

## Southerners mobilize for Boston freedom march



Civil rights leaders in the South are helping to build the Freedom March for Human Dignity in Boston on December 14.

Rev. Hosea Williams of SCLC says, "This mobilization against racism in Boston is the number one issue in the country right now."

Southern sponsors include John Lewis, formerly chairman of SNCC, Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Fannie Lou Hamer, Coretta Scott King, Julian Bond, Walter Collins, and many more veterans of the civil rights struggle.

Buses from many Southern cities will converge on Boston next Saturday for this "reverse Freedom Ride."

See page 3 for more details.

Boston Emergency Committee volunteers prepare to saturate city with literature during Thanksgiving Offensive to build for December 14 march against racism. Photo: Bob D.

### Editorial—

## Come to Boston December 14

There's now just one week to go before the national march and rally against racism in Boston.

Now is the time, if you haven't done so already, to make a firm commitment to be there on December 14. If there are buses going from your city, make sure you have your ticket. Get your friends to buy theirs now. Get a carpool together if you're going from an outlying area. Or contact your nearest Emergency Committee office and see if there are others leaving from your area.

This is the week in which the buses must be filled and paid for to insure that the Freedom March for Human Dignity is successful as a mass national action.

There are millions of people in this country ready to support a progressive cause like this. But in a time of high prices, layoffs, brutal incidents of police repression, and many other pressing problems, people can tend to be overwhelmed with the vast number of "good causes" for which to fight. What makes

December 14 so important?

Boston has become a testing ground for racism in this country. The Ku Klux Klan, the Nazi Party, and the more "respectable" racists organized around the anti-busing issue have made their move in a Northern city with a so-called liberal tradition. They have egged on acts of racist frenzy unseen since the hard-core segregationist resistance to the civil rights movement in the South.

Black children have been stoned and jeered; Black workers have been dragged from their cars and beaten by mobs just for entering a "white" neighborhood.

And what was the response of the leading liberal politicians who talk of human rights and human dignity? Nothing. They have turned tail.

Now the question is: will there be a mass movement to stop the racists in their tracks? Or will they be allowed to continue to

(Continued on page 8)

# Chilean children face threat of Nazi-style concentration camps

By JAIME VEVE

NOVEMBER 29—The fascist Chilean junta continues to escalate its brutal repression against the Chilean people and attempt to physically crush the resistance movement.

The body of Lumi Videla was found in the garden of the Italian Embassy in the early hours of the morning during the fascist-imposed curfew that prevents the people from being on the streets.

Lumi Videla, a member of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), was arrested in September along with her husband Sergio Alfredo Perez, also a member of the MIR, and their 4-year old son. According to the Cuban newspaper Granma, they were all subjected to the most hideous torture, ending in the death of Lumi Videla.

It was also reported that Laura Allende Gossen, sister of the late

Salvatore Allende and a former Socialist deputy, was recently arrested in the city of Santiago. She is the mother of Andres Pascal Allende, a leader of the MIR whom the fascists are seeking.

Since the death of Miquel Enriquez, Leader of the MIR, at the hands of the junta on November 5, the generals who rule Chile with an iron hand have raised the terror against the people to a level not seen since the days

immediately following the coup of Sept. 11, 1973. According to The New York Times of October 24, some 10,000 to 15,000 people were arrested in the shanty towns throughout Chile this fall. Over 24,000 have been rounded up since July. Torture, and this has been well documented, has even been used against Americans in Chile. Syndicated columnist Jack Anderson wrote November 27 of the 13-day ordeal of Amy Conger, a teacher from Chicago. After nearly 2 weeks of torture and indescribably filthy conditions of imprisonment, she falsely admitted to knowing "subversives" and was released.

It was also reported on November 20 in The New York Times that the junta is planning work camps for more than 600,000 children whose parents had supported the Popular Unity government of the late Salvadore Allende. This was revealed by Niall MacDermot, a former Labor member of the British Parliament and Secretary General of the International Commission of Jurists.

The fascists plan to take the children away from their parents in order to "purify" them. These fascists are the very same people who claim to be defending the family and who accuse leftists of alienating children from their parents! But the actions of the Chilean fascists over the last year have shown that property and profits are their only real concern. This plan can only be seen as further proof of the desperate attempt on the part of the junta to eliminate the ideas of socialism from the consciousness of millions of Chilean people.

In spite of the brutal wave of repression and the intentions of the junta to create Nazi-like work camps, the Chileans are fighting back and seeking ways to destroy the brutal fascist dictatorship. This determination can be seen in the statement of the MIR, last September in which they marked one year of fascist rule: "Let it be known neither the people nor the revolutionaries will succumb to the repression without resistance. We feel assured that in spite of the long and difficult nature of our struggle, tomorrow we'll overthrow the military dictatorship thus heralding the initiation of a truly revolutionary struggle led by the workers and the peasants.

"Today we are doing all that our tactics and struggle permit. Tomorrow the assassins will get what they deserve. Those who have died and those who will die will not do so in vain."

"Long live the Chilean Resistance!"

## Can't afford to bury heart donor

DECEMBER 2—You've probably read about the South African who had a second heart transplanted along his own by Dr. Christian Barnard. That story is what the media here consider newsworthy. But you're not likely to have read about what has happened to the donor of that heart.

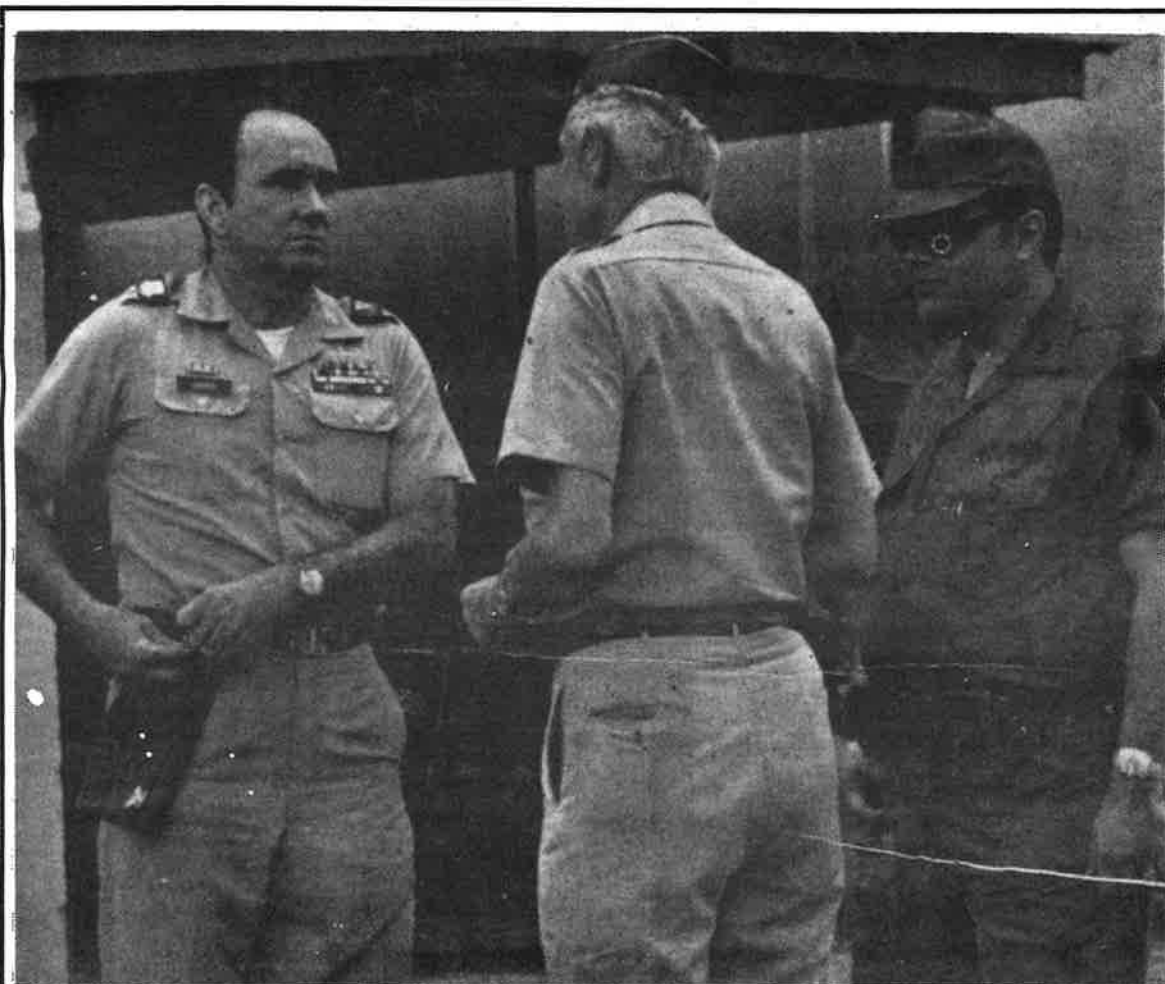
Her name was Jennifer

Schrikker. She was 10 years old and categorized by the South African government as "colored." Jennifer was killed by a speeding car on November 24, and Dr. Barnard took her undamaged heart and put it in the body of a white South African engineer.

Her father, Frederick Schrikker, hasn't been able to raise the \$145

for her funeral. But Dr. Barnard, who has joined the international jet set since his first transplant of a Black man's heart, has further enhanced his reputation (and fortune) with this operation.

Jennifer's heart was good enough to keep a white man alive. But the racist South African regime doesn't consider any nonwhites good enough to be paid a wage adequate to live on. Or to die on, either.



The National Guard has been mobilized in Puerto Rico to break the strike of Sewer and Aqueduct workers. But unionists have responded with threat of general strike (see p. 11).

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### WORKERS WORLD

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## DECLINE AND FALL



### GRAFTER COP TO KEEP 15G PENSION

New York Post, Nov. 22:

"A police captain who once headed the scandal-ridden narcotics Special Investigation Unit has agreed to pay a \$15,000 fine and retire 'immediately' rather than face a departmental disciplinary trial.

"Capt. Daniel E. Tange, 42, an 18-year Police Dept. veteran, agreed to a negotiated plea that he would not contest one charge that he accepted a \$500 payoff.

"Actually, while only the \$500 payoff was charged against Tange, he had previously admitted to sharing other graft.

"Had Tange decided to stand trial he faced possible dismissal with loss of his pension, estimated at more than \$15,000 a

year.

"...it appears to be in the interest of justice to approve this negotiation," Deputy Commissioner for Trials Philip R. Michael recommended."

Maybe the Deputy Commissioner thought that since the biggest crook in the U.S. will still get his pension, there's nothing wrong in letting a small-time grafter-cop keep his, too.

### AND HE OUGHT TO KNOW

Associated Press, Nov. 18:

"T. O. Gravitt of Dallas, 51-year-old Southwestern Bell vice president for Texas, died of carbon monoxide poisoning on October 17.

"The chief executive in Texas left a sui-

cide note that said, 'Watergate is a gnat compared to the Bell system.'"

### DAY CARE STAYS OPEN— IF PARENTS RAISE \$300,000!

New York Post, Oct. 25:

"How do you tell 70 children between the ages of 2½ and 5 that they shouldn't feel they aren't wanted?" Mrs. Nancy Cowan asked.

"They keep hearing things, like they're going to be kicked out, that nobody wants them. Every afternoon an adult has to talk to them to try to settle them down."

"Ever since Oct. 17, the children in the day care center have had a real basis for their feelings, one which gets stronger every day.

"Columbia University, which owns the shabbily elegant mansion between 107th and 108th Streets at Riverside Drive, is planning to sell the four-story building to an unnamed private individual for \$300,000 in cash so he can use it for a residence for his family.

"Last week the Columbia University law-

yer, Brian Slayne, made it clear to the parents of the youngsters at Children's Mansion that they can own the building if they come up with the \$300,000 in cash themselves."

### FROM THE ARMY THAT 'MADE THE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY'

1932 Army Training Manual, 2000-25:

"Democracy: A government of the masses. . . Results in mobocracy. Attitude toward property is Communistic—negating property rights. Attitude toward law is that the will of the majority shall regulate, whether it be based upon deliberation or governed by passion, prejudice and impulse, without restraint or regard for consequences. Results in demagogism, license, agitation, discontent, and anarchy."

Now a military dictatorship, on the other hand—?

# Southern support mushrooms for Boston freedom march

By TOM GARDNER  
ATLANTA, Ga., Nov. 27—The call for a national Freedom March on Boston issued by Black Boston community and civil rights leaders and other prominent individuals and organizations has met with an enthusiastic response from a large number of community leaders in the South.

Speaking on November 26 at a meeting called to plan Atlanta participation in the Boston march, Rev. Hosea Williams of the Atlanta Southern Christian Leadership Conference said, "This mobilization against racism in Boston is the number one issue in the country right now."

## CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS HELP BUILD MARCH

The following day, at a press conference to announce Atlanta activities supporting the march, Tyrone Brooks, speaking for Rev. Dr. Ralph D. Abernathy, national president of the SCLC, revealed that "the SCLC is sending out a call to its affiliates and friends all over the country to join Dr. Abernathy, myself, and other SCLC and civil rights leaders in Boston on December 14."

John Lewis, formerly chairman of SNCC and now with the Voter Registration Project of the Southern Regional Council, has also joined the list of sponsors. This means that the original organizers of the Selma to Montgomery march—Lewis, Hosea Williams, and Rev. Abernathy—all endorse the Boston march. The only exception is, of course, the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. However, his widow, Coretta Scott King, has joined the list of prominent civil rights figures calling on the people to march in Boston on December 14.

Other endorsers of the march announced at the Atlanta press conference include U.S. Congressman Andrew Young, state representative Julian Bond, Atlanta City Council member James Bond, AFSCME International Representative Leamon Hood, Georgia ACLU Director Gene Guerrero, and the President of the Atlanta Board of Education, Benjamin Mays.

Dr. Mays, who is President Emeritus of Morehouse College, stated to the press that his endorsement "does not imply that Atlanta is so well integrated that we can talk to Boston about integration there." He added, "I think it is unfortunate that Boston...is now reverting to the kind of thing that many sections of the South were doing a few years ago; I hope the march will be successful."

## 500 SOUTHERN ENDORSERS

For several weeks prior to the Atlanta press conference, support for the march had been growing steadily in the South. Close to 500 endorsements from Black, white, Native American, and Chicano leaders in community organizations, trade unions, churches, women's organizations, and in the academic community have come forth in the few weeks since the call for a march against racism was issued.

The sponsors from across the South include veterans of the civil rights struggles of the sixties and earlier. There is Fannie Lou Hamer, a courageous leader of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party from Ruleville, Miss.; Anne

Braden, Virginia Collins, Walter Collins, Fred Shuttlesworth of the Southern Conference Educational Fund; Robert and Dorothy Zellner of New Orleans; Jeannette King and Jan Hillegas of Jackson, Miss.; Harry Boyte and W.W. Finlator of North Carolina; Nathaniel Lee Hawthorne and Russell Goldman of Virginia NAACP branches; Rev. Joe Boone of the Metro Atlanta Summit Leadership Conference; and many others.

The Southern sponsors also include Black and Indian elected officials such as Richard Arrington, Jr., of the Birmingham, Ala., City Council; John Julett, Sheriff of Lowndes County, Alabama; Joy Johnson, state legislator from Robeson County, North Carolina; Representative Henry Ward Oxendine, Indian state legislator, Bobby Locklear, Indian County Commissioner, both of Robeson County, N.C., and Joseph Jordan, Jr., Vice-Mayor, Norfolk, Va.

Extremely significant has been the number of Black and white union officials and rank-and-file leaders who have endorsed the march against racism. Knowing the destructive history that racism has had in dividing and weakening the organized power of workers in the South, many Southern unionists have become actively involved in working to make the Boston march successful.

For example, the committee formed in the Tidewater area of Virginia to mobilize for the Boston march is coordinated by Herman Hunt, Business Representative of Local 2514 of the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners in Norfolk, the officers of which have endorsed the march. Active in supporting the march in Virginia are officials in the International Association of Machinists, the Hotel, Restaurant, and Cafeteria Employees, the Retail Store Employees Union, International Longshoremen's Association, Local 1458, and rank-

and-file members of other unions.

Also endorsing the march in Virginia are Robert Suddarth, President UE Local 123 Waynesboro as well as rank-and-file Teamsters in Richmond. Bill Worthington, President of the Black Lung Association, has endorsed the march, as have activists in the miners' struggle in Southwest Virginia.

In Louisville, Ky., the march has been endorsed and built by leaders and members in the American Federation of Teachers, Local 672; the Amalgamated Clothing Workers area local; Tobacco Workers International Union, Local 16; United Steel Workers of America; and the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

## LOCAL COMMITTEES FORMED

Local committees for the National Mobilization Against Racism have been formed in Jackson, Miss., Birmingham, Ala., Atlanta, Ga., New Orleans, La., Louisville, Ky., and Norfolk and

Richmond, Va. In many areas they have received substantial press coverage.

In North Carolina, Chief Howard Brooks of the Tuscarora Council, ministers from Robeson County, and Bruce Barton, editor of the Carolina Indian Voice have thrown the support of the struggle of Native Americans in North Carolina behind the Boston march.

Progress has been made in all these areas and some other localities in the South to organize buses and carpools for a Freedom Ride to Boston.

The strong support being shown for the Boston Freedom March for Human Dignity is a forceful sign that the overwhelming majority of the people of this country are against the racist violence perpetrated against the Black school children in Boston. In fact, the fight against the racist offensive in Boston has already aided in strengthening the continuing fight against racism in the South.

As Gene Guerrero, veteran movement activist in Atlanta, said to the press, "By marching in Boston, we are striking a blow against racism in the South and everywhere else."

# Anti-racist mobilization gains national momentum

By BOB DOBROW

BOSTON, Dec. 2—Over the busy Thanksgiving Day weekend, this city was literally saturated with information about the Freedom March for Human Dignity. The objective of this Thanksgiving Offensive was to make December 14 a household word in Boston!

A huge chart in the office of the Emergency Committee for a National Mobilization Against Racism showed a battle plan of over 50 street corners, suburbs, subway stations, campuses, and high schools that were to receive leaflets. Thousands of posters went up, many blotting out the racist slogans that have appeared in parts of the white communities. Hundreds of large green and black buttons announcing the march have been sold for \$1 each.

By the time Sunday was over, 70,000 leaflets had been given out

by dozens of enthusiastic volunteer supporters of the Emergency Committee.

More phones are being added to the office to handle the large amounts of phone calls coming in. People in Western Massachusetts want leaflets; radio and TV stations want interviews; a mother in South Boston wants to know how to help; a campus newspaper is writing an article; a famous rock star can do a benefit; etc.

## MOMENTUM BUILDING ACROSS COUNTRY

These mammoth efforts are being aided by campaigns in cities across the country. As of this writing, 28 cities have set up Emergency Committee offices, including 9 in the South!

Dennis Serette, Chairman of the New York Emergency Committee, announced to the press last Friday, "We ourselves were quite

surprised by the enthusiasm the mobilization has received. We think that this clearly shows that people in this country will be not represented in Boston by racist extremists or controlled by mob rule." Mr. Serette is Vice President of Local 1101, the largest unit of the Communications Workers of America.

In New York City alone, 200,000 leaflets have been distributed. Half a million more leaflets are being donated by District Council 37 of AFSCME. Some 200 volunteers have combined their efforts, working on a host of sub-committees. Already, 30 buses have been reserved from New York, not including other buses and trains sponsored by local organizations and trade unions. District Council 37, District 65, the Carpenters and Joiners, and many AFSCME locals have pledged buses for their members.

The National Student Association has alerted more than 2,000 colleges around the country urging them to fully participate in

the Boston march.

Over 500 individuals and 60 national and local organizations have sponsored the event. Included are: Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Victor Gotbaum of AFSCME, Congressman Parren Mitchell (D-Md.), soprano Leontyne Price, President Bill Lucy of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, Coretta Scott King, Chief Howard Brooks of the Tuscarora Tribal Council and Chairman of the North Carolina Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, and hundreds more.

Particularly encouraging is that about one-fifth of the national sponsors of the Boston mobilization are trade unionists!

Buses to Boston are being organized through the East, Midwest, and South. In New York City, chartered buses are leaving from five locations in four boroughs. Round trip tickets cost \$10.

Workers World gives its complete support to this vitally necessary anti-racist mobilization. We urge all our subscribers and friends to be in Boston on the 14th. For more information contact the Emergency Committee for a National Mobilization Against Racism, 634 Massachusetts Ave., Room 207, Cambridge, Mass. 02139, (617) 876-9295.

## Nov. 30 demonstration



BOSTON, Nov. 30—Several thousand Black and white demonstrators came out today to protest the racist, anti-busing mobilizations plaguing this city. Called by the Committee for Quality Integrated Education, the demonstration was supported by many local civil rights, labor, student and church organizations. WW photo: Bob D.

## FREEDOM MARCH FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

Assemble—12:00—Roberto Clemente Memorial Park on the Fenway  
March and Rally at the Boston Common

## EMERGENCY COMMITTEES

NATIONAL OFFICE: 634 Massachusetts Ave., Rm. 207, Cambridge, Mass. 02139, (617) 876-9295

ATLANTA: c-o Joe Boone, (404) 523-5398, 525-2761

BALTIMORE: 712 Gorsuch, (301) 889-2871

BIRMINGHAM: (205) 933-0135

BUFFALO: Lafayette Hotel, Lafayette Sq., (716) 852-5470

CHICAGO: Church of Disciples of Christ, 5655 So. University Rd., Hyde Park, Ill.

CLEVELAND: 2108 Payne Ave., Rm. 6006, (216) 687-1838

DETROIT: Yes I Can Mission, 8821 Lindwood St., (313) 897-2040

LOUISVILLE: (502) 778-3348

NEW ORLEANS: (504) 482-7476

NEW YORK: 1182 Broadway, Rm. 701 (212) 532-6980-1

NORFOLK: St. Mary's Catholic Church, 232 Chapel St., (804) 623-9028

PHILADELPHIA: Church of the Advocate, (215) 227-3517

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Church of St. Stevens and the Incarnation Episcopal Church, 16th and Newton, N.W.

# Why government won't really split up AT&T

By NAOMI COHEN  
NOVEMBER 29—Trust-busting seems to be a ritual indulged in by Washington periodically to create the illusion that there is still real competition under capitalism. Anti-trust action can becloud the fact that the government is entirely in the pocket of the corporate giants. At times their intent is to mediate the fierce struggle between the monopolies to divide up the world's markets.

Although it would be speculative to say exactly why the Ford administration chose this particular moment to charge AT&T with illegal monopolistic practices, it is not risky to predict, on the basis of historical experience, that the Bell System monopoly is not going to be really broken by such a suit.

On November 20, the Justice Department announced it had filed an anti-trust suit to divest AT&T of Western Electric, its manufacturing subsidiary. The suit would also force AT&T to get rid of either some of its 23 local telephone companies or its long-distance telephone business to allow other companies in the field to compete. It is generally acknowledged that the suit will take years in the courts and AT&T chairman John deButts has vowed that the company will fight it to the very end.

The last time AT&T was brought to court for monopolistic practices was in 1949. But the case was dismissed in 1956 when Eisenhower's Attorney General Brownell gave the company a "helpful tip" on how to settle the suit and leave the monopoly completely intact. In response to the present suit, deButts has already threatened that any divestiture of the company's holdings would result in higher prices and deteriorating service.

## AT&T BIGGER THAN WHOLE NATIONS

is the world's largest corporation, with assets of over \$67 billion (equal to the total assets of the next 20 largest utilities put together). The corporation's net income in 1973 (\$2.99 billion) was bigger than that of Exxon or GM. AT&T employs 1,010,000 workers, second only to the Federal government. It dominates 82 percent of the telecommunications business in the U.S. and 90 percent of the long-distance business.

AT&T is no exception in the U.S. economy. Every major industry, from auto to steel, to oil, is dominated by a few giant corporations. This reflects the whole trend in present-day capitalist society toward greater and greater concentration and more, not fewer, monopolies. Today the 300 top corporations (out of 300,000) account for well over half of the GNP.

One need only look at a few major "anti-trust" cases in this century to see just how effectively the government has "broken" the power of the giant monopolies. Teddy Roosevelt, known as "trust-buster," got only one conviction from over 20 cases against monopolies during his administration. In that case, the American Tobacco Co. was forced to break up its monopoly into several companies, but in fact retained control of the companies created through interlocking directorates. In 1911 Standard Oil was broken down into 11 companies, but old man Rocke-

feller retained 30 percent control over all of them.

As for the suit against AT&T, The New York Times of November 22 quickly predicted it would not hurt investors. In fact, Western

Electric "could be a better investment as a free agent," wrote the Times.

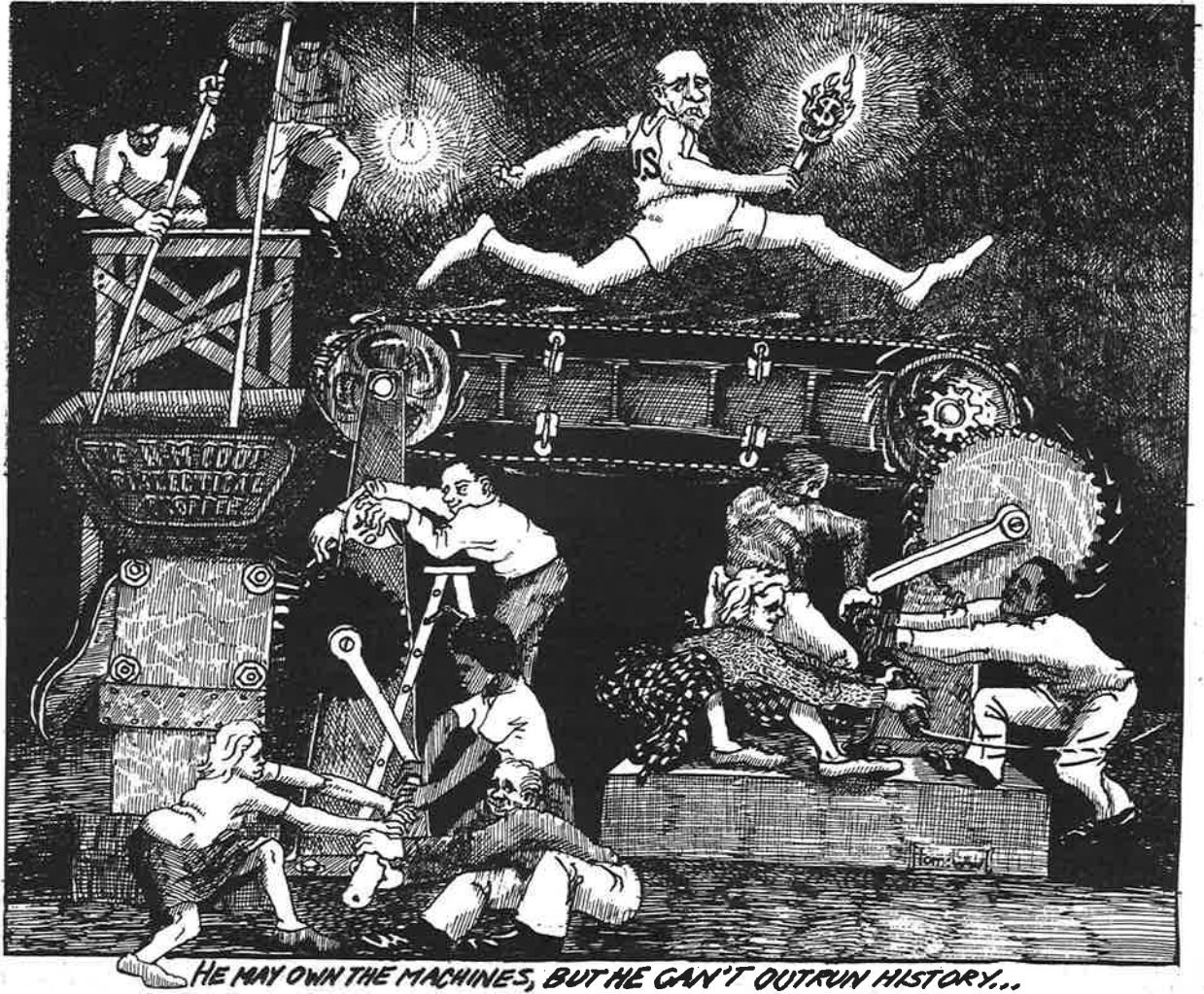
## COMPETITION, BUT NO LOWER PRICES

Of course, there are other giant

companies that would like to see AT&T whittled down a bit so they could get part of the telecommunications market in the U.S. ITT, for example, could profit from such an outcome. In the early 20th century, AT&T and ITT divided the world between them, with AT&T taking North America and ITT the rest. Although smaller than AT&T, ITT has expanded enormously in Europe and Latin America (so much that it helped overthrow the Allende government in Chile to safeguard its investments). ITT is now champing at the bit to revise

this pact and cut in on the U.S. market as well.

The kind of competition between the huge corporations that has divided and redivided the world between them in the last 75 years has not resulted in lower prices, however. This cutthroat competition between a few giants has merely resulted in behind-the-scenes agreements to keep prices (and profits) high in their respective spheres of influence. And this is likely to be the result of the AT&T suit, whatever the court rules.



HE MAY OWN THE MACHINES, BUT HE CAN'T OUTFRIN HISTORY...

# 70,000 at Chrysler idled in new wave of layoffs

By A DETROIT AUTOWORKER

DETROIT, Nov. 21—Returning from a 2-week Hawaiian vacation, Chrysler Corporation Chairman Lynn Townsend announced at a news conference early this week that a majority of Chrysler's 118,000 employees would be laid off

from Thanksgiving through New Year's.

## CHRYSLER SHUTTING DOWN MOST U.S. PLANTS

Five of Chrysler's six U.S. assembly plants will be closed, including Lynch Rd., Jefferson Assembly, and Hamtramck

Assembly in the Detroit area. The St. Louis, Mo., and Newark, Del. plants will also be shut down.

A total of about 44,000 workers will be affected, in addition to the 16,000 already on indefinite layoffs, for a total of about 60,000. Approximately 10,000 unionized clerical workers will also be laid off by the company. When the assembly plants reopen in January, there will be only one shift operating.

United Auto Workers (UAW) vice president in charge of the Chrysler department, Doug Fraser, accused Chrysler of "sloppy, irresponsible management," and revealed the holiday layoffs will keep Chrysler from paying out \$19 million in holiday pay. UAW members receive 8 days off with pay from Christmas through New Year's. Fraser went on to suggest that Chrysler was "picking the pockets of the workers" by manipulating production schedules.

Workers with over a year seniority will still get a Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB), but this emergency fund is becoming fast depleted and these holiday layoffs will further hurt the SUB funds.

Fraser said the UAW would agree to the Corporation plan but "under protest," reserving the right to appeal to an arbitrator or the courts in the future. However, one Lynch Rd. assembly worker called the company's maneuvers a "virtual lockout."

Ford and American Motors also announced some temporary and

indefinite layoffs this week.

The collapse of auto sales and the industry cutbacks are now spreading to related fields. The Uniroyal Tire Company recently laid off 1,000 workers at its Detroit Jefferson Ave. plant, the largest tire plant in the United States. This was one-quarter of its work force. Many other plants which supply paint, parts, and other items for the auto industry are similarly threatened with the spectre of being shut down. This is especially chilling when it is remembered that one out of every six workers in the U.S. depends directly or indirectly on the auto industry for a job.

The effects of this on Detroit are just beginning to be felt. While national unemployment is reported at 6 percent, Detroit figures show over 10 percent. And these figures do not take account of the most recent, huge layoffs.

## LABOR GROUP DEMANDS FULL EMPLOYMENT

In opposition to these developments, a rank-and-file group called the Center for United Labor Action (CULA) has been continuing its campaign to demand enforcement of the 1946 Full Employment Act. This act places a legal responsibility on the Federal, State, and local governments to maintain full employment.

On November 7, the CULA succeeded in getting the Detroit City Council to pass a resolution urging a stop to the layoffs and citing the 1946 Employment Act. The CULA has been widely distributing a news bulletin to many plants around Detroit about the law and the City Council action (all local newspapers blocked out this news).

The bulletin calls on the unions to take action and use their power to make sure the law is enforced.



Bearing the brunt of the economic crisis, these workers leave shut-down Chrysler plant in Detroit.

## 150 rally in Milwaukee as part of growing anti-Nazi drive

By JIM MILLER

MILWAUKEE, November 22—Over 150 people came out today for an anti-Nazi Rally, determined to oppose every attempt by the Nazi Party to spread racism and anti-Semitism in Milwaukee. The rally, sponsored by Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), was the culmination of an intensified campaign over the past few months to counter the fascist group's activities in Milwaukee, especially in the high schools. Tens of thousands of leaflets had been

distributed announcing the event.

The purpose of the rally was twofold: to give people an understanding of what fascism is and to build a larger movement to oppose the Nazi Party's racism.

Al Stergar of Workers World Party talked on the historical origin of fascist movements. He showed how the Nazis use the economic crisis in a demagogic fashion to turn whites against blacks, just as Hitler turned gentiles against Jews in the twenties and thirties.

### IMPORTANCE OF BOSTON

Mike Soriano of Chicago YAWF spoke on the present battlelines drawn in Boston, and of the counter-offensive of working people of all races and nationalities, who will go to Boston on December 14 in a mass freedom march. The fight against the Nazis here is part of that same national struggle, he said.

### MENDOZA FRAME-UP CITED

The racist nature of the police

and the courts was posed by Sacramento Delgadillo of the Ray Mendoza Defense Committee, who spoke on the present state of the appeal for Mendoza (convicted of first degree murder by an all-white jury). Herb Powless of the American Indian Movement spoke on the repression faced by Native American peoples and the need to fight all forms of racism, whether by the government or the Nazis.

The role of high school students in combatting the Nazi propaganda was raised by Charlie Maier, an activist in setting up anti-Nazi groups within the schools. He predicted a city-wide effort would stop the Nazis from gaining recruits among high school youth.

Ellen Miller of YAWF ended the rally by pointing out that the police have given protection to the Nazis and harassed their opponents. When Nazis have been arrested, those they have attacked are also arrested. She called for a full investigation of the possible influence of the Nazis in the Police Department, recalling that Jewish community leaders have received no response from Police Chief Brier to their plea for protection of local synagogues.

The rally ended with a call for expanded efforts throughout the city against the Nazis. Many students, trade unionists, church, and community groups signed up to work on the campaign

## Cuban exile returns, tells of CIA intrigues

By SHARON SHELTON

NEW YORK, Dec. 2—In early November startling revelations about the covert activities of Cuban counter-revolutionary groups in the U.S. flashed across Latin America.

News reports included disclosures that the Chilean junta is arming and financing intrigue by fascist Cuban exile groups, and that right-wing Cubans, including Nixon buddy Bebe Rebozo and former Bay of Pigs invasion chief Manuel Artime Buesa, were involved in the Watergate conspiracy.

The revelations came in a November 2 press conference and interview by Radio Havana with a well-known former Cuban counter-revolutionary leader, Carlos Rivero Collado.

Although treated as major news in Mexico, Argentina, Peru, and elsewhere in Latin America, the interview with Rivero was virtually blacked out of the U.S. press.

### HEAD OF ROSA BLANCA

Rivero, the son of Andres Rivero Aguero, a Cuban politician who was elected president of Cuba under Batista shortly before the revolution, was himself a leading member of the U.S.-based Cuban right-wing community, having founded the first counter-revolutionary organization of Cubans in Miami, Rosa Blanca.

A participant in the Bay of Pigs invasion (also known as Playa Giron), Rivero was captured and imprisoned for almost 2 years. It

was then that his ideas began to change, a process which culminated in his return to Cuba as a supporter of the revolution.

At the press conference, Rivero detailed plans by Cuban exiles to attack diplomatic missions of nations favoring ending the blockade against Cuba. He said that the foreign minister of Costa Rica, Gonzalo Facio, who was a sponsor of the November 8 meeting of the OAS in Quito which considered lifting the blockade, was a primary target for assassination. Henry Kissinger, presumably because of his role as exponent of the strategy of detente, is also on the assassination list, according to the former counter-revolutionary.

Rivero also exposed a plan by CIA-backed Cuban exiles to assassinate Fidel Castro and Salvadore Allende during Fidel's October 1971 visit to Chile, as well as a later plan to kill General Omar Torrijos, head of the Panamanian government.

### MIAMI MEETING WITH CHILEAN FASCISTS

The ties between Cuban anti-communist organizations and the fascists in Chile came, according to Rivero, several days after the Chilean coup when Col. Eduardo Sepulveda, a close friend of Chilean butcher Pinochet, visited Miami. The visit resulted in a pact promising Chilean arms, equipment, and money in return for pro-junta publicity.

Rivero told the press conference that the Watergate break-in

originally included six conspirators. (Five were caught inside the building.) Angel Ferrer, a leader of the National Front for Cuban Liberation (FNLC), a group made up of Cuban counter-revolutionaries as well as mercenaries from the U.S. army, was outside the Watergate when the break-in occurred.

"Another name hasn't been revealed," he added, "that of Manuel Artime Buesa, civilian chief of the Playa Giron invasion, an agent of the CIA for many years, who was also involved directly in the Watergate case."

Besides Nixon's confidant Bebe Rebozo, Rivero named several other right-wing Cubans as Watergate conspirators. These include Edgardo Buttari, Mike Suarez Fernandez, and Humberto Lopez, the coordinator of the Front for Cuban Liberation, a group which also participated in the Watergate affair.

Rivero said that he felt that the latest plans for assassinations and attacks on countries favoring an end to the blockade against Cuba were a direct result of the failure of the counter-revolution as a political cause.

### 'I'M HONORED TO RETURN TO CUBA'

Noting the strength of the Cuban revolution, the former anti-communist confessed, "I feel highly honored and pleased to be able to return to my country after so many years of absence. In the short time I've been here I've traveled from one end of the island to the other and I can honestly say that I have seen the extraordinary work of social transformation carried out by the Cuban Revolution which has placed our country on an astronomically high level among the nations of the world."



Carlos Rivero Collado: former anti-communist tells Havana radio of covert activities of Cuban counter-revolutionary groups.

Photo: Direct from Cuba

## Mexico severs relations with Chilean fascist junta

By P. MEISNER

NEW YORK, Dec. 2—The 15-month-old fascist junta ruling Chile was dealt an unexpected diplomatic blow last week when the government of Mexico broke diplomatic relations with the military dictatorship in Santiago. Pinochet's diplomats has assumed that full diplomatic relations were just about to be restored between the two countries, but the Mexican regime did exactly the opposite.

After the fascist coup of Sept. 11, 1973, the Mexican government withdrew its ambassador from Santiago, leaving only a lower official as the head of the Mexican embassy to Chile. In recent months, the Mexican government had been negotiating for the safe conduct of 72 Chilean refugees living in the Mexican embassy in Santiago.

### JUNTA VIOLATED RIGHT OF ASYLUM

The fascist Pinochet regime did everything but seriously negotiate and just recently arrested the sister of the late President Salvador Allende. The latter was assumed to be under the safe conduct of the Mexican embassy in Santiago and on the way out of Chile, but the fascist junta violated this elementary diplomatic right.

Thus, on November 26, the Foreign Ministry in Mexico City

announced the breaking of diplomatic relations with the Chilean military junta.

Another issue which has upset the relations between the two governments is the junta's adamant stand against the right of the Revolutionary Government of Cuba to re-enter the Organization of American States (OAS), obviously still under the hegemony of U.S. imperialism. But this U.S.-led attack on revolutionary Cuba has angered the Mexican government enough to threaten Mexico's withdrawal from the OAS.

After the U.S. began the blockade around Cuba and finally had Cuba expelled from the OAS in 1964, the Mexican government nevertheless maintained diplomatic relations with the revolutionary government. Moreover, Mexico has been all along a staunch backer of lifting the U.S. economic blockade around Cuba as well as a strong supporter of Cuba's readmission to the OAS.

The growing resistance movement to the fascist junta within Chile, the further isolation of the Pinochet "gorillas" from the rest of the world, and the advances made by revolutionary Cuba all spell a further weakening of the U.S. imperialist stranglehold over Latin America.



Bebe Rebozo, Nixon's close buddy, has been implicated by Rivero Collado in the Watergate conspiracy and in Cuban counter-revolutionary activities.

# 'Oh workers can you stand it?'

## Florence Reece knows which side she's on

By GRACE STILES

It's often said that history teaches us a lot about the present and the forces at work in our own lives. For the working class and the oppressed, the discovery of our history, the stories of struggles and the creative and courageous people they produced, are also an inspiration in our lives. But most of that history has been hidden in the endless parade of politicians and generals who are passed off as historical leaders.

This is especially true when it comes to the women, who according to conventional wisdom were too busy with domestic chores to take part in the events that shaped the world.

However, if you look in the right places some of the stories and some of the names still remain and among the real leaders you will find many real women. One such woman is Florence Reece, who wrote the famous union song "Which Side Are You On" in the 1930s.

### CAME FROM 'BLOODY HARLAN'

Forty years ago, Florence Reece lived in "Bloody Harlan" County, Kentucky. Her husband was a leader in the drive to unionize the

Harlan mines, which was met with such ruthless opposition by the mine owners. Florence herself had grown up a miner's daughter, knowing only too well the bitterness of the miner's life, and she saw the union as the only hope to better conditions for herself and her own family.

Then, as now, the law in Harlan County belonged to the mine owners. Their hired thugs, under the direction of the local sheriff, carried out a campaign of terror against union families like the Reeces. The sheriff's men were after her husband, and one night they forced their way into her house and tore it apart searching for him.

Some time after they left, Sam Reece came home exhausted from long hours of organizing work and the need to keep one step ahead of Sheriff John Henry Blair. While he rested, Florence sat up all night to guard the household.

### AS SHE STOOD WATCH...

It was during this long night watch that she composed the song which was to become a classic for working people.

It is only possible to speculate about the thoughts that passed through her head that night.

Florence Reece was 30 years old and had borne seven children. Her husband was on strike and being hunted by hired guns who could appear out of the darkness at any time. She had all her life known nothing but hardship, and had heard a company man say he "hoped the children'd have to gnaw the bark off the trees" to get something to eat. But instead of the fear and submission that the mine owners counted on, what she wrote on the back of an old calendar showed a spirit of solidarity and struggle that has lasted to this day.

### SHE HELPED AT BROOKSIDE

Clear in her understanding that "Us poor folks haven't a chance, unless we organize," Florence Reece returned to Harlan County in 1974 during the strike at the Brookside mine. The Brookside strikers and their families were reliving much of her experience of the thirties—the hard line of the company, the blood-thirsty thugs, and the company-owned law all conspired against them. "I felt I was one of them," she said, and so she lent her years of experience to help finally win that fight.

Certainly she must have given heart to the women of Brookside who, organized into the Brookside Women's Club, had done so much to support the strike. When some of them were arrested and jailed, she visited them. She went to the picket lines and rallies and "let the young people know what we used to go through."

Florence Reece is now 73 years old and her husband is crippled by

the miner's disease, black lung. But her spirit is as strong as ever. All the trouble she has seen has only fortified that spirit, and she says, "I wish I could live to 100. I want to keep on helping."

The women like Florence Reece, women who sat up into the night

and walked the picket lines by day, who bore up to the threats of the company and didn't give way, were instrumental in building the union movement and the fight for workers' rights. They played a vital part in shaping our world, and will not be forgotten in the history books of the future.

## Which side are you on?



Florence Reece

Come all you good workers,  
Good news to you I'll tell,  
Of how the good old union  
Has come in here to dwell.

Chorus

Which side are you on?  
Which side are you on?  
Which side are you on?

My daddy was a miner  
And I'm a miner's son,  
And I'll stick with the union  
'Till every battle's won.

They say in Harlan County  
There are no neutrals there;  
You'll either be a union man  
Or a thug for J. H. Blair.

Oh workers can you stand it?  
Oh tell me how you can,  
Will you be a lousy scab  
Or will you be a man?

Don't scab for the bosses,  
Don't listen to their lies,  
Us poor folks haven't a chance  
Unless we organize.

## Bus workers strike in two Texas cities

By BARTE HAILE

HOUSTON, Nov. 27—The strike of Houston bus workers is 22 days old, while 200 miles to the east in San Antonio the bus company has been shut down by strikers for 2 weeks. San Antonio bus drivers and mechanics have defied injunctions and fines levied by a local judge while in Houston the bus workers press ahead with their first strike in 24 years in the face of viciously biased media coverage and the

extreme hostility of the mayor and city government. In both these Texas cities bus drivers and other employees of the city-owned transportation systems are determined to see their just demands met.

The Houston drivers and maintenance workers, predominantly Black, are striking to bring their eroded wages up to parity with those in other large cities. Although Houston is the fifth

largest city in the country, the transit workers' pay here ranks 41st.

The final company offer of 80 cents over 2 years, which was angrily rejected by the workers, wouldn't even have kept pace with inflation. The cost of living has risen 12.7 percent in the last year alone.

Yesterday in San Antonio Judge Robert R. Murray issued another in a series of temporary injunctions to striking bus workers who have ignored previous orders to return to work. Though separated by many miles, the San Antonio and Houston bus workers share a very important thing: the determination to fight for a better tomorrow.

## Workfare slavery gets court approval

By PETE PERKINS

NEW YORK, Nov. 29—Slavery ended in America over 100 years ago, right? Wrong! Involuntary servitude was formally outlawed by the 13th Amendment following the Civil War, but it's still alive and well in America today under the tricky title of "workfare."

Millions of contemporary Americans have experienced slavery under plans known as workfare, prison labor, and the military draft. Of these three forms of slave-wage involuntary servitude, "workfare" is unique in that it represents a growing trend.

It was John D. Rockefeller, Sr., the robber baron founder of Standard Oil of New Jersey, today known as Exxon, who coined the phrase, "The world owes no man a living." Translated it means "the wages of joblessness should be death." But even for all his greed and power, the original Rockefeller never succeeded in making this a total stark reality.

In his capacity as governor of New York, Rockefeller's grandson, Nelson, has had his hand in the appointment of judges here in New York State for the past 15 years. In fact the concept of "workfare," that is, forcing welfare recipients to take unpaid municipal public service jobs as a requirement for home relief, was initiated right here in New York at the behest of then-governor Rockefeller.

Rocky's plans to undermine the bargaining strength of all labor

through workfare were initially limited by federal legislation dating back to the New Deal. But on November 4 of this year a court ruling on a case in New York provided that "a state could have a work requirement as a condition of eligibility" for home relief. What a coincidence that such a ruling should take place in Rocky's home state!

Reacting to the recent court decision, Federal Social and Rehabilitation Service spokesman James Dwight called the old struck-down law "obsolete" and added that he

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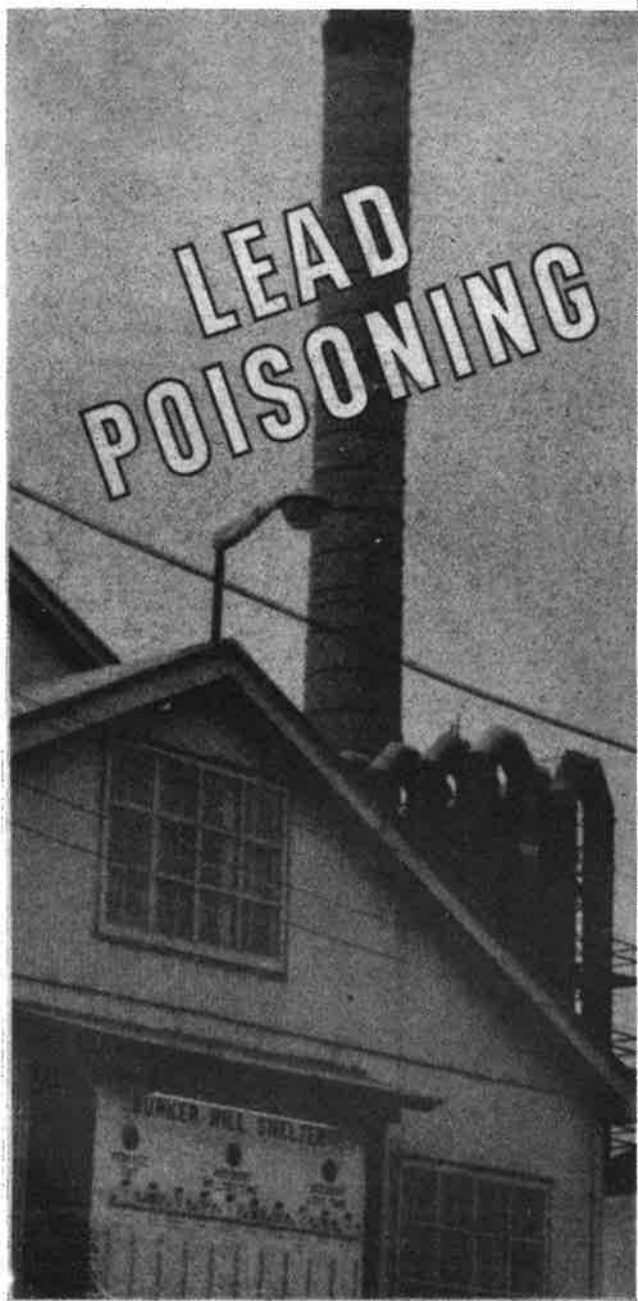
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Bus workers in Houston and San Antonio remain on strike in the face of injunctions and fines levied against them by the courts.

WW photo: Tim

New workfare programs plan to force we



The Bunker Hill Mining Co. pours out fumes that threaten not only the workers but their families with lead poisoning.

## Idaho miners' children exposed to poison fumes

By MOLLY CHARBONEAU  
NOVEMBER 26—Disregard for workers' safety on the part of giant corporations and industries has created danger on the job for many workers and has left still more with occupational handicaps and diseases. This same disregard is now taking its toll of the workers' families. The wives and children of Kellogg, Idaho, are but one example.

### MINING IS LIVELIHOOD IN COEUR D'ALENE REGION

Kellogg is a mining town in the Coeur d'Alene panhandle area of Idaho. Without the mines and smelters the 3,811 people who live there would have nowhere to turn for work. The bosses of the mining companies know this and take advantage of the Kellogg workforce by allowing the mines to deteriorate and by polluting the air with no consideration for those who must breathe it.

In 1972 Coeur d'Alene brought mass tragedy to the front pages all over the country when 91 miners burned to death in an underground fire at the Sunshine silver mine. Even now, over 2½ years since the fire, the miners are still in constant danger. They work deep underground breathing in deadly fumes as they bring up silver, lead,

and zinc with which the bosses line their pockets.

### WORKERS' FAMILIES IN DANGER

It's bad enough that the Bunker Hill Mining Company exposes the miners who work there to on-the-job hazards; now it is victimizing their families.

Bunker Hill has been in operation 50 years and for all that time its smokestack has poured fumes and vapors throughout the area. Recent blood tests on 175 children who live in the area has revealed that 98 percent of those within a mile radius have dangerously high levels of lead in their bloodstream.

Lead poisoning can be fatal in high enough concentrations. But nonfatal doses can also have horrible consequences. The first symptoms include violent abdominal pain; nervous disorders and even mental retardation can follow. It is now believed that children, who tend to be more active than adults, may absorb more lead from the air and therefore be more susceptible to this crippling disease.

The Bunker Hill Mining Co. employs 2,000 workers whose labor produces 15 percent of the lead and 20 percent of the zinc in the United

States. The workers were unorganized and divided in the days when Bunker Hill first began its operation, so there was little they or their families could do about the danger, the gases and the pollutants.

### UNION. COMMUNITY WAGE STRUGGLE AGAINST BUNKER HILL

Yet it was undoubtedly these very conditions which spurred the miners to organize into the union to which most of them now belong, the United Steel Workers of America (USWA). In 1972 the USWA waged struggles on behalf of workers in Omaha, Neb., and El Paso, Texas, who faced similar conditions. These campaigns set a precedent for a struggle which is now being waged by the union and the Kellogg community to see that the Bunker Hill operation makes the mines safe and stops polluting the air.

In response to this struggle the Bunker Hill Co. did submit a "Plan of Action" in October 1973 which it has pledged to implement. The workers and their families, who are by now familiar with the company's "concern" for them will undoubtedly continue their struggle until they are satisfied that the mines and the air are no longer a threat to life and limb.

(Much of the information contained in this article appeared in the November 1974 Steel Labor, the paper of the USWA.)

## 1,510 layoff notices for NYC workers

By KEN FRANSON  
NEW YORK, Dec. 2—Mayor Beame of New York has announced that in order to reduce the city's budget deficit of \$330 million, 1,510 city employees will be laid off. He says that the \$11.1 billion budget must be cut by \$100 million, combined with loans or subsidies of \$230 million more from the state and local governments, to avoid bankruptcy for the city.

Where will these cuts come from? The largest cuts will be in the Social Services Department (222 people), the Environmental Protection Administration (206 people), education (195 from the Board of Education and City University), and Health Services (210 people).

Beame's priorities can be seen from the fact that these vital

services are being cut, while 600 more police have been hired this year. Only eight are being laid off from the Police Department, all provisional employees who have not yet passed the Civil Service exams.

### PROFIT PRIORITY

These priorities are a reflection of the priorities of the capitalist system as a whole. The lives and health of the working class are unimportant compared to the protection of the private property of the ruling class. (As most workers know, the police are not there to protect them, but to protect the rich.)

To make matters worse for the workers who lose their jobs, city workers do not collect unemployment compensation.

They will be left jobless in an economy where work is increasingly hard to find and the unemployment rate is steadily climbing. Many workers took jobs with the city because of the general feeling that city workers might not make as much money, but at least there was job security. They are now finding out that the city offers no more security than any other employer in times of crisis.

Not only New York, but many other cities, such as Cleveland, Atlanta, and Boston, are cutting employees as the capitalist crisis deepens and city revenues drop more and more. And jobs are lost by more than just the city workers being laid off. Any time workers in any job are laid off, they no longer have the money to buy the goods produced by other workers.

This means layoffs of city workers in New York can cause layoffs for auto workers in Detroit, steel workers in Chicago or Cleveland, or almost any other worker in the country. This is why the working class must join together to fight for reforms like decent unemployment benefits for all workers.

But this is not enough. Capitalism is a deadly disease; its symptoms are unemployment, starvation, war, racism, and oppression. Not only the symptoms, but the disease itself must be fought. And the only cure for the plague of capitalism is socialist revolution.

knew of no plans to implement workfare as a federal program. Don't bet on it.

### NYC JOB FREEZE

The City of New York now employs over 12,000 welfare (or "workfare") people in unpaid city jobs on a part-time basis and has been given the green light to up the figure considerably. The same municipal government recently placed a total hiring freeze on all city jobs and laid off over 1,500 workers. Rumors are rife in many city agencies that the next new replacements coming in will be part-time workfare people.

This fascist and anti-labor program obviously benefits neither the workers nor the workfare people, only the bosses. It

cheapens and divides the workforce.

### LEGAL COUNTERSUIT

But this new attack on poor and working people is not going unanswered. At the initiation of the National Welfare Rights Organization, a court challenge is being prepared by attorney Adele Blong of the Center on Social Welfare Policy and Law in New York. Since workfare is an attack on all poor and working people, it should be fought against vigorously by all of us.

Ford has a problem. He can only create employment for one jobless no-good by making him his Vice President. The rest of us deserve better treatment but to get it we must determinedly resist "workfare" and other similar tyrannies.

Down with "workfare!" Down with Ford and Rockefeller!



force welfare recipients and the unemployed to work at city jobs for their meagre relief checks.




 EDITORIAL

## -Come to Boston Dec. 14

(Continued from page 1)

organize, to spread their obscene acts of racism and fascism to other cities? They are waiting to see what the response is on December 14. And they take this march so seriously that they are right now organizing a counter-demonstration for the following day.

### EVERY VOICE WILL COUNT

It is because all eyes are on Boston—both those of the racists and of all decent, progressive people—that *every voice will count on December 14*. While every struggle to gain justice and equality is important, this one has transcendent meaning. It can help bring about a turning point in the minds and actions of many, many people.

Everyone expects the year ahead to be a tough one. There will be lots of unemployment with no relief from the rising cost of living. It can be a time of demoralization—or it can be a time of struggle.

In the class battles ahead, workers are going to need all the solidarity they can get. Racism will be the main tool of the giant corporations and their political stooges. In the miserable days of the Great Depression, big bosses like the Fords practiced a deliberate divide-and-conquer policy, pitting white against Black. It was only by fighting against racism and for the concept of industrial unionism that the working people were able to gather strength after severe defeats for many years.

### TURN THE TIDE AGAINST RACISM!

"Turn the tide against racism!" is the theme in Boston, and this is the only issue. The merits of the busing plan are not what is behind the racist mobilization. After all, the ugly violence has been directed against Black children, not the courts and judges, and they didn't write the plan. They are merely trying to get a good education—and for that they are made to run the racist gauntlet.

It is in the interests of all working people, of whatever national background, that the Boston march against racism be a rousing success. That means that thousands of people must put everything else aside for that day, and make the effort to be in Boston.

We urge all our readers to fix their commitment *right now*, work hard for the march in the next week, and be a part of a historic action which is long overdue.

## And his V-P is a billionaire!

At his news conference on December 2, President Ford stated, "I think the American people are ready for more sacrifices. I've great respect for the willingness to sacrifice of the American people. I've tried to give them a program that does require some sacrifice. I hope that Congress responds and if they don't like my program they will come up with one of their own that will equally call on the American people to make some sacrifices."

One would think from all this that the people are just begging Ford to lower our standard of living some more and we should be grateful that he has come up with a program that will "allow" us to sacrifice again.

Of course, this is not the case at all. The poor and working people are fighting just to keep their heads above the rising flood waters of inflation, struggling to keep from being laid off, or looking for work that will support their families. The last Harris poll showed that 83 percent of the people feel that Ford's economic schemes are "inadequate or poor."

Yet Ford, like the capitalist politicians of Italy, France, and Japan, continues to demand that workers lower their standard of living once more "to help the nation."

What he means is, "to help the rich."

Cadillac sales are at a record high. Profits continue to skyrocket, fueled by higher prices. While the people are paying sugar prices jacked up over 400 percent in the last year, the sugar monopolies' profits are up over 1,000 percent!

Let Ford call on his millionaire and billionaire bosses and friends to sacrifice for a change.

But in the meantime, the working class won't be holding its breath. All poor and working people must develop a struggle against the bosses and their government. We've got to *make* them "sacrifice" their swollen profits and senseless luxuries.



## WHAT WE MEAN BY...

### THE STATE

By LORRAINE BRESLOW

We have shown how the state—the army, courts, cops, prisons, and tax collectors—arose about 6,000 years ago and how it has historically served the privileged classes of the slave owners, feudal lords, and, today, the capitalists.

The U.S. has developed the most expensive state in human history. The federal budget for the military alone exceeds \$100 billion a year, not counting the hidden budgets of paramilitary organizations like the CIA, or the cost of past wars in the form of military pensions and interest on the national debt. To this already enormous figure must be added the billions spent from state and local treasuries on the police, prisons, and courts.

#### STATE PROTECTS BILLIONAIRES

The purpose of this vast apparatus is to serve and protect the power of a handful of millionaires and billionaires who rule this country.

Isn't it obvious that the state always sides with the bosses? All of us know of the many times striking workers have been beaten and arrested by the cops. Have you ever heard of cops clubbing and jailing a boss during a strike?

Isn't it a notorious fact that of the thousands executed in the electric chairs and gas chambers of this nation, none have been wealthy? In fact, 80 percent of the one million

prisoners in this country are third world, and all but an insignificant handful are poor.

The state has become almost completely merged with the capitalist class itself, creating a virtual shuttle service of top executives between the board rooms of America's largest banks and industries and government "service." Dean Rusk changed hats from head of the Rockefeller Foundation to Secretary of State, McNamara moved from president of Ford Motors to Secretary of Defense, and Rockefeller himself has begun to step into the White House, the highest executive office of the state.

The ruthlessness of the capitalist state has been revealed many times in recent years—at Mylai, in Los Angeles where hundreds of cops attacked and burned alive five members of SLA, at Attica, where Rockefeller ordered a massacre that ended with 43 inmates and hostages dead.

#### WORKERS' STATE

In 1917 a completely new kind of state appeared in the world. The Russian Revolution created the first workers' state. Capitalism was abolished, just as slavery and serfdom had been overthrown before. All wealth, except articles of personal property, was made the common property of all the workers. The overall economy was planned to meet human needs, not

the profits of a few.

Despite its deficiencies, the Soviet state is in the historic interest of both the people of the USSR and the workers of the world as a whole.

Since 1917 there have been more socialist revolutions in China, Cuba, Vietnam, and other countries.

We live in a time when the capitalist state is collapsing and capitalism's decline generates wars and revolutions. But capitalism is being replaced by a superior system, socialism. This will happen in America, too, where anyone can see from the Watergate revelations that the state is both completely corrupt and increasingly unstable.

#### COOPERATION WILL REPLACE THE STATE

The state has always been an instrument of dictatorship: of the slave owner over the slave, the feudal lord over the serf, the capitalist over the worker and colonized peoples. In the workers' states, however, it is the majority that rules over a minority of counter-revolutionary capitalists. And where the development of earlier societies sharpened the differences between the classes, the growth of socialism does away with all class antagonisms.

When the capitalists are overthrown all over the world, the state will begin to disappear. The world's wealth, produced abundantly by modern technology, will be shared in common. With the historic end of oppressed classes, the state, an instrument used to carry out their suppression, will be obsolete and the human race will return to its original stateless condition, but on a far higher level.

## LETTERS

### INDIANA WORKERS NEED WW

Indiana ranks second (after Michigan) in number of auto plants. Indianapolis alone, with a population of approximately 900,000 has 200,000 who are members of the United Auto Workers labor union. This month (post election) as you know the auto industry has inflicted massive layoffs. These questionably "temporary" layoffs had the

instant effect of tripling the lengths of lines, actually crowding the Indiana State "Employment Security" Division's office to its capacity.

Simultaneous to the increase of unemployed, employees (I don't know what else they could be) of the National Caucus of Labor Committees began peddling their organ Solidarity (name plagiarized from a UAW publication) outside the unemployment office here. An issue of this doggy potty paper came into my possession without purchase. In it I read that Workers World is a cover organization for none other than the Central Intelligence Agency. This rag

foams at the mouth, spewing one unsupported statement after another, and presents it in a comatose gibberish of pseudo-rhetorical rhetoric.

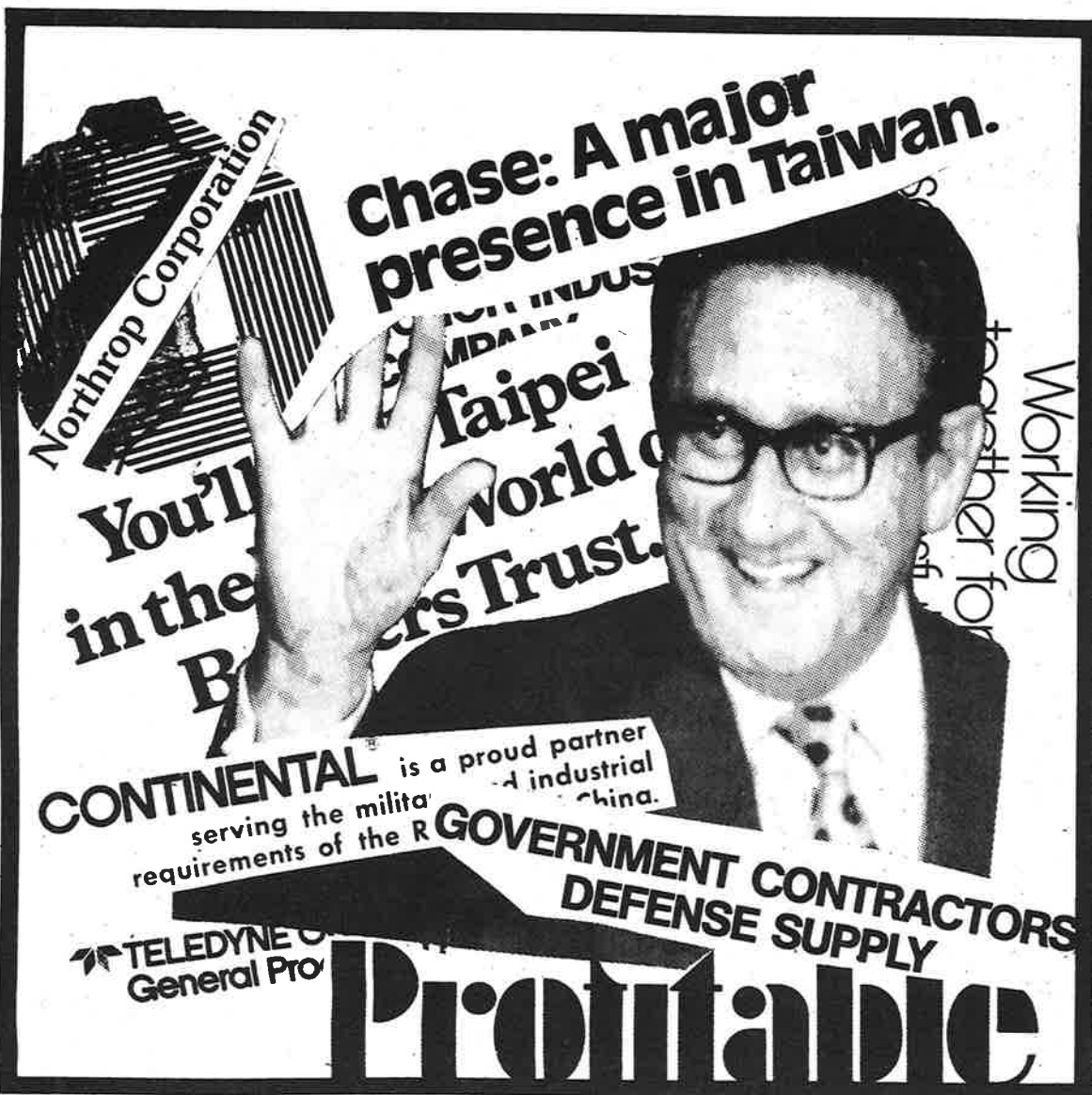
WW has consistently shown with supportable statement, and a class analysis approach that the National Caucus of Labor Committees are really fascist goons masquerading as a working class organization.

I think you should select someone to distribute Workers World here. The working people of Indiana want FOOD, JOBS and the TRUTH!

K.J.K.  
Indianapolis, Indiana

The other aspect of the Taiwan issue

# Kissinger's China visit



By SAM MARCY  
DECEMBER 1—Immediately after the Vladivostok summit meeting between Ford and Brezhnev, Henry Kissinger embarked on a 4-day visit to the People's Republic of China (PRC). If the visit resulted in any appreciable gain for the foreign policy objectives for which the People's Republic has been fighting so tenaciously against American finance capital, it was not reflected in the terse communique issued at the end of Kissinger's stay in the PRC.

In essence the communique merely reaffirmed the principles of the Shanghai communique reached during Nixon's visit to China in February 1972.

Kissinger's current visit is the seventh since his first in July 1971. Much water has passed over the dam since then, and enough time has elapsed to give Washington ample opportunity to carry out the

stated objectives of the long drawn-out negotiations.

In general, these can be summed up as the normalization of relations between the U.S. and the PRC and the establishment of full diplomatic relations. Although normalization is a vague, loose term which can mean almost anything short of open warfare, the same cannot be said of diplomatic relations. The latter can scarcely be misinterpreted to be anything other than mutual recognition by both governments and the pledge to deal with each other to the exclusion of any who may claim to be "the other government."

After more than 3 years since Kissinger's first secret visit, and more than 2 years since Nixon's, neither of the two objectives which the People's Republic has sought to obtain has come anywhere near actual realization.

After Nixon's much touted visit

to Peking, there was a great deal of talk about a "new era" in relations between the U.S. and China. During his stay in the People's Republic, Nixon agreed to the now-famous Shanghai communique which was signed by representatives of both governments.

## SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE UNFULFILLED

Among the major points agreed to in the communique was a clear and unambiguous commitment by the U.S. to a "withdrawal of all U.S. forces and military installations from Taiwan."

What has happened to this commitment in the more than 2 years since the U.S. agreed to it? When it was first signed there were about 8,500 military personnel on the island. After reducing the number of military personnel to about 5,000, the withdrawal was

abruptly stopped. Little notice was made of this significant fact in the American press and no explanation for it was given to the American people.

The capitalist press saw no reason whatever for even commenting on it. Nevertheless, it is patently clear that without a full military withdrawal Taiwan remains an occupied island ruled by a U.S. puppet and supported by the U.S. military establishment. In fact, the Pentagon seems to be going about its affairs as though nothing much has really happened to change matters since the opening of negotiations with the People's Republic of China.

A more ominous development was disclosed last summer which reinforces the continuing failure of the U.S. government to fulfill its obligation under the Shanghai communique. It is to be remembered that the communique not only obligated the U.S. to withdraw all its military forces but also "all its military installations," which are no less significant. Closing them down and removing them from the island is what would be considered a concrete step toward carrying out or implementing the Shanghai communique.

## U.S. PRODUCING JETS ON TAIWAN

However, nothing of the sort seems to have happened. Quite the contrary. Late this summer the U.S. began producing supersonic jet fighters in a U.S.-owned plant right on Taiwan. The production of such a highly sophisticated plane in an area which the U.S. obligated itself to evacuate is highly irregular. It indicates an intention to stay there and is in flagrant disregard of the terms of the Shanghai communique.

The supersonic planes are F5E jet fighters, produced by the Northrop Corporation. The sight of these planes rolling off the assembly line could scarcely be regarded by China as a friendly act by the U.S. What gives added significance to the production of the F5E planes is that the Pentagon signed the contract with the Northrop Corporation back in February 1973. This means that it had not only the approval of Nixon then but also has the approval of Ford and Kissinger now. The entire cabal of American finance capitalists seems to be in agreement on this and no Senator, Congressman, newspaper, or electronic medium has made any protest against it.

## NEW AMBASSADOR TO TAIWAN

Nor is this all. In the area of reaching full diplomatic relations, the White House has taken a

serious step backwards. It appointed a new ambassador to Taiwan, that is, to the Chiang Kai-shek clique. If anything flies in the face of all the PRC has fought for in the field of foreign affairs, it is the vicious, utterly fraudulent, and ridiculous U.S. posture in regard to its two-China stance.

Yet the appointment of Leonard Unger, a high-level State Department senior specialist on Asia, to such a post cannot but be regarded as a calculated move to bolster the Chiang Kai-shek clique and maintain the fiction of the two-China fraud. This provocative move could easily have been avoided by leaving the post vacant or by abolishing it altogether and merely leaving a low-ranking attache in Taipei.

By taking affirmative action to appoint an ambassador to Taiwan, more than 3 years after the opening of negotiations to normalize relations with the PRC and establish diplomatic relations, American imperialism demonstrates it is still trying to hold on to the utterly untenable positions of the past.

Of course, de facto relations between the U.S. and the PRC have changed in the past 3 years. The U.S. maintains a liaison office in Peking and the PRC likewise maintains one in Washington. There has also been a relatively large increase in the level of trade between the two countries.

It has, however, been a one-way street so far as the PRC is concerned. The latter has done all the purchasing in the U.S. for hard cash, while the U.S. has continued to maintain its vicious and discriminatory trade ban against China, just as it does against other socialist countries, including, of course, the USSR. (The U.S. maintains this ban through its so-called most-favored-nation restriction.)

It is not to be wondered at, then, that the PRC has recently leveled off some of its purchases.

## HOW DOES PRC VIEW THIS?

The larger question here is whether the developments outlined above are viewed by the Chinese leaders with equanimity or even acquiescence. There is a great deal of propaganda, not only in the imperialist press but elsewhere, that the PRC must necessarily acquiesce in all this in the interests of higher "strategic" considerations—a euphemism for the deterioration of its relations with the USSR.

Is this so? And do current Sino-Soviet relations warrant such a conclusion? We hope to examine this aspect of the question in our next article.

Greed and aggression human nature?

# 570 to 1 says no

By ELIZABETH ROSS

Now it has been discovered that humanity, with its cradle in the heart of Africa, is at least a million years older than scientists had believed. Only a month ago, a young Ethiopian assistant, working with a French-American anthropology expedition, found a jaw bone and teeth that belonged to a human being who lived 4 million years ago.

"We must throw out many existing theories and consider the possibility that man's origins go back to well over four million years," leaders of the expedition said.

Class society—the oppression of woman by man, man by man, tribe by tribe, and nation by nation—came into being only about 7,000 years ago, as the culmination of a slow process of transferral of rights and power from the community to the individual. Class society coincided with the advent of private property—first in herds, then in people and land, the tools of production.

But humanity existed 570 times as long without private property as it has since existed with it!

Not only existed, but progressed! Not only survived against tempests, floods, droughts, and the

depredations of wild animals, but built a viable social organism. Working and owning in common, men and women developed agriculture, irrigation systems, land terracing, the mining and smelting of ores, the invention of pottery and weaving, granaries, boats, and hundreds of useful tools. And all without emperors, slaves, or policemen!

Civilization and the system of private property are commonly understood as being synonymous. The International Encyclopedia defines civilization as "Specifically, that stage of human culture characterized by social organization based on the recognition of proprietary rights."

## PROGRESS AT A PRICE

It is true that in that historically brief span of 7,000 years—that age of "civilization"—material progress developed with giant

strides. The system of private property gave a mighty impetus, not only to the accumulation of individual wealth, but to the productive process and the conquest of nature. It brought with it scientific advance, technical knowledge, a revolution in transportation and communication, and in recent centuries gigantic factories—and an improved standard of living for a large part of humanity.

But at what a price! It subjected human beings to slavery, serfdom, wage-slavery, poverty in the midst of plenty, unemployment for millions, and wars—each successive war wreaking greater destruction on the earth and its peoples than the one before.

The weight of these 7,000 years bears heavily on the minds of the living, so that much of humanity believed for a long time that the system of private property always was and always will be. They knew

nothing of the 4 million years that went before, and many still hold the belief that greed is inherent in human nature.

But more and more of us are now aware of a new form of communal life, a higher communism made possible by the material advances gained through the agonies of the era of "civilization."

The definitive turning point in modern history—the October Revolution in Russia in 1917—followed by the Chinese, the East European, the Korean, the Vietnamese, and the Cuban revolutions, assures us that the life-time of class society is hearing its end.

Building on the classless social relations of those 4 million years of prehistory, as well as upon the material gains of the 7,000 years of class society, humanity will achieve a new and genuine civilization.

# POLITICAL PRISONERS



## ANDREW GRIFFIN

Special to Workers World

ATLANTA, Nov. 12—This time, Georgia's notorious prison system might have to pay for the murder of a Black man.

Andrew Griffin, 32, was killed on November 4 during a work stoppage by 600 prisoners at the state's maximum security prison at Reidsville. Countless Black men have been murdered in Georgia jails. However, this time ACLU lawyers, the NAACP, and the press besieged the jail the day after the murder.

Later that week 14 Black state representatives issued a statement calling on Governor Jimmy Carter to appoint an outside biracial commission to investigate the killings and the grievances of the prisoners. Finally, on Friday, 200 persons including prisoners' relatives demonstrated in front of the state capitol protesting the murder and demanding an investigation.

Prisoners called the November 4 work stoppage to protest the unlivable conditions of the jail, and recent brutal and sadistic beatings of prisoners by guards. All prisoners working on the prison farms and prison industries refused to go to work and remained in their cells. The riot squad took the 600 men into the prison yard, where Griffin was murdered.

Reidsville now holds three times the number of prisoners it was built to hold. The overcrowding is so bad that one prisoner in ten is held in his cell 24 hours a day. It is not surprising that Reidsville has been the scene of rebellions in June 1960, September 1963, June 1974 and now November 1974. Prison authorities have never made any significant improvements in prison conditions.

Griffin was killed by a shotgun blast fired by a guard who a witness has said aimed directly at Griffin and fired twice. He was serving a 10-year sentence and was a jailhouse lawyer who had a case before the federal court in Atlanta. In his cell he had placed a reproduction of a painting commemorating the Attica rebellion.

Georgia has the highest percentage of its citizens in prison of any state in the union. Although the state's population is only 25 percent Black, 60 percent of the state's

prisoners are Black.

Local progressive groups are determined to prevent a cover-up of this most recent murder.

## RAYMOND SPARKS

NORFOLK, Va., Nov. 22—On October 20, a 28-year old Black prisoner at California's Folsom Prison, Raymond (Ray-Ray) Sparks, was found dead in a Psychiatric Isolation cell of the prison hospital. Authorities claim that Sparks, who was known to be politically active and allegedly had ties to the Symbionese Liberation Army, committed suicide by self-strangulation with a radio earphone cord.

However, prisoners and people on the outside claim that Sparks was murdered by the California Department of Corrections (CDC).

On October 8, Sparks had been transferred from Folsom to Tracy prison. According to a letter written while at Tracy, he stated that drugs were put into his food, that he was beaten by guards, and injected with drugs which partially paralyzed his body.

Sparks asked to be transferred back to Folsom Adjustment Center because of the brutality he received at Tracy. He was returned to Folsom on October 16 and arrived there in critical physical condition. The prisoners there requested that Sparks receive urgent medical attention but that request was ignored.

After screaming to get medical attention, Sparks was taken to the hospital on October 19. His mother was told by a doctor that Sparks was in relatively good physical and mental condition and was sleeping "peacefully" in his cell. Sparks was found dead after midnight on October 20.

One of the San Quentin Six, David Johnson, stated: "The murder of comrade Ray-Ray is a vicious example of how the Department of Corrections manipulates and perpetrates the murder of persons who have any kind of political awareness. The people must realize that certain prisoners are singled out to be systematically assassinated by the CDC. It is the people who must rise to this occasion and support the efforts of all prisoners, and expose the harsh realities of how the system will

eliminate those who seek to bring about progressive change. Let me just say that Ray-Ray lives in the hearts of all brothers and sisters who know him and understand what he stood for."

Hugo Pinell, also one of the San Quentin Six, added: "You must understand that if you do not rise to the occasion, this will be the fate of Doc Holiday, of the San Quentin Six—of a number of the prisoners who are in position to be quashed by the same pig methods of propaganda to justify functionary murder. Let us all join together and prevent another murder of this type. We're going to go onward to victory no matter what. They cannot stop us!"

## CARLOS FELICIANO

By JOE ZARBA

NEW YORK, Dec. 2—In the next week Carlos Feliciano faces the two most important court appearances in his long 4-year frameup. The first and most important will be in an office with Judge Bretel. By withholding the exact time, date, and place, and locating the hearing in an office instead of a courtroom, the state is hoping to separate Carlos from his hundreds of supporters, making it easier to deny his appeal motions and railroad him to jail.

Pending the outcome of this hearing, Carlos will appear before Judge Arnold Fraiman on December 13 to either have bail continued or be incarcerated for 4 years because of a frameup conviction in Manhattan.

Framed up on over 20 phony bombing charges for his participation in the struggle to free Puerto Rico, Carlos had already spend 17 months in jail before his 1970 trial. According to today's decision, this cannot be used as good time. If again jailed, Carlos will have to spend 29 months in jail before becoming eligible for parole. (Carlos was acquitted of all charges in the 1970 Bronx trial, but was reindicted in Manhattan on essentially the same accusations.)

Afraid of the militant support Carlos has won, the ruling class press has sought to create an atmosphere of fear around the case as well as showing its support for the jailing of Feliciano. On November 11, the New York Daily News, never a friend of the oppressed, ran a slanderous, full-page article attacking Carlos by name and

accusing him of crimes he has been totally acquitted of. This latest campaign, however, has only made the defense committee and Carlos more determined to fight. As the crisis of U.S. imperialism heightens, the ruling class thinks it can stifle the Puerto Rican independence movement by removing one of its acknowledged leaders. But as Carlos himself has said, "This case is a struggle of a nation, and Puerto Rico will be free."

All progressive people are urged to pack the courtroom at 100 Centre Street at 9:30 a.m., December 13, to demand an end to the fascist frameup and immediate freedom for Carlos Feliciano.

## CARLOS TO SPEAK

NEW YORK, Dec. 2—Carlos Feliciano will speak Saturday, December 7 at a rally at the Washington Square Methodist Church. If his appeals for further legal action are turned down on December 13, this may be his last public appearance before serving a 4-year jail sentence.

The Committee to Defend Carlos Feliciano sees the event as both a solidarity meeting and a rally for Puerto Rico's freedom. El Grupo, the popular Latin vocal group, will be the only other participants on the program besides Carlos.

All friends of Carlos Feliciano and of the independence of Puerto Rico are welcomed to the meeting scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at 135 West 4th Street.

## MARTIN SOSTRE

NOVEMBER 27—In a letter to supporters Martin Sostre, Black political prisoner, says that on November 4 he was brutally choked into unconsciousness by prison guards, then kicked as he lay handcuffed on the floor. This attack occurred as Sostre was being escorted by six guards to a court appearance where he was to stand trial for assault.

The pretext for this vicious attack by the guards was Sostre's refusal to submit to the dehumanization of a rectal examination for so-called "hidden weapons." The assault charges against Sostre stem from a similar incident last year when Sostre refused a rectal examination, was beaten by the guards, and then he was charged with assault!

When Sostre regained consciousness, he was taken into the courtroom, although he was still delirious and could only speak in a whisper. The trial was postponed until next February.

## IRA blacklisted in England; new fascist measures unleashed

By ANDY STAPP

DECEMBER 2—In a new and fascist step to secure their faltering colonialist foothold in northern Ireland, the English imperialists have passed a series of repressive "emergency decrees" that outlaw the Irish Republican Army (the Irish liberation fighters) in England. The IRA is already outlawed in the English colony of Ulster (northern Ireland) and in the Irish Republic to the south, the IRA has also been banned by timid politicians on orders from their masters in London.

Over a dozen people have already been arrested in England following the implementation of the "emergency decrees." Under the new laws, the IRA is outlawed and membership in it is punishable by 5 years in prison and an unlimited fine. The police have been given powers to arrest without warrant and hold without charges. Even the wearing of black

berets or anything that might resemble an IRA uniform makes a person subject to arrest.

To excuse the new wave of repression, the English government cites a series of bombings allegedly carried out by the IRA in England over the last several months.

What hypocrisy!

### ENGLISH OCCUPIERS ARE REAL TERRORISTS

The pompous denunciations of terrorism by English politicians should not divert attention from the real terrorists: the English overlords themselves.

It is these gentlemen who have made Ireland the oldest colony in the world. For 800 years English armies have held all or part of Ireland and have literally killed millions of Irish men and women.

Since the establishment of the Irish Republic in the south, England has occupied the six northern counties with tens of

thousands of troops. These soldiers have arrested and held Irish patriots in jail for years without trial. Peaceful crowds

demonstrating for independence have been mowed down by English soldiers. Even children have been murdered.

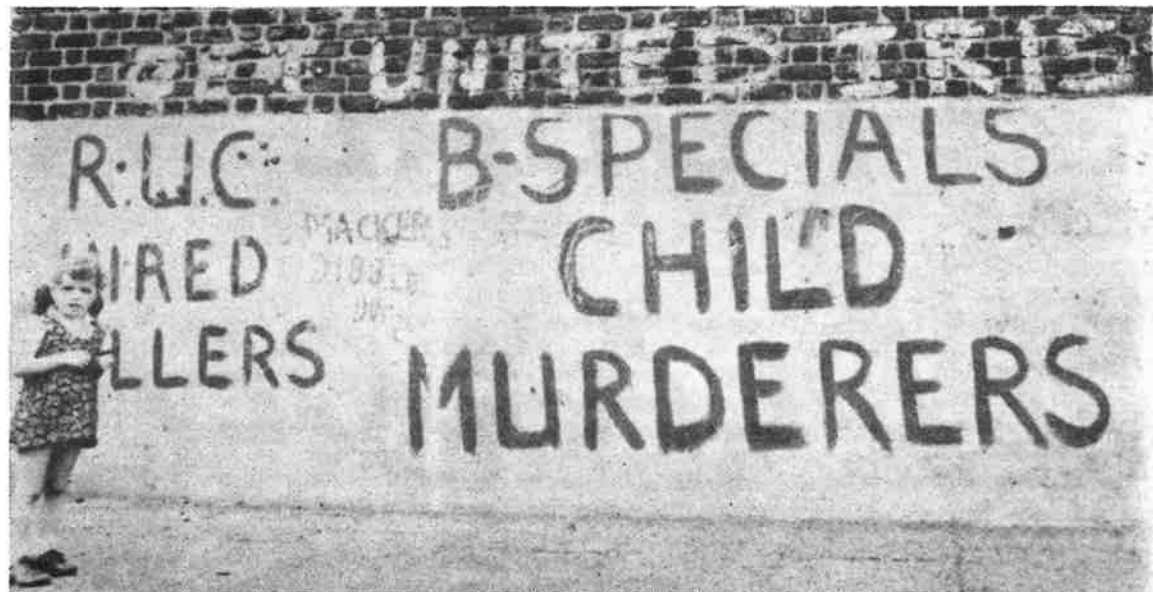
In all over 1,100 people have died in the last few years as a result of England's determination to split Ireland into two parts and keep the northern section attached as a colony.

It is the IRA that for over 50

years has carried out the struggle to liberate the whole of Ireland from English colonialism.

The outlawing of the IRA is but one more crude attempt to stop the whole Irish people from gaining their long suppressed freedom.

In this critical hour, the IRA deserves the support of all progressive peoples now more than ever before.



The British government, which has made Ireland the oldest colony in the world, has recently decreed it a crime to belong to the Irish Republican Army. Photo: United Irishman



## At anti-NATO conference

# International GI unity promoted

By JOHN C. OTTO

AMSTERDAM. The Netherlands, Nov. 24—There must be many people, even among readers of WW, who don't know that in the past year or so:

—1,000 Swedish soldiers went on sick call one day to win a demand for free weekends with passes home.

—200 French soldiers demonstrated in Draguignan for democratic rights.

—80 British troops stationed in West Germany demonstrated against their orders to Northern Ireland.

—Italian soldiers have written letters to workers' organizations exposing their officers' links to fascist groups, and

—that the Dutch soldiers have a union, and within the union is the Bund Voor Dienstplichtigen (BVD), an anti-imperialist, pro-working class caucus whose representative received a vast majority of all the soldiers' votes for a position of leadership in the union.

These were among the items discussed at the Anti-NATO-74 Conference, called together by the BVD and held in Amsterdam on November 21-23. Attending were 100 people representing groups from almost all the West European capitalist countries and the U.S. The groups represented are doing work within their own military establishments to prevent their being used as a weapon against the working class, whether at home or abroad.

### BRITISH ARMY EXPERIENCE

Even the simple exchange of experiences of rank-and-file organizing was a tremendous step forward. The officers of the capitalist armies have been exchanging their experiences for a long time.

One striking example of this was related by an Irish activist, who told how the lessons learned by British troops suppressing the Irish liberation struggle were being passed along to other NATO officers. He reported that Swedish police and army officers have been seen in Northern Ireland, along with West German Frontier Police, French and Belgian paracommandos, and officers of the Dutch State Police, all receiving training in urban counter-insurgency. U.S. Special Forces have been getting the same training in Great Britain.

### FEAR CONTACT WITH MASSES

The NATO officers in general fear contact between the troops and the workers at home. Again, the British Army furnishes a good example. With a shift in public opinion against the stationing of troops in Ireland, the British military no longer sends troops from Ireland back to England for rest and recreation after 4 months'

duty, but sends them to West Germany instead, counting them as part of their NATO commitment.

A positive result of the conference is that the West German progressive groups will help get anti-war literature out to British troops on leave.

One of the main demands of all the groups representing soldiers was for stationing near home with weekend pass and free travel privileges. This would make life more pleasant for the soldiers and cut down on their isolation from the workers, making it harder to use the troops as strikebreakers (as is being done now in France) or to suppress workers' actions.

### DEMANDS REFLECT CLASS STRUGGLE LEVEL

The differences in viewpoint or in emphasis expressed at the conference were more likely to

reflect the difference in the level of class struggle in the countries involved than a difference in ideology, even though many different political points of view (all anti-militarist) were present.

For example, the West Europeans, and especially the Italians, the Portuguese, and the French (no Greek groups were present), were most concerned with NATO forces being used to break strikes or to suppress the workers' movement, for ultimate use in a civil war. They drew on the lessons of Chile often in the discussion. These countries also had the most experience in building ties between the workers' and soldiers' movements.

The U.S. groups, which included the American Servicemen's Union and local groups from Ft. Bragg to Heidelberg to Japan, raised most strongly the possibility of NATO intervention in the Middle East or

even against the USSR. Evidence of this was the training of U.S. troops for desert warfare and the series of propaganda posters depicting Soviet troops as the well-trained enemy, some of these posters emphasizing oriental features of the Soviet troops.

Some Europeans brought out that a great many Iranian officers were being trained by NATO forces, in an attempt to turn Iran into a strong western ally to police the oil-rich lands. "As the Israeli policeman falters," one participant remarked, "the Persian gendarme will be armed." But of course the Iranian masses still have to be heard on this question.

### PROFESSIONAL ARMY

A general response of the capitalists all over to assure control of their armies has been to

create either a completely volunteer, or professional army, such as in the U.S. and Great Britain, or to create special shock troops of professional soldiers within a draftee army.

The groups present agreed both to work against the professionalization of the military and to find ways to organize even among volunteer soldiers. The U.S. groups found that the latter was possible, and that even a struggle about the length of hair (an important issue in the U.S. Army in Europe) could serve to build resistance among GIs to the chain of command. There is also an increase of Black and women troops within the U.S. military and a growing need to fight racism and sex discrimination.

### JOINT DEMANDS

It would be impossible to expect a conference of diverse groups, on all political levels and from many different countries, most meeting for the first time, to arrive at a program for joint action. Despite these obstacles, a great deal of unity and solidarity was shown. A number of demands coming out of the commission which discussed the crisis in Europe and NATO show what the aims of the group are.

"We demand:

- the withdrawal of all NATO troops from foreign countries,
- the withdrawal of British troops from Ireland,
- no NATO intervention in the Middle East,
- an end to all strike-breaking activities by the army,
- an end to all counter-insurgency training, and
- the right of soldiers to be stationed near their own homes with free travel on weekends."

The conference ended with a mass meeting of 1,000 Dutch soldiers and supporters of the BVD in the audience joining about 100 people from other countries on stage in singing songs of international solidarity.



Progressive Dutch theatre group satirizes the bosses' army at mass meeting during Anti-NATO-74 Conference. WW photo: John

## 24 GIs strike in West Berlin

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, Dec. 2—On November 24 American GIs went on strike in West Berlin! Twenty-seven soldiers of Battery C, 94 Artillery, Berlin Brigade, refused to report for duty in solidarity with a Black Brother who had refused a harassment order to cut off his beard.

The strike was particularly remarkable for its solidarity

between Specialist 4th Class Rufus Thomason, the only Black GI in unit, and the other strikers, all of whom are white.

The army brass has always tried to foster racism in order to keep the rank-and-file soldiers disunited and weak. Noncommissioned officers have even organized chapters of the KKK in West Germany at Fulda and other bases, but the bold action of the men of Battery C shows that

officer-inspired attempts to shatter the class solidarity of the enlisted men can be stopped cold.

Thomason's refusal to cut his beard set into motion a struggle that quickly spread to embrace far broader demands than a change in army haircut requirements.

All the antagonisms between the officer class and the oppressed ranks surfaced, and the strikers demanded that, "all people in leadership positions will be removed if they show or have prejudice against race and rank, and all new people in leadership positions will take charge only after our approval."

In short, they demanded the abolition of racism and election of

officers by the rank and file! The army brass panicked and sent out an officer who read the strikers the mutiny act, concluding by declaring that the ultimate penalty for mutiny is death by hanging!

When 17 soldiers still refused to return to duty, the Army relented and rescinded the order that SP-4 Thomason shave his beard off.

Winning this concession the GIs returned to work, but vowed to strike again if their other demands weren't implemented.

(Andy Stapp was a founder of the American Servicemen's Union, which includes demands to end racism in the military and for the election of officers in its 10-point program.)