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SECRET SERVICE'S SECRET WAR ON BOB AVAKIAN

The government's attack on Chairman Bob Avakian of the Revolutionary Communist Party is escalating sharply. One week ago it was a Secret Service phone call and a knock by an SS agent on a Revolutionary Worker Center door. Now this has become a nationwide chorus of SS agents and pigs of every kind snorting up a storm, creating wild rumors and fanning hysteria about "wild violence-crazy revolutionaries" — Bob

Avakian in particular. These agents are working hard to cook up something foul. They've timed this, of course, to coincide with the general patriotic hysteria they've whipped up around Iran. They want to crush every bit of revolutionary opposition to their sick schemes on Iran along with overall revolutionary leadership against them and their capitalist system.

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Send the Shah Back/Hands off Iran Delegation: (left to right) Fred Hanks, Lisa Radcliffe, Clark Kissinger, Franklin Glenn, Carol Downer and Rebecca Chalker.

American Delegation in Iran Blasts U.S. Gov't.

The *Send the Shah Back—Hands Off Iran Delegation*, a delegation of 6 American political activists, recently arrived in Iran. Despite a general press black-out in this country to date, the appearance of this delegation punctures holes in the lies being spread by the media that the American people are lining up wholesale behind the current anti-Iranian flag-waving hysteria.

In a statement delivered at a press conference in Tehran, Iran on Dec. 8, the delegation said: "We are a diverse group of Americans who have tem-

porarily left our homes and families to travel to Iran to express our sincere support and concern in this hour of crisis. We, like many other Americans, know full well that the current situation was provoked by the U.S. government when it deliberately brought the murderous ex-Shah back to the United States. The United States government had complete knowledge in advance of what the consequences of this provocation to the Iranian people would be... We demand the immediate return of the ex-Shah together with all others who have com-

mitted crimes against the Iranian people and who have fled to the U.S. to avoid the righteous wrath of the Iranian people..."

Around the country, Ad Hoc Committees to Support the Send the Shah Back—Hands Off Iran Delegation have been formed and are reaching out to mobilize broad and active support for the delegation and the struggle against the U.S. in Iran. The Ad Hoc Committee released the following brief biographies of the delegation members:

Clark Kissinger—Clark is a longtime political activist and was the National Secretary of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) from 1964-1965. He was one of the organizers of the first national march on Washington, D.C. to end the war in Vietnam in 1965. In 1971, he helped found the Chicago chapter of the US-China Peoples Friendship Association (USCPFA) and was the National Vice Chairman of the USCPFA from 1974-1975. He has been a maintenance electrician in Chicago area factories for nine years.

Carol Downer—Carol is the founder of the Self-Help Clinic, and the founder of the Feminist Women's Health Center in

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Greensboro, N. Carolina, December 10. In the second hanging trial in the Greensboro kangaroo court in one week, on Monday, December 10, nine RCP supporters were found guilty and sentenced on charges stemming from a police attack on a rally to build support for the speaking tour of Bob Avakian in the Hampton Homes housing project. Eight people were convicted of inciting to riot, resisting arrest and a noise violation and sentenced to 18 to 24 months in the state prison. One was convicted of violating the city noise ordinance and sentenced to 60 days in jail. Charges were dropped on one woman who the cops forgot to "identify" in the courtroom. The nine defendants have appealed the case.

From start to finish the government used this trial to take care of some political dirty work: to drive home the point of the massacre of five anti-Klan demonstrators that it's open season on revolutionaries and make the criminal KKK murderers out to be victims; and to paint a picture that the RCP is a crazy bunch of terrorists which dovetails neatly with the latest Secret Service attack on Chairman Bob Avakian. The courtroom at sentencing on Monday was a virtual "Correctional Who's Who," as cops, sheriff's deputies and FBI agents filled more than half the courtroom. Among the pigs present was the police lieutenant who led the Greensboro police participation in the Greensboro massacre, Lieutenant Daughtry, who had nothing to do with this case. He just came to watch the communists get it.

Friday morning, when the trial started, over a dozen SWAT-team members armed with sniper rifles were visible on surrounding rooftops while defendants and supporters picketed the courthouse and sold *Revolutionary Workers*. A line of cops guarded the lobby. As in the trial of four RCYB members the previous Tuesday, sentenced to a year in state prison for leafletting a classroom at the university, people going into the courtroom were frisked thoroughly. This was the same court where last week Jack Baller, one of the Klan assassins, had a bail hearing—no guards, no SWAT team, no frisking, no sweat, Jack's just one of the "good ol' boys." All those supporters and observers who had nothing directly to do with the case (except the

Vicious Legal Assault Continues in Greensboro

cops, of course) were ordered out of the courtroom, but not before they had all been searched and had a heavy message laid on them about the threat of violence from these "wild communists."

Judge Campbell denied all motions by the defense including a motion to uncover surveillance reports that would have shown that the arrests came out of a conscious plan by the highest authorities to stop Bob Avakian from being heard in Greensboro. The prosecution's "case" consisted of a parade of police witnesses who spun a web of lies aimed at portraying the RCP supporters as violent, mindless robots. Their hideous fairy tale began with the story that the cops came into the projects during the rally because of the complaint of a poor middle-aged Black woman about the noise. Everybody in the projects knows who made this "complaint"—she is a hated reactionary who spies on her neighbors and reports the names of people who read the *RW* to the housing authority.

"Mad Dog" Murdock, a Black cop,

took the stand to lie, denying that the first thing he did at the rally was to tell the crowd, "Don't listen to that shit, don't listen to those honkies." Through his testimony and that of another Black cop, Wilson, it becomes clear that their aim was to stop the word of Avakian's speech from getting out. Wilson, who had ordered RCP supporters to stop talking to people in Hampton Homes, stated that, "I knew something was going to happen." Of course he did—the police had planned to arrest the revolutionaries. Of course, the cops also failed to mention that the people from Hampton Homes shouted them down, yelling, "Uncle Tom."

"Mad Dog" is the first to come up with the lynchpin of the prosecution's case. He testifies that after the arrest of the second person—for violation of the noise ordinance (this person was struck in the groin and thrown on the trunk of the patrol car)—the RCP supporters started yelling, "The revolution is now, go home and get your guns and kill the pigs!" Cop after cop repeats this tale, some openly embellishing their story on

the spot. Wilson points out half the defendants, saying that he heard them specifically say, "Kill the pigs, the revolution is now, get your guns." "That's all of them I remember," he said. Led by the prosecutor, he continues down the row of the defendants, testifying that he heard each one say these words, even though they were in the midst of a crowd of angry shouting people. Because this pig's "identification" was the only evidence against most of the defendants, Judge Campbell was forced to dismiss the charges against one woman who was not identified.

One freaked-out cop testified that one resident of the project put herself and her children between the cop and a revolutionary, shouting, "You won't hit these children!" Another complained of his injuries, saying, "I was in pursuit of the suspect when I failed to observe the curb." In other words he tripped.

When the defendants took the stand to testify what they had really said at the rally, and that the arrests were a blatant attempt to keep the word about the trial of Bob Avakian and the Mao Tsetung Defendants out of Hampton Homes, the prosecutor did not even try to shake their testimony. In a courtroom tactic that put the finishing touches on this tale that was a sick combination of Walt Disney and McCarthyite redbaiting, the prosecutor posed three questions to the defendants: "Are you a member of the RCP?" "Are you very loyal to Bob Avakian and the RCP?" and "Do you think it's all right to break the law to further the goals of the RCP?" While the prosecutor delivered his closing statement the judge was methodically writing the sentences.

The prosecutor in his closing argument summed up the government's purpose in this trial, "It all boils down to a question of whether you want to believe officers sworn to uphold the law, or a group which says that it is acting in solidarity to overthrow the law." A likely FBI agent in the courtroom, on hearing the verdicts, klucked, "We have us a good one here." What he meant was a clear declaration that the government had intended to use this trial against the Party and especially in building up its Secret Service case against Bob Avakian.

GREENSBORO'S PRESS FOR PROSECUTION

In the wake of the convictions of four Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade members who were sentenced to one year in jail for leafletting at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNC-G) and 10 RCP supporters who were sentenced to 18 to 24 month jail terms for leafletting and agitating in the Hampton Homes projects to build for Bob Avakian's speech in Greensboro, the press in Greensboro has gone wild. With the willing help of Judge Frank Campbell and North Carolina Civil Liberties Union Director George Garner, the *Greensboro Daily News* went out for blood in their rabidly reactionary Dec. 6 article on the conviction of the 4 RCYB members:

"Legal observers were also critical of the RCP's courtroom tactics. Gardner was one of these. Instead of squarely facing the charges of trespassing and disrupting classes, the defense chose to argue the case as 'persecuted revolutionaries with all the truth in the world,' Gardner said. 'It was a dumb defense.'"

"During the three-hour trial Tuesday, the defense maintained, among other arguments, that the RCP activists were within their First Amendment rights in attempting to arouse support among UNC-G students.

"Many observers agreed that since the evidence against the defendants was convincing, they should have owned up and asked Judge Campbell for mercy.

'The wisest thing to do,' said Gardner, 'is to apologize and promise to behave in the future and ask for consideration. That probably would have gotten them a suspended sentence.'

"A prominent Greensboro lawyer said the 'total lack of contrition' could have been crucial in the sentencing. 'That's why the law gives a judge discretion (in sentencing),' the lawyer said, 'If both the defense counsel and the defendants themselves show no contrition whatsoever, the judge is very likely to lean toward the heavier end of the (sentencing) scale.'

"He said an apology and a promise to stay away from UNC-G almost certainly would have spared the defendants active jail terms."

But this wasn't the bottom line. The article goes on:

"I think they deserved it,' said Terry Williams, editor of the campus newspaper. He and other students said they have been annoyed by the RCP's campaigning on the campus.

"UNC-G Chancellor William Moran said he was glad 'the issue was addressed as promptly as it was.' He said the sentences will deter further disruptions."

The same article spreads a whole raft of lies about the Hampton Homes arrests in an effort to do whatever possible to sabotage the appeal of the case:

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Iran Crisis Heightens Tensions in U.S. Bloc

Chief mechanic for U.S. imperialism, Jimmy Carter, hawked last week that the U.S. was going to "tighten the screws" on Iran with an international trade embargo. For weeks Carter has been repeatedly voicing thanks for the widespread support the U.S. has been getting from its allies, and warning Iran that the whole civilized world is against them. But now that it has come down to the crunch, Carter's call for imperialist solidarity has fallen somewhat flat. Japan, France and others have balked at Carter's cry of "all for one." They prefer instead to follow capital's golden rule, every exploiter for himself and look out for number one. And to add insult to injury, even long-time lackey the Shah is complaining that the U.S. dropped him like a "dead mouse" when it became apparent last January that keeping the Shah on the throne was a losing cause.

While the U.S. has been threatening Iran with economic retaliation since the embassy takeover, last week Carter really put the machinery in gear. He announced that the trade ban would be used if the hostages were put on trial. ABC claimed inside information that the U.S. is beginning to launch an economic campaign to "bring down Khomeini" if the hostages weren't released by December 20. The State Department denied the report; they have been afraid to set any deadline ultimatum not because of what might happen with the hostages, but what might happen to the prestige of the U.S. if it can't make good on its ultimatum. And the U.S. imperialists have plenty to be worried about.

They have been earnestly trying to get this international boycott off the ground. First they sent one delegation headed up by undersecretaries of the State and Treasury to get Western Europe and Japan to put their money where their mouth is, since they have all condemned Iran in the United Nations. Apparently this delegation was not too successful, for another delegation led by top hatchet-man Cyrus Vance himself, followed immediately. Then the dirty laundry started hanging out. Following a meeting with Japan's foreign minister, U.S. officials began openly blasting their allies. Virtually ac-

cusing Japan of sabotaging the U.S.'s embargo efforts. "While not unique, the Japanese have managed to be the least responsive of all our allies... on a scale of 1 to 14, we would put it somewhere around 1 on the degree of concern they have shown for our hostages," said one official. House speaker Tip O'Neil accused Japan of "consorting with the enemy" and said, "You're either with us or against us." Japan's banks were also accused of undercutting the U.S.'s freeze on Iranian assets. But Japan has not been alone in its refusal to either curb the Iranian oil imports, cut back on its trade, or freeze Iranian assets in the U.S. overseas banks. Even though they have cut back their oil imports from last year's levels, both France and Italy have continued to buy Iranian oil. And not one ally has agreed to freeze Iranian assets being held in U.S. overseas banks.

The official Iran crisis spokesman, Hodding Carter, with self-righteous indignation, denounced U.S. allies who have decided to "beggar your neighbor," and profit from U.S. ill fortune. Another official, when asked why it took so long for the U.S. to blow the whistle on France, said he "simply did not believe American allies would try to exploit U.S. misfortune in the immediate wake of the Iranian takeover." All this shock and dismay from the world's biggest gangsters, who have for years been dumping their economic crisis on their dear allies in the U.S. bloc, and ripping off the entire world, is really quite touching!

The bourgeois press is describing the change in the U.S. government's tune about international solidarity as the U.S. is "through being Mr. Nice Guy." But what they're really upset about is that their imperialist allies are putting their own interests ahead of U.S. interests. These allied virtues are caught in a bind. They are all tied into the U.S. imperialist bloc, and are all U.S. boys, making up the U.S. war pact against the Soviet gang. But at the same time, these smaller birds of prey are faced with slumping economies and greater dependence on Mideast oil (especially Japan) and they are desperate to keep their own acts together, which means



Solidarity comes hard when your basic rule is "Watch out for number one." The U.S. is having difficulty getting its lesser imperialist allies to rally around the American flag. Here Secretary of State Vance holds a London meeting with British Prime Minister Thatcher in pursuit of this goal.

keeping the oil coming and keeping the profitable Iranian trade. Besides, as Japan angrily indicated, in its answer to U.S. accusations of backstabbing and exploiting U.S. misfortunes, "What's good for the goose is good for the gander." They mentioned that U.S. oil companies had been planning to cut back their sales to Japan. So it's every turkey for itself!

The U.S. bourgeoisie has also been complaining of lack of support from its allies for any prospective military action against Iran. *Time* magazine reported that the closest allies of the U.S. in Europe and the Middle East are all agreed that it would be a mistake for the U.S. to "punish Khomeini by using American power to destroy Iran's airfields or immobilize its oil production. Even the Saudis, though they are fond of saying that the U.S. should throw its weight around and act more like a superpower, are terrified at the notion that this might happen in their own

backyard." According to *Time*, the British have put forward the view that such military action would damage U.S. interests in the Middle East "more deeply than anything that has happened since the Anglo-French assault on Suez in 1956." They are concerned that this would trigger widespread revolt in the Arab countries against the reactionary governments that have lined up with the U.S. bloc and the resulting possibility that Western Europe and Japan might be deprived of oil. A British expert is quoted as saying, "America with some belt tightening, could survive an Arab oil boycott. For Europe, it would be an event of apocalyptic proportions." The irony for the U.S. imperialists is that the position of their allies vis-a-vis Middle East oil, is a result of the U.S.'s own top-dog domination of the region's oil in the first place.

But the U.S. has not given up on

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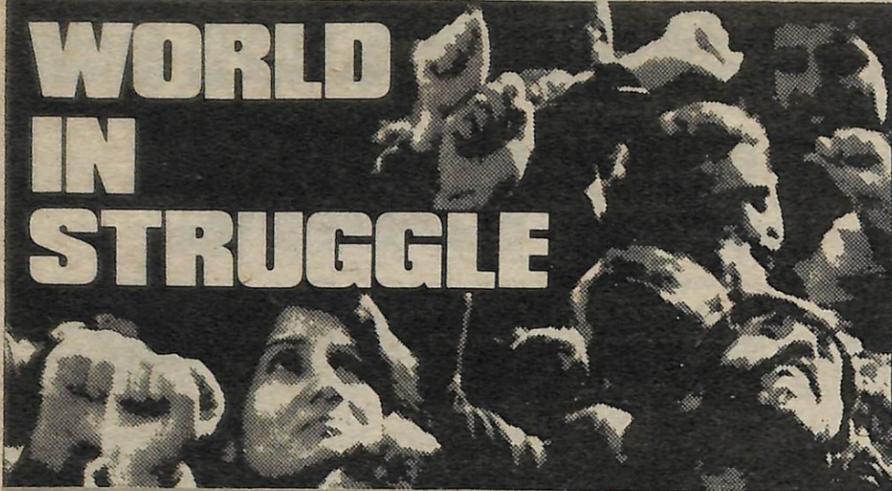
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WORLD IN STRUGGLE

El Salvador

On December 10th five thousand women, many well dressed and ringed by armed men, marched through the streets of this capital city of El Salvador, calling for an end to "terrorism, violence and anarchy." Called by the "Crusade for Peace and Work," made up of businessmen's wives, women professionals and office employees, the march was announced in large half-page ads in December 7th Salvadoran newspapers. It was supported by the National Association for Free Enterprise (ANEP), an organization of businessmen and industrialists. Businessmen throughout San Salvador let their employees off work to join the march, and people from throughout the country reportedly were bused in.

The march went to the presidential palace, where members of the ruling junta came out and "expressed their gratitude" at the sight of this support. This thinly veiled and officially backed attempt to attack the growing revolutionary movement was met by people throwing dirt clods and rocks, and later clashed with a counter demonstration of two thousand people, leaving seven dead. Despite the all-out build-up, the march only drew half the number that came out November 28 in a demonstration called by the FENASTRAS, the National Federation of Salvadoran Laborers Unions, to oppose the bloody junta.

People's resistance throughout the country is growing, with demonstrations taking place virtually every day. This is so much so that the Ministry of Labor, a favorite target of takeovers by revolutionaries, complained of being paralyzed. Employers have scouts around the city watching for the first sign of demonstrators coming so they can immediately clear the buildings.

In the face of this opposition, the junta was desperately trying to rally the middle classes behind it with the Dec. 10 march. This has not solved their problems, but only has made them worse.

Saudi Arabia

For years Saudi Arabia has been pictured by the U.S. media as an "Island of Stability" in the Middle East, just as they cynically used to portray Iran. But trouble is brewing in Saudi Arabia—trouble for the U.S. imperialists and their loyal allies, the royal sheiks and princes who make up the Saudi ruling class. While the nature of the takeover of the Grand Mosque in Mecca is not clear, this event, and even more the mass upheavals in the country in recent weeks, indicate that Saudi Arabia is far from an "Island of Stability." And

while an iron-fisted news blackout has been maintained on recent events within the country, information leaking out indicates that the Saudi rulers and their U.S. masters are freaking out as mushrooming unrest is suddenly "destabilizing" this oil-rich nation that has long been subservient to the dictates of U.S. imperialism.

Just two weeks ago clashes broke out near the Ras Tanura refinery close to the city of Dhahran, headquarters of the Arab-American Oil Company's giant oil operations, and at Khafi on the Persian Gulf. 20,000 Saudi troops were dispatched to seal off the oil-producing area after several days of fighting between demonstrators and authorities in which an employee of ARAMCO was killed along with an undetermined number of protestors. In Beirut, Saudi sources admitted that thousands of people took part in the upheavals and demanded that Saudi Arabia stop supplying oil to the U.S. and that the Saudis support the revolution in Iran! It is also known that there have been numerous acts of sabotage in the oil fields in recent months which have been passed off by the Saudi rulers as "technical accidents." Opposition to the House of Saud has even reportedly spread to some elements of the Saudi Army and even to the elite National Guard. Last month, the Saudi regime arrested hundreds of opponents within the police, the military and the educational system.

It is not surprising that resistance to the Saudi rulers is flaring up in the oilfields, where there is growing discontent among the hundreds of thousands of workers the Saudis have imported from other Middle Eastern countries. In fact over half the workers in the whole Persian Gulf area are immigrant laborers (graciously referred to by *Time* magazine as "guest workers") who have had to struggle against vicious exploitation by U.S. imperialism and its Arab comprador rulers, including such semi-starvation practices by the U.S. oil companies as basing successive increases in the minimum daily wage on the cost of a diet containing the exact number of calories to keep a man and his family barely alive!

The vast majority of the population of Saudi Arabia is non-Saudi—Palestinians, Yemenis, Egyptians, Iranians, and even South Koreans and Filipinos. These workers are subjected to heavy control, check and suppression. Special passes are even required for admittance to the barracks where they sleep, which are segregated according to nationality to prevent fraternization among these oppressed peoples and eliminate any contact with native Saudi workers.

The security of the U.S. war bloc and their plans for war depend heavily on continued oil production by Saudi Arabia, which supplies 20% of American oil imports alone, not to mention its allies in NATO. With Iran no longer in their control, Saudi Arabia is absolutely necessary to U.S. imperialism, not only because of the vital oil supply, but also because it has taken Iran's place as the key U.S. policeman in the area next to Israel. The U.S. is beefing up the Saudi Armed Forces with sales of 60 advanced F-15 fighters to be delivered starting next year. The Defense Department announced last Tuesday that it also plans to sell the Saudis more than 6500 bombs, including Sidewinder air-to-air missiles, Maverick TV-guided missiles, laser-guided bombs and cluster bomb units.

But with Saudi National Guard troops rushing around to beef up protection for the hundreds of major and minor princes who make up the Saudi ruling family and to protect U.S. consulates and corporate installations, fear is mounting among the U.S. rulers that the Saudi rulers are losing their footing. One Saudi official expressed their fears when he said: "I fear that Saudi Arabia is now the target of a massive conspiracy to topple the ruling families of the Gulf and place the oilfields within the grasp of new forces that will never see America as a friend." Indeed, this "massive conspiracy" is none other than the burning hatred for U.S. imperialist domination that is driving the oppressed people in Saudi Arabia forward. And, as the demands of the demonstrators in the Saudi oilfields show, they are drawing inspiration from the revolutionary actions of the Iranian people in standing up to U.S. imperialism.



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Struggle, Intrigue in Tabriz

The U.S. continued its twisted path of intrigue and dirty dealings in Iran this week, seeking to undermine the Iranian people's resistance from within. All of a sudden, the U.S. has become a real "fan" of revolution, after actively working for years through the Shah and others to crush these peoples by force of arms and terror. Of course, they are no fan of real revolution at all. They have been looking to turn the people's rebellion in Azerbaijan province against the new reactionary constitution into one that would help the U.S. efforts to get rid of Khomeini and replace him with a pro-U.S. regime. At the same time, the U.S. is looking especially to the pro-U.S. so-called moderate elements on Iran's Revolutionary Council to swing a deal for release of the hostages without returning the Shah.

The media in this country have paid special attention to the struggle going on in the northern province of Azerbaijan, home for several million Iranians of Turkish descent. The story that the bourgeois press has been feeding people here is that the Azerbaijan eruption is a "religious and ethnic" struggle between the "liberal" Ayatollah Shariat-Madari and the "fanatic" Ayatollah Khomeini, and that the masses of people are simply their blind armies.

The U.S. has clearly promoted Shariat-Madari as the good guy and has been splashing around his statement about the "possibility of civil war" in order to get the imperialists' idea across, that should Khomeini get iced or otherwise removed, it will be due only to Iran's internal strife. But this picture doesn't jibe with what has actually been going on in Azerbaijan. When Khomeini and the Revolutionary Council called on all Iranians to vote "yes" on the Islamic constitution, some 80% of the Azerbaijani people boycotted.

The masses raised the slogans of democracy and national autonomy. They have a proud history of being in the forefront of the revolutionary struggle against the puppet Shah's regime, and for independence and democracy. Last September, nearly the entire population of Tabriz, Azerbaijan's big-

gest city, rose up and took over sections of the city, ransacking the hated U.S.-dominated banks. Their rebellion played a key role in the overthrow of the Shah. When they boycotted the referendum, the Azerbaijani people were making it clear that they had not fought this far only to re-submit to national subjugation or renewed imperialist domination.

When Shariat-Madari made what really was a mild criticism of the constitution, his home in the holy city of Qom was attacked by reactionary Moslems, probably the "Revolutionary Guards." Enraged at this reactionary attack, tens of thousands of people in Tabriz took to the streets and seized control of radio, TV and government buildings. In turn, forces acting in the name of Khomeini seized the buildings back in bloody street fighting. Iranian army units, whose loyalty is probably split between Khomeini and Shariat-Madari, then occupied the buildings.

U.S. Scheming

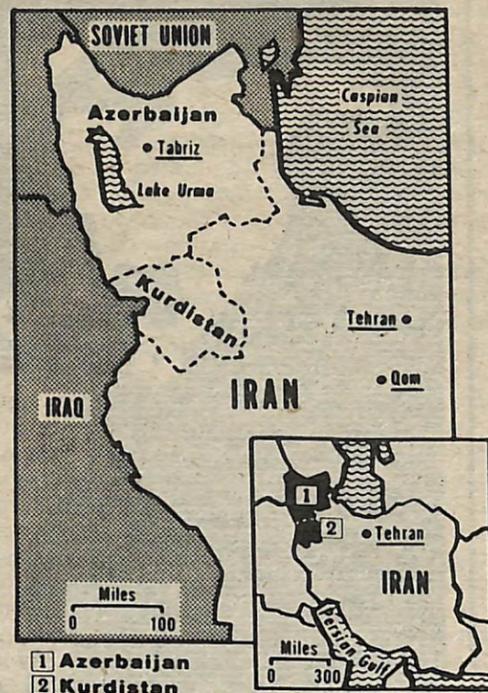
Khomeini has repeatedly condemned the struggle in Azerbaijan as the work of "imperialists and Zionists." But while Khomeini has labeled all opposition to the constitution "imperialist," nevertheless the hand of U.S. intrigue can be found meddling in the struggle in Azerbaijan. The students holding the American Embassy have produced documents that clearly implicate Moghadam Maraghi, who was the former governor of eastern Azerbaijan, as being in league with the U.S.

The students turned up Maraghi's passport with a new American visa in a section of the Embassy kept for people getting special treatment. They also displayed a memorandum dated Sept. 29, recounting a meeting between Maraghi and U.S. Ambassador Laingren. The memorandum stated that Maraghi told Laingren that the U.S. must persuade Khomeini to make Iranians think that the U.S. had accepted the Iranian revolution. Oh, sure they have! Further, Maraghi told Laingren that "the time will arise when it is Shariat-Madari's turn."

While Shariat-Madari doesn't seem to have any direct connections with the U.S., it's also clear that the U.S. has been championing him as the big opposition leader to Khomeini; the *Christian Science Monitor* calls him "a Mahatma Gandhi figure," "an easy man for Westerners to idealize." Shariat-Madari was allowed to continue to live in Iran under the Shah, and was the top religious leader after Khomeini was exiled in 1963. While the people of Azerbaijan were giving their lives in the struggle to bring down the Shah's filthy regime, Shariat-Madari was calling for the Shah only to step down, but stay in Iran as a figurehead. Privately, he has spoken against the Embassy takeover, even though the Azerbaijani people have made it clear that they stand with the students and even Khomeini's still continuing support of the takeover. Shariat-Madari is not a progressive like the Kurdish leader Hosseini. While Hosseini sent a message of solidarity to Shariat-Madari, his statement made clear what he was supporting. He specifically congratulated the people of Azerbaijan in the common struggle for national autonomy in the minority areas, and for democracy in all of Iran.

But while there is strong evidence of U.S. attempts at intrigue in the Azerbaijani struggle, the ruling Revolutionary Council is none too clean of the odor of U.S. imperialism, either. Interestingly enough, when the Revolutionary Council picked Bazargan (who is an Azerbaijani) to go to mediate in Tabriz, Bazargan, according to the *New York Times*, picked none other than Maraghi to accompany him. In addition, it is significant that the pro-U.S. Bani-Sadr was sent to Tabriz by the Revolutionary Council, and that Yazdi, who was the first of the pro-U.S. moderates to go down in the Embassy takeover upsurge, has surfaced again. Khomeini has named him to be a troubleshooter to go around the country and hear people's complaints.

The U.S. is counting on the influence it has with these and other dubious and reactionary elements in Iran's ruling circle to swing Khomeini to accepting



Map shows two provinces in Iran inhabited mainly by national minorities or oppressed nations.

the U.S. "package proposal" that Carter laid out last week. The U.S. is generously proposing that if Iran would release all the hostages, the U.S. would agree to let them have an international forum at the U.N. to publicly condemn the Shah. The forgetful imperialists are really leaving out the crucial element: their installing the Shah, the Iranians' just demand for his return, and the continuing U.S. coup plots—now openly discussed.

They have wanted dearly to be able to do a Teddy Roosevelt "charge up San Juan Hill" routine in Iran, but they have been too afraid of getting their butt whipped politically and militarily. While the threat of military attack is a definite danger, and while even now the imperialists are threatening full-scale economic war against Iran, the fact remains that the U.S. high and mighty haven't been able to force Iran's people onto their knees. ■

5 Years for Reading a Book

The Supreme Court last week rubber stamped the 1974 frameup of ex-Portland State professor Frank Giese on phony charges of conspiring to bomb two military recruiting stations in January 1973. Satisfied that justice had been done, the court refused even to hear the case. Giese's fingerprints, found on the pages of a copy of the book, "From the Movement Toward Revolution," was the heart of the government's case against him.

Giese had been an early and outspoken opponent of the imperialist war in Vietnam. In 1966, he took part in a peace walk from Portland to Salem. When the campuses erupted following the invasion of Cambodia and the murder of four Kent State students by national guardsmen, he supported the student strike at PSU. In the middle of the class he was teaching, Giese saw hundreds of pigs in riot gear amass and attack student demonstrators. He cancelled class and ran out to stand with the students against the police onslaught. The next year, in 1971, he started up and funded a radical bookstore which helped to make revolutionary literature available in the Portland area.

The influence of Giese's progressive ideas was too much for the authorities to handle. The police seized on two bombings in recruiting stations in the same week to step up their harassment and repression of political activists, including Giese. They found his prints on a book in the San Jose apartment of people they would charge with

the bombings. The feds, who had had Giese under surveillance since 1965, jumped at the chance to nail him.

The testimony of those busted for the bombings changed in the course of the trial. Yes, they suddenly "remembered" Giese was involved in the planning. According to them, he was involved in the whole thing. A shady character named McSherry got his bail dropped from \$100,000 to \$1,000 and was released on a \$100 bond in return for his "testimony." He has yet to do any time. Lynn Meyer, who traded his lies for promises from the authorities to go easy on him, has since freely confessed his perjury in letters to the judge.

But the *coup d'grace* came when Giese himself took the stand. The D.A. ordered him to read sections from the book that "linked" him to the bombing including "armed struggle is the only solution for people who fight to free themselves" and "revolution in the final analysis is armed struggle, revolution is violence, revolution is war, revolution is bloodshed." Defense objections were overruled. The prosecution's twisted logic went like this: Giese's prints were on the book which the D.A. described as a manual for urban guerrilla warfare. Therefore, Giese must have been involved in the bombing.

In his closing statement, the D.A. attacked Giese as "sick," "a wolf in sheep's clothing," and "a very dangerous individual," arousing the

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Cockroach Intelligence Agency

If the cockroaches in your apartment are wearing trench coats and sunglasses, and scream "Diplomatic immunity!" when you go to kill them, you aren't losing your mind. They may be part of the CIA's latest "bugging" operation.

Covert Action Information Bulletin, a publication devoted to exposing the CIA, has the scam on the scam in its Oct. 19, 1979 issue. The CIA, it seems, wanted to know if a certain man was visiting the apartment of a New York socialite they suspected of being a go-between in a spy ring. So the master buggers concocted their cockroach scheme. It went something like this: "The CIA's technique employed a pheromone, a chemical secreted by female cockroaches which sexually excites males. In closely confined quarters, male roaches exhibit severely agitated behavior in the presence of the female pheromone, even if only minute quantities are present.

"A CIA agent followed the target onto a crowded subway during rush hour, and deposited a small smear of the pheromone on the man's jacket while

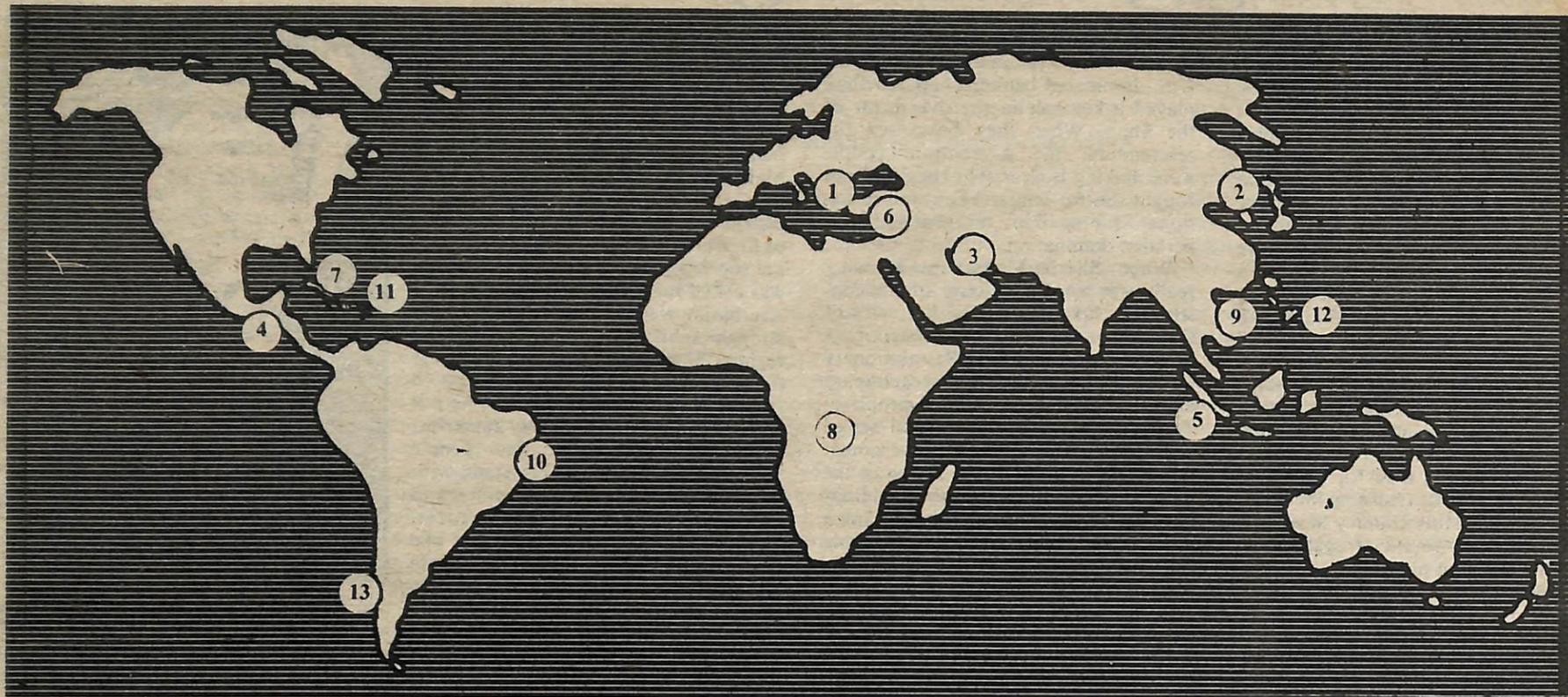
crushed against him. Later, CIA agents surreptitiously entered the socialite's apartment with a cage of male cockroaches. When the roaches went wild, the CIA concluded the man had been there, as they had suspected all along."

Aside from the fact that this is an obviously demented method of tailing someone, and as *Covert Action* pointed out, an extremely expensive one (it took nine months to extract 12.2 milligrams of pheromone from 10,000 virgin female cockroaches), it is worth noting that the CIA has finally surpassed the FBI (they miss J. Edgar Hoover, don't they?) in kinkiness. It will take some doing to top this one. Imagine, such preoccupation with the sex life of cockroaches.

And it may turn out that many agents who occupy themselves crawling around spying on people may find themselves out of a job in light of this new discovery.

Think about it, all you CIA operatives: you can be replaced by a cockroach—an insect that, like yourselves, lives out its life immersed in garbage. ■

What Does the U.S. Mean By International Law?



"The principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other nations is both a tenet of the United Nations and of the foreign policy of the United States, and that includes respect for the territorial integrity, political independence and sovereignty of Iran. The United States respects the right of the people of Iran to choose their own future through institutions of their own choosing."

Donald McHenry, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, in a speech at the UN, Dec. 1, 1979.

Below we present a partial history of U.S. "respect for the territorial integrity, political independence and sovereignty" of other countries. And this is just some of the history, since World War 2.

(1) 1947-49. The U.S. provides massive military aid to Greece to save the monarchy from extinction at the hands of revolutionary insurgents. It was part of a plan to set up a U.S.-dominated "Greece-Turkey-Iran barrier" to "keep the Soviet Union out of the Middle East."

(2) 1950-53. Under the guise of a "UN police action" the U.S. invades Korea. Before their defeat, the U.S. troop levels reached 300,000.

(3) 1953. The CIA sparks a coup in Iran, ousting the popularly elected government of Mohammed Mossadegh and installing the fascist Shah. His murderous regime, responsible for the slaughter of over 100,000 Iranians including 10,000 in a single day shortly before he was overthrown, was kept afloat for more than a quarter of a century only through massive infusions of U.S. military "aid."

(4) 1954. The CIA orchestrates a coup in Guatemala, overthrowing the progressive, popularly elected government of Jacobo Arbenz Guzman.

(5) 1957. The U.S. stages an unsuccessful coup attempt against the Sukarno government in Indonesia. A later effort, in 1965-66, succeeded. Between 500,000 and 1,000,000 people were slaughtered in the process.

(6) 1958. Fourteen thousand U.S. Marines invade Lebanon to put down a threatened civil war and to replace President Chamoun, a hated U.S. puppet, with one who is less exposed and more able to "maintain order."

(7) 1961. The U.S. sponsors the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion in an effort to over-

throw the government of Fidel Castro. Since then, the CIA has cooked up several unsuccessful plots to assassinate Castro.

(8) 1961. The CIA carries out the assassination of nationalist leader and outspoken anti-colonialist, Patrice Lumumba, in the Congo. The U.S. intervenes militarily, again under the cover of a UN mandate, as a "pre-emptive measure" to prevent the possibility of "a pro-Soviet coup."

(9) 1962. Six hundred U.S. air combat troops arrive in Vietnam. Two years later there were 25,000 American troops there, and by 1967 the number had reached a half million.

(10) 1962. The CIA launches a massive anti-communist propaganda campaign in Brazil, with 80 weekly radio programs, 300 hours of radio and TV advertising, a flood of canned editorials in the press, billboard ads, a glossy monthly magazine distributed free of charge and a rented editorial page in Rio de Janeiro's evening paper, *A Noite*. The U.S. also organized and funded anti-government demonstrations in preparation for the 1964 right-wing military coup.

(11) 1965. Fourteen hundred U.S. Marines invade the Dominican Republic.

(12) 1972. The U.S. puppet Marcos of the Philippines declares martial law and halts plans for a constitutional convention and democratic elections.

(13) 1973. The CIA engineers a fascist coup in Chile, unleashing an onslaught of torture and murder that continues today.

The U.S. has propped up every type of tinhorn fascist dictator around the world since World War 2, and has trained literally hundreds of thousands of police and military personnel from these countries in the "art" of torture and counter-revolutionary terror. From 1946 to the present, the U.S. has spent tens of billions of dollars on military "aid" to prop up unpopular regimes.

These are but a few highlights in the resplendent history of U.S. "non-interference in the internal affairs of other nations" that Ambassador McHenry was bragging about in his speech. A complete list would fill volumes. Not all of their adventures have been successful—their most glaring defeats being the Korean war and the war in Vietnam. But no matter how often (or how badly) defeated, the imperialists are driven to try, try again.

Delegation

Continued from page 1

Los Angeles. She is the mother of six children and is on the board of the National Abortion Federation. Carol was the recipient of the first Margaret Sanger Award given for outstanding achievement in women's health. She toured the U.S., Europe, and Mexico sharing self-help with women there. In 1977 she was arrested in Tallahassee for criminal trespass while on a consumer inspection of a local hospital's childbirth practices.

Franklin Glenn—Franklin graduated from Stanford University and attended law school at Berkeley. He was an officer in the Marine Corps and a military lawyer in Vietnam. He worked for the Santa Clara County Public Defenders Office and practiced there with Rose Bird, now a California State Supreme Court judge. He then went into practice in San Jose. Because of his experience in Vietnam and the injustices he saw as a public defender, he became politically active. A well-known attorney for political prisoners, Franklin has defended the San Quentin 6, Gary Lawton in Riverside (acquitted of murdering two policemen), Doc Holiday (a political prison reform organizer) and most recently Paul Sky Horse in the Sky Horse-Mohawk case.

Rebecca Chalker—A graduate of Florida State University with an MA in English. A free lance writer, Rebecca

has written a number of articles, and is currently working on a book on women's health. She worked at the Tallahassee Women's Health Center and has been working with Carol at the Los Angeles Women's Health Center for a year and a half. Rebecca wrote an article on the WATCH (Women Acting To Combat Harrassment) trial in Tallahassee, the trial of women arrested for going into a hospital to inspect childbirth practices.

Fred Hanks—Twenty-nine years old and a resident of Detroit. Fred is a Black army veteran and a member of Vietnam Veterans Against the War, who was stationed in the 82nd Airborne Infantry from 1968-1971. In May, 1970, along with a quarter of his company, Fred refused to be sent to Washington, D.C. to bear weapons against anti-war demonstrators. In that same month he refused orders for Vietnam, went AWOL for nine months, spent time in the stockade for it, and ended up with an undesirable discharge. Last year Fred was fired from Chrysler for building support for the Iranian people's revolutionary struggle among workers in the factories. Fred is one of the VVAW 57, Vietnam Veterans Against the War who were arrested after seizing the Washington Monument on November 12, and displaying a banner.

Lisa Radcliffe—A student activist at UC Berkeley, Lisa has frequently spoken on campus about Iran and U.S. involvement there. She is a long-time supporter of the anti-Shah movement

and a close associate of the Iranian students in the United States. She was an active participant in numerous coalitions involving various American organizations and progressive foreign students; associations which supported the Iranian peoples' movement against the Shah and the U.S. in Iran. She is the former Chairwoman of the Ad Hoc Committee in Defense of the 100,000 Political Prisoners in Iran, under the Shah's rule. Lisa traveled throughout Iran in the summer of 1978 and brought back her rich experiences to further build the anti-Shah, anti-U.S. imperialist movement.

The delegation has been warmly received in Iran and its historic visit has received very extensive press coverage there. The text of the delegation's most recent statement, received in the U.S. on December 11, follows:

"Touring the fabulous palaces of the ex-Shah, reading documents from the liberated embassy, examining with wet eyes the ID photographs of bodies of those martyred after the torture, listening to voices of people on the streets, photographing torture chambers of SAVAK, and listening with disgust to American journalists making snide remarks while touring slums created by the American-sponsored White Revolution have given us even greater certainty of the correctness of our demand for the return of the Shah and the cessation of all U.S. military aggression against Iran..."

"Despite whatever differences and problems which may exist within Iran

and are, with wishful thinking, overstated by the American press, no one in America should underestimate the determination and unity of all people of Iran to resist at any sacrifice, any attempt at U.S. military intervention. Coupled with this, and most moving to our delegation, has been the universal distinction made by the Iranian people between the American government and the people of America. Over and over again, on the street, in taxi cabs, and in formal meetings, they have embraced us and said to us, "Please. Go back to America and tell people the truth. The American people are our friends."

"We understand from the American press that unidentified State Department spokesmen expressed dismay that any American would travel to Iran to "encourage the Iranians." May their dismay increase tenfold and be transformed into unrestrained panic as tens of thousands across America take up struggle to expose 26 years of the U.S.-backed regime of the Shah and the continuing attempts by the U.S. government to again sink their claws into Iran."



Gov't. Bars Black Minister's Visit to Iran

Reverend W. J. Stafford, pastor of the Free For All Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia, has been ordered by officials at the top levels of the U.S. government not to set foot outside of Georgia. This move prevents Stafford from carrying through with plans to join the *Send the Shah Back/Hands Off Iran Delegation* (see article, page 1).

As reported in the last issue of the *Revolutionary Worker*, Stafford and Abdul Muhammad, the Muslim associate pastor of his church (which includes both Christian and Muslim members) held a press conference on November 29 at which they declared solidarity with the Iranian peoples' righteous actions in seizing the U.S. embassy in Iran and upheld Iranian demands for the return of the Shah to Iran. Stafford wanted to visit Iran, see first hand the just struggle that is going on there, and bring back to the American people the truth about that struggle. But the U.S. government evidently got wind of Stafford's intentions and put out "the word" through a visit from the FBI: Stafford is restricted to Georgia "until this thing is all over with."

The basis for the government's grounding of Reverend Stafford is a complicated legal situation resulting from an FBI investigation several years ago into his financial and political activities. The authorities had long taken notice of Stafford; he was active in the civil rights movement since childhood and briefly served time in jail for refusing induction into the U.S. Army during the Korean war. He opposed U.S. aggression in Vietnam during the war's earliest stages. And his Free For All Baptist Church had more of a reputation for raising hell about social injustice on earth than it did about sending souls to heaven. In 1977, Stafford refused to testify against activists he was working with in a government sponsored program and as a result was framed up on charges of defrauding the government. Pleading *nolo contendere*, he was railroaded into jail for ten months plus probation.

Recently Stafford understood that he had completed his probation and asked permission to go to Europe. He was given an okay by his probation officer, but when his church's stand on Iran was made public, his attempts to get a passport ran into new problems. After Stafford was asked to go to Iran as part of the American delegation, the probation officer told him he had just heard from Washington, through a visit from the FBI, that not only could Stafford not leave the U.S., he could not go outside the state of Georgia. In the maze of legal technicalities swirling above Stafford's head, it appears that four years have been added to his probation due to a dispute over whether his sentences were to run concurrently or consecutively. The judge involved was conveniently "out of town." In any case this time Stafford can't leave Georgia without getting permission from his probation officer.

The bold stand of Stafford's church has been another example of increasing numbers of people opposing the U.S. imperialists' vicious designs on Iran. Stafford and Muhammad lashed out at President Carter for "protecting the criminal the Shah" and called on the U.S. government to "return the Shah to his homeland to be tried by his own people." What really had the media hacks foaming at the mouth was Stafford's refusal to condemn the Iranian students' takeover of the American embassy. Badgered repeatedly by the media as to whether his church "justified" such actions, Stafford replied, "Their holding of the American hostages is the only means they have of bargaining with America to get the Shah back. It was all they had to bargain with this super country which is

hiding this super crook."

Stafford hasn't wavered in the face of increased pressure from the authorities. "They don't want this to get out, things like people in Atlanta supporting the Iranians; they say this is the one thing that has America united, but it's a lie. I get very few negative calls. I get mostly good calls. The Klan has called me but the hell with them. Most people that have called, white and black, most people have expressed support for my stand."

When the local Atlanta media tried to whip up a storm of reaction against an RCP-led pro-Iranian demonstration at which an American flag was burned and two people arrested, Stafford opened his church's doors to the two defendants charged with "misuse of the national flag." They spoke to his Sunday morning congregation and received financial contributions toward their defense. Stafford laughs about the controversy which buzzed around having revolutionary communists in his church. He told *RW* reporters, "Whether you believe in god or not, to me the voice of the people is the voice of god. That's what god is anyway: all the people together. So you're more with god than these people who say they believe in god because you're pointing out the truth. That's what I preached Sunday. I said I'm going to bring communists into my church because they're more with god—and they all laughed! But if I had a choice, I'd rather be with you all than be with these hypocrites who profess to be something they're not. I said these people are my best friends because I can work with them, they're not hypocrites. They tell me exactly what they believe in and what they don't believe in and then we can work together because I know where they're coming from. Your paper is bringing out the truth and the other papers aren't bringing it out—the so-called godly folk—they're bringing out lies, propaganda. I got full respect for the *Revolutionary Worker* because it points out things that you cannot get from the other papers or all those media because they hide the real truth. The bible tells you that the truth shall make you free. Well, how are you going to be free if the truth is hid from you through all the media? How are you going to know the truth if it weren't for a paper

like yours?"

Stafford sees the struggle of the Iranian people as part of the struggle of people everywhere against oppression and injustice. "When I see a fight of the oppressed people I get in it—that's just my nature. I feel like the only way the oppressed people are going to get anything, they got to fight for it. I felt like that from when I was a child—the

only way the oppressed are going to get anything is to take it from the oppressor." Reverend Stafford doesn't intend to bow down before the government's attempts to keep him in his place and silence his voice of opposition. "They're using all this to hold over my head to keep me from going over there...but I can still raise hell in Georgia!" ■

NOW IN SECOND PRINTING
New Pamphlet from the
Revolutionary Worker



Excerpts from a speech by Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, November 18, Washington D.C. price: 25c

Iran

Continued from page 3

whipping its subordinate partners in crime into line. They have managed to get some agreements with West Germany and Britain about limiting trade to Iran. There is a lot at stake here, not only so they can carry out their economic warfare and any other action they take against Iran, but they've got bigger things in the future to worry about with their balking neighbors, like getting the U.S. bloc together to fight a military war with the Soviet bloc.

Khomeini answered in response to the U.S. plan of economic war, "These brainless superpowers...think that now they have such power, all the world, all the universe should follow them."

Meanwhile, as the blades flashed behind the doors of Europe's capitols, the vulture without a country added his complaints about no honor among thieves. The Shah has written a book, *Reply to History*, which is being serialized in the British magazine *Now*, in which he accuses the U.S. of betraying him just when he needed them the most—on the eve of last February's insurrection in Iran. The U.S. "threw the emperor out of the country like a dead mouse" writes the rat now hiding out in

his luxurious rathole at Lackland Air Force Base. The U.S. version is that they advised the Shah in January that it would be "best for the stability of Iran" if he left the country. Of course by "stability" the U.S. meant trying to safeguard their own stranglehold over Iran. By mid-January they had realized that keeping the Shah on the throne was a lost cause in the face of the revolutionary uprisings, and had turned to other maneuvers to get a different pro-U.S. regime to take over. The Shah's memoirs undoubtedly fueled the U.S. ruling class's infighting over who did what to who to land the U.S. in this Iran "crisis." But for all their mutual finger pointing, this pack of thieves doesn't dare admit what their accusations only hint at: that it has been the Iranian people's revolutionary struggle that has forced them to incriminate each other.

As they hunt for options to exercise their domination over Iran, the U.S. is faced with serious difficulties. *Time* also proposes various possibilities for the U.S. imperialists, such as an economic embargo on goods sold to Iran, a naval blockade of Iran (though they say the problem with this is that it would "cut off Iranian oil deliveries to Europe and Japan") or "the U.S. could try to foment more unrest among Iran's angry minorities." But, they ask—and this is really the rub for the U.S. im-

perialists, "The big question is whether, under any circumstances, U.S. interests would be served by a disintegration of Iran...that depends, in turn, on whether an Islamic Iran, (or) a Marxist Iran...would in the long run turn out to be the greatest threat to the stability of the region." And here again, the State Department rhetoric about concern for "stability" reveals the dilemma faced by the U.S. imperialists in Iran. They are caught between their own strategic necessity to keep their claws in Iran, one way or another, and their fear that instigating further trouble with Iran will get them into worse trouble and even bring the roof down on their heads in Iran once and for all. And for all the political infighting and backstabbing in their bloc, they have not given up plotting and scheming because they are driven by the laws of their own imperialist system to hold onto what they have and grab for more. Mao Tsetung put it this way: "Make trouble, fail, make trouble again, fail again...till their doom; that is the logic of the imperialists and all reactionaries the world over in dealing with the people's cause and they will never go against this logic. This is a Marxist law...Fight, fail, fight again, fail again, fight again...till their victory; that is the logic of the people, and they too will never go against this logic. This is another Marxist law..." ■

Secret Service

Continued from page 1

As noted in the last issue of the *Revolutionary Worker*, the Secret Service has initiated an "investigation" of Bob Avakian based, they say, on a statement attributed to him in an article in the *L.A. Times* last August. This statement is nothing but a fabrication. This concocted lie—that Bob Avakian threatened the life of Jimmy Carter in a speech in Los Angeles last summer—now, months later and even after a printed retraction that the *Times* coughed up—is claimed as the foundation of the Secret Service "investigation." Even the retraction was a distortion. The "quote" it still attributes to Bob Avakian is not his at all. Just one little indication of that is that it has Bob referring to "Mr. Carter"—and who would believe that he would call Carter by that respectful title! Beyond that, the retraction fails to admit just how distorted a picture was painted in the original *Times* article, which made statements like "the crowd cheered" after so-called Bob Avakian quotes which the *Times* now admits were never made in front of a crowd at all.

A trail of dirty tracks is being left from one end of the country to the other in the pursuit of this "investigation." At the end of November, one agent O'Neal of the Chicago Secret Service telephoned the home of Bob Avakian and asked to "talk to" him. A couple of days later a Secret Service agent paid a "routine" visit to the Chicago Revolutionary Worker Center. Their questions: "Is Bob Avakian here? Do you know where he is? Does anyone here know how to reach him?"

Just three weeks after the dismissal of 25 felony charges against Avakian, and two weeks after the U.S. government's notice of appeal of this dismissal to a higher court in Washington, D.C.—why now does the Secret Service want to "talk to" Bob Avakian? This was the question Chairman Avakian's lawyer wanted to ask agent O'Neal when the first phone call was placed from Washington to the Chicago Secret Service on December 3.

Suddenly it was difficult to find a Secret Service agent who knew anything at all about this "investigation." And agent O'Neal himself was "in the field" and unavailable. After numerous phone calls and repeated unanswered messages, a Secret Service supervisor in Chicago finally stated that his agency was looking for Bob Avakian to "talk to" him in connection with what he termed "some kind of allegation made by someone that Avakian made some kind of statement that might be construed to constitute a threat on the life of the President."

Late on the evening of December 3, Agent O'Neal, back from a busy day in the field, finally returned a call to Bob Avakian's lawyer in Washington, D.C. "Oh yes, there is an active Secret Service investigation going on in connection with statements attributed to Avakian by an article in the *Los Angeles Times*. Our Chicago office just heard about this. We're trying to reach Avakian to talk about all this." Comrade Avakian's lawyer pointed out that these alleged "statements" were in fact fabrications and had already been the subject of a *Los Angeles Times* retraction (although it, too, still distorted the Chairman's actual remarks, which never contained any threat to President Carter). The lawyer also indicated that Comrade Avakian had not only repeatedly denied making these statements but that as far back as September he had gone to court in Los Angeles to seek legal action to prevent the very kind of attack the Secret Service is apparently carrying out.

"Really," remarked this agent, "I didn't know that." O'Neal further indicated that he had never even heard about any retraction by the *Los Angeles Times* and was unfamiliar with the fact that there had been any RCP legal action in connection with this *Times* article. In fact, he confessed he wasn't really "on top of" this case yet. "More investigation is needed," he said. "Let me get back to you in a day or so and

Flash—Judge Gives Green Light to Secret Service

Friday, December 14. A full 8 days after its filing, Judge David W. Williams of U.S. District Court denied a temporary restraining order to stop the government from harrasing Bob Avakian. The hearing lasted ten minutes. The U.S. Attorney didn't have to open his mouth since the judge made all the arguments. Thus the judge provided more cover for the secret war on Bob Avakian. At the end Williams growled, "The T.R.O is

denied and don't file it again." The judge's basic argument was that this harrassment is exactly what the "government's job is to do...this court has no jurisdiction to prevent the Justice Department from conducting its investigation." When Bob Avakian's lawyer pointed out that according to their own laws the court is supposed to prevent persecution of people by government agencies, the judge simply stared off into

space. When it was pointed out that even with the *Los Angeles Times'* inaccurate retraction, the quoted statement was clearly "not an imminent threat—unless someone thinks there's going to be a revolution in the next few days," the judge's response was the same. As one observer commented, "It was like talking to a slab of marble."

perhaps everything can be settled." Days went by and no call came from O'Neal.

In Los Angeles an attorney, acting on behalf of Bob Avakian and the RCP, immediately prepared to go back into court to reactivate the already filed and previously denied complaint against the U.S. government, once again seeking to legally block this attack on Bob Avakian before it could blossom into its full aims, putting Bob Avakian behind bars on a serious felony charge or possibly even killing him.

The U.S. Attorney, representing the U.S. government, including the Secret Service, talked with Comrade Avakian's attorney in Los Angeles: What's the big deal here? was their message. You are getting all worked up about nothing. We have no plans to prosecute. You're all mixed up. This Secret Service investigation isn't even about a prosecution. We cleared that up back in September when the Secret Service came to our office and raised the possibility at that time of prosecuting Avakian on this charge of threatening the President's life. We didn't go forward then and this is just a routine investigation going on today. As far as our office understands it, the Secret Service is actually investigating Avakian in connection with Avakian's own request for Secret Service documents pertaining to him and his organization and the D.C. trial.

Fine, said Chairman Avakian's attorney, then let's go into court and you can give us a guarantee that there will be no U.S. government prosecution or harassment of Bob Avakian based on this fabricated statement. "Let's get back together on this later on today," responded the U.S. Attorney.

Several hours later another conversation took place between the U.S. Attorney and Bob Avakian's lawyer in Los Angeles. This time it was: "As of now the position of the U.S. Attorney's office is the same. Unless new evidence turns up there are no plans to prosecute. Of course, we cannot guarantee that other government agencies won't be looking into it." Without more evidence? With a fabricated (and even retracted) quotation as the basis for this "investigation"—"evidence" which the Secret Service has certainly not abandoned—more such "evidence" won't be hard to produce.

In a few short hours, the U.S. Attorney had changed his tune. The "no big deal" tone of the morning's conversation had, by the afternoon, changed to one of "no plans to prosecute at this time." Meanwhile, agent O'Neal in Chicago was busy with his own duties in connection with this "investigation." On the evening of December 6 these duties included approaching two people with the *Revolutionary Worker* newspaper who were at a hotel in Chicago where Vice President Mondale was scheduled to appear. "We know who

you are and we don't want any trouble," the agent told them and then moved away. Later, after the *RW* salespeople began to agitate, O'Neal and friends strong-armed the two across the street to a convenient police station. There they were searched, read their rights, and "detained" for several hours, while O'Neal and another agent fired rapid questions at them and whined about the difficulties of pursuing their "investigation." "Did you have a gun with you here? Do you own a gun? Did you have a gun in your car? Would you mind if we searched your car for weapons? Did you intend to physically harm Vice President Mondale? We are carrying out an active investigation of Mr. Avakian. We've been trying to locate him. Do you know where Mr. Avakian is? Could you pass him a message for us? Do you think he would be willing to talk to us? Would you be willing to talk with us?"

And finally, "We just want to talk to him. If we could only talk to him personally, there is the distinct possibility that all this could be cleared up, but Avakian and his attorney aren't coop-

erating." These remarks came from the Secret Service agent who failed to return a week of phone calls from Bob Avakian's attorney in Washington, D.C.

It is clear that these SS men do not want to "just talk." They are out trying to create evidence and stir hysteria. Refusal to see the rather obvious pattern developing here would indeed be foolish. In Washington D.C. two members of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade went out to George Washington University on Dec. 12 to raise the issue of the Secret Service attack with the students on that campus. In the midst of a discussion, two "students" butted into the conversation and began to rant about Bob Avakian. "Bob Avakian—he was the guy who pulled the gun on the guard at the Chinese embassy..." This was a shady reference to the action taken last January by five men at the Chinese embassy—involving broken windows and white paint tossed at the building—as part of a protest against the U.S. visit of Teng Hsiao-ping. But not only was

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The time is now. Contribute to and build the Party's Million Dollar Fund Drive.

IN THE LAST MONTH...

The U.S. government has been forced to retreat in their attempt to railroad Bob Avakian and the Mao Tsetung Defendants. This was a great victory for people here and around the world. Now the government is appealing the dismissal of charges against Bob Avakian and escalating their attack through the secret service plot.

AT THE SAME TIME...

Shoulder to shoulder with the Iranian people's revolutionary struggle against U.S. imperialism, the RCP went straight up against the government, inspiring many to stand up to the ruling class' flag-waving, war-mongering hysteria.

THE STAKES ARE UP FOR THEM AND US...

The time is now. Contribute to and build the Party's Million Dollar Fund Drive.

Contact the RCP in your area or RCP Publications, Box 3486, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL. 60654. Or contact the D.C. Committee to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants, Box 6422, T Station, Washington D.C. 20009 or People United to Fight Police Brutality, c/o Revolutionary Worker, Box 18112, Houston, TX. 77023.

Communist Party of New Zealand Protests at U.S. Embassy

With a picket mounted outside the U.S. Embassy in Wellington, the Communist Party of New Zealand delivered a strong protest note during the week of November 19 against the attacks on the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA.

The note, signed by the Political Committee of the CPNZ, called on the U.S. government to drop the charges against 17 members and supporters of the RCP.

As reported in the *People's Voice*, the weekly newspaper of the Communist Party of New Zealand, the CPNZ note delivered at the embassy stated:

"As a long-established political party of the New Zealand working class, we wish to register through you our emphatic protest to the United States Government at the conspiracy and other charges framed against Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA, and 16 others, in connection with the demonstrations against the visit of Teng Hsiao-ping to the USA in January, 1979.

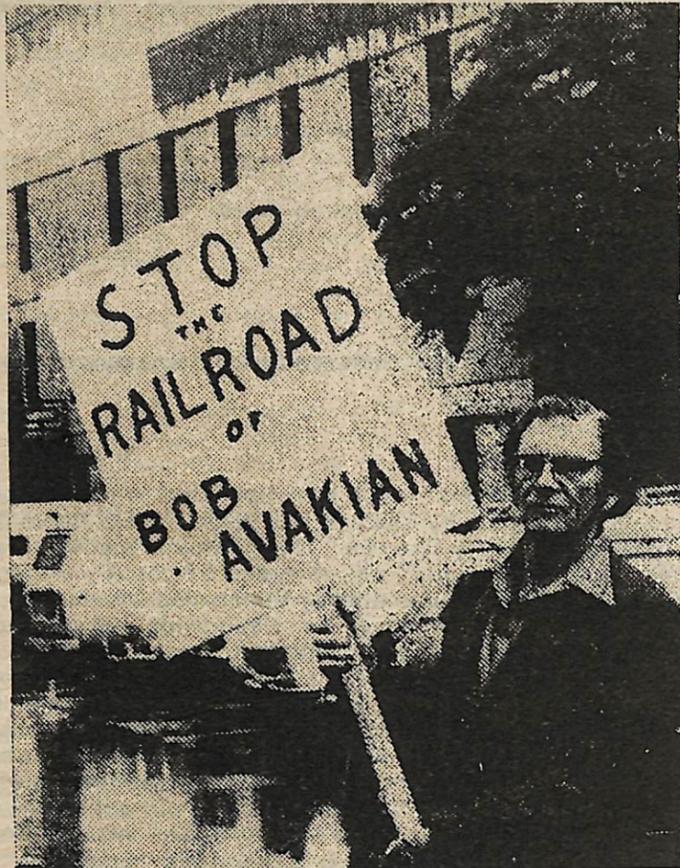
"We have ourselves publicised in New Zealand—and will continue to do so—the despicable role played by Teng, Hua Guo-feng and their clique in betraying the basic interests of the masses of the Chinese workers and peasants by burying all of the revolutionary teachings of Mao Tse-tung,

restoring capitalism and once more handing China over to foreign imperialism for ruthless exploitation.

"We and our supporters in New Zealand regard Comrade Avakian and the 16 other defendants as fighters for the emancipation of the U.S. working class. We regard their opposition to the visit of 'Traacherous Teng' as absolutely justified and in the best interests of the U.S. people, the Chinese people and the peoples of the world.

"We see the numerous legal charges (and their continuing expansion by the state prosecution) brought against Bob Avakian and the 16 other defendants as a blatant attempt to silence the RCP and its spokesmen because they let the world know, through demonstrating their opposition to Teng, that a section of the U.S. people did not welcome his visit, because they exposed this visit for what it was—a cynical sell-out of socialism in China and a complete turn-about in policy to one of alignment with the most reactionary, most chauvinistic section of U.S. monopoly capital against the common interests of the peoples of the world.

"Rest assured that if this attempted railroad of Comrade Avakian and his fellow defendants is pursued, we will do our best in New Zealand to expose the whole thing as manipulation of the judicial system by the U.S. state in an attempt to gag the RCP and all other determined opponents of Chinese revisionism."



Wellington, New Zealand: Picketing the U.S. Embassy.

People's Press Conferences Batter Wall of Silence

On Dec. 12, a number of important press conferences were held around the country that went straight up in the face of the U.S. rulers' attempts to promote the notion that the American people are uniting wholesale behind their chauvinistic, anti-Iranian hysteria. The U.S. media has done its utmost to paint a picture of a groundswell of flagwaving patriotism coming from below, of loyal robot-like Americans rallying behind their calls of "Nuke Iran" and "We love the Shah". But in Washington, D.C., New York, Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles and a number of other cities, Ad Hoc Committees to support the *Send the Shah Back/Hands Off Iran* delegation of Americans, which travelled to Iran (see article pg. 1), have brought forward a number of significant forces representing a broad spectrum of American society to stand firmly with the struggle of the Iranian people and in solidarity with the delegation which is now in Iran and is calling for 1) Support of the Iranian revolution, 2) Send the Shah back, and 3) No U.S. intervention.

At these press conferences it was clear that significant sections of the American people have been yearning for the chance to take a strong stand against the mindless reactionary garbage being spewed out daily by this country's rulers in the press. It was also clear that what is really happening from below—as opposed to blind patriotic fervor being whipped up at the highest levels of the U.S. government—is dramatic and increasing support for the Iranian people in the best tradition of internationalist solidarity. In the two days after the Ad Hoc Committees were formed, they rapidly galvanized a wide range of organizations and individuals from anti-nuclear activists to individuals and groups among the oppressed nationalities, and from the Peace and Freedom Party to a variety of feminist

organizations. Veterans, members of Vietnam Veterans Against the War, made statements, along with lawyers, students, professors and other professionals. The Revolutionary Communist Party also spoke at the conferences. All these individuals and groups gave voice to the sentiments that exist among the American people for the U.S. to keep out of Iran and return the Shah to face the justice he so rightly deserves.

Of course, the ruling class had put out the word for the media to boycott these press conferences and to squelch any coverage of the *Send the Shah Back/Hands Off Iran* delegation in Iran. When people called NBC national news in New York they said, "Are you kidding?—pro-Iranian?—we're not going to cover it." At the Washington, D.C. press conference when a *Reuters* correspondent insisted that he did not believe there was a news blackout, a woman from the National Abortion Rights Coalition told of how she had been informed by another women's group in Los Angeles, which had spoken directly to a major network station. They had said that there was a "blackout of any dissent from support for the American position in Iran."

At the New York press conference, lawyer William Kunstler and professor James Cockcroft of Rutgers University, a member of the International Commission of Inquiry into Human Rights in Iran, that went to Iran Oct. 8 through 22, 1978, blasted both the U.S. government for its crimes in Iran and the press for its blackout of the opposition to the U.S. attacks on the Iranian people.

Cockcroft said, "I understand the taking of hostages, and I basically see it as an act of self-defense by the Iranian people against an act of intervention, particularly this last step of it... The U.S. has held the Iranian people hostage for 29 years." Kunstler added, "He (the Shah—RW) was brought here

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The following statement, released at the Dec. 12 press conference, is from the Feminist Women's Health Center, an organization which has played an important role both in the delegation now in Iran and in the ad hoc committees formed to support the delegation.

LOCAL FEMINISTS IN IRANIAN PEACE DELEGATION

The Feminist Women's Health Center is proud to have among the members of an American citizens' delegation to Iran two of our staff members, Carol Downer and Becky Chalker.

The American people have been shielded from the basic reality of the situation in Iran. The Shah, put into power by the United States, ruled Iran without mercy for the last 37 years. No family in Iran is untouched by the slaughter and horror of his regime. Over 100,000 Iranians were murdered during the Shah's rule and thousands more victims of torture. American-trained and American-financed police (the SAVAK) committed these murders and tortures.

We believe that the best interest of the American people is only served by continued peace. We cannot condone any military action taken by the United States government against Iran.

We are confident that this citizens' delegation, American people meeting with Iranian people, can bring the hope of peace to the world. We commend the bravery and dignity of the members of the peacemaking delegation in their struggle to bring clarity to the situation.

The American people have been misled by our government to tacitly support the bloody regime of the Shah. Americans can no longer be ignorant. The situation in Iran must force each and every one of us to decide for ourselves if our country can continue to prop up a modern-day Hitler.

We are confident that if each American knew the true history of the Iranian Revolution, Americans would agree that the Shah be returned to Iran and brought to justice.

We are all worried and anxious about the situation in Iran. We think this visit will help answer the questions of millions of Americans confused and angered by recent events.

We urge the media to show the respect due to those courageous representatives of the American people and help spread the truth of what is happening in Iran.

We are anxiously awaiting Carol and Becky and the rest of the delegation's return to the United States, and know that their trip will help achieve world peace. We are glad that Carol Downer, founder of the Feminist Women's Health Center, could go on the mission.

REACTION HITS AIRWAVES

The red, white and blue anti-Iranian hysteria has unleashed a number of examples of troglodytic culture onto the airwaves. One song, which surfaced several weeks ago on some of the tightest 18-record playlist A.M. stations, announced by the D.J.'s as "a tune by some good ol' boys from Birmingham, we know you're really gonna like" is called "Message to Khomeini" and features verses like:

*The Shah is our old friend
We're proud to save his skin.
Khomeini, you can't blackmail the good old USA
We hope the sand you eat
Fills your stomach like our wheat.
You can shove your oil up your only holely place.*

Then there's the chorus:

*'Cause we can take our B.B. guns,
Blow your buns through the sun.
Our boy scouts can wipe you out.
Someday soon, Khomeini,
You'll burn one flag too many.
Uncle Sam has his pride,
You're about to feel his clout.*

This song is one of several which have appeared in various forms of music including a rock tune by Chicago D.J. Steve Dahl of Disco Demolition fame, to the tune of "My Sharona." This particular piece of jingoistic garbage "Message to Khomeini" was recorded by country singer Roger Hallmark and is being widely promoted by Nationwide Distributors, Inc. in Nashville. The promotions manager for Nationwide, whose motto is "Creative minds can capitalize on any situation," says of the record, "It's not 'anti' anything or negative. It's just the Archie Bunker sound some people like to listen to." It is being promoted on country and western stations as the "most requested song," but music director of WMAQ Chicago gave us a little insight into just how this song by an unknown cretin, has become so "requested" so fast on some of the most tightly programmed stations in the country. Said the music director, "Every record put out comes across my desk. I listened to all the records on the Iran crisis. This one struck me as the best. It's really a very good record. It's patriotic." Some don't agree, as another Chicago station reportedly stopped playing the record because they had as many complaints about it as requests.

Some D.J.'s have really gotten into the act for U.S. imperialism and have taken to action in the streets as well as on the airwaves. Two disc jockeys in San Antonio led a group (pictured at right) to attack Iranian students conducting a hunger strike on the steps of City Hall to protest the city's ban on an anti-Shah parade. The Shah is currently stationed at Lackland Air Force Base near San Antonio. It has been rumored that these racist D.J.'s have really taken the "Message to Khomeini" to heart. The song also features lines like: *We're gonna send all your schoolboys back too, after we cancel their VISA cards/No more Big Macs—see how they like walking a mile for a camel burger.* It has been suggested that these true-blue patriots were enraged by the fact that these students, by going on a hunger strike, were deliberately spurning the Big Macs while they still had a chance to get them. This is just about the level that these hamburger brained D.J.'s and their "most requested" record are on. Since they aspire to no more than a red, white and blue Big Mac, they cannot comprehend that anyone would rise up against U.S. imperialism, and it's butcher Shah. We suggest that

they might get a real education if they took their B.B. guns and Big Macs with them on a trip to Iran, where the Iranian masses would certainly give these "boy scouts" a lesson in eating sand.



KAPITALISM for Kids

Parade Magazine calls it a revolutionary system of education, a breakthrough on the educational front. In fact, *Parade* is so fond of it that the magazine urges the newly formed Department of Education to seriously and carefully take note. Its developer, Barry Grove, a Vermont school district official, proudly offers it as a solution to all the problems facing school systems throughout the country. What "it" is, is the Thaler system of education, a straight-up, no-frills indoctrination of children in the ways and values of capitalist society. Groves himself makes no effort to hide it: "Thaler is not a simulation... it's a massive plagiarism of life, superimposed on a school, and it gives a consciousness of the workings of economics, capitalism, and private enterprise—which they need to be successful in life."

Horace Mann, the founder of the American system of education, spoke to the purpose of education at a meeting of top businessmen as far back as 1844: "... finally, in regard to those who possess the largest share in the stock of worldly goods, could there, in

your opinion, be any police so vigilant and effective, for the protections of all the rights of person, property and character, as such a sound and comprehensive training in our system of common schools could be made to impart? ... would not the payment of a sufficient tax to make such training universal be the cheapest means of self-protection and insurance?" But while Mann was definitely clear about where he stood in relation to the objectives of education, even he didn't conceive of anything as blatant as the Thaler system.

The Thaler system literally draws its name from the German word for dollar. It is a meticulously worked out system of education based on having students, ranging in age from grades 5 to 8, participate in an economy closely modeled after capitalism as an integral part of their studies. Through their participation in this society, the students are supposed to learn at first hand how capitalism runs and, on that basis, develop a deep and lasting love for it. There is, of course, only one catch to doing this—capitalism has to be made

to work.

This is what Groves set about doing back in 1976, when he instituted the Thaler system at an isolated Vermont junior high school. They constructed a society where the students divided into corporate heads, presidents, lawyers, clerks, maintenance workers, and dozens of varied types of "government workers." The pay varied with the level of the job—but don't worry, because built into Thaler capitalism is an equal opportunity to rise to the top. Even though the competition for different level jobs is fierce, and is originally decided on the basis of test results, everyone can get the job they want on the basis of applying themselves to the fullest extent of their ability. In fact, it's an easy climb up the social ladder, as evidenced by the fact that this year's bank president started out as a payroll clerk, and on the basis of hard, diligent work, quickly rose to the top. And for those students who seek to avoid the rat race of corporate wheeling and dealing, Groves even made it so that small businesses flourish in his fantasyland.

But wait—apparently everything isn't

a bowl of cherries—some students actually get fired for "not producing." As Groves puts it, "Life is not all roses for today's adolescents!" No cause for alarm, however. If these laggards merely recognize the errors of their ways and correct them, they'll be welcome back into society with just as much opportunity to advance as everyone else.

By consciously distorting the reality of capitalism, Groves uses his Thaler system to strengthen its ideological influence over the people. In fact, he states that the most important value of the Thaler system is that it convinces these kids that if they just accept responsibility for their actions, they can gain control over their environment. Groves hopes that America's youth will taste success and make a habit of it throughout their lives.

But unfortunately for Grove and all his ambitions, the Thaler system has one fatal flaw—no matter how much Grove tries to make pretend, the real world does exist, and it's a mighty powerful teacher, too. ■

HOW THE MEDIA MURDERED CORPORAL GALLEGOS

Marine Corporal William Gallegos, a 22-year-old soldier from Pueblo Colorado is one of the hostages being held at the American Embassy in Tehran, Iran. He's been hanging out at the embassy for over a month along with the other hostages and as he freely admitted to NBC news the night of his interview, no harm had come to him and he hadn't missed any meals. Gallegos didn't know it, but he was about to be chewed up and spit out by the U.S. media meatgrinder.

Because Gallegos matter-of-factly stated that the hostages were not being mistreated, much less tortured or brainwashed, the U.S. press immediately launched a campaign of smear and innuendo against him, implying that he himself had been "brainwashed," or that he was lying, perhaps under coercion, being transformed into a willing pawn of "fanatical Moslem revolutionaries."

The media, of course, has been hounding Iranian authorities for the right to interview the hostages and "insure that they are not being mistreated" since the beginning of the embassy takeover. But once the interview with Gallegos was arranged, CBS and ABC refused to touch it because they "feared that they were being manipulated to provide the captors with a forum." That left NBC which immediately set about to discredit Gallegos, especially when he expressed doubt about whether he was willing to die for the Shah of Iran. John Chancellor, the pious, hypocritical anchorman for NBC nightly news, oozed "warnings" that the hostages had been kept against their will for five weeks and that "any statement should be seen in that light."

Ever since the embassy crisis began over a month ago, the U.S. press has been simultaneously engaged in an orgiastic frenzy of yellow journalism to build up emotional support for the hostages, while hedging against any chance that the hostages themselves could blow their trip by filling the news with statements from psychiatrists and "experts" warning about possible "brainwashing." A whole "brainwashing" myth has been created, the idea being that no one held in captivity

can resist being drawn into a state of "psychological dependence on their captors," resulting in a complete turnaround including adoption of political viewpoints the opposite of those the captives previously held. Thus, the U.S. propaganda machine can shift at a moment's notice from careful commentary on the "quiet heroism" of "our fellow Americans in the embassy" to creating a Night of the Living Dead horror story: *Young Marine Becomes a Zombie for Ayatollah; Parents in Agony.*

This is what the news has done to William Gallegos. The *New York Post* ran an interview with some spurious "expert" who had "proof" that Gallegos was brainwashed, or that he was in fear for his life when he gave the interview. The *Post's* "Christmas Card" to the hostages, intended to be clipped out and sent to the embassy, portrays the hostages as bound and blindfolded, despite Gallegos' explicit testimony discounting all the blindfolding accusations.

The NBC interview itself was a cruel interrogation and an attempt to humiliate and degrade Gallegos, simply because he would not entirely prostrate himself and offer himself as a sacrifice to the "imperialist national interest." A few excerpts from this stomach turning "interview" shows how much the U.S. imperialists care about the hostages:

Q. Corporal, how do you personally feel about the issue of returning the Shah?

A. Myself, as a marine guard, you all know I'd give my life for any American, any American, any President of the United States—present and past—for any of my friends. And I just—I can't see it now. I just think of all the people that have given their lives before—Americans given their lives for a good cause. In some way I don't see this as a good cause.

Q. Let me ask you one other question. If President Carter accedes to the demand that the Shah be returned, isn't that inviting similar attacks on other U.S. embassies elsewhere in the world? Isn't that saying to the world, in effect, you want something from America, just occupy one of our embassies and take a

few hostages?

A. Yes, sir. It does implicate that in such a way. I don't know—like I said before, I don't know the circumstances under what's going on. So I couldn't really answer that question...

Q. Do you know that there's a well known psychological observation that a hostage very often assumes the political feelings and is very often sympathetic toward his captors?

A. Yes, sir. I feel that way as a marine. You know how I feel. I hope you know how I feel. I know my superiors know how I feel.

Q. Why are you here? I think that's a question a lot of...

A. Why am I here, sir?

Q. Why were you the one singled out to do this interview?

A. I don't know. There are many of us, I was called on...

Q. What if you had said no?

A. I thought about saying no; but I felt that many of the people, I think, I want them to know that we're o.k.... I want President Carter to know we're all right, you know. I want him to know that nothing's happening to us. I want him to know that we're relying on his decision to let us go home.

Q. Would you accept his decision no matter what? Do you say he's your Commander in Chief, Corporal?

A. Yes, sir.

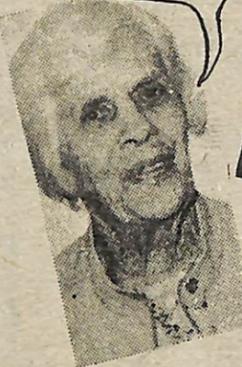
Q. I mean if he says, well, I'm just sorry we're never going to give the Shah back; we don't care what happens to those 50 hostages. Would you accept that decision?

A. Yes, sir; I'll have to sir.

The Gallegos interview ripped the mask off the U.S. propaganda stance of "humanitarian concern" for the hostages. In a chilling form, Corporal Gallegos (and through him the American public) were told to be prepared to be sacrificed whenever the Commander in Chief says, "Well, I'm just sorry." Gallegos is obviously no revolutionary. He clearly still has a lot of illusions, such as that his Commander in Chief gives a shit about him and whether he lives or dies. But he hasn't been so completely brainwashed by the U.S. Marine Corps that he is ready to throw his young life down the toilet rather than see the Shah returned to Iran to face a sentence he deserves. He still thinks he's William Gallegos; he doesn't know that he is just "Corporal." Even the wire-service describes him as "believed to be William Gallegos." He forgot that the Shah is friends with Henry Kissinger and David Rockefeller, and that John Chancellor is too. He forgot that *he* doesn't have any rich friends at all; he's just finding out that he's got a lot of rich enemies. ■

Was this man
Brainwashed?

He looks different somehow...
His blinking patterns are
strange... looks tired... He doesn't
sound like the son I used
to know.



TELEVISION BROADCAST OF SPEECH BY
MAN BELIEVED TO BE PRESIDENT
JIMMY CARTER

Flag-Waving Officials Target Teacher for Stand on Iran

On December 6 the Santa Ana Unified School District in Orange County, Calif., suspended a teacher, Rich Robertson, for wearing a pro-Iranian button into class. In describing the button to newsmen, the principal Dan Salceido began ranting that it was "contrary to present U.S. policy—saying death to the Shah, calling our government U.S. imperialism, telling Mr. Carter to get his bloody hands off Iran." Robertson was suspended for insubordination, refusing to comply with the policy that prohibits all political activity during school hours.

On the very day of his suspension, the district was busily instructing the principals of all the schools to contact parents and encourage them to fly American flags until the hostages in Tehran are freed. Evidently, *certain*

political activity is not only tolerated, but *promoted*. What the purge of Robertson has unleashed in the press, in the neighborhoods, and in the classrooms, is a torrent of debate not only over the situation in Iran but over whose politics the board finds so dangerous—and why.

For the past six years, Rich Robertson has taught history at the same junior high school. He has discussed and exposed U.S. imperialism with his students, and often has worn political buttons, despite glares from the administration. Since the takeover of the U.S. Embassy, he has been wearing the pro-Iranian button. This was the final straw. Principal Salceido, in the best "love it or leave it" tradition, called him into the office and demanded that he remove it or else. Robertson refused.

The following day the ultimatum was repeated. Robertson refused again—and the next thing he knew the security guard was escorting him out the back door.

This was not the isolated decision of some two-bit principal. The orders to axe Robertson came from the district headquarters. Clarke Stone, the associate superintendent, was quick to deny to the *RW* that politics had anything to do with this (although personally he admitted he was "absolutely opposed to what the button was saying"). The problem with the button was not with its message, he said, but with the controversy it was creating. This was why the principal asked Mr. Robertson to remove it. Proclaiming his great concern for "impressionable youth," Stone blamed the button for

"interrupting the educational process."

The school board itself was flabbergasted when Robertson and supporters arrived at its most recent meeting and demanded an open debate on the question of Iran and on his suspension. The board ultimately reinstated Robertson, giving him an involuntary transfer to a job which finds him reviewing science films—safely out of contact with the students.

The day after Robertson's suspension, signs began appearing on students' lockers reading "Death to the Shah," and students began wearing the same button which had invoked the wrath of the school officials. Apparently, purging one politically active teacher hasn't been sufficient to prevent further interruptions of the "educational process." ■

Detroit Officials Call for Attacks on March

On Saturday, Dec. 8, the Committee to Support the Revolution in Iran, composed of both Iranians and Americans, held a picket line of 125 people at the Army Induction Center in Detroit, uniting around the slogan, "No Military Intervention in Iran!", and marched through downtown Detroit to where a rally was held. All this took place despite a number of low-life attempts to stop it by the city government, cops and media.

After having decided to hold the march, the Committee went before the city council to get a permit to march in the street. With many on the council priding themselves in being very liberal, they did not want to just flat out deny a permit, so they came up with a convenient excuse. After assuring the Committee that the council had only their

best interests at heart, the permit was denied, because the city "couldn't provide adequate protection" for the marchers.

Of course, they were referring to the supposed hordes of "patriotic Americans" who would be bound to attack such an un-American demonstration. But the pigs weren't about to leave anything to chance. Police Commissioner Bannon told the newspapers, who spread it all over the front page, that if the march were held "it could be another Greensboro." (Hint, hint.)

For two days not only the papers but the TV and radio news continuously reported that there was to be a pro-Iranian march, the cops were not going to allow it because it could be another Greensboro, how many people were expected, the exact route of the march,

etc. They were trying to intimidate people away from the march and the same time put out an unveiled call to reactionaries to come and attack the demonstration. On a TV interview, Bannon went so far as to say he was worried about the rally site because there were "a lot of bricks nearby." In other words, "come and get 'em!"

Despite this atmosphere of intimidation the Committee made it clear they weren't going to be stopped. Plans were made to go ahead with the march, even though it would have to remain on the sidewalks because of the permit being denied. The march had become a big issue and there had been very successful activities building for the Dec. 8 action.

For weeks there had been teach-ins and debates on Iran at local colleges. The sharpening situation around Iran, and the Vietnam Veterans Against the War and Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade's takeover of Selfridge Airforce Base near Detroit in support of the struggle of the Iranian people, had made the question even hotter. (The takeover also infuriated Detroit's ruling class, one reason they were literally out for blood in this Dec. 8 demonstration.) At Henry Ford Community College, 500 people turned out for a debate between the Committee and the Young Republicans, who were forced to slink off to class after being whipped politically. They had brought out 300 people to an earlier anti-Iranian demo, but when they tried to hold another one after the debate, only two flag-waving fools showed up. One Young Republican even wrote to a school newspaper, saying he had been ignorant about the real facts about Iran, and saying, "We can't let them drag us off to war."

On the day of the march, the dreams of the city council and Detroit cops

were shattered. Despite all the attempts to whip up reactionary sentiment and actually attack this demonstration, all that turned up at the picket and march were ten raggedy fascists from Breakthrough, a group known for attacking anti-war clergy and pro-abortion demonstrators. Later they picked up some known undercover cops they had stationed along the march route who heckled the marchers. The uniformed pigs openly fraternized with this "counter-demonstration," at the same time making the show of protecting the pro-Iran marchers from them.

In fact the march was very well received by the masses of people, many of whom stopped to check it out and engage in lively and sometimes sharp struggle along the route. There was keen interest in what was going on, and several people stopped to listen to the entire rally after the march. In spite of fears by some who participated in the march, the Iranian students boldly went out to the people and engaged in discussion and debate along the way.

The composition of the picket line and march itself reflected that the issue of Iran is becoming the dividing line for broad sections of the American people. Participating in the march were people from the *Catholic Worker*, the Palestinian Support Committee, and Rock Against Racism, as well as a number of progressive lawyers, workers from the Ford Rouge Plant, students from local colleges, and members of the RCYB, RCP and VVAW.

This growing and broad support was not only reflected in the Dec. 8 march. A week before the march, the Republic of New Africa, a revolutionary nationalist organization that played an important role in the Black liberation struggle in the '60s and early '70s, made a statement on a Black TV program expressing full support for the struggle of the people in Iran, and demanding that the Shah be returned. Even a local food co-op, run by people who for a long time had mainly concerned themselves with health food, had organized a demonstration at the Federal Building against military intervention in Iran, telling the Committee to Support the Revolution in Iran, whom they had asked to join their delegation, "We just can't stand it anymore." ■

West Oakland, California. In front of the busy Housewives' Market, Friday, December 7, three patrol cars screeched to a halt. Tight jowled, three cops approached a pig's head, still pink, a little American Flag stuck in one ear, held high on a stick. "Who does this pig's head belong to," the officer grunted. Someone from the crowd yelled out, "You!"

Hatred for law enforcers has been boiling over in Oakland in the past few weeks. Recently five cops got beaten, one stabbed in one week alone. The cops have killed six Blacks this year including 15-year-old Melvin Black, Charles Briscoe, and most recently Talmage Curtis. Three hundred cops even marched to city hall demanding a free hand to shoot.

Revolutionary Workers sold fast as people gathered watching this little pig drama unfold. People were grabbing leaflets exposing the cop march on city hall as calling for open season on Black people or anyone who dares oppose the system. The cops, uptight but not quite sure what to do, decided to arrest the pig's head. One cop, holding the suspect on a stick, walked back to his patrol car muttering, "Where should I put it—in the trunk or the back seat?" As they placed it in the back seat, someone yelled, "What's the hog's head being arrested for—impersonating a police officer?" Another yelled, "Naw, they're taking it back to the office to see who lost his head!" The cops were overheard warning the meat market owner to let the pig department know if anyone ever buys a pig's head. News of the arrest is spreading throughout Oakland. Despite calls by lawyers, police would not set the terms of bail for springing the suspect.



P.O. Holds Pro-Iranian Workers Hostage

At the Bulk Mail Center in Cincinnati, Ohio last week, two workers, both supporters of the RCP, wore buttons to work reading, "Death to the Shah. U.S. Imperialism, Get Your Hands Off Iran." A couple of backward workers ripped off one of the buttons. One ex-marine screamed, "I killed motherfuckers like you in Vietnam and I'll gladly do it again." "Kill all commies and Iranians" was printed on a sign hung from his forklift. This fool managed to rally a few of the more rabid reactionaries around him, but many more became challenged to open their eyes and think about why the struggle of the Iranian people against the U.S. government should be supported. Intense struggle and debate raged all day at the BMC.

The following day, the same two came to work wearing t-shirts reading "Wanted, the Shah—Dead or Alive." Dreading more of the controversy stirred up the day before, management

made its move. The two guys hadn't been at their post more than 15 minutes before they were taken hostage—hailed off into the office. On the way there, a worker stopped to say that he really like the *Revolutionary Worker*, especially the articles on Iran. This is just what management feared most—*anyone* coming to see the role of the U.S. in Iran and standing and uniting with the Iranian people.

The two were made to stay in the office all day and they were told to remove the shirts and buttons or be terminated. They refused. After being held for seven hours, and after management had checked out what to do with the regional office in Washington, the decision came down—30 days suspension. The reason? As management stated: "retention in an active duty status may be detrimental to the interests of the government or injurious to you, your fellow workers or the general public."

U.S. COUP IN IRAN

The car wound its way along the hot, dusty road that led from Baghdad to Khanequin. They had left early enough, so they could reach Teheran by late afternoon. It had been a long trip that took this agent of U.S. imperialism from Washington via Rome, Beirut, Damascus and Baghdad. "My nerves tingled," Lockbridge had said, "my spirits soared as we moved up the mountain road." Soared like a vulture—the agent liked his work.

As the destination drew nearer the agent reflected on the events of the past weeks and months, particularly that last meeting in the office of the Secretary of State:

They all recognized the importance of the project, but realized equally well that the risk was great and that the stakes were high. The Director of the CIA was strongly behind the operation. Lockbridge had gone over the plan with him in great detail before the meeting. He sensed that the Secretary of State had already made up his mind in the affirmative. The Secretary of Defense said little, but was obviously enthusiastic for the project, and Lockbridge and the Director appreciated his support. The Undersecretary of State was, as usual, brief, sounding almost surly. "We should proceed. Of course." Only the Ambassador had expressed some pious hesitation. "Mr. Secretary, I don't like this kind of business at all. You know that. But we are confronted by a desperate, a dangerous situation and a madman. . . . We have no choice but to proceed with this undertaking. May God grant us success."

As the car rolled through the border check at Khanequin, the agent felt encouraged. After all, he was acting on behalf of a superpower, with God on his side. He mused, "It is impossible to be sure, but for some reason I am sure. We can do it."

Overthrowing a popular government, even under the best of conditions, was no easy matter. But the Agency had gained considerable experience. And this time, they had important allies inside the country. The Shah may have been a brutal despot, but from their

point of view, and that of the Agency, he was a far cry better than what had followed him. Lockbridge felt that their main strength still lay in the army. Though some of the top officers had been purged by the new government, many of the old hands remained. Given the current situation they would be reluctant, in fact somewhat terrified, to make the first move. But if the project crew could break things loose, get at least some semblance of a spontaneous opposition force in the streets, they would be sure to follow suit, hopefully with at least the bulk of their troops.

The arrival in Teheran was relatively uneventful. He skirted the embassy and holed up at the home of an Agency man attached to the embassy staff in the hills behind the city. And they set to work on their plot.

Their first step was to firm up communication links with the handful of Iranians who would be their contact with the Shah loyalists. They were the crucial factor in galvanizing whatever crowds could be gathered to give the coup the appearance of a popular uprising against this "lunatic" who had taken power and so grievously threatened U.S. interests in the country. Lockbridge recalled the presentation he had made at that meeting in the Secretary of State's office a few weeks earlier. "First, the Soviet threat is indeed genuine, dangerous and imminent. At this moment time seems to favor the Russians and their unwitting ally. . . . My second point seems almost contradictory, but I am equally convinced about it. That is, in a showdown that is clearly recognizable as a showdown, the Iranian army. . . will back the Shah."

Other factors also seemed to be in their favor. During the two weeks after Lockbridge's arrival, the pace of events in Iran had accelerated sharply. One of the Agency's most reliable historians enumerated: "Within several of the social strata his popularity remained high (referring to the man now in power), but many of the most influential followers had fallen away because he had offended them or failed to deliver anticipated rewards for this support." Many elements of the National Front had withdrawn their support en-

tirely. Given the choice between things going over completely into the hands of the masses or those of the Russian bear, or acceptance of a reinstated Shah, the agents felt sure that the bourgeois elements would choose the Shah.

The Iranian operatives were doing their dirty work in the streets and bazaars and among influential people who had been trying to lay low since the new government had taken over. The Agency had over a million dollars in Iranian currency stuffed in a safe to bankroll their efforts to buy supporters. With the "field crew" clandestinely, but intensely, at work, Lockbridge and the other Americans went to work lining up those who would take over the reins of power once the coup had succeeded:

The Shah would be reluctant to return to the country unless he could be assured that "all was well." He was not so much concerned that he be received back with bouquets and huzzahs by the masses in the streets. That was, to understate the matter, highly unlikely. What he did want was assurance that troops and commanders loyal to his Imperial Personage would be firmly in control of the situation and able to guarantee his inviolability. But that was not a major concern for the Agency people, since if the guarantee couldn't be shown, he wouldn't return.

A more important matter was selecting a new prime minister who would receive the unqualified allegiance of the military. General Z had been selected as the best choice. He had for some time been billeted in the rough hills near his own expansive estate. The government had launched a manhunt for him, but he had not been discovered.

Lockbridge took it as his personal responsibility to establish contact with the General and keep him safe until the decisive moment. As the plan moved into its final stages, the general was squirreled away in the basement of the home of another agent, not far from the U.S. Embassy. They hid like rats in the cellar, afraid to show their faces until Uncle Sam had completed this monstrous mission.

The absolute criterion for the success of the whole mission was complete

secrecy of the American role. If that became known, the whole thing would be blown sky high, with serious international ramifications. It had to look like an entirely domestic affair.

Finally D-Day arrived. Everything, as far as Lockbridge could determine, was in place and ready to go. As he recorded: "Saturday seemed to take forever in arriving, and once it did arrive, morning and afternoon went more slowly than anything we had ever before lived through. . . . There being nothing meaningful to confer about, we had another vodka and lime and played the record of 'Luck Be a Lady Tonight' from Guys and Dolls, which immediately became our theme song for the occasion. Then we went 'rolling down the mountain,' as another old song has it, full of hope and hilarity."

As the hours ticked by, the hilarity diminished and they became increasingly nervous. Again Lockbridge: "Early on we were alarmed because there were no signs of activity. Later we became alarmed by such signs. We could hear the clank and clatter of moving tanks. These continued for some time, then stopped completely. A telephone call should now have come, assuring us that everything had proceeded according to plan. But no call came."

Hours later the radio operator rushed to Lockbridge, visibly upset. The Undersecretary of State, having heard nothing and fearing the worst, had ordered the whole mission scrapped.

But by that time the action had started. Never mind, chum, Lockbridge said, "The tide has turned." By now, he continued, "The crowd of demonstrators, including many uniformed soldiers and police, was streaming past our building. . . . The crackle of rifles, and the boom-thud of an occasional mortar, could be clearly heard."

Lockbridge took off to gather up General Z and deliver him to "whatever point from which he thought he could best assume command." The radio station had already been seized. Announcements of the overthrow of the government and of the imminent return of the Shah were being made, in Farsi and in English. On the way to General Z's cellar hideaway, Lockbridge encountered the general in command of the air force among the "demonstrators." "What can I do?" he shouted. "Get some tanks!" And he gave him the address where General Z was hiding. "I'll turn over General Z to your care."

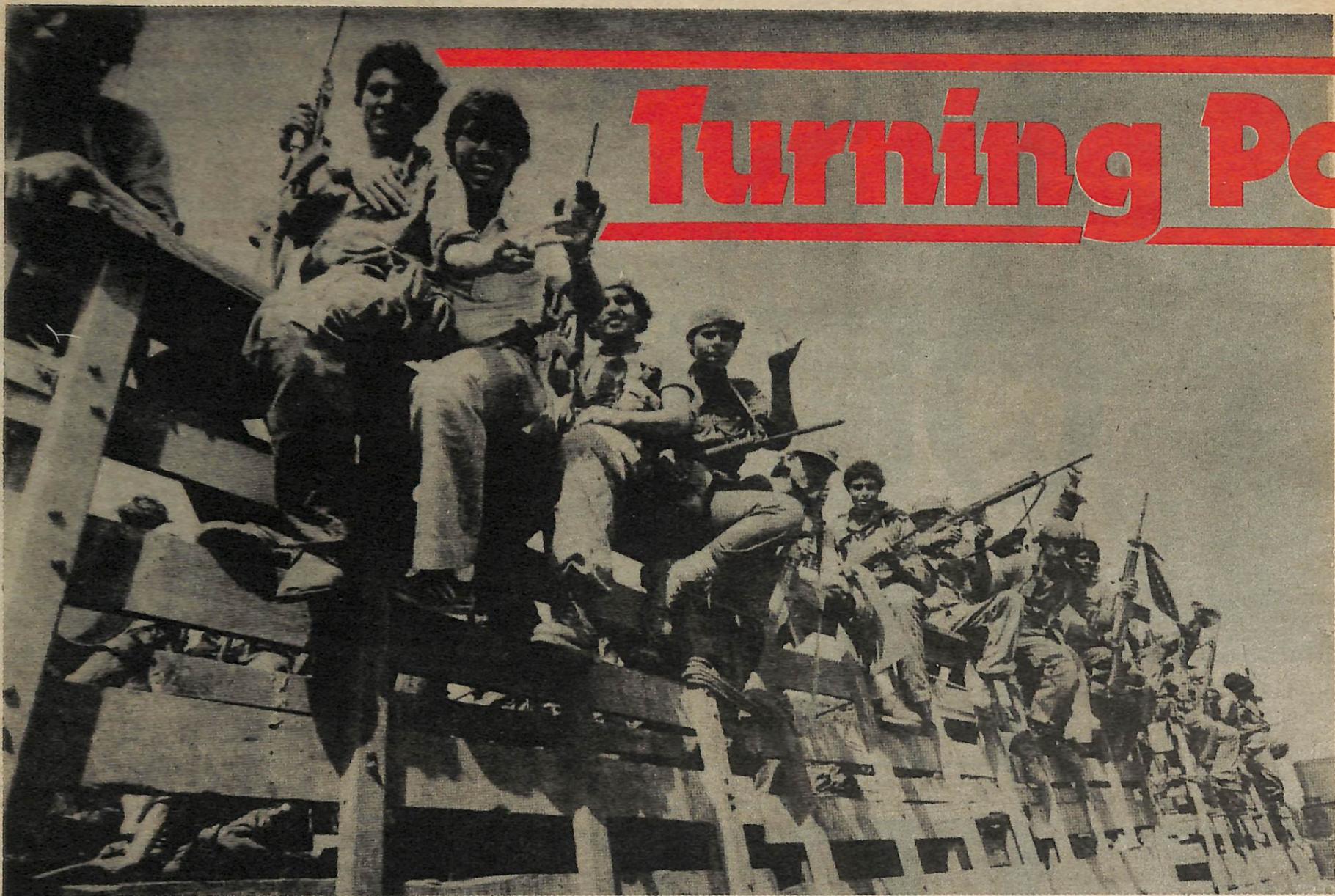
The soon-to-be Prime Minister was still in his underwear when Lockbridge arrived. "Get dressed." He was buttoning up his tunic when they heard the loud clanking of tanks in the courtyard above. The agent reported that he barely had time to conceal himself behind the basement furnace before a stream of shouting Iranians came tumbling down the steps. The General was carried off on a tank to assume his new duties.

The Shah was back in.

An improbable scenario for a coup? Would the U.S. dare such an audacious action, such a flagrant violation of "international law"? Could it happen in 1979?

What you have just read is an accurate adaptation of the account of the U.S.-backed coup in Iran in 1953 that overthrew the government of the nationalist leader Mossadegh. The account is taken from a book by Kermit Roosevelt (Teddy Roosevelt's grandson), code name Lockbridge, who headed up "Operation Ajax," as it was called. The U.S. government recently has ordered that the book be recalled from all stores, allegedly because it contains "misstatements." When asked about the book, the publisher replied that all copies had been burned. The quotes are for the most part verbatim from this book, as are the descriptions of the events.

Inconceivable in 1979? Hardly. It was quite conceivable in 1953. It's a good bet that a very similar enterprise was on the drawing boards, if not actually in motion, when the students seized the U.S. Embassy in Teheran and all hell broke loose. ■



Turning Po

For over forty years, the bloody tyranny of the Somoza regime in Nicaragua had served as an ugly symbol of U.S. imperialist domination and plunder in Latin America. But last summer, the revolutionary people of Nicaragua overthrew the supposedly invincible Somoza dynasty, winning a tremendous victory that opened up great new opportunities for their own struggle and sent shockwaves rippling throughout Central and Latin America—ripples of fear tingling up the spines of the U.S. imperialists.

This revolutionary triumph is extremely significant. The Nicaraguan people, under the leadership of the Sandinista Front for National Liberation (FSLN) destroyed the myth that the U.S. backed military regimes in Latin America were so strong that the armed struggle of the masses couldn't hope to challenge them. Somoza's National Guard was one of the best-trained and best-equipped armed forces in the region, renowned for its brutality in suppressing any inkling of opposition to the government. Throughout the civil war—even after Somoza's departure on July 17—the Guard relentlessly pursued a naked strategy of mass murder, executing thousands and bombing, shelling, and strafing the dense, crowded slum quarters in the major cities, which were all bastions of the revolution. The workers and the urban masses of Managua, Leon and other Nicaraguan cities, armed with hunting rifles or whatever weapons came to hand, destroyed one National Guard stronghold after another. As in the case of Iran, it was the armed people, filled with hatred for tyranny and exploitation and prepared to die fighting for liberation, who proved to be invincible, while the fascist "crack troops," trained and equipped by the United States, disintegrated and fled, along with the criminal puppet Somoza himself.

Nicaraguan society today, in the aftermath of the revolutionary victory, is bursting with revolutionary vitality. Workers in the factories and peasants in the fields meet daily, in mass debates concerning the road forward. There is everywhere among the masses a clear sense that their revolution has only begun. Now that they have stepped onto the political stage, and have tested the new political freedom won at the cost of their blood in insurrection and uprising, they are determined to carry forward the building of a new revolutionary society. The political debates

have often taken the form of confrontations with factory managers, landlords and government officials who argue that the job now is to "put the nose to the grindstone," and who narrowly pose economic construction as the sole preoccupation of the masses and oppose any militant action which might cause turmoil and disruption. Widespread mass criticism of the slow pace of social change has sometimes been attacked as "counterrevolutionary" by officials of the new government; but as one Managuan slum dweller said, "There will never be counterrevolutionaries here."

Struggle Enters New Stage

It was inevitable with the final collapse of the Somoza dynasty that the class struggle in Nicaragua would enter a new and complex stage. The united front of various classes and social forces which had come together in the anti-Somoza cause was very broad—including, in fact, almost the entire Nicaraguan bourgeoisie outside of the Somoza family itself. (Since the revolution, it has come to light that even one of Somoza's nephews had joined the Sandinista movement—he was assassinated last month, supposedly by renegade National Guard elements.) Many businessmen joined the Broad Opposition Front (as the coalition set up to oppose Somoza politically was known) because under the Somoza dictatorship they couldn't get a real "piece of the action"—the Somoza family hogged most of the plunder for themselves. Other Nicaraguan capitalists, more "farsighted" than the Somozas, believed that reform was inevitable and that it was better to act early to seize leadership of the social movement, rather than be swept away by it.

In addition, the FSLN itself was not a revolutionary party with a single clear revolutionary line, but basically a military organization which contained within it three distinct "tendencies" united under the general principles of "Sandinismo." (The name commemorates a national hero, General Augusto C. Sandino, who led a guerilla movement against U.S. intervention in Nicaragua early in the century.) What bound the various factions of the FSLN together in practice was a determination to overthrow Somoza and destroy the National Guard, which was his private means of maintaining power. While many Sandinistas are determined to carry the anti-imperialist revolution forward, and to wipe out capitalist ex-

Sandinista fighters at the moment of victory. Now they face the task of consolidating their victory by intensifying the fight against U.S. imperialism and those who still serve it within Nicaragua.

ploitation in Nicaragua, one of the three tendencies within the FSLN—the Terceristas—is openly social-democratic, advocating a liberal bourgeois democracy with democratic elections and some popular reforms, while leaving the system of capitalism and Nicaragua's entanglements in the imperialist financial and credit system intact. While there is undoubtedly struggle within the FSLN, the various factions within it have acted in near-total unity since the fall of Somoza; it is not clear what the differences are or what conflicting programs are being debated within the FSLN structure.

Whatever debates may be going on behind the scenes, however, public policy is quite clear. The new government set up in the wake of the revolutionary victory clearly illustrates the powerful position of the Nicaraguan capitalist class. The Minister of Defense is a former National Guard colonel who attempted a November 1978 coup against Somoza. The Minister of Economic Planning is a rightist and former general secretary of the Central American Common Market. The Minister of Finance is a wealthy Christian Democrat; the Minister of Health is a coffee plantation owner and an ultra-conservative; the Minister of Industry was the president of the Chamber of Commerce under Somoza; the Minister of Agriculture is a conservative millionaire livestock rancher. The only FSLN member on the five-man ruling junta is Daniel Ortega, a Tercerista and a social-democrat; his brother, also a social-democrat theoretician, is commander in chief of the armed forces.

Campaign to Disarm the Masses

The decision to forbid any executions of National Guardsmen or other criminals of the Somoza regime, a move which aroused bitter opposition from among the masses, was not simply a classless gesture of clemency. The Nicaraguan bourgeoisie could not allow the masses of people to exact justice from those who had worked for Somoza, precisely because there is no clear dividing line between the "Somocistas" and the Nicaraguan bourgeoisie as a whole—particularly as regards their fundamental feature, dependence of imperialism to prop up and sustain capitalist rule in that country. Both in the cities and in the countryside, the new

government with the approval of the FSLN, has done its best to pour cold water on the revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses. In the countryside, peasants spontaneously seized land from both *somocista* landlords and others after the civil war. The government intervened, enacting a decree to prevent "unlawful" takeovers. A major project appears to be an attempt to persuade the rank-and-file Sandinista militia units and the thousands of other "irregulars" with arms to turn them in. This attempt—like the decree prohibiting reprisals against National Guardsmen—is encountering stubborn resistance.

As a result, the government has begun to actually take repressive and in some instances even violent measures against the masses, while unleashing a widespread campaign against "ultra-leftism." According to a *New York Times* account, "...the Sandinista leadership and the five-member governing junta have decided to impose their authority more firmly, not only clamping down on the extreme left and establishing closer communication with the private sector, but also trying to forestall new violence.

"Last weekend, the inhabitants of Managua awoke to find the new Sandinista Army carrying out raids on suspected arms hideouts and manning roadblocks throughout the capital. The army command announced that 673 weapons had been seized and 56 persons arrested."

The crackdown is apparently becoming severe even within the FSLN itself. Interior Minister Tomas Borge, initially billed in the Western press as a "hard-line Marxist," but whose "reasonable pragmatism" has since won him a place of favor in the U.S. media, announced at a recent press conference an "internal clean-up" to crack down on what reports describe as an "epidemic of undiscipline" within the FSLN ranks. Apparently, the main breach of discipline was the widespread refusal to abide by the ban on executing Somocista war-criminals. Borge attacked the "cold-blooded assassination" of a National Guard Colonel, "whose life had been guaranteed by the FSLN in exchange for his unconditional surrender during the civil war," according to reports from Nicaragua. Attempts were then apparently made to hide the fact from

int in NICARAGUA

Army Chief of Staff Ortega. There have been hundreds of such cases. The FSLN purge includes the arrest of "hundreds of army members, including some *comandantes*." In addition, the decree allowing the confiscation of property belonging to the Somoza family or known Somocistas was rescinded; the official reason was that some FSLN members were personally profiting from the seizures.

The FSLN defends its close working relationship with the Nicaraguan bourgeoisie as necessary in the interests of the tremendous reconstruction in the wake of the civil war. They claim that without a policy which creates an atmosphere conducive to capital investment and aid from the United States and other capitalist countries, Nicaragua cannot survive and the gains of the revolution will be lost. They point to the continued presence of substantial remnants of the National Guard, many of whom are stationed in neighboring Honduras, and warn that unless economic stability is restored, the country could slide again into chaos and that this would pave the way for a right-wing coup.

Which Way Forward?

There is no doubt that the civil war, especially the indiscriminate destruction of cities and industry by the departing National Guard, has destroyed the economy. Economic hardship is widespread; unemployment in the cities stands at about forty-five percent. Many people survive only through government food distribution, and often only half-rations are available.

But despite the hardship caused by the destruction of the war, the central question that must be posed is this one: Isn't it a good thing that the "economy" of grinding capitalist exploitation, the "economy" which meant lives of misery and terror for the masses even when it was intact, has been destroyed—if on the rubble of that destroyed, imperialist-dominated economy a new economic and social structure, free of imperialist domination and firmly under the control of the revolutionary people of Nicaragua, can be constructed? But this can only be accomplished by politically unleashing the revolutionary potential of the masses of people—certainly not by checking, controlling, limiting, and even suppressing it. The revolutionary victory over the Somozas, which was also a great blow against U.S. imperialism—would this have been possible if the masses had decided to take a back seat and let some millionaire playboy coffee-plantation owner "do it for us"? Economic reconstruction is undoubtedly an important task facing the people of Nicaragua. But only by continuing and intensifying the struggle against U.S. imperialism and its still-powerful social and class base within Nicaragua itself can such "reconstruction" yield any fruit other than "Somocismo without Somoza."

There is a widespread realization of these truths among substantial sections of the Nicaraguan people, who have been awakened to revolutionary political life and have no intention now of retiring from the stage and handing things over to the "pragmatists" and the "sensible businessmen." While correctly perceiving the present government as a tremendous advance over Somoza, criticism of its policy of curbing the mass movement and attempting to freeze the revolution before it has thoroughly accomplished its main tasks is loudly and vocally expressed. Businessmen are troubled by the widespread system of mass organization (which the FSLN has played an important role in developing and encouraging, especially the block-by-block and factory-by-factory Sandinista Defense Commit-

tees, at the same time as they attempt to use these organizations to keep the movement "within bounds") and by revolutionary agitation which has led to strikes and takeovers of a number of enterprises. Despite the attempts on the part of the government to control the possession of arms, one of the chief features of the Nicaraguan revolution continues to be the lack of a cohesive armed force under the control of the bourgeoisie—a situation dramatically different from that of Chile under Allende, for example, in which the military from beginning to end was controlled by the right.

There is even a daily newspaper in Managua, *El Pueblo*, which is serving, according to reports from several sources, as a voice for the revolutionary Left. Apparently associated with what press dispatches term a "Maoist-oriented labour organization, the Frente Obrero," the publication of the newspaper was banned briefly in July, after it criticized the composition of the new government and warned against "handing over power to bourgeois groups." Several trade union activists associated with the "Frente Obrero," about which little is known, were recently arrested by the government. The Frente Obrero, according to *Latin American Political Report*, a weekly printed in London, "has attacked the government for restricting the takeover of urban land by slum dwellers, and for not carrying out its agrarian reforms at an even swifter pace."

While more detailed accounts of the line and influence of these organizations is unavailable at the present, what is known is that the broad sections of the masses want to carry forward the revolution and, still flushed with enthusiasm following their brilliant victory over the U.S. imperialist puppet Somoza, are exercising their freedom to the utmost and are chafing at any attempt to put the revolution "on a leash." Thus, despite the series of restrictions the new government has sought to impose, on the whole Nicaragua is still bursting with revolutionary vitality and many very favorable conditions exist for carrying the revolution on to still further victories.

Imperialists Maneuver

At the same time, the U.S. imperialists are intensifying their attempts to strip away from the Nicaraguan people the victories they have already won, and to, with the aid of various disguises, once again reassert and consolidate their neo-colonialist mastery of that nation, at the same time as they attempt to stamp out the flames of revolution in the rest of Central and Latin America.

The military defeat of Somoza in Nicaragua, which at first caused near-panic in the U.S. State Department, has since resulted in a thorough policy re-evaluation and a new "strategy." In an article appearing in the journal *Foreign Affairs* (the organ of the Council of Foreign Relations, an authoritative policy-making forum for the U.S. ruling circle as a whole) State Department policy towards Nicaragua during the last months of Somoza's rule was attacked as "inexplicable" and "dismal" for its blind "inflexibility," and for a failure to exploit the contradictions within the FSLN and the Somoza opposition earlier in a way favorable to U.S. interests. The author warns that a continuation of this policy of hostility to the Sandinistas, based on the fear that Nicaragua will become "another Cuba," will have the opposite effect that U.S. imperialists desire. What is necessary for the U.S. bourgeoisie if it hopes to achieve its long-range goals, the article continues, is to adopt a friendly and helpful policy of encouraging the "moderates" within the new government.

Just who the author has in mind

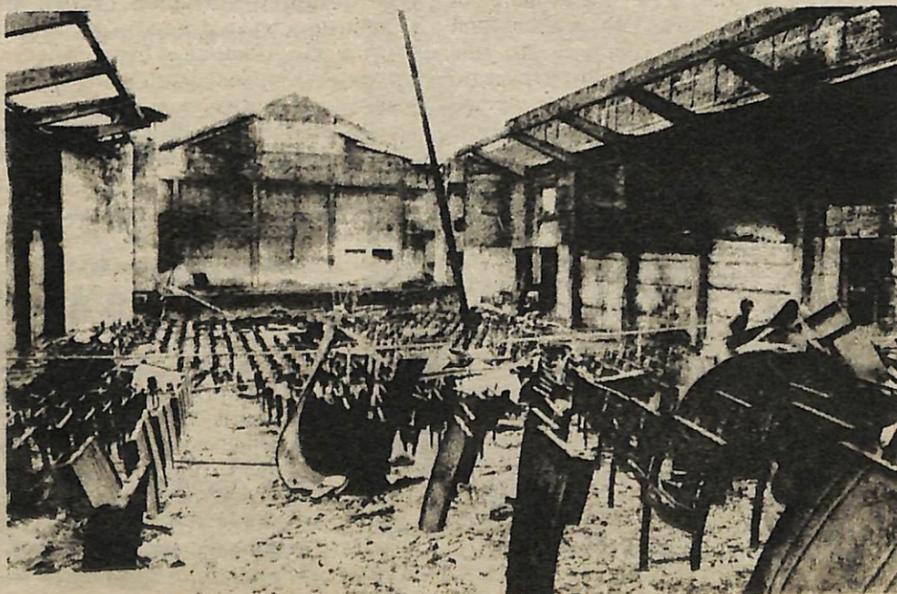
when he speaks of "moderates" becomes clear through the following brief passage: "The moderates are not without significant political resources, however. The upper class controls a substantial portion of the means of production and the middle class possesses important technical skills. The new government will need their cooperation in rebuilding the war-torn economy, and that fact will give them considerable influence over economic policy." The author also singles out the "Tercerista" faction of the FSLN for favorable comment.

The basic thesis of the article is that if the class struggle within Nicaragua is "allowed" to intensify, the strength of the mass movement and the relative weakness of the "moderate" bourgeoisie will lead, most likely, to a victorious "socialist revolution." Only if the United States pursues a delicate and balanced policy—freely offering aid without appearing to "demand" anything in return, recognizing that in the short run things won't go exactly as the imperialists are used to having them go, understanding that "the most conservative forces, the forces with which the United States feels the greatest kinship" are in a weaker position for the time being—is there a hope of defusing the "revolutionary time bomb" and ensuring that the "new Nicaragua" is merely a brushed up, slightly reformed, "social-democratic pluralist" version of the old Nicaragua. For too long the U.S. has demanded immediate results for its money, the author warns. Now is the time to play it cool.

The sudden rash of editorials in the more influential U.S. newspapers echoing this new line, where before columnists were screeching about "Who Lost Nicaragua?" is a good illustration of the clout of the Council of Foreign Relations. "Shore Up Nicaragua's Moderates!" is the call to arms of the *Wall Street Journal* editorial of early October. "The new Nicaraguan government to date has proved a surprise: far more rational, moderate and democratic than almost anyone could have hoped for..." The editorial warns that the failure to give substantial U.S. aid to the new government would lead inevitably to an economic collapse in which "the extreme radical minority within the Sandinista army will come to the fore." In that case, the authors sum up the dread result in one chilling sentence: "Instead of the Mensheviks, the Bolsheviks."

"Help Nicaragua Stay on Track" chimes in the *Christian Science Monitor* in its ed-op page banner lead. And the title of a recent *New York Times*

Equipped at first with only small arms, the people defeated Somoza's heavily-armed, U.S.-equipped National Guard, which brutally bombed and shelled the population, as shown by remains of movie theatre in Masaya.



Magazine piece, "Nicaragua: A Delicate Balance," is trailed by a bold-print blurb for the "new revolutionary government that has committed itself almost as much to private enterprise as it has to alleviating the problems of the poor."

Two Tactics

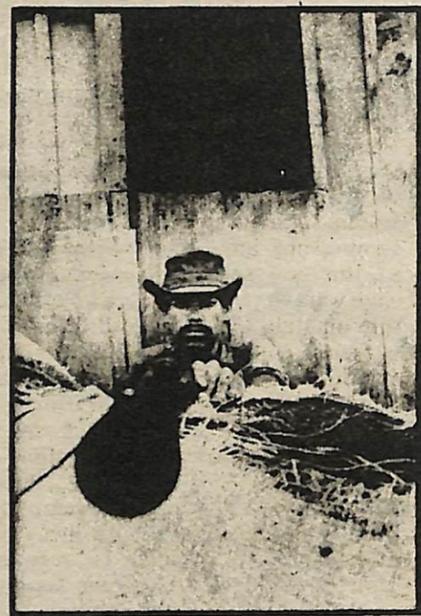
The ruling class propaganda is revealing in two respects. Not only does it expose the sinister designs the U.S. intends to carrying out under cover of the glow of "reasonableness," "live and let live," and "friendly, disinterested aid." It also reveals that they perceive—correctly—that the revolutionary mass movement in Nicaragua is still so powerful that the threat of a new upheaval which would sweep away forever the social basis upon which the imperialists are staking their dreams of recovery is extreme sharp. (Of course, should this take place, the mincing cautiousness and the mask of "friendship" would quickly be dropped in favor of more traditional forms of U.S. "diplomacy.")

For now, however, the U.S. imperialists appear to be pleased with the progress they are making. When the Council of the Americas, a New York based association of United States Corporations operating in Latin America, held a reception at the U.S. Embassy in Managua, many of the top Sandinista leaders attended. "It was a very important symbol of the growing pragmatism and realism of the Sandinista government," a Nicaraguan businessmen was quoted in the *Times*. "It was also a vindication of Washington's new policy toward Nicaragua."

Government Seeks Foreign "Aid"

The policy of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua is clearly based on reliance on foreign aid and loans, first of all from the United

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Clip Out and Circulate

**Keep
Bob Avakian
and
Mao
Defendants
Free**

**WITHDRAW THE APPEAL
DROP ALL THE CHARGES
ONCE AND FOR ALL**

To: The District of Columbia Court of Appeals, U.S. Attorney Carl Rauh,
and Asst. U.S. Attorney Mary Ellen Abrecht

We, the undersigned, condemn the U.S. Government's continuing efforts to harass, intimidate and jail Revolutionary Communist Party Chairman Bob Avakian and 16 others for 241 years. Though the judge presiding in their case dismissed the multiple felony count indictment against the 17 defendants on November 14, 1979—on November 23, 1979 the U.S. Government, with the judge's full cooperation, filed notice of intention to appeal this decision with the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. Clearly this attempted railroad of the Mao Tsetung Defendants is not yet over.

The judge's dismissal order cited a defense motion which charged "prosecutorial vindictiveness" by the U.S. Government against the Revolutionary Communist Party, its members and supporters. This motion cites the history of the mushrooming of criminal charges and top level government involvement against Bob Avakian and 16 other defendants in this case:

- First arrested on January 29, 1979 at a demonstration in front of the White House against the visit of Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping to the U.S., 78 persons were charged with misdemeanor riot.
- Within 12 hours, charges were hoisted to felonious assault on police officers when former U.S. Attorney Earl Silbert, of Watergate fame, personally appeared in court to state that the U.S. Government had "good cases" against all 78.
- In late June, 17 were notified of their indictment on 5 to 7 felony charges; Bob Avakian was among those indicted although up to the present time he has not yet been identified by any government witness as having been present at the scene of the crimes for which he is charged.
- In early July one group of 8 defendants was arraigned on 12 felony charges and a second group of 9 defendants on 15 felony charges; all were charged with misdemeanor riot.
- In mid-August, following a defense motion to consolidate the two groups into one common trial, the U.S. Attorney re-indicted all 17 defendants and all were re-arraigned on 25 felony charges and one misdemeanor.

So long as this case is pending in the Court of Appeals, Bob Avakian and the other 16 defendants can, at any time in the next 2 to 18 months or more, again face these same charges. They may still be forced to go on trial for their political views in a case which cannot be allowed to set the political climate for the 1980s.

When plans for this major trial of political repression targeting Bob Avakian and the 16 others were made, the U.S. Government failed to take into account the thousands upon thousands of people from all walks of life across this country who would and have begun to step forward to stand against this vicious attack. It was in the face of this ever-growing opposition to their attack on the 17 that the U.S. Government was forced to back off. But the U.S. Attorney's plan to appeal the dismissal of the charges amply demonstrates that the U.S. Government may very well try to reinstate these charges at a more favorable time.

We will not allow the opposition of thousands to the U.S. Government's attack on the Mao Tsetung Defendants to be sidetracked by the transferral of this case to the Court of Appeals. Most importantly, we will never stand by silently and allow the U.S. Government to work out new tactics to pursue this outrageous attack. We demand:

**WITHDRAW THE APPEAL • DROP ALL THE CHARGES ONCE AND FOR ALL
KEEP BOB AVAKIAN AND THE MAO TSETUNG DEFENDANTS FREE**

**National Office of the Committee to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants
P.O. Box 6422, "T" St. Station, Washington, D.C. 20009
Phone: (202) 387-8863**

The Committee to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants is collecting signatures for this statement to be (1) sent to the D.C. Court of Appeals and the U.S. Attorney, (2) possibly used in a paid advertisement. Names of those who wish to sign this statement and donations should be sent to the National Office of the Committee at the above address.

People of Chester Defy Klan

Chester, South Carolina. Under the cover of night, 150 lizards slithered into the Chester fairgrounds on Saturday, December 8. The Klan had received big billing in the week before, as public opinion makers for the ruling class drummed about how the Klan were going to march and caravan through downtown Chester at the very same time as the Chester Movement for Justice, the organization leading the months long battle against the brutal lynching of Black youth Mickey McClinton Poag, was to have an action in downtown Chester.

It was an obvious attempt to intimidate the Black people of Chester and put a halt to the struggle which has raged here, exposing the city authorities, the governor and the police, in their attempts to whitewash the murder of Mickey Poag, who dared to go around with a white girl. But the reactionary KKK scum did not make the scene in Chester the way they had planned.

Less than half the expected crowd showed up at the joint North-South Carolina event. Hovering around their Confederate and American flags in the fairgrounds, the Kluckers listened to two North Carolina Klan leaders brag about their members who massacred five anti-Klan demonstrators in Greensboro one month ago. One speaker, Virgil Griffin, who had been at the massacre himself spoke, confident that his acts were sanctioned by the police, who had posted a handful of cops around the sidelines. Many at the Klan rally appeared nervous. Today they were being watched.

Carloads of Black activists drove past the rally site looking for familiar faces in the crowd. The word was out in Chester that the Chester Movement for Justice was sending men to watch exactly which local reactionaries would dare show their faces. All afternoon, sheeted Klansmen drove through town in pick-ups announcing the rally and trying to

scare Black people into their homes. But several pick-ups of Black men, shotguns in the racks, also patrolled and the streets were full of shoppers and others who were clearly not intimidated by the Klan. The Saturday picket by the Chester movement hit downtown from 10:30 to 12:30, as people took a firm stand.

For two weeks, the mills and factories in Chester had been hot with debate about this KKK rally. Black and white workers struggled at lunch over what this rally meant. "Why did they get a permit so easy?" even though they'd only recently killed people in North Carolina, asked the Black workers. The Chester movement has had to fight for every permit and only the same week had been denied a permit for a Sunday march. No one really questioned why the KKK had come to Chester, since the area is a hotbed of struggle against the racist reaction that the KKK represents.

For over ten years the KKK has not

had an open face in Chester, but vicious murders of Blacks and whites who dare to associate with Blacks have been widespread. The May 1979 lynching of Mickey McClinton Poag became the dividing line as people, especially the Black people, stood up. Now in the wake of the Greensboro Klan/Nazi murders, carried on with the full cooperation of the police, the KKK has been unleashed again in Chester. But the local authorities and their unleashed dogs didn't count on the strength of the people's movement. While their newspapers proclaimed this "an uneventful evening rally," it was indeed an *eventful evening* as Black people turned the tables on the KKK and they were the ones looking over their shoulders on Saturday night. As one Black man said proudly, "If they make one mistake here, they're going to have to pay for all their mistakes." ■

Shine the Light of Revolution Behind the Prison Walls

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

ARE YOU READY FOR THE 1980s?

"Conditions are changing all the time, and to adapt one's thinking to the new conditions one must study." Mao Tsetung

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Detroit: May Day Books, 3136 E. Davison, 48212, 313-893-0523.
Chicago: Revolution Books, 1727 S. Michigan, 60616, 312-922-6580.
Los Angeles: Liberation Books, 2706 W. 7th St., 90057, 213-384-3856.
Berkeley: Revolution Books, 1952 University Ave., 94704, 415-841-8314.
San Francisco: Everybody's Bookstore, 17 Brenham Place, 94108, 415-781-4989.
Seattle: Revolution Books, 1828 Broadway, 98122, 206-323-9222.
Honolulu: Revolution Books, 923 N. King St., 96817, 808-845-2733.

Secret Service

Continued from page 8

there no gun involved at the embassy (in fact, despite initial lies to the effect that there was, the prosecution at the trial of these five men didn't even raise the presence of a weapon as an issue during the court proceedings), but moreover, Bob Avakian was never implicated by anyone in this action—never even accused! The anonymous "student" continued: "Bob Avakian is with the group that pulled the gun on the guard... I know that guard..." At that point, this "student" pulled out a Secret Service badge for the gathering people to see. He evidently felt that divulging his identity would lend his story credence.

Throughout the rest of the afternoon on campus the Brigade members again and again ran into people who brought up the incident at the Chinese embassy in connection with Chairman Avakian. "I don't think it was right to pour blood on Hua Kuo-feng," said one incredibly befuddled or well paid student. Another student argued, "Well, he murdered somebody so he should go to jail, after all he admitted it." When challenged for these lies, this "student" split the scene. Clearly the Secret Service and Co. had done their dirty work. Rumors and slanders about Bob Avakian were flying thick and full. When others in D.C. went out to mobilize opposition to this Secret Service attack, it became quickly apparent that the same sort of slanders and rumors—not to mention threats—were being spread among many other strata of the people in D.C. as well.

This is not the first time the U.S. government has tried to paint revolutionary leaders and a revolutionary organization as a crazy band of aimless terrorists. And it is blatant preparation for launching vicious political attacks. This is the real aim behind the Secret Service investigation going on around Bob Avakian.

And it is part of a pattern. In Greensboro this week (see article, page 2), a misdemeanor trial of Party supporters was held featuring police with rifles on the rooftops. Local cops got on the stand and testified to the most outrageous lies, saying that the defendants had called on the masses of Greensboro to "kill the pigs, the revolution is now, get your guns." This is the kind of hysterical picture they try to paint to justify any and all of their actions from maximum jail sentences (as in this case) to murder. Is all this a

coincidence, coming at the time of the Secret Service investigation? Hardly.

Simultaneously with all this, in Los Angeles, the judge scheduled to hear the case of Bob Avakian vs. the U.S. government, who was to make a ruling on whether or not to issue a temporary restraining order to prevent the U.S. government from moving against Bob Avakian on the basis of the *L.A. Times* fabrication, was conveniently "tied up" with other matters. "Just routine," his law clerk explained, "you know how these things go. He might not get around to this case for a few more days." The Secret Service was obviously trying to tighten up their plans and needed time.

It is with obvious irony that the SS says they "just want to talk" to Bob Avakian. This is clear from all these statements and actions by the Secret Service, as well as from other information the Party has. Besides, there is nothing to talk about. There is no reasonable basis at all for any of this.

The government's intentions are clear. When they decided to move against Bob Avakian only weeks after the dismissal and appeal on the 25 felony charges, they were showing their desperation. Now, with this ridiculous "RCP Chairman Threatens President" so-called case, they've gone to an even more openly political attack against Bob Avakian. As we said a month ago in summing up the dismissal of the earlier charges, if the government returned to the attack, it would be with even more deadly intentions. Now they have done so. They were showing their bloody hand. Hands that do not wipe clean even when they try to wash them long enough to knock on doors and flash Secret Service badges as they carry out what they term a routine investigation of Bob Avakian. Routine, hell! They want to put him out of action permanently. And part of their aim is to stop people from hearing Bob Avakian and to stop him from being able to give leadership.

But they will not succeed in this. This attack can be met head on and defeated. Every "friendly" question asked by the Secret Service as they carry out their phony investigation must be exposed for a knife in the back of the masses of people. Every rat and roach crawling into our midst disguised in a three-piece suit must be identified and called out for the vermin they are. And this Secret Service investigation must and will be fought and defeated for the vicious escalation of the attack on Bob Avakian that it is—before the U.S. government gets its noose around Bob Avakian's neck. ■

 **REVOLUTIONARY WORKER**
Voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party, U.S.A.

COMMITTEE TO FREE THE MAO TSETUNG DEFENDANTS

Contact at:
2108 18th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009
Phone: (202) 387-8863

or
Contact the local committees in your area c/o
the *Revolutionary Worker*
(see address on page 2)

5 Years for Reading a Book

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worst fears of the carefully selected jury, terrified by the image of a "commie" professor subverting the minds of the young. "Did we make up Frank Giese's fingerprints on the book *From the Movement Toward Revolution?*" ranted the D.A. "You read those pages where it talks about bombings, sniper attacks...throughout that book are references to the very things these people did."

Giese was acquitted on five assorted counts of actual acts related to the bombings, but convicted on the charge of conspiring to commit offences against the government. The judge gleefully pronounced the maximum sentence—five years in jail for the

58-year-old professor. According to the judge, while Giese "did not represent a future danger", still the sword of justice must move swiftly and harshly to "express public concern."

Giese, of course, was fired from his job as a tenured professor at PSU, even over the objection of a committee of five professors handpicked for their proven reactionary record.

Now the Supreme Court has framed the whole affair and put it on the wall ignoring the legal arguments of groups from the ACLU to the American Booksellers Association, which showed that the decision allows the government to prosecute anyone for criminal conspiracy based on what they read.

But while the legal attacks raised by these groups are certainly worth noting, the heart of the matter is clearly an attempt by the ruling class to attack and intimidate people like Giese because it recognizes the potential role and potential danger of the impact of revolutionary-minded intellectuals—certainly not in regard to individual acts of bombings, as even the court in the Giese case admitted—but in regard to the masses of people, particularly youth. ■

Greensboro

Continued from page 2

"However, several police officers testified the defendants urged residents and participants at the rally to 'kill the...pigs' and attack officers."

Police Sgt. J. W. Wilson testified the crowd approached police cars 'as if they were going to attack. I thought they were going to attack,' he said.

"Several officers said the crowd became emotional and excited and started throwing objects, including copies of the RCP's newspaper. One officer said he was hit by a rock, which left a bruise on his back despite the protective bulletproof vest he was wearing."

The *Greensboro Record* chimed in in a Dec. 10 article:

"When police arrested a RCP member, another member jumped on the officers' car, according to testimony, and urged residents of the project to get their guns because the revolution had started."

Such ridiculous lies would be quite humorous, even hilarious, if revolutionaries were not set to do up to 2 years jail time because of just these kinds of vicious fabrications.

Press Conferences

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deliberately to provoke the crisis... The issue is we are holding a murderer and a thief in the United States." Both exposed and blasted the press blackout of support for the Iranian people. "We want it known that there are dissidents in this country on the question of the Shah," Kunstler said. Cockcroft told the press, "We feel there is a media curtain, a kind of paper curtain if you like...and the reason we are holding this press conference is to break that blackout...If you can't get a go ahead from whomever you go to to write a story on this, then you should make a news story out of THAT." Kunstler added, "Or you can be a slave."

Professor Cockcroft spoke about what he saw in his visit to Iran in 1978, "I think there is a coverup going on,

not only of the Shah's crimes but of United States complicity in the crimes. For example...the U.S. was teaching SAVAK torture techniques from WWII-Hitler's Germany—as well as from Fort Mead and these torture techniques, some of which you'll hear about from the delegation when it returns from Tehran, are absolutely barbarous."

The following statements were given at the Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. press conferences respectively:

Statement By National La Raza Legal Alliance in L.A.

The National La Raza Legal Alliance voices its disapproval of the current United States policy of sheltering the deposed Shah of Iran, a war criminal whose crimes have been compared to those of Hitler.

We as attorneys, legal workers and law students throughout the United States speak against President Carter's policy of "instant immigration" for this known murderer of thousands of

Iranian citizens, while thousands of law abiding Mexicans and other immigrants must wait up to nine years before being able to legally immigrate.

It is patently outrageous that the American people are kept ignorant of the true facts of what role the United States government played during the Shah's regime. We believe that if the public begins to understand how the CIA and other governmental agencies played a significant role in supporting, arming and promoting the Shah, that most American citizens will demand the removal of the Shah from the territories of the United States.

We request the press to exercise its freedom to independently lift the information ban that apparently has been imposed to shield the public from knowledge of the Shah's background and U.S. involvement in Iran.

Statement from the National Abortion Rights Coalition in Washington, D.C.

I'm from the abortion rights movement of women's liberation, and the

woman's liberation is a really important thing to be communicating here because, just to state first, we do support the delegation that has gone to Iran. And we support it because we support the peoples' revolution, while recognizing that for us as feminists there's a real contradiction with Islam and feminism and the whole role of women. But we recognize at this point that with the rule of the Shah that religion was the major means of voicing any kind of dissidence. And so we feel that it is really important to have a delegation such as this, but also recognize that there are contradictions inherent in it, as there always are in most political things we do. But our support for the people fighting for control of their own lives is what stands firm, and that is reflected in our support for the delegation and in particular for support for having feminists there to be seeing for themselves what is happening, and then to be coming back to this country to be communicating to just that. ■

Nicaragua

Continued from page 15

States, and of encouraging foreign investment to rebuild the Nicaraguan economy. A large "aid package," proposed by the Carter administration is currently before Congress. "Development loans," originally slated for the Somoza government have been revamped by the World Bank and extended to the new regime. The Nicaraguan government is also appealing for loans and investment from the "social democratic" Western capitalist countries, especially the Scandinavians, and is also soliciting aid from Cuba and the Soviet bloc. Delegations of Nicaraguan capitalists are active in the United States and elsewhere, explaining the internal policy as being conducive to foreign investment. It is for this reason also that the government has pursued a "hands off" policy towards any foreign holdings in Nicaragua, strictly limiting its expropriations to the Somoza holdings, and has agreed to shoulder the huge national debt of foreign loans accumulated by Somoza.

Recently, a high ranking delegation of FSLN commanders visited the United States for consultation with the U.S. government and with corporations interested in doing business in Nicaragua. In Washington, D.C., the FSLN met with representatives of the U.S. State Department, the Office of Human Rights, the Dept. of Agriculture, the Agency for International Development, and a number of Senators and Representatives. An FSLN press release summing up the consultation reads in part: "...The elected officials were able to

learn about the Plan of Economic Reactivation prepared by the Nicaraguan government for 1980. The plan proposes to tackle the three principal problems faced by the revolutionary government, namely unemployment, food shortages, and inflation. For their part, the Congressmen and Senators showed keen interest and favorable disposition toward the Nicaraguan process. Having listened intently to the Commander, Senator Fritz Hollings, Democrat of South Carolina, promised enthusiastically his full support for Nicaragua... At present, Congress is considering a \$75 million aid package, 60% of this assistance will be funneled to the private sector..."

Despite the fact that Washington's worst fear is that Nicaragua will ultimately become a Soviet satellite state in the Americas, modelled after Cuba, the United States has chosen to deliberately ignore for the time being the large number of Cuban advisors and technicians in Nicaragua, as well as statements by Nicaraguan delegates to the recent Non-Aligned Conference in Havana that appeared to dove-tail with the Cuban line on some questions.

Undoubtedly, the Cuban revisionists will attempt to subvert the Nicaraguan revolution, and the face-off between the two superpowers will be sharply reflected in the revolutionary struggle within Nicaragua itself. However, it is unlikely that this will be clearly manifested in the near future. Cuban revisionist leader Fidel Castro, while offering "aid" and support of various kinds (including the offer of "a thousand volunteer school-teachers") has reportedly himself encouraged the Nicaraguans to maintain friendly relations with the United States. Cuba did

almost nothing to encourage the revolution in Nicaragua prior to Somoza's overthrow, and in fact obliquely criticized the September Sandinista offensive as "adventurist." The Cuban strategy appears to be carefully designed to avoid provoking a confrontation with the United States in the western hemisphere for now, and for that matter, Cuba and their Soviet masters are, like the United States, pursuing their imperialist designs very "delicately" in the current situation.

Class Struggle Sharpens

In a July 27th editorial hailing the victories of the Nicaraguan people and analyzing the road ahead for their revolutionary struggle, the *Revolutionary Worker* observed that "...at the present time the main question confronting the people of Nicaragua is not economic reconstruction, but the continuation of the fight to rid their country of the disease of U.S. imperialist domination. The toppling of Somoza and the destruction of the national guard represent tremendous victories in this struggle; but by no means do these victories mean that the struggle is over. In order to finally drive the U.S. imperialist from their country, the revolutionary masses must continue their correct stand of refusing to relinquish their arms. They must expropriate all of the wealth and property stolen by the U.S. imperialists and rapidly extract Nicaragua from the international web of credit and finance. They must topple and suppress all lackeys of U.S. imperialism within Nicaragua, either open or disguised, and they must vigilantly guard against all plots and attempts at armed counter-revolution, either in the form of open armed U.S. intervention

or in the form of a Pinochet-style coup of U.S. imperialist puppets. Only with the final expulsion of the U.S. imperialists from Nicaragua can 'economic reconstruction' be anything more than a sham under which imperialism rebuilds its ability to extract riches from the toil of the people."

At the present time, the revolutionary people of Nicaragua are waging an increasingly sharp class struggle around precisely these questions. It is not surprising that the class struggle has sharpened still further, rather than ebbing, following the fall of Somoza; his fall was a tremendous defeat for imperialism but at the same time it merely cleared the way for the advance of the revolution, and by no means marked its end. In the future, class interests will become even more starkly counterpoised, and the struggle is bound to intensify further. The Nicaraguan people are determined to once and for all clean out the vultures' nest of imperialism which for many decades had made their life a horrible nightmare. The road to the bright future is tortuous and difficult; but events since the fall of Somoza have demonstrated clearly that it is the demand of the masses of Nicaragua that this road be taken regardless of the difficulties or of the obstacles, internal or external, that may confront them. The conclusion of the *RW* editorial referred to above still stands today: "...in this new situation, as in the anti-Somoza civil war, the key lies in arousing and mobilizing the revolutionary enthusiasm of the broad masses, and unleashing their revolutionary initiative and zeal to thoroughly root out the old order and themselves take up their rightful role as master of their country." ■