afford a continuation of the present trends.

When this happens, the only way the gains made by the anti-imperialist Arab countries can be protected is for these regimes to unleash the revolutionary energies of the masses—and if that happens, the world capitalist class will have to worry about problems more dangerous than even the energy crisis. □

read WORKERS WORLD

...and help to build one!

Subscription rates—6 mo. only \$2.00; 1 yr. \$4.00

PRISON STRUGGLE NEWS

inside and outside

Norfolk: Aid for C-Cell
Milwaukee: PSC demands community investigation of prison conditions
Trenton: Demo at State House
Richmond: Prisoners force Cunningham to resign
Letters from prisoners

NORFOLK, VA.

March 8—The Prisoners Solidarity Committee (PSC) in Richmond and Norfolk has formed the C-Cell Defense Fund, in response to requests for aid from ten prisoners being illegally held in solitary confinement in the Virginia State Penitentiary.

The Black, Chicano, and Native American prisoners were thrown into solitary confinement in "C" building at the penitentiary in late January. One brother wrote:

"The prison said we were put in C-Block because of fear of inmate rebellion and bloodshed, then changed their story and started saying we were a gang of rapists and robbers that preyed on other convicts.

"We all as a group and as individuals deny all of these false charges and are ready and willing to stand trial and take lie detector tests or any other type of test that will prove our guilt or innocence. We dare the prison officials to take us to court for robbery or rape and make the charges that they so readily accuse us of stick."

Prison officials have brought no charges against the prisoners and have allowed them no hearings during the two months they have been held in solitary. Former Director of Corrections, W. K. Cunningham, sent the prisoners letters saying that their cases would be reviewed in six months. These letters brought another shift in the prison administration's story: Cunningham then charged that supervisory complaints and failure to adjust to prison were the reasons for the confinement.

The failure of the administration to provide hearings for the prisoners is a direct violation of a recent court ruling which forbids the officials from locking prisoners in solitary for long periods of time without a hearing. However, the federal court has taken no action to date.

In February, the ten prisoners held a 3-week hunger strike to protest their confinement. The Richmond PSC held a support demonstration outside the prison.

The PSC has now obtained legal help for the ten men and has formed the defense fund to raise money for legal expenses.

Contributions may be sent to: C-Cell Defense Fund, c/o Prisoners Solidarity Committee, Box 7032, Norfolk, Va. 23509.

MILWAUKEE, WISC.

Six months after making a request to be heard before the Milwaukee County Board on conditions in the Milwaukee County House of Correction, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and the Women's Defense Committee for Benita Orozco (who was acquitted last October on frameup charges of battery to a pig) were finally allowed to appear before a committee meeting. The PSC demanded a full investigation of the House of Correction because relatives and ex-inmates had made it very clear that acts of brutality were occurring inside the jail. The PSC had information on beatings, teargasings, the inhuman treatment in the solitary confinement "hole," and the harassment of relatives visiting their loved ones.

The \$750,000 suit of a Black ex-inmate, who was forced to work with a serious back condition, forced the County Supervisors to set up a subcommittee to investigate the

jail. But the County Board would not allow the PSC, any other organization, or relatives to be part of this "official" investigation.

Despite the efforts of the board to make it impossible for a real investigation to take place, especially by refusing to insure that any inmate who might want to testify would not be punished, the PSC immediately began to mobilize support for a real people's investigation of the House of Correction.

At the first hearing of this subcommittee on February 13, the PSC exposed conditions in the jail, such as inmates being put in solitary for taking the TV section out of the paper. The PSC also presented evidence on the actual nutritional value of the solitary confinement diet, which could cause a person with a serious health problem such as diabetes to have a very serious reaction, and had a clinical psychologist talk about the effects of teargas upon the inmates.

The County Board is still refusing to let the community conduct the investigation, but that won't stop the PSC's determination to inform the people of this city about what is really going on in the House of Correction and to give relatives and ex-inmates a chance to conduct a real investigation of the jail.



Prisoners' relatives join Prisoners Solidarity Committee in demonstration at Virginia State Penitentiary.

TRENTON, N.J.

February 20—The N.J. Prisoners Solidarity Committee held a spirited picket line today in front of the State House to condemn the recent campaign of harassment inside Trenton State Prison. It was through contact with inmates that the PSC learned of the repression, since nothing has appeared in the press. Chanting "End the lock-ups, end the threats, Support the prisoners' struggles," the PSC exposed the racist tactics being used against militant inmates under the guise of investigating a fire which occurred at the prison February 1. Prior to the picket line, leaflets were distributed in different areas of the city.

RICHMOND, VA.

RICHMOND, Va.—Prisoners at the Virginia State Penitentiary won a major victory in their 5-year-old struggle on March 2, when the Director of Virginia's Department of Corrections, W. K. Cunningham, handed in his resignation.

"You get tired of constant harassment," Cunningham said, as he asked the governor to find him "another assignment in state government."

Ever since the prisoners' movement at the penitentiary began in 1968, prisoners and their supporters have demanded the

removal of Cunningham, whose fascist tactics have led to at least one prisoner's death and to months of solitary confinement, beatings, teargas, and starvation diets for others.

Cunningham's resignation came within days of the latest in a series of demonstrations at the penitentiary by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee (PSC) and other groups. On February 4, the PSC held a demonstration of 80 people and raised the chant "Can Cunningham—Now!" On February 25, there was another demonstration of 30 people in support of maximum security prisoners, who were on a hunger strike, and to demand a "People's Investigation" of the prison.

In January of this year, Federal Judge Robert R. Merhige ruled that Cunningham had consistently violated the constitutional rights of several prisoners since 1968. The court found that Cunningham had approved the arbitrary use of teargas, long periods of solitary confinement without hearings, bread-and-water diets, and various forms of torture carried out against the prisoners.

In the face of all these crimes, however, Merhige did nothing more than order Cunningham to pay \$21,000 compensation out of his own pocket to three ex-prisoners.

But the PSC seized upon Merhige's decision to further expose conditions in the prison and to demand Cunningham's dismissal. Taking advantage of press interest in the court decision against Cunningham, the PSC was able to reach the public with the facts about what was happening inside the penitentiary, as described by the prisoners in a flood of letters.

Meanwhile, the PSC entered into a coalition with prison reform groups here to demand that community organizations, including the PSC, and the press be allowed to investigate the prison without restrictions. After the groups launched a series of demonstrations, leaflet campaigns, press conferences, and meetings with prison officials, the state tried to defuse the issue by allowing the press to talk with a few prisoners, under heavy restrictions.

The state's plan backfired, however, when one of the first interviews with a prisoner, Thomas Durkin, revealed that guards had been using forced prison labor for their own personal benefit. In the midst of a public uproar, the PSC and other groups held a militant demonstration at the main entrance to the prison. Hundreds of prisoners cheered as the demonstrators demanded a "People's Investigation" and freedom for the Black, Chicano, and Native American prisoners being held in solitary without hearings.

LETTERS

The men are used as cheap labor in the giant prison industry, which in 35 years grossed in excess of \$896 million.

In 1970, the Treasury Department received, in surplus funds, from the prison industry, 5 million dollars while the 20,000 slaves received \$500,000.

An Inmate at Leavenworth Prison

+ + +

There is however, a widespread suspicion here at Clinton that La Vallee, who is supposed to be retiring very shortly, is attempting to create his own "bloody Monday," such as Attica, before he does leave. He is well-known for his terror and brutalizing tactics. He is the same La Vallee mentioned in an article in "Fortune News" who personally attended over 100 electrocutions.

Right now he has us all locked in our cells 24 hours with all privileges suspended, obviously in a further attempt to create and provoke uneasiness among us.

Inmates at Clinton Concentration Camp

+ + +

It has been amply proven that existing methods—long indeterminate sentences, so-called "rehabilitation programs" which are nothing but cruel exploitation of slave labor—simply do not work. Absolutely no constructive progress toward keeping people out of prison is being or has been made. Yet the corporation, head down, bulls along the same inhumane path ignoring all evidence of failure. The only thing evident is that it is to the material benefit of the corporation and the political benefit of the imperialistic establishment to do so.

It is for these reasons, material reasons, political reasons, that the so-called Divisions of Correction combat the People's struggle for change. They are well aware that a system which espouses repression and oppression cannot survive under attack—cannot have policies of maintaining legal slavery made a matter of public record, open to the scrutiny of the people they claim to protect.

An Inmate at Lucasville Prison

+ + +

Workers World recently received a letter from a gay prisoner at the Federal Prison in Leavenworth, Kansas, telling of the severe repression being leveled against him and a fellow inmate as a result of their attempts to organize a gay culture class there.

John Gibbs and his friend are members of the National Gay Prisoners Coalition. They approached Warden S. J. Britton on the matter of forming a gay group at Leavenworth for educational purposes, asserting that it would fill the same sort of need as do the ethnic culture classes at the prison. Warden Britton totally rejected the idea, just as he had previously rejected the idea of a prisoners' labor union.

Both brothers have subsequently been set up by the authorities and have been in lock up now for over a month. They have been denied legal counsel, a fair hearing, and have been brutalized in a number of other ways. Instigated by the authorities, attempts have been made on Gibbs' life. The brothers intend to fight any attempt at forced transfer to another prison, however.

Gibbs reports that harassment and abuse of gay prisoners at Leavenworth is common. Gays who are open about their sexual orientation are subject to assaults, rape, and lockups. Certainly these facts by themselves are sufficient proof of the need for a gay prisoners' group.

Brother Gibbs has requested that anyone interested in the gay prisoners' struggle at Leavenworth write to him: John A. Gibbs, P.O. Box 1000 - 86976, Leavenworth, Kansas, 66048. The brothers are particularly in need of legal assistance.

La Ciudad de Nueva York por mucho tiempo ha sido considerada como el centro de la industria de la aguja ("garment") americana, pero la ciudad de El Paso en Texas está por convertirse en la primera en ese ramo de negocios. Por años los fabricantes han estado mudando sus plantas de "fun city" a "sun city" por la simple razón de que allá se le paga menos a los trabajadores. En El Paso existen aproximadamente 20,000 trabajadores de la aguja de los cuales solamente 2,000 están unionados. Es donde existe el número mas grande de trabajadores de la aguja sin organizar en este país. Y Willie Farah, fundador y dueño del imperio Farah Slacks, ve como su deber que permanezca todo en esa forma.

Farah Slacks es el mas grande manufacturero de pantalones de niños y hombres en este país. Emplean mas de 10,000 trabajadores en siete plantas en Texas y una en New Mexico. Noventa y cinco por ciento de los trabajadores son Chicanos, ochenta y cinco por ciento mujeres. La huelga contra Farah comenzó en la primera semana de Mayo cuando algunos trabajadores fueron despedidos por actividades legales para organizar la unión. La huelga se extendió rapidamente. Una de las tres plantas en San Antonio está completamente parada.

Farah sopló las llamas llamando a los huelgistas "basura" y diciendo que la unión le había hecho "un favor sacando a los perturbadores fuera." Después de este comentario, Willie ha empleado un director de relaciones públicas para que le de la imagen del patrono benevolente a quien le han querido hacer daño atribuyendole esas declaraciones. Una de sus nuevas tácticas ha sido publicar una página llena de anuncios en los periódicos locales, firmadas por "8,000 trabajadores contentos de Farah." Pero la letra pequeña revela solamente 2,310 nombres, muchos de ellos escribieron cartas e hicieron llamadas telefónicas para protestar de que sus nombres fueran usados de esa forma.

Otro de los acercamientos ha sido enfatizar los beneficios que los trabajadores de Farah están supuestos a tener. Farah provee seguro de salud—a un gasto por los empleados. No hay ausencia por maternidad y los beneficios de hospitalización son \$14 por día, cuando que el costo de solo la habitación es de \$35 a \$40. Entonces



Chicanas en Tejas

¡Viva La Huelga!

existe el llamado plan de ahorro. La compañía urge a los empleados a que ahorren pero sin recibir ningún interés. La compañía ha sido demandada por esa práctica por algunos empleados que creen que los intereses están cayendo en las manos de Farah.

También está el llamado plan de retiro—\$20 mensuales. En los 50 años que lleva la compañía solamente una persona se ha retirado—la vieja enfermera de Willie. Mas importante que todo es que no hay medio alguno de deshacer agravios. Un trabajador no puede quejarse sin que reciba represalias—usualmente perdiendo su trabajo. Quizás la única declaración cierta que ha hecho Farah es que provee café y panecillos dulces gratis.

Pero los huelguistas están dispuestos a devolverle su café por un salario decente.

Nadie puede contar la historia mejor que las mujeres mismas. Rosa Flores, de dieciocho años es una de los tantos trabajadores en San Antonio que ha estado en huelga por 9 meses. Pobreza es la razón por la que Rosa tuvo que crecer ligero. Su padre murió cuando ella cumplió 16; y desde entonces ella ha sido la principal en ganarse el pan para la familia.

Rosa Flores sabe lo que ella quiere. Ella habla de ello en lenguaje directo. "Espero que todos volvamos—con la unión claro. Va a ser fuerte, pero podemos hacerlo."

Rosa fue una de los trabajadores

de Farah en San Antonio que firmó la tarjeta de la unión—y una de las primeras en usar la divisa del comité de organización mientras trabajaba.

Ella ha estado empleada con Farah por cerca de un año, cortando bolsillos en los pantalones. Estaba ganando \$1.80 por hora y produciendo 60 lios diarios. Entonces la administración insistió en que ella aumentará la producción. Le aseguraron que recibiría paga extra si producía mas. Ella aumentó de 60 a 70, entonces de 80 a 85 lios diarios. Y finalmente llegó a los 90 lios. Pero no hubo aumento en la paga.

"Lo dejé bajar porque nunca recibí el aumento," añadió Rosa. "Eso me hizo pensar. No me gustaba lo que veía. Trataban a la gente como máquinas. Estaban detrás de ti, para que produjeras mas. Y no te pagaban por ello."

La unión, dice Rosa, da sentido de pertenecer y de ayudar. "Al menos tengo alguien quien me ayude. No puedo hacerlo sola."

Rosa describió lo que es ser terriblemente pobre. "Hace que una sienta coraje, mucho coraje y uno tiene que odiar. Porque otras gentes hacen sentir a uno inferior. Algunas veces se me consideraba menos por mi falta de educación o porque soy Chicana. Yo se que si la unión se logra, todos mejoraremos, tendremos mejores salarios, mas derechos, mas seguridad—y otras muchas cosas que nunca tuvimos."

El caso contra la compañía es ciertamente increíble. Y ha continuado creciendo desde que la huelga comenzó. La compañía ha tratado todo tipo de táctica para romper la fuerza de los huelguistas—mandamientos del corte, guardias armados, perros viciosos. La madre de Farah arrojó con su automovil a una de las mujeres que participaba en un piquete.

Pero la huelga continua creciendo, y continua cogiendo fuerza el boycott nacional, contra Farah y el apoyo a los huelguistas le sigue doliendo a Farah donde mas lo siente—en sus ganancias. El informe anual de la compañía reveló que perdió \$8.3 millones en el pasado año fiscal comparado con ganancias de \$6 millones en el año que precedió. Ventas mermaron \$10 millones.

Los huelguistas están determinados a no regresar sin la unión. Para ellos es una cuestión de sobrevivir. □

U.S.-Thieu still torture

200,000 civilian prisoners

By JOYCE BETRIES

Last week, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government had to threaten to boycott further meetings of the Four-Party Joint Military Commission in order to force the Saigon government to release 5,000 prisoners, in accordance with the terms of the Paris agreement. They charged the U.S. government of plotting with Saigon to hold up the release of prisoners held by the Thieu administration.

Thieu is changing the status of many prisoners from political to "criminal" in order to prevent their release. Saigon says it

holds only 28,000 "communists," when it is well known that over 200,000 people are incarcerated for so-called political crimes. The situation is so urgent that Madam Binh, Foreign Minister of the PRG, has called on the world movement to force the U.S. and the Thieu regime to release these patriots.

These liberation fighters and opponents to Thieu are being held in jails built with U.S. money and designed by U.S. technicians (some tiger cages are even prefabricated in the U.S.). They are being tortured by jailers trained and commanded by U.S. "technical advisers."

In 1971, Pentagon officials devised a plan to systematically assassinate all opposition in the event of a ceasefire. Through this project, the U.S. hoped to maintain control of the south. This task of political assassination became all the more urgent when a ceasefire in place seemed imminent. Thieu had a list drawn up of several thousand prisoners considered the most dangerous, who were to be assassinated immediately prior to any ceasefire.

This plan went into effect in the spring of 1972 and was escalated in the fall, when thousands were killed. While Nixon stalled the signing of the October 20 treaty, his puppets in south Vietnam were massacring Vietnam's best daughters and sons. Hundreds of thousands were rounded up every week and massacred. The massacres have not abated.

We have seen on TV the return of the captured American officers—war criminals

whom Nixon calls POWs. While they read their Washington-written speeches, their excellent health reflects the fine treatment they received in north Vietnam.

In marked contrast were the Vietnamese patriots released from the torture chambers in the south. They were emaciated and maimed; many of them walked on crutches. As they crossed the border into the north, they refused to take their crutches with them. Many unscrewed their artificial limbs and threw them to the ground. Some were so filled with rage at the Thieu regime that they refused to take with them even the clothing supplied by the south.

There was no siring and saluting on the other side. They were embraced by their comrades, and tears flowed freely. The real heroines and heroes had returned. Now progressive people all over the world must fight for the release of all the Vietnamese patriots still held in the U.S.-Thieu jails. □

Subscribe to Workers World and help build one!