



REVOLUTIONARY WORKER

Voice of the
Revolutionary Communist
Party, U.S.A.

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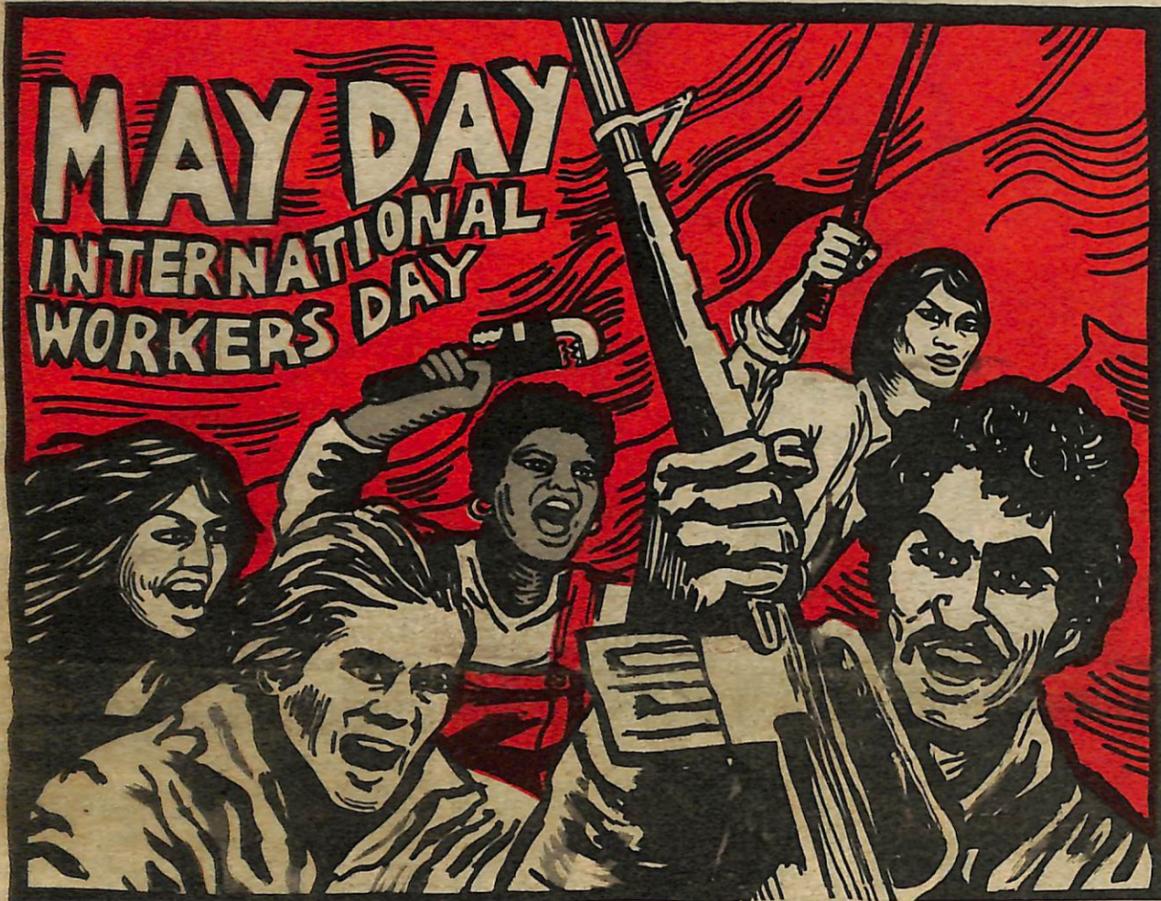
May 1, 1979

Sección en Español

25¢

RCP Launches Weekly Paper

"Create Public Opinion ... Seize Power"



Every Chant A Crime

State Prepares Legal Lynching As Moody Park 3 Trial Begins

Houston, April 29—The trial of the Moody Park 3 has begun.

Five times in six months Judge Jo Keegans had delayed the trial to dodge opening day demonstrations and wear down the defendants and their supporters. Then she supposedly came down with viral pneumonia and there was an indefinite postponement. But when the defense lawyers themselves asked for a postponement because they would no longer have time to see the trial through before they were scheduled to be elsewhere, then, on April 18, the judge suddenly and miraculously "recovered" and ordered the trial to begin immediately.

The trial of Travis Morales, Mara Youngdahl and Tom Hirschi is taking place in the Harris County Courthouse. This glass and marble building stands so close to Buffalo Bayou that it nearly casts a shadow on the stone embankment where six cops beat and drowned a Chicano veteran named Joe Torres in 1977. These are the same courts that imposed the fine of \$1 on the cops convicted of that killing.

A year ago, on May 7, 1978, the fury of the Chicano community exploded at this cold-blooded outrage that symbolized a lifetime of oppression. The people rose up in Moody Park and fought the cops for two days. Now the Moody Park 3 face 20 years in prison. They are charged with "felony riot," which means being present in an area where seven or more people are gathered and "crimes" are being committed. They are charged with being responsible for nine "crimes" ranging from arson to attempted murder.

Jury Selection

The jury is made up of eleven whites and one Chicano, including the daughter of a police chief and several more who've admitted that they have relatives or friends in the police department. What the state expects of these jurors was put bluntly by one man who reluctantly asked to be excused from jury duty: "I'd like to be around to hang them, but I know there are

others who will do it for me."

Out of over a hundred prospective jurors, there were only three Chicanos and practically no workers. The judge addressed the panel of prospective jurors, "Now anyone who has an opinion about this trial already formed come up here and tell me about it." All those who seemed potentially sympathetic to the Three were excluded immediately, while the judge bent over backwards to include those who seem eager to hang them.

A white, middle-aged insurance salesman steps up. "I know about this case and I know they're innocent." A Black man says, "I've been beaten up by the cops, I can't find them guilty." "Strike them," says the judge.

Yet when prospective jurors ask to be excused because they have a close relative on the police department or they've already formed the opinion that communists are guilty of anything they're accused of, the judge pleads with them to stay: "But would you be able to be unbiased and give them a fair trial which everyone is entitled to under our American system of justice?"

The prosecutor struck out every single Black person. The defense protested against this and demanded a new trial on the grounds of this exclusion. Prosecutor Tobias pretended to be insulted. "Sir, you have called me a bigot, your conduct is not common to Texas lawyers." Apparently if the lawyer had been from Texas he'd know that Black people aren't supposed to sit on juries! But Tobias isn't prejudiced, he has what he thinks is a good reason for striking the Black members of the panel: "Some of their responses were less than intelligent and we want an intelligent jury."

A gasp of disbelief and outrage arose from the spectators. But there's more at stake here than one prosecutor's racist stupidity. A Black man excluded from the jury later explains it this way: "There isn't a Black person in this town who hasn't exper-

In your hands you are holding dynamite—the newspaper which, as the national weekly voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party, aims to be a powerful weapon for revolution.

Until today, there has been no newspaper like this in this country. And without it, it is impossible for the proletariat—the propertyless class of wage workers that truly has nothing to lose but its chains—to develop the broad understanding and build the deep organization necessary to win its liberation, and in so doing eliminate every form of exploitation and oppression. Without such a newspaper we cannot prepare to carry out the central task and highest form of revolution: the seizure of power by armed force. Mao Tsetung said, "First and foremost create public opinion and seize power," and it is in this spirit that we launch the new national weekly *Revolutionary Worker*.

We are not talking about a newspaper in the hands of a relatively few revolutionary agitators. We aim to make this paper a driving force for revolution among the workers and the masses of people, a weapon in the hands of millions, creating revolutionary public opinion and hounding the bourgeoisie—those exploiters of wage labor—at every turn.

This newspaper will not only raise the general political consciousness of the masses. Beyond that with this paper we will be building a network to train revolutionary leaders among the workers and the masses of oppressed people and to swell the ranks of the Party. There exists today the potential to put this paper in the hands of many more people, far beyond the ranks of the Party, and in taking this bold step, the Revolutionary Communist Party aims to seize the time right now.

Is it not the case that there are tens of millions of people in this country who hate the system, at least what it does to them—many who awakened to political life in the storms of the 1960s and many more who will be awakened and drawn into political life in the 1980s? Aren't there millions whose questions have not yet been answered, whose longing for an end to oppression has not been extinguished, but burns deep inside, often concealed? Is it the case that their oppression has ended? No. Rather it has intensified. Their questions remain unanswered, and in fact are deeper and go more to the heart of the whole system.

But today it is still the case that the majority of workers do not see the necessity, nor the inevitability, of rising up to make revolution. We live in this most decadent of all countries whose rulers have swollen themselves like a giant leech by sucking the blood of people all over the world including us here. And even though their system has been battered by defeats and growing crisis, enough reserves remain so that the capitalists can dish out a few scraps and feed illusions among the people. To a certain degree, they still get over.

But this situation is not static. Their crisis breeding system is in a downward spiral. This situation is headed from bad to worse and there is a growing threat of world war. And it is clear that as the rapidly changing objective situation intensifies, millions more people will be awakened to political life and will be in search of some real answers to the question: why the hell do we have to live this way?

Prepare for Revolution

In this situation what we need is a newspaper that puts it straight out—we don't have to live like dogs—a newspaper that reveals a picture of all the ugly features of this man-eating system of capitalism and a sweeping view of the development of the revolutionary movement that will drive this beast into the ground and out of the pages of history.

And why is it that a newspaper is so necessary? Because we need to create revolutionary public opinion in order to prepare for making revolution—for the armed seizure of power by the masses in their millions.

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Shah's Hatchetmen Executed as U.S. Rulers Mourn

More than 150 of the Shah's top henchmen—generals, SAVAK agents and government officials—have been put on trial for their crimes against the Iranian people and sent before the firing squads of the new regime. Many more were dealt with directly in the streets during the armed insurrection in February that swept away the Shah's hated regime. But the high and mighty rulers of the U.S. are expressing "shock" and "concern" for the "human rights" of their deposed allies in Iran. Just who are these people for whom our rulers are shedding their "human rights" tears?

Take Gen. Ali Neshat, commander of the elite Imperial Guards, one of the Shah's handpicked generals who directed the U.S.-trained and equipped Iranian Army during repeated bloody massacres against street demonstrations, killing upwards of 100,000 people during 1978 alone. Where was the U.S. ruling class' concern for "human rights" then?

A list of recently executed top reactionaries and their vicious subordinates reads like this: Gen. Nasser Moqaddam, former chief of SAVAK (secret police); Amir Abbas Hoveyda the Shah's right-hand man and Prime Minister for 13 years; Mayor Yahyahi, commander of Tehran's Qasr Prison, where thousands of revolutionary fighters were tortured and executed; the army captain who lit the fire at a progressive movie theatre in Abadan that burned more than 800 people to death (to which the U.S. press added the disgusting lie that this was the work of "Moslem fanatics"); former Foreign Minister Khalatbari who, in a last gasp attempt to save his own skin, blabbed to a tribunal that the Shah had "per-

sonally killed several persons" while he was in power.

This pack of vicious beasts who rode on the backs of the Iranian people for years, with guns and whips in hand, have earned the people's just hatred and fully deserve to be put six feet under. However, the U.S. imperialist rulers think otherwise.

After 25 years of propping up and supplying the Shah's savage dictatorship with everything from F-14 jets to electric cattle prods, the U.S. government is now piously lecturing the Iranian people about "due process of the law" and is worried about "violations of the rights" of its former hatchetmen.

From his current hideout in the Bahamas, the Shah himself recently said that he was "horrified" by the executions of "Iranians whose only crime was love of country and will to serve its people." This is like Hitler shedding tears over the executions of Nazi war criminals—after all, they were only "serving their country" and "following orders."

The U.S. imperialists are concerned with saving the necks of the Shah's top officials and generals, not because they're "old friends", but because they don't want the Iranian revolution to go any further. And for good reason. The



Nassiri, notorious chief of SAVAK, the Shah's secret police and torture corps, turned into a whining mutt when confronted by the families of those he had murdered and prisoners he had tortured. Shortly after this picture was taken this rabid animal was put to sleep.

several thousand reactionary hatchetmen of the Shah who have been arrested or executed are only the tip of the iceberg. U.S. imperialism still has a strong base of support among Iran's big capitalists and landowners, and among the U.S.-trained officer corps and government officials. It is this social base that the U.S. is hoping to firm up and unleash against the Iranian masses in order to reverse the revolution.

Khomeini's Islamic Courts

These executions are continuing because the Iranian people in their millions are rightly demanding them and much more. However, the whole way the Khomeini forces are carrying out these trials and executions is meant to turn the people's hatred away from the system of imperialism, especially U.S. imperialism, which, together with its Iranian partners in crime—the big capitalists, landlords, military officers and government officials—is responsible for the great poverty, backwardness and continued oppression faced by the masses of Iranian working people.

These "Islamic revolutionary courts" operate on a narrow, secretive basis, with the Shah's top generals and political hacks accused of "sowing corruption on earth" and "warring with God and his emissaries." In contrast, Iran's Marxist-Leninists are demanding that the trials be conducted in public "people's courts", where the political crimes committed by these reactionaries would be brought out into the open before the masses of people. For example, Prime Minister Hoveyda did not "sow corruption" like he was some two-bit street hustler. He offered up Iran's great wealth to be plundered by U.S. corporations and banks. This was his greatest crime against the Iranian people.

This use of "Islamic law" can only serve to take the heat off the real criminals, the real enemies of the Iranian people—the big U.S. and Iranian exploiters who are responsible for the way the masses of people have been forced to live in the first place. Furthermore, the practice of defining "crime" and "criminals" by the Koran is a double-edged sword to be used against the people themselves, and especially against revolutionaries. The Islamic courts have also stepped into the business of punishing the people, often severely, for "crimes" such as gambling, drinking alcoholic beverages, adultery, etc.

Far from mobilizing the masses of people to root out the remaining strongholds of imperialism and reaction, these well-publicized, weekly executions have become bones thrown out to placate the masses. And this is all the more dangerous since these reactionary forces are regrouping and preparing to counter-attack.

Already, a number of U.S. companies are beginning to start up opera-

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INTERNATIONAL WORKERS DAY

MAY DAY

IN IRAN, AROUND THE WORLD, AND HERE AT HOME, FLAMES OF REVOLUTION ARE SPREADING!

DOWN WITH U.S. AND SOVIET WAR MOVES!

FREE REVOLUTIONARY FIGHTERS AND LEADERS FROM HOUSTON TO WASHINGTON D.C.!

WORKERS UNITE TO LEAD THE FIGHT AGAINST ALL OPPRESSION! HASTEN CAPITALISM INTO ITS GRAVE!

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Rally 3PM: Howard Theater, 620 T St. N.W.
For information call: (202) 638-9769

Oakland, Calif.

Assemble 10AM: San Antonio Park, E. 18th St. & Foothill
For information call: (415) 781-4989

These two May Day demonstrations will be landmark events. Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, will make an important statement in Washington D.C., transmitted immediately to Oakland. It will set out major plans for our Party and all revolutionary people to move even more boldly forward in battle in the near future, this coming year in particular. Big steps will be announced. We have to prepare to make big advances going into the storms of the 1980s. Be there to hear these plans and get ready!

Revolutionary Communist Party, National United Workers Organization, Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade, Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee, Vietnam Veterans Against the War



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War and Reactors OR: Why The Capitalists Love Their Nukes

Mr. Schlesinger on Harrisburg

Why are the authorities in this country—from the highest to the puniest—going through such twists and contortions to cook up justifications for their nuclear plants? Jimmy Carter didn't fly down to Three Mile Island after the meltdown just to get a tan. TMI was generating more fear and outrage than electricity, and this was an ominous sign. More than just the reactor core had to be cooled down. People were angry, and if that anger was allowed to build, it could threaten the capitalists' whole nuclear crap-game.

There was a great deal at stake—much more than a handful of nuclear time-bombs posing as electric plants. The whole question of nuclear power, nuclear weapons and nuclear war was put up for grabs. The capitalists try to say it's just a matter of making already safe power plants just a bit "safer" and that there is nothing political about it. But their whole energy policy has everything to do with international maneuverings and war preparations. Even the Secretary of Energy, Schlesinger, was formerly Secretary of Defense.

The U.S. ruling class is committed to keeping world superiority in the area of nuclear technology. If large numbers of people begin to question this whole logic and to fight it, then the capitalist class is in big trouble. This is true even if the questions in the fight start out limited only to commercial nuclear reactors. TMI raised a hell of a lot of questions that had been lurking in the back of people's minds.

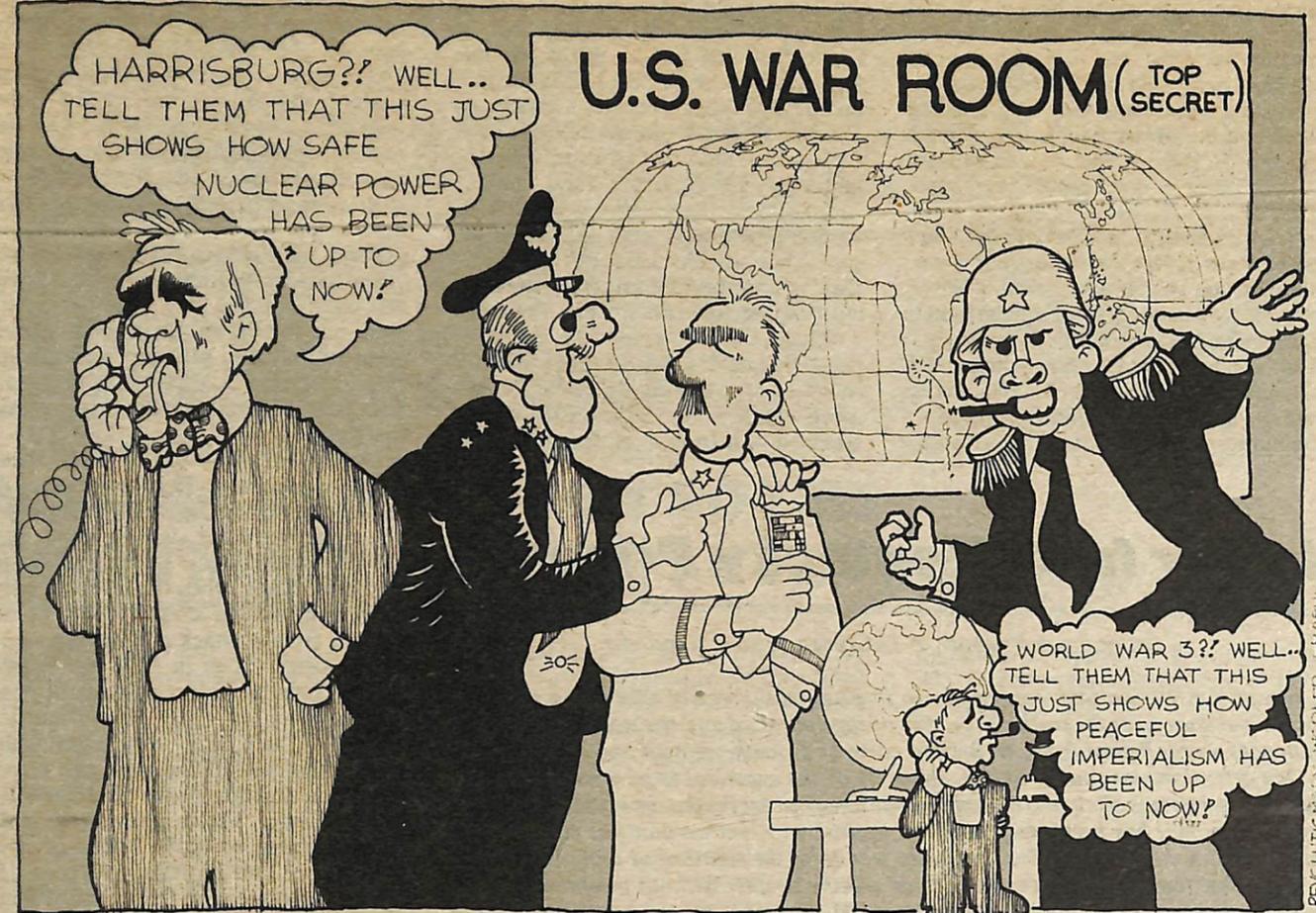
For the last thirty years, ever since the birth of the so-called "atomic age," the word *nuclear* has had a haunting ring to it. Shades of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Thousands of people disintegrated into dust before they could bat an eye. Countless others dying slow and painful deaths. Nuclear energy and nuclear weapons have both had a bad reputation—to this very day they are synonymous with *death* in the minds of millions. And there's a basis for this, since in the hands of the capitalists, that is exactly what they mean.

This has been a big obstacle for the capitalists, partly because their energy needs depend to a growing extent on the use of dangerous nuclear plants, but more importantly and fundamentally because they want and need the ability to wage and win a nuclear war. They have spent thirty years preparing public opinion to accept their nuclear technology and their whole nuclear strategy.

Just when they thought they were ahead of the game, Three Mile Island came along and threatened to blow them out of the water. True, it wasn't the first serious breakdown of a nuke in this country. But it was the one that was before the eyes of millions and has now brought tens of thousands into the streets. One close brush with death on a grand scale, and thirty years of careful propaganda work begins to meltdown before their eyes. The ruling class is not happy.

What Really Worries Them?

The same kind of reactors that make electricity are used to run submarines, aircraft carriers and to make bombs and warheads. When people find out that the reactors themselves can be just as deadly as the bombs, what are they going to think? Worse yet, what are they going to do?! This has the ruling class uptight.



The bastards aren't sweating blood because the good citizens of Middletown and Harrisburg and maybe even the whole State of Pennsylvania came within an inch of getting zapped. They're worried about what the masses would have done to them and their precious nukes if it had really happened. If you don't believe it, then why and how did the nukes on TMI (and everywhere else they've been scattered) get there in the first place? And why are the capitalists so intent on keeping them running?

There are 72 commercial nukes in the U.S. like the one at TMI, and none of them is any safer than that one. Beyond that, the government operates its own reactors, not for electricity but for naval ship power and for weapons production. They make more plutonium (the end result of nuclear fission, and the stuff bombs are made of) than all the commercial reactors combined. And these reactors are no safer than the rest.

From the very beginning, and every step of the way, the ruling class has used its nuclear technology as a vehicle for its own international terrorism and imperialist blackmail, and as a source of huge profits at the expense of the masses. "Safety" has never been a top priority. Indeed, the first two products of U.S. nuclear research were dropped on Japan at the close of World War 2.

After the war, weapons production flourished and the capitalists began looking ahead for ways to reap even more "benefit" from the atom. They dove into nuclear technology to power their military ships—subs first. And driven by the potential for incredible profits and the allure of an "unlimited" source of electricity (based on the proposed development of "breeder" reactors, which actually create more plutonium than they use) the capitalists rushed headlong into the development of commercial reactors.

Anarchy

This headlong rush is yet another example of the criminal anarchy of capitalism—which drags everything uncontrollably after its blind and wild rush for private profit—this system's holy cause. People are thrown out of work, nations are driven to war, and in the case of nuclear energy, huge forces are summoned up not to serve people and the development of society, but capitalism's narrow and destructive in-

terests. Safety, of course, is thrown to the winds in this mad chase.

Officials in charge of atmospheric testing of atomic bombs in the early '50s, supposedly a knowledgeable crew, were surprised to learn that radioactive particles created by the exploding A-bombs actually fell back down to earth! In their rush to produce, test and "improve" nuclear weapons, these murdering gangsters had overlooked the law of gravity.

At first they tried to keep the problem of fallout a secret. When people began finding out about it, they assured everyone that it was harmless. This was a conscious deception on the part of the ruling class. The same type of deception marked the development of the nuclear energy program.

The capitalists have long known how to use uranium to generate electricity. But to this day they have not developed the technology to do it safely. Nuclear reactors produce intense heat. They must constantly be cooled down or else their fuel cores will melt through any structure which has so far been created to contain them.

As it stands now, all reactors emit a certain amount of radiation. In addition, virtually every commercial nuke in this country has a history of accidental radiation leaks of alarming proportions, through letting off steam from the generator, spillage of cooling water or some other means.

The possibility of a rupture or explosion in any of the existing plants is very real, despite the strenuous denials of nuclear officials. A water leak making contact with the fuel core under certain conditions could result in enough pressure build-up (from the rapid conversion of water into steam) to blow apart any containment structure now in use.

While such a blow-out would not be exactly the same as the detonation of an atomic bomb (as industry spokesmen are fond of pointing out), the effects could in fact be more devastating, depending on how much of the core's radiation escaped. The amount of radiation in any one of the existing commercial reactors is as much as 1000 times greater than the radiation emitted by the bombs dropped on Hiroshima or Nagasaki.

"We Almost Lost Detroit!"

In the case of breeder reactors, which were tried out commercially and have

been temporarily scrapped, but are currently being tested for operation by the government, an actual nuclear explosion is a definite possibility in the event of an uncontrolled meltdown. All efforts to operate breeder reactors commercially in this country have been colossal failures. In the case of the Fermi reactor near Detroit a massive meltdown in 1969 caused officials to face the prospect of a total evacuation of Detroit. The breakdown and its aftermath was so serious that one plant engineer commented, "We almost lost Detroit!"

Along with all these dangers lies what is a most serious and immediate problem—getting rid of all the tons of deadly radioactive waste produced by nuclear reactors. There are now more than 75 million gallons of the deadly stuff in the U.S., and nobody knows what to do with it! Stories of the criminal negligence of the bourgeoisie in shipping and storing radioactive waste fill volumes and are the subject of much of the literature of anti-nuke groups around the country.

In the wake of TMI and the growing movement against the dangers of nuclear power, the capitalist press has even found it necessary to report some such incidents, while at the same time always quoting some pompous official who assures everyone that "everything is safely under control."

Not Safe—Not Meant to Be

The capitalists know their nuclear reactors aren't safe; they weren't built to "be safe". They were built to make weapons, to make electricity—and to make huge profits. Taken as a whole, the 72 nuclear power plants now in operation in this country are shut down nearly 50% of the time. If you add to this the ones that have been shut down permanently because of partial meltdowns or other damage and defects, or which never got started because they simply *didn't work*, you get an idea of how ludicrous the whole thing is.

Their own studies in 1965 indicated that what they considered the "worst possible" accident at a nuclear plant would result in the death of 45,000 people, the injury of 100,000 more, the economic loss of \$17 billion and the rendering useless for 500 years of a land area the size of the state of Pennsylvania. Under these conditions, no insurance companies would touch a

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Depraved Re-Trial of Yvonne Wanrow

Seattle—They maintained their vigil all night, not daring to sleep, as they kept watch over their eight children. It had been a long night, August 11, for Yvonne Wanrow, her sister, brother-in-law, and her friend Shirley, but it was almost over. Suddenly two men crashed in. Seconds later as two crazed drunks lunged for Yvonne, she shot in self-defense, leaving one dead, the other wounded.

The dead man, William Wesler, was no stranger to Yvonne. Nor to the police. The 62 year old white man was a neighbor of hers on the Colville Indian Reservation in eastern Washington. That same day he had threatened Yvonne and her children. He was a known rapist. She had gone to the police demanding protection. They said,

“Scatter some flour under your windows so we can identify any intruder—we can’t do anything until next week.” Desperate, she took her children to Shirley’s house. Shirley was more than sympathetic—her little girl had been attacked and given venereal disease by William Wesler 7 months earlier.

Now the maniac lay dead. But the nightmare was far from over.

Yvonne Wanrow was convicted of murder and sentenced to 25 years in prison. That was in 1973 on “Mother’s Day”—a traditional gift from the capitalist motherfuckers.

When Yvonne killed the depraved beast threatening her life and her kids she struck a righteous blow. It was more than the slavemaster could stomach—an Indian, an Indian woman

daring to kill a white man! They fabricated a story that she had invited Wesler over and then “executed” him.

At the time of her first trial in 1973, the Oglala Sioux were in armed rebellion against the Feds at Wounded Knee. The capitalists were frantic. They were taking a beating militarily and politically. Even their own opinion poll showed overwhelming support for the Indian uprising. Like a wounded beast they lashed out with an hysterical propaganda campaign—armed angry Indians “on the warpath” everywhere—and now, god forbid, even an Indian woman! It was pure John Wayne. A reminiscent replay of all the racist cowboy and Indian movies. Like re-reading your old history books.

But this backfired, too. With tremendous mass support, especially of Indian and women’s groups, Yvonne won a reversal of her murder conviction. Still the state couldn’t rest. The capitalists were out for blood. So crucial is their need to rape and plunder Indian land, that for hundreds of years the imperialists have committed genocide against the Indian people.

Yvonne Wanrow dared defy these arrogant gangsters. The more vengefully they attacked, the more widespread and determined her support grew. But the state seized upon a time, following Wounded Knee, when the revolutionary movement in this country was at an ebb, to counterattack and recoup some of its losses. Then in 1978 the Washington Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the felony-murder charge—a rare and very convenient assault in a death, it can automatically prove murder, without having to mess around trying to prove intent or premeditation. This practically forces a defendant charged with felony murder into plea bargaining (pleading guilty to a lesser charge) in order to avoid a murder conviction sentence. This decision wiped out Yvonne’s earlier victory and enabled the state to refile murder charges. The prosecutor couldn’t wait.

What is this? Some sort of sick joke? Sick, yes. Joke, no. This is capitalism and its brand of justice. This is the monstrosity of a system which reduces women to domestic servants and sexual playthings, in which an Indian woman is fair game to be used and abused by filth like William Wesler, who, like the decadent system that created him, deserves nothing more than a bullet in his head.

The courts have spared no effort in trying to pressure this fighter into coping a plea. Her righteous stand was a real threat—a spark that had to be put out. A guilty plea had to be wrenched out of her by an insidious campaign of intimidation by the capitalists and their agents which was designed to scare her into just trying to stay out of jail. On April 25, Yvonne pleaded guilty to charges of manslaughter and 2nd de-

gree assault getting 5 years probation. After it was over she said, “I wanted to close the door to the courtroom struggle. I just wanted it to end so I could take up my life as a mother...”

But the capitalist dogs hounded her for seven years until they got a guilty verdict that they could plaster all over their newspapers—a verdict that says that an Indian woman and her children are fair game because she refused to live like an animal at the mercy of this depraved system. The verdict of the people is already in: the capitalist system—guilty as charged.■

For Sale: One Eye, One Kidney

“Destitute, unemployed mother willing to negotiate sale of one eye and one kidney.”

This ad ran for almost one week in the Dayton, Ohio newspapers. Saying, “...I’m selling, not begging.” The woman who placed the ad would not accept donations and has refused to apply for welfare or to other organizations for assistance. “To even become identified with these places puts a stain on one’s character for life,” she explains. So in an attempt to save her dignity, to avoid being labeled a “welfare bum” or a “charity case,” a mother desperate to support her children feels trapped into selling parts of her body as a last resort.■

Letter from Kentucky Prisoner

Letter From Prisoner at LaGrange Prison, Kentucky

I read The Worker and was amazed to find out that there did exist in this world an organized search for the truth of the lives of the oppressed and the isolated. The revolutionary words leaped from the printed pages and struck me with tremendous force.

My attention was caught by the similarity of the experiences of workers in other lands that you talked about. By uniting scattered but kindred people into whole. My cynicism which has been my protection against an America that has cast me out, slipped from me, and timidly, I began to wonder if the solution of unity is possible.

For I feel that without a common bond uniting people, without a continuous current of shared thought and feelings circulated through a social system, like blood coursing through the human body, there can be no body worthy of being called human.

I hunger to share the dominant assumption of my time and act upon it. I do not want to feel like an animal in a jungle, that the whole world is alien and hostile. I do not want to make individual war or individual peace. I have managed to keep humanly alive in here through transfusions through books. In my concrete relations with other prisoners I have encountered nothing to encourage me to believe in my feeling. I have managed to keep my identity intact by denying what I see with my eyes, disputing what I feel with my body. But it seems that here at last in the realm of revolutionary expression is where I a Black American can find a home, a functioning value and role. Out of the Revolutionary Worker that you send me every month I read a passionate call for the experience of the disinherited and there is none of the lisp of the missionary in it. It does not say, “Be like us, and we like you, maybe.” It says, “If you possess enough courage to speak out what you are and what you want, you will find out that you are not alone.” It urged life to believe in life.

The struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. Let me leave you with these last few words.

Men may not get all they pay for in this world, but they must certainly pay for all they get. If we ever get free from the oppression and wrongs heaped upon us we must pay for their removal. We must do this by labor, by suffering, by sacrificing, and by our lives and the lives of others.

May peace and blessing be upon you.

Yours in revolution.

An inmate of LaGrange Prison, Kentucky



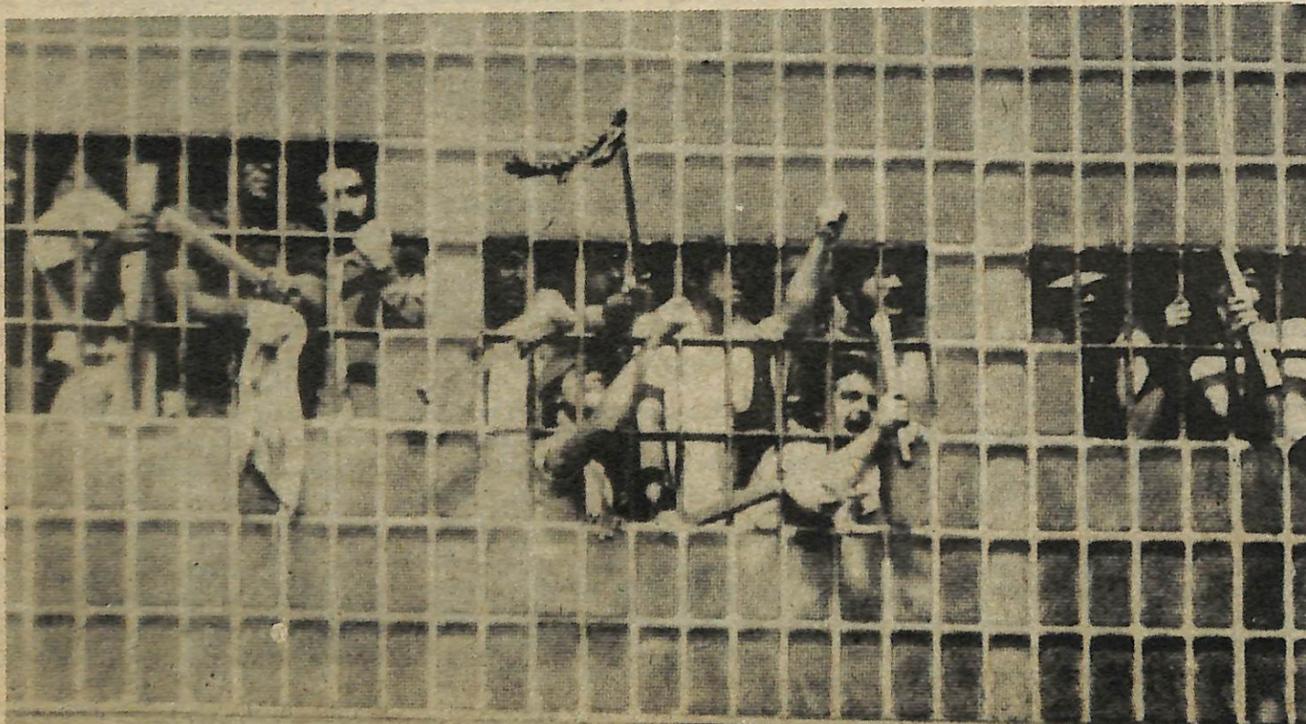
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Shine the Light of Revolution Behind the Prison Walls



Rebellion in NYC Tombs, 1970

Contribute to the Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund

The Revolutionary Communist Party receives many letters and requests for literature from prisoners in the hell-hole torture chambers from Attica to San Quentin. There are thousands more brothers and sisters behind bars who have refused to be beaten down and corrupted in the dungeons of the capitalist class and who thirst for and need the *Revolutionary Worker* and other revolutionary literature. To help make possible getting the Voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party as well as other Party literature and books on Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought behind the prison walls, the *Revolutionary Worker* is establishing a special fund. Contributions should be sent to:

Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund
Box 3486, Merchandise Mart
Chicago, IL 60654

IMPERIALISTS DUMP AMIN

On April 11, Idi Amin's government was overthrown in Uganda, when, after several months of fighting, a force of 20,000 Tanzanian troops overran the Ugandan capital of Kampala. Idi Amin had been a very controversial figure. The U.S. press has long called Amin one of the biggest tyrants in the world, singlehandedly responsible for the murder and misery of the Ugandan people. Now they are hypocritically expressing relief and joy, saying that the people of that country will be free.

There are other people who wonder if Idi Amin isn't another example of an African leader who stood up to imperialist powers, only to get slandered and then cut down. In fact neither of these views gets to the essence of things. So what really has gone on in Uganda, and what is the real story on Idi Amin?

Tanzania's successful invasion has strengthened the hand of U.S. imperialism in the area, underscoring the contention between the U.S. and USSR in Africa. While actually putting the Tanzanian people further under the weight of U.S. imperialism, it means no fundamental change for the people of Uganda.

The U.S. moved quickly to recognize the bogus provisional government which was brought to power by Tanzania—hardly a surprising development since it was clearly the bloody hand of U.S. imperialism which was the main force behind Tanzania's invasion.

The groundwork for this move has been laid over the last couple years as the U.S. imperialists have bitterly denounced Amin's crimes and waged a propaganda campaign against his regime—pure hypocrisy since the U.S.

played a key role in Amin's rise to power in the first place.

As an excuse for the invasion, Tanzania used the brief occupation by Amin last October of a small area in northern Tanzania. Despite Tanzania's claims in early March that "the overthrow of the Amin regime is a matter for Ugandans to decide," Tanzanian forces played the decisive, if not exclusive, role in Amin's demise.

Tanzania's victory was eased by mass desertions from Amin's internally torn army. The Soviets, Amin's most recent imperialist backer, refused to come to his aid, hedging their bets and realizing the uselessness of continued support for this loser.

Tanzania has now flown into the U.S. orbit in Africa. There have been signs of this for some time as Tanzania's president, Julius Nyerere, has cultivated a close friendship with Jimmy Carter. Nyerere recently invited back the Peace Corps as well as another notorious CIA front, the Agency for International Development.

The "Uganda National Liberation Front," a dubious set-up which Nyerere helped pull together early this year, has stated that it expects the U.S. to now "play a tremendous role" in Uganda, and an individual close to it said that what Uganda needs now is something on the order of the Marshall Plan (which sealed U.S. domination in Western Europe after WWII)!

Amin's Real Role

All these events have sharpened even more the questions many have about Idi Amin. Just what was his real role and what was the real attitude of the imperialists toward him?

The imperialists constantly expressed shock and outrage at Amin's flamboyant poses. Who can forget the famous picture of British businessmen forced by Amin to carry him on their shoulders, reversing the old colonial tradition? Or his denunciations of the Israeli Zionists? Or his brief seizure of Peace Corps "volunteers" in 1973? And on the surface of things, to those who know what colonialism is and hate it, there might appear to be something positive about any Black African head of state who would force distinguished British emissaries to approach him on their hands and knees. But the key thing is not what Amin said, or certain grandstand plays, but who he served.

To the crimes of the imperialists in Africa, Idi Amin's were puny in comparison. In fact he was one of those crimes. It was the imperialists who trained him and brought him to power, only to depose him when he was no longer useful.

Idi Amin was a product of the imperialist rule of Africa. At age 21, he joined the King's African Rifles, a British colonialist army in east Africa. Amin was made a commissioned officer for the valiant role he played in the brutal British attempts to put down the independence movement in Kenya. He later recalled this role when, before a meeting of African heads of state, he demonstrated how during this campaign he would suffocate and kill Mau Mau guerrillas with a handkerchief.

The army he was later to command became the "national" army of Uganda after independence, but nothing was done to transform this army from the colonial mercenary army it had been earlier under direct British rule. This was typical of the neo-colonialist set-up which in Uganda saw German, British and U.S. imperialism as the dominant powers oppressing the Ugandan masses.

An army controlled by imperialists was key and during the period when Amin became its head in 1966, the army was being deployed to terrorize civilians and suppress popular struggles of various tribes which had been waging guerrilla wars against the regime. For



Idi Amin "outraged" Uganda's former colonial masters when he forced British businessmen to carry his throne. But while he made a show of humiliating the old colonial rulers to win popular support he himself was a creation of imperialism and it was the masses who continued to bear the oppressive weight.

creating such "stability," Amin was well rewarded in 1971.

Milton Obote, Amin's predecessor, had embarked on a course which angered the British and U.S. With the intent of crushing opposition to his own rule, Obote announced a plan to nationalize various imperialist holdings. This was also a showy move aimed at saving his own butt from his increasingly angry people.

Amin's Coup

The British and U.S. searched for a more stable lackey, which they found in Idi Amin. In January, 1971, with the support of the British and the U.S., as well as the aid of his long-time friends, the Israelis, Amin mobilized the section of the army he controlled, pulled off a coup and dumped Obote. Within a month, 6,000 members of the army faction that opposed him were slain.

This army was Amin's life-line. An elaborate system of patronage, plunder and payment more or less kept it loyal. When problems in keeping the army content did develop, Amin simply found a target for them to hit. This was the case, for example, in 1972 when Amin expelled Asians from Uganda. These people, many small businessmen and merchants, were made into scapegoats. Their property was distributed among the mercenaries as the spoils of loyalty.

The army was used to crush all resistance, real or suspected. Estimates of the number of people killed under Amin range in the tens of thousands. Typical was the suppression of a workers' strike at the Kilembe Copper Mines in 1975 which was crushed by the army, the strikers massacred.

What Did Idi Amin Protect?

Shortly after the coup, the U.S. moved to squeeze out the competition and become far and away the dominant force in Uganda by the early '70s. Both Britain and Israel sought U.S. cooperation for economic measures against Amin. Not only did the U.S. refuse, it strengthened relations, particularly going after Uganda's coffee. With coffee accounting for over 90% of Uganda's exports, U.S. influence became far from subtle as it grew to import nearly half of Uganda's coffee by 1977, the rest going mainly to Europe.

It is revealing to note information that was disclosed, then buried, at a U.S. Congressional hearing on Uganda. Part of the picture came out when it was revealed that over 70 of Amin's agents, members of the State Research Bureau, were trained in the U.S.

More, Textron supplied Amin with helicopters and trained pilots at its facilities in Houston, Texas. A host of U.S. corporations have been close to the regime. Lockheed, for example, snuck around through the somewhat

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Deer Hunter Under Fire



The photos above show the Vietnam Veterans Against the War being attacked by the L.A.P.D., as the chief of security for the Academy Awards hides in the background, supervising of course. One cop said, "The Duke would have been proud of us tonight." Inside, the decrepit Duke—John Wayne—did the honors on "The Deer Hunter." Thirteen people were arrested for telling the truth about this reactionary movie, which lies about the Vietnam War, lets the U.S. war criminals off the hook, and through patriotism is trying to shape public opinion to wave the blood-soaked flag of U.S. imperialism as World War 3 approaches.

Through this demonstration, and leafleting and agitating at theaters nationwide showing the movie, VVAW has forced the politics of "The Deer Hunter" out into the light of day to be discussed by tens of thousands of people. In Cleveland, VVAW seized the office of a distributor of the film, gave interviews to the press—calling it the "first movie of World War 3." Before the awards ceremony, the overwhelming number of movie reviews had praised it to the heavens as an accurate, powerful account of the Vietnam War. Now many newspaper articles, TV and radio commentators and movie reviewers have been forced to write about the growing controversy around the movie.

Thousands are asking "What is this movie about?" even forcing the director, Michael Cimino, to try to defend it as an "anti-war movie." But when asked why "God Bless America" is sung at the end, he claims that it's to show a "sincere expression of faith in America," so we can look at "what we once were and will be again." The president of Universal Pictures—distributors of the movie—was more blunt: "I'm proud of the movie. . . Cimino's thrust was to make a film about comradeship among the people who volunteer to fight our wars. The men in the film were not drafted. They were the second generation from the coal mines of West Virginia, the steel mills of Ohio, whose heritage is to offer to fight."

That's their view of the "common folk." Happy slaves only too willing to fight and die to protect this rotten system of police terror, unemployment, exploitation etc. Attacking this movie is an important way of preparing public opinion to see that there is an alternative to the cannon fodder future the U.S. ruling class is preparing for us—and to take up the struggle to make that future.

Cops Get Stoned At Rock Concert

Wichita, Kansas—What started out as an outdoor rock concert at Herman Hill Park in Wichita, Kansas on Sunday, April 15 ended up in what the local police described as a “full-scale riot.” The cops can’t seem to get their story straight, but it seems they didn’t like the youths parking their cars on the grass, so they attacked the concert, turning off the power on the stage, which the youths weren’t about to stand for. The park exploded.

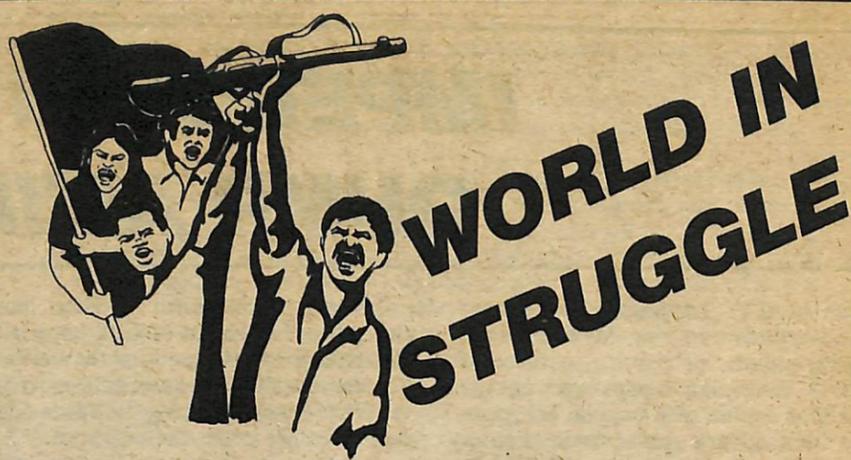
“It just broke into warfare,” a witness said. A 4-block area in South Wichita became a battleground as the pigs were pelted with rocks and bottles while their tires were slashed and their windows smashed in a righteous uprising against these thugs in blue. The program director of a local radio station looked on in horror as youths he arrogantly described as “hoodlums” destroyed two police cars with tire irons right before his eyes. 500 Kansas Highway Patrol pigs were called in as sheriffs fired their shotguns into the air. The Governor of Kansas had tear gas canisters from the Kansas National Guard sent in. Many were lobbed back

at the pigs.

The pigs definitely got more than they had bargained for. They say only 4 pigs were injured along with 20 youth. These figures are undoubtedly “adjusted” to hide the real extent of the beating the pigs took. One injured pig had to be airlifted out of the park by helicopter. A county undersheriff whined, “The damage to city and county vehicles is astronomical.”

In their typical cowardly fashion the pigs took revenge with groups of 10 vamping on individual youths. One woman said she “saw a police officer standing on a man’s throat.” 100 people were arrested and held in a compound set up outside the county courthouse.

Even the sight of a few thousand youth getting together for a rock concert in a park was too dangerous for the “authorities” in Wichita. Just the gathering of young people trying to have a little fun after every other door has been slammed in their face was too potentially explosive. And the capitalists should just wait for the real explosion. ■



Bishop Muzorewa Elected in Rhodesia—House Slave Makes Good

Bishop Abel Muzorewa—newly elected black Prime Minister of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), faithful bootlicker of Ian Smith and U.S. imperialism and shining example of a good house slave. The recent “democratic elections” which supposedly brought black majority rule to Zimbabwe (there are 230,000 whites in a country of 6.7 million blacks) are a thinly disguised fraud. Already the white minority has been guaranteed control of the police, military, judiciary and civil service for five years and parliamentary control for 10 years! However, in order to get enough of a turnout to impress Western reporters, thousands of blacks were herded to the voting booths at gunpoint by the Rhodesian army.

Much debate is going on within the U.S. bourgeoisie over whether or not these elections actually fooled anybody. Some forces have introduced legislation to Congress to lift all economic sanctions against Rhodesia now that there’s a “democratically elected” government—they’re itching to free the U.S. to openly support the Rhodesian regime with its new figurehead and help it to crush Zimbabwe’s liberation forces and maintain Western imperialist control in that strategic area of southern Africa.

But others recognize that the elections are widely exposed as a farce and will not stop the liberation struggle. They feel that to accept Muzorewa and give open U.S. support to attempts to smash the Patriotic Front guerilla forces would blow the cover off their “friends of the African people” act and isolate the U.S. too much. They’re in favor of trying to buy more time so they can either do a better job of selling Muzorewa as a true representative of the Zimbabwean people or else find forces within the Patriotic Front willing to do business with U.S. imperialism.

On election day the liberation forces and masses of people made their intentions clear by opposing and disrupting the elections in spite of a 100,000 man army called out to guard the polls. The Zimbabwean people want real liberation and will continue to cast their votes with guns, aimed at Smith, Muzorewa and their imperialist masters.

5000 Demonstrators Bust Up Racist National Front Rally in Britain

A pitched battle broke out the evening of April 24 in London between thousands of demonstrators and British riot police in front of a National Front election rally. The National Front is a racist and fascist organization that advocates the forced deportation of Britain’s nonwhite immigrants who have come from the Caribbean, Pakistan and India. According to this British version of the KKK, black and Asian immigrant workers are responsible for growing unemployment and for the accelerating decay of British society. More than that, the National Front has led provocative marches through London’s immigrant neighborhoods as part of its efforts to build up a racist movement among whites in Britain.

At this election rally in a western industrial suburb of London, more than 5000 protestors—blacks, whites and Asians—showed up to shut down the National Front. And when mounted police tried to break up the demonstration, they were pelted with bricks, bottles and smokebombs. During the street fighting that followed, 300 people were arrested and 40 were injured, including 21 cops. A 33-year-old school teacher from New Zealand who had joined the protest died of head wounds the next morning from the beating he had received from the police.

Britain’s politicians, predictably, spoke out against “extremist violence.” Prime Minister Callaghan of the “Labor” Party charged the demonstrators with trying to “destroy what we have built up in the way of a tolerant society in this country.” Callaghan’s Conservative Party election rival, Margaret Thatcher (whose own campaign is filled with anti-immigrant demagoguery) lectured that “the way to beat them (the National Front) is by the ballot box, not by bricks and guns.” However, growing numbers of people in Britain are taking a militant and determined stand against the National Front and have no intention of letting them spread their racist trash anywhere in Britain.

New Israeli ‘Peace Offensive’

In the last week, the Israeli military has shown the nature of the “peace” brought about by the Egypt-Israeli pact. Israel has launched the biggest offensive against the Palestinians in Lebanon since its full-scale invasion of south Lebanon in early 1978. Using the pretext of “retaliation” for an earlier attack by Palestinian guerillas on a resort village that killed an Israeli policeman and three others, the Israelis have turned their heavy artillery, jet fighters and naval gunboats on dozens of Palestinian refugee camps and Lebanese villages.

On April 24, for example, more than 20 Israeli jets, including U.S. Phantoms and French Mirages, bombed and strafed nine villages and Palestinian refugee camps around Nabatiye in central Lebanon. Dozens of civilians were buried in the rubble and hundreds more fled north. The Palestinian Liberation Organization accused Israel of using fragmentation bombs during these raids—which the U.S. had supplied to Israel for “defensive use.” For six straight days, long-range Israeli artillery pounded villages in southern Lebanon, aided by right-wing Lebanese Christian militia (supplied and armed by the Israeli army) who have occupied a five mile wide strip along the Israeli border, which they have recently proclaimed as “Free Lebanon.”

These new terroristic attacks by the reactionary rulers of Israel underline the fact that there will be no peace in the Middle East until the Palestinian people win their liberation and free their homeland. And they underscore the treasonous actions of Egypt’s Sadat in signing a “peace treaty” with Israel that has only emboldened Begin and Co. to launch new and ever more vicious attacks against the Palestinians and Arab people.

Cops Rampage in Watts

Watts—April, 1979. Two sheriff’s deputies are shot at in a housing project. One is killed, one is wounded. Immediately a mobile commando post is set up in the area and hundreds of pigs fan out house to house. They kick in doors. They drag people from their homes. One points his gun at the head of a Black woman and vows “to kill ten niggers for the cop that was killed.” This scene of police terror and occupation goes on for a week. They come down hard. Sniping at cops upsets their system of Law and Order. According to their law and order it should be the cops who snipe at and murder the people!

Like Eula Love. Shot to death by L.A. cops on the front steps of her house in front of her three teenage daughters. Murdered because she failed to pay a \$22 gas bill. Blown away because she was Black. Two days before the deputies were shot at in Watts, the L.A. District Attorney concluded that “there is no basis to prosecute” the killer cops of Eula Love. After all, they were just doing their job—enforcing the law and order of the rich, and as an indispensable part of that, enforcing the systematic oppression of Black people. ■



Defend the Houston Rebellion? HOW RUDE! Says CPML

Recently the Communist Party Marxist-Leninist printed two “letters” in its newspaper, *The Call*, berating the Revolutionary Communist Party for its uncompromising stand in the struggle to defend the Houston Rebellion and the Moody Park 3 (see article, page 1). This is further proof of the fact that this struggle in Houston is a dividing line question. It is bringing forth increasing support from among the Chicano people, other oppressed people and people of all kinds who hate oppression. And just as surely it is giving rise to more bitter and wild attacks from reactionaries of all sorts—even forcing the “communist” CPML to come out of its real bag and attack revolution straight up and in the most grotesque and incredibly philistine way.

One of these letters, entitled “RCP Anti-Worker Actions,” reveals its lofty viewpoint right at the beginning: “I work at a plant in Atlanta. Recently,

some members of the RCP pushed their way into the plant cafeteria and began yelling about the Moody Park 3.” How rude! But that’s not all. “They never mentioned anything about what was going on in the plant or even in Atlanta.” Imagine that! Not even in Atlanta. Maybe the RCP members should have given the plant accident (or production) count for the day or at least the local weather report. Would it have been ok then, CPML, if they had talked about something as remote to the workers as the powerful uprising of the Chicano people against the murdering pigs and capitalist “justice”?

Of course it would still not be all right with the CPML, for they are expending all the energy they can muster, little as that is, to keep the workers’ sights as narrow as possible—as narrow as the CPML’s, if that is possible. How narrow is that? Listen to more of the same letter.

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Bringing Back THE DRAFT

I WANT YOU



for...

CANNONFODDER

Iran: Struggle Sharpens in Islamic Government

Three months ago, Ayatollah Khomeini and other religious leaders rode to power on the crest of a massive revolutionary upsurge that overthrew the Shah's hated regime. Among the Islamic forces who were previously united in opposition to the Shah, struggle has increasingly broken out into the open about the future course of the revolution in Iran.

On April 13, officials of one of Tehran's komitehs (the neighborhood committees controlled by the Khomeini forces) arrested two sons and a daughter-in-law of Ayatollah Mahmoud Taleghani. These three revolutionaries had just left a meeting with representatives of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, where they were apparently given information about the past and present ties to the U.S. government of Dr. Yazdi, one of Ayatollah Khomeini's right-hand men and the current Deputy Minister for "Revolutionary Affairs." This position has placed him in charge of all military and internal security affairs. Yazdi's men have kept the sophisticated spying and phone tapping equipment left from the Shah's regime in operation, and are now maintaining surveillance over Iran's revolutionary forces.

In protest over these arrests, Taleghani closed down his office in Tehran and disappeared for several days. From hiding he issued a statement warning that the country could "once more fall back into the hands of dictatorship and despotism." This sparked large demonstrations for several days running in Tehran, Ahwaz, Abadan, Tabriz and other cities in support of Taleghani and protesting the komiteh's actions. On the fourth day of demonstrations, between 50,000 and 100,000 people marched in Tehran, with well organized contingents from many high schools, the Islamic Mujahadeen guerillas and a number of Marxist-Leninist organizations all taking part. Even after Taleghani asked that the demonstrations stop, large marches continued for several days in Tehran and other cities, raising demands for fuller democracy and continuing the revolution.

The arrests and Taleghani's response indicate a sharpening struggle among

the Islamic forces which have generally lined up behind Khomeini in recent months. On the one side are people linked closely to Dr. Yazdi, a rabid anti-communist who lived in the U.S. for 18 years and was active in the more backward sections of the Organization of Moslem Students before he joined Khomeini in France last year and became one of his closest advisers. On the other side are people who have rallied around Taleghani, including the Mujahadeen guerillas, who have taken more progressive stands on a number of issues and have often cooperated closely with the revolutionary Marxist-Leninist forces.

In addition, these arrests were a direct attack on Iran's revolutionary Left. Mojtaba Taleghani and his wife are both members of Sazman Beykar (the League of Struggle for the Emancipation of the Working Class), a Marxist-Leninist organization which developed out of a split several years ago within the Mujahadeen.

Ayatollah Taleghani

Taleghani is highly respected among many Iranians, in large part due to his firm stand against the Shah's regime. He was imprisoned for more than 12 years and came to respect the indomitable spirit of the many Marxist-Leninists and other revolutionaries with whom he shared cells. After his release from prison in November 1978, Taleghani became a popular figure in Tehran and acted as Khomeini's leading representative there.

In recent months, he has increasingly come into opposition with Khomeini and his closest advisors over their frequent attacks on the Left, over the recent rigged referendum that gave the people the "choice" between a vaguely defined Islamic republic and a return to the hated monarchy, and over the increasingly reactionary activities of many of the Islamic committees, or komitehs, as evidenced by the arrests of his revolutionary sons and daughter-in-law.

Still, Taleghani has continued to vacillate between defending and criticizing the new regime. On April 18 he ap-

"Volunteer Army Failing", "Selective Service System Can't Meet Crisis", "Reserve Shortages Grow Worse" read the headlines. ABC News runs a ten part series called "American Military Strength—Second to None?" with one segment about the failure of the All Volunteer Army. More and more they are putting it out there, "Can the U.S. win a war against the Soviet Union centered in Europe?" The chorus is growing louder as the mouthpieces for the rulers of this country chant: "Bring back the draft!"

It's almost certain that some form of draft or thinly veiled draft registration will be put through in the near future. Currently there are at least nine bills on this in Congress. There are even reports that draft board directors have already been appointed in all 50 states.

For our rulers, the revival of the draft is a necessary part of their preparations for war with their imperialist twins in the Soviet Union. They have made it no secret that the current recruiting set-up cannot supply the troops needed to meet U.S. military plans. The strength of the reserves is falling way short (only 182,000 out of a minimum of 729,000 they say they need).

Plans Demand Cannon Fodder

Recently, the Army announced plans to form a mobile strike force of 100,000 troops to be able to go anywhere for "quick military reaction to situations in strategically important areas" like the Middle East and the Northwestern Pacific area (esp. Korea). They refer to wars in these areas as "half wars" and are planning a strategy of being able to fight one and a half wars at one time—a "half war" and a major face off with the Soviet Union in Europe.

Clearly, to pull this off, many more troops will be needed to lay down their lives for Uncle Sam. They especially need already trained reserves that can

be activated in a short time should they be needed to fight in Europe while a "half war" is going on or for reinforcements after the first outbreak of fighting in Europe.

They have even floated plans to draft veterans first in wartime since it only takes 3 weeks to get them ready for battle compared to 12 weeks to train a new recruit.

While there has been some debate among various politicians about when to bring back the draft—whether now is the right time or not (the nightmares of burning draft cards are deeply etched in their memories), there is near unanimous agreement from all quarters from the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Defense Dept. and Congress that the draft will be necessary when war with the Soviet Union breaks (or as they say it "our national security is threatened") and that steps toward getting the ball rolling now for a draft are essential.

To polish up and sell these steps toward the draft they are floating out 1001 loud mouthed pitches—all worthy of a used car sales lot. They even have some with a "liberal" twist: "We need something more fair and equal than today's system," they say.

One such twisted creation is a bill by California Representative Pete McClosky (a so-called anti-Vietnam war politician) that would create a compulsory National Service System. All youth 18-30 would be required to do one of the following: (1) do 1 year of "civilian" service (of course this could be military related, freeing up others for the front lines), (2) either serve 2 years of active duty or 6 months active duty and 5½ years in the reserves or (3) face the draft lottery where if chosen serve 2 years active duty and 4 years in the reserves. Stripped of its liberal rhetoric this is one of the most comprehensive proposals yet made for reinstating the draft. This bloodthirsty dog has the

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One Year Since Houston Rebellion— Revolutionary Tradition of Cinco de Mayo

On May 5, 1862 the Mexican people rose up and defeated the French colonial army in the Battle of Puebla, thoroughly smashing 7,500 French troops armed to the teeth by Napoleon III—part of an army that was thought to be invincible. With the courage and determination only shown by people fighting for their freedom, thousands of Mexicans—many armed only with rocks—together with the Mexican army, rudely awakened Napoleon III from his imperial dreams. They succeeded in driving the French out of Mexico.

Since that time Cinco de Mayo has been celebrated as a revolutionary holiday in Mexico and by Chicano and Mexican people in the United States—a day when thousands honor the proud revolutionary history of the Chicano and Mexican people.

Last year on Cinco de Mayo in Houston, 3,000 Chicanos rose in rebellion, burning pig cars, pelting the police with rocks and bottles and driving them out of the barrio for two days. This rebellion stands as the most significant uprising in this country in the last five years and points the way forward from rebellion to revolution. This is the spirit of Cinco de Mayo.



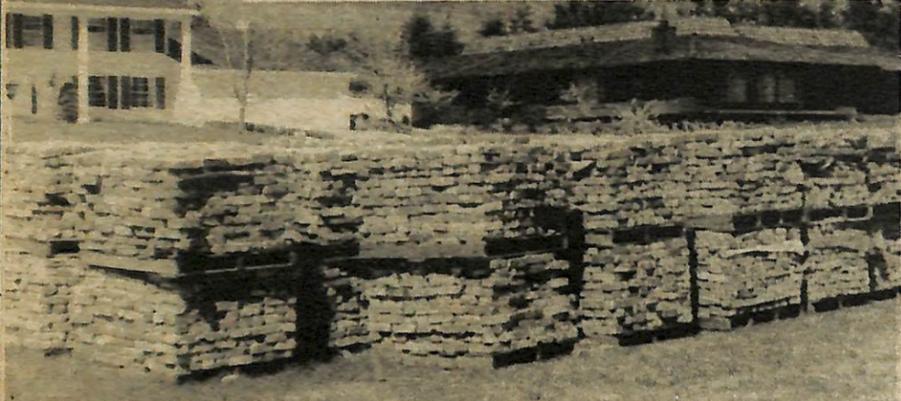
peared in Qum to meet with Khomeini, and from all accounts Taleghani backed down in the face of the Khomeini-Yazdi forces' demands that the komitehs retain their powers. Taleghani made a statement in Qum praising Khomeini's leadership. And while Khomeini admitted that some "corrupt elements" had worked their ways into the komitehs, he emphasized that the committees would not only remain but would now have the duty of "getting the weapons out of the hands of all those groups who create trouble and violence." This was an unmistakable reference to the influential revolutionary forces, who led much of the fighting that toppled the Shah's

regime in February. This comes at a time when it is common knowledge that many former SAVAK agents have joined the komitehs and when several armed right wing Moslem organizations have been recently formed whose expressed goal is to "wipe out communism."

The Taleghani affair has shown that many of the forces who have up to now followed Khomeini's overall leadership are beginning to call it into question. It has further demonstrated the inability of the Khomeini-Bazargan government to consolidate their "Islamic republic," and stop the masses of Iranian people from pushing the revolution forward. ■

MANSION OF OUTRAGE

(Right) I-Hotel Eviction
(Below) Bricks for Mansions



Slowly and very carefully, over the last couple of months, the International Hotel in San Francisco Chinatown has been taken apart brick by brick. Every brick of this building is a reminder of the nine year struggle waged by the elderly Chinese and Filipino tenants against eviction by a long string of multi-millionaire landlords who attempted to evict the tenants and put something more profitable like a parking lot on the property. They called it a flea-bag and a fire trap, worthless, like the lives of the tenants they murdered in their two attempts to burn the hotel down. The I-Hotel became a center of resistance. Thousands took up the fight against eviction.

On August 3, 1977, when all else had failed, the city sent 400 riot equipped police in at 3 a.m. to evict the tenants. They came on horses, in fire trucks, swinging axes, busting heads and smashing down the doors. They threw the tenants out into the street. They smashed the inside of the building to bits. Four Seas Corporation—the owners—hired a bulldozer to plow a two story hole into the back of the building.

But now, every brick of this "flea bag hotel" is suddenly marked *handle with care*. The bricks, valued at \$27,000, were moved to a building site in Orinda, California, surrounded by luxury homes, rolling lawns, private tennis courts, swimming pools. A new one-family home is under construction—a twenty room mansion to be completed in six months to a year, worth \$700,000—built from the bricks of the International Hotel!

Between the layers of bricks piled in the lots, to protect them, are the banners from the I-Hotel struggle. Banners that hung from the walls of the I-Hotel, across Kearny Street in Chinatown. Banners made by the tenants and their supporters that proudly proclaimed "I-Hotel means fight back! No Eviction, we won't move!"

And while these bricks go to build a mansion for the rich, the tenants are forced to live in decaying hotels, disgusting run-down roach ridden slums—while their whole community is eaten up by the expanding financial district, parking lots, and office space.

On the walls of their shabby rooms are posters. They bear the words of Felix Ayson, a fighter from the International Hotel who died last year. The posters say: "We all struggle to resist the monstrous aggression of the capitalists. We depend upon our class, the working class and all oppressed peoples. We make the world go forward—and in the long run we will overtake them. We will throw them out someday. That is revolution!"

Authorities Freak Over "Turn-em-Loose Bruce"

New York—A Black judge in this city's Criminal Court is at the center of a whirlwind of controversy here. Mayor Koch has called him "bizarre." Sam DeMilia, president of the Patrolman's Benevolent Association, calls him a "racist." The press refers to him as "Turn 'em Loose Bruce."

Actually all Judge Wright is guilty of is dispensing justice a little more "blindly" than the ruling class of this country likes.

In April, Jerome Singleton, a young Black man accused of slashing the throat of a police decoy, appeared before Judge Wright. He was released on his own recognizance. There was no evidence against him. He is a community college student, married, with two children. So when the D.A. failed to bring an indictment against Singleton within the required 72 hours, Wright turned him loose. Standard bail procedure.

The city's bigwigs went wild. Singleton had been accused of viping out one of their precious cops, and so much for the fact that an accused is supposedly "innocent until proven guilty."

Cops, of course, are given a license to kill, especially in the Black and Latino communities, and (in the rare instances when their bloody activities are examined at all) they roam free on "no bill" while the courts "investigate" their cold-blooded murders. Meanwhile, plenty of poor people languish in jail because they can't meet bail—sometimes spending more time awaiting trial than they would if convicted.

The situation Black people face at the bar of justice apparently was getting to be too much for Judge Wright to take, so he decided to apply the "letter of the law" and let Singleton out without bail. Now, the authorities want the Judge thrown off the bench. The "equality before the law" might be OK for lectures to high school civic classes, but the ruling class wants its judges to remember what the real purpose of its system of "justice" is—to keep the working class and the oppressed nationalities "in their place."

Judge Wright had an interesting response to all this—"Maybe if they fire me I'll have to find an honest job."

Battle at Newport News

Virginia Shipyard Strike

Newport News, Va.—The Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. where 15,000 workers have been on strike was the site of a massive pitched battle Monday, April 16 between hundreds of strikers and a huge contingent of cops and Virginia state troopers.

The battle began when the strikers dealt out some just punishment to many of the scabs and company personnel entering the giant facility. Three of the main gates were shut down tight. The offices of the Peninsula Shipbuilders Association, a hated company union, were trashed by the furious strikers.

The cops, the troopers and the SWAT teams hit back and went on a rampage against the strikers. They went out after everyone they could get their hands on, viciously beating men and women alike. The cops invaded the strikers' headquarters and began beating people inside, throwing one worker through a glass door. Skirmishes between cops and strikers went on all through the day. Many Black and white workers fought together in close unity. The final toll was 43 strikers arrested and twelve hospitalized. At least a few of the armed thugs of the ruling class were hospitalized also.

The strikers had plenty to be up in arms over. For two months they had been waging a strike against the giant Tenneco conglomerate that owns Newport News demanding recognition of the United Steelworkers as their union. But all during the strike they had been fed the line of bull that if they kept their strike respectable and legal, they would win—not on the picket lines but in the courtrooms and the NLRB.

The last straw came the week before the 16th when the workers learned from the press that USWA was going to call off the strike. The stated reason? They had won some legal ruling in court!

When the company heard this they upped their own demands, calling for the workers to sign an unconditional surrender in which they would not be guaranteed their jobs back. At a mass meeting on Friday, April 13 of 6000 workers that lasted over 4 hours, the workers denounced this and voted to continue the strike.

The militant action Monday morning forced the company to back off the unconditional surrender demand. But once they did so, the officials of Local 8888 used it as an excuse to go back to work, once again telling the workers to bank everything on a favorable NLRB ruling.

The strike is over for now, but having had a short taste of what it is like to fight with some of the handcuffs removed, many of the workers at Newport News are not about to be reduced to pathetic beggars waiting for the masters' courts to hand them alms. For years Tenneco has been treating the workers like dirt, paying them far less than most shipbuilders make, spitting them out with less than \$1000-a-year pensions after 30 years, practicing discrimination and shackling them with an up front company union.

Once before, in 1967, the workers rose up and wildcatted—burning a police car and taking on the cops. This time around the workers went along with the Steelworkers' line of milktoast picket lines and relying on courtroom hotshots, but as the bankruptcy of this approach became more and more apparent, the workers took to militant mass action. Fear of being unable to keep restraining the workers was no doubt a key reason the union hacks wanted to call off the strike.

The April 16 explosion shows the depth of the hatred these workers have for the conditions they are forced to live and work under. The viciousness of the cops' response has also taught a lesson. Even when it's only a question of an economic strike in which the workers get a little "uppity"—even in a struggle for somewhat better conditions of existence *within* this system of wage slavery—the capitalists will ruthlessly strike back. This begins to raise even bigger questions about the whole rotten nature of the system we live under, and the misery it breeds on every front.

Many workers at Newport News were avidly discussing these questions, especially after April 16. Whether or not these workers succeed in winning union recognition one thing is certain—they will be heard from again. ■

Draft

Continued from page 7

nerve to say that "anyone opposing this bill is a racist" because the way things are now it is mostly "the poor and Blacks" who make up the army and his plan is more "fair."

To this we can only reply, who did most of the fighting and dying in the drafted army the U.S. sent to Vietnam if it wasn't "the poor and Blacks" and other oppressed nationalities?

The U.S. army—whether drafted or "volunteer"—is a five-star reflection of the stinking character of this whole system that thrives off the oppression of the "poor and minorities" who are of such "concern" to this liberal dog Congressman.

The "All Volunteer Army"—A Flop

The real point of concern in ruling circles these days is that their current "all volunteer army" is a flop. Coming off the Vietnam war the old "Duty, Honor, Country" approach to recruiting had to be slicked up a bit. New methods of suckering people into the military had to be found. This has come down to making fairytale promises about good money, good jobs and having a great time "seeing the world and serving your country at the same time." But the millions spent on their massive TV, magazine, and billboard campaigns haven't convinced enough people to sign up even with the high unemployment among youth.

The government's worries about the army run deeper than just numbers.

They're worried about the troops. Once the "volunteers"—who are really drawn in by economic necessity, not "love of country"—get acquainted with the true picture of the army they just don't seem to have the "morale" they're supposed to. Recently when a senior advisor to Defense Secretary Brown was told by the reactionary Israelis that they could mobilize all their civilian reserves in 48 hours he complained, "It would take us that long to clean the hashish out of our barracks in Europe."

Concern for "reliability" is big these days. Translation: too many potentially dangerous Blacks, other minorities and working class people in the army. Notorious racists like Senator Stennis and others are openly making a big deal about the high percentage of Blacks in the Army (30% and growing), using such code words as "people in lower mental categories."

They remember all too well the GI rebellions in Vietnam and the cases of refusal by troops to go put down the Black rebellions of the '60s. Blacks and other oppressed minorities, who are doubly oppressed both in the military and outside, were often in the forefront of these actions. But often soldiers of all races and nationalities took part in spite of the heavy efforts of the brass to keep people divided.

The generals and admirals don't look only to the past for their doubts about the reliability of their troops. Resistance is going on today. In recent years there have been numerous scattered outbreaks, from Black GI's refusing to load weapons being sent to U.S.

Continued on page 16

'Decline of U.S. Power'

Imperialists Weep; Call for Defense of their Empire

Sometimes when the capitalists get to blabbing among themselves they let it all hang out. In a recent "Special Issue" of *Business Week* magazine—a mouthpiece for businessmen—they do just that, screaming and yelling in genuine alarm about THE DECLINE OF U.S. POWER. The Statue of Liberty adorns the front cover, a glistening tear rolling down her cheek. But she is hardly weeping for "the huddled masses, the tired and the hungry" that the capitalists are so fond of telling us she stands for. Her tears are for the loss of freedom all right—the only freedom this hag has stood for all along—the capitalists' freedom to maintain what *Business Week* nakedly describes as their far flung "empire."

What smacks you in the face about this special issue of *Business Week* is that the U.S. rulers are obviously crying—crying out loud that "there are signs of U.S. weakness everywhere and cracks are appearing in the system." And these are no crocodile tears for baseball, mom and apple pie, the good old American Way of Life. Gone is the usual pabulum they feed us, their pious pretense of "defending freedom and democracy" to explain their presence in other parts of the globe. *Business Week* puts it straight out: "The U.S. emerged from World War II as an imperial power and has had to live with the problems of empire ever since." A more open confession by the U.S. imperialists of their overlord position in the world could hardly be asked for! Despite all the yak yak they run to the commoners about Soviet "ambitions" and Soviet "domination," it is clear that the U.S. rulers are not against "empire," only against somebody else's empire interfering with their own.

As their introduction laments: "Between the fall of Vietnam and the fall of the Shah of Iran, the U.S. has been buffeted by an unnerving series of shocks that signal an accelerating erosion of power and influence." What follows is a lengthy discussion by the capitalists of exactly how to defend this power and influence, posed as the beginnings of "A New Debate Over Guns and Butter."

But it is obvious early on that what we are being prepared for is guns. Guns to defend the imperialists' butter, skimmed off the blood, sweat and bones of millions around the world, as well as here. And after we wade through all the analysis and commentary provided by *Business Week*, their conclusion stands nakedly exposed—it is time, they cry, to marshal the forces of U.S. military

might for the inevitable armed showdown with their superpower rivals, the Soviet imperialists, to redivide the world along lines even more favorable to the U.S.

Empire Out of the Barrel of a Gun

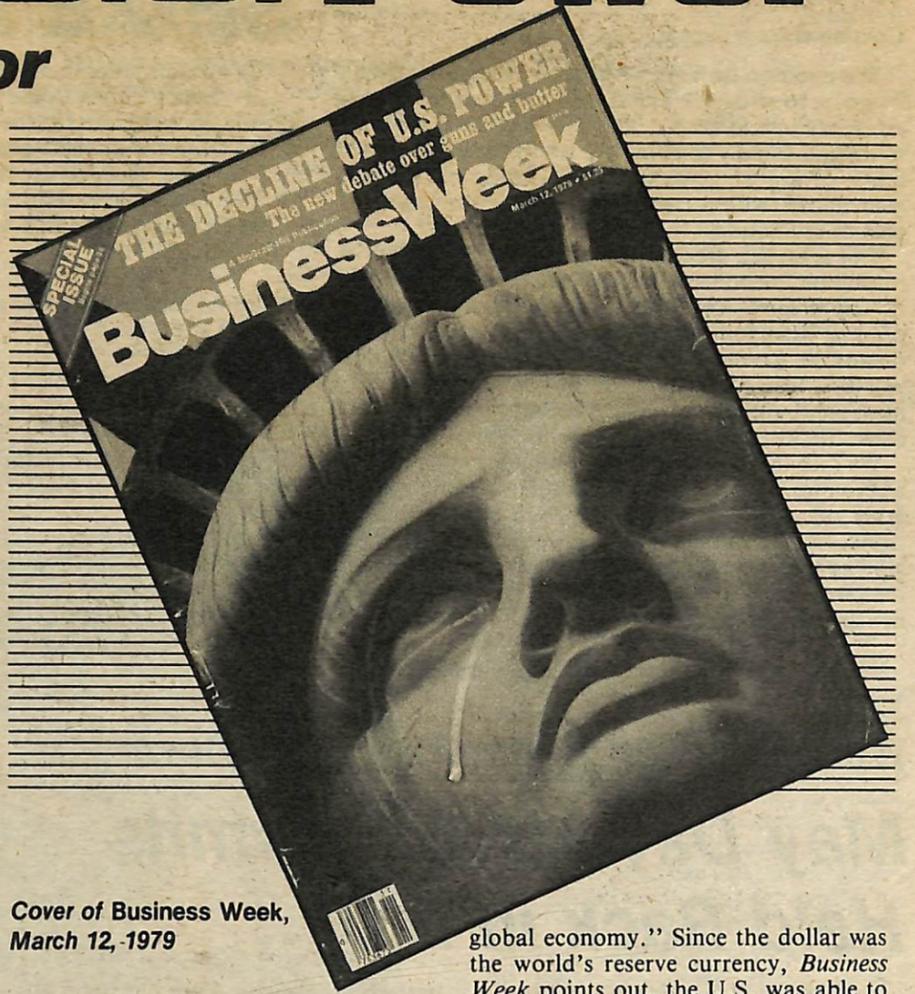
Though they are always nagging us to "vote the nation's troubles away," when they are talking to themselves the capitalists like to get down to the real nitty gritty. "The retreat of U.S. power around the world," *Business Week* makes plain, "goes much deeper than a simple crisis of leadership that could be resolved with a new Administration." Speaking to each other, they skip the pie-in-the-sky promises they reserve for us—"Vote for me, I'll set you free."

The real problem, they repeat several times to make it perfectly clear, is the failure "to recognize the connections between political, military and economic events." Here, from their own capitalist point of view, they are slyly hinting at what the great revolutionary Lenin said, that "politics is an extension of economics... and war is a continuation of politics by other means." Or as Mao Tsetung put it, "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun." They need to fight to guard—and increase—their loot.

This "political problem" hangs out when they write about the Middle East, which they dub "the crescent of crisis." There is hardly a word of their usual phony concern for "the high price and shortage of gas for the American consumer." Instead *Business Week* reveals that what is really involved here is "a struggle for more than oil." "The danger," they declare, "illuminated with stark clarity by the explosion in Iran, is that a vast global shift in political alignments could occur if control of the Persian Gulf's oil were to fall into hostile [read: Soviet] hands."

This would mean, according to Energy Czar James Schlesinger (who is appropriately described as "more a geopolitician than an energy expert"), that "given their dependency on that part of the world, Japan and Western Europe would have to change their orientation." In other words, our strongest allies, these S.O.B.'s, might leapfrog over to the Soviets and swing their guns around toward the U.S.!

Other sections of the *Business Week* special are devoted to more standard lobbying for the economic interests of the U.S. capitalists such as the problems of the multinational U.S. corporations—poor fellows—who are "shackl-



Cover of Business Week, March 12, 1979

ed by anti-bribery and anti-boycott laws" and whose ability to invest more profitably abroad "has darkened considerably" with the decline of the dollar and U.S. influence. They also have "promises" for the people in the form of quotes like, "It is a bitter pill to swallow, but the Americans have to realize their standard of living will have to go down..."

But what fills the whole 60 pages of *Business Week's* analysis is the realization that the answer to the slide of U.S. imperialism's position in the world lies not in this or that particular economic measure but is fundamentally a question of reasserting the kind of political (that is, in the final analysis, military) control it enjoyed in the good old days before Vietnam.

"Banker and Cop"

Take for example their analysis of the decline of the dollar. It, too, is closely tied to military questions. "The U.S. discovered in Vietnam," they tell us, "another of the ancient problems of empire: the high cost of defending its perimeters... The costs of this war began to produce the economic strains—inflation and a weakened dollar—that have haunted the U.S. for nearly 15 years."

But before the imperialists' military defeat in Vietnam, it seems it was easier for them to get over. "As both banker and cop," they brazenly admit, "the U.S. was the guarantor of the post-war

global economy." Since the dollar was the world's reserve currency, *Business Week* points out, the U.S. was able to export its inflation overseas by running continuous international payments deficits. "With its nuclear umbrella and armed forces, the U.S. stood ready to guarantee this open economic system." Open economic system? Open for what? For the U.S. imperialists to shove their crisis down the throats of people in other countries on an international scale and suck away their economic lifeblood at the point of a gun.

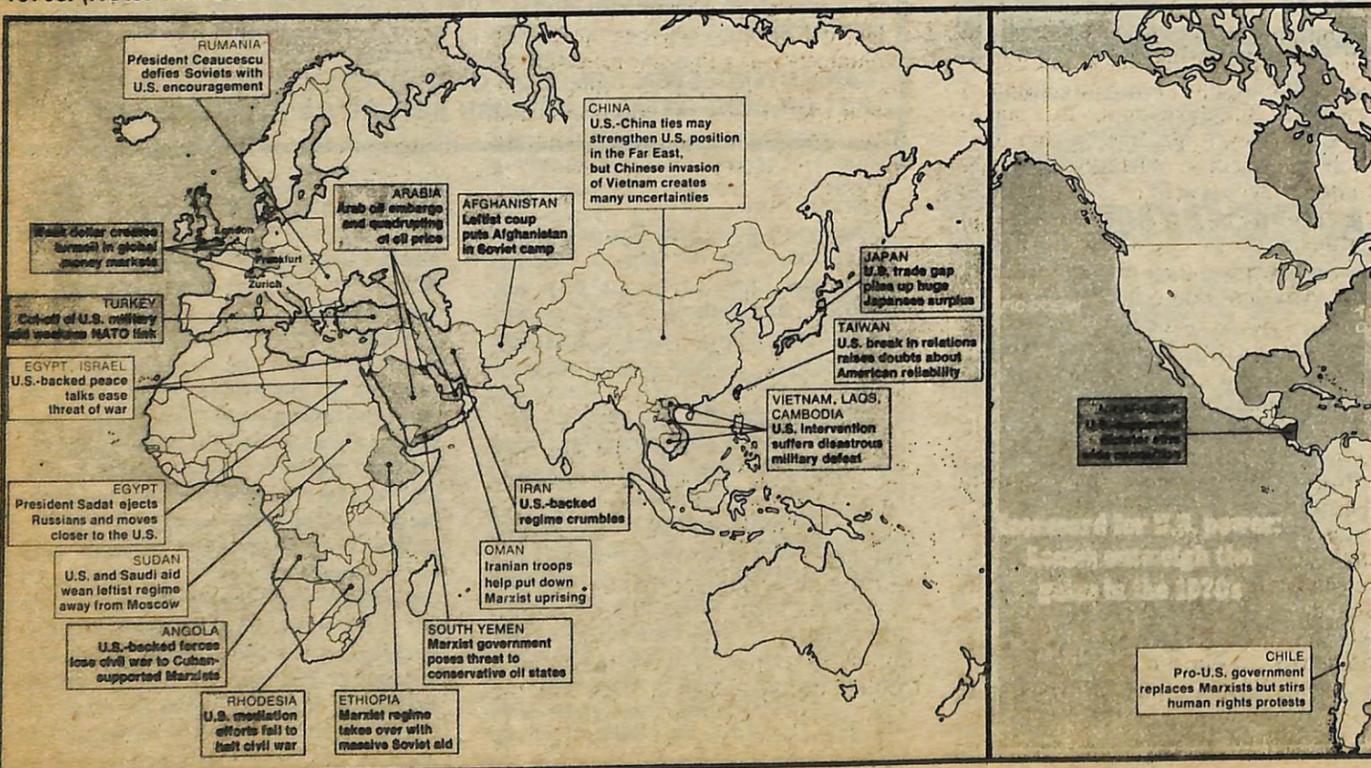
All this "sobering analysis" by *Business Week* serves to confirm the assessment made several years ago by the Revolutionary Communist Party of the deepening crisis of imperialism. As the 1976 Central Committee Report stated: "So, what does it mean that this is a major crisis, not just a 'cyclical downturn' and that it will continue to deepen, despite the temporary and partial 'ups' within this? It means that, as opposed to earlier times in the post WW2 period, when the U.S. economy was hit by recessions, things have entered into a specific downward spiral (not a straight line down) which will only give way to another spiral through a major change in the relation of forces in the world—redivision of the world through war among the imperialists, revolution, or—most likely—both, on a world scale."

Prepare For War

Thus it is not surprising that the *Business Week* special issue concludes by getting right down to brass tacks—bring on the guns! The final section heralds the U.S.'s "new commitment to use military power," particularly in the Middle East. They quote Defense Secretary Brown saying that he promised Middle East rulers that "the U.S. will take a more active role—militarily and in terms of economic development—in the region." And showing that troops speak louder than words, he added, "Our friends there will, of course, wait to see our performance."

Various senators and defense officials are examined at length on their particular suggestions for beefing up U.S. military presence in the hot spots around the world. Senator Sam Nunn wants permanent stationing of U.S. fighters at Middle Eastern military airfields. Others propose stationing a Naval carrier task force in the area. The Joint Chiefs of Staff prefer a combination of both. And, of course, *Business Week* doesn't fail to resurrect the spectre of providing the fodder for all these imperialist cannons: "In the end, the real test of the U.S. commitment to begin serving as its own policeman in

The map below is not the gameboard for "RISK"—it's the real thing! This is how *Business Week* tallied the gains and losses for U.S. imperialism in the 1970s. (Note: There are a lot more losses than gains—RIGHT ON!)



Continued on page 10

CREATE PUBLIC OPINION . . . SEIZE POWER

Continued from page 1

The question isn't are we going to struggle or aren't we going to struggle? The system forces us to struggle every day just to get by. The question is are we going to struggle blindly spinning our wheels or fighting each other; or are we going to lift our heads and struggle *consciously*, with a clear view of our enemy and our goal of revolution.

This is no *idle* dream. We dare not only to dream of revolution but to work unceasingly for the fulfillment of this dream. And there is no more concrete, and pressing work today than the publication and distribution of the *Revolutionary Worker*, a newspaper which will lay a firm foundation for the revolutionary movement and build up the vanguard Party of the working class, the Revolutionary Communist Party.

We face the enormous task of building and unifying a revolutionary movement all across the country, one army of revolutionary fighters with a unified command, acting in common cause with a common guiding line. The great revolutionary Lenin answered the people of his time who belittled the role of such a newspaper like this:

... When bricklayers lay bricks in various parts

of an enormous, unprecedentedly large structure, is it "paper" work to use a line to help them find the correct place for the bricklaying; to indicate to them the ultimate goal of the common work; to enable them to use not only every brick but even every piece of brick which, cemented to the bricks laid before and after it, forms a finished continuous line?

Without such a newspaper as a guide line, the situation is that

... Bricks are often laid where they are not needed at all, they are not laid according to the general line, but are so scattered that the enemy can shatter the structure as if it were made of sand and not of bricks.

In this way the *Revolutionary Worker* will train revolutionaries and will be the basic collective organizer of the Revolutionary Communist Party.

This paper will train a network of fighters, spreading this grand conspiracy far and wide—a conspiracy of slaves to wipe out this hellish system of

wage-slavery that the capitalists dare to call "modern society." This paper is a weapon that will pass from hand to hand to an ever growing number of people, spreading revolutionary ideas, popularizing key battles, and fanning all the sparks of class struggle into a raging fire of revolution.

There could be no better time to unleash such a powerful force, the weekly *Revolutionary Worker*, than on May 1st, International Workers Day, the day when workers all over the world look to the revolutionary future, take stock of the situation and prepare to move ahead. The appearance of this paper is not just a "publishing" event. It's part of a declaration of war on the capitalist class.

We make this declaration looking forward to the 1980s. And in doing so, the Revolutionary Communist Party is determined that the struggles of the future will not just be a repeat of the movement that erupted in this country in the 1960s, nor even the '60s on a larger scale. We are determined and we are preparing today so that in the coming storms of the 1980s we will be ready to seize any opportunity that arises to finish the job. ■

While Oakland Authorities Back Down . . .

May Day March Permits Held Back in D.C.

Washington D.C.—East Coast site of the upcoming national May Day demonstrations. In a clearcut attack on the Revolutionary Communist Party, the permit to march in the streets of D.C. on May 5th has been denied by the Police Department.

Their letter to this effect charges that we caused a "confrontation" with their cops when the Party led the demonstrations against that traitor to revolution Teng Hsiao-ping's U.S. visit January 29.

Although no one has yet been tried or convicted on any charges, they state that we "indiscriminately" "began throwing missiles, nails, broken glass, lead weights and nuts and bolts," "causing injuries to police, civilians, and damage to property." Not only that, but "rush hour traffic was disrupted"!

"As a result" and because they don't have enough police manpower to sic on us that day, *permit denied*. In other words, because the police attacked our demonstration in January, the RCP will never get a permit to march in D.C. again! The ACLU and other organizations have already voiced outrage at this behavior, which is flagrantly out of line even with their own laws.

When people went to the Police Department to challenge the denial, they were turned down flat. A court ap-

peal was scheduled, then put off until only a few days before the demonstration because "it's not very urgent." And now they're stalling on another permit, this one to assemble in a park across from the State Department. Clearly, they are hoping to prevent May Day from taking place at all!

In an equally outrageous attack in Oakland, California (where the West Coast May Day will be held), the Police Department originally denied a permit to march from Lake Merritt to San Antonio Park because the cops said that the brother who applied for the permit was a "troublemaker." They were forced to back down and grant the permit when 75 people confronted the Oakland City Council and exposed this as a political attack on the RCP, pointing out that several other groups were granted permits to march on that same day.

Although still under attack, May Day will be celebrated by the working class in Washington D.C. as well as in Oakland. The Howard Theater is set for the rally and we are confident that around the country including in Washington D.C., people will not allow this outrageous denial of permits to go through and will certainly not allow the police to attack May Day, especially having seen the attacks on the January demonstration. ■

**WHAT WAS MAO TSETUNG ALL ABOUT?
WHY HAS HIS VERY NAME COME TO STAND FOR REVOLUTION?
WHY DOES THIS NAME STRIKE FEAR AND ANGER INTO THE
HEARTS OF OPPRESSORS AND EXPLOITERS EVERYWHERE?
WHY DID MAO AFFIRM THAT MARXISM-LENINISM IS THE
SCIENCE OF REVOLUTION THAT ALONE CAN GUIDE THE
OPPRESSED PEOPLE TO THEIR COMPLETE EMANCIPATION?
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"CAN ANYONE EVEN CONCEIVE OF MAO AS A STODGY BUREAUCRAT OR COMFORTABLE VETERAN RESTING ON HIS LAURELS!"

Iran Continued from page 2

tions again, and the head of the banking system recently announced there would be no nationalizations of any Iranian or foreign banks. The U.S.-trained army is slowly being reassembled (minus a number of top generals), and in many places former SAVAK agents have wormed their way into the "Islamic revolutionary committees" controlled by the Khomeini forces. Thus, even as some of the most hated henchmen of the Shah face the firing squad, many more reactionaries are ready to step in their place.

These executions would not even be happening if the Iranian people had not risen up in arms to overthrow the Shah's fascist regime and drive U.S. imperialism out of Iran. But the revolution is not over, and the U.S. ruling class will be screaming ten times louder about "revolutionary executions" when the Iranian people take care of their unfinished business. ■

Decline

Continued from page 9

the Middle East and elsewhere in the global tinderbox may lie in the resolution of the growing debate over the efficacy of the all-volunteer army and whether to restore the draft."

The debate is clearly not over *whether* to roll out the guns, but what kind of guns and where. And it is also clear who these guns are to be aimed at. People's revolution is one enemy—usually described as "Islamic." But especially lurking behind every page is the growing threat of the Soviet imperialists "weaving a web of encirclement," "encroaching on the fringes of the Arabian peninsula," "entrenching themselves in the Horn of Africa," and generally muscling their way onto U.S.

imperialist turf.

The time is now, yells *Business Week*, to cut loose the old Nixon Doctrine which was "hoisted on its own ambiguities" and return to the "we-will-go-anywhere policies of the Kennedy-Johnson era." "There is growing sentiment both within the White House and in Congress that the U.S. retreat from the exercise of global power has gone too far and the time is ripe for a reversal of that isolationist posture."

Isolationism! Retreat from global power! Is that what they call the CIA-organized overthrow of the government in Chile? Is this what they call arming the Shah of Iran to the teeth and sending 40,000 U.S. advisors to try to crush the Iranian people and keep Iran safe for U.S. imperialism? Is this what they call their recent war pact with Israel and Egypt to act as U.S. watchdogs in the

Middle East? If that's what they mean by "isolationism," it doesn't take too much imagination to figure out just what these imperial dogs have in store for the future.

Though this *Business Week* special is mainly a case of the capitalists giving a pep talk to themselves, it is apparent that the monstrous forces of their system are at work, dragging us toward another imperialist war. Already their loudspeakers of propaganda are blasting how we have to "shake off the torturous memories of Vietnam" and resume our "proper role as leader of the Free World"—a world that is free for these imperialists to plunder. Get ready! Get ready!—blinks the neon message of *Business Week* and the U.S. rulers—to march forward into the meatgrinder and defend the crumbling walls of this blood-drenched empire. ■



Look to the Future Prepare for Revolution!

The following are excerpts from a speech on December 30, 1978, "Look to the Future, Prepare for Revolution," by Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the RCP. On May 5, in Washington D.C. (and transmitted immediately to Oakland, California) Comrade Avakian will make an important speech at the May Day rally, setting forth important plans in actually making preparation for revolution.

Mao Tsetung in 1949 spoke about the need to "cast away illusions, prepare for struggle." I think that's got to be our orientation. We have to look ahead and prepare for revolution—cast away illusions that arise from living in one of the most powerful imperialist countries, one of the biggest bandits throughout the world, preying on people throughout the world, and on that basis having lulled sections of the working class and people to sleep for a certain period of time, having drugged people with the idea that it's possible to get by, and to make it and have a better life by working hard, or having a good hustle.

As we know, this system has its laws. It lives by the law of sucking the blood of the working class and oppressing the people. It is more and more falling into decay, more and more revealing its ugly features and criminal nature and this is banging people on the head and jolting more and more people awake every day. So we have to cast away illusions that arise on the basis of living in a country like this—illusions of prosperity that the ruling class is always trying to drug us with—and recognize very clearly the reality that's before us, the way in which it's developing, the great big questions and the storms that are gathering on the horizon and what our tasks are in that kind of situation. And we have to look ahead—we have to prepare for revolution. We have to cast away illusions and prepare for much bigger struggle.

And think about it—here are the people that rule over us, that tell us they're so high and mighty that no one can touch them, that they've got everything—the army, the navy, the CIA, the FBI, the heads of the unions, the politicians—they have all that. And this they say not only makes them high and mighty but all-powerful, nobody can touch them. Think about it—the Shah of Iran was one of their most powerful flunkies—and he was, so he said, king of kings, lord of lords, shadow of God, dog of dogs. And now he's running off like a whipped dog.

Here is the tremendous powerful living force of 35 million people in Iran making a very direct and unmistakable message not only to the ruler of Iran and the U.S. imperialists who have him on their leash, but to people throughout the world—revolution is not dead. Revolution can never be killed, you can kill revolutionaries, you can shoot it, you can bomb it, you can take tanks, machine guns against it, you can try to pimp off it, and try to hustle off it, but you never kill it and it will never be stamped out.

They are not all-powerful, despite what they control today. True, weapons are important, machinery is important, technology is important, technique is important, but all these things have to be wielded by people, and must be wielded in the interests of one class or another. Even if a machine is automated and runs by itself, somebody has to turn it on, and somebody has to do maintenance on it. Everything in society is created by people, and everything has to be wielded by people. And it's the conscious activism, the dynamic conscious role of the people that will be decisive and victorious in the end.

And this is not an ideal dream, or even worse yet, some nightmare, but it is in fact a living reality that is being brought into being by the struggle of the masses of people even where there are setbacks in the world, like in China after Mao's death. It is a living reality that is being brought into being by the struggle in Iran. It is a living reality that is and will be brought into being by the struggle in this and every other country...

We know people are not yet ready to rise up and make revolution in their masses, many people are coming to the position of seriously considering it, but we know the objective conditions and people's thinking are not developed to that point. But we don't wait until they are at that point to make a scientific analysis of what's required to change this whole thing. We don't lie to people and play along with their illusions and prejudices and tell them today, capitalism is the answer to the problems, just fix it up a little bit, and then turn around tomorrow and say something else again—that's exactly what the bourgeoisie always says communists do.

We won't be little chump firemen with a little bucket of water running around wherever people rise up in flames of revolution saying "Stop, stop, it's too dangerous." This may be called "respectable" and "acceptable." But it isn't acceptable to the people who are oppressed and exploited and who are beginning to have consciousness of their ability to change things, who are fed up with the way they have to live and who want to rise up and fight that. It is not acceptable to go into this and tell them to get back on their knees. This is not acceptable to the proletariat, it is not acceptable to people who rise up to fight back against their oppression, and it is most definitely not acceptable to the Revolutionary Communist Party, which is the vanguard of the working class and the vanguard of revolution in this country and which refuses to go down on its knees and will stand forever with the masses of people wherever they rise up and lead them forward toward the goal of revolution and will never tell them that they should go down on their knees. We will never bring a firehose to douse the flames of revolution that flare up, but we will bring a fan and a big bellows and help the struggle to spread and rage and eventually burn the whole thing down...

Capitalism has long since outlived its usefulness, it can no longer contribute to the development of society, it will constantly force people to rise up in struggle against it even to try to improve their conditions under this rotten system, let alone to try to fundamentally change things and make the world different. So capitalism, despite the victories it might score, and the temporary strength it may have here and there, can't last. It is doomed, and it is preparing now in its death-rattle to show once again in world war, the real nature of the capitalist system. It is preparing, with the contention of the two biggest capitalist exploiters in the world, the U.S. and the Soviet bourgeoisies, to drive the people of the world into a world war and to incinerate tens of millions of people for the cause of determining who will have the most profit and the biggest empire. Such a system cannot last much longer.

The science of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought enables us to understand scientifically that despite twists and turns, even despite serious reversals and setbacks, this is inevitably where our struggle is going. At each and every setback we sum up the lessons and on that basis ascend still higher peaks. It's like climbing a mountain. When you climb you look ahead and the next peak looks like the very top of the mountain—nothing could be any higher than that, you can't go up any higher than that. Then you get up a little further and you say, "Oh, damn, there's another peak." But that mountain does have a top. It's like that guy, Hannibal, who crossed the Alps. There were many soldiers who said that can't be done. Elephants can't go up mountains like this, and this mountain goes up to the sky and never ends. And Hannibal, who was a primitive materialist and not what you call a Marxist of course, said that's impossible, no mountain can possibly go without end into the sky and you will see elephants will go over the Alps. And he was proved correct. And today we know that it's perhaps even more difficult to make the proletarian revolution than for Hannibal to cross the Alps, but we know there is no mountain that

does not have a top, no mountain that goes endlessly into the sky, and this mighty elephant of the proletariat will go over the Alps!

Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought teaches that individuals, no matter how heroic, even truly heroic, no matter what sacrifices they make, cannot change the course of history or determine the outcome of things in the final analysis. The world is going forward to communism, no individual can change that, no matter how bright and brilliant. Their individual role is not the fundamental thing. Does that mean there's no role for individuals? Does that mean all we have to do is sit back and let it happen? No, sooner or later socialism and ultimately communism will triumph throughout the world. But whether it comes more quickly or whether it is put off, is something that people, through their conscious action, can most definitely affect and do affect. If they take up the understanding of the working class and the ideology of the working class and join with its Party in consciously working toward revolution they can play an important role in accelerating the process of victory, of bringing the revolution closer, of shortening the period that people in this country and throughout the world are forced to suffer under the crime and degradation of this system.

Look at Iran. True, the masses of people were suffering and conditions were much worse, the contradictions were much more intense, the crisis was much deeper, and the ability of the ruling class in Iran to make concessions was much weaker than it had been in this country say two or three years ago. But would anyone have predicted a year ago that the movement in Iran would develop with such breadth and depth, with such intensity and that today the regime of the Shah would be on the brink of overthrow, that the army would be unreliable, that U.S. imperialism would be desperately scrambling trying to figure out what's the best way to try to maintain power there? Could anyone have predicted this movement would have developed over the past year with such fury and intensity, accelerate the pace with such a crescendo? Would anyone have predicted that? No, I don't think so. And what this proves is yet another law, a principle that Lenin summed up from the experience of Russia—that with the development of a crisis, economic and/or political crisis, the situation in a country can change very rapidly and dramatically and the mood, the thinking and sentiments and the felt needs of the people, of millions of people, can change in months or weeks...

Our consistent objective must be to be among the people, be consciously and consistently and thoroughly working for revolution, even when 9 out of 10 people or 99 out of 100, or 999 out of 1000 do not agree with us or do not want to hear it today. We cannot fail to unite and struggle with them and show them where their interests lie and prepare them, step by step but always looking to the future, always straining at the limits of where things are today and refusing to get into a rut. Prepare so when the time comes, as it did in Iran, the Party and the class-conscious workers and others working for revolution under the Party's leadership, will be able to have the leadership and influence, and the programme and the line to carry that revolution through to seize power. ■

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Sometimes moaning.
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And mayflies lightly plot to topple the giant tree.
The west wind scatters leaves over Changan,
And the Arrows are flying, twanging.
So many deeds cry out to be done,
And always urgently;
The world rolls on,
Time presses.
Ten thousand years are too long,
Seize the day, seize the hour!
The Four Seas are rising, clouds and waters raging,
The Five Continents are rocking, wind and thunder roaring.
Our force is irresistible,
Away with all pests!*

**NATIONAL
HEROES DAY**

Mao Tsetung

January 9, 1963

Nukes

Continued from page 3

nuke with a ten-foot pole, and no utility company could afford the potential liability.

Rather than abandon their plans, the ruling class transferred the burden onto the backs of the masses—"the public," as they say. A federal law was passed limiting the liability of utility companies in the event of a nuclear disaster to \$560 million and guaranteeing that the government would pay \$500 million dollars of it! No better statement of the capitalists' determination to develop nuclear energy has ever been made.

They want nuclear power plants. They want to keep the ones they've got, and they want to build more. They need them and they intend to have them, come hell or high water. As Jimmy Carter put it at a press conference less than two weeks after the TMI meltdown: "There is no way for us to abandon the nuclear supply of energy in our country in the foreseeable future."

For one thing, they already have over \$100 billion invested in the plants that are now operating. They certainly aren't likely to flush that kind of investment down the tubes.

Despite all their down-time and other problems, they do produce electricity—13% of the electricity produced in the country as a whole, and over 30% in some areas, including in the highly industrialized northeast. It would take over three million barrels of oil per day to produce as much electricity as the capitalists now get from nukes.

Wartime Energy

Oil-generated electricity is much

more expensive than nuclear power. In response to their international balance of payments deficits, the U.S. capitalists would like to replace some imported oil with nuclear energy. But more than that, in time of war the need arises to divert as much oil as possible to military use. In order to do this while at the same time producing enough electricity for industry and other domestic consumption, nuclear power plants are crucial.

Wartime oil supplies are also shaky. As Carter put it, "Our national strength is dangerously dependent on a thin line of oil tankers stretching half-way around the earth." This, too, puts nuclear energy smack in the midst of the growing struggle between the U.S. and Soviet imperialists for world domination.

In this country, the same companies which make reactors for the military (General Electric and Westinghouse) have a monopoly on the commercial reactor market as well. All the technology involved in nuclear energy and nuclear weapons is thoroughly intertwined. For the imperialists—both in this country and in the Soviet Union—it is vitally necessary to continue to advance nuclear technology, and the research, development and production of commercial reactors is an important aspect of this.

As a system, capitalism is forced to do whatever is necessary to survive, and its very survival depends on its ability to expand. This is exactly what leads to wars of conquest and world domination. In this context, nuclear energy has grown to play an important role for the capitalists, both economically and militarily.

This is why Carter made his statement about the U.S.'s need to continue the use and expansion of nuclear

and yet as one, showering him with rocks, sticks and bottles—all the weapons which a broken-down barrio and picnic interrupted by police harassment had given them. He told how from every corner of the park there came the chant "Justice for Joe Torres!"—the chant that according to Rachel Lucas could only have come from "outside agitators"—that—"no one in the community was saying."

From the time the Three were arrested a few days after the rebellion, the state has claimed that this case was "criminal" and not political. In fact, reporters had confidentially told the defendants that AP and UPI had decided not to cover the trial except for the opening and the verdict on the grounds that it was an ordinary criminal case.

But now, while still *claiming* it's not political, the prosecution has changed its tactics somewhat. Before, the Moody Park rebellion was painted as "drunken Mexicans driven to a frenzy by outside agitators." Before, in the trials of the others arrested for the Moody Park rebellion, it was always portrayed as "senseless violence." They got a few shopkeepers to give interviews talking as though the whole rebellion was no more than an excuse for looting. They acted as though Joe Torres' murder had never happened.

But now they are painting a different picture. Through this case and the work that has gone on around it, the political climate has changed somewhat in Houston. Support for the Three has taken hold, especially in the Chicano community. One reflection of this is that recently over a hundred shopkeepers—four out of five asked—put posters in their windows demanding freedom for the Three and defending the rebellion. Now it is more important to the state to throw the Three in jail than it is to continue with the same old slanders about the rebellion.

Now the emphasis is not on portraying it as a "drunken brawl" but on how organized it was. Now instead of talking about random looting they're talking about how directly and consciously the police were the target—and how consciously the whole thing was linked to Joe Torres.

Four out of five cops who've appeared as witnesses, as we go to press, testified that they'd seen one of the Three acting "like cheerleaders," leading hundreds in chanting the hated slogan, "Justice for Joe Torres!" Every

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May, 1979

the COMMUNIST

Theoretical Journal of the Central Committee
Of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA

■ **Beat Back the Dogmatic-Revisionist Attack on Mao Tsetung Thought**

Comments on Enver Hoxha's
Imperialism and the Revolution

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power. It is a question of "do or die" for the capitalist system. And, as always, it is the masses of people who will do the dying, both in the event of a nuke meltdown and in the next predatory war, as long as this system is allowed to live.

Three Mile Island was not just a setback for some utility company, nor merely a blow against nuclear electric plants. It raised some fundamental questions about what kind of murdering system we have here that scatters these nuclear time-bombs in our midst and prepares to use others in a war to save its foul soul. ■

time a slogan was chanted led by one of the Three, a crime is said to have occurred. Video tapes were presented, showing cops being run down by a car, a bakery and cop cars burning, and on a wall the slogan, "Joe Torres Dead, Cops Go Free."

Two years ago, the Houston P.D. murdered Joe Torres. Now, even while the court is systematically excluding any evidence to be presented about this outrageous case and the year long struggle for Justice for Joe Torres, these sick pigs are actually attempting to use the fact that there was mass outrage and a movement around the Torres murder to nail the Moody Park 3.

Typical of the evidence supplied so far to show that it was all somehow a conspiracy was the evidence of taco stand owner Elbert Gorins. This star witness "revealed" that Travis Morales engineered the whole uprising. How did he know? He claims he saw Travis Morales walking in front of him six times that afternoon, and each time Morales was looking at his wristwatch! Another witness claims he heard one of the Three yelling, "Get the bus—it's part of the system."

This would be ridiculous but the state is deadly serious. They mean to use this trial to put the Three in prison and throw away the key. During the seven times he has already been jailed in the last year on made-up charges and astronomical bail, Travis Morales' life has already been threatened.

The whole trial is as rigged as the charges against the Three. It's the "American system of justice" at its most openly vicious. The state doesn't intend to let them get away. For the authorities this whole thing is just a formality, something they have to go through to preserve their cover of "democracy." They would prefer to do away with all this and just get on with the sentencing.

Pack the Courtroom

On April 22, Travis Morales spoke at what will be the first of weekly community meetings held to discuss and denounce this railroad. Despite two days of floods and rain threatening, despite the police repression that has led to constant arrests and frame-up charges of attempted murder against two people from the Northside area around Moody Park who stepped forward to become activists in the campaign to free the Three and defend the rebellion, 60 peo-

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Houston Courts Sentence Prisoner to Death

On April 26, as court was in session in the Moody Park 3 trial, on another floor in the same building Ignacio Cuevas was sentenced to death by lethal injection. He had tried to escape from nearby Huntsville prison. Four men—two inmates and two hostages—were killed by the guards when they recaptured Cuevas. But Cuevas was convicted of "causing" their deaths by trying to escape.

Mrs. Cuevas told the press, "They want to kill my husband, but the police who killed Joe Torres are still free."

A \$1 fine for the pigs who cold-bloodedly killed Joe Torres and death for Ignacio Cuevas. The threat of 20 years in prison for the three who stood with the Houston rebellion, who challenged the lies and the rulers of this system of "democracy." How many tens of thousands more have been murdered or thrown in jail to rot by the hired hands of these capitalists! After you've seen the "American system of justice," what else makes sense but mass armed revolution!

ple gathered right at Moody Park.

Supporters have been excluded from the courtroom—often totally excluded. There is a news blackout. Morales' voice blasts out through the park: "They want to conduct this trial in secrecy, in darkness, out of the light of day, just like the same conditions when they murdered Joe Torres. Just like the vampire who dreads the light of day they have been shrinking in terror in the face of all the demonstrations and all the telegrams from factories, barrios and ghettos from around the country demanding 'Free the Moody Park Three—It's Right to Rebel!'" Pack the courtroom to see pig justice at work. Pack the courtroom and make the filthy capitalists cringe because they can't stand the light of day."

The next day, for the second time in a week, many people of all nationalities come forward to take part in a picket-line outside the courtroom. At first no one is let in. Then, after a fierce argument, *eight seats* are opened to the public.

What are the capitalists afraid of? Can it be that they have finally figured out that the more people know about this case, the more it will explode in their faces? ■

FREE THE MOODY PARK 3!

Houston

Continued from page 1

experienced police brutality against himself, his family or his friends." How can such people be allowed to stand in the way of this legal lynching!

The Prosecution Begins

The first witness was Rachel Lucas, a member of the Wesley Center which houses the police public relations department where Houston's cops learned to give orders in Spanish. Her testimony—a vicious witch hunter's fantasy—could have been written by a team of Walt Disney and Joe McCarthy. Describing how it all began on that day of the Cinco de Mayo picnic—a holiday celebrating Mexico's revolutionary heritage—Lucas tried to paint a picture of a park full of Chicanos so happy and well-behaved that they would never even think of "rioting."

According to Lucas, the park was like a tea party at a rich man's mansion. People sipped lemonade all day from plastic cups and promenaded on well manicured carpets of grass with hardly a stick or a stone in sight. Everything gay and carefree until all of a sudden, at 6:30 p.m. when the nice policemen who'd volunteered their services for the day had to leave for another engagement. Then "Tom Hirschi and two other Anglos began chanting out loud and telling everyone to kill pigs. The people began acting like animals, shouting 'Justice for Joe Torres,' a slogan that is destructive to the community," so says Rachel Lucas.

But even the state didn't really think it could get anyone to believe this nonsense. Her testimony was meant to set the stage, to portray the Three as "isolated" from the Chicano community. The police testimony which followed went to the heart of this hanging matter.

A cop testified about his arrival in Moody Park that night when he drove over patches of grass and dirt, past the open sewers they call restrooms, and onto the gravel pit of a driveway. He testified that when he tried to arrest a man running through the crowd, the people closed in on him shouting, "Don't let the pig get him."

Despite this cop's intentions, a picture emerged of hundreds of people going into motion, acting spontaneously

TV Movie Review

Friendly Fire Takes Aim, Misses Target

It is six years since the Vietnam War ended. By the end of that war, the anti-war movement had grown from a few thousand to millions of people in active opposition to that imperialist war. The movement reflected a deep-seated hatred of the war among millions of American people and a growing questioning on the part of many of the nature of this blood-sucking system itself.

Based on a true incident, "Friendly Fire" (ABC TV movie, April 22) is the story of an Iowan farm family, the Mullins, and their search to learn the truth about the death of their drafted son, Michael. Their angry determination in the face of continual obstacles placed in their path rekindles the burning hatred many felt toward the war, the military and the U.S. government during those years.

Despite its fundamental weaknesses, the film had some positive thrusts to it that were highlighted in a couple of scenes.

On Memorial Day, 1970, a few months after Michael's death, the American Legion places flags on the graves of the local veterans. Gene Mullin defiantly stalks through the cemetery and pulls out the American flag from his son's headstone. In another scene, the couple travel to the home of the Hamiltons, a poor Kentucky farmer family whose son was also killed in Michael's unit. He could have gotten out of the draft by claiming family hardship, but he was "ashamed" to refuse. Peg Mullin says, "We taught them to obey. Do what you are told. But we were so wrong." There is also the case of the Black draftee in Michael's unit who is sent to prison after attempting to shoot a superior

officer who called him a "nigger." This gives a glimpse of the upheaval in the military itself and the relations between officers and enlisted men, where fraggings of officers became increasingly commonplace.

The experience of the Mullins reveals that whatever people's personal aspirations, like this couple's hopes for a quiet life on the farm and a rewarding and meaningful future for their son, the



While Friendly Fire brings forward part of the picture of the movement against the Vietnam war, there is no mention of the revolutionary aspects of this movement as seen here, when 1500 celebrated the victory of the Vietnamese over U.S. imperialism.

ugly, blood-stained hand of capitalism reaches down to tear their dreams asunder. Like millions of students, working people, teachers and veterans, the Mullins were drawn into political life in opposing the war.

The film nonetheless is one the bourgeoisie can live with. Nowhere in the film are our rulers confronted with a picture of their true nature and that of the war, as one of imperialist aggression and plunder. The anti-war movement is characterized in the film in terms of the most backward forms of opposition during those years; a movement centered around lobbying Congress, writing letters to senators, and holding demonstrations to pressure the powers-that-be into changing their "policy" of pursuing the Vietnam War.

This stands in sharp contrast to the

very militant forward thrust of this movement through which many came to see the imperialist nature of the war and the face of the real enemy here at home, the U.S. ruling class. Instead of drawing this larger picture from the Mullins' experience, the film smothers these flames of hatred for the war, and the storm of struggle it unleashed, under a cloak of one family's personal tragedy. Nor is mention made of the living hell Vietnam became for the Vietnamese: the horror of napalmed bodies, the My Lais, the burned out craters where villages once stood. Even though the Mullins are disgusted with the military's version of the truth, their own search for the truth is portrayed as never reaching beyond the death of their son or the personal distress of other veterans' families to the truth behind the war itself.

The film answers the question, "Why Vietnam?" by describing it as a "senseless," "immoral," "undeclared" war; an "insane mistake," a bad policy kept going by the government's (in the person of Nixon) efforts to save face. The imperialist system that gave rise to the war is never brought into question.

What really threatened the U.S. ruling class was the development of the understanding through the anti-war movement that Vietnam was a just war of liberation being waged by the Vietnamese people, and a war of aggression on the part of the imperialists. What really threatened them were things like vets throwing away their medals on the Capitol steps in the 1971 demonstration led by Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and vowing to fight to "take those steps." This is something the bourgeoisie can not live with, and something they will try to crush as they prepare for a third world war. It is something we must keep alive and build upon. ■

War Issue

Marines Stand Up to Brass

The brass don't like a soldier who thinks too much. They want soldiers to join up in the Marines, Navy, etc., and prepare to fight the enemy when the time comes. If a soldier thinks too much, he begins to question just why he is preparing to fight, who he is preparing to fight, and who he is fighting for.

So when people in Hawaii started handing out leaflets at the Kaneohe Marine Base about a conference on World War 3 to be held by the RCYB in Honolulu, there was quite a response from the GIs on the one hand and from the brass and the lifers on the other.

Lots of guys said they wanted to check the conference out. They said that for them it wasn't too hard to figure out that something is brewing between the U.S. and the USSR, and that's why the Marines are looking for "a few good men," because the ruling class needs young "bodies" to go off and fight in the next war.

One marine especially liked the idea of this conference. He took a whole pile of leaflets to give out to his friends. He even put one up on a bulletin board in his barracks, and pinned a sign-up list for rides next to the leaflet. In no time, a lot of people had signed up.

That's when the brass flipped their gold-braided caps. The officers went wild, the lifers ranted and raved about the conference. They ripped the sign-up list off the bulletin board. They made threats against any GI who went. But the Marine who put the leaflet up came to the conference anyway—as did a number of enlisted men from the Marines and the Navy. They refused to be intimidated. ■

Maurice McCracken, a 73-year-old Cincinnati minister, has been locked up in the Hamilton County Jail since mid-January. He has already had to be hospitalized once and remains in poor health, partly because of the fast that he had maintained during his first month of imprisonment but more because of his age and the stinking conditions in jail. It is no exaggeration to say that his jailors are fully prepared to let this man die. In fact the judge who ruled to incarcerate McCracken said, "He can remain there until the end of time."

McCracken had been subpoenaed by the court to testify in a Grand Jury hearing against two prisoners who had escaped from Lucasville Prison in Ohio. The two, along with John Conte, also a prisoner of Lucasville, who had corresponded with McCracken for years, had held McCracken hostage for two days last November, releasing him unharmed. Conte was later shot and killed and the other two were captured. The Grand Jury was called to indict the two survivors on kidnapping and other charges.

When the subpoena was thrust on McCracken, he took a stand. "I will not testify!" When threatened with contempt of court charges, McCracken didn't budge. "I will not in any way aid the state in the prosecution of these men. They were right to escape the hole called Lucasville." This was consistent with McCracken's long-standing fight against prisons. He calls for their abolition and has united with the struggles of prisoners against the many abuses they face.

The black robes who preside over the court exploded with rage. They squealed loudly in the press, "How dare he, this is sheer defiance, utter lawlessness!" The judge in charge gave McCracken one last chance to "come to his senses," but again McCracken refused to bow down before him and his "sacred authority." "I do not have to follow their rules," he stated. "I question their right to dictate to me what I must do." That did it. The rulers howled, "This cannot go unpunished, this is a terrible example for the com-

munity to have before them." They threw him in jail, ready to make good their promise to throw away the key along with McCracken.

The onslaught in the press continued about how McCracken's stand was a terrible blow against "a whole system of justice." But it fell on many deaf ears. And in fact, it backfired. Thousands of people from many different backgrounds and classes were outraged at the lockup of McCracken. The attempts to make him out as a criminal got reversed, as many saw the courts as the criminal instead. A movement sprang up, with weekly demonstrations and pickets at the courthouse, and rallies and benefits being held with as many as 150 attending.

Many of Reverend McCracken's close supporters view the abuses of the system as flowing from evil individuals. They think that all men can be persuaded to "do good" by appealing to them individually. For example, the message on a picket sign for the judge who had sent McCracken up, read, "Open up

your heart, Judge Stone, let Mac out!" But the judge already had opened up his heart when he locked up McCracken, revealing what is in fact at the heart of the "law"—that the state apparatus of the ruling class exists to maintain its dictatorship over the masses of people.

And it is exactly because McCracken challenged their absolute dictatorship that he is in jail. He is being punished not only for his act but so that others will not follow suit. It is precisely because McCracken's act was an act of rebellion that many have come to support him and his stand, and many have come to see the fight to free McCracken as yet another dividing line in the battle between the oppressed and the oppressors.

The fight is building as May 2 nears. At that time, according to the law, the Grand Jury must be reconvened and McCracken called on again to testify—or he must be released. Many are planning on attending a rally on the Saturday before the 2nd, eager to take a stand against the tyranny and ruthlessness of this system. ■

Cincinnati Minister Jailed for Contempt

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Amin

Continued from page 5

questionable Alaska International Airways to supply Amin with his only C-130 transport aircraft.

With this history of U.S. support for Amin, why all the condemnation of his regime over the last few years? Simple. Amin proved an unstable lackey, and began to shift allegiance to the chief imperialist rival of the U.S., the Soviet Union.

Amin Makes a Shift

During the early 1970s, the U.S. had been weakened by its defeat in Indochina, and there was a growing climate of militancy in Asia, Africa and Latin America. In this situation, Amin began to take some actions and make some noise so that he could strike a better deal and look more like a militant leader. Like every other African head of state, Amin began to denounce Israel's interference and expansionism in Africa, including its military and other support for racist South Africa.

But it's clear that this and the posturing noted earlier was anything but anti-imperialism. (Israel, in fact, actually trained and armed Amin's army

in the early '70s.) It aided the Soviets in Africa who increasingly gained influence in Uganda, wooing Idi to their side, contending with U.S. influence.

Radio Moscow would typically report, "Uganda's foreign policy has a distinctly anti-imperialist character. The country has taken a firm stand against imperialist neo-colonialism and racism in Africa at every international forum." This fits in with the Soviet's overall strategy of increasing their own imperialist plunder by relying on a phony socialist cover. Their stooges also get falsely labelled as "revolutionaries."

In November 1973, a Soviet military commission visited Uganda. By 1975, Amin had received \$12 million in economic "aid" and \$48 million in military "aid." All this in "the interest of peace and security," according to the Soviet Ambassador to Uganda.

The recent war was fought with Soviet weapons. Amin's air force was mainly made up of MiG's, his ground troops supplied with Soviet tanks, artillery and small weapons. But even the Soviets saw which way the wind was blowing and decided to abandon Amin, retreating temporarily and allowing the U.S. to again gain the upper hand in Uganda. This was clear from their refusal to come to Amin's aid against Tanzania.

No imperialist has ever had second thoughts about dumping a lackey if the

lackey was either no longer useful or if continued support would create more problems than it would solve. This was true of Amin. He was viewed as very unstable, unpredictable, shifting allegiances and playing one side off against the other. The Ugandan economy, already devastated by imperialism, grew worse, and Amin was no longer able to provide the "stability" needed by the imperialists to carry out their plunder. All agreed: Amin had to go.

Superpowers Line Up Blocs

So now in eastern Africa the Soviets have had a setback, Idi Amin is gone, the U.S. is rejoicing in its gains and Tanzania has joined it. These events only underscore the fact that contention between the U.S. and USSR is today the major factor shaping events throughout Africa.

Various forces and states which while not thoroughly revolutionary in the past opposed the imperialists to one degree or another are increasingly folding under the weight of the two superpowers and lining up with one or the other. While Amin was always clearly a stooge, it is true that Nyerere has taken progressive positions in the past. He has supported liberation struggles and blasted the imperialists for

their robbery of the continent.

But recently he's been bending—relying more and more heavily on the imperialists. Foreign funds presently supply 70% of Tanzania's development budget. The U.S. World Bank has given Nyerere large loans. Moreover, the 1 million dollars a day which it cost Nyerere to fight this three month war certainly didn't come from his own bank account!

But his pro-U.S. role in Uganda shows that forces like Nyerere are absolutely incapable of thoroughly opposing imperialism. This is because the class which Nyerere represents is stuck between the imperialists on the one hand and the masses on the other. These national capitalists oppose imperialism to the extent that it oppresses them and limits their political and economic development.

But uncompromising struggle against the imperialists requires fully mobilizing the masses, which the national bourgeoisie can't do for fear of losing its own position on top of the masses.

Sucked into the cesspool, Nyerere has now done a job for the U.S. So while Idi Amin's overthrow has produced revolting lies by the U.S. of "the end of tyranny" in Uganda, for the Ugandan people events of the last two months have only added yet another chapter to the bloody legacy of imperialism in Africa. ■

CPML

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It goes on to say that "The company has used this action to close the cafeteria gate to the plant during lunchtime. This makes it harder for us to go out for lunch, but more importantly, it makes it almost impossible to go to the union hall across the street." It's hard to tell which is more disgusting here—the incredible pettiness of the "letter writer," the rank concern for his/her stomach above all else—or the "condescending savior," pity-the-poor-dumb-workers attitude it betrays toward the rest of the people in the plant.

And even taken on their own terms, who is the CPML mad at—not the company for responding to revolutionary politics with silly harassment, no not them, but the RCP for raising such politics! And along with that, it is the CPML that poses the workers' trade union activities against—and tries to elevate them above—the raising of revolutionary politics among the workers. Perhaps the CPML is afraid the workers won't bother to cross the street to vote petty hacks from the CPML, or even more fat-assed chumps the CPML is sucking up to, into union office?

That these are exactly the kinds of concerns that motivate the CPML is revealed in the other letter in *The Call* attacking the RCP's revolutionary work around the struggle in Houston. This letter has a clever title, "RCP: Fools at Ford," and it mounts a withering criticism of the RCP for raising the issue of the Houston rebellion and the Moody Park 3 at the Ford plant in L.A. Just listen to the following blistering denunciation! "They stand out there with their stupid banners trying to preach at the people who drive by." Could this be the foremen or the plant manager talking? Nope, it's only the CPML "communists"—only a pale imitation and pitiful flunky of the capitalists. The CPML's "revolutionary" activity at this plant is to run around directing the workers' attention to getting behind the new local president as some kind of "messiah" for the working class. Haven't we seen this act before—a few years ago it was the same antics by members of the CPML (then called the October League) in the GM plant in Fremont, California. What is your summation of that, CPML? Why did the savior you attacked revolutionaries for not worshipping then turn out to be a rank opportunist?

But since then the CPML has degenerated even further. When Henry Ford II came to visit the L.A. plant, "Free the Moody Park 3!" appeared in spray paint all over the main entrance. That rude and crude RCP again!

Understandably, the CPML was duly outraged and went around muttering about the broader issues involved—how this unsightly and distasteful graffiti was downright disrespectful and destroying company property! You don't believe that "communists" would actually act this way? Well, neither do we, but that contradiction is readily resolved once it sinks in that the CPML is after all not communist in the least, despite its name (which is the *only* thing communist about it).

The letters in *The Call* and other actions of the CPML around the Moody Park rebellion make this very clear. For example, much of the CPMLers' time at this same Ford plant was consumed several months ago in running around showing workers there a letter from the Houston D.A. pouring out venomous slander against the Moody Park 3 in response to a militant telegram sent to this D.A. by workers in a San Jose, Calif. G.E. plant. What did the CPMLers say about all this? Did they unite with the G.E. workers, who had been led by RCP members and supporters to uphold the righteous rebellion in Houston and defend the Moody Park 3? No, the CPML cited this D.A.'s foaming and oinking as proof that "The RCP is isolated from the people"! Nothing is too low for the CPML in its desperate attempts to justify its attacks on oppressed people for rising up against their oppression and on revolutionaries who stand with and give political leadership to such struggle.

But since the CPML feeble apologists for capitalism call themselves "communists," they put up a pretense of

social-worker type concern for the Chicano people in Houston and elsewhere. Even as they attack the struggle in Houston, they have the nerve, and ignorance, to say that "...after nine people were arrested in the Moody Park demonstration, the RCP only wants to defend three of them."

The CPML just can't help themselves. Here they are trying to show that the RCP "doesn't care about the masses" and instead they just show that the CPML doesn't know—and doesn't give a damn—about any aspect of the struggle in Houston, the most important uprising of the oppressed in years in this country. Note how the CPML, with the stroke of its pen, transforms this rebellion into a "demonstration." And, with their sanctimonious talk about "caring for the masses" they don't even care to know that there were over 50 people—not nine—arrested in the Moody Park Rebellion. From this it is not hard to judge what kind of work the CPML has done in defense of these "nine." And their attempt to divert attention from this by slandering the RCP is as foul as the rest of their antics. As anyone who has had anything to do with or has even followed the struggle in Houston knows, the RCP has consistently raised the demand "Drop the Charges Against All Those Arrested" in the Moody Park Rebellion.

But the RCP has correctly focused its attention in recent months on supporting the Moody Park 3, since they have become the focus of the bourgeoisie's attack on the Houston rebellion. Defending them is a concentrated expression of support for the rebellion, for the

powerful blows it delivered against the bourgeoisie and the revolutionary potential it exploded forth, not just among the Chicano people but the broad masses of workers and oppressed people in this country. The masses of people, Chicanos and others, in Houston and around the country know or sense this, and that is why they have rallied in increasing numbers to the revolutionary banner raised by the Moody Park 3 and to their defense. The CPML knows it too, and that is why they have joined in the reactionary chorus of slander and outright attack on the Moody Park rebellion, the Moody Park 3 and the Revolutionary Communist Party, whose line guided the Moody Park 3 in their revolutionary stand.

The CPML is a perfect example of those—especially but not exclusively among the petty bourgeoisie—who are discontented with their present lot under capitalism but who are incapable of seeing beyond the confines of capitalism, who are frustrated because they do not have enough capital and privilege themselves, are blocked by the existing monopoly of wealth and power in the hands of the present ruling class, but are even more terrified at the hurricane-force uprisings of the masses, especially as they begin to have revolutionary leadership and assume a more revolutionary character. This explains why the CPML, while seeking to adjust the existing situation in society and even calling itself "communist," launches such hysterical attacks against the Moody Park rebellion, the Moody Park 3 and the Revolutionary Communist Party. ■

Draft

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backed forces in Angola to sailors on the USS Midway refusing to sail and holding a press conference exposing the U.S. preparations for war. There is also the Pendleton 14 case where 14 Black Marines in Camp Pendleton, California were busted after an incident in a long fight against open KKK organizing on base. They won the support of many GIs and others across the country and even overseas.

The U.S. army has one big problem. Since the rich and powerful are not about to go off and fight, they fill their army with those of all nationalities whom they oppress and exploit. Is it any wonder they have "reliability" worries? This is always true, draft or no draft.

In fact, one of the big reasons the All-Volunteer Army was set up was because the drafted army during the Vietnam war couldn't be relied on to carry out

the imperialists' aims. There were massive demonstrations, wholesale desertions and refusals to fight, and even many instances of GIs turning their guns on their officers as "fraggings" became a common occurrence.

The volunteer army was supposed to provide a more loyal and professional army, but their problems have not gone away—they've just begun. Now they're spinning around once again to bring back the draft. This is bound to increase opposition to their imperialist war moves a thousandfold both inside and outside the military. But they're on the horns of a dilemma. Massive quantities of cannon fodder is needed.

Oppose the Draft— Oppose Their War Preparations

The draft must be opposed along with all their war preparations. Already widespread anger has erupted as plans to revive the draft are becoming known. This opposition has exposed and thrown a wrench in the works of their moves toward World War 3.

But the significance of fighting the draft is not that it will be able to stop them from getting their army. The stakes are high in the battle of reactionary giants, the U.S. and the Soviet Union, and they will get their army by whatever means they have to resort to. In fact, the only thing that can stop them is revolution. But every blow struck against the draft and all war preparations weakens these blood-drenched masters of war politically and can strengthen the working class forces for the coming showdown.

But if these bloodsuckers do plunge the world into war before they can be overthrown and throw the working class and oppressed people into uniforms and put guns into the hands of the masses to preserve and defend their empire, we must be ready to point them in the right direction. We must work to turn their imperialist war into revolutionary civil war, to turn the guns around, wrap the imperialists in their blood-soaked flag and put them and their criminal war-breeding system ten feet under. ■