

Boston is focus of racist mob violence once again



Special to WORKERS WORLD

BOSTON, Aug. 26—Last night the homes of at least four Black families in the East Boston Maverick and Sumner Street public housing projects were damaged by rocks and bricks thrown by white racist youths.

The night-long series of assaults began when several white youths beat up two Blacks who were sitting quietly in a project playground. The projects contain a small minority of Black families.

The white youths then threw rocks and bottles at the home of Mrs. Ernestine Horne. But police took action against the two Black youths rather than against their attackers. White youths roamed the streets around the projects in groups of 20 wielding clubs and baseball bats.

At this point the Black families called on friends from East Boston and other parts of the city to help them protect their homes, since the police refused to do so. Twenty-five to 30 friends, including whites from the projects, joined the Black families at around 10:30 p.m. The racists continued to throw bricks and rocks, breaking all the windows in one Black family's apartment and most in another in the Maverick project.

One woman, Pat Hammond, was hit in the head by a brick thrown by the racists and sent to the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital.

DEFENDERS FACE ARREST

When the Blacks and their families walked onto the playground, trying to protect their homes, the police, who had taken no action against the attackers, forced the former to leave the playground or face arrest. They did arrest one of them, John Roberts of East Boston. The group then waited peacefully at the home of another Black resident, Mrs. Anna Mae Lewis.

The racist youth then attacked Mrs. Lewis' home with rocks which broke down her screen door, and one racist approached with a rifle. This was pointed out to police, who took no action. The police said, "These are nice kids. We grew up with them here in East Boston."

At least 30 police, without a warrant and without permission, then broke into the home of Mrs. Lewis where the group was peacefully sitting and arrested seven, including Mrs. Lewis. Six were charged with disorderly conduct and one with assault and battery with a chair.

Most of the remaining friends were forced to disperse, leaving Mrs. Lewis' home and children unprotected. Mrs. Lewis was further attacked by the police and her arm was injured.

Following this, the racist youth made their severest attack on Mrs. Lewis' home with no police interference or presence. Leaders of the East Boston Information Center, which is associated with the racist anti-busing group ROAR, have been involved in agitating the youths in the projects against the Black families.

The cases of the eight arrested, who include five members of the Greater Boston People Against Racism and several leaders of the East Boston People Against Racism, were continued until September 17.

The situation in East Boston remains tense today as the Black families and their supporters discuss the next phase of the defense, both physical and legal. A court injunction was obtained early today barring the East Boston police from interfering with the efforts of the Black families to defend their lives and property.

CIA—out of Portugal!

NEW YORK, Aug. 26—"U.S. out of Portugal, Power to the workers!" reverberated throughout Times Square today as Workers World Party and Youth Against War & Fascism held the first U.S. demonstration in solidarity with the Portuguese Revolution.

Close to 200 people participated on the picket line in front of the Allied Chemical building on 42nd Street and 7th Avenue in solidarity with the besieged workers of Portugal as they struggle to defend the developing revolution against foreign and domestic right-wing attacks. Many in the usually hurried rush-hour crowd

stopped to listen to the chants and read the literature being passed around by the demonstrators.

A group of middle-aged workers gathered at one end of the block and discussed the demonstration. As the chant "No U.S. intervention in Portugal" went up, one was overheard telling his friend, "Yeah, they gunned Allende down and now they are gonna do the same to Goncalves."

Support for the Angolan liberation struggle was also expressed on the line as the picketers chanted "Gulf Oil out of Angola, Victory to the MPLA."

Portugal's workers and rural poor are seeking a socialist solution to their unbearable poverty and oppression. They are opposed not only by their own bosses and absentee landlords, but by the imperialists of the NATO countries, particularly the U.S.

While the forces of capitalist reaction feverishly seek a military coup against the revolution, eight workers' organizations have set up a United Front Against Reaction. For an analysis of the roles of General Costa Gomes and Carvalho in the current struggle within the military, and of the potential for developing the united front towards workers' power, see the article by Sam Marcy on page 9.

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As unemployment benefits run out for thousands

Ford wants welfare system cutback

By ELIZABETH ROSS
 NEW YORK, Aug. 25—New York State and City officials are doing their utmost to cut welfare costs for the state by more than \$1 billion.

Total welfare payments for the whole state run to \$5.7 billion, of which the federal treasury pays half. The New York State Legislature is begging the U.S. to shoulder 75 percent instead of 50 percent of the burden, since it says welfare is taking the state and city governments "beyond the breaking point."

But on August 7 Gerald Ford made it clear that he would veto any such proposal by the Congress (in case Congress should have the guts to make the proposal in the first place) when he said, "There is no doubt the present welfare system should be junked ... or tightened up." (The meaning of "junked," of course, is clear enough but what does "tightened up" mean if not "cut to the bone"?)

If New York State does lop \$1 billion from the welfare budget,

and if, as seems highly probable, the federal government refuses to come up with the necessary cash, nearly 300,000 people in New York State alone will suddenly be without even the meagre help the system has been giving them.

UNEMPLOYMENT UP— BUT WELFARE DOWN

Huge cuts have already been put into effect in other states. In Massachusetts \$86.6 million was withdrawn from welfare in the middle of August, throwing thousands off the rolls, at a time when unem-

ployment is increasing and the cost of food is rising at the rate of 22 percent a year.

A permanent army of the unemployed—shrinking in times of all-out war, ballooning again during the short periods of comparative "peace"—is part of the tremendous price the working class has been forced to pay to keep the capitalist system in business.

Added to the heavy unemployment caused by "peacetime" is the constant flow of capitalist plants away from urban centers to low-wage areas around the globe.

But the industrial workers in the cities are, of course, not alone in their dread of unemployment. Giant factories in the fields have displaced thousands of farm laborers, and thousands more who were once classed as farmers—that is, independent farm owners—are now confronted by a new assault on their livelihood.

Recently the U.S. Agriculture Department announced that any agricultural enterprise earning less than \$1,000 a year will no longer legally be considered a farm. Half a million farm families may fall into this category.

What does such a decree mean to them? It means that not one cent of any money voted by Congress for farm relief will be available to these "non-farmers" who nevertheless live and die tilling the soil. And at the same time, with welfare programs cut back so drastically, those same families have less chance than ever of getting public assistance.

After giant agricultural combines like Tenneco, Standard Oil, and Boeing have swallowed thousands of farms in big gulps, forcing those who once worked on the land to seek employment in the cities; after the giant factories in the cities have automated, cybernated, and cut back their labor force to a fraction of their former number, or run away to cheaper areas, the cities themselves now spew out those workers they cannot employ.

America's ruling class, not so long ago, was willing to keep its labor force alive until the time when it could be used again—when another boom replaced a period of depression. Now, even in "good" times America's gigantic productive machine can only employ a fraction of the workers who want to work. And America's rulers are quite willing to let the "excess population" starve.

Until the working class overthrows this insane system and the madmen who profit by it, American workers must and will fight merely to stay alive.

U.S. used Rosenbergs' frameup to build Korean War hysteria

By JOE BYRNE
 WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 22—The National Committee to Reopen the Rosenberg Case called a press conference here today to denounce the latest refusal by government lawyers, for the second time this month, to turn over documents in the 24-year-old Rosenberg frame-up case.

Robert Meeropol, son of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, said that the government was "stalling because they have something to hide."

After 7 months delay, the government is claiming that it needs more time to find the files on its own witnesses! It is believed that the release of the documents to public scrutiny would substantiate the charge that the Rosenbergs were "legally" murdered to manipulate public opinion during the Korean war.

Marshall Perlin, a lawyer for the committee, said that he expected the government would continue to find excuses for not turning over

the papers.

The NCRRC is trying to get the documents to prove that the Rosenbergs were innocent of stealing government secrets. Millions of fair-minded people already believe that the Rosen-

bergs were framed by high ruling class circles during the McCarthy witchhunt period. The latest panicky actions by the government will only serve to fuel the demand to release the documents and reopen the Rosenberg case.



Robert Meeropol denounces government delays in releasing documents that might shed light on the legal murder of his parents, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

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Joann Little solidarity rally turns into joyous victory celebration

By ALICE GRAY
 CHICAGO, Aug. 16—Today over 50 people joined in a day of solidarity which turned out to be a victory celebration. For yesterday, Joann Little, a Black woman charged with the murder of a white prison guard while defending herself against rape, was found not guilty.

The day of solidarity was sponsored by the Women's Caucus of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF), the Illinois Prisoners Organization, Prisoners Solidarity Committee, Prisoners Support

Group, the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, and Women United for Action. The day began with a picket line and rally in the downtown area of Chicago where passersby heard words of support for Joann from speakers of sponsoring groups. Ben Pennington of the Illinois Prisoners Organization expressed solidarity with Joann and told of the conditions of prisoners in Illinois.

The rally was followed by a march through the busy downtown

streets with chants of "Joann Little fought back! Self-defense is a right!" At every corner along the march a short street meeting was held. Jill Roundtree of the Women's Caucus of YAWF pointed out that prisons are nothing more than concentration camps for poor people. She expressed the sentiment of the day when she said that victory for Joann came about through united effort, and only through continued struggle will Joann and all poor people be completely free.

DECLINE AND FALL

BURNS SAVES CORPORATIONS, NIXES NEW YORK

Village Voice, Aug. 18:

"Arthur Burns' empire, which he has headed since 1969 (as chairman of the Federal Reserve System), is beyond the scrutiny of Congress. Even more than the now battered CIA, it is virtually immune from outside supervision.

"Many have been the beggars at Burns' feet: the chairman of Penn Central, the head of Lockheed, and all the other princes of corporate capitalism ... Burns was good to them, heaping the largesse of the Federal Reserve System into their begging bowls.

"This year it was the turn of the would-be

saviors of New York City. They too implored Burns for help, pointing to the 'fiscal reforms' and 'austerity measures' they and the banks had forced on the city. Would Burns give a bridging loan? A ponderous and negative wag of the pipe. Would he then at least make a public endorsement of Big Mac bonds? More pipe-smoke wreathed his thoughtful brow. No. In fact, said Burns, he wished New York City would fall off the map."

APARTHEID FOR DOGS, TOO

New York Post, Aug. 11:

"Cape Town—The fact that it's a dog's life—if you're a dog—was confirmed here yesterday when cemetery authorities took the color bar to the extreme and banned a

dog owned by colored (mixed blood) people from having a commemorative plaque in a white cemetery."

WHERE DOES YOUR TAX DOLLAR GO?

Excerpt from Jack Anderson's column, July 18:

"Richard W. Velde (chief of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration) is a loud law-and-order man who believes crime can best be defeated with Dick Tracy gadgets. He wants to provide local lawmen with fancy paraphernalia.

"For example, he approved a wonder wristwatch, which would provide the cop on the move with a digital read-out of his blood pressure, pulse rate and body temperature—in case he should wish to check on the state of his health as well as the time of the day.

"The amazing watch, called 'A Personal

Fitness Monitor,' will cost the taxpayers \$300,000 to develop.

"Velde is also pushing a new protective gear, which was designed after extensive tests on goats. The program killed 100 animals and cost \$1.5 million."

THE MAN WITH CHUTZPAH

Associated Press, Aug. 1:

"Exiled Cambodian President Lon Nol appealed yesterday for intervention to stop alleged Khmer Rouge atrocities in his homeland.

"In Cambodia the situation is beyond all imagination. ... I am herewith informing the entire world press that this cruelty is in defiance, in the year of 1975, of all custom, all conventions, all rights and laws," he said.

"The exiled leader came to Hawaii in April and is living in a home in suburban Hawaii Kai."

In Chicago

Unions close ranks behind cab drivers' fight

By a member of DUOC Local 777
CHICAGO, Aug. 16—A 2-hour rally tonight at the hall of the Chicago local of the International Longshoresman's Association resounded with a pledge of city-wide labor unity in support of union drivers working for Yellow Cab and Checker Taxi Companies.

Prior to the rally, the organizers of tonight's event (the Ad Hoc Committee of Labor Organizations Supporting the Democratic Union Organizing Committee) issued a resolution reading in part, "As

Trade Unionists, we cannot stand by silently while these companies or any company uses unlawful means to destroy a labor organization." The Ad Hoc Committee then resolved "in the interest and welfare of working people and organized labor (to) support DUOC Local 777 in their struggle against the 'union-busting scab operation' of Checker Taxi Company and Yellow Cab Company in Chicago."

The 80 people assembled for the rally heard solidarity messages

delivered by Don Jones of the American Federation of Government Employees, Frank Rosen of the United Electrical Workers, Jim Wright, a regional director for United Auto Workers Region Four, and representatives of the United Steel Workers and the Iron Workers.

DUOC officials detailed the harassment of drivers and the bosses' schemes that led to today's struggle to stop a cab-leasing plan introduced on June 30. Under the plan, non-union cab drivers pay a

flat rate to lease a cab, pay for the gas used, and receive no insurance, health, or vacation benefits. This move by Checker and Yellow is in direct violation of their contract with approximately 5,000 drivers who work on a commission basis.

One Checker driver told this reporter today as we waited for fares in the staging area at O'Hare airport that he has filed a grievance demanding a new cab be regularly assigned to him because now the new cabs are being given

to the lease drivers.

Until now city officials and government agencies have done nothing to stop the lease operation, which hurts union drivers but benefits the taxi bosses. Isn't this the way it usually works?

The taxi bosses have yet to feel the power of a full mobilization of the thousands of DUOC members. This united action on the part of the rank-and-file, perhaps overdue, is something that should be on the minds of all union militants and supporters.

After police murder Black man in his own backyard

'We are fighting back' widow tells Workers World

By VERONICA GOLOS
NORFOLK, Va., Aug. 17—On March 1 of this year, Black longshoreman Clarence Morgan was shot to death in his own backyard by a white Virginia Beach policeman. The police had been called after a rescue squad had failed to appear, which had been called because Clarence Morgan was having a severe reaction to medication that had been given him that evening.

MRS. MORGAN'S STORY

In an interview this week with *Workers World*, Morgan's widow told us what happened that night. "When the police came, my aunt ran out and told them, 'Don't go into the back yard cause he's in there with the dog and not bothering anybody. Leave him alone. Wait for help.' But the policeman went back there.

"He told Clarence to stand up. Clarence stood up and the guy started firing. Three times. And when I heard the shot, I didn't come right out.

"Then my cousin comes running down the road and says, 'They shot him, they shot him!' And I ran in there and everybody tried to hold me back, told me don't go in the yard. But I broke on loose and I found Clarence lying on the ground.

"Then my aunt came in. She said, 'This is the one that shot him—right here.' And I looked at the policeman and said, 'Why did you shoot him?' He said, 'I didn't do it, I didn't do it.'"

The police officer who shot Clarence Morgan was D.W. Nicholson. He was in plain clothes and at no time identified himself.

Nicholson was known in the Burton section of Virginia Beach, a Black community, by the youth especially, whom he harassed at basketball games and other gatherings.

CASE IS CLOSED

After the killing, the NAACP tried to bring a report of an investigation to the City Council. Commonwealth Attorney Andre Evans also prepared a report for the police department. The City Council chose to hear only Evan's report, and Evans found no reason why the case should be brought to the grand jury. Police officer Nicholson was not even suspended, but merely transferred to another neighborhood. The case was completely closed!

The Commonwealth Attorney's office never asked Mrs. Morgan about the shooting. But they did

question her about the burning of a police car after Clarence Morgan was killed. Mrs. Morgan recalls: "You should have heard what he said. He said that the people should be concerned with who beat up a white boy and set fire to the police car and not this murder. And the police came into my grandma's house and searched her home for guns. They said they had been stolen from a police car and that the gun couldn't be replaced. That Monday they had helicopters all around the house real low, and we had to go inside. She was just in the hospital . . . she was upset. The next day after Clarence died they came here looking for a gun that had been stolen . . . and the helicopters. . . . These people are really something."

The "evidence" that the Commonwealth Attorney presented to the City Council turned out to be a number of fabricated stories: That Clarence Morgan had been hurting his wife, that he had been hurting a dog, and that Clarence had a knife. Mrs. Morgan denies that Clarence

was trying to hurt her, the dog has no scratches, and none of the witnesses either to the actual murder or those who came a few minutes afterwards ever saw a knife. Mrs. Morgan states that the authorities showed her a knife she had never seen in her life.

"HE WAS A GOOD PERSON"

Clarence Morgan was a hard-working man who lived peacefully with his wife and their three children. Mrs. Morgan provides some background on his life: "Clarence was born right here in Virginia Beach and went to school here. After he got out of high school, he went to Norfolk State College for 2 years. Then he worked with the longshoremen after we got married."

"He worked 12 years as a crane operator. I don't know what to tell you. He was a good husband, he was a good provider, he was just a good person."

The people of the Burton community have been organizing to reopen the Clarence Morgan case

and to make sure that Officer Nicholson is indicted for murder. Rallies and demonstrations have been held (see WW, Aug. 22). The anger against the police, based on years of brutality and mistreatment, is mounting.

When asked how the police are looked at in her community, Mrs. Morgan replied: "Like now, no good. I don't know what to say about them. I'll never call them again . . . not for help. You get help in the wrong way. You don't need that kind of help—someone come out and kill you. I was looking for help, not for someone to kill."

"WE CAN'T LET ANOTHER BLACK MAN DIE"

"If you think that a man is hurting his wife, who are you going to look for first? If you think a man is hurting a dog, why shoot him? Why didn't Nicholson look for me if he thought I was being hurt? You know the man in the back yard didn't even have to be Clarence. Nicholson didn't even ask his name . . . it could have been anybody.

They should think first before they use that gun, and if they are afraid of Black people, don't come in our neighborhood. If they are afraid, just don't come and bother us.

"The police are like that cause they can just go out there and kill Black people and they always get by. So they just keep doing it. But we are fighting back!"

"The rally and demonstration was a real good idea. I think it opens a lot of people's eyes. I think it opens people's eyes when we try and work together to stop this, to try and save another Black man's life. To stop sitting back and just let another Black man die. By having rallies and demonstrations in different communities we wake people up. Like, it could be me next, or one of my children, or you, or your husband. It just kills me to think about it."

For more information on the Clarence Morgan case, contact the Clarence Morgan Committee and the Prisoner's Solidarity Committee, P.O. Box 7032, Norfolk, Va. 23509. Phone (804) 627-0870.



CHARLESTON, W. Va., Aug. 26—Coal miners march through town to protest a federal injunction brought against a rank-and-file walkout of 40,000 which has been spreading throughout Kentucky and eastern Ohio for the past 3 weeks. The refusal of the Bituminous Coal Operators Association to put into effect a new grievance procedure provided for in the 1974 contract

sparked the strike. Federal Judge K.K. Hall clamped an injunction against the strike and jailed Sim Howze, a strike leader and president of Local 8454 of the United Mine Workers, but this only caused more miners to walk out. The demonstration shown above was held outside the courthouse as 100 strikers were appearing before the judge to face contempt charges.

Racist repression intensifies in Wilmington**Black child shot for taking peach**

Sheila Ferrell

Special to WORKERS WORLD
WILMINGTON, Del., Aug. 25—The narrow streets lined with two-story wooden row houses in the Black community are quiet but waiting, after a week of protests over the August 17 shooting of a 13-year-old Black girl by a white man.

Sheila Ferrell was chased four blocks by John Bailey after he discovered her raiding his peach trees. His second shot went through her back and pierced her lungs. She ran a block further, with Bailey after her, then collapsed. The girl is in critical condition, not having gained consciousness, and the Black community waits to hear if she will live or die.

Bailey was arrested, then released when \$25,000 bail was posted.

HUNDREDS DEMONSTRATE

The Monday following the Sunday shooting, a demonstration of 250 Black people, organized by a public school teacher marched in front of City Hall demanding Bailey's bail be made higher and he be jailed for his own protection.

On Tuesday, the home of Bailey, a 24-year-old auto mechanic, became the focal point of the next demonstration. Three hundred Black people demanding Bailey be put in jail were met by a cordon of police surrounding the house. While State Police helicopters hovered overhead, the demonstrators conducted a sit-down in front of the house lasting into the early morning hours.

On Wednesday, a peaceful demonstration organized by the Congress of Afrikan People attempted to enter the Wilmington downtown City Mall. There they

meant to leaflet and petition office workers on their lunch hour not to shop in the stores surrounding the mall.

Mounted police and the SWAT Squad with accompanying helicopters blocked the main group of marchers from entering the Mall. Eventually a smaller group of demonstrators were let onto the Mall where they were cornered by police, beaten, and tear-gassed. Police forced the people away from the Mall down into the Black community surrounding the business district, where tear gas drifting from the Mall entered the houses of the residents.

Rahsaan, Chairman of the Wilmington Congress of Afrikan People was arrested the next day on charges of inciting to riot.

On Thursday, the bail of the man who shot Sheila Ferrell, John Bailey, was raised to \$130,000, he was re-arrested, and remains in Smyrna Prison under special guard.

RALLY TIES IN OTHER INCIDENTS

At a rally held in Wilmington for the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), sponsored by the United Front Against Fascism, on the Sunday following the shooting, people spoke of two other recent attacks by the Delaware police on Black people. These were the police murder of Erevu (s.n. Isaac Wilson), a young Black man, in Wilmington on May 7, and the more recent police arrest and beating of two Africans, Tapson Mawere and Synos Mangazva, representatives of the Zimbabwe African National Union (Zimbabwe is the African name for Rhodesia) on June 7.

(Workers World has reported on the arrest of Mawere and Mangazva in earlier issues.)

Erevu was murdered by Wilmington police when two policemen came to his house with a warrant for his arrest on bank robbery charges. They shot him in his hallway, both at the same time with sawed off shot-guns when they say, he raised his hand as if he had a gun. No gun was found. The Attorney General of Delaware and the City Solicitor, arriving at the scene a half-hour later, pronounced the killing justified.

The day after, the police on calling Delaware Technical Community College were informed that Erevu had been attending class at the time of the bank robbery.

Erevu's death was the final act in a long list of police attacks. A

few months previous to the killing, Erevu had been stopped and arrested by police at 3 a.m. in the morning as he left his mother's house riding a bicycle on his way to join his wife at home. He was taken to a deserted cemetery, handcuffed and beaten.

Erevu was charged with assault with a deadly weapon. At the trial police said they stopped him when they saw a gun in his back pocket. They said he shot at them after being stopped. Evidence at the trial showed that Erevu's fingerprints were not on the gun which was produced while the policeman's prints were. The gun had the policeman's initials on it.

When the frame-up became apparent to everyone in the courtroom, the policeman turned to the jury and asked them not to do anything that would make him lose his job. The jury did not come

to a decision and the case was allowed to die.

OUT TO GET HIM

The police persecution of Erevu started in 1969 when, after a high-speed auto chase by police for going through a red light, he was arrested on 15 traffic charges. Being scheduled to enter the Marine Corps the following week, the charges were dropped at the request of the Marine Corps. The police never forgave Erevu and a pattern of harassment started when he returned to Wilmington from the service.

Erevu, who had become active politically, had to make sure he was never alone, including going to and from his job. But these precautions were not enough and the harassment ended only with his murder on May 7.

In the case of the arrest of the

two ZANU members, who had evidently made the "mistake" of trying to be served in a "whites only" restaurant in southern Delaware after their Greyhound bus stopped for repairs, two of Delaware's three daily newspapers, both controlled by the Dupont family, have portrayed ZANU as an illegitimate organization, in order to prejudice public opinion against the two men. The same papers have repeatedly stated that Sheila Ferrell's shooting was not racial and have never questioned the police persecution and murder of Erevu.

Erevu is dead, Sheila Ferrell may die, and Mawere and Magazva go to trial in early September on racist charges. The Delaware police continue to attack Black people with the protection of the Dupont Corporation in the "company state" of Delaware.



Wilmington police, with night-sticks and teargas, break up demonstration of Black residents protesting the racist and tragic shooting of 13-year-old Sheila Ferrell.

'Just a mistake' say racist cops after gunning down Black man

By LESLIE FEINBERG

NEW YORK, Aug. 24—On April 29 in Jackson, Mississippi, the sheriff's office and Jackson Police Department set up an armed ambush of an alleged robbery suspect. On that same night, Mr. Simmie Johnson, Jr., a young Black resident of Jackson, was shot to death by these police. He was not the man they were looking for.

The murder of this innocent man by fully armed police has created widespread unrest in the Black communities of Jackson and Madison County. The murder is formally being investigated by a Citizens Inquiry Committee made up of more than a dozen civil rights-oriented organizations.

POLICE WERE OUT FOR BLOOD

The committee's information indicates that the police manhunt was initiated under heavy pressure from Jackson merchants' organizations to stop local robbery and police had the name of an individual they were looking for.

The momentum grew to a point where several police privately

expressed their intention to get this individual. Officers investigating after the shooting have continued to ask community residents to actually help them "set up" this person, and have tried to shift the blame for Johnson's murder to this "suspect" in an effort to get Mr. Johnson's relatives to help set up the individual.

A man primarily responsible for building the momentum of hate is Madison County Sheriff W.B. "Billy" Noble, who fired the fatal shot. Speaking of the original suspect, he said, "We're gonna get him, but we ain't never gonna arrest him again. Every time we arrest him ol' Ross Barnett's law firm gets him off."

After the murder of Johnson, he asked the committee, "How can you say this was an unjustifiable killing? He was an ex-convict and he was there, wasn't he?" Noble has expressed in words what people of Mississippi have known, that he is a prominent symbol of racism and sadistic brutality and has used his office for 20 years to impose a reign of terror and fear on Black people.

Early police releases stated the

dead man was a suspected felon, killed while fleeing. When it was discovered that Johnson was innocent of any crime, the story was changed to state that Johnson had tried to hit an armed police with a hammer. This hammer wasn't mentioned to reporters at the scene of the killing. The evidence is clear that both his arms were raised in a symbol of surrender.

While murders of innocent Black people by police have swept in a wave across many large cities in the U.S., Jackson is no stranger to racist violence. Medgar Evers was shot down there in 1963. Jackson also stands as an anti-racist symbol as the scene of 1960s freedom marches and courageous Black demonstrations.

A recent survey of police violence that received wide coverage revealed that when people are shot to death in a big city by someone they've never met, there is a 20 percent chance the killer is a cop. And, as the murder of Simmie Johnson and others shows, that victim of senseless murder will probably be Black.

'Cops get out!' demand Black Boston residents

BOSTON, Aug. 18—One hundred and fifty residents of the Black community in and around the Mission Hill area demonstrated last Saturday to demand an end to the police occupation of their community. Sponsored by the Concerned Citizens of Mission Hill, the demonstration began at Carter Playground and wound its way to Boston's downtown area where picket lines were set up at Jordan Marsh and Filenes, two large department stores. Over 40 police lined the downtown streets in an attempt to intimidate the demonstrators. The action ended with a brief rally on the Boston Common.

A leaflet issued by community residents demanded that "police get out of our community along with the dogs they have used to attack us, drop the charges against those who have been arrested for protecting the community against racist attacks, and arrest and prosecute the cops who have committed brutality against the residents." The leaflet further stated that "until the tactless police force is dismantled and until our children can be educated without being attacked, Black people unite to exercise our power to defend Black people, boycott all white businesses, and boycott racist school conditions."

At joint public forum in Houston

La Raza, WWP hail gains of Cuban revolution

By JOANNE GAVIN
& BARTEE HAILE

HOUSTON, Aug. 9—"Our fight, if we are going to wage a war against imperialism, is to fight right here," concluded Jose Angel Gutierrez, founder of Raza Unida Party (RUP) and national chairman of El Congreso de Aztlan, in his closing speech tonight at a public meeting entitled "Cuba Today." More than 85 people, the majority Chicano, responded with enthusiasm as they had throughout this entire forum sponsored by RUP and the Houston branch of Youth Against War & Fascism (YAWF) and Workers World Party. By far the most significant political gathering in this city in many months, today's meeting dramatized the growing support throughout the U.S. for the Cuban people and their brave struggle.

Chairperson Carmen Zapata of

RUP introduced the first of the four featured speakers, Tatcho Mindiola. A veteran Chicano activist, Mindiola is the current chairman of Raza Unida Party in the Houston area. His comments centered upon a vigorous defense of RUP's recent visit to socialist Cuba and his organization's political independence. According to Mindiola, RUP has been attacked from both the right and the "left" since a Raza Unida Party delegation spent several weeks in Cuba this spring. Some people on the left, reported Mindiola, said "You shouldn't have gone to Cuba because Cuba is in the Soviet camp." His reaction was firm and inspiring. "If and when we decide to go to Cuba again, if and when we decide to go to China, if and when we decide to go to the Eastern European countries—that decision will be ours."

Alex Rodriguez, a leader of Houston YAWF and Workers

World Party and also one of the Houston 12, spoke second. He contrasted the oppression of Chicanos in present-day America and the lives of the Cuban workers and peasants before and after their liberation. Over 75 percent of pre-revolutionary Cubans were illiterate, he explained, yet Cuba has now achieved a literacy in excess of 99 percent. By comparison, 85 percent of Chicanos in the U.S. do not graduate from high school.

Rodriguez contrasted medical care, the status of women, the care of children and other concerns in the U.S. with Cuba today. "How were they (the Cubans) able to wipe out prostitution? The use of drugs? Unemployment? Racial discrimination? How can they have free medical care? Low rent? And all the other marvelous achievements of the revolution?

And how can the poor and

working people of the U.S. accomplish what their Cuban brothers and sisters have? By uniting the poor and oppressed of this society, said Rodriguez, to overthrow those same imperialists expelled from Cuba by the unity of the Cuban people.

The following speaker clearly explained that 15 years after their liberation the Cubans finally have destroyed the U.S.-initiated blockade of their country without sacrificing a single revolutionary principle. Tom Soto, a Puerto Rican activist and national leader of YAWF and WWP, attended the July 26, 1973 commemoration of the Cuban revolution in Havana. He talked of his many personal experiences in the "first Free Territory of the Americas." But the one he related most fervently was his talk with the Cuban worker who stated flatly, "When the revolution comes in the United

States, we'll be there helping you."

Just returned from Cuba, Jose Angel Gutierrez began by discussing electoral democracy there and the sham democracy of U.S. elections. Everyone 14 years of age and older has the right to vote in Cuba. Large numbers of ordinary workers and peasants stand for election on programs of honesty instead of a tiny handful of the super-rich who make wild and false promises and then buy their way into office. And if a "rotten apple" should somehow win, Gutierrez pointed out, it takes but 20 percent of the voters in his or her district to remove him or her.

Gutierrez ended with these words: "We have found many things in Cuba that are applicable for us here. . . . It took us (Raza Unida Party) a long time to get to Cuba. But we got there, didn't we? And our people are in support of our visit to Cuba."

Ford: 'Higher fuel prices good for you'

By T. MITCHELL

NEW YORK, Aug. 16—The trouble with the high cost of gasoline, heating oil, and all petroleum products, according to President-elect Gerald Ford, is that the price is not high enough yet!

Ford, who inherited Nixon's "Project Independence," claims that his veto of any continued controls on the price of oil extracted in the U.S. is to protect national security, but quite conveniently his edicts will have the certain effect of delivering even more stupendous super-profits to the giant oil monopolies.

OIL INCOME TO SURPASS ENTIRE U.S. BUDGET!

It has been estimated that if the price of domestic oil is decontrolled, 28 major oil companies based in the U.S. will have a combined income greater than the federal government itself. And while it may eventually become profitable to exploit new processes and forms of energy in the U.S., dependence on imported oil will continue to grow as long as these giant international oil monopolies can collect higher profits off foreign operations.

Even though those people who principally own and control the oil monopolies were born and bred in the U.S., there is no getting around the primary loyalty of these few ruling families to their maximum profits. Ford himself agrees completely with putting the tab on the American people for what amounts to a plan to bribe the oil barons into investing in production facilities at home.

For just a small note on corruption, consider that Vail, Colorado, where Ford announced his plan to create higher prices, just happens to be the home for Richard D. Bass, the eleventh largest coal strip mineowner and a personal friend of Ford's who profited \$100 million last December 30 when Ford vetoed a strip mine reclamation bill. How much will Bass profit from higher coal prices following higher oil prices?

Meanwhile, as the Bicentennial celebration approaches and the U.S. government pursues the goal of self-sufficiency in energy, many Americans in the winter of 1976 will be huddled not at Valley Forge but at their kitchen stoves, conserving

energy in measure according to poverty.

Capitalist ownership of energy production goes far beyond amassing huge profits. It poisons the earth, and residents of the Northeastern U.S. got another reminder during the week of July 27 when an enormous cover of stagnant polluted air underwent a chemical reaction in the sunlight and left millions literally gasping. All the various two-bit antipollution devices didn't stop record smog levels from fouling up an entire region.

HIGH PRICE OF CAPITALIST OWNERSHIP

As much as the industrialists shrieked at the first orders to clean up a little, now they are resisting even more, using the phony cry of "energy crisis" in a campaign to reverse these beginning ecological measures. They are champions of the virtues of burning dirty fuels without restriction, emitting agents of disease into the environment worse than ever, and Ford obediently mimics their excuses.

The people on the street will take bad air and slow death from pollution if their only choice is hunger and cold otherwise. But the hardship pressed upon millions by the deep recession will not be eased in any way by raising oil prices.

The long-promised "recovery" of the economy from its depressed level may well be consumed in the worst inflation yet, further depressing the economy. With the federal government officially committed to helping the oil monopolies to raise prices, the only thing that will recover is inflation!

And all this doesn't touch the

problem of finding and developing alternative clean energy sources, which is supposed to be the ultimate aim of "Project Independence."

WHAT'S THE OUTLOOK?

For the time being, the problem has lost attention since there is actually a tremendous surplus of oil with many, many wellhead pumps shut down. It turns out that the economic stagnation that Ford and his masters find so easy to bear has had the side effect of cutting back oil consumption. In the process, the graphs of the pseudo-scientists who predicted drastic shortage now have been flattened, but only the most cynical

would suggest present conditions are any answer.

The oil and other fossil fuels won't last forever, not even to the year 2,000 the way they have been getting used up, and humankind is going to have to exert great effort to this matter in the years ahead. But while energy is a physics problem, ownership and control are a social problem.

The quality of future human livelihood in terms of both jobs and the environment depends on the working class taking control of the economy out of the hands of the few super-rich individuals who interest themselves only in the quality of their profits to the detriment of a" else.



Black rebellion flares in Ohio city after cops murder another teenager

By AL NORMAN

CLEVELAND, Aug. 16—The small city of Elyria, Ohio, just southwest of Cleveland, was the scene this past week of a rebellion in the Black community, sparked by a white cop's murder of a Black youth.

On Monday night, Micheal Killean shot and killed 19-year-old Darryl Maxwell after Maxwell had allegedly tried to rob a bar. The cops said Killean yelled "halt" and fired only when Maxwell did not stop. But witnesses claim that Maxwell did stop. Then Killean fired two shots, hitting him in the back of the head with one.

Maxwell was unarmed. He had only 50 pennies, some cough drops, and three packs of cigarettes.

For two nights, there were looting, fire-bombing, and strong attacks against the police when they entered the community. Ninety state highway patrolmen were called in. Many people were arrested, including Maxwell's brother.

RACISM AN ISSUE

"Blacks have been pushed over by too many whites," remarked Larry Tinsley, a Black cook. "It was the Maxwell thing that started it off. Last night, the cops would

just leave the white kids going down the streets, shooting at stuff, but they'd arrest Blacks for nothing." Walter Moody, a sanitation worker added that he heard a cop use racist language.

There is to be an investigation of the incident. But going on past experience, the findings will probably support the cops. Not long ago in Cleveland a white cop killed a Black cyclist. He was later charged with a misdemeanor for that murder.

On August 13, Darryl Maxwell's brother led a march of 100 persons on City Hall to demand that an all-Black committee be allowed to monitor the investigation. That demand was won.

Elyria has a population of 53,000. Even though it is 13 percent Black, there is only one Black policeman. The only Black councilman, Leo Bullocks, commented, "I realize that a number of people in the community feel that the police are harder on Blacks and that there are a number of racists on the force."

BEHIND THIS EXPLOSION

For months and years, the Black community has been trying to get some improvement in housing and

general living conditions. Little has improved. Unemployment, at 9.2 percent for the city, is an astounding 45 percent in the Black community, with an even higher percentage for the youth.

This high rate of joblessness is at the core of the problem. Several big cities, like Detroit and Boston, where similar conditions exist, have been the scenes of rebellions. The looting, rock-throwing, and fire-bombing are but a visible display of the cry, "Get us out of this poverty!"

Many white people in Elyria, who are almost as poor as the Black community, saw the rebellion directed against them. Certainly, white-owned businesses were trashed, and some white racists were beaten. But the two nights of rioting were really directed against the overall conditions of economic degradation, racism, and police brutality.

The fight being led by Black people is ultimately the fight of all workers and poor people. It is now up to white people to show where they stand. For the united struggles of Black and white will be the key to ending all poverty, unemployment, and racism, and providing a decent life for all workers.

**NEXT ISSUE
SEPTEMBER 12**

Workers World takes a vacation next week. The next issue will be out September 12. See you then.



Before liberation, there was a constant bloodbath in Cambodia. Here, puppet soldiers torture a captured liberation fighter.

Cambodia: Then and now

By ANDY STAPP
 NEW YORK, Aug. 24—Every triumphant socialist revolution since 1917 has been greeted by the capitalist press with howls of anguish. This is not surprising since nothing in the world so enrages the master class as the sight of their former slaves seizing power.

“Eyewitness reports” during the Russian revolution solemnly stated that the Soviet Union had

“nationalized women.” Chinese children “executing their grandparents” was one of the milder slanders offered up as front-page news by the U.S. press in 1949.

More recently there were those hypocritical editorials against “mob rule” in Cuba when the people sent the worst of Batista’s sadistic police torturers to the wall for committing atrocities that numb the heart and mind.

The hostile coverage the bourgeois media has accorded the Cambodian revolution has predictably followed this same pattern of vilification and raw class antagonism to the victory of oppressed people.

been reduced to printing dispatches like the AP story of August 22 which conjured up a “prince with a private army” staunchly “fighting Red rule” in Western Cambodia.

One doubts that the Cambodian masses, having faced and defeated the worst the Pentagon could throw at them, are exactly trembling before the AP’s “prince.”

No. The Khmer people are through forever with being lorded over by U.S. imperialism. Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense Khieu Samphan (earlier reported dead in the capitalist press) has turned up very much alive on a friendly state visit to China and the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea. And Cambodia, a former colony of western (and briefly Japanese) imperialism since the French occupied it in 1863, is rapidly recovering from the savage legacy of U.S. military aggression.

The Office of Information of the National United Front of Kampuchea (Cambodia) has issued much news about this revolutionary reconstruction which the men who own the capitalist media are deliberately withholding from the public here, despite these gentlemen’s self-proclaimed reverence for the “free flow of information between nations.”

EVERYONE EATS, NO ONE BEGS
 A Cambodian dispatch dated July 31 frankly states that while “it is true that the present Kampuchea has few factories and firms, nevertheless the workers, poor peasants and poor middle peasants are firmly grasping power as the masters of the country. Everyone eats his fill and nobody goes and begs anything from the U.S. imperialists. The people are building a new Kampuchea which faces neither budgetary deficit nor financial and economic crisis like in the United States.”

REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH
 Land, oxen, buffalo, and seed are being distributed free to the poor, the Information Office announced on August 2. Other dispatches describe the building of new medical centers like the dispensary recently opened in Korki Thom where malaria and whooping cough had taken a high toll among the inhabitants during Lon Nol’s regime.
 Socialist Cambodia is inviting other nations to set up diplomatic

South Korean govt.’s use of torture documented by eye-witness report

Amnesty International, headquartered in London, has issued a 36-page report on the findings of a mission it sent to south Korea from March 25 to April 9, 1975. Workers World presents below a second part of excerpts from this report, which exposes the torture of prisoners by the fascist regime presided over by the U.S. puppet Pak Jung Hi, a government propped up by 42,000 U.S. occupation troops. We will publish a concluding excerpt from the AI report in the next issue.)

This report has already dealt at length with the behaviour in court of those holding judicial and prosecution appointments. On the basis of our findings, it is clear that law-enforcement agencies could fabricate confessions without the need for the effort involved in torturing a prisoner. When neither are subjected to examination, a forged signature is no different in effect from a coerced signature. Nevertheless, the torturing of detainees is continued and of course has an effect on those involved in civil rights work and political opposition.

- III. prolapsed anus;
- IV. heart attack;
- V. bruising of bone and tissue.

On February 28, 1975, 13 opposition ex-National Assemblymen alleged in a press conference that they had been tortured by South Korean law-enforcement agencies shortly after President Park Chung-hee had taken emergency powers in the autumn of 1972.

It was the intention of this mission to interview all 13 of the parliamentarians in order that a full investigation be conducted into the treatment that they alleged they had suffered.

INTERVIEWS PREVENTED

To this end, appointments were made for the mission by officials of the National Democratic Party to interview those of the politicians who were then in Seoul. They numbered eight. Immediately

prior to the meeting, the mission was informed by an NDP spokesman that the discussions would have to be cancelled as all eight had been physically restrained by the KCIA from keeping the appointments. Seven were under house arrest, one had been detained in custody.

Despite a KCIA cordon the mission entered the home of one of the politicians for a discussion which lasted approximately two hours. The politician with whom we spoke had without doubt suffered brutal and humiliating treatment at the hands of law-enforcement agencies. He had been stripped naked, bound hand and foot, suspended from the ceiling and beaten viciously with wooden sticks. At no time was he charged with any offense. The aim of the exercise had simply been to intimidate an outspoken critic of the government.

SIDNEY SCHANBERG: DOUR AND DULL

We were informed by Sidney Schanberg in the July 20 New York Times that while “the peasant familiar to Western correspondents was a person of charm and spontaneity,” the men and women liberation fighters “appeared dour and dull and plodding.”

“In adopting their new ways,” Schanberg lamented, “they had given up their old freshness and exuberance.”

Actually all the Cambodian people have “given up” is prostitution, bubonic plague, starvation, genocidal bombing, a fascist government, and lying journalists whose stories, written at pool-side on the veranda of the Phnom Hotel, read like a racist tirade in GI action comics.

Now that Schanberg, the CIA, and the U.S. Marine Corps have been kicked out by the Cambodian people, the capitalist press has

As dictator hosts ‘Miss Universe’ pageant

12 dead in El Salvador protests

By M. WYNN
 NEW YORK, Aug. 25—The class struggle between the students, workers, and peasants of El Salvador and the “Big 14” (the coffee and banking families who have ruled the country for 150 years) has again broken out. The most recent incidents in the conflict have been interpreted by the New York Times as “the most serious of the events that over the last year have sharpened discontent” with the present military dictator, Col. Arturo Armando Molina, fraudulently “elected” in February 1972.

REPRESSION AGAINST STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS

Heavily armed troops on July 19 halted a student demonstration protesting the government’s outlay of over \$1 million to hold the 1975 “Miss Universe” contest in San Salvador. In this country of 5 million inhabitants, 58 percent of the population earns less than \$10 a month while only 8 percent control well over half the wealth, according to the Times.

In response to the banning of this demonstration, students took to the streets in the western city of Santa Ana where the National Guard injured and arrested several youths.

On July 30 soldiers opened up with machine guns and automatic rifle fire on a crowd of 3,000 students demonstrating in San Salvador against the repression of the two earlier marches. At least 12

students were killed, 20 wounded, and 40 arrested.

Workers, peasants, and clergy then joined the students in a 5-day occupation of the city cathedral, and everywhere there appeared the inscription “assassins” on “Miss Universe” posters.

WORKING CLASS AND ALLIES ORGANIZING THEMSELVES

There are reports in the Times of two urban guerrilla groups emerging in El Salvador, the smallest and most densely

populated nation in Latin America. Strikes have been organized by the labor movement over inflation and harassment of union leaders. Marxist student groups are reportedly growing.

Along with these political developments in the urban areas, peasants have begun to organize to force the government to carry out a long-promised agrarian reform, and at least 14 peasants have been killed so far this year in that struggle.

U.S. silences UN discussion

By JULIO GHIGLIOTTY
 NEW YORK, Aug. 25—When the United Nations Decolonization Committee this week voted 11 to 9 to postpone discussion of Puerto Rico’s colonial status before the General Assembly until next year, the New York Times carried it as front-page news with a headline proclaiming “U.S. wins a UN victory on Puerto Rico.”

The Times story cited the “warnings” issued by the U.S. that “a vote backing the resolution” to guarantee Puerto Rico’s right to self-determination “would be considered an ‘unfriendly act.’” The article went on to say that “implied in the American warnings was a clear threat of retaliation through such means as

withholding of economic aid or other favors.”

Tanzania, which voted against the postponement, reported in its government press that Foreign Relations Minister John Malecela received a letter from Herbert Levin, a military attache of the U.S. Embassy in Tanzania, dated August 19 in which Malecela was instructed to inform president Julius Nyerere that a vote in favor of the discussion of Puerto Rico’s case would put Tanzania on the side of “three countries with which the U.S. has no relations (Congo, Cuba, and Iraq), with two of (the U.S.’s) principal communist adversaries (China and the Soviet Union), and with two states which consistently follow Moscow’s

political line on foreign affairs (Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria).”

“UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP”

Patrick Moynihan, U.S. delegate to the UN, was lauded by the Times in an editorial entitled “Good Sense at the UN” for his ability to “drive home to usually hostile delegations the gravity with which the United States would view any interference in its internal affairs, including its unique relationship with Puerto Rico.”

This “unique relationship” is, of course, the so-called “free associated state (ELA)” label under which Puerto Rico’s colonial status is hidden. The “free associated state” relationship was developed by the U.S. as an excuse

TORTURES NAMED

The mission received evidence that the following kinds of torture had been used against individuals in Korean prisons:

- I. water torture—cold water forced up the nostrils through a tube. A cloth is simultaneously placed in the victim’s mouth so that breathing is impossible. Unconsciousness results. No physical marks remain;
 - II. electrical torture—especially to sensitive parts of the body such as toes and genitals;
 - III. deprivation of sleep—in one case up to 15 days;
 - IV. beatings—particularly to the soles of the feet;
 - V. being hung from the ceiling and spun around;
 - VI. having a ball-point pen placed between the fingers and having the fingers twisted and crushed against it;
 - VII. stripping naked in sub-zero weather and being doused in water;
 - VIII. burning with flames or cigarettes;
 - IX. torture wounds left without treatment;
 - X. being forced to sit facing a white wall for up to six days without sleep. This can cause hallucinations after two days;
 - XI. kicking below the knee on the front of the shin bone;
 - XII. prolonged standing;
 - XIII. intimidation by the use of screams from adjoining rooms.
- This treatment has said to have the following medical effects:
- I. ruptured ear-drums;
 - II. abscessed lungs;



Photo: San Francisco Bay Guardian

After liberation, the streets of Phnom Penh were filled with joyous people ready to begin a new life.

missions in Phnom Penh and, in a strong show of solidarity with the Arab people, has offered the former Israeli Embassy building to the Palestinian Liberation Organization.

On August 3 a delegation of the Vietnam Workers Party led by Le Duan, the first Secretary of its Central Committee, arrived in Phnom Penh. The Cambodians described the talks they held with their Vietnamese comrades as "cordial," adding, "the two sides reached complete agreement on all questions."

The Cambodian people are strongly internationalist, heartened that they (in the words of their August 5 news brief) "enjoy the whole-hearted support of all the friendly peoples of the world over as well as from the progressive American people."

SOLIDARITY WITH U.S. WORKERS

The same dispatch asserted that they will never forget that "in the countries still controlled by the U.S. imperialists, the workers and poor peasants are reduced to the level of beasts and even in the U.S. the workers are despised more than anyone."

The Cambodian revolutionaries know the way forward will not always be easy. "The U.S. imperialists," they report, "have reduced all our agriculture, handicrafts and industry to nothing." But they understand and are proud of the reasons the new Cambodia has gained the deep enmity of the U.S. ruling class.

"The U.S. imperialists," they

write, "are harboring a ferocious hatred against our people, which are few, and against our country, which is small, because our people dared to drive them out."

Two years after Chilean coup

Junta's record: 1,000% inflation

By SHARON SHELTON
NEW YORK, Aug. 23—On the eve of the bloody Sept. 11, 1973, U.S.-sponsored coup that put a military junta in power in Chile, the rallying cry of the reaction was the need to solve the economic problems "brought on" by the Salvadore Allende government.

What the rightists left out in their bid for counter-revolution was that much of the inflation and shortages facing the Popular Unity government was in fact brought on by the U.S.—through manipulation of world copper prices, a boycott, CIA-instigated sabotage, and other imperialist maneuvering.

JUNTA NO SOLUTION TO INFLATION!

Now, 2 years later, the junta has shown itself to be totally unable to solve the economic problems that Allende faced. Despite U.S. financial backing, Chile today has the world's highest inflation rate, its highest unemployment in a decade, and a huge foreign debt that the Pinochet government has been frantically trying to

Bitter class struggle poses question

Who will rule Argentina?

By BILL DEL VECCHIO
NEW YORK, Aug. 25—Directly challenging the tottering hold on power of Argentine President Isabel Peron's regime, the Marxist People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) and the Montoneros guerrilla organizations have unleashed a series of armed attacks in the past 2 weeks. Both organizations have demanded the President's resignation.

The attacks have intensified the severe political and economic crisis the Argentine regime is facing. Uncontrolled inflation has been causing widespread business failures and layoffs and the workers have responded with militant strikes that have threatened the leadership of conservative Peronists over the trade union movement.

Extreme internal fighting continues within what remains of the right-wing of the Peronist movement, as evidenced by the walkout of 118 of the 238 delegates at the August 24 congress of the Justicialist Party when a motion to

re-elect Isabel Peron as party president was rammed through.

HIGH LEVEL OF GUERRILLA ATTACKS

The guerrilla attacks of recent weeks have taken on a high level of sophistication and are posing a serious military threat to the combined forces of the police and military.

On August 22, a \$70-million Argentine Navy destroyer was sunk even though a security alert had been called by the military and police. (August 22 marked the third anniversary of the murder of 16 captured guerrillas at Trelew Naval Base.) Police also found and disarmed a remote control rocket launcher aimed at the Navy Mechanics School in Buenos Aires.

On August 20, an early morning bazooka and machine gun attack had been launched on police headquarters in Cordoba, Argentina's second largest city. Five cops were killed in the attack and an unknown number wounded. Police say that pamphlets of the Montoneros and the ERP were left

behind, suggesting a joint attack.

Earlier the same week the ERP seized an army truck loaded with machine guns and rifles and shot its driver, Captain Miguel Alberto Keller.

Two bazooka and machine gun attacks were launched on an army camp outside of La Plata, 26 miles southeast of Buenos Aires, on August 24.

Rumors of a military coup are growing as military leaders have shown open hostility to the Peronist administration because of its "failure to solve the political and military problems," according to the New York Times. But the military, while united in their desire to crush the guerrilla organizations and repress the workers, are divided on whether Colonel Damasoc, a Peronist sympathizer, should continue to participate in the Peronist administration.

A military takeover would also renew the open, naked struggle with the working class that Juan Peron was brought back to end.

renegotiate. Far from being solved, the economic crisis has grown drastically since Allende's ouster, with the junta's only "solution" being a policy to eliminate all social gains won by the workers and poor under the previous regime.

Only 4 months after the junta took over, Chile's inflation rate shot up 528 percent, higher than that of any other country in Latin America. By 1974, prices as a whole were up 87 percent, and for necessary items, like bread, flour, and sugar they were 10 times as high as a year earlier. This year's inflation rate has made a world record; it is up 1,000 percent over 1973!

This inflation coupled with near-record unemployment has created untold misery and suffering for the Chilean working class. This year, unemployment is expected to hit at least 16 percent, according to the New York Times. Other estimates put it even higher. And in the working class districts of Santiago, a news item in the Times of London recently revealed, the jobless rate was 60 percent last spring.

MANY FORCED TO BEG

As a result of the lack of jobs, many have had to resort to begging in order to avoid dying of starvation. A May 20 New York Times article confirmed that the numbers of beggars in Santiago at least "have risen dramatically." The Times article reported that the "downtown avenues have been staked out by elderly blind women" and that in the shopping arcades "young mothers with infants sit patiently with tin cups at their knees."

The number of those who have been forced to rely on handouts to survive has so swollen that the government has had the gall to accuse the left of staging begging scenes "to create a general sensation of poverty" and has even warned that the streets would be cleared of beggars by force, if necessary.

Another of the junta's em-

barrassments is its huge foreign debt totaling \$4 billion, according to a release from the New York-based Chile Solidarity Committee. Recently, the junta sought to renegotiate \$700 million due immediately, but was only backed up by seven of the 14 creditor countries that make up the "Paris Club" that holds most of Chile's notes.

Of course, the U.S. has been foremost in urging extension of new credits, not only to prevent the financial collapse of the junta, but to allow the Chilean government to put the money where the imperialists feel it is most needed: in further beefing up the repressive apparatus of the Chilean state.

WHAT THE CREDITS MEAN

This year alone, the junta has allotted \$120 million for buying arms abroad, an amount far exceeding expenditures on education and public health combined. The major reason for these huge arms purchases is the junta's ever-present need to maintain itself through terror against the Chilean resistance movement.

In the last 2 years, 1 out of every 100 Chileans has been detained by the junta, thousands of workers and peasants have been killed, and working class leaders such as Luis Corvalan, general secretary of the Chilean Communist Party, Carlos Lorca, secretary general of the Socialist Party youth organization, and Jorge Fuentes Alarcon, a leader of the Left Revolutionary Movement (MIR), are all being held at this moment and have been brutally tortured.

NOT SATISFIED

Although the U.S. has cut off all arms deals to the junta, U.S. extension of credits to Chile is just another way of propping up the repressive regime. Yet, many Congressmen aren't satisfied and want to reintroduce arms sales to the Pinochet government.

Recently, 114 Congressmen wrote a letter to Henry Kissinger urging lifting the arms embargo,



Chilean dictator Pinochet

according to a July 9 Liberation News Service release. Introduced by the reactionary Rep. Larry McDonald from Georgia, an admitted member of the John Birch Society and "friend" of Lockheed Aircraft, the letter contained the outlandish statement that Chile under the junta "has a government which provides more freedom than exists in most countries of the world at the present time."

At the same time these 114 Congressmen were extolling the virtues of the reactionary Chilean government, the junta itself refused to let a five-person delegation from the United Nations Human Rights Commission enter Chile on an investigative mission previously agreed to by Pinochet. The junta's lame pretext in refusing the delegation was that it would "promote agitation in the streets and unleash a guerrilla struggle."

JUNTA ISOLATED

As September 11 nears, marking the date 2 years ago that the leftist government was overthrown, it is becoming clearer and clearer that the junta has totally isolated itself from any mass support it might have rallied. And continued economic deterioration can only set the stage for the junta's inevitable downfall.

on on Puerto Rico

to stop submitting reports on a colonial holding to the UN.

Public Law 600, out of which ELA evolved, was propagandized by Luis Munoz Marin, then colonial governor of Puerto Rico, as authorization by the U.S. for the Puerto Rican people to formulate a "democratic constitution" to liquidate the colonial status of the island; he talked as though it was a contract drawn up between the U.S. Congress and the Puerto Rican people.

TERMS OF COLONIAL LAW

In fact, the law states that all political and economic relations between the U.S. and Puerto Rico shall remain in effect as outlined in the Jones Act of 1917. Now known

as the "Law of Federal Relations with Puerto Rico," the more significant parts of the Jones Act state:

- 1) The U.S. will maintain sovereignty over Puerto Rico;
- 2) foreign countries trading with Puerto Rico will be subject to U.S. tariffs;
- 3) Puerto Rico cannot make independent trade deals with other countries;
- 4) Puerto Rico must use U.S. shipping companies in trade with the U.S.;
- 5) the sugar industry and sugar refining will remain under the strict quotas of the U.S. Congress;
- 6) Puerto Rico shall fall under the jurisdiction of federal laws

(Continued on page 10)



EDITORIAL

Imperialism in decay

The decline of U.S. imperialism is a subject no longer largely confined to Marxist literature which scientifically analyzes the evolutionary laws of history and human society.

It is a living (or rather dying) reality, that finds its daily reflection, albeit in a highly distorted manner, in the leading news stories of the capitalist media.

The earth-shaking victory of the Indochinese revolutionaries over the Pentagon war machine, the deep political instability that culminated in Nixon's ouster from power, the two devaluations of the once unassailable dollar, the return of double-digit inflation in the midst of the worst depression since the 1930s, and now the widely discussed possibility of complete economic collapse of the largest city in the country—each is a highly visible sign that long-suppressed social contradictions are beginning to erupt and boil to the surface, tearing great cracks and fissures in the very face of the system.

Naturally the rich ruling class is desperately trying to hide the symptoms of its decline from the world's people, particularly those who live in the U.S. itself.

Such is the case with the quiet announcement by the U.S. government on August 18 that the gross national product (GNP), that is, all the goods and services produced in the country over the past year, has now dropped to one-quarter of the total world output. This news, in many ways as significant as U.S. imperialism's debacle in Vietnam or the Watergate scandal, was buried back on the financial pages of the capitalist press and ignored completely by the electronic news media.

What does this latest government admission mean?

Back in 1945 a full half of the world's GNP was produced by the U.S. By 1972 this had dropped to one-third of world production. Now, in 2 short years, the relative GNP has plummeted another 16 percent, or a full 50 percent drop compared to the situation three decades ago when the ruling class was proclaiming "the American century."

The main factor in this stunning reversal has been the explosive growth rate of the socialist countries.

Both the USSR and People's China, in particular, have made giant leaps in developing their economies with workers' ownership of the means of production and centralized planning that abolishes the chaos of capitalist economic cycles.

With tragic irony, one huge problem facing the U.S. bosses is not the relatively shrinking size of America's GNP but rather its absolute growth. U.S. workers have simply produced too much for the capitalists to sell at a profit. Hence layoffs, followed by further loss of sales, followed by more layoffs. Meanwhile people go hungry while food is destroyed, slums deteriorate while building workers can't find jobs, and misery is heaped on misery for the people.

Such is the nature of capitalism and imperialism in its senility before the poor and working people carry out a revolutionary transformation of society which will put human beings ahead of corporate profits.

China's UN vote

The narrow margin by which a Cuban resolution in the United Nations Decolonization Committee to guarantee the right of self-determination to the Puerto Rican people was tabled until next year reflects the growing opposition to U.S. imperialism within that international body.

However, the 11 to 9 vote on tabling the discussion could have been altered or even reversed had the People's Republic of China voted against it. The Chinese delegate was reported to have said that "sharp divisions" among the Third World delegates prompted his decision not to participate in the vote.

The People's Republic of China is a major force among the developing countries as a result of its tremendous socialist achievements and is therefore a symbol of what could be for all oppressed nations. In avoiding a show of support for a liberation struggle because of "sharp divisions" among the Third World delegates, it is abdicating its responsibility to give revolutionary leadership to the world's workers and oppressed.

The "sharp divisions" on this issue were clearly created under the intense pressure of U.S. imperialism. It was countries like Indonesia, which have been thoroughly drawn into the imperialist web, that voted for a position which amounted to denying Puerto Rico its right to self-determination.

Could the support of the USSR for the tabled Cuban resolution have been the reason for China's non-participation? If so, has China's leadership become blinded to anything but the unprincipled feud going on with the Soviet leadership? Even to the detriment of liberation struggles throughout the world?

It is nowhere more evident—except perhaps in Angola—that the so-called Sino-Soviet split is being used in the interests of U.S. imperialism than in this vote in the UN.



Meany, the Soviet wheat sale, and the real needs of U.S. labor

By V. COPELAND

NEW YORK, Aug. 25—Why is a so-called leader of U.S. labor demanding that U.S. farmers stop selling wheat to the Soviet Union, and why is he going so far as to call on the longshoremen's union not to load the wheat?

Is it really because George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, is trying to protect the U.S. consumer from increases in the price of bread? Or is it because Meany is a tool of the extreme right-wing in American politics and is seizing upon this issue to increase anti-Soviet hatreds and help break up the already shaky and treacherous imperialist detente with the Soviet Union?

Let's look at the facts.

Meany has never demanded any laws to prevent "the free play of the market" on bread prices, nor has he suggested that the government subsidize the consumer either by rebates to lower-income families or by elimination of taxes on under-\$10,000-a-year workers.

He has started a crusade for lower bread prices only in the context of not selling wheat to the Soviet Union, when the U.S. has been selling millions upon millions of tons of wheat abroad for decades and generations.

ALWAYS TREMENDOUS EXPORTS

Government statistics show that the U.S. normally exports more than 60 percent of the wheat crop and 25 percent of the corn crop. This year there are about 33.7 million tons of wheat for export and 35.9 million tons of corn.

The Soviets intended to purchase 12 million tons from the U.S. this year. So far, they have bought only 4.2 million tons of wheat and 4.5 million tons of corn. (This is only half the wheat and corn left over from last year's U.S. harvest.)

Don Paarlberg, senior economist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, said on August 23 that "our modest sales to the Soviet Union" would not have as much effect on prices as would world crop conditions, weather, and other U.S. exports—such as "those to Japan, the biggest foreign buyer of U.S. wheat and corn."

Don Woodward, president of the

National Association of Wheat Growers, pointed out a week earlier that wheat prices have dropped 46 percent since February 1974, but the price of bread rose at least 10 percent during the same period!

"BLAME THE RUSSIANS!"

Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz, however, closer to Meany in political outlook, could not refrain from saying that the Soviet sales would cause a 1.5 percent increase in the cost of living—a palpable lie in light of the above facts.

On August 24, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board Arthur Burns nearly doubled this "estimate," saying the wheat deal would raise the cost of living 2.5 percent!

Actually, wheat prices are going up more right now while the boycott is on—that is, while wheat is not being shipped to the Soviet Union—than a few weeks ago, when it was.

Roderick Turnbull, a spokesman for the Kansas City Board of Trade, said on August 23:

"You have prices rising in the face of this boycott and that wouldn't happen if dealers thought they weren't going to be able to ship grain."

And the New York Times (certainly not pro-Soviet!) explained this further on August 24, saying:

"By casting the national spot light on the issue, Mr. Meany gave the food industry more than enough excuse to raise prices and then blame the unions, the Russians, President Ford, or some combination of the three, critics of the boycott charged."

THE ISSUE OF U.S. SHIPPING

The only real labor question raised by Meany that might have some validity at all (in other circumstances) is his demand that the grain be sent in "U.S. flag ships."

While many Soviet ships are carrying the grain, the majority of the grainboats are probably U.S.-owned freighters under Panamanian, Greek, or West Indian registry. The shippers do this in order to hire non-union workers at

low wages and substandard conditions.

This procedure has been going on for more than 30 years. But the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) has never before shown, and is not showing now, enough solidarity with the National Maritime Union (NMU) and the Seafarers International Union (SIU) to refuse to unload all boats unless sailed by these unions.

And Meany has never faintly suggested that such action be taken.

Thus the motive of George "I-never-walked-a-picket-line" Meany is not his solidarity with U.S. seamen any more than his sympathy with the average bread consumer, but his virulent anti-communism, which is anti-labor and anti-people to the core.

MEANY A RESULT, NOT A CAUSE

But it would be a serious error to believe that the mere personality of this moss-backed anti-labor "labor leader" is responsible for the countrywide hue and cry against selling wheat to the Soviet Union.

Such things are engineered by bigger forces than Meany. The fact that selling to Japan, the former imperialist enemy and perpetrator of Pearl Harbor, is not so "emotional" but selling to the former Soviet ally is so explosive stems from a 30-year shift in the war aims of U.S. imperialism, not from the personality of George Meany.

It stems, in spite of "detente," from imperialism's inherent drive to war against the Soviet Union—if not directly, then indirectly against the Soviet allies and especially against the working class of the whole world.

Only the long witchhunt against communists in the U.S. labor movement (who had built the movement in the first place) made possible the bureaucratization of the movement and the emergence of such a creature as George Meany as its titular head.

But Meany himself was not the driving force of anti-communism, only its flabby and bestial result.

He is the perfect picture, not of

(Continued on page 9)

As the crisis in Portugal continues

Analysis of roles of Gomes, Carvalho

By SAM MARCY

NEW YORK, Aug. 27—The cause of the Portuguese revolution seems to be drifting from day to day without a rudder. But this is due in large measure to the great reliance that has been placed on the outcome of the split in the military. This, in turn, has made President Costa Gomes appear to carry a great deal more social, political, and military weight than is actually the case.

At the present time he is playing the role of arbiter, not merely between the military groupings but between revolution and counter-revolution, historically an utterly untenable position.

It is scarcely possible at this late date for him to assume a Bonapartist role, as the New York Times of August 27 in its news dispatch seems to indicate might happen when it mentions the possibility of the President "taking over also as Premier."

GOMES HAS NO INDEPENDENT STRENGTH

A Bonapartist, in bourgeois society, can assume the position of straddling the classes or military factions only if he can afford to be independent of them on the basis of having his own independent military or police force. That at the moment does not appear to be at all the case. What has given Costa Gomes his preeminent position is the preponderant reliance that the left has accorded him. In an interview with syndicated columnists Evans and Novak, Costa Gomes was quoted as saying that the burning, sacking, and wanton destruction of Communist Party headquarters "was the work of small groups" that were "organized from the outside." He further stated that he "could arrest all these groups and imprison them" and the "Portuguese people

would be educated" accordingly by this action.

This statement should come as a big surprise, both in Portugal and abroad, for in all these many weeks in which the counter-revolutionary mobs have been attacking the CP headquarters, the President has been demonstratively passive if not altogether silent.

At any rate, this statement seemed to put Costa Gomes once again on a tack to the left. But it did not take long for the President to veer right back again with another of his deliberately ambiguous statements regarding the replacement of Premier Goncalves.

It was followed on the weekend by more confusing statements. One of them, however, seemed to clearly indicate that Prime Minister Goncalves should remain in power until the present crisis is resolved. But this again was suspended or withdrawn from circulation, whichever way one wishes to interpret Gomes' statements.

But the fact that Costa Gomes has not yielded to the ultimatums which have been delivered more openly and more insolently from day to day by the right-wing military camarilla, headed by Melo Antunes, indicates that Costa Gomes is fearful of taking the plunge to the right.

This, however, is not at all due to any newfound sympathy for the cause of the revolution, socialism, or elementary democratic rights. It must not be forgotten that Costa Gomes was the former chief of staff under the Caetano regime. If he has not moved to the right where his sympathies really lie, it can only be accounted for by objective developments which compel him to stay, at least for now, where he is.

One of the most important factors which Costa Gomes has had to reckon with has been the apparent collapse of the bloc between the Antunes right-wing and chief of the security forces Carvalho. This bloc between the right and what has been described as the extreme left was an utterly unprincipled one from the point of view of working class politics and foolish and adventuristic in the extreme on the part of Carvalho. The fact that the bloc seems to have collapsed is in all probability due to the realization on the part of Carvalho that the right-wing was using him as a left cover for what would have surely been a right-wing coup. And he would have ended up as a captive within it.

If one disregards his political program, the bloc with the right could only be understood as an attempt at naked military power politics, in which case, Carvalho could not have played the lead role anyway. Given the vicissitudes of bourgeois military politics, however, repeated maneuvers of this kind cannot be ruled out for the future.

It should be noted that the bloc collapsed after the marines, originally under the jurisdiction of Copcon and therefore under Carvalho's command, had been shifted away from him, according to the Christian Science Monitor of August 26, back "to their pro-Goncalves commanders." How and by what means this was accomplished is not known, but it has been accepted as an accomplished fact.

Still within the framework of military politics, Goncalves received the backing of what the bourgeois press calls "a sergeants' group," but which is more properly called the non-commissioned officers' council of the Armed Forces Movement (AFM). They could be a

lot more significant in the impending struggle than some of the generals and admirals, who may find themselves, once the struggle breaks out, without any support of the rank-and-file.

GONCALVES STRONGER THAN ADMITTED

The imperialist press here now admits, in the words of the

SP'ers hit SP

AUGUST 27—It was reported in the August 27 Parisian daily, *Le Monde*, that on the previous day in the city of Evora, capital of Portugal's Alentejo region, 50 members of the Socialist Party staged an occupation of the SP headquarters in protest over the Socialist Party's policies. The militant group specifically denounced the leaders for "playing the game of the right" when the party organized support for General Correia, one of the nine signers of a document demanding the ouster of Premier Goncalves.

During the occupation, the 50 Socialist militants issued a statement charging that "the policy followed since last January by the leadership of the Socialist Party has only facilitated the activities of the right, from the SP up to the Portuguese Liberation Army." (The "Portuguese Liberation Army" is a military force headed by fascist officers of the Caetano regime that is presently poised in Spain.)

Christian Science Monitor (Aug. 26), "It is a mistake to think that General Vasco Goncalves is isolated. He has the backing of the navy, the marines, and many of the rank and file in the army and enough of the air force to neutralize the other moderate half."

That certainly makes his strength far more impressive than the capitalist media have led the American public to believe.

Two important and seemingly contradictory moves made this Monday have just appeared in the press. Acting in his role as arbiter, Costa Gomes apparently approved the reinstatement of General Corvacho as commander of Portugal's northern military region. Corvacho had been dismissed because of right-wing pressure, and would presumably take a much tougher stand against the right-wing attacks.

At the same time, however, the Revolutionary Council of the Armed Forces Movement decided to suspend the activities of the Fifth Division of the General Staff. This is an ambiguous but potentially very dangerous move. The Fifth Division, in charge of internal propaganda and the "dynamization" campaign, had been under the command of a navy officer, generally considered pro-Goncalves. This could turn out to be a far more significant move than the reinstatement of Carvalho.

The fact that Copcon security forces under General Carvalho's command have been ordered to guard the headquarters of the Fifth Division is even more ominous.

However, all of this is in the framework of military politics, where the class struggle can only be refracted in a distorted way.

The true test of class forces, of course, will only come in the course of the impending struggle.

UNITED FRONT AGAINST REACTION

All the more welcome is the announcement that eight working class political organizations in Portugal have formed a United Front Against Reaction. These include with the CP organizations far to its left who have maintained a position for armed defense of the revolution as well as for workers' councils or popular assemblies. Indeed, this is the most significant development and should far outweigh the military maneuvering at the top. It lays the basis for a class alliance against the bourgeoisie, the landlords, and the capitalists.

(Workers World has so far been able to find out the names of six of the groups in the United Front. They are: the Communist Party (CP), the Portuguese Democratic Movement (MPD), the Movement of the Socialist Left (MES), the Popular Socialist Front (FSP), the Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat (PRP), and the International Communist League (LCI).)

This has struck terror into the heart of Mario Soares who characterized the united front as "an unnatural alliance of the insurrectional type." No, not at all unnatural. From a class point of view, the alliance of the PCP with these revolutionary organizations ought to be quite natural, that is, proper from the point of view of organizations which may have fundamental differences among themselves but are united in the struggle against the counter-revolution. Were Mario Soares responsive merely to the very name of his organization—socialist—he should be in this alliance instead of in the embrace of reactionary forces he thinks he is leading but who in reality are leading him.

As in all unfinished revolutions, the question of legitimacy, of legality, assumes dimensions which nowhere correspond to reality. Costa Gomes was accorded the symbol of the legitimacy of the revolution when he became President following the defeat of the Spinoza coup.

But the only real legitimacy in a revolutionary situation is the authoritative intervention of the broad mass of the workers and peasants. However, their organs of power have only begun to be formed. They alone can validate or legitimate the representatives of the new regime. That is why the recently formed United Front is a genuinely hopeful sign in that direction.

—Wheat sale

(Continued from page 8)

the old-fashioned "labor lieutenant of the capitalist class," but of the drum major of the right-wing imperialists, leading the drum corps of his decadent masters and pointing the baton in the direction of a war to wipe out labor's gains everywhere on earth.

Doing this from the position of his high labor office, he really is a power, but a power that is doomed by the contradiction in its function. The first real upheaval of U.S. labor against the U.S. bosses as a whole will break this power and sweep him away like a dirty old spider web.

Philip Agee reveals

Who's who in the CIA in Portugal

NEW YORK, Aug. 26—A letter to the Portuguese people from former CIA officer Philip Agee that exposed in detail present U.S. activities against the revolution in Portugal has been suppressed by the capitalist media here, it was charged today. Douglas Porter, a coordinator for the Fifth Estate, an anti-CIA group which circulated Agee's letter, said from Washington:

"We sent copies of Agee's letter to the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Philadelphia Bulletin, and the Los Angeles Times. We personally contacted each of these newspapers. We sent copies to both UPI and AP. None of them reported Agee's significant disclosures of CIA activity in Portugal. Many of these newspapers know Agee and know he can be trusted."

By contrast, he said, the establishment news media were giving inflammatory coverage favoring the counter-revolutionary violence in Portugal.

Workers World in its issue of August 15 carried large parts of Agee's letter, which detailed the kinds of political subversion and instigation of the counter-revolution the CIA conducts in the name of "moderation" and

"democracy." We did not, however, have room to print the names of the CIA agents listed by Agee known by him to be operating in Portugal.

Here is the specific information on the agents themselves whom he exposed, as explained in Agee's letter:

"Who specifically are responsible for operations against Portugal? The CIA is only one of the various U.S. agencies working against the revolution, under the guidance of Ambassador Carlucci. Although he is not a CIA agent, Carlucci must carefully direct and coordinate all U.S. counter-revolutionary operations, including those of the military services."

Agee then lists those CIA people known to him and those he believes to be CIA personnel (or, in the case of Carlucci, in charge of coordination of CIA activities). They are:

DIRECT CIA PERSONNEL: John S. Morgan, (Chief of Station), James N. Lawler (Deputy Chief of Station), Phillip W. Snell, Anthony Arradondo, Leslie F. Hughes, Frank Lowell, Gerald D. Zapoli, Donna J. Caldwell.

IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT: Frank Carlucci (Am-

bassador), Herbert Okun (Minister Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission), Charles Thomas (Political Counsellor), Hilton Lee Graham, Dale Povernmire (Labor Attache), Mark Parris, James Ehrman.

IN THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP: Admiral Frank Corley Junior, Col. Clement H. Will, Col. Alva Wilkerson, Capt. John Shaw, Maj. Dennis Clark, Lt. Commander Gregory Wagner, Lt. Commander Dennis Overhalser, Lt. Col. Marcus Hays, Lt. John Jurcheck, Lt. Col. George Thomas.

IN THE DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE: Col. Peter Blackley, Col. Charles Yerkes, Navy Captain Alexander Thompson, Lt. Col. Edward Grubbs, Lt. Commander Charles Ryan, Capt. F. Dixon Jordan.

IN THE U.S. MISSION TO COMIVERLANT: Capt. James Lacy, Lt. Commander Donald Cline, Lt. Commander Richard Delong, Lt. Commander Charles Weir, Ensign James Studdard, Commander David Fudge, Lt. Col. William B. McCloskey, Commander Anthony P. Pirrone, Lt. Commander A.A. Moore, Ensign Kenneth McGraine, Captain Gregory Sakal, Lt. Michael Schmitt.

MPLA mobilizes 'people's power'; U.S. airlifts arms to FNLA, UNITA

By NICK DE FREITAS
 NEW YORK, Aug. 26—Latest news dispatches from the war-ravaged West African land of Angola confirm earlier charges that South African troops have crossed the Namibian border into southern Angola. The accusation first came in a communique from the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), the anti-imperialist liberation movement now battling two neocolonialist African groups in Angola.

According to a Washington Post dispatch today from the mineral-rich Angola, white-ruled South Africa has "sent troops across the border of Namibia (the country of southwest Africa under its domination) into Angola on the pretext of protecting a hydro-electric dam project on the Cunene River."

The main arena in the fighting has now shifted to southern Angola near the MPLA-controlled port city of Lobito and the inland town of Lusa. Both areas are of extreme strategic importance. If the MPLA wins, it will be able to cut off vital supply routes of the neocolonialist enemy armies. The MPLA's main obstacle in this area, most Western observers believe, will be the National Union for Total Independence of Angola (UNITA)

ROLE OF UNITA

"The National Union boasts that it controls southern Angola," wrote one reporter, "but its biggest problem today is to prove the boast is fact." UNITA has not yet said one word against the South African invasion of the territory. This, however, should come as no surprise.

Jonas Savimbi, UNITA president, is favored by Angola's white population as well as South Africa's leaders as a "moderate" and "a man of peace." Savimbi travelled to South Africa this summer, where government authorities and corporate heads of

Lonrho, Ltd., a major South African and British consortium, presented him with a transport jet for his trips across Angola. Savimbi returned to Luanda on this jet, which he now claims as his personal property.

If the battle for southern Angola is won, the Popular Movement with its present hold over the north and central belt plus the oil-producing enclave of Cabinda will have gained strict control over two-thirds of the territory. The MPLA would then be expected to declare the unilateral independence of Angola.

MPLA CHARGES U.S. MANIPULATION

In an August 22 communique, the Marxist Popular Movement accused U.S. imperialism and the regimes in neighboring Zaire and South Africa of sabotaging Angola's freedom through their arming and manipulation of the rival armies of UNITA and the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA). Both movements have declared war on the progressive MPLA and are said to be enjoying the backing and assistance of Western business interests. The Popular Movement also said that American Skymaster transports were airlifting arms from U.S. bases in West Germany to the FNLA.

Meanwhile, French armored cars and American military equipment are commonly seen behind the FNLA battle lines.

Last week the Popular Movement Minister of Finance ordered executives of five privately owned banks to surrender their jobs and keys to the vaults. One American bank manager who resisted was taken into custody by armed MPLA detachments. Previous reports have stated that the Rockefeller dynasty had controlling interests in several of the banks.

In Angola today, the Popular

Movement has seized most of the key and strategic cities and is in control of the country's transitional government. "Now," writes the Washington Post of August 24, "only the presence of the Portuguese army seems to stand between the MPLA and a unilateral declaration of independence." The MPLA has demanded an immediate and complete withdrawal of the 27,000-strong Portuguese army now in Angola. In the north, where the FNLA is trying to set up an "independent" government, the Portuguese troops have left, letting the FNLA take over the towns.

News reports have indicated that right-wing Portuguese troops many times have sided with the neocolonialist groups against the Popular Movement.

However, despite all these pressures, even the Washington Post correspondent in Luanda has had to admit that "as the war stands now, the Popular Movement appears to have the upper hand." The MPLA has undertaken a successful strategy of "people's power" that has mobilized the whole population into neighborhood committees and provided its army with a paramilitary force of thousands.



Angola's MPLA must now battle two Western backed and financed armies to win total liberation of their homeland.

—Crisis of cities

(Continued from page 12)

Salvation Army-type relief. So-called charitable organizations, poor houses, and soup kitchens were the only things left for the unemployed and the needy.

Yet it was the poor who were blamed and the cry was that the city was "living beyond its means." There was no Federal Reserve Bank at the time to which even small banks could appeal. And there was little if any bank regulation to check on the banks. One of the leading banks, the Knickerbocker Trust Co., had failed to sell an issue of New York City bonds. The furor created in the press by this hastened the financial crisis and panic.

It was then that President Theodore Roosevelt and Secretary of the Treasury George Cortelyou worked together with J. P. Morgan to "bail out" the city. They did so by putting the city in virtual hock to J. P. Morgan and Co. Mayor McClellan became the errand boy for J. P. Morgan in the same way that Mayor Beame is now acting on behalf of the banks which, through the medium of big MAC and other strategems, are subjugating the city and its people.

In those days almost 70 years ago, it was said that once a centralized banking system like the Federal Reserve Bank of today was established, panics and financial and economic crisis could be avoided or substantially reduced so that no city would ever again become enslaved to the bankers as New York City had become enslaved to J. P. Morgan in 1907. Nevertheless, in 1933, notwithstanding the existence of the Federal Reserve Bank, the "bank of last resort," a capitalist economic crisis crashed down on the heads of the people of New York. With slight modifications, the exact scenario that had occurred between the Morgan bank, Mayor McClellan, and Teddy Roosevelt in 1907 again took place in New York. This time it was Mayor O'Brien and there were

both Rockefeller and Morgan banks. Once again New York City was in the vest pocket of the bankers as collateral security to them. The politicians in charge of the city were encharged by the bankers with squeezing the last drop of blood out of the mass of the people.

The city officials, with the mayor at the head, who were pledged to promote the good and welfare of the people and defend them against the banks' depredations, were in reality delivering them to the tender mercy of the banks.

Now once again, as in 1907, the arguments being made in the capitalist press are the same as those made in that earlier crisis of American capitalism. The chaotic scenario being played out today reflects the same havoc visited upon the people as a result of the objective effect of the capitalist crisis. Always in these cases of cyclical ups and downs, the rewards go to the greedy while the capitalist politicians prey upon the needy.

RESERVE BANK TO THE RESCUE—OF WHOM?

It was shown that the problem of the city of New York is not a local phenomenon, nor even an urban one alone, but part and parcel of a worldwide crisis of the capitalist system when the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board was forced to say that the Federal Reserve Bank, that is, the government, will come to the rescue.

Not, mind you, to the rescue of the city and its inhabitants—but to the rescue of the banks in case the city defaults.

The catastrophe, you see, is not unemployment, loss of social services, health care, sanitation, and so forth. The catastrophe lies in the failure of the millionaires, multi-millionaires, and billionaires to get their regular coupons—the extortionate interest from city bonds, notes, and bills. As in other capitalist crises, the government is prone to collect bad debts that the

big banks have accumulated. The government will take care of that. After that is done, new cruel taxation on the working people will be levied and collected to make good the bad debts accumulated by the big banks.

It must be recognized that the insolvency of some of the largest cities in the United States is merely a part of the general bankruptcy of the capitalist system in its period of decline, when it depends on imperialist wars, adventures, and parasitic military production by the military-industrial complex to solve an economic depression.

TACTICS BEHIND INFLATION

The origin of the crisis of the cities lies, therefore, in the general crisis of capitalism in this country. The capitalists are trying to overcome their crisis by a general assault on the mass of the workers, striking at the weakest link first: cutting social services, health, sanitation, fire control, and education.

A broad, frontal attack on the organized working class, especially in basic industries, is at the present time not possible, although it is precisely what the ruling class has in mind. Thus fueling the fires of inflation becomes an indirect method of cutting the living standards of the population as a whole and the workers in particular. But a frontal attack, which they would find more desirable, is more dangerous for them because it would enhance the class struggle, raise the class consciousness of the workers, and be a prelude to the political organization of the working class on an independent class basis.

It follows from this that the most effective answer to the crisis of the cities lies in a general working class counter-offensive against the ruling class which would unite Blacks, Chicanos, Puerto Ricans, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and whites, men and women, in a common struggle against Washington and Wall Street. Such a struggle should not be confined merely to one city or one region but should have the character of a nationwide class approach.

—UN and Puerto Rico

(Continued from page 7)

such as selective service and residency requirements;

7) Puerto Rico will remain under jurisdiction of the U.S. judicial system;

8) all government officials and functionaries in Puerto Rico swear an oath of allegiance to the U.S. Constitution and the laws of Puerto Rico.

In effect, Public Law 600 only gave the Puerto Rican people the right to rewrite the Jones Act without gaining any sovereignty.

The August 18 issue of the New York Times carried an editorial on the then-upcoming vote stating that it was coming "just after a joint United States-Puerto Rican advisory group has agreed unanimously on a pact to expand substantially the Commonwealth's already-considerable autonomy."

AD HOC COMMITTEE

The advisory group referred to is an ad hoc committee on the political status of Puerto Rico, composed of six North Americans and six Puerto Ricans. The "pact" to which the Times refers is the list of recommendations which the ad hoc committee has drawn up after 2 years of deliberation to present to the U.S. Congress for ratification.

The major recommendation of the ad hoc committee was for

greater control of trade with other countries. If granted, Puerto Rico could set its own tariffs and make deals with other countries. But this would be done only with the consent of the U.S.

So the change was very little and hardly a challenge to the colonial status.

Even then, opposition to the recommendations was expressed by members of Congress before they were even submitted to that body. Governor Rafael Hernandez Colon made a special trip to Washington on July 30 to lobby for the recommendations of the Puerto Rican members of the ad hoc committee, hoping the Americans would not force too many revisions of them.

One recommendation included to please the Americans was that Puerto Rico be excluded from enforcement of certain federal laws—specifically the minimum wage law.

Speculation has it that this specific recommendation is very important because of the economic crisis now ravaging Puerto Rico. Because Puerto Rico falls under the minimum wage law of the U.S., many manufacturers have "run away" to the Dominican Republic and Haiti where wages are extremely low.

POLITICAL PRISONERS



CAMERON BISHOP'S TRIAL SEPT. 9

Cameron Bishop is charged with four counts of sabotage stemming from his alleged participation in the 1969 bombings of four high-voltage line towers in Colorado. One of these lines supplied electrical power to Coors Porcelain, a war profiteer which manufactured most of the armor plate for helicopters used in Vietnam and all missile nose cones.

Bishop is guilty of no crime. As an anti-war activist, his indictment can be seen as part of the government's attempt to squash all dissent against the Vietnam war at the time.

Pretrial motions on this case began August 7 in Denver, Colorado. A motion for dismissal based on the unconstitutionality of the application of the "sabotage" statute to Cameron was denied based on the "national emergency" declared by President Truman in 1950. Also denied was a

motion for dismissal for selective prosecution, as only one other prosecution under the sabotage act has taken place. However, the prosecution was forced to admit that the government had used informers to supply information for Cameron's indictment.

The use of informers is just another confirmation of the political nature of the case. Cameron was forced underground and chased relentlessly for 6 years, not because he was guilty of the bombings, but because he dared voice his dissent against the government, a government that promotes genocide in Southeast Asia, racism in America, and police brutality wherever American strongholds are threatened. His trial begins September 9.

If you are interested in helping out, send donations and inquiries to: The Cameron Bishop Defense, P.O. Box 3071, Denver, Colorado 80201.

PITTS, LEE STILL FIGHT FRAME-UP

Freddie Pitts and Wilbert Lee are two Black men who have twice been sentenced to die in the electric chair for crimes they did not commit. Their case began in August 1963 in Port St. Joe, located in Florida's notoriously KKK-ridden Panhandle, where they were accused, tried, and sentenced to death for the robbery and murder of two white service station attendants.

When Pitts and Lee went to trial in 1963, they were "induced" to enter guilty pleas. Pitts because he had been beaten so badly he could barely speak at the trial, and Lee for a similar beating in addition to the threat to shave his wife's head and electrocute her if a guilty plea was not entered.

The first guilty verdict was overturned in 1972 because of the exclusion of Blacks from both the grand jury and trial jury. However, another all-white jury reindicted the two men.

During the time between the two trials, a white man named Curtis Adams, in custody for a robbery carried out in the same manner as the

Port St. Joe robbery, confessed to the murder of the Port St. Joe station attendants. The validity of his confession was obvious as he revealed something that had always been a mystery—the manner in which the two attendants had been killed. In spite of this, Pitts and Lee were convicted a second time.

The racism was so overwhelming that after the second conviction, whites in the Panhandle drove through one Black community in a motor caravan shouting racial obscenities, carrying placards extolling the KKK, and stopping long enough to burn an effigy of Black people.

That Pitts and Lee are innocent is obvious to everyone who is aware of the case. In fact, Chris Burkett, son of one of the two murdered gas station attendants, wrote a letter to Florida Governor Rubin Askew demanding the release of the innocent Pitts and Lee.

Please send contributions and requests for information to: African People's Socialist Party, Committee to Free Pitts and Lee, P.O. Box 12903, Gainesville, Fla. 32604.

FRAMED IN THE CHICANO STRUGGLE

In January 1974 Garry Garrison, a Chicano and supporter of the Crusade for Justice in Denver, Colorado, was arrested and charged with attempted murder, attempted arson, and conspiracy to attempt arson, and held on a ransom bail of \$100,000. He is innocent. His only crime is that he is a Chicano who believes in fighting for his rights.

Garrison's arrest was part of the government's attempt to discredit and destroy the Chicano movement. In Denver, their prime target was the Crusade for Justice. The arrest coincided with a campaign of terror as several bombing attempts in the Denver area were being blamed on Chicano activists. Over 100 Chicano activists, their families, or friends were harassed and arrested on a variety of trumped-up charges, none of which stood up in court.

When Garrison was indicted, the headline in the press was "Bomb Recipient, Crusade for

Justice Traced." The flimsiest of evidence was involved: a legitimate real estate transaction between Escuela Tlatelolco (an all-Chicano alternative school started by the Crusade where Garrison taught part-time) and the owner of a paint store which someone allegedly attempted to bomb. This property bought by the school from the paint store owner was also the scene of a March 1973 confrontation between police and Chicanos.

Over the last 2 years much work has been done to free Garrison. As a result of pressure from the people, his bond was reduced to \$7,500. His trial is to begin this month. However, the judge has arbitrarily declared a change of venue, moving the trial from Denver, where the case is well known, to Ft. Morgan, Colorado, 70 miles away.

Send contributions, telegrams, or letters of support to: Denver Chicano Liberation Defense Committee, P.O. Box 18367, 1567 Downing St., Denver, Colorado 80218.

FREE THE LAST OF THE HARLEM 6!

Five of the "Harlem Six"—imprisoned in 1964—have been freed. Your support is asked for an appeal to New York Governor Carey to free the last of the six, Robert Rice.

When the white owner of a clothing store was murdered in Harlem in 1964, the police of the 28th Precinct responded by rounding up over 200 Black youths for questioning. Among them were a group of six who flew pigeons together from a neighborhood roof. Two of them had been badly beaten by precinct policemen 12 days before when they came to the defense of some younger children.

Because of this, all six were unjustly arrested on the murder charge, convicted by a jury of 11 whites and one Black, and sentenced to life imprisonment. After seven appeals and five trials, the other five have all secured their

liberty. Robert Rice alone is in jail.

Mr. Rice, now 28, has been in jail for 11 years. Even though he has an exemplary prison record, his sentence makes parole impossible for 6 more years. He has already spent more than a third of his life in jail.

The United States Supreme Court has refused to consider the case so that the only real recourse Mr. Rice now has is an appeal to Hugh Carey, Governor of New York State, for executive clemency.

Rice's mother and grandmother, who are organizing Rice's defense, are requesting people to join their committee, sign petitions asking for Rice's freedom, and write Governor Carey demanding executive clemency.

For more information, contact: Ms. Geneva Rice c/o The Charter Group, Box 346, Cathedral Station, New York, N.Y. 10025.

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Through the use of extreme pressure, the U.S. government forced the UN Decolonization Committee this week to postpone any discussion of Puerto Rico's status as a colony of Yankee imperialism. Pages 7, 8.

Crisis of the cities and crisis of the system

By SAM MARCY

(This article forms part of the discussion material for the Labor Day Conference of Workers World Party.)

NEW YORK, Aug. 25—It was nice and sunny in Eldora, Iowa, that midsummer day in 1974. Hardly anybody would have thought anything extraordinary had happened. Yet if on that Monday you had had to cash a check or make a deposit at the First National Bank of Eldora, the only one in this little town, you might have noticed on your way in our out a slight change in the name of the bank. It had become the Second Bank of Eldora.

No, it wasn't that another bank had nosed it out of first place. Something else had happened.

From late Thursday afternoon the week before until the wee hours of Sunday morning, there had been feverish activity by a handful of people in Eldora and in Washington who were trying desperately to see that this tiny little bank, one out of 20,000 in the country, should not sink.

The federal bank regulator, James Smith, who had jurisdiction over that bank and 5,000 others, also had a sentimental reason for taking a special interest in it. His mother lived in Eldora, and it was kind of his home town. But try as hard as he could, by Saturday he had to throw in the towel and put the bank up for sale at an auction. By Monday morning the sale had cleared and the First National had gone under.

To the citizens of Eldora it seemed as though nothing much had happened, merely a change in name. Since deposits up to \$15,000 were insured and everything else in the bank appeared as before, it didn't seem as though there was anything to worry about. But the bank's bad debts had to be called in, and this meant that some business firms either had to cut back their business activity, cut their staff, or lay off workers. That was noticed, especially by the people concerned.

A SYMPTOM?

Was this failure of a tiny bank deep in the heart of mid-America a signal of an impending storm? Would the federal bank regulator, also the controller of U.S. currency, initiate an immediate in-depth study of what was going on in all the banks in his jurisdiction to see if a financial and economic catastrophe was coming?

James Smith admitted later that he had "sensed trouble." So he decided to look into the general health of the banking system. After all, he said to himself, perhaps early detection could prevent a financial and economic crisis. That would make him a real hero in the banking and business fraternity.

After all, as the federal bank regulator and the controller of the U.S. currency, he was in charge of a vast army—there were 2,500 members on his staff. They could be mobilized quickly and ordered

to look into the situation right away and report to him. The banks were legally bound to open their books to him or face penalties. By law he was charged with the responsibility of monitoring about 5,000 of the 20,000 banks in the country. Among these 5,000 were some of the very biggest. He could also reach into the 15,000 other banks by a variety of legal and administrative powers available to him under existing law. And he had wide latitude in judgment in determining the number and size of banks, the structure of this industry, and even the degree of competition.

He and Arthur Burns, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, were really in charge of the whole banking and financial structure of the U.S. The comprehensive study he would undertake would help him decide whether what had happened in Eldora was an accident or an emerging phenomenon. With all the techniques, money, men, and vast authority at his command, perhaps he could determine whether a dangerous trend in the economy was surfacing.

CAPITALIST CRISIS

Little did he know, or appear to know, that he was treading a beaten path. Since 1825 when the first worldwide economic crisis developed, learned men in high places, in government, in industry, and in the universities, had tried not only to fathom the meaning of the so-called disturbances in the economic system, but had tried by a variety of mediums to change their course or eliminate them. There had been no success. All measures taken in that direction had proven to be mere palliatives. At most they had delayed the oncoming crisis and more often, as in recent years, had diverted it by driving the crisis deeper into the organism, only to find that it exploded with greater force and vigor than before.

For the crises are the inevitable result of the inherent contradictions in capitalist economy—where production is carried out on a collective basis but is appropriated on the basis of individual gain. Moreover, the crises occur independently of the will of the capitalists themselves. This law of capitalist production has the force of a natural law.

Understanding this will explain why no amount of comprehensive investigation or study would be helpful in obviating a developing economic crisis.

FRANKLIN NATIONAL CONFIRMED CRISIS

And it explains why James Smith, federal regulator of the banks, was frustrated in his efforts to save the Eldora bank and why, shortly thereafter, he found himself immersed up to his ears in a much bigger sea of financial troubles—the collapse of the Franklin National Bank.

All the vast powers Smith had at his command—specialists of all kinds, the help of computerized

technology of the most sophisticated type—did not equip him to comprehend the oncoming catastrophe at the Franklin National Bank. For days and weeks on end he and a large number of officials from his staff, from the Federal Reserve Bank's staff, and from the big banks in New York worked on a monumental rescue mission to save this tottering giant from collapse, to save a multi-billion-dollar bank with international connections and significance.

Officially the trouble was characterized as foreign exchange losses. But in reality it was unrestrained monetary speculation on the international arena. In the classical competitive stage of capitalist development such foreign exchange speculation was a normal accompaniment to international trade and commerce.

exposure of some of the shady practices of the Franklin National (but no shadier than those of the other banks), an effort was made to make it function. But it wouldn't. After the transfusion of \$250 million, the Federal Reserve Bank itself stepped in with a billion dollars—but by then the bank was already finished and as in Eldora, if you went to cash a check or make a deposit you saw a new name on the bank window: European American.

What the collapse of the Franklin National Bank showed was that the financial crisis was worldwide, that the phenomenon which had been observed in Eldora was also to surface in West Germany with the collapse of the Herstadt Bank, a giant on the European continent.

What is really important today, nearly a year after the Franklin collapse, is that the very banks

capitalist commerce and trade.

It's the dead hand of past imperialist wars and adventures which holds back the future, keeps the capitalist machine in a state of stagnation, unable to obtain new areas for exploitation and obstructed everywhere by heroic resistance from rebellious, underdeveloped countries.

The ruling class is impelled more and more to overcome the crisis by shifting it onto the shoulders of the workers—Black, white, Chicano—especially the poorest. The banks are in the vanguard of this offensive. That is what has to be realized and clearly understood. They are looking for the weakest link, where to aim an assault.

The banks have naturally seized upon the finances of the large cities as their primary target. This is not hard to understand. A considerable number of IOUs in the vaults of the biggest banks are from municipal corporations—big cities like New York. The big banks have many notes, bills, bonds, and various other financial instrumentalities from the cities.

The banks have always been especially eager to purchase these forms of indebtedness from big cities like New York. One good reason is the high interest on the city's bonds. Another equally cogent reason is that these bonds are tax-exempt. This is especially helpful for the millionaires, the very rich, who alone can buy them in large numbers. It's their tax shelter. The workers have no shelter like that at all. They pay out millions in sales taxes, tolls, cigarette taxes, and hundreds of hidden indirect taxes. There is no shelter for the workers at all.

But for the very rich, municipals have always been a good buy precisely because they enable them to avoid taxes and at the same time garner in extortionate interest rates. Any danger of depreciation in the value of these bonds, notes, or bills immediately makes the city government a target of attack. Through the city officialdom, the bankers can strike a blow at the living standards of those who work for the city and all who live in the city, particularly the mass of the workers and unemployed.

THEY'VE DONE IT BEFORE

A bird's-eye view of what has happened since the turn of the century in the struggle of the banks as exploiters and oppressors of the city is extremely instructive. Let's take New York City as an example.

In 1907 the U.S. experienced a tremendous financial crisis. At that time the city of New York came under severe attack from the press. The attack, except for a change of verbiage, was in substance the same as today's. The city was "living beyond its means," the poor and working people were "to blame for the crisis." Yet in 1907 there was no sanitation union to blame, no public employees' union, no teachers' union. There was no welfare system at all aside from

(Continued on page 10)

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However, the speculation which has been rife particularly since World War II has its origins in the devaluation (or rather debasement and depreciation) of the dollar and other currencies—a symptom of severe inter-imperialist rivalries and capitalist instability. This has been especially true since the end of the Vietnam war, when the boom-bust cycle of capitalist decline has reemerged with a vengeance and the so-called long boom, mostly the result of the Korean and Vietnamese wars, has drawn to an end.

Viewed in this light, the collapse of the Franklin National Bank was no more accidental than was that of the tiny First National Bank of Eldora. But the crisis of a multi-billion-dollar bank provokes a lot more attention, a lot more effort, and more desperate rescue measures than that of a small-town bank. It is no wonder that vast transfusions into the dying organism of the Franklin National Bank were soon hurried. The big banks in New York were mobilized in this giant effort. Eleven of them, including Chase, First National City, and Manufacturers Hanover sunk in \$250 million. The effort was necessary, it was thought, because it could avoid a worldwide financial crisis.

After some changes in the management, the introduction of new efficiency measures, and

who were so generous in offering their transfusion to the Franklin National are themselves in trouble.

WHY THE BANKS ARE ASSAULTING NYC

Therein lies the real clue to the assault on the city of New York and its millions of people—especially the poor, the workers, and the many millions who have toiled to make this city the great metropolis it is today.

These very banks have stuffed in their vaults billions upon billions of IOUs. This money has vastly depreciated as a result of the Korean war, the Vietnam war, and the continued parasitic production of armaments by the military-industrial complex—the production of planes, tanks, guns, and missiles, all most sophisticated and costly, which bring no material return beneficial to industry or to the people as a whole, particularly the working people.

All this takes place on the crest of a capitalist crisis of overproduction. The banks are the central nervous system of the economic structure of the capitalist system. Their health reflects the state of industry, shipping, mining, commerce, etc. The latter are in a state of utter decline and stagnation. But IOUs printed by the government continue to pile up in the banks and flood all the arteries of world