



# REVOLUTIONARY WORKER

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**Three Main Points**

by Bob Avakian  
 Chairman of the RCP, USA

What do we in the Revolutionary Communist Party want people to learn from all that is exposed and revealed in this newspaper? Mainly, three things:

1) The whole system we now live under is based on exploitation— here and all over the world. It is completely worthless and no basic change for the better can come about until this system is overthrown.

2) Many different groups will protest and rebel against things this system does, and these protests and rebellions should be supported and strengthened. Yet it is only those with nothing to lose but their chains who can be the backbone of a struggle to actually overthrow this system and create a new system that will put an end to exploitation and help pave the way to a whole new world.

3) Such a revolutionary struggle is possible. There is a political Party that can lead such a struggle, a political Party that speaks and acts for those with nothing to lose but their chains: The Revolutionary Communist Party, USA.

This Party has the vision, the program, the leadership, and the organizational principles to unite those who must be united and enable them to do what must be done. There is a challenge for all those who would like to see such a revolution, those with a burning desire to see a drastic change for the better, all those who dare to dream and to act to bring about a completely new and better world: Support this Party, join this Party, spread its message and its organized strength, and prepare the ground for a revolutionary rising that has a solid basis and a real chance of winning.

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# Death Penalty Constitution Passes

There is a country in the world today where millions of oppressed people—the “nobodies” on the bottom with nothing to lose but their chains—are rising up in righteous armed struggle to take power into their hands. That country is Peru. The peasants and workers there are waging a people’s war led by the Maoist Communist Party of Peru, often called the Sendero Luminoso or Shining Path in the press. They are knocking the old rule of the exploiters and oppressors to the ground. And they are building a new power to fight against ALL oppression.

The people’s war in Peru is *our* struggle—it belongs to the proletariat and oppressed of the world. This is the most important and precious revolutionary struggle in the world today. And what makes it even more crucial for us here in this country to support the sisters and brothers in Peru is that we share a common enemy—the U.S. government and the imperialist system it fronts for. The U.S. is the big backer of the vicious regime in Peru which is trying to crush the people’s war with reactionary violence. Proletarians and oppressed in the U.S. have special responsibility to expose and oppose the murderous moves of the U.S. system against the revolution in Peru. We have special responsibility to stand with *our* people who are turning the world upside down in the countryside and shantytowns of Peru.

Peru’s Fujimori regime held a referendum on October 31 on the new Constitution which puts even more power in the hands of the dictator and his military generals. The Constitution was drawn up by the rubber-stamp Congress dominated by President Fujimori’s henchmen. The regime used armed force to put down protests against the Constitution and limited access to the media by forces calling for a “no” vote. Fujimori used government funds to buy off votes and pressured mayors to campaign for the Constitution in exchange for financing. The vote was held under martial law conditions in Lima and large areas of the country.

With all this, it was no surprise that the rigged-up referendum approved the new Constitution. Fujimori declared a “victory”—and he intends to use this as justification for more crimes against the people. A key feature of the new Constitution is that it allows the government to use the death penalty against captured revolutionaries. Fujimori had openly declared before the referendum that the death penalty could be used against the imprisoned leader of the Maoist Communist Party of Peru, Chairman Gonzalo, and other revolutionaries. The restoration of the death penalty represents a heightened threat to the life of Chairman Gonzalo (Abimael Guzmán). It calls for stepped-up efforts to force the Fujimori regime to allow lawyers and others to visit Gonzalo and other revolutionary prisoners.

Although the passing of the Constitution was expected, what came as a big shock—including to Fujimori’s U.S. imperialist backers—was the slim margin of the “yes” vote. Fujimori himself had cast the referendum on the Constitution as a popularity poll on his rule, and he confidently predicted he would win 70 percent or more approval. But as it turned out, the Constitution was only passed by 51 percent to 49 percent (some reports put it at 53 to 47). The “no” vote actually won in 14 of the 25 depart-

ments (states) around Peru. The Lima newspaper *El Comercio* reported that the voter abstention rate was 27.4 percent and that 9 percent of the ballots were turned in blank or spoiled. The regime suffered big losses in the central and southern highlands of the Andes—the areas where the people’s war led by the Communist Party of Peru is very strong.

At the same time as the referendum, a series of guerrilla attacks took place in Lima and other parts of the country. According to a Reuters wire service report: “Maoist Shining Path guerrillas launched attacks on the eve of the vote.... The guerrillas detonated bombs in central Lima, damaging a congressional building and a Foreign Ministry office next to it, police said. No injuries were reported. The bombings came hours after guerrillas blacked out the capital and several other cities by downing electrical towers. They bombed at least three banks and a supermarket Friday, causing damage in two Lima commercial districts.” According to a UPI report, the guerrillas in Lima “painted graffiti on the walls calling for people to boycott the vote.”

Only a few weeks before the referendum, Fujimori was in the U.S. and told President Clinton, other top officials and high-level businessmen that Peru was now “stable” and a profitable place for capitalist investments. But after the close October 31 vote, a former World Bank official said, “This is a call of alarm which shows a polarized country. The fault lines in Peruvian society are very evident.” A worried broker in the Peruvian stock exchange said, “We don’t know what will happen now. It’s a situation of uncertainty, and uncertainty is never good for the stock market.”

## A Weapon Pointed Against the People

Many bourgeois opposition parties and a major magazine, *Caretas*, endorsed the “no” vote in the Constitutional referen-



Fujimori and his generals.

dum. A large number of officials outside Lima opposed the Constitution because it concentrated even more power in the central state machinery. Such opposition exposed sharp cracks within the Peruvian ruling class.

But right now, Fujimori has the backing of the U.S. ruling class as their main lackey in Peru. And he intends to use the “public approval” of the fascist Constitution as a weapon to repress and squeeze the masses of people even more.

The restoration of the death penalty goes against international treaties signed by the Peruvian government. The U.S. government—which claims to be “encouraging” the Fujimori regime to “respect human rights”—has not said anything to oppose this move and, in fact, has indicated quiet approval. Clearly the U.S. imperialists feel it is important for the Peruvian regime to wield the death penalty against the Maoist revolutionaries and the people, even though this will make it harder to put a “democratic” makeup on Fujimori.

Other aspects of the new Constitution take Fujimori’s “free market reforms” even further. After he came to power in 1990, Fujimori carried out “austerity measures” under the direction of the International Monetary Fund—the Washington, D.C.-based institution that acts as sort of a world financial policeman for the imperialists. Almost overnight, prices of basic goods soared, wages were cut drastically and the masses of people sank deeper into poverty and misery. Now, the new Constitution mandates more cuts in public services, limits on free education, and restrictions on worker rights—all in the name of promoting a “free market economy.” In the period leading up to the referendum, students and others protesting the new Constitution were brutally attacked by the police.

## Selling Off Peru to Capitalist Investors

Fujimori’s Constitution also opens up the Peruvian economy even more to penetration and exploitation by foreign capital. An editor of a pro-government newspaper in Lima said, “The new Constitution is a free-market document that most businessmen wanted to see approved.” It will accelerate the process already started by the Fujimori regime of selling off valuable state-owned economic assets—like gold mines, steel mills, oil deposits—at low prices to capitalist inves-

tors eager to suck profits out of Peru.

The November 2 *New York Times* carried an article on “Peru’s economic recovery.” (Although the article appeared after the referendum, it was apparently written before the vote, since it says that Peruvians “widely voted to support” the new Constitution.) The article quoted a manager of a U.S. mining company which bought a share in a profitable gold mine in Peru: “We’re moving into boom times here in Peru. The day Guzmán was caught, the country was different.” The remark shows the obscene, predatory nature of these capitalists. They used to regard Peru as a very “risky” place, since the poor are rising up against centuries of oppression and waging a powerful people’s war that has shaken the government. But now that they feel the fascist regime has regained some control, these bloodsuckers are attracted to Peru.

What the exploiters mean by “boom times” is that they see a chance to make quick profits for themselves. The *Times* article admits that “no one is expecting” that the millions of poor will see quick improvements in their lives or that there will be many new jobs for the four out of five Peruvians who are unemployed or underemployed. The *Times* only cited one example of any benefit to the local economy from the new foreign investments: a few hundred workers hired for several months to build a road to a mine that is producing \$1 million in gold a week for the capitalist owners.

## Support the Revolution in Peru!

The U.S. imperialists are giving a stamp of approval to Fujimori’s fascist moves. The *Times* noted: “In Washington now, there are the beginnings of a consensus in the Clinton Administration that once it has assurances on human rights, it should renew the aid to Peru that was halted after President Alberto K. Fujimori seized dictatorial powers last year.”

For the oppressed people, these developments make it clearer than ever that revolution is the *only* solution for the masses in Peru. The U.S. imperialists and their lackey regime are aiming to crush the revolutionary armed struggle and the hopes of the oppressed in Peru. The people of the world—especially here in the U.S.—need to stand firm with our Peruvian sisters and brothers, defend the life of their leader, Chairman Gonzalo, and support the people’s war in Peru. □



Guerrilla fighters of the Communist Party of Peru.



# Report from Peru:

The following is based on information in IEC Bulletin No. 40:

The 5th Delegation from the International Emergency Committee to Defend the Life of Dr. Abimael Guzmán (IEC) has completed an important mission in Peru. The delegation was in Lima during October 23-30. They demanded to see Dr. Guzmán (Chairman Gonzalo)—who has been held in total solitary confinement in a small concrete cell for over a year—and other political prisoners, and protested the crimes of the Fujimori regime.

The delegation members came from different countries around the world, reflecting the strength of the international campaign. The members of the 5th IEC Delegation were:

- Mario Bustamante (Mexico)—journalist; trade union activist; syndicalist
- Peter Erlinder (U.S.)—lawyer; president, National Lawyers Guild; professor, William Mitchell College of Law
- Haluk Gerger (Turkey)—founding member, Human Rights Organization of Turkey; member of executive committee of World Federation of UN Associations; professor, international relations; journalist
- Carolyn Hadfield (U.S.)—member of IEC-Hawaii chapter
- Martin Heiming (Germany)—lawyer for political prisoners
- Eduardo Umaña Mendoza (Colombia)—lawyer; judge, Permanent Tribunal of the Peoples; member, Council of the World Organization Against Torture; professor, Universidad Externado of Colombia
- María Gómez Pava (Colombia)—translator

The delegation was in Lima at an important time. On October 31 Fujimori held a referendum to claim "public approval" for the new Constitution. The Constitution includes restoration of the death penalty, and Fujimori has said that it would be used against Chairman Gonzalo and other revolutionaries.

The international lawyers with the 5th delegation, Peter Erlinder and Martin Heiming (along with Eduardo Umaña Mendoza, who recently joined the legal team), presented a formal petition demanding to see Dr. Guzmán, to Peru's President Fujimori, to various government ministries, the Supreme Council and the Supreme Court of Military Justice. (Erlinder and Heiming are representatives for the Lima lawyers who submitted petitions against the Peruvian regime to the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights [IACHR]. The petitions protested the violations of international and Peruvian law in the cases of Dr. Guzmán and other political prisoners.) They set a deadline of October 29 for an answer from the government.

On October 28 Erlinder and Heiming went to the Naval Base in Callao where the Fujimori regime is holding Chairman Gonzalo. When the two lawyers demanded to see their client, the Naval authorities contacted the Supreme Court of Military Justice and sent the lawyers there. The lawyers were told that the Supreme Court of Military Justice would respond to their demand. The press also began calling the lawyers at the hotel, saying they had been

told by the Ministry of Defense that the international lawyers were in Lima.

Members of the delegation met with a number of influential high-placed officials to increase pressure on the regime. None could give any legal reasons preventing the lawyers from visiting their client and to various degrees acknowledged that even the reactionary decrees of the Fujimori regime do not prohibit the lawyers from visiting Dr. Guzmán, now that the one-year solitary confinement period is over. (And in any case, according to all international laws, prisoners must be allowed to see their lawyers.) The International Red Cross also said they would contact the Supreme Court of Military Justice regarding the request.

The government clearly felt sharp pressure from the presence of the IEC delegation and the international lawyers in Lima, particularly after the lawyers' trip to Callao. That evening, Fujimori appeared on TV and actually spoke of Peter Erlinder by name as one of the international lawyers who had come to visit Chairman Gonzalo. Then he said that no one was going to tell him when Abimael Guzmán can receive visitors and that only he (Fujimori) will make that decision.

That same night, Lima's Public Prosecutor came to the delegation's hotel. Instead of threatening the delegates with expulsion as he did the 1st and 2nd IEC Delegations, he brought a document explaining that Dr. Guzmán's case was not in his jurisdiction, and wanted the lawyers to sign it. In other words, this top bureaucrat in Peru needed the signature of the international lawyers confirming that he was not responsible for the delegation's problems in gaining access to Dr. Guzmán.

The delegation met with Peruvian lawyers from the Association of Democratic Lawyers (ADL). They gave a firsthand report on political prisoners and the severe repression faced by lawyers who attempt to defend them. The Lima lawyers are putting their lives on the line by continuing to act on behalf of Dr. Guzmán and other political prisoners. The regime has arrested Drs. Crespo and Cartagena and sentenced them to life imprisonment for "treason" for defending their clients—especially Dr. Guzmán and Martha Huatay.

At the suggestion of the Lima lawyers, the international lawyers made an attempt to speak to a meeting of the Lima Bar Association—to ask that the Bar pass a resolution to support the demand to see Dr. Guzmán and to take measures to protect the lawyers of political prisoners. The delegation lawyers met with Dr. Jorge Avendaño, the head of the Bar Association, to make this request. Avendaño had received many faxed letters from lawyers around the world in support of the efforts of the international lawyers—from India, U.S., France, Germany, Mexico, Australia, Turkey, New Zealand and South Africa. (These letters were also distributed to the press, which has repeatedly mouthed Fujimori's lies that those who support the IEC are a handful of overseas members of the Communist Party of Peru.)

By only four votes, the Lima Bar voted not to allow Erlinder and Heiming to speak. But the issue of the repression of lawyers became a broad question among the membership (many of whom are quite conserva-

tive and have been unwilling to take an open stand against the Fujimori regime). And 15 lawyers from the Bar made a special effort to meet with the two lawyers and to thank them.

The delegation also met with a recently released political prisoner who graphically described conditions in a particularly repressive prison where many political prisoners are held. And they talked with a family member of one of the La Cantuta victims—nine students and a professor who were murdered by a government death squad—and they were able to investigate the conditions faced by the poor of Peru.

On October 29 the IEC delegation held a press conference to report on their findings, to denounce the government for refusing to let them visit Dr. Guzmán or the other political prisoners, and to announce that they would continue to pursue their demands. The press conference had to be held in the street because the room at the



Demonstration in front of White House protesting Fujimori's visit to the U.S., December 1991.



Dr. Alfredo Crespo



Dr. Jorge Cartagena

Association of Journalists which had been reserved was cancelled at the last minute, and all the press who arrived were told that the press conference was "cancelled" and were instructed to leave. Despite all this, a significant number of press stayed. The press was given a joint written statement from the delegation, the petition presented by the international lawyers, *Emergency Bulletin 39* and other material. Peter Erlinder made a very strong statement concerning the case against the Fujimori regime at the IACHR, and he spoke of the determination of the legal team to defend the life of Dr. Guzmán; Carolyn Hadfield described the international campaign and the efforts being made by hundreds of thousands of people who are outraged by the Fujimori regime's actions against this political leader. News about the delegation was carried on radio, television and in daily papers such as *Expresso* and *La Nación*.

It is the assessment of the IEC that "the accomplishments of the 5th IEC Delegation have been significant, and that the Fujimori regime is more on the defensive than ever concerning its crimes against Dr. Guzmán and the other political prisoners." The IEC asks: "If Fujimori has nothing to hide, why doesn't he allow Dr. Guzmán's lawyers to visit him?"

The fight to force the Fujimori regime to allow the international lawyers and others to see Dr. Guzmán is more important than ever. As the 5th Delegation made clear, the

international lawyers will return again to Lima until they reach their aim. Lawyers in Lima who submitted petitions to the IACHR, as well as others, are also working toward this goal under very difficult and dangerous conditions.

Many letters have been sent to the Supreme Court of Military Justice to demand that the international lawyers be able to visit Dr. Guzmán, and more are coming in each day. The IEC says it is important that these continue to be sent, to keep up the pressure on the Fujimori regime. Letters can be faxed to 5114-337690 in Lima. IEC requests that copies be sent to IEC in London (FAX 44-71-482 0853.)

The following is the statement of the 5th IEC Delegation, presented at the press conference in Lima, Peru, October 29, 1993:

The 5th Delegation of the International Emergency Committee to Defend the Life of Abimael Guzmán declares:

## I

\* One year ago we were here as observers (in our capacity as international lawyers for human rights) at the military tribunal against Dr. Abimael Guzmán. At that time, our attendance at the tribunal was not permitted.

\* This legal case is not over. From April 1993, this case, together with other peti-



Chairman Gonzalo, leader of the Communist Party of Peru.

As of November 5, Chairman Gonzalo has been held in complete isolation for...

## 1 YEAR 25 DAYS

Last October, Chairman Gonzalo—leader of the Maoist Communist Party of Peru—was sentenced to life imprisonment by hooded military judges. Since then, he has been seen outside his jail cell only once—on April 3 as he was being transferred in an iron cage to a concrete dungeon on a navy base. The fascist regime in Peru is holding this revolutionary leader of the Peruvian people under very brutal conditions. He is being denied visits by lawyers, doctors and relatives and deprived of his medicine. People who support the revolution in Peru and anyone who opposes injustice around the world have an urgent task—to create an international political climate which compels the Peruvian government to provide Comrade Gonzalo basic rights as a political prisoner. And the reactionary regime must be prevented from killing Chairman Gonzalo by bringing back the death penalty or by other means.



# IEC 5th Delegation

tions involving Elena Iparraguirre, Dr. Martha Huatay, Dr. Alfredo Crespo, Dr. Jorge Cartagena and others, have been put before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the OAS.

\* We are the lawyers in this case. For this reason we are here again in order to talk with our clients. This is necessary in order to carry out their legal defense as is guaranteed by the American Convention on Human Rights, Article 8.

\* Another reason we are here is that the Peruvian lawyers, such as Drs. Crespo and Cartagena, who defended Dr. Guzmán have been persecuted and condemned to prison.

\* We have delivered a petition to various authorities, including to the President of the Republic, the Supreme Court and the Supreme Council of Military Justice, asking for authorization to visit our clients. Up to now, we have not received any answer. Yesterday, we went to the Naval Base at Callao where some of our clients are imprisoned, for example Dr. Abimael Guzmán. We were not allowed to enter.

\* Our clients have the right to freedom of thought, information and culture, according to American Convention of Human Rights, Article 13. Similarly, the American Declaration of Rights and Duties of Man, Article 11, guarantees respect for the life and health of our clients.

\* Clearly, these rights are not being respected. For example, Dr. Guzmán is under psychological pressure; Dr. Cartagena urgently needs a medical operation, and we are afraid that Drs. Crespo and Cartagena could die within three or four years due to the very hard conditions they are living under in prison.

\* We will do all possible to achieve the respect of these rights for our clients. For this reason, we will be returning to Peru.

## II

\* Despite the pronouncements of the Peruvian government that respect for human rights is one of its fundamental concerns, we have gathered opinions from the population which contradict this official view.

\* The degrading and inhuman treatment, the application of torture as a method in police interrogations, the inhuman prison conditions where those detainees suspected of "terrorism" are typically assigned, the summary trials, the arbitrary arrests, the extrajudicial executions, the forced disappearances, the persecution and imprisonment for simply practicing one's profession: these are actions of the regime which are aimed against the people under the pretext of combatting subversion.

For the above reasons, we who sign this declaration, demand:

- The restoration of the full observance of human rights in Peru
- The full application of international agreements and conventions enforced in this matter (Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the UN and the American Convention of Human Rights of the OAS)
- The unconditional respect for the practice of professional duties (lawyers,



doctors, journalists, etc.)

\* The Delegation of the IEC expresses its solidarity with the people of Peru and makes the commitment to continue informing the people of the world about the situation in this country until the inalienable rights of all the Peruvians are restored.

## III

The International Campaign to Defend the Life of Dr. Abimael Guzmán is growing larger and becoming stronger, now including hundreds of thousands of people. Peasants, students, professionals, workers, artists from India, Colombia, Germany, Nepal, U.S., Mexico, Turkey and more than 30 countries have united to Defend the Life of Dr. Abimael Guzmán and the other political prisoners. During the past year, millions of people have heard about the struggle of the Peruvian people and the violations of their basic rights committed by the Peruvian government. Many actions have been undertaken. For example, on September 24, the speech that Dr. Guzmán delivered from the cage a year ago was presented and published throughout the world: on radio, in newspapers, from roofs of buildings and through street theater in front of the Peruvian embassies of Spain, U.S., India, Colombia, Sweden, Denmark. Hundreds of thousands of leaflets demanding the end of the solitary confinement of Dr. Guzmán were distributed. Banners with the slogan "Defend the Life of Abimael

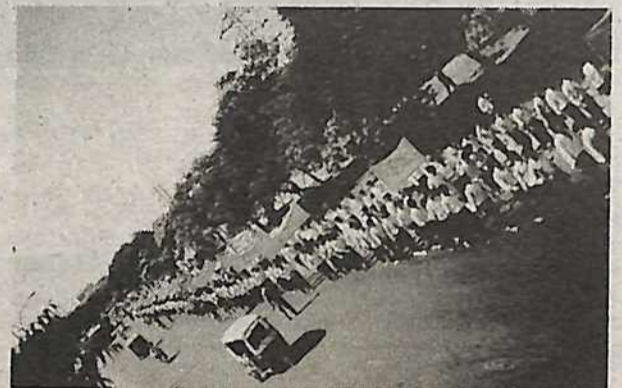
Guzmán" appeared on the main avenues of the larger cities of the world. In Bangladesh, 1,500 people attended an art exhibition denouncing the criminal policy of Fujimori against Dr. Guzmán and the other political prisoners.

The IEC is currently denouncing the fact that Fujimori is boasting about waging a psychological war against Dr. Abimael Guzmán and Fujimori's illegal policy of maintaining Dr. Guzmán in solitary confinement. New IEC chapters are being

formed—for example in New Zealand. And this week workers in Turkey held a strike for one day to Defend the Life of Dr. Abimael Guzmán.

The IEC is firmly committed to continue defending the life of Dr. Guzmán and the other political prisoners. Through the distribution of information, street actions and the presentation of legal cases in international court and other means, we will demand that the Fujimori regime respect the basic rights of the people.

5,000 marched in New Delhi, India after the arrest of Dr. Guzmán last year.



Below left: Rally for Dr. Abimael Guzmán held by political prisoners inside Buca Prison, Turkey, last year.



### Turkish Workers Strike in Solidarity with Chairman Gonzalo

While the 5th IEC Delegation was in Lima, 32 workers at a radiator factory in Ankara, Turkey went on a one-day strike on October 28 in solidarity with Chairman Gonzalo. This inspiring action was announced by the 5th Delegation at the press conference in Lima. The workers also donated one day's wages to the IEC campaign and pledged to help distribute 1,000 copies of the IEC pamphlet in Turkey. This is their statement:

"Today Peruvian working people are living under the yoke of U.S.-sponsored Fujimori regime. On October 31, 1993 the U.S.-backed Peruvian government is holding a referendum under the farce of creating a new constitution, but in effect to secure the approval of the people to reinstate capital punishment. In opposition to their referendum, and as part of the most urgent world-wide struggle to protect the life of Dr. Guzmán, the great leader of the Peruvian working people, we, using our power derived from production, have stopped work for one day and donate one day's wages to the Campaign. We call on everybody to be sensitive to human rights on all parts of our planet."

Signed, Workers' Representative Ozcan Dogan, Ankara, Turkey, Yil Isi Sitesi Factory



# Damian Williams Denied Bail Reduction 2 Trials, 2 Standards, 2 Much

LOS ANGELES—The hearing was on a motion to lower the bail of Damian Williams, one of the LA4+ defendants, from \$580,000 to \$35,000. But Judge John W. Ouderkirk—a former cop who acted like a member of the prosecution team throughout the trial of Damian Williams and Keith Watson—said the only question in his mind was whether to revoke Damian's bail entirely. The state was going to exact its revenge one way or another.

Once again the pig justice system stepped in to overturn a jury verdict. When the cops who beat Rodney King were convicted, the judge violated the sentencing guidelines to give Powell and Koon extra-light sentences. Now, when Damian Williams—who the system put on trial as a stand-in for the Los Angeles Rebellion—is acquitted, the same pig system bends the rules in the opposite direction to keep the brother in jail.

Declaring that Damian Williams no longer enjoyed the presumption of innocence but was a "convicted felon," Judge Ouderkirk once again, as he has throughout the trial, denounced Williams from the bench for "violent and anti-social conduct," which means of course "violent and anti-system conduct." It was the clear intent of the judge to send out a message: There will be punishment under this system

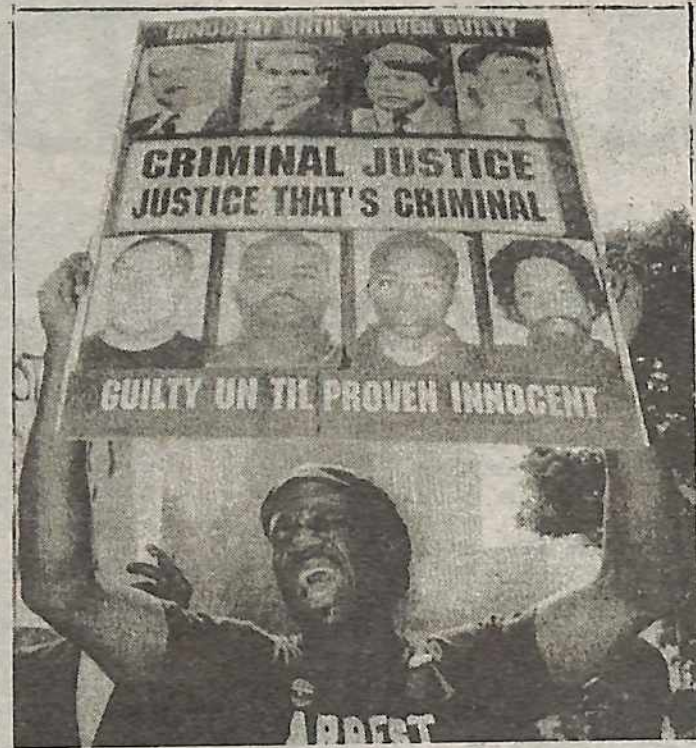
for slaves who rebel, and don't you forget it.

Few could forget that when the two pigs who beat Rodney King were convicted of a felony in their second trial, not only did they get to stay out on bail pending sentencing, but they were even allowed to remain free for six weeks after sentencing before reporting to a federal minimum security country club.

Williams' attorney Edi Faal pointed out that the bail figure of \$580,000 had been set when Williams faced 19 felony charges, three of which carried life in prison. Since that time, nine of the charges were thrown out and a jury found Williams innocent of the other ten. He was convicted only of four misdemeanors and a lesser felony that the jury substituted for a more serious charge. Faal pointed out that Williams was not a flight risk.

Further, nobody in Damian's neighborhood considered his release a threat to the community. In fact, a welcome home block party had been arranged in his honor.

The prosecutor leaped to his feet to declare that releasing Williams "would be an affront to the good and decent law-abiding citizens in this county." And the judge chimed in that Damian was a flight risk because he had failed to show up in traffic court four times!



August 19—  
Demonstration  
outside  
courthouse as  
trial of LA4+  
began.

Since their stunning defeat in the jury trial, the government and their loyal bourgeois media have been fanning the flames of "white backlash" among their racist and privileged social base. Unable to win a condemnation of the Los Angeles Rebellion from a jury, they are trying to accomplish on backward, racist talk shows what they could not accomplish in court.

In the case of co-defendant Keith Watson, the state announced that it was prepared to retry Watson on the one count where the jury was hung 9 to 3 for acquittal. On the advice of his lawyer Watson pled guilty for time served and made a public apology to the people he was accused of beating during the rebellion.

His face angry, Watson stood in the courtroom and faced his tormentors. It was a painful moment: once again the oppressed were apologizing in the oppressors' courtroom. When have the masters of this system ever had to apologize to the people

of the world for the torment, war, and poverty they have brought down on millions? Where is the public apology from the police who beat Rodney King?

There is a yearning among the people for the day yet to come when all the apologizing—and the begging and pleading—are going to be coming from the other side.

Nor does this end the danger to Watson, because as we have seen, Rodney King has been dogged and hounded by the cops every day since he was vindicated in court. The pigs never forgive or forget. Being on parole, Watson needs only be charged with the slightest infraction to be right back in prison.

This is no time to chill. The LAPD are dogging the masses on a daily basis. The battles around the LA4+ cases are far from over. All eyes are on the sentencing of Damian Williams which is set for the first week of December. □

# Pico Union 3 are Free!



Police barricade in Pico Union with graffiti reading "People's Zone."



RCYB and revolutionary youth demonstrate on barricades in Pico Union.

The Pico Union 3 are free! On October 15 all charges were dismissed against three women members of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade (RCYB) who were arrested after the L.A. Rebellion for standing with the people in the Pico Union barrio—sometimes called La Centroamericana—in Los Angeles. One of the three was Sasha, whose leg was recently broken by the LAPD during an attack on revolutionaries in a Watts housing project.

The arrests came down in May 1992, at a time when the ruling class was desperately trying to repress the deep anger and rebelliousness of the people following the April 29 uprising. At about 9:00 p.m. on May 18, a small army of cops unleashed a pre-

planned attack on some RCYB youth who live in Pico Union. The pigs were hassling some other youth on the block for supposedly having a beer in front of their houses and the RCYBers had come out to stand with the people and their right to defend themselves. Three women revolutionaries were singled out for arrest. They were charged with interfering with a police officer and inciting to riot and held on thousands of dollars bail, which was later raised to \$50,000 total for the three.

From the beginning this case was a major political battle, as lawyers, feminists and others stepped forward to speak at a press conference and give statements in court demanding that bail be reduced. Neighbors from Pico Union called the court to protest. These efforts won the release of all three without bail or on reduced bail. The defendants then worked to force the government to release information on police activities to show that the arrests were part of a pre-planned assault. The police and prosecution refused to turn over some of the evidence; some documents, like the sergeant's log of the entire attack, were "lost." They also denied the involvement of any of their secret police spying divisions.

Police reports showed that fully one third of the evening watch (shift) of the Rampart Division Police Station was in the surrounding area at the time of the assault. Communications between police cars showed that detectives were trying to get a search warrant for the house where the revolutionaries live. Although they were supposedly going to look for "looted" goods, they talked about "the May Day communists" who were "causing all this trouble." They referred to a secret meeting that had taken place to plan the police operation. Another report said that information on "RCP arrests" should be forwarded to Rampart Division head Richard Wemmer. Wemmer is a former official in the Anti-Terrorist Division (ATD), a super-secret political-police division with a his-



# Shockwaves!

A Report from the Los Angeles Rebellion

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**By Michael Slate**



**Shockwaves**, a collection of unique and intimate interviews with participants of the L.A. Rebellion, is now available. It is reprinted from a series run in the **Revolutionary Worker** from May to September 1992.

Author Michael Slate is writing a new series and funds are needed to support his work. Proceed from sales of the **Shockwaves** collection will help. You can contribute by buying several copies and distributing them to friends. Michael is not a bourgeois journalist who lives in fancy hotels, etc. Our donations are needed to cover his basic necessities: food, transportation, research, and rent. A lot of money is needed, and donations can be sent to: Reporter's Emergency Travel Fund, RCP Publications, P.O. Box 3486 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654. (Anonymous contributions and money orders are encouraged.)

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tory of spying on and plotting against anybody who challenges the system. This experienced police spy was now in charge of brutally repressing the people of Pico Union following the rebellion. This obviously included repressing those "causing trouble" for the police operations against the people.

Before the trial date, lawyers for the Pico Union 3 filed a motion to dismiss, based on all this evidence of a political frame-up. The day the trial was supposed to begin, the prosecutor moved to dismiss, saying they couldn't disprove what the defendants were saying. The judge asked, "So what you're saying is that you have no proof?" The prosecutor said, "Yes." Of course, the system prosecutes—and convicts—people every day with no proof, and makes up evidence when it doesn't have any, as many recently saw during the trial in the case of the LA4+. But there are a number of reasons why the state was forced to back off.

The ruling class is more and more freaked out by the resistance of the people in Los Angeles, from Venice to Watts to Pico

Union. The RCYB stood with the masses, during and after the Rebellion, saying "It's Right to Rebel!" This is a nightmare for the powers. They have the police and the courts to repress people. But a blatant political railroad could draw people forward from many social classes, both to oppose injustice and to check out the stand and plan of the revolutionaries. It is clear that during such a trial, a lot of information about political conspiracies against the masses and the revolutionaries would have been laid bare.

Even before the Spring Rebellion, the system was coming down hard on Pico Union, creating concentration-camp-like conditions with street barricades and organized groups of snitches working with the police. They had plans to expand this operation, including more barricades. The rebellion dealt a serious blow to these attempts to crush the masses. The authorities launched a heavy military and police counter-assault.

In May 1992 Pico Union was occupied by the National Guard and thousands of immigrants were rounded up as part of the

largest mass arrest in U.S. history. The LAPD and numerous federal and other police agencies unleashed a reign of terror. Apartment buildings were invaded by cops and immigration agents who kicked in doors and took furniture and other possessions, saying it was stolen during the Rebellion. During this police looting spree they stole over a million dollars worth of goods from some of the poorest areas of the city. Even after a city-wide curfew was ended, people were snatched off the streets, or out of stores and restaurants, beaten, and arrested or turned over to the INS. Hundreds of immigrants were deported in this way.

But the Rebellion had created a new day, and the people, especially the youth, were not submitting to the authorities. The RCYB was busy organizing and helping people find the forms to resist the pig occupation. When the cops rolled in force through some neighborhoods, they found whistles being blown at them, and people shouting "Zona del pueblo, no zona de chota." These actions of the masses indicated that people were beginning to or-

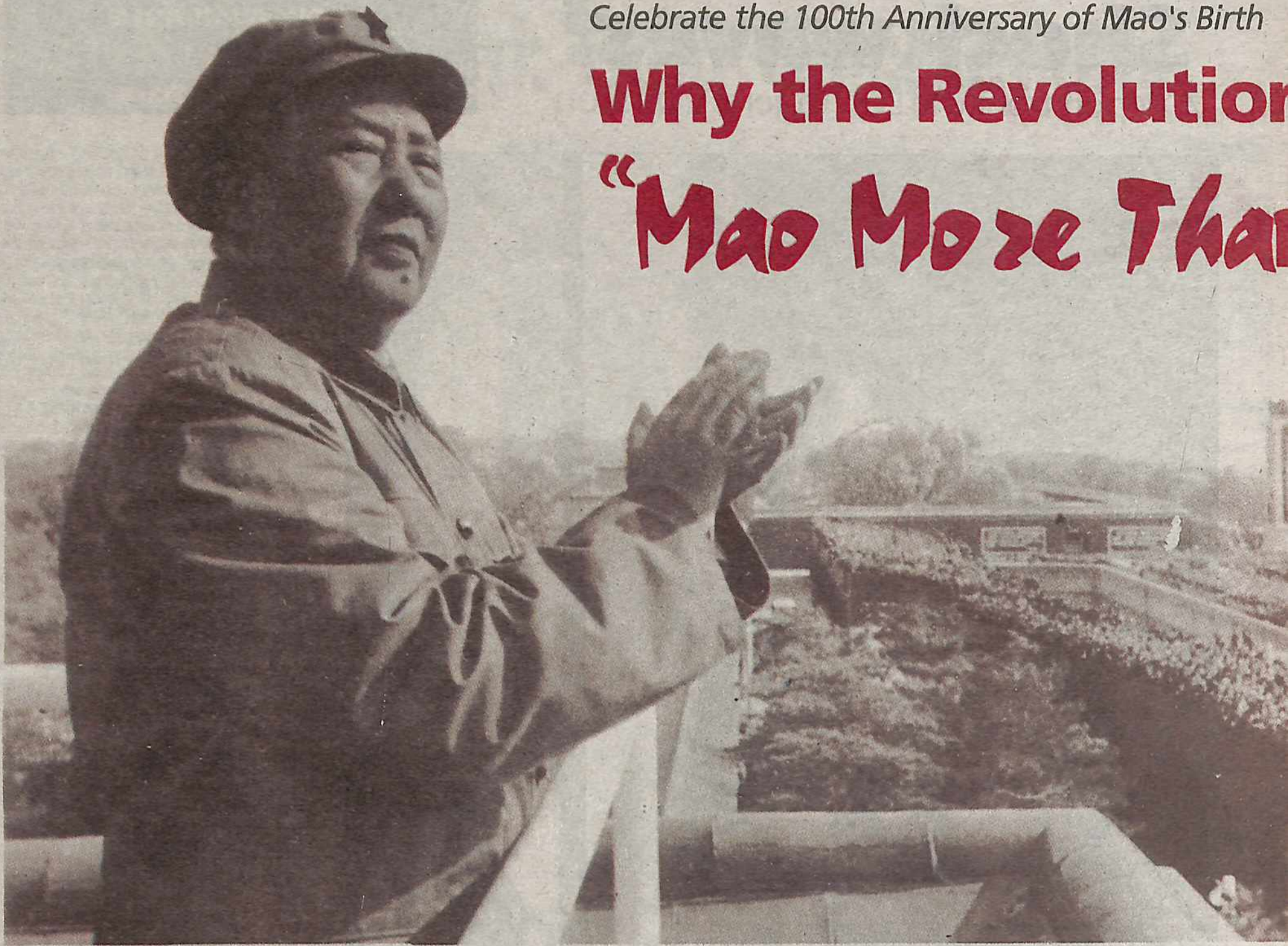
ganize themselves in a revolutionary way. So the authorities attempted to intimidate the masses and separate them from their revolutionary leaders. They failed. Even before they were forced to back down and dismiss the case, the arrests had created even more support for the Brigade in the area among the people, who struggled to get the sisters released and celebrated their homecoming.

The victory in the case of the Pico Union 3 comes at a time of renewed police attacks. In the Watts housing project of Nickerson Gardens, revolutionary youth have been beaten and threatened with rape and death. The police are trying to beat the masses back down so their armed enforcers can victimize and brutalize the people without all the resistance they've seen since the Rebellion. But they haven't been able to get away with this, and have suffered defeats even within their own courtrooms. This is testimony to the depth and power of the Spring Rebellion and the new reality in Los Angeles where the experience of the Rebellion continues to be felt in the people's struggle against the system and its enforcers. □



Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Mao's Birth

# Why the Revolution "Mao Moze Than"



Mao greets mass rally of Red Guards during the Cultural Revolution.

This year, revolutionaries all over the world are celebrating the **100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MAO TSETUNG**—the greatest revolutionary of our times. This celebration will go into high gear in late December in time for Mao's 100th birthday December 26.

In the call for this Mao Tsetung Centenary, the Committee of the Revolutionary Internationalist Movement (RIM) says: "Mao Tsetung stands for the uncompromising and self-reliant struggle of the masses of people. His very name continues to strike fear into the hearts of the class enemies. He represents the aspirations of the oppressed to rise above the mud of class oppression, to break with the whole system of thought based on narrow self interest and to aim for nothing less than the liberation of all humanity....we must carry the truth of Mao Tsetung and spread it among millions and millions of people. In this process we can train new contingents of proletarian revolutionaries in different countries. Let the Mao Tsetung Centenary sow the red seeds of revolution in every corner of the globe."

In the world today, powerful oppressors say "revolution is dead." They say "communism has been disproved and defeated." They claim that capitalism will be here forever.

But the facts show a very different reality. **REVOLUTION IS ALIVE AND ON THE MOVE.**

In the high mountains and deep jungles of Peru, Maoist guerrillas are waging a guerrilla war against the vicious government backed by the United States. It is based on Mao's principles of People's War. Led by the Communist Party of Peru, the people are organizing themselves, taking up arms, driving their oppressors out, and building new "Base Areas" where the power of the people rules.

And here, in the ghettos and barrios of the United States too, Maoist organizers are preparing the people for revolution.

## MAO SHOWED THE POOR PEOPLE HOW TO LIBERATE THEMSELVES

A hundred years ago, on December 26, 1893, Mao Tsetung was born in a small village on the other side of the planet, in China. To many of our brothers and sisters that seems far, far away. But the **teachings of Mao Tsetung connect directly with the STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION today—for people all over the world.**

Wherever this planet's most farsighted and determined revolutionaries gather to organize the liberation of the people—they call themselves "**MAOISTS.**" The name they give their revolutionary science is "**MARXISM-LENINISM-MAOISM.**" And there is a whole new generation that needs to learn about Mao Tsetung and about this revolutionary scientific ideology.

That is why this **WORLDWIDE** celebration of **ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF MAO TSETUNG** is so right-on-time. This will bring the message of Mao Tsetung to many new brothers and sisters who are struggling so hard to find the road to liberation.

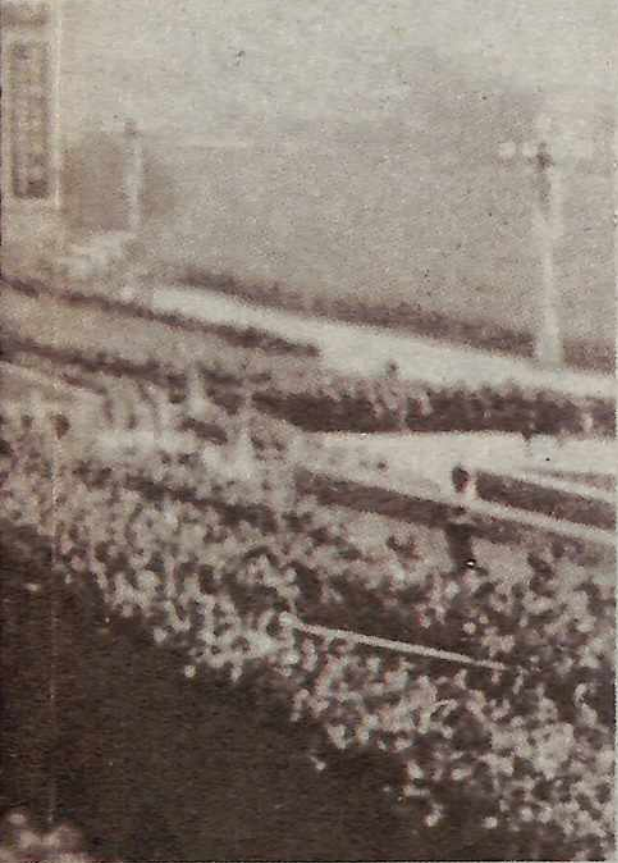
Mao Tsetung died in 1976, over seventeen years ago. In his long life, he made many contributions to the world revolution—especially by leading the Chinese



Making "big character posters" criticizing Lin Biao and Confucius during the Cultural Revolution in China.



# Enemies Say: "Never"



revolution, one of the greatest revolutions of world history.

For a century, China was an oppressed country dominated by bankers, billionaires and generals of the world's Big Imperialist Powers. In the streets and villages, people lived in deep poverty—homeless and hungry, ripped off by feudal landowners and shot up by enforcers. Before Mao, in the **OLD** society, poor workers and peasant-farmers, and especially women, were sold like cattle, beaten like dogs, and worked like slaves.

### MAOIST REVOLUTION CHANGED ALL THAT!

Mao Tsetung led the people to fight for a new day and a new way. Mao organized the Communist Party of China and the People's Liberation Army. In 50 years of revolutionary struggle, he organized millions of the most oppressed to break the power of their tormentors. Millions of oppressed people were trained as revolutionary fighters. Mao led them to make **REVOLUTIONARY WAR**—to defeat the system with guns in their hands.

Hundreds of millions of poor were liberated—not only did they seize back the stolen wealth and land from the rich, but they seized **POWER**—the ability to build a whole new society. The revolution brought new ways of living and new ways of thinking.

Mao never settled for just a taste of liberation! He saw that only **ALL-THE-WAY** liberation would serve the people. That is why he chose to be a hard-core revolutionary communist. Mao taught the people to keep their eye on the final goal: eliminating ALL oppression, building a totally **NEW** society—a society without rich and poor, without oppressors and oppressed, without divisions by nation or color...a **WORLDWIDE COMMUNIST SOCIETY**.

Mao Tsetung made revolution under conditions where many said revolution was impossible. He taught that this true revolution is a long and winding road, with both victories and setbacks.

When the leaders of the Soviet Union in the late 1950s betrayed the teachings of communism, Mao Tsetung dared to step out and oppose them. When these traitors told the people to call off the world revolution, Mao called them out by name—he explained to the people of the world that they were nothing but "phony communists" and "revisionists" and "capitalist roaders." And Mao led a new revolution in China itself—the **GREAT PROLETARIAN CULTURAL REVOLUTION**—to expose and overthrow those *inside* the revolution who were on the capitalist road.

Throughout the world in the late 1960s, Mao's famous little Red Book outsold the Bible. In the U.S. the Black Panther Party called Mao "the baddest muthafucker on the planet earth."

After Mao's death, his enemies seized power in China and brought back the oppressive ways of capitalism. Mao himself had foreseen this possibility, and he prepared the people of China and the world to understand why such reverses happen, and how to make a new wave of revolution in the world.

## IF YOU WANT TO MAKE REVOLUTION AND FREE THE PEOPLE:

## CHECK OUT MAO TSETUNG AND MARXISM-LENINISM-MAOISM

*People want to know: "Is it possible to end the dog-eat-dog oppression and madness of this life?"*

The history of Maoist revolution shows how armed people can overthrow a society based on the most brutal exploitation of the poor and proletarian people. Under Mao's leadership, people broke their way out of enforced ignorance, superstition and drug addiction—to **STAND UP** for themselves **AND THE WORLD REVOLUTION**. Check out the Maoist road of **COMMUNIST REVOLUTION!** Nothing else, nothing less will do it!

*People want to know: "Is it possible to build a revolutionary movement where the leaders don't sell out, and where a new class of exploiters doesn't rise to the top?"*

Mao Tsetung was a leader who never "mellowed with age" and never turned against the oppressed. Mao "proved it all night"—he is a role model for us all.

The teachings of Mao Tsetung show us that after overthrowing the **OLD** exploiters, the people have to expose and defeat attempts to create **NEW** exploiters. Learn about Mao's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution—for the first time in history, the people rose up for ten years to prevent their revolution from being sold out.

*People want to know: "Can the oppressed really rise above it all? Can they really unite themselves, defeat their enemies and create something better?"*

Check out how Mao Tsetung built a hard-core vanguard party of trained revolutionaries to organize and prepare the people. Check out his deep science of revolutionary **PEOPLE'S WAR**. Check out how he led the people to create a new kind of production—a socialist economy without rich and poor.

And check out the powerful methods Mao used to teach the oppressed to understand and **CHANGE THE WORLD**: He put philosophy in the hands of the masses. He taught the masses about **REVOLUTIONARY THEORY** and **REVOLUTIONARY PRACTICE**.

Using Mao's methods of **MATERIALIST DIALECTICS**, the people can understand "who are our friends and who are our enemies." **Using Mao's methods, revolutionaries TODAY are developing the plans that will TURN THE MIGHTY, SWAGGERING OPPRESSORS INTO DEFEATED OPPRESSORS—plans that will TURN THE DOWNPRESSED INTO MASTERS OF THE FUTURE.**



Left: Maoists in Germany march in a demonstration protesting the U.S. war against Iraq.  
Above: A wall of posters celebrate the Mao Centenary in Bogotá, Colombia in March.



Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade in Damían García Park, Los Angeles, 1990.

## To Be a Real Revolutionary You Have to Become a Maoist

Mao's theory is studied throughout the world because his principles, methods and conclusions are **THE LATEST AND GREATEST DEVELOPMENT** of the revolutionary science. Today, the name of that scientific ideology is **MARXISM-LENINISM-MAOISM**.

**WITHOUT MAOISM** revolution can't win victory.

**WITH MAOISM** a new wave of revolutionary parties is being born, and a new wave of world revolution is building strength.

Oppressed people in the U.S. need to know about Mao Tsetung. They need to know about their Maoist vanguard in the U.S., the Revolutionary Communist Party, and its leader Chairman Bob Avakian. They need to know about the worldwide Revolutionary Internationalist Movement. And they need to get involved in preparing for the coming revolution.

**If you don't know about the road of Maoist revolution: CHECK IT OUT!**

**If you are already down with Maoist revolution: SPREAD THE WORD AMONG THE PEOPLE!**

**CELEBRATE THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MAO TSETUNG!**





# The U.S. in Haiti: Cold Calculations

Over the last month, the imperialist plan to get Haiti back under the thumb of U.S. domination has quickly fallen apart. In July a U.S.-brokered deal was signed between deposed president Jean Bertrand Aristide and the military regime that carried out a coup in 1991. According to this agreement (called the Governors Island Accord), the head of the Haitian military regime, Raoul Cedras, was to resign, Aristide was to return to resume his presidency on October 31, and UN and U.S. troops were to oversee major reforms in the Haitian military. The U.S. hoped this agreement would lead to a more stable and reliable pro-U.S. government in Haiti. But the Haitian military regime has refused to go along with this deal. They have been staging reactionary demonstrations in the streets and unleashing "attachés" (unofficial armed thugs) to terrorize the masses of people and murder anyone who criticizes the government.

The U.S. responded with an embargo, U.S. warships off the coast, military threats and desperate negotiations. And the masses in Haiti now face a murderous situation of reactionary terror, growing hunger and misery, and the threat of a U.S. invasion.



A bus is pushed out of a Port-au-Prince gas station after international oil companies ordered stations to refuse to sell gasoline as part of the United Nations embargo.

## The Deal Falls Apart

A key part of the Governor's Island Accord was over 1,000 troops and many other "advisors" from the U.S. and other imperialist powers to "supervise" the treaty and "retrain" and "professionalize" the Haitian military. But when a large contingent of these troops tried to land in Port-au-Prince on October 11, a mob of "attachés" rioted at the port and the troop ship was forced to retreat back to the U.S. Naval Base in Guantánamo, Cuba.

Then on October 15, when Cedras was supposed to step down, he refused. And this was followed by a series of assassinations of Aristide officials and supporters, including his Minister of Justice, who was supposed to be in charge of the police. When the October 30 date for Aristide's return arrived, it was clear that if he came back he would probably be dead in a matter of days, or less. Aristide remained in the U.S., issuing fervent appeals to the U.S. and UN to enforce the Accord. The U.S. sent warships to enforce a reimposed trade embargo and the overseas assets of coup leaders and their supporters were frozen.

Meanwhile, reactionary political parties in Haiti were demonstrating in the streets, declaring the Governor's Island Accord "dead" and announcing plans to install a new "president" instead of Aristide. By November 7, talks between the U.S., the military, and Aristide forces had fallen apart.

## Hated Dictators Made in the U.S.A.

The U.S. invaded and occupied Haiti from 1915 to 1934. And ever since they

have built up and relied on the most reactionary forces to run Haiti. During the 14-year rule of U.S.-backed Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier, between 30,000 and 60,000 Haitians were murdered by the state. And when Papa Doc died and his son, Jean Claude (Baby Doc) Duvalier, was installed as "president for life," U.S. warships sat in the harbor to prevent exiles from returning and organizing an uprising.

In 1986 Haiti erupted in mass rebellion and Baby Doc was forced to flee. But the series of governments which followed were full of Duvalierists. For the U.S. this was not a problem—these reactionaries have been clearly pro-U.S. and have long-standing ties with U.S. businessmen and the CIA (see box). But going back to the 1970s, the U.S. has tried to institute certain reforms in Haiti to give these corrupt regimes a more "modern" and "democratic" face.

Through such reforms the U.S. wants to help the reactionary forces be more effective in oppressing the people and preventing mass rebellion. But the Duvalierists have struggled to maintain the old setup which is tremendously profitable to them. In Haiti, which is the poorest nation in the western hemisphere, a few thousand people control 40 percent of the nation's wealth. And most of this wealth is based on robbery of the peasants, often through a system of government taxation and corruption.

## Contradictions and U.S. Concerns

The U.S. now faces some hard contradictions in the situation that has developed in Haiti. And recent infighting in the U.S. ruling class reflects the serious dilemmas and concerns the U.S. has been trying to



With no transportation, people must walk to downtown.

resolve since the 1991 coup.

First of all, the U.S. is concerned about how this whole thing is playing internationally. The U.S. needs to assert its leadership of the New World Order and doesn't want to be seen as "weak" in any way. But at the same time it fears getting bogged down in a situation like Somalia where U.S. troops come under attack.

One official put it this way when asked about sending U.S. forces to Haiti to "kick butt" on the defiant military: "What next?" In other words, the U.S. doesn't want to break up or completely alienate the military thugs, which they need to rule Haiti. And

the U.S. is also afraid of the masses' response to an invasion. Even though many people in Haiti have been misled into grudging support for U.S. intervention against the military regime, they still deeply hate the U.S. for its decades of support for reactionaries and for the U.S. invasion and occupation from 1915 to 1934. The U.S. fears if it invades, it would quickly become targeted by the masses for the continuing suffering of the people.

At the same time, it's not good for the U.S. that the Haitian military regime is so blatantly violating a deal so clearly brokered by the U.S. and one which UN

# Interdiction Plus Embargo: Turn Haiti into Hell... And Don't Let Anyone Out!

The situation in Haiti is bringing incredible suffering to the masses. The Tonton Macoutes—brutal enforcers of the hated Duvalier dictatorship that the masses overthrew in 1986—have openly resurfaced and are spreading terror across the country. Every day the tortured and murdered bodies of students, workers and peasants show up on the roadside. Every night armed bands maraud through the slums and villages, shooting into houses, executing activists, beating people at random. Just one example: On October 19, Orilia Joseph, 41, was dragged from her home in front of her two daughters and later had her head cut off. Why? Apparently because she had once been the "nanny" to a prominent pro-Aristide activist now living in Miami. After the Governor's Island accord, UN human rights observers came to Haiti promising "protection" and "justice." Now, people who talked to these observers (who fled after October 11) are being targeted for revenge by the Macoutes. On top of this, the economic crisis is



Orilia Joseph.

extreme. Haiti's semicolonial, semifeudal system has been in deep decay for almost 20 years. This is a big part of what led to the overthrow of the Duvaliers—but there has still been no revolutionary transformation of society. After the 1991 coup, the U.S. and UN imposed a trade embargo—this was canceled after the July deal, and then reimposed, in order to "pressure" the military to hold up its end of the deal. But this embargo has actually had little effect on the military regime or the Haitian elite. They have

stockpiled food and gas, and also have access to goods smuggled across the border from the Dominican Republic.

But for the masses, the situation is disastrous. Food prices have gone sky high; gas is almost unattainable. Reporters now say that orange-streaked hair—a sign of malnutrition—is common among Haitian children. Adults beg desperately. Workers at aid organizations say they are unable to transport what food they have to the countryside because of the lack of gas. And although the embargo theoretically exempts humanitarian shipments, the U.S. has repeatedly turned back ships with food and medicine because they were "unable to inspect everything." Doctors report many children are dying from simple ailments due to lack of medicine.

The U.S., however, doesn't give a damn about any of this. While the assassinations of bourgeois opponents of the military have gotten some coverage in the media, there is almost no coverage of the widespread murders of the basic people. And in the midst of

increased suffering, the U.S. has actually intensified its efforts to prevent any Haitians from escaping this U.S.-created hell.

The Coast Guard (which was previously in charge of kidnapping fleeing Haitians and returning them) has announced that the naval embargo is "a double-edged sword"—that the forces of the Coast Guard are helping keep food, oil and supplies out of Haiti, while the Navy is helping the Coast Guard prevent Haitians from getting out. On October 27, the U.S. seized the boat of 15 fleeing Haitians and forcibly returned them to the arms of the Haitian death squads at Port-au-Prince—the very port that armed American troops had fled from two weeks earlier. Half of the 15 were arrested—in Haiti it is well known that many people "arrested" are never seen again alive. On November 3, 37 Haitians managed to make it through the blockade and land in Miami. They were seized by the INS, which immediately began deportation proceedings.



# and Maneuvers

and U.S. troops were supposed to enforce. After U.S. troops were prevented from landing in Haiti there was clear concern in the U.S. ruling class. Former Secretary of State James Baker said: "Monday's Haitian fiasco was an embarrassment. A few thugs on the docks of Port-au-Prince forced the only remaining superpower to turn tail, and for the second time to reverse course in its policy toward Haiti. This embarrassment has dealt a blow to American credibility, one of our most precious assets." And Clinton's people voiced similar concern. One administration official said: "What is at issue is not only the President's powers, but a more fundamental question of how we will remain engaged in the world."

The U.S. also sees its "credibility" on the line in terms of restoring Aristide (or some form of "democratic" government) to power. Since the fall of the Duvaliers, the U.S. had worked to bring about elections in Haiti in order to give a pro-U.S. government a "democratic face." And they don't want to let the 1991 coup set a dangerous precedent in countries where the U.S. is trying to engineer similar "democratic" facelifts. This is a one reason why the Clinton administration has felt it needs to stand by Aristide.

But it's also clear the U.S. needs and wants to work with Haiti's military regime. There is no other armed force the U.S. can rely on in Haiti. And these reactionaries have many ties to—and backing from—government officials and capitalists in the United States. And there have always been real questions and doubts in the U.S. ruling class about the reliability of Aristide. While Aristide is now loyally serving U.S. interests, he has a radical history. He participated in a mock funeral for "U.S. imperialism," denounced the International Monetary Fund, and endorsed the masses dechoukaj (uprooting) movement, which included executing Macoutes in the streets. Because of this, Aristide was never the U.S. choice in the 1989 elections. But when he won, the U.S. was forced to go along with his government—and Aristide proved to be willing to work with and for U.S. interests in Haiti.

Since the coup Aristide has served the U.S. well—especially in his calls for the masses to rely on U.S. negotiations and not rebel against the regime. But with the Accord falling apart, doubts in the U.S. ruling class about Aristide clearly began to surface. A CIA report was released questioning Aristide's "mental stability." And Senator Robert Dole stated that restoring Aristide to power was "not worth a single American life." Perhaps some in the U.S. ruling class are willing to dump Aristide if it means being able to work out something with the military regime.

Meanwhile, while publicly standing behind Aristide, some Clinton Administration officials are saying that Aristide may be his own worst enemy because he has been making "inflammatory" statements against the military regime. And a lot of pressure is being put on Aristide to make further concessions—such as agreeing to put more Duvalierist forces in his cabinet, in the name of "reconciliation."

Perhaps the most ominous sign along these lines was the *New York Times* report that several top Clinton advisers were comparing Aristide's situation to that of Benigno S. Aquino Jr., the Filipino leader who was killed in 1983 as he stepped off a plane in Manila after years of exile in the United States. Maybe some in the U.S. ruling class envision a scenario where the "Aristide sticking point" in the Governor's Island



Haitian soldiers patrol downtown Port-au-Prince.

deal is conveniently dealt with by assassination.

## Infighting in the U.S. Ruling Class Erupts

Faced with all these contradictions and dilemmas, open infighting erupted in the U.S. ruling class over how to handle the situation in Haiti. After the U.S. troops were turned back, Senator Dole threatened to invoke the War Powers Act which limits the powers of the president to order invasions of other countries. Then as Clinton voiced continued support for Aristide, the CIA publicized the bogus report that alleged Aristide was "mentally unstable." Countering this, other forces publicized the fact that the coup leaders are deeply involved in drug trafficking—something that has been well known to the U.S. government since 1985. Then it was revealed that the CIA had continued to fund the coup leaders at least up until the eve of the coup itself and perhaps still are. Some congressmen began screaming for CIA officials to resign or be fired. And infighting has also been sharp between the departments of state and defense and between the Clinton administration and the Pentagon.

Meanwhile, the Haitian military regime continues to refuse to give in and the U.S. is even more desperate to resolve this crisis. One administration official said: Clinton's "prestige is on the line, and U.S. prestige is on the line."

What the U.S. will finally do is unclear. If the military doesn't back down, the U.S. might concede to them and assist them in suppressing the masses and the pro-Aristide forces in the government. The U.S. may work out a deal with the military regime which doesn't demand that Aristide resume the presidency. Or the U.S. could invade, forcibly reorganize the military and force them to accept some kind of "democratic" government, with or without Aristide.

All of these "solutions" are totally against the interests of the masses of Haitian people. A key objective of everything the U.S. has done and is doing in Haiti is to crush the most impoverished and volatile section of the Haitian people. And this was true in terms of the conditions under which Aristide was allowed to assume power and the way in which the U.S. has dealt with the coup.

U.S. imperialism and its hated military dictators in Haiti have incurred a huge blood debt to the people. And given this, it is obscene that Aristide continues to beg and grovel for the "privilege" of heading a pro-U.S. government in Haiti. This whole situation only highlights the truth that revolution is the only real solution and road to liberation for the Haitian people. □

## The Secret Ties Between CIA and Haiti Military

Secret leaks within the U.S. government have revealed that key members of Haiti's military government are long-time paid agents of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. Coming at a time when the hateful nature of Haiti's military is widely known, this is a damaging exposure for the United States.

On November 1 the *New York Times* reported: "Key members of the military regime controlling Haiti and blocking the return of its elected President, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, were paid by the Central Intelligence Agency for information from the mid-1980s at least until the 1991 coup that forced Mr. Aristide from power, according to American officials." The article goes on to reveal the close ties between the U.S. government and the military men who have been directing vicious attacks on the masses of people in Haiti.

It is strongly suggested by these reports that the main CIA agent in Haiti is none other than General Cédras, who heads the current military government. Last year, a well-known CIA spokesman, Brian Latell, praised Cédras as one of "the most promising group of Haitian leaders to emerge since the Duvalier family dictatorship was overthrown in 1986."

Representative Robert Torricelli, a leader among Democrats in directing ruling class foreign policy, defended such use of agents. "The U.S. government develops relationships with ambitious and bright young men at the beginning of their careers and often follows them through their public service. It should not surprise anyone that these include people in sensitive positions in the current situation in Haiti."

"Public service"!!! These are men directing death-squad activities aimed at the poorest sections of Haiti's people. And it is widely being reported that these military circles have been enriching themselves off of cocaine traffic.

All this underscores how deeply the U.S. imperialists have created, directed and infiltrated the ruling classes and governments of Latin American countries. And it again raises the question of CIA involvement in the heavy cocaine traffic from the Caribbean and Central America into the United States.

Though the CIA claims it only uses its agents "for information"—it is widely understood that such agents are used to control the policies of countries dominated by the U.S., to ensure that the interests of U.S. imperialism get carried out.

In fact, the *NY Times* article also revealed that the CIA conducted a covert operation in Haiti, authorized by President Reagan, that involved an attempt to influence the January 1988 elections in Haiti. Large amounts of money were paid to candidates the United States felt would be loyal to imperialism.

The *New York Times* itself confessed to the extensive U.S. use of paid agents: "In the 1980s, the United States undertook covert operations and military actions throughout the Caribbean and Latin America to support pro-United States and anti-Communist governments. Several prominent figures in the region were on the United States intelligence payroll during the decade."

It is widely known that former Panamanian military dictator Manuel Noriega and Vladimiro Montesinos, a key figure within Peru's current fascist government, are both career-long CIA agents. □



Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras with his delegation in New York in June.



# THE FIGHT FOR PALESTINE



A Palestinian woman harvests barley.

**1** The Palestinian people have lived—and waged resistance—in their historic homeland for centuries. From the middle of the 1400s till the early 1900s, the people in the area that today make up occupied Palestine (Israel), Syria, Lebanon and Jordan were ruled by the Ottoman Empire, based in Turkey. The Turkish sultan (king) forced people in the region to pay tribute and tried to play the many ethnic groups off against each other. In the late 1800s, the Ottoman monarchy started to crumble. The sultan tried to deal with the growing pressure from the European powers by allowing some penetration by each rival power, in the hope of playing them against each other. As part of extending its influence in the region, Britain encouraged Zionists—Jews who believed that they had a god-given “right” to set up their own state in Palestine—to migrate and settle on land stolen from Palestinians. From the beginning, Zionism was tied to the interests of the great powers.



Arab soldiers against the Ottoman Empire, Aqaba, 1917.

## A PICTURE HISTORY OF THE PEOPLE AND THEIR STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION

### PART 1

#### Investigation

*Write Down,  
I am an Arab,  
My card number is 50,000,  
I have eight children,  
The ninth will come next summer.  
Are you angry?*

*Write Down,  
I am an Arab,  
I cut stones with comrade labourers,  
I squeeze the rock,  
To get a loaf,  
To get a book,  
For my eight children.  
But I do not plead charity,  
And I do not cringe  
Under your sway.  
Are you angry?*

*Write Down,  
I am an Arab,  
I am a name without a title,  
Steadfast in a frenzied world.  
My roots sink deep  
Beyond the ages,  
Beyond time.*

*I am the son of the plough.  
Of humble peasant stock.  
I live in a hut  
Of reed and stalk.  
The hair: jet black.  
The eyes: Brown.  
My Arab headdress  
Scatched intruding hands,  
And I prefer a dip of oil and thyme.*

*And please write down  
On top of all,  
I hate nobody,  
But when I starve  
I eat the flesh of my marauders.  
Beware,  
Beware my hunger,  
Beware my wrath.*

Mahmoud Darwish

**2** In 1914, World War 1 broke out between the European powers. The Ottoman Empire was collapsing, and the imperialists scrambled to carve up the Middle East. The Arab people seized this chance to rise up in revolt. But even before the end of the war, France and Britain had signed the secret 1916 Sykes-Picot agreement that drew up imperialist “spheres of influence” in the area. Britain saw increased Zionist settlements in Palestine as a way to counter the French, who were dominant in Syria and Lebanon. The 1917 Balfour Declaration committed Britain to “facilitating” a Zionist state in Palestine. After the war, the Arab people saw their land divided up between England, France and the other powers.



The oppressors have repeatedly tried to bury the story of the Palestinian people. The Palestinians have been pictured as helpless refugees at best, a people without a past or a future. For years, the Zionist leaders of Israel justified their theft of the Palestinian homeland by claiming that the Palestinian people "did not exist."

But in reality, the struggle of the Palestinian people has had a crucial impact on the world. Their courageous resistance against the Zionist state—which was built up with huge amounts of weapons and money from the U.S. imperialists—has inspired oppressed people around the world. For decades, the Palestinian struggle has disrupted U.S. plans to make the Middle East "stable" so that they can "peacefully" dominate this strategic oil-producing region of the world.

In September of this year, the U.S. government announced "a historic breakthrough for peace in the Middle East"—an agreement between the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Zionist state of Israel. But this is a treaty for "peace" without justice. It is the opposite of liberation. Once again, the oppressors are trying to push the Palestinian question off the international stage—to bury the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people. But the Palestinian people have found ways to resist dirty political intrigues as well as brutal military assaults before—it is unlikely their just struggle will be quieted now.

In this issue, the *Revolutionary Worker* begins a pictorial history of the Palestinian struggle, to be run over several issues.



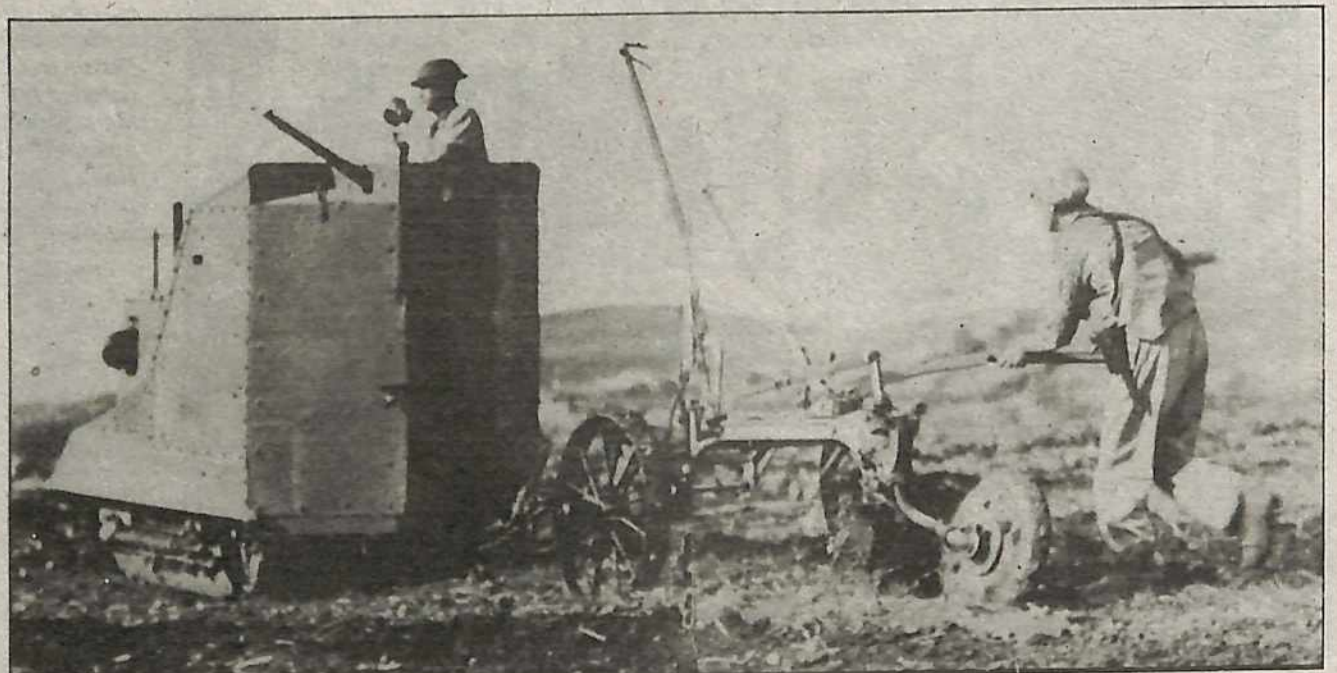
British troops suppress Palestinian protest in Jerusalem against Zionist settlements, 1933.



Arab workers lay oil pipe for the British prior to World War 1.

3 By agreement between the big powers after World War 1, England was given Palestine as a "mandate"—a colony. The British rulers were hungry for fuel to run their world empire, and they saw the Middle East as a sea of strategic oil deposits. Control of Palestine and the Middle East was crucial to maintaining a top-dog position among the imperialists. The British rulers put the Palestinians under harsh colonial rule. Oil was becoming the curse of the Arab world.

4 More and more, the Palestinians rebelled against British rule. To help stop this, England backed the Zionists. With British support in the 1920s, tens of thousands of Jewish settlers grabbed land and settled in Palestine. Chaim Weizmann, later Israel's first president, brought out the chauvinist outlook of the Zionists against the Palestinians when he said, "There are a few hundred thousand Negroes [in Palestine], but that is a matter of no significance." The Palestinians found themselves dispossessed by armed force in what had been their own land. By 1931, the invading settler colonialists made up about 18 percent of the population.



Zionist settlers use armored tractor to plow fields during the 1920s.

5 With the rise of Hitler in Germany, Jewish emigration to Palestine quickly increased. Meanwhile, in the U.S. and Britain, the governments put up highly restrictive immigration quotas in order to limit the number of Jews coming into those countries. Many Zionist leaders collaborated with the Nazis in order to facilitate Jewish emigration from Europe to Palestine. Palestinians saw more and more of their resources stolen from them. In 1936, they organized a general strike to refuse taxes to the British. When the strike was crushed, armed bands launched a revolt in the hills of Palestine. The British declared martial law and recruited Zionist settlers as police enforcers. Anyone who wore a kaffiyeh (Arab scarf) was arrested, anyone caught with a gun was hanged. The Arab Revolt lasted for three years before it was brutally put down by the British with 19,000 Palestinian casualties.

Continued on page 14





Palestinian fighters in the Rebellion, 1938.

## THE FIGHT FOR PALESTINE

**6** The U.S. and Britain were on the same side in World War 2. But after the war the U.S. emerged as the top imperialist power, and a weakened Britain was confronted by U.S. challenges in almost every area that used to be under the British "sphere of influence," including in Palestine. The U.S. became the main imperialist power behind the Zionists, replacing Britain. The U.S. rulers wanted control over the Middle East and the oil, and they backed the Zionists in order to suppress the Palestinians and establish a U.S. fortress in the region. The U.S. got the United Nations to declare Palestine "partitioned" on November 29, 1947. Most of the best land was staked for a "Jewish state," and the rest was marked as an "Arab state." The Palestinian people launched a general strike against this outrage, and sporadic armed struggle between the Palestinians and Zionists broke out. The Arab regimes in the area—under pressure from angry Arab masses and badly underestimating the international backing of the Zionists—launched a poorly conceived attack which led to war.

There were several terrible attacks on Jaffa in April 1948. In the first one, some Zionists rolled a barrel of TNT into the town center which crashed through the crowded Al Hamra cinema. As the survivors rushed out, they were mown down with Bren guns by Zionists waiting in two cars.... We resisted these attacks as best we could. Once three Zionists were killed as they were planning an attack. We had a small iron factory where we tried to make weapons, but they were much better equipped with modern weapons which they had got from abroad and from the British.

On April 25 it all came to a head. They attacked from the north and east with heavy cannons and machine guns. Everyone left their homes and fled to the old city on the sea shore. Some desperately tried to put their families and possessions into the small fishing boats, but the sea was stormy and they were thrown back onto the shore.... In the end we found a truck and our family with three others all climbed on. We had one suitcase with us: everything else was left at home.... When we got to Sbeel Abu Nabout we were attacked by a group of Zionists. The girl who was sitting on my knee was shot in the legs. I was hit in the arm, but the bullet hit the button on my sleeve and I wasn't injured. It took us seven hours to get to Majdal where we slept the night. Early next morning we traveled on to Gaza. There we were: us and a suitcase. ▀▀

From the book *Stateless in Gaza*



Zionist troops capture a Palestinian village, 1948.



Palestinians flee Jaffa during April 1948 attack led by Menachem Begin.

**7** With Western military and economic backing, the Zionist forces routed the Arab forces. The Zionists seized even more territory than what was staked out for them by the UN. As May 15, 1948 approached—the day for the official declaration of the "state of Israel"—the Zionists carried out savage military operations to grab and "cleanse" as much land as they could. In a village near Jerusalem called Deir Yassin, Zionist terrorists massacred 254 unarmed Palestinians. Young girls were raped or paraded naked through the city before they were murdered. Menachem Begin (who later became an Israeli prime minister) bragged, "All the Jewish forces proceeded to advance through Haifa like a knife through butter. The Arabs began fleeing in panic, shouting 'Deir Yassin!'" Over 400 Palestinian villages were bulldozed to make room for more Israeli settlements.



**8** To this day, across the Arab world everyone calls 1948 the "Nakba"—the Catastrophe. "My life ceased at that moment," one Palestinian said 30 years later. An entire nation of people was driven from its homeland by organized reactionary violence—about 800,000 Palestinians were forced out of their homes and lost their land. Most ended up in bleak refugee camps on the west bank of the Jordan River, on the coastal strip of Gaza, and in Lebanon. Jordan seized the West Bank, and Egypt ran the Gaza Strip. Desperately poor, the people longed to return to their homeland—but Israeli guns and laws barred them. Throughout the 1950s Israel attacked the refugees and killed many. The genocidal outlook of the Zionists was brought out by Israeli leader Golda Meir who said: "It was not as though there was a Palestinian people in Palestine considering itself as a Palestinian people and we came and threw them out and took their country away from them. They did not exist."



Israel's Ben-Gurion presents a menorah to President Truman at the White House. The U.S. recognized Israel 11 minutes after it was declared, May 1948.



Palestinian refugee camp at Nahr al-Barid, northern Lebanon, winter 1948.

**I** I can't help but feel differently towards the town people. Sure we are all children of Palestine, but we in the camps are a dispersed, scattered people.... I grew up in the poverty and clutter of the camp, always in the shadow of occupation, a hand to mouth existence. It's painful to live in such a decaying environment. So I look at the town people as people apart from us. They've grown up with secure roots, relatively peacefully, while we've suffered curfews, arrests, assaults on our women and children. They do OK under occupation, they're the ones with the land, with something to protect, the big bourgeoisie. They splash their money around, go shopping in Israel and have dirty nights out in Ashkelon. They even throw parties in honor of the military rulers! We spend our nights locked in the factories in Israel, scratching a living, while the sons of the rich go strutting off to the universities of Europe in their new clothes.

I'm not saying that the rich don't suffer at all under occupation. The Israelis don't make distinctions between the Palestinians. But if you're rich you've got more flexibility, you're in a position to bribe the military. If you want your son to travel to Europe to study, for example, you lay on a big dinner, you collaborate. Those people have less sense of national duty, they're out for themselves. If it weren't for the occupation—I mean, if we had our own state—there'd be a social revolution against this injustice and exploitation. These people are robbing us of our wealth, our national wealth. But it's impossible to fight them now. And they are supposed to be the traditional leadership. How can I have any faith in their ability to represent me? Most of them have probably never even set foot in any of the camps.

From the book *Stateless in Gaza*

## Israeli Occupation of Palestine

### UN Partition 1947

Before WW 2 Palestine was under British control. After WW 2 the U.S. maneuvered through the UN to set up a Zionist settler-colonial state in Palestine as a key military outpost in the Middle East. The UN partition divided Palestine into a Jewish state and an Arab state. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians already had been forced out of land designated as Israel through Zionist terror.



### After 1948-49 war

Israel immediately showed its aggressive expansionist nature by grabbing large amounts of territory through war with neighboring Arab countries.



### At end of 1967 war

Israel seized huge chunks of Arab land through the 1967 war. The Sinai Peninsula was later given back to Egypt in return for a promise of "peace." The Zionists took over all of Jerusalem, a city considered holy by Moslems, Christians, and Jews, and declared it their capital. They annexed the Golan Heights in Syria. The West Bank and Gaza Strip remain occupied territories to this day.



### Present

After invading Lebanon in 1982, Israel declared a strip of territory in southern Lebanon as its "security zone." Today 600,000 Palestinians live as second-class "citizens" inside the "Green Line," the pre-1967 borders of Israel. About 1.5 million Palestinians live in the territories occupied by Israel after 1967, and several million more are in refugee camps in Jordan and Lebanon or live in other Middle East countries and elsewhere around the world.





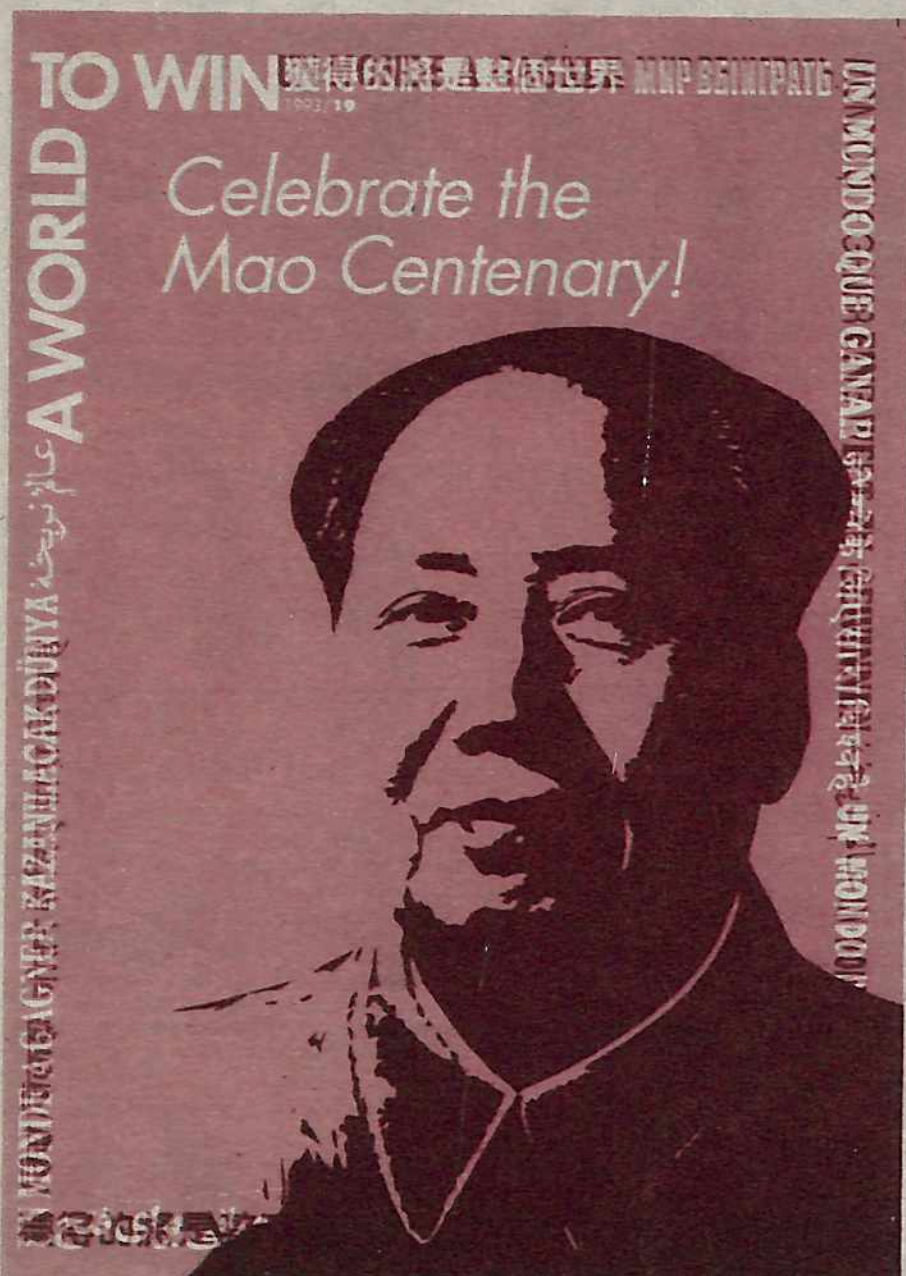
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# The Special Mao Tsetung Centenary Issue of *A World To Win!*

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The Revolutionary Internationalist Movement has issued a call: "...to celebrate Mao Tsetung Centenary in a grand and unforgettable way. We must use this Centenary to wage a powerful ideological counter-offensive against the imperialists and reactionaries of the world...we must carry the truth of Mao Tsetung and spread it among millions and millions of people. In the process we can train new contingents of proletarian revolutionaries in different countries."

An important weapon in this Mao Tsetung Centenary will be the forthcoming special Mao Tsetung Centenary issue of the revolutionary internationalist journal *A World to Win* (#19).



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## The new issue will include:

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Speech given at a meeting held in conjunction with the rectification campaign carried out in 1991 by the Communist Party of Peru (PCP). Here Comrade Gonzalo addresses questions of philosophy, China's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, the current political situation in Peru and the world, and the rectification campaign itself.

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With a bold internationalist spirit and surmounting many obstacles, the International Emergency Committee to Defend the Life of Abimael Guzmán (Chairman Gonzalo) successfully held its Founding Conference and forged a structure. *AWTW* analyzes various questions of debate within the IEC, as well as the activities and future of the worldwide campaign.

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