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Sanctuary Movement Defiant Underground Railroad Under Fire



The U.S. government has launched a major assault on the church-based sanctuary movement and underground railroad for Central American refugees. The movement has been openly defying the immigration authorities by transporting, offering protection to and publicizing the experiences of immigrants who have felt first hand the death and destruction of the U.S. and its compradors in the region. Now, the U.S. has lashed back, seeking to silence the sanctuary movement. But the response of those attacked is determined and defiant — and the out-

come of this attack may be quite different from the government's intentions.

In December, two activists with the Casa Oscar Romero Refugee Center near Brownsville, Texas were charged with conspiracy, bringing Salvadoran refugees into the country and transporting them. Then, on January 14, the Justice Department announced a 71-count indictment against sixteen people in the Tucson-Phoenix-Nogales areas, including two of the founders of the sanctuary movement and a Nogales, Sonora, Mexico priest. The indictments actually came down on

January 10, but they were sealed for four days to enable Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) agents in Phoenix, Seattle, Rochester, N.Y., and Philadelphia to carry out predawn raids against sixty-five Central American immigrants, including young children, arrested as "material witnesses" against the sixteen. The raids were coordinated so as to all strike at the same time for maximum impact and seemed calculated to conjure up once again the most hideous memories of the refugees — and remind them who was responsible.

The latest indictments include major charges of conspiracy, bringing immigrants into the U.S. illegally, transporting them, concealing, harboring or shielding them, and encouraging, or attempting to encourage, illegal entry. Each of these charges carries a maximum five years in prison and fines from \$2,000 to \$10,000. There are also lesser counts carrying possible six-month sentences and \$500 fines. Indeed, a nun in Phoenix, Sister Darleen Nicgorski, whose Bible study class includes forty-three im-

Continued on page 6

Kennedy: Bared In Soweto



One of the best events in last week's headlines was "U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy's Embarrassed Departure from South Africa." Without mincing words, Kennedy was virtually chased out of the country by revolutionary demonstrations and, in the spirit of other notorious U.S. imperialists like Nixon and Rockefeller getting stoned in Latin America, it must be said that it couldn't have happened to a more deserving fellow. In fact, the recent events in Azania have been the best thing to happen to a Kennedy — the royal family of U.S. bourgeois liberalism — in decades. The struggle against oppression is an international one, for real, and oppressed people in the belly of this beast can surely learn from the reception given Mr. Kennedy.

Kennedy was hounded by demonstrations led by the Azanian People's Organization (AZAPO) throughout his entire tour of Azania. The high point turned out to be Kennedy's farewell speech scheduled for January 14 in Soweto's Regina Mundi Church. According to Kennedy's aides, this was to be a major farewell speech, one designed to clearly identify Kennedy with the struggle against apartheid. The choice of Soweto and the Regina Mundi Church as the site of the speech was highly symbolic. Soweto itself, the largest black township in South Africa and the starting place of the 1976 rebellions that rocked the country, has long been a symbol of, and a clarion call for, the struggle of the Azanian people. Along this same line, Regina Mundi Church is the scene of the annual commemoration of the rebellion in Soweto.

Kennedy never made it to Regina Mundi however. His car caravan was stopped and turned back quite a distance away. By the time his car had been turned around, the scene at the church had erupted into an open confrontation between supporters of South African Bishop Desmond Tutu and Ted Kennedy versus the revolutionary people of Soweto.

Tutu, a black "moderate" in South Africa whom the U.S. is very fond of promoting these days and one of the main organizers of the Kennedy tour, had planned on Kennedy delivering his speech before 4,000 or so Azanian people at the church. The Azanian People's Organization and revolutionary-minded people of Soweto, however, had other plans — chief among which was doing all they could to oppose and expose Kennedy as an agent of imperialism. Before the speech was scheduled to begin, five hundred opponents of apartheid and U.S. imperialism gathered inside the church while another seven hundred remained outside. (It should be noted here that the U.S. press reported only one hundred demonstrators at the church altogether. AZAPO supporters in the U.S. who had been in contact with spokespersons inside Azania gave the *RW* the actual numbers involved in the action.)

As the crowd grew larger, banners and picket signs denouncing Kennedy and U.S. imperialism began to appear. Among the slogans raised were, "Away with the CIA, Kennedy, oppression and capitalism" and "Reject Kennedy, Reject Imperialism." In a vain attempt to establish control over the situation Tutu asked the crowd if they wanted to hear Kennedy speak. The initial shouts of "yes" were quickly countered by the demonstrators. Within minutes the anti-imperialists and those aligned with Bishop Tutu had faced off against each other at the front of the church. Meanwhile, across the street from the church the South African police stood by in riot gear in case they were needed to protect Senator Kennedy. When it became obvious that Tutu would not be able to gain

control of the situation, Kennedy's aides cancelled the speech.

The major farewell performance was thus turned into a hurried and pathetic scene at the airport. As Kennedy boarded his plane, Tutu attempted to regain some lost ground by announcing that Kennedy's speech had been cancelled in order to prevent a police attack against the meeting rather than because of the demonstrators. Here it should be pointed out that not even the U.S. press gave this story any credence.

Kennedy's tour was also marked by a falling out among gangsters when South Africa and the U.S. began throwing mud at each other, each one revealing a little bit of the truth about the other. Apparently the apartheid regime grew a little tired of Kennedy's "highlighting of the worst aspects of apartheid" and, midway through the tour, South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha pointed out that Kennedy should pay as much attention to the conditions of Black people inside the U.S., specifically stating that the death rate of Black children in the U.S. was twice that of whites and that the Black poverty rate was three times as high. Kennedy immediately issued a blustering response. At first he attacked South Africa for "making an untrue attack on the United States." Imagine the audacity of the apartheid regime accusing the U.S. of oppressing Black people. After all, not only is the U.S. one of the parents of the apartheid system itself and the granddaddy of enslaving Black people within its own borders, but the entire U.S. empire thrives on the oppression and exploitation of both oppressed nationalities inside the U.S. and throughout the world, including those in South Africa. Kennedy quickly modified his statement to admit that there is oppression of Black people in the U.S. but that the conditions of black people in South Africa is far worse in comparison. But he neglected to point out that without the continued backing of the U.S., Britain and other Western imperialists, the South African regime would not last long.

The U.S. press went out of its way to present a confusing picture of the revolutionary opposition to Kennedy's trip, claiming that the main reason AZAPO opposed Kennedy was because they felt Kennedy was simply campaigning for the 1988 U.S. presidential election. It really is incredible that these news reports can quote AZAPO spokesmen referring to Kennedy as the "epitome of imperialism" and yet still run out such an absurdity. A statement released by AZAPO and obtained by the *RW* unequivocally states the main basis for AZAPO's opposition to Kennedy. In the statement, entitled "Down with Imperialism," AZAPO stated: "During Kennedy's ten-day 'fact-finding mission' to Azania, his mission was exposed by the

Azanian People's Organization (AZAPO) as a further extension of imperialism's tentacle into southern Africa. Under the leadership of AZAPO, the Azanian masses confronted him wherever he went. The confrontation was based on what the U.S. represents and its aims and designs in southern Africa." The statement went on to declare that AZAPO had concluded, among other things, that "Kennedy's visit was aimed at enshrining the interests of international imperialism in Azania," and that "The American political system is a two-faced beast. The welfare face is represented by the Democratic Party and the military face is represented by the Republican Party. Both continue to serve the interest of imperialism in the world."

The U.S. press was also fond of repeating that the main difference between AZAPO and groups like the United Democratic Front and its parent organization, the pro-Soviet African National Congress (ANC), is that AZAPO "excludes white people." First of all, it must be said that any such accusation of "nationalism" coming from the U.S. press is totally laughable; such criticism of a black organization in apartheid South Africa is nothing more than the ravings of the slavemaster about "equality." But the main point that must be brought out is that the difference between AZAPO and groups like the UDF and the ANC has more to do with the political differences between a revolutionary anti-imperialist position and a strategy which is bound up with one imperialist or another. And quite clearly, the U.S. press did not approve of the rude reception accorded their boy Teddy by revolutionary people in South Africa.

As pointed out in last week's *RW*, one of the leading members of the United Democratic Front was also one of the main people that invited Kennedy to tour the country. And, in the middle of the tour, the UDF General Secretary told the *Christian Science Monitor* that his view was, "the Kennedy visit will definitely benefit our struggle against apartheid." In addition, the African National Congress has not so much as issued one official statement concerning Kennedy's visit or the demonstrations against him. Instead, the head of the ANC, Oliver Tambo, for his own reasons and in concert with the international interests of Soviet imperialism, chose to meet with Kennedy in Lusaka, Zambia after Kennedy had been chased out of Azania.

The revolutionary actions hounding Kennedy throughout the country and calling him out as a low-life imperialist were very refreshing, particularly in the current U.S. political scene, and hopefully will inspire some of the oppressed to rid themselves of those burdensome "Kennedy pictures" still hanging on their walls and take up a revolutionary internationalist political line against the South African regime and all the ugly manifestations of imperialism in the world today. □

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The Inauguration Of An American Hitler

The year-long whirl of salesmanship and staged plebiscite is over. Ronald Reagan prepares to receive reappointment as America's commander in chief. It was preordained, if not by god himself (who does not exist), then at least by the ruling class of the United States (which unfortunately does). Throughout Orwell's 1984, Reagan was clearly their "man of the hour," their most fitting representative. A mandate was conjured up and bestowed. Millions were told to laugh along with jokes on nuclear first strike, to meditate over Biblical prophecy of Armageddon, to revel in their own perceived privileges and to lust for future victories in battle.

Even now, when the second coronation will take place in Washington, D.C., it is the drumbeats of World War 3 that command the tramp of hundreds of stallions, while the blasts of "right-to-life" firebombs threaten to drown out the muted rustle of silks.

Republican columnist William Safire (a former Nixon speech writer, and an expert of fine-tuned political messages) opened his *New York Times* spread on Reagan II with a little tale. It concerned the postponing of the inaugural ceremonies from their formal Sunday date to this coming Monday. To please both preacher and philistine, the Sabbath and Superbowl must be kept holy. Monday will see the spotlight given over to the Reagan oath, via the electronic eyes of his modern Goebbels.

But, Safire reports, what millions will see will be a *second* oath, reenacted for their benefit. The real swearing-in will

already have taken place, in secret, on Sunday, the legal expiration date of his previous term. Not for one moment can the legitimacy of the American presidency stand in question. Safire explains that this was just one more deliberate "signal" about the times we live in: "Concern will be shown for piety, but religious observance is a distant second to the need to have a finger continuously on the button. Religion reigns in rhetoric, but national security rules the roost."

With the ritual warfare of the Superbowl as a backdrop, the American Hitler will solemnly reaffirm his commitment to

the prevailing of the American system. And it has already been announced that his hand will also rest on a Biblical verse calling for national redemption, II Chronicles 7:14, "If my people, which are called in my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal the land."

"The official themes are to be 'populist' calls to national unanimity... 'We the People.' And every detail will reek with fashionable certitude about American superiority and righteousness.

Two million dollars have been spent on soldiers to provide suitable servants and chauffeurs for the events. The ads for dancers and showmen called for "clean-cut, all-American types" willing to work without pay. The press oozes slavishly about Adorno, and Bill Blass, about \$100,000 minks and \$1000-a-day limos. A week-long chain of glitter-dome events are to be staged to showcase culture in the American Order. With a sprinkling of sanitized token acts, the modern Cultural Ministry dictates the limits of the allowable. At one pole will be the guidance of Frank Sinatra and his Las Vegas sleaze, at the other pole stand the stiff intolerant little robots trained by the Jerry Falwells. Everything is prepared to dazzle the tiny Goetz-like minds of America's good Germans.

But who can miss the deliberate exclusion of "invisible" millions? The arrogant handful may rattle their jewelry to hail their mummified messiah — but they do it surrounded by a vast sea of churning ghettos.

They may proclaim unanimity — but at the same time they prepare the most massive security precautions in history.

They may proclaim pluralism and "mandate" — but they have assigned their loyal Jackson opposition to symbolic shadows, and threaten the disloyal

opposition of youth and rebels with club and paddywagon.

They may proclaim American permanence — but who can miss the seed of potential civil war at every hand?

It is a twentieth-century nuclear Hitler being installed here, over the crumbling rot of a modern Roman empire. Armageddon is an appropriate theme for them; because *for them*, for their current "glory days," this is truly the "End of Time" one way or another!

Look closely this weekend at what they propose to do, and what they propose to defend. Look at this global empire of blood and loot, preparing feverishly behind its nuclear stockpile for global war.

To those who recognize this reality, who are gripped by the urgency of these times, who realize that this criminal system is preparing its greatest historic crime, World War 3, we repeat our question:

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO NOW?

The choice between two "Evil Empires," East and West, is no choice. The calls to dig in for the election of 1986, or 1988, or... these are plans to wander slavishly into the fireballs. And such appeals for tame and measured tones deserve the harsh, public label: counterinsurgent. No loyal pressure can deflect the war-bound American ship of state. It must be sunk!

Today, more clearly than ever, truly realistic politics must crackle with OUTLAW spirit. Who're you gonna call to bust these ghosts? Look around and see the truth that revolution, a proletarian revolution led by those with nothing to lose, stands as the best and *only* shot.

Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Revolutionary Communist party, has just pointed out in his new book:

"The imperialist system — as it now

Continued on page 14



Military personnel stand in at inauguration rehearsal.



Military marching band rehearses.



**SEE THEM LAUGH, PLAY
AND TICKLE BABIES
WHILE THEY
PLAN MASS MURDER.**



Flames In Tourist "Paradise"

At 7 p.m. on January 14 the Jamaican government announced an approximately 20 percent increase in the price of gasoline, kerosene and propane gas. This price increase was to take effect at midnight. For the next two days coast-to-coast outbreaks of protest erupted throughout Jamaica. According to most reports, the heaviest rebellion was in the capital city of Kingston where streets were blockaded by burning barricades of trees, tires and cars. All businesses, schools and offices were closed. The

opening up of a new parliamentary term was cancelled. During the first day there were reports of at least one thousand people demonstrating in a Kingston slum and three hundred others burning tires in front of Jamaica House, where the Jamaican Prime Minister Seaga has his offices.

On the second day, the demonstrations continued. And, in a move which seems to indicate just how explosive the situation is in Jamaica today, Seaga ordered the security forces and members of his

party to exercise "restraint" in dealing with the demonstrators so as to "avoid an escalation." As the security forces moved to clear the blockades out of the streets, demonstrators followed along behind them, rebuilding the barricades and setting them on fire again. By this time there were also reports that the protests had spread to the interior of the country and that scores of acres of sugar cane had been torched.

While details concerning the rioting remain somewhat sketchy as we go to press, it is clear that the government of Edward Seaga is in some trouble. Seaga, also known as CIAga, came to power with the help of the U.S. and the CIA in a 1980 electoral defeat of the social-democratic government of Michael Manley. Since then, he has been one of the tightest U.S. flunkies in the Caribbean and has backed every U.S. move in the region, including helping the U.S. to orchestrate the invasion and occupation of Grenada in 1983. Seaga immediately claimed that the outbreak of rioting on January 14 and 15 was the work of Michael Manley and his Peoples National Party (PNP) trying to discredit the Seaga government and force a new election.

Now, it is true that Manley & Company would be interested in forcing a new election — especially since, by law, Seaga is not required to hold another election until 1989, having won the 1983 election by default. (Seaga called the election in 1983 a year earlier than necessary in order to ride the wave of reaction generated by the U.S. invasion of Grenada. Manley's party boycotted these elections.) While it is still unclear how much of a role, if any, Manley's party had in initiating the demonstrations, it is certain that the

Peoples National Party immediately seized on them in order to advance their own political interests. While this involved passively supporting the demonstrations and calling for Seaga's government to resign, it also meant attempting to make sure that the rioting did not get too far out of hand. According to a report in the *Washington Post*, Manley called on the Jamaican people to demonstrate "in accordance with the law and with due respect to the property and lives of all Jamaicans." It should also be pointed out that since Seaga is due to visit the U.S. this week, the timing of the riots would seem to benefit the PNP.

But, beyond such bourgeois infighting over which party will preside over an imperialist-dominated Jamaica lies the reality of the horrendous conditions facing the masses of Jamaican people, which have been exacerbated sharply by the fuel price hike and other measures taken by the government. And like the masses in the Dominican Republic, who responded to IMF-imposed austerity measures with an uprising in the streets, the Jamaican people have demonstrated the righteous contempt for such a way of life in the recent bonfires. Such a hike would detrimentally affect virtually every other aspect of their lives, including how much money they are able to spend on basics like food and housing. This latest price hike is the second one in thirteen months. Over the last two years, prices for food and most other items have doubled and tripled. Jamaica's official unemployment rate is 25 percent; its foreign debt stands at \$3 billion and its currency has been devalued by at least 70 percent over the last year. In mid-1983 the official ex-

Continued on page 14

No Business As Usual Day Forum WHAT IS IT GOING TO TAKE TO PREVENT WW3?

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SONIA SANCHEZ, poet, professor and activist. Her most recent book is titled *Home Girls and Hand Grenades*.

CARL DIX, member of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA. He was Black GI member of Fort Lewis Six who spent two years in Leavenworth Military Prison for refusing to go to Vietnam.

JOHN GERASSI, professor of political science at Queens College, just back from Nicaragua, January 23. He also observed the election there in November. Now writing the authorized biography of Jean-Paul Sartre, in the '60s he led in the takeover at San Francisco State University and wrote *The Great Fear In Latin America*.

JOEL KOVEL, professor of psychiatry at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. In his new book, *Against the Nuclear State of Terror*, he argues, "If there is a chance to escape, it will have to come from below—from the stifled voices of the people."

**THEY WON'T LISTEN TO REASON
THEY WON'T BE BOUND BY VOTES
THE GOVERNMENTS MUST BE STOPPED FROM
LAUNCHING WORLD WAR 3 NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES!**

—From "A Call To Act", No Business As Usual, April 29, 1985

Clinic Bombings:

An Inaugural Gala

As a fitting part of preparations for the inaugural "weekend of festivities," a warning was issued by the federal government. Abortion clinics and medical offices around the country were "informed" that between January 20 and 22 there is a big "potential for violence." This warning was delivered by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF), the government agency presently in charge of investigating the recent string of abortion clinic bombings.

The *New York Times* was quick to point out that "January 20 is the date of the start of President Reagan's second term and January 22 is the 12th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion" — apparently *both* events are expected to get the blood running (and the gunpowder moving) in the antiabortion movement. And while the government would not say if it had knowledge of specific threats linked to either the inauguration and the *Roe v. Wade* anniversary, the official warning is a rather blatant *threat*, only slightly disguised as a sign that the government is doing something to prevent further clinic bombings. It can hardly be read, we should add, as a reprimand (!) to the antiabortionists. (As we've reported, there have been thirty instances of bombing, firebombing and arson at abortion clinics since May 1982 and many other types of violent attacks have also occurred, especially in 1984.)

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms says it now has five hundred agents assigned to investigate antiabortion violence. (The question here is, with this warning, *who* should be comforted by these numbers?) And Reagan even made a public statement recently condemning the bombings. This was duly reported by the liberal "pro-choice" *New York Times* and others as opposition by the President to these attacks. As if Reagan's rabid antiabortion position was not common knowledge, the *Times* wrote: "In its statement today, the White House added its voice to other administration assurances that all necessary steps were being taken to stop such incidents." So, the naive then are supposed to believe that the government is finally paying attention to this problem. Well, they certainly are *paying attention*, as this warning shows. Reagan's statement requesting that "the Attorney General see that all federal agencies with jurisdiction pursue investigation vigorously," has been "correctly interpreted" by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms — and they have "vigorously pursued" issuing a warning aimed at those who support the right to abortion!

The "Investigators"

We should also remember that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which has been given jurisdiction over the investigation of the bombings (and issued the warning), has already quite a record in how it has "investigated" reactionary violence. They were, after all, one of the principal government agencies involved in the Greensboro murders. Bernard Butkovich, who was an agent for the BATF, was sent to North Carolina in 1979 to infiltrate the Nazis and investigate them for arms violations. Under this "cover" he attended planning meetings for the November 3 Greensboro murders and specifically helped organize a meeting in Lewisburg where the United Racist Front was formed. This meeting was also attended by several of the actual killers.

In addition to this there is also the

rather self-exposing warning itself. Reagan on down have refused to call these bombings "terrorist" and have therefore refused to bring the FBI into the investigation. This has promoted making the absurd terms of debate over whether the FBI should or should not be brought in — and even the demand by some pro-abortionists that this be done immediately. Have they forgotten COINTELPRO and the well-publicized role of the FBI as "infiltrators" of the Ku Klux Klan during the 1960s? Chris Benson testified in one of the trials following the Greensboro murder that he became a FBI informant in December 1979 and then enjoyed a rather meteoric rise within the Klan. By November 1979 he had become the Grand Cyclops (second only to the Grand Dragon at the time, Virgil Griffith). This prompted many to recall the boast of the FBI in the early '70s that they had enough informants in the North Carolina Klan to elect an Imperial Wizard! It is safe to say that the FBI is already *on the case* of the clinic bombings.

Meanwhile, it is not as if the government is *not* taking an active and openly public role in speaking out about the bombing campaign. While Reagan issues one obligatory statement, it is well known that he allies himself with the likes of Joe Sheidler and Falwell, who are top leaders in the antiabortion movement and have applauded the bombings in not so subtle ways. This latest warning is only one example of what kind of "message" is being officially given in response to the offensive by the Right, and it is quite clear *to whom* the warning is being issued.

The clinics and those who support the right to abortion, and *not* the antiabortionists, are being given the threat — watch out, there is going to be violence and you'd better be even more on the defensive. And as if to subtly reiterate the Commander in Chief's official position with regards to *Roe v. Wade* (the anniversary of which these attacks are slated for), the warning itself even made a point of noting that the "potential violence" might be precipitated not only by the *Roe v. Wade* anniversary, but also that January 20 "is the official date of the President's inauguration."

The "Christian Soldiers"

If anyone were to miss the point of the threat here, it has been made clear that the antiabortionists are actively planning for the 22nd. As we reported last week, Jerry Falwell is planning a "National Day of Mourning," complete with black armbands. And while there is, of course, no mention in the official warning of *these* activities in relationship to "potential violence," it is well known how these "legal" antiabortion activities have conveniently worked alongside clinic bombings. Women who work in clinics that have been bombed have observed that there has been evidence of collusion and coordination between bombings and different levels of attacks and harassment against the clinics. And summing this up, some have predicted there will be an overall step-up in antiabortionist activities around Falwell's armband day and the potential for further bombings.

The Bureau's warning, while contending that they had "absolutely no intelligent information concerning planned violent antiabortion activities," did mention that "A person using the name 'Anastasious II' has mailed a letter threatening violence to a pro-choice advocate in 1984." St. Anastasious was a Christian martyr who died on guess what day — January 22. Oh, the art of subtlety they display!

In addition, this warning, along with the recent Reagan press statement, has been used to bolster the political argument that the clinic bombings are not terrorist and are not part of any kind of organized conspiracy. Yet evidence builds up daily that the bombings, at the *least*, indicate a very conscious and concentrated campaign by right-wing, organized forces throughout the country. A recent letter written and signed by Katherine Hepburn for Planned Parenthood put it this way: "... when you read about how a family-planning clinic has been vandalized, you might think it is only an isolated incident. Unfortunately, the national media doesn't regard these as part of a nationwide pattern of terrorism. Yet when you recognize that kidnappings or death threats made to clinic staff members are *not* isolated incidents, but part of a massive nationwide campaign to destroy family-planning services, you understand just how serious this campaign of terrorism really is."

While the latest official warning is meant to convince the gullible that the government agencies are "on the job" trying to prevent further bombings, the real (and intentional) message comes through quite clear. The *Bureau* itself made a point of including, along with its

warning, a report (merely an "informational update" for any right-winger who might be interested...) that the National Organization for Women is planning to stage sit-ins in clinics from January 18-20 and that this is being done in the hopes of preventing further bombings, because up to this point the people who have bombed clinics have avoided doing it when anybody was in them. (Just like Star Wars — these bombs only kill things, and not people!) Barbara Radford, Executive Director of the National Abortion Federation, commented, "Because no one has blown up a building with people in it yet, I'm not willing to believe that the next time they're not going to." In addition, there is *already* overwhelming evidence that right-wing antiabortionists have resorted to violence aimed at more than just property. As Hepburn also stated in her letter: "In addition to millions of dollars in property destroyed.... Doctors and nurses who work at clinics are receiving death threats. Their homes are picketed around the clock. Some of them have been forced to move out of their own neighborhoods. Members of family-planning clinics' boards are receiving death threats. Some have been kidnapped. Their children are intimidated. Swastikas, KKK symbols, and other graffiti are painted onto clinic walls. Glue is poured into door locks to prevent entry. Clinic rooms are flooded with water. Patients' license plate numbers are written down, researched, and their phone numbers tracked. Then these women, or their parents, are called in the middle of the night, harassed, and even threatened."

The fact that the Bureau, along with the media, is presenting the warning in this pointed way only adds to the vicious and calculated nature of the threat. Who could blame the government now... if by some chance a bombing occurs and maybe someone is hurt this time. "Certainly can't say we didn't warn you," will say the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and *Firebombs!!*

How appropriate. As the Grand Dragon of them all is being officially sworn into office, his most loyal stone-age social base will be stepping up their reactionary violence against women. And how fitting a picture of the heights of civilization which America represents: while the dinosaurs dance, women's lives are threatened for demanding the right to decide if they will bear a child. □



Underground Railroad

Continued from page 1

migrants arrested in the INS roundup, faces sixteen counts for a possible eighty years in prison and a \$32,000 fine.

And, as virtually all of the sanctuary movement activists with whom the *RW* spoke hastened to remind us, the immigrants face possible deportation — and death — at the hands of the U.S.-backed Salvadoran or Guatemalan security forces/death squads. Clearly, the government is planning to threaten those arrested with precisely that — if they don't testify against the people indicted.

And so, the criminals, whose reign of terror against the Central American masses has resulted in the murder of over 100,000 people in the past six years and has produced several million refugees (including one out of every four Salvadorans), have charged those who assist the refugees in exposing all this with committing crimes. It is American democracy in action — indeed, a version of the death-squad democracy the U.S. has exported to El Salvador, now imported back into the U.S.

Sanctuary Movement

The sanctuary movement began in response to both the U.S. actions in Central America and its related policy toward immigrants from that region. The INS routinely denies political asylum claims of Salvadorans — in 1982, for example, only 66 out of approximately 23,000 such claims were granted — and the courts routinely back the agency's decisions. However, there are exceptions. On December 19, 1984, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that a Salvadoran should have been granted political asylum. Of course, the man is a former member of a death squad who claims he was threatened — by the Salvadoran opposition! Has there ever been better proof that "the system works"?

In 1981, a group of religious activists in the Tucson area who had been helping Central American immigrants with food, clothing, shelter and legal aid, particularly asylum claims, decided that their efforts weren't enough. The wholesale rejection of asylum claims by the U.S. was not only resulting in many deportations, they thought, but also forcing those immigrants who managed to stay surreptitiously in the U.S. to "disappear" — thereby preventing important exposure of the U.S. role in Central America. Jim Corbett, a Tucson Quaker, and Reverend John Fife, minister of Tucson's Southside Presbyterian Church, both of whom are charged in the latest indictments, along with several others formed an "underground railroad" to funnel Central American refugees into the U.S. And they put out a call to churches around the country to become stations on the route, offering sanctuaries to the refugees, and enabling them to tell the story of their oppression in the U.S.'s "own backyard."

Reverend Fife's church started the sanctuary effort by circulating a letter at a National Council of Churches meeting in January 1982, and then sending a copy to the U.S. Attorney General. It began: "This is to notify you that on March 24, Southside United Presbyterian Church will be in violation of Section 274(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. We have declared our church a sanctuary for undocumented refugees from Central America..."

Section 274(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act says, in part, "Any person who willfully or knowingly conceals, harbors, or shields from detection, or attempts to conceal, harbor or shield from detection, in any place, including any building or any means of transportation... an alien (sic)... not duly admitted by an immigration officer or not lawfully entitled to enter or reside within the United States... shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years, or both, for each alien." Additional charges can be brought for "conspiracy to harbor an un-

documented alien." Yet, in less than three years, the sanctuary movement has spread to 180 churches nationwide, involving in some form or other about 50,000 people, mostly church members but also including others who are outraged by the U.S. role in Central America and want to take meaningful action against it.

North American sanctuary movement participants often drive refugees from city to city until they reach their destination point, provide housing and other necessities for them and help them publicize their experiences through various church appearances, meetings and in the media, where possible. For many, it is the first time they have ever engaged in political activity that is in opposition to the government. Others were influenced by and/or involved in political activity in the '60s, with the sanctuary movement often being a return to political life after a long layoff. Before a church decides to get involved, the congregation usually goes through an intense educational process, often involving testimony from Central American refugees, study of the Biblical meaning of sanctuary and other political and religious (including "liberation theology") material. More than one sanctuary activist has commented that they first got involved solely because of humanitarian concern for the individual refugees and have since come to the conclusion that the U.S. aggression in Central America must be stopped. There is a lot of overlap between the sanctuary movement and those behind the "Pledge of Resistance" — people who have pledged to resist any further U.S. escalation in Central America.

Not all the immigrants who are part of the sanctuary movement came across the border on the underground railroad. Often they were already living in a U.S. city, and decided to join up in order to publicize their experiences. As a sanctuary activist in Los Angeles told the *RW*, "They know that the more North American people who know actually what is taking place in their country and the role that the U.S. is playing in that — that it might cause the American people to rise in outrage."

A spokesperson at Seattle's University Baptist Church told us about one of the refugees — a woman who had been an activist in one of the Christian base communities that have sprung up all over Central America in the past decade. The National Guard came to break up her Bible class, and arrested her and her young daughter. They were both thrown in jail, the little girl handcuffed to her mother. The woman was tortured, and thrown on a truck piled high with corpses of other National Guard victims — all the while, her child remained handcuffed to her, forced to endure the same ordeal. Somehow, the woman escaped, made her way to the U.S. and, after initially having to leave her daughter behind, was eventually able to send for the little girl. Since becoming part of the sanctuary movement, this woman has spoken out all over the Northwest. She and her daughter, now eight, were both arrested in the INS roundup.

Some Church Activity Not Permitted

Obviously, the sanctuary movement has had a great effect in galvanizing and spreading opposition to U.S. actions in Central America in areas where it was perhaps least expected by the authorities — as well as undoubtedly bringing many to question much more about the American way of death. Clearly, this has been a big problem for U.S. officials, but until last year, they had failed to move on the resisters. INS officials publicly declared that, legally, there is no such thing as "sanctuary" and they could go into a church anytime they wanted. Nevertheless, INS officials tried to downplay the significance of the sanctuary movement, implying that they had more important violators to catch.

Still, they have been endeavoring to lay the "legal" basis for the assault all along. INS officials have made it clear that religious motivations are irrelevant, since there is "separation of church and state." The U.S. Attorney in San Francisco said on the McNeil-Lehrer news

Making Trouble In Rochester

Friends in Rochester, N.Y., sent us some information about developments in that city. Leticia and Alejandro Gomez, Salvadoran immigrants provided sanctuary along with their children and grandmother, were arrested on Monday, January 14. Three cars of INS agents converged on the pair as they stepped off a bus on their way to study English at school. They were taken to the Federal Building and later released to a Presbyterian minister on \$3,000 bail.

The couple are on the United Nations refugee list and on the International Red Cross refugee list. Both are publicly declared refugees — they speak out on their situation and on El Salvador.

The sanctuary movement in Rochester has drawn broad participation and support. When word of the arrests got around, about one hundred people gathered in front of the Federal Building. A big rally is planned for Sunday, January 20.

Alejandro Gomez has continued to speak out since his arrest. □

hour that sanctuary activists "have no right to claim some higher moral law" and that the U.S. "specifically rejected the notion of divine right sovereignty." This from the same state apparatus that has sponsored, mobilized and egged on the religious Right in all its neanderthal glory.

Supreme hypocrisy, yes — but much more than that. For the latter half of the '80s, only one kind of church activity is to be allowed — the Falwell-type action that mobilizes the minions for the march to Armageddon. With the U.S.'s vast empire on the line, opposition to this program will be allowed no sanctuary, not even behind church doors.

In the past, U.S. reluctance to openly attack the sanctuary movement was based on a number of factors, including fear of greater exposure and differences within the ruling class over how best to exercise U.S. domination over Central America and handle the broad range of middle and middle-class forces involved in the sanctuary movement. However, as the global situation, particularly the U.S.'s need to step up preparations for world war, has driven the U.S. to intensify its military madness in Central America, a decision to move on the sanctuary movement has been made. Things have already become more polarized, and the decision itself portends even greater polarization in the period ahead.

This can even be seen in the INS's ten-month "investigation" into the sanctuary movement. Along with the more open harassment, including overt plainclothes cops filming all who enter and leave Tucson's Southside Presbyterian Church, the INS has had four undercover pigs, wired for sound, infiltrate the church — an action that has shocked and angered many in the sanctuary movement. Reverend Fife criticized the government for spying on churches, but noted that the agents "did not discover anything we had not already told everyone we were doing." Indeed, one of the points INS officials have stressed as a

reason for the indictments is that the indictees have "openly solicited support for their activities."

That open solicitation was about to take a leap. The first Inter-American Symposium on Sanctuary, under the logo of "From Fences to Friendship," is scheduled to take place beginning January 23 in Tucson. The conference is bringing together theologians and religious people from many denominations, North American academics, human rights organizers from Latin America, journalists and, of course, U.S. sanctuary movement activists; the Tucson Ecumenical Council expects from 600-700 people to attend.

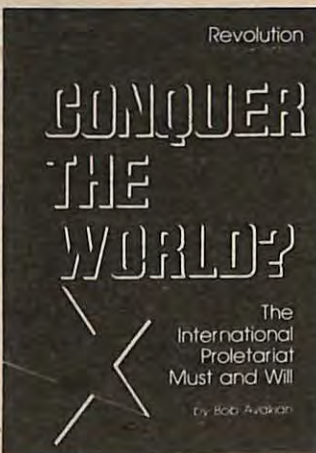
This was undoubtedly one of the factors in the U.S. decision to move on the sanctuary folks right now. Indeed, by the merest of coincidences, the indictees are all scheduled to appear in court in Phoenix on the opening day of the conference — a clearcut message from the authorities of what is in store for those who get involved. And the particular way the roundup of immigrants went down was clearly intended to tell all immigrants to keep their mouths shut... or else.

Defiant

In this light, the defiant response of the sanctuary movement has been quite fine and inspiring. Sanctuary movement activists around the country have told the *RW* that not only do they intend to keep going and actually intensify their efforts, but that even more people are offering to help; activists in L.A. and Seattle reported unusually large turnouts for meetings to discuss a response to the attacks. Tucson organizers say registration for the upcoming symposium has doubled since the arrests. The *RW* has heard of demonstrations in Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle. Meanwhile, the indictees in the Tucson area and others involved are actually looking forward to the trial, just itching for a chance to further expose U.S. actions in Central America and toward the refugees. As a sanctuary activist was heard to say on the national media: "We refuse to be good Germans." Clearly, some Christians will be on the right side of the barricades when things come to that.

The attitude towards these attacks seems to have best been summed up by Renny Golden of the Chicago Religious Task Force, the group that coordinates the sanctuary movement. She said: "The underground railroad is not made of steel, but the link of human hands that extends from the highlands of Guatemala to the clandestine church of Mexico to our own border. They may, as in Central America, cut off the hands that hold fast, but others will stand to take their place. The national sanctuary movement will not be intimidated by these indictments, but instead, they will only serve to make the movement flourish."

Several of the indictees, along with national sanctuary and religious leaders, are currently testifying in the trial of Jack Elder, director of Casa Oscar Romero, in a case that dates back to last April. Elder was arrested after dropping off three immigrants at the bus station. He faces fifteen years in prison! Casa Oscar Romero is asking people to send mailgrams of protest to: Honorable Hayden Head, D.J. Federal Courthouse, 521 Starr Street, Corpus Christi, Texas or Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Berg, 400 Mann Street, Corpus Christi, Texas. □



This special issue of Revolution contains the full text of a talk given by Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA. Three short excerpts from it were published in the Revolutionary Worker newspaper.

Its sections are:

- Further historical perspectives on the first advances in seizing and exercising power—proletarian dictatorship—and embarking on the socialist road;
- More on the proletarian revolution as a world process;
- Leninism as the bridge;
- Some summation of the Marxist-Leninist movement arising in the 1960's and the subjective factor in light of the present and developing situation and the conjuncture shaping up;
- Some questions related to the line and work of our Party and our special internationalist responsibilities.

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"New" Military Strategy For El Salvador



Those who remember all the stories in the major U.S. media last summer and fall about the supposedly great success being enjoyed by the Salvadoran army, and how the generalissimos had finally gotten the upper hand against the opposition, may be somewhat surprised to learn that those same generalissimos are now trumpeting a "new" military strategy. If the old one was doing so great, why did they have to come up with something new? On the other hand, what is new about raining down much more "counterinsurgency" terror and bloodshed, on the ground and from the air, on the Salvadoran masses? Certainly not the fact that the whole scheme is a creation of, and gets its direction and supplies from, U.S. imperialism.

Terror from the Sky

The principal element in the "new" Salvadoran military strategy is a major increase in the government's assaults from the air against the rural population in the areas where the opposition either controls the territory, or has a great deal of support: most observers estimate that the Democratic Revolutionary Front/Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FDR/FMLN) controls about 25 percent of El Salvador's territory, while another 20-30 percent is contested. In other words, about half of El Salvador's land mass is subject to an aerial onslaught from a beefed-up Salvadoran air force.

The latest addition to the air arsenal is a U.S.-donated gunship currently called the C-47. It is a twin-engine DC-3 airplane mounted with three .50-caliber machine guns, each of which can fire 500 rounds per minute. The plane is capable of staying aloft for four to five hours, with the crew firing their 1,500 rounds per minute at will, and it is equipped with night vision and other sensors for detecting any warm bodies — known as *targets* — day or night. The U.S. has trained two Salvadoran crews in how to operate and

wield the C-47, and if it "works," there will be a lot more of them put in operation.

In addition to the C-47, the Salvadoran air force now has six A-37 "Dragonfly" jet fighter planes conducting bombing and strafing runs over rural villages on a daily basis. The A-37s drop 300-, 500- and 750-pound bombs, fragmentation bombs which send chunks of shrapnel hurtling through the air, and incendiary bombs, such as napalm and white phosphorous. Their air strikes are called in by U.S. Air Force pilots flying C-130 reconnaissance flights from Palmerola Air Base in Honduras.

Pivotal to the U.S.'s expanded air war is the massive increase in helicopter gunship and transport capability by the Salvadoran air force. In the past few months, the number of Huey I-H helicopters has more than doubled to a total of forty, and the number is expected to climb to fifty as soon as there are enough U.S.-trained crews. With a new helicopter base being constructed in the department (province) of San Miguel, the Salvadoran air force will theoretically be able to airlift an entire battalion of 500-800 soldiers to any point in the country — after the area has been "softened" by massive aerial bombardment, of course.

The "New" Rural Death Squads

The other main plank of the "new" military strategy is the attempted formation of local "civil defense" units in towns and villages in the 20-30 percent of the country that is disputed territory. Salvadoran army commanders are moving through the areas, handing out corn, sugar, and beans (at least when the U.S. press goes along for the ride), and calling on the local officials and their supporters to form such patrols, under Salvadoran army direction. The idea, conceived by U.S. advisors and endorsed by the U.S. embassy in El Salvador, is that these units

will patrol the disputed areas, preventing opposition guerrillas from entering the towns to get supplies and freeing up the regular army soldiers for other attacks — such as the frequently occurring massacres of peasants by U.S.-trained battalions in the zones controlled by the FDR/FMLN.

Like the aerial bombardment, this "civil defense" scheme is not exactly a new concept. It was first put into practice in El Salvador back in 1963, when the formation of the notorious ORDEN (a Spanish acronym for nationalist democratic organization, the word *orden* means "order"). Made up mainly of retired national guardsmen and middle-level farmers, ORDEN members received no salary but lots of privileges, like access to government jobs, medical care, the right to carry a gun, influence with local officials, and an ID card to show to the military to avoid harassment. In exchange, ORDEN members spied on the population, reporting strangers, noting those who showed any signs of rebelliousness, fingering those who were to be assassinated and, in many cases, doing the dirty work themselves. Like the "new" scheme, ORDEN originated in the "counterinsurgency" catacombs of the U.S.; its Salvadoran founder said later that it "grew out of the State Department, the CIA, and the Green Berets during the time of Kennedy."

When the U.S. carried out its cosmetic "human rights" coup in 1979, ORDEN, which by then had units in virtually every town and village in El Salvador and had been widely exposed, was formally abolished. However, many of the ORDEN members just moved over to the newly created "civil defense" patrols, where they continued their death-squad activities. But it was one thing to terrorize unarmed peasant families and quite another to deal with an organized, armed opposition. In town after town, the "civil defense" posts were wiped out.

Death Squads: Airborne and Land-Based

But these new units will be "different," says Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa, the army commander of Chalatenango Department. Why, he's even changed the name; in Chalatenango, they are called "self-defense units." And, as a further incentive to local officials, U.S. "aid" is withheld if they fail to form a proper patrol. Nevertheless, Colonel Ochoa doesn't seem to have convinced too many of the local governments in his region. According to the *Los Angeles Times*, thirty of the thirty-three municipalities Ochoa has visited have turned down his offer.

However, Ochoa may soon make them an offer they can't refuse. In many parts of San Vicente Department, participation in the "civil defense" units is mandatory — and those who refuse are sent to jail... or worse. San Vicente is the scene of the highly touted "National Plan" — a U.S. scheme involving military sweeps to clear out the guerrillas followed by the formation of "civil defense" groups (using former ORDEN members, where possible) and "civic action" programs; programs include building roads (to facilitate army vehicle access), building schools (to keep tabs on the youth), and building hospitals (to keep the soldiers on the battlefield). However, the sweeps have failed to eliminate the armed opposition from the area, few of the projects have been built, and the "civil defense" draftees do their utmost to avoid patrolling anywhere that FMLN guerrillas are likely to be.

Nevertheless, the U.S.'s Salvadoran compradors are determined to spread this updated version of "winning hearts and minds" throughout the country. "We must obtain the support of the people in our effort," says Colonel Ochoa. "Formation of self-defense units is a way to get them involved." Or else.

Vietnam-Tested Techniques

Not only is this strategy not new to El Salvador, but it involves techniques and programs that were initially "perfected" in the U.S.'s losing war of aggression against Vietnam. The "National Plan" is based on the Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support (CORDS) "pacification" program; indeed, the National Plan's chief U.S. architect first cut his "counterinsurgency" teeth in the CORDS program. CORDS is most noted for being the umbrella under which the infamous Phoenix Program operated; it resulted in the assassination and murder of somewhere between 20,000 and 40,000 civilians.

The escalated air war — including the "air mobile tactic" currently being put into place — also originated in Vietnam. One difference is that the C-47s being used in El Salvador have considerably less firepower than the AC-47s, known as "Puff the Magic Dragon," which were used in Vietnam. The AC-47s used Vulcan Gatling guns, whose rotating barrels fired off 6,000 rounds per minute; with three of them mounted on the plane U.S. pilots could put a shell in every square foot of an area the size of a football field. When the possibility of using this version of the plane was first raised by U.S. officials last year, there was a great deal of protest and exposure. Now, U.S. officials are implying that they are using the lower fire power version to avoid "abuses."

To discover what *other* motives might lurk behind such decisions, the *RW* asked a Vietnam vet who was quite familiar

Continued on page 14





Inaugural Protests:

"No Time To Be Nice!"

Various leaflets and posters have reached the RW that announce an ANTI-INAUGURAL BALL for January 20 in Washington, D.C., to be followed by ACTIONS OF RESISTANCE against Inaugural events the next day, Monday the 21st.

The Yippie! poster announcing the "1985 Counter Inaugural Ball" lists reggae, punk, rockabilly and other bands, along with standup comedians, a film and more — all to take place Sunday at the Warner Theater on 513 G. Street, NW in Washington, starting at 6 PM.

A leaflet headlined "CRASH THE WAR PARTY (There's no time to be nice!)," includes a list of activities for Monday, the inaugural day itself:

"Gather at 12 noon at 9th and F Street NW (near Gallery Place metro stop)...."

1 PM, "March (and 'activities')"

4:30 PM meet at Farragut Square, Connecticut Avenue and K Street NW (near Farragut North metro stop)

5 PM "Depart for Dupont Circle...."

6:30 "Let them eat cake — while we eat

dinner. Join us for Dinner at Connecticut Ave. and T St. NW (if we ain't there, look for us!). This is across from the Hilton — make reservations now!"

7:30 "Let's go to the Hilton Inaugural Ball (wear plaid, hee hee!)"

The text appearing alongside this little list of events reads:

"YO! As you hear the rap that Raygun and his ruling class cronies are cramming down our throats about the ongoing 'peace' (?) talks, the actions of this government speak much louder and more realistically about the preparations being made for World War III. And on January 21st, a day is set aside to celebrate 'America being back' to selfishness and thoughtlessness. So you can simply just wave that cute little plastic flag and gawkishly cheer on the celebration and flaunting of sickening wealth of the ruling class (want some? ha ha, you can't have any — well who the fuck wants it?! It comes from the plundering of the Third World and other countries.) Hey, go

ahead, forget the past and let's just pretend...."

"There's no time to just passively observe war preparations for 'Armageddon.' We can't just go along like 'good Americans' who don't bother to question their government's actions (remember Nazi Germany?). Those in power won't listen to us (why should they?!?). So we're not going to persuade them, we're going to STOP THEM! We can do things to make change, so let's start now. There's no time to lose. It's time to... CRASH THE WAR PARTY... JAN. 21, 1985."

At the bottom is a note: "Remember: NO BUSINESS AS USUAL, APRIL 29th.... They won't listen to reason. They won't be bound by votes. The governments must be stopped from launching World War II, No matter what it takes!"

Below is the text of a second leaflet, reprinted as it arrived:

NO TIME TO BE NICE!

NO TIME TO BE NICE!

NO TIME TO BE NICE!

O.K., let's just pretend that a nuclear confrontation is going to happen tomorrow. Let's just pretend that the bombs that were built over the years are going to be put to use. All the world will be destroyed, UNLESS WE ALL DO SOMETHING! Wouldn't you do all that you could, no matter what it took, to stop this catastrophe from happening?!

Well, wake up! This all could happen tomorrow. Some computer flaw or some decision by someone you don't even know could cause the missiles to be launched and destroy all life here as we know it today. SO NOW IS THE TIME TO TAKE ACTION AND STOP THIS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE....

but it's not that easy...

Of course it isn't. It's hard for all of us to face up to our responsibility to stop this system which gives its children visions of nuclear holocaust, millions starving in the Third World, homeless people sleeping on cold city streets, etc. WHY?...

Since childhood we learn to resign our conscience to someone or something else. In church, God makes decisions for our lives. In school, teachers make decisions for us. At home, parents make decisions for us. And, of course, we are constantly told that we should "trust our leaders" and let government make decisions for our lives. We are never allowed to live with our own conscience, decisions, authority, or commitment to what we feel is right. If we ever saw that the future of our lives lies in our own hands, then we would see our responsibility to take the future into our hands and change the path it is taking now! We wouldn't sit passively by while politicians make decisions for us, we would take action now!

And what the hell have politicians done? They try to work within a corrupt system and very easily become corrupted themselves. They are controlled by corporations who make profits in arm sales. Politicians aren't going to listen to our voices as much as they will to those of power and money which keep them in their positions....

STARTING TO THINK?

Well on come the media to tell you to passively watch your government to run your lives while you have no say in the matter. You will be given the chance to buy and consume materials to keep you happy and pacified. Nicely packed away in consumer bliss land....



RECEIVED IN THE MAIL

Letter From Dallas

In a courtroom in Dallas on December 13, Greg (Joey) Johnson, a member of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade, was convicted and sentenced to one year in jail and a \$2,000 fine. Joey was charged with "desecrating a venerated object" (for allegedly burning an American flag at the conclusion of the Republican War Chest Tour), but no evidence whatever was presented by the prosecutors to link him with this act. Even the jurors who convicted him said they knew he didn't actually torch the flag — it was Joey's revolutionary communist politics that were tried and found guilty.

The prosecutors, who viewed their task as defending America from communist and anarchist assault, were rabid in their political attacks on Joey, as one would expect. The judge too, while trying his level-best to maintain the facade of proper courtroom decorum and judicial impartiality, was only slightly more discreet. As a recent article in the Dallas Morning News reveals, "County criminal court judge John Hendrik wore his feelings on his tie during the last day of the recent flag burning trial in his court. Beneath his black robe, Hendrik sported a tie carrying the words 'Don't

tread on me,' the slogan that adorned the first official American flag."

Significant support for Joey developed among youth and others in Dallas, often among people who thought they were "the only one in Dallas who feels this way." The following letter was received by the RW in the wake of the trial. Joey remains out on bond, while his case is being appealed.

Dallas, Texas

After hearing Greg Johnson on a local radio program here in Dallas, just a couple of days before his flag burning trial began, I thought it had to be some sort of a joke. Surely, no one could actually be brought to trial for burning an American flag! When the calls came in to speak with Greg, I realized these conversations were indeed serious. I was outraged... how could I not attend this trial.

The four days I sat in on the trial only inflamed my anger. I was quite aware Dallas was overpopulated with red necks and bigotry at every turn, but to see how over-run the court rooms are with such obstinateness is quite frightening indeed.

It was clearly visible that Greg's

political views and philosophy were the essence of this trial. Not some damn flag. It was a week that reeked of warning to other would-be protestors that they were not welcome and will not be tolerated in our fair city. There is no room in Dallas for your Constitutional rights. (I know, I've lived here 25 years.)

The anger I felt in my heart on the day Greg was convicted was so strong I could scarcely move. I wanted to torch that flag in the courtroom in front of everyone there. That flag that had been staring at me all week. Alongside that joke of a judge (sitting side by side listening but refusing to hear). There were the prosecutors wearing their red/white & blue ties daily. Those ties that can now be hidden away in their Highland Park closets until the next flag burners trial.

The five female and one male jurors were the perfect puppets for the State. Some looking away as the War Chest Tour video played for them. Glancing at the floor as "Fuck You America" and other chants poured from the Sony. These clones just could not believe someone might not be happy in the land of white opportunity. None of these people could be from Dallas! Of course the only alternative for not liking this coun-

try is to leave and never question anything. So let's hide Greg in some jail while we picnic and wave American flags made in Japan.

I'm scared because this ignorance is so contagious to the youth in this country. It's so easy to follow the path that's been well trod. You could get your feet wet or step on a sticker if you go another way or create your own route.

I am so grateful to have met Greg and thank him for going on trial for all of us. Someone that demonstrates his courage and perseverance for what he believes in. I'm proud of Greg and feel like a better person for having met him.

It was stated several times during the trial that the War Chest Tour ended when the protestors took a swim in the pond outside of City Hall. I hope to think of that as more of a beginning rather than an end.

It's obvious that people that can't even shed so much as a tear over the gas chamber in Central India, can devote an entire week of their lives trying to convict an alleged flag burner. What a tragedy.

Good luck on your appeal Greg. Please remember you are not alone....

W.R.
Dallas



BUT YOU'RE ALLOWED TO CHANGE THINGS!

Oh yes, we are allowed to vote for some "liberal" or "conservative", but no actual change will take place because of this. They still control our decisions and methods of change (we only have a choice of two people to represent all of our political thoughts.) They still monitor our ability to change things. The system that channels our energy into voting and tells us we're free because of our "right to vote" will not be allowed to change. For if it did who could monitor and control the methods of change?...

And we're allowed to protest by marching down the street led by police and with a permit from the government we're protesting. We'll feel really good about what we've done and so will the people in power. We have our consciences relieved ("well at least we tried") and those in power use the protest to brag about how free we are ("look, we allow protest.") "There is no protest if permission must be sought and rules abided by. We have allowed the form that our protest takes to be defined by those whom we protest against. Thus our protest is drained of its power because we do not have the power to make our protest effective..." — Julius Lester

But what if people became truly effective in shutting down some government action (war maneuver, conference, celebration, etc.) instead of just "symbolically" protesting it? The reaction of the government would not be pleasant (just check out the sixties)! Only when protest is kept within certain boundaries is it allowed. We must take our protest out of these boundaries, become more creative, and become truly effective....

Well in the nation's capitol and our hometown an inauguration for a figurehead of the people who want to control our lives will be held. The rich shall celebrate their victory and flaunt their sick wealth in a world so deprived of its basic needs. Starvation will continue, the poor and working class will continue to suffer, more bombs will be built, preparations for war will be drawn up behind closed doors, liberation struggles will be repressed across the world, and the wheels of the system will keep turning... But we shall tell them that we won't be nice about what they're doing to our world. We will try to make it hard for them to hold their balls in a normal fashion. We shall let it be known that we see it as our responsibility to end the madness....

JANUARY 20 - THE ANTI-INAUGURAL BALL w/ various bands...
JANUARY 21 - ACTIONS OF RESISTANCE against the INAUGURATION EVENTS
arranged (202)

MORE INFO WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IN THE FUTURE, FOR MORE INFO CALL: 265-5233

This action is not a beginning or end. It is not enough to just attend this action and let it go from there. We shall continue to spread our words to those who will listen and who can change things. We shall continue to learn how to overcome our fears and our feeling that we're unable to change things. We will learn that they want us to feel desperate and cynical and alienated. We shall see that they are the ones who want us to feel that we can't change things. And only when we realize our own power and try to affect things will change come about....

YOU ALONE CAN DO IT. THERE IS NO AUTHORITY BUT YOURSELF....

To Those Who Say: "Well, At Least They Are Talking..."

For two days this month the eyes of the world were supposed to be glued to Geneva where representatives of the two superpowers met across tables for the first arms talks in a year. The media dutifully unleashed the kind of opinion-making extravaganza that has become routine. Certainly no one was supposed to think that "peace in our time" was at hand. The talks were presented as the tense confrontation of resolute foes. And yet, the official purpose of fanning hopes and illusions made its mark on the more suggestible, who could be heard last week saying, "Well, at least they are talking..."

For the benefit of those who find any comfort in the fact that the governments of these two powers are *at least talking*, we have compiled the following list. It is only a very partial listing of some of the explicitly military preparations and crude jostling that went on across this planet during the very weeks that this current "peace" extravaganza was being touted, staged, and summed up. Several of these events would have been headline-worthy any month but this month, and would have been used to heighten the pro-war climate in the United States. But because this was a month for obligatory "peace" gestures, and because the usual press frothings might have obstructed the Geneva meeting, almost all of the following reports were sharply muted (even suppressed!) in the U.S. press. We will leave it to the reader to decide: what more accurately reflects international relations, the formal charade of "talks" in Geneva or the overt military preparations noted below?

• The Caribbean

Throughout "Geneva Week" itself, a grim game of shadow-boxing was played in the ever more militarized Caribbean region. Late last December, a Soviet fleet of five ships left Havana harbor to prowl the waters of the Gulf of Mexico. For weeks they have been on those maneuvers, tailed, observed, and possibly approached by American military forces in the region. The Soviet forces, which have been joined by Cuban naval units, include a submarine and a guided-missile destroyer of a type not previously seen in Cuba. In apparently direct response, the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the USS *Nimitz*, which is virtually a floating military base, left port in Norfolk, Virginia to "show the flag" off the coast of Central America.

This present game of chicken takes place in an atmosphere of unrelieved tensions in the area, in which U.S. military activity is easily at the highest level since World War 2, even surpassing the crisis days of the Bay of Pigs and the Cuban missile showdown. Most of the routine training of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet has been shifted to the region. American bases at Roosevelt Roads in Puerto Rico, Guantanamo, and Key West have been renovated and expanded. Honduras has been virtually turned into one massive U.S. staging area against Nicaragua. The United States has spent \$20 million on training and equipping military and coast guard units on the whole string of islands around Grenada (which the U.S. still occupies).

In addition, the U.S. has also just announced that it will stage yet another of its provocative "maneuvers" in the area, this time a "combat exercise" involving five thousand members of the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Marines, and Air Force in coordinated invasion practice. In the recent past, such activities have included practicing parachute invasions in Honduras, landing on beaches in Puerto Rico, and carrying out simulated evacuation of the U.S. Guantanamo Naval Base on the island of Cuba itself.

• European Theater No. 1

Meanwhile, a massive flow of war matériel has entered the European continent from the west. At least 300,000 tons of equipment, ammunition, and fuel arrived over these weeks, as part of

Reforger 85 winter war maneuvers due to start this month.

• European Theater No. 2

Although the details are shrouded by the usual security curtain, it was confirmed during "Geneva Week" that the latest shipment of U.S. cruise missiles are somewhere en route to Europe from the United States. This package deal involves dozens of these low-flying, highly precise nuclear weapons. And it continues that buildup of Europe-based missiles which started last fall, and which directly precipitated the collapse of the previous arms talks then going on between the U.S. and the USSR.

• The Low Countries

In the days following "Geneva Week," the so-called "success" of the Geneva talks is being used as yet another means to pressure Belgium and Holland to gracefully accept their quota of such cruise missiles. Reagan met with Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens this week to coordinate high-level plans for ramming the program through. The Dutch and Belgian governments have each previously agreed to install forty-eight cruise missiles on their soil. Each of those deployments of forty-eight would alone be enough to flatten all the major cities of the Soviet Union, if they were able to reach those targets. The Belgian schedule calls for deployment by this March, and the government there is

already carrying out major construction at the air base in Florennes, despite opposition which is even threatening the viability of the present ruling coalition.

• West Germany

At the same time, and within days after the Geneva Talks were concluded, the infamous American Pershing II missiles based on West German soil drew their first blood. Ironically the first victims of these Pershings were American soldiers. Three GIs were killed, and at least sixteen seriously burned, when a reportedly unarmed Pershing II missile ignited. As the rocket was being lifted from its transportation packaging, the solid fuel used to hurl warheads to Moscow caught fire in the first-stage motor. Along with human beings, buildings and equipment were destroyed up to a hundred yards away.

As West German outrage mounted over that incident, it was also revealed that small and portable nuclear mines (known to the U.S. government as "special atomic demolition munitions" and to the West Germans as "knapsack nukes") are available for use by American troops at Bad Tolz in Bavaria.

• Inside the Soviet Union

It was also revealed, again during this same "Geneva Week," that the Soviet Union's war preparations also took a domestic toll, and that the Soviet Union has its own dead to count. An

anonymous "reliable source," cited by Agence France Presse, claimed that several hundred people were killed in a mid-December accident in an underground defense industry plant. According to this report the plant was located in an abandoned mine near the town of Leninsk-Juznetskiy in the western Siberian Kuzbass Basin. Immediately afterward the area was reportedly blocked off by Soviet Army and KGB units. If the accounts are true, this might well be the worst Soviet military mishap since World War 2, even dwarfing the explosion last May of a Barents Sea ammunition dump which, according to Western estimates, took at least 200 lives.

• China

Directly on the heels of the Geneva Talks, General John W. Vessey, Jr., Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, landed in Peking on January 12 for what the U.S. embassy termed "soldier to soldier talks." It was immediately announced that a preliminary accord had already been reached in which the U.S. would provide China with antisubmarine gear and other weapons. Included in the package is to be the Phalanx ship defense system, a six-barreled, 20-millimeter rapid-fire system aimed by self-contained radar. It is designed to protect surface ships from sea-skimmer cruise missiles.

Continued on page 12

SECRETARY SHULTZ'S BIG LIE EXPOSED

Perhaps one of the most sinister lies to emerge from the whole Geneva talks media extravaganza is Shultz's attempt to reinforce naive anthropomorphism, i.e., the mistaken belief that the ruling class East and West are human beings "like the rest of us." This Big Lie was clearly put forward in an interview the Secretary of State granted CBS' Dan Rather:

Dan Rather: "When you were in the room with Secretary Gromyko, as a person, as a human being, did you have a sense that you were sitting across the table from a friend and fellow inhabitant of the planet or that you were negotiating — 'hard and tough' as you said — with an enemy?"

Secretary of State Shultz: "Well, we had 'frank' discussions, but we're two human beings, and we had some laughs and we had some fun. We acted like people do. We're people you know."

The photo below, sent to the RW by a reader, presents conclusive evidence to the contrary.



To Those Who Say

Continued from page 11

• U.S. Naval Research

Although China may be pleased to have such means of sinking Soviet submarines, the U.S. apparently is not resting on those previous technological laurels. On January 11, the *New York Times* reported that "The Navy has quietly reversed a decision it announced last month to cancel a \$150 million project in antisubmarine warfare." It will go ahead trying to build a high-tech sensor, to be implanted in air-strewn buoys, to detect Soviet subs. Efforts aimed at the underwater Soviet fleet are described as "one of the largest and fastest growing elements in the Navy budget."

• Soviet Military Research

The U.S. also released information on a hitherto unreported Soviet weapons system, and timed the revelations for the days before the Geneva talks opened. The system is called FOBS (the Fractional Orbiting Bombardment Systems) and was supposedly developed in the 1960s. According to the official U.S. charges, eighteen SS-9 missiles maintain an operational FOBS system today in the Tyuratam testing area of Soviet Central Asia. The weapons supposedly are capable of using actual earth orbit, rather than ballistic trajectories, as the flight paths for nuclear warheads, thereby giving the nukes unique targeting capabilities.

To further add to the "Geneva mood," so-called "national security insiders" also leaked the accusation that the Soviets had already engaged in "acts of electronic warfare in space," in which Soviet radio facilities were used to "take control" of a U.S. intelligence satellite, rendering it useless during what was believed to be a key Soviet missile test. The accusation therefore asserted that (a) the Soviets had thereby violated SALT I agreements, and (b) already bear guilt for initiating the current spiral of bringing an arms race into space.

• Cape Kennedy, Florida

Quite untouched by all the chatter about negotiations on Star Wars, the countdown continues for the next flight of the U.S. space shuttle, loaded to the gills for a "highly secret" military mission — which everyone already knows is to bolster American capacity for space-spying on the USSR.

• East Asia

Also during "Geneva Week," and hot on the heels of recent mutual war alerts around the Sea of Japan, Japan itself launched an MU-3S2 rocket into deep solar orbit for the first time, as part of the global activity around Halley's comet. In reality, it was both flexing and testing its own expanding missile technology using classic "peaceful" guises. In the words of Space Center Director, Minoru Oda, the Japanese use of rockets "has

grown up to be something even the United States or the Soviet Union cannot ignore."

• Great Britain

It was revealed in Britain that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is poised to "force through" a new decision to restart British production of chemical nerve gas for the first time in twenty-five years. Her justification is that the USSR possesses such weapons and that the U.S. (which is now the only NATO country with nerve-gas stockpiles) does not store its weapons in Europe. Voilà: a European nerve-gas gap, which Britain simply must fill. To quote Thatcher: "As a responsible government, we have to keep defense policy under review in the light of massive Soviet weapons capacity." Given the fact that hundreds of thousands of Britains suffered terribly from the infamous gas exchanges of World War I, these government plans are sure to provoke outrage.

• Southeast Asia

Soviet-backed Vietnamese army units occupying Kampuchea fought major pitched battles against U.S.- and Chinese-backed opponents along the border between Kampuchea and Thailand. There were reports of skirmishes between Vietnamese and Thai troops, threatening a full-blown East-West proxy war. U.S. officials, denouncing the Vietnamese actions and calling Thailand a "treaty ally and a good friend of long standing," announced that deliveries of military aid to Bangkok were being accelerated. Meanwhile, the Soviets were reported to have stationed MIG-23s for the first time in Vietnam.

• The Arctic Ocean

Perhaps the strangest story of military jostling and war preparation around the Geneva Talks was the saga of the wayward Soviet cruise missile. This unarmed dummy streaked across northern Norway (a NATO country) and apparently ended up in the neutral bosom of some Finnish snowdrift. The next remarkable development was the mellow American acceptance of the official explanation, i.e., that a missile simply did an accidental 180° turn during testing and headed south instead of north across the polar ice cap. One official American spokesman even asked reporters what all the fuss was about, saying, "It was only one missile after all, not a whole flock!" After all, the latest generation of Euromissiles is threatening to put all of Europe on a computerized "launch on warning" grid in which precisely such an

"accidental" firing could start the whole shooting gallery popping. The fact that they were covering over this sign of the danger of war reveals again that the purpose of Geneva was to suppress concern about war, not act on it.

Actually, the most likely explanation is that the cruise missile represented a deliberate decision by the Soviets to "lob one" across sensitive NATO lines right at the precise political moment when the West would be unable to make political hay off the provocation. The northern tier which that missile penetrated is laden with the devices NATO uses to monitor the crucial Soviet naval base at Murmansk — and quite like the famous U.S.-bloc airliners' penetrations, it is not unlikely that the Soviets had an "accidental" mission to perform, studying early warning systems and the like. This too is politically significant, since the very likelihood that the Soviets used the holiest moments of "peace talk breakthroughs" to put over a transparent military ambush on their rivals reveals how consciously and cynically both of the blocs approach those talks and how clearly both know that war, not peace, is the currency they are dealing in.

Secretary of State Shultz himself clearly placed the new talks in the context of continued, even accelerated, military preparations for war. The *New York Times* front-page report on Shultz' first-day-back remarks stated:

"Secretary of State George P. Shultz told Congress today that progress in the new arms negotiations with the Soviet Union required that financing for the MX missile and the \$26 billion space-defense research plan not be halted.

"Speaking with reporters after briefing Senate and House members separately, Mr. Shultz said he had told them, 'If the Soviets can get what they want out of us without giving up anything in return, they would love it. Our coat is off, our sleeves are rolled up, we're ready to go to work.'"

And so the miracle in Geneva took its place amidst the movement of armed men, the deployment of new nuclear weapons, the announcement of new war research, the unleashing of military probes, and the accumulation on both sides of corpses which qualify as early casualties of an approaching war.

As these two major powers met in Geneva, everywhere else across this planet (and above it) they were grimly preparing to slug it out! □

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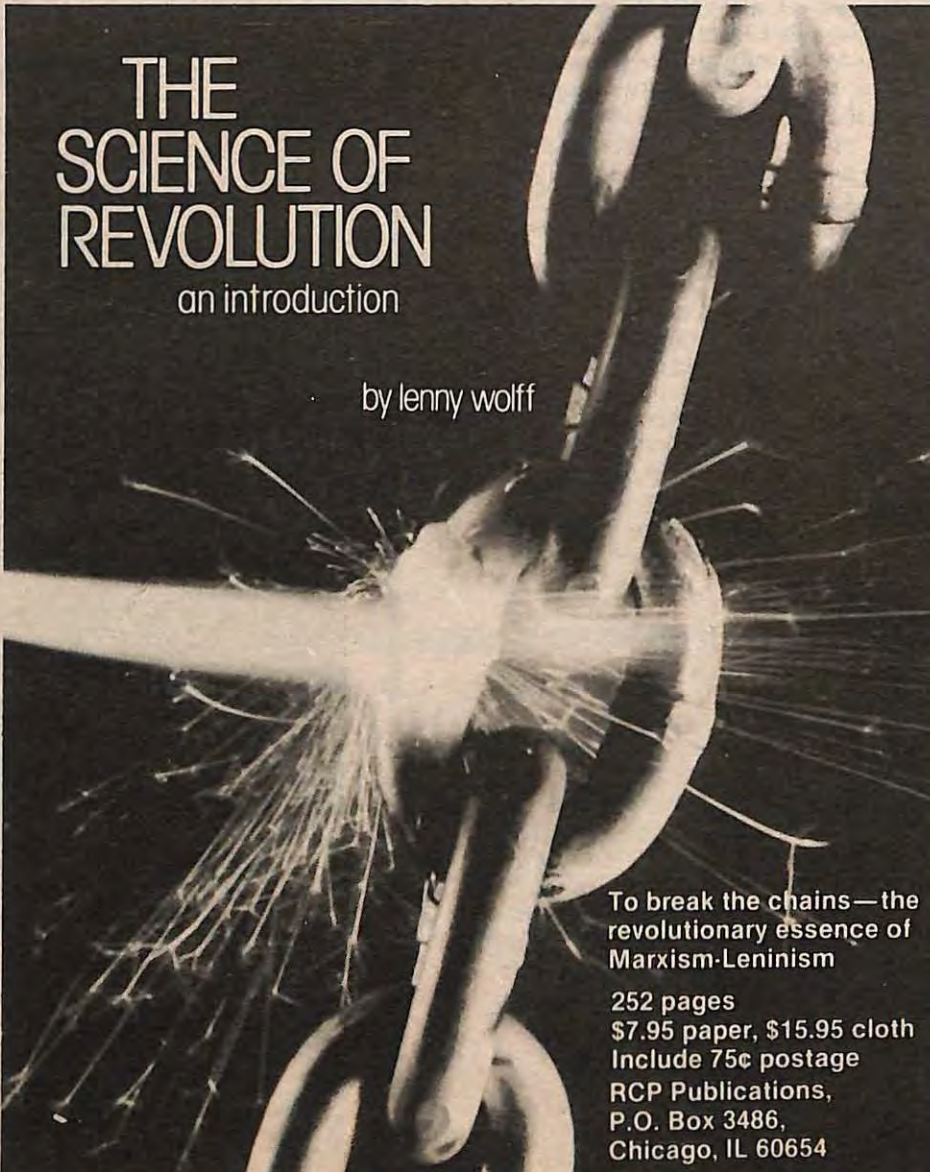
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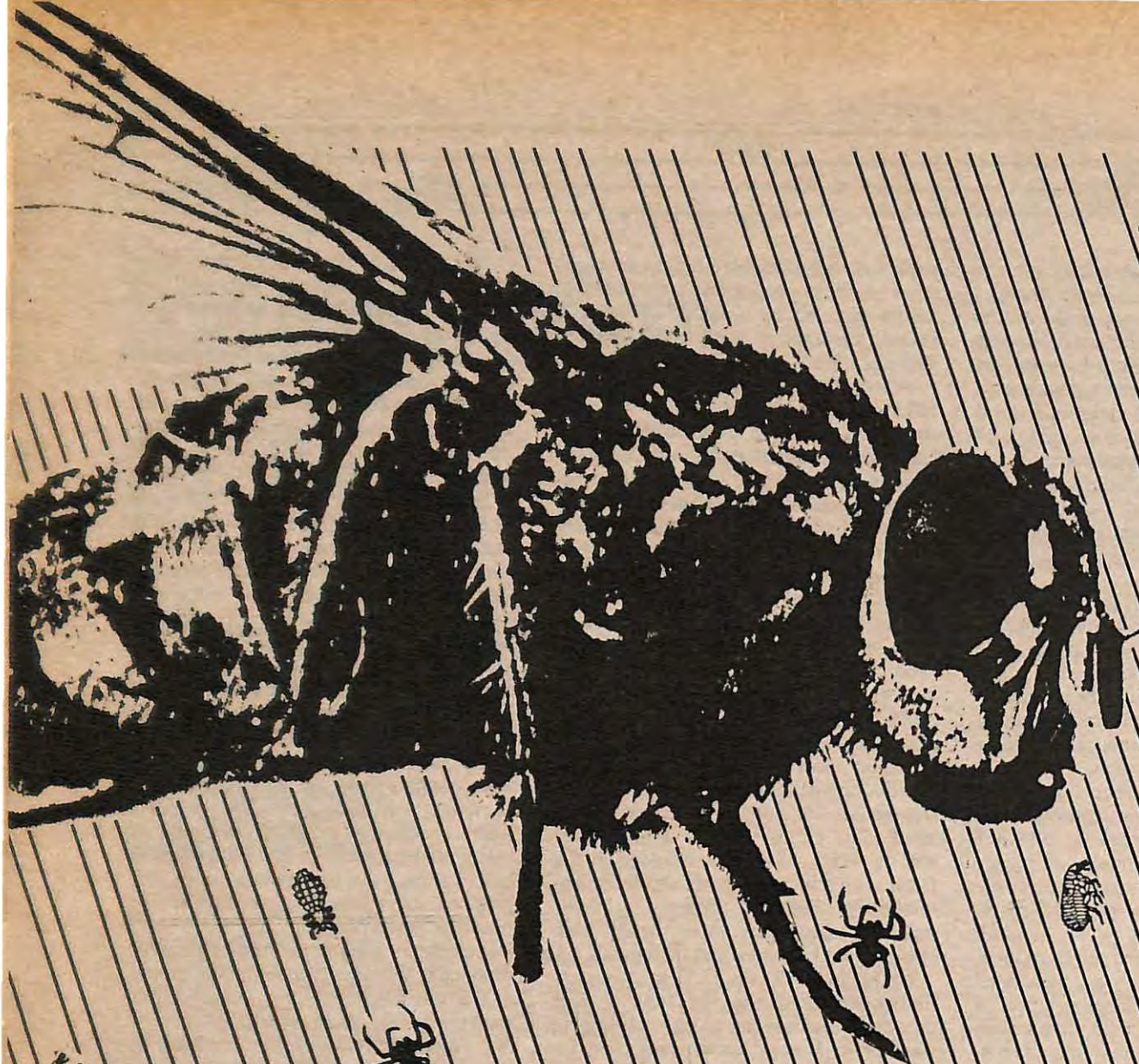


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More American

Biology

Experiments

Exposures of U.S. germ warfare experimentation during the mid-'60s on an unsuspecting American public at Washington, D.C.'s National Airport and in New York's subway system are the tip of a monumental biological iceberg (see *RW* No. 287, Jan. 4, "An American Biology Experiment"). There is an extensive and well-documented history of U.S. testing and preparations for biological warfare (BW) going back to WW2, when in 1943-44 the Biological Laboratories at Fort Detrick, Md. (then Camp Detrick) began producing a quarter of a million anthrax bombs, code-named "N," for a British Joint Planning Staff contingency plan which called for dropping them on six major German cities if the war went badly for the Allies. It was during that time that a full-scale American biological weapons program began to be massively funded (with the government investing over \$40 million between 1942-45 alone in plant and equipment), with Fort Detrick as its nerve center, so to speak. Among potential lethal biological agents which have been studied, there is a virtual Pandora's box of human horrors: anthrax, glanders, brucellosis, tularemia, melioidosis, plague, typhus, cholera, psittacosis, yellow fever, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Q fever, and encephalitis as well as a host of animal diseases and agricultural blights. And Fort Detrick's flourishing Entomological Warfare Department has also produced and stored billions of Colorado beetles, mosquitos, fleas and other insects for use as possible vectors (transmission agents).

All this has continued and been exquisitely refined up to the present day. And as such biological warfare testing expanded, of necessity this increased the requirements for reliable data that could only be obtained by in-the-field testing on human populations. It is well known, for example, that after WW2, the U.S. rulers went to great lengths to shield from prosecution certain Japanese war criminals,

like the notorious General Shiro Ishii — who had supervised Japanese use of BW against China during the war and who had also subjected thousands of POWs to agonizing death in the process of perfecting Japanese BW techniques — in return for information on such human "experimentation." Ishii, in fact, was brought to the U.S. to assist in BW development. Over the years since then, the U.S. Army's Special Operations Division (SOD), attached to the Biological Laboratories at Fort Detrick, has carried out more than a few field tests of its own. But most damning of all to the various justifications offered for this, and despite the sugary insistence of Fort Detrick spokes-vultures noted in last week's *RW* that today, as always, the U.S. biological warfare effort has been purely "defensive" in nature, is the fact that the U.S. has *already unleashed* biological warfare offensively, if on a somewhat limited and experimental scale, upon its enemies — most notably during the Korean War and, as ample evidence indicates, during the Vietnam War as well.

American Guinea Pigs

During the '50s and '60s, U.S. biological warfare specialists carried out *over 200 secret experiments* in the United States alone in which military and civilian targets, including whole American cities, were attacked with imitation biological weapons and the results coldly and calculatedly analyzed with *real* war-making

capabilities in mind. Inquisitive officials, if there were any, were simply told stories — like that the army was conducting experiments with smokescreens to "protect the city from radar detection," etc. Targets ranged from isolated rural communities to major urban population centers. And while the history is far too exhaustive to be detailed here, a few examples are enlightening.

One of the earliest experiments took place in San Francisco in 1950, supposedly to determine whether or not a Soviet submarine could slip quietly into an American harbor and successfully release biological agents. Between September 20 and 26, two U.S. Navy minesweepers steamed up and down just outside the Golden Gate Bridge and made not one, but *six* mock attacks against the city, releasing clouds of a spray contaminated with *Bacillus globigii* and *Serratia marcescens*, two supposedly harmless bacteria. BW scientists later concluded that 117 square miles of the San Francisco Bay Area had been successfully infected and that "nearly every one of the 800,000 people in San Francisco exposed to the cloud at normal breathing rate... inhaled 5,000 or more particles." Recently, in 1981, a Federal court ruled on a wrongful-death suit brought against the government by relatives of Edward Nevin, an elderly man who died of a heart inflammation which his doctors thought was caused by one of the agents used in the tests. Naturally, the judge's decision was that Nevin died of an "unrelated bacteriological infection" and that the bacteria released by the army were "harmless." In another early incident, Camp Detrick SOD men decided to investigate how easily bacteria might be spread through office buildings, so they dumped a pint and a half into the air conditioning system of the biggest office building in the world — the Pentagon. In *that* particular case, it can be safely assumed that the bacteria used were Grade-A, government-certified harmless, indeed.

Or, for instance, in 1951 navy personnel deliberately contaminated ten wooden boxes with *Serratia marcescens*, *Bacillus globigii*, and *Aspergillus fumigatus* and shipped them from a supply depot in Pennsylvania to the navy base in Norfolk, Virginia to establish how easily disease might be spread among people who handled the boxes. In 1953, the U.S. Chemical Corps traveled north and sprayed the entire Canadian city of Winnipeg with an unknown bacteriological agent. Similarly, a biological "smokescreen" was laid over the city of Minneapolis around this time. It is not known — publicly, at least — how the health of the millions of people subjected to these "harmless" biological assaults was affected. Another example: in 1956,

Continued on page 14

Biology Experiments

Continued from page 13

as part of planning to spread yellow fever with mosquitos as vectors, the Chemical Corps released millions of uninfected female mosquitos into a residential area of Savannah, Georgia. "Within a day," according to the secret report subsequently issued, "the mosquitos had spread a distance of between one and two miles, and bitten many people."

During the '50s-'60s period plenty of tests were also conducted by both the U.S. and the British in which *real* biological killing agents were used — many conducted at sea on various animals. Human subjects were also used. Between 1960 and 1966 British scientists from Porton Down (the notorious British CBW research complex from which Fort Detrick first took its inspiration) infected thirty-three terminal cancer patients with two agents, Langat Virus and Kyasanur Forest Disease Virus, at least one of which was being considered as a possible biological weapon. All thirty-three patients died as a result, two of them after contracting encephalitis. As for the U.S., one documented human experiment was conducted during the Vietnam War on Seventh Day Adventists conscientious objectors, allegedly volunteers, who served in the U.S. Army as noncombatants. In a series of tests, they were exposed to airborne tularemia (a plague-like disease involving several weeks of severe fever before the onset of death), and, as Fort Detrick researchers noted in their report, "all control subjects developed acute tularemia within two to seven days after exposure." Numerous other experiments took place on human "volunteers" in the '60s, but little has ever been revealed about them.

Biological Warfare Forays

In February 1952, China and North Korea revealed that the U.S. had been using germ weapons during the Korean War on its adversaries, publishing the confessions of six U.S. pilots as well as photographs of biological bomb fragments. After the U.S. denied the charges, China assembled an International Scientific Commission to investigate the bacteriological warfare, which included scientists from Sweden, France, Italy, Russia and Brazil, as well as Dr. Joseph Needham, a renowned and highly respected scientist from England. After its investigation, the commission concluded that "the peoples of Korea

and China did actually serve as targets for bacteriological weapons. These weapons were used by detachments of the armed forces of the USA, who used for this many and various methods; some of these are a continuation of methods used by the Japanese army in the second world war." The commission cited the use of sixteen different biological weapons including, among other things, the use of anthrax-laden feathers, fountain pens with germ-filled ink, and fleas, lice and mosquitos carrying plague and yellow fever.

All this was, and still is, dismissed in the U.S. as "communist propaganda," and it is asserted that the six pilots, who later repudiated their confessions after being released, must have been "brainwashed." However, a glance at the commission's voluminous and painstakingly documented 700-page report, which included numerous eyewitness accounts, convinces otherwise. For instance seven incidents in North Korea in 1952 are detailed in which outbreaks of plague followed the passage of American planes, including in the town of Bal-Nam-Ri where fifty people out of six hundred contracted the disease and thirty-six died. These outbreaks were always associated with the appearance of large numbers of fleas out of season (i.e., with snow still on the ground) that were found to be plague-infected. And as the commission noted, plague had been unknown in Korea for the past five centuries! Similarly, in April 1952, residents of Kan-Nan in northeast China awoke, after the passage of an American B-28 fighter plane had been observed the night before, to find the town and its outskirts littered with dead and dying voles (a species of rat-like rodent anomalous to the region) infected with plague.

The month before, residents of K'uan Tien in Liaotung province saw eight American fighters pass over the city and at least one was seen to drop a bright cylindrical object. After searches were organized, the townspeople discovered the fragments and realized the area was inundated with varieties of flies, spiders and other insects previously unknown in the area and which, upon examination, were found to be carrying the pathogenic organism causing anthrax. Other incidents in Liaotung and Liaoshi are documented in which beetles, feathers, and houseflies, all contaminated with anthrax, were dropped on various localities by U.S. planes crossing and recrossing the Yalu River. The commission also documented some of the resulting deaths of residents due to respiratory anthrax and hemorrhagic anthrax meningitis after they had helped in organizing searches to uncover what had been dropped by these planes. The Chinese revealed, and Japanese press reports at the time confirmed, that the large volume of in-

sects and rodents needed for these operations had been supplied by a breeding institute directed by a certain Ojawa, a former assistant of the aforementioned General Ishii.

Another incident in Korea on May 16, 1952 is particularly revealing. After an American plane had circled the area near Dai Dong, a peasant girl found a package containing clams and took them home. After she and her husband ate them, they were dead within 24 hours from cholera (another disease not endemic to Korea). Further packages of cholera-infected clams were found on the hillsides some 400 yards from a pumping station and some 1000 yards from a series of reservoirs that supplied the region with drinking water. Not coincidentally, on the night before the clams made their appearance, American planes had surgically bombed and destroyed the water purification plant adjacent to the pumping station but *not* the pumping station itself. The clams were of a salt-water variety which, if they had landed in the fresh water reservoirs, would have immediately died and decayed rapidly, polluting the entire water supply with cholera and killing untold thousands.

Later, in 1959, the U.S. government finally admitted that in 1952 it had possessed the capacity to wage biological warfare in Korea, but claimed that its "bacteriological warfare capability was based upon resources available and retained only within the continental United States." Interestingly, a government attempt to convict three Americans, including the editor of the Shanghai-based *China Monthly Review*, on sedition charges for publishing accounts of the germ warfare failed.

As if what happened in Korea was not horrible enough, there is also compelling evidence that, aside from the various chemical weapons and both chemical and biological crop defoliants that were admittedly used against Vietnam in the '60s, the U.S. rulers also used biological warfare — specifically, bubonic plague — directly against the Vietnamese people, resulting in untold numbers of deaths. Consider the following from *Time* magazine in a September 1966 article: "Bubonic Plague, the Black Death that slaughtered a third of Western Europe during the 14th Century, has suddenly started claiming casualties by the thousands. In 1961 only eight cases were reported in South Vietnam, last year some 4,500 cases were recognized and there were upward of 200 deaths... the Plague has no significant effect on U.S. troops since every man receives two shots before arriving in Vietnam and Boosters every four months. For Vietnamese living in Government-controlled areas vaccine and treatment are always available, but for the enemy VC, North Vietnamese troops, and those living in VC areas the

Plague may become a more deadly killer than either side expected." Between 1964 and 1966, South Vietnam had experienced a twentyfold increase in plague, which by 1966 affected twenty-two of twenty-nine provinces — a disease which, incidentally, was then unknown in surrounding countries with the exception of Burma which averaged only one hundred cases a year.

This *Time* account fairly drips with cynical imperialist "naiveté" considering that only months before an article in the June/July issue of *Viet Report* revealed that a New England firm, Traveler's Research Corporation of Hartford, Connecticut, formerly a subsidiary of Traveler's Insurance Co., had previously contracted with the Defense Department to develop an aerial dissemination method for spreading bubonic plague in South Vietnam. Initial reports of this were confirmed by an executive of the company, who also revealed that they were producing large quantities of tularemia bacilli for the same purposes as well. The chronology here is notable. Just prior to the widespread appearance of plague in South Vietnam, in 1965 a State Department memo to the President reversed its previous opposition to the use of BW weapons in the war. Also notable were the comments in 1966 (quoted in the *NY Times*) of an Assistant Professor in the Department of Bacteriology at the Harvard Medical School that "it has come to our attention that researchers in one of the government centers studying germ warfare have created amongst others a strain of *Pasteurella pestis* (Plague bacteria) which has been infected with a factor making it resistant to most common antibiotics. Thus not only are we developing ways to spread Plague amongst the enemy but we shall be able to do it in such a way that treatment may be impossible." By 1968 the U.S. government was openly admitting through the press that it had been maintaining BW weapons at special bases in Thailand during the period in question.

Of course since 1972 and the signing of the Biological Weapons Convention with the Soviets, in which production, testing and stockpiling of biological weapons was "banned," all further U.S. testing and BW preparations have been kept very hush-hush. And the U.S. rulers now swear they have stopped producing such horrors and that there is no evidence they are getting ready to use them in the future. But given that they *have* used them in the last two major wars the U.S. was involved in, the question might well be posed another way: What evidence is there that they are *not* now preparing, and prepared, to use BW on a far more sophisticated and murderous scale? □

Death Squads: Airborne and Land-Based

Continued from page 7

with U.S. military tactics and weaponry about this. The vet noted that the rotating Gatling guns are not only useful as an air-to-ground weapon, but, if they fell into the hands of the FMLN, could be quite effective in knocking out the Salvadoran army's helicopter capability. And despite all the U.S. official claims of Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan "arms flow," they are well aware that nearly all the FMLN weaponry is obtained from the Salvadoran army — either through capture, or, as is often the case, because Salvadoran officers sell it to them. Despite the *New York Times* claim that the C-47 is an indication of U.S. "confidence that the Salvadoran military is capable of properly controlling advanced weaponry," it is quite conceivable that it is more a sign of the U.S.'s lack of confidence in this regard.

Weapons Follow Politics

Despite the U.S.'s "up-beat" claims of new success for the Salvadoran govern-

ment, its situation in El Salvador has actually been deteriorating. Reports of incidents of "insubordination" by entire companies and the desertion of many more have appeared in the Mexican press. And where there has been actual fighting with the opposition — as opposed to aerial bombardment or peasant massacre — the army has tended to suffer severe casualties, such as in San Vicente, where an entire U.S.-trained battalion was wiped out in the beginning of December.

This situation is intolerable for U.S. politics — the politics of absolute domination of Central America — so necessary to its own global war preparations. So, although the aerial bombardment, peasant massacre, and security force/death squad raids have combined to murder over 50,000 Salvadorans in the past five years, it hasn't been sufficient for U.S. purposes. The U.S. needs a "new" strategy — much more Salvadoran blood is about to be spilled. □

Flames

Continued from page 4

change rate was \$1.78 for one U.S. dollar and today the exchange rate is \$4.96 for one U.S. dollar. Finally, U.S. press coverage of the events the last few days has quite blatantly indicated just what's at the root of Jamaica's dismal situation. The main angle of all the U.S. press coverage of the protests has been its effect on the "vital tourist industry." It certainly is a telling comment on the relationship between the U.S. imperialists and Jamaica when Jamaica's main industry, the one on which the entire economy depends for survival, involves catering to tourists from the U.S.

Since Seaga came to power, the U.S. has hailed Jamaica as a model for the economic and political development of the rest of the Caribbean. In its total subordination to and domination by U.S. imperialism, Jamaica undoubtedly is a very appropriate example of the U.S. vision of Caribbean development. It should also be pointed out here, however, that in its present state, Jamaica is also a very fitting symbol of the rotten footing on which such imperialist "development" rests and what it actually means for the masses of people. □

An American Hitler

Continued from page 3

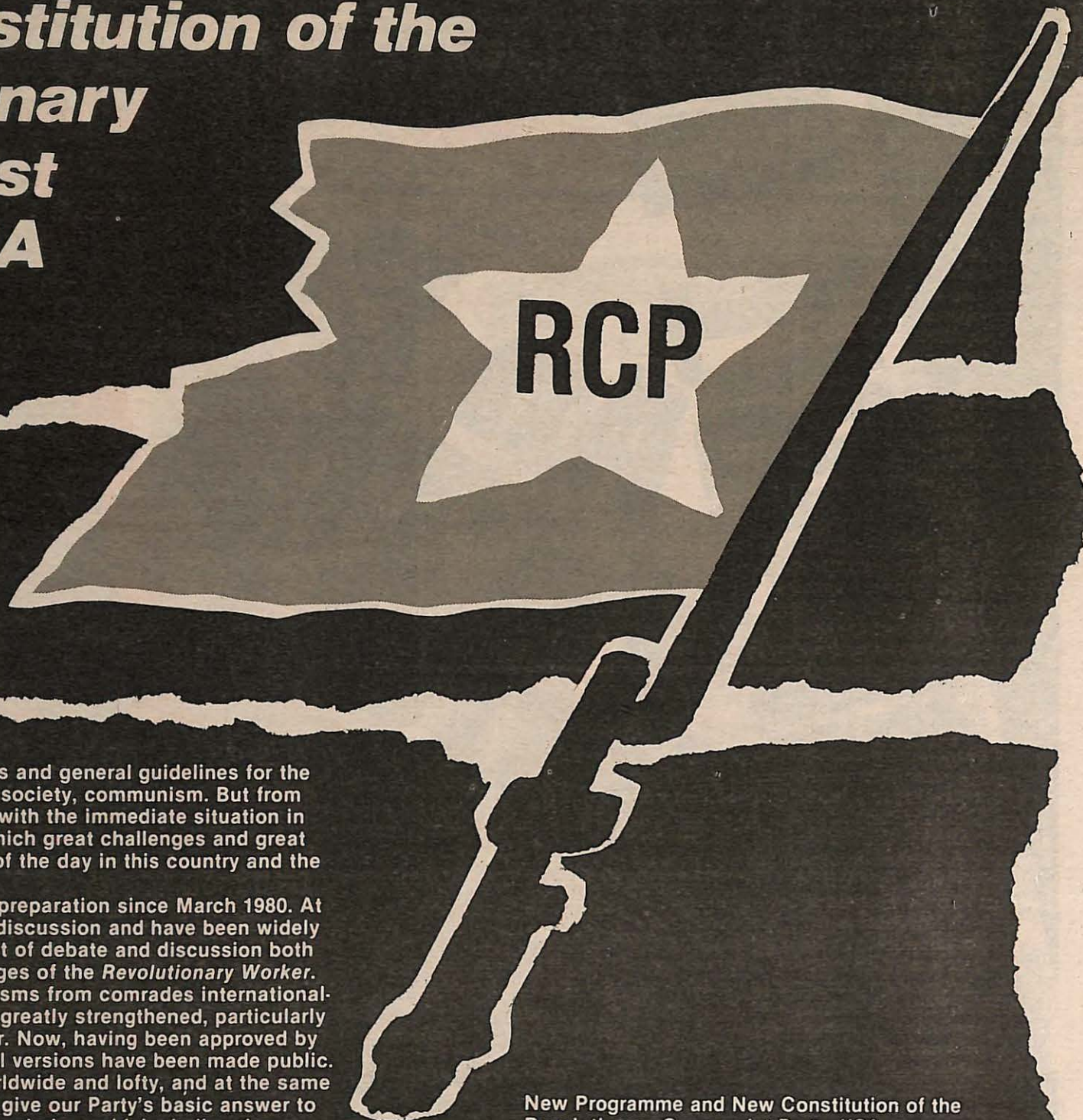
exists, West and East — is through: either its whole framework will be shattered by revolution, forcing a whole new world realignment sufficient to prevent world war, or this world war will occur and will destroy much of human civilization and the present imperialist framework along with it... (A Horrible End, or An End to the Horror?, p. 39).

Who, with enough daring to be clear-sighted, can deny this?

The best future they offer is some rehash of oppression scraped together among the irradiated ruins. Why should we then accept the bounds of this very system, eaten by its own raging crisis, preoccupied with its genocidal plans? The chance for a radically different future for all humanity — the future of communism — is one which must be actively snatched from their palsied grasp. What else is worth living for?

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If the rulers of this country can prepare for a global war of conquest against their Soviet rivals, a conflagration which has the potential to extinguish human life on this planet, then why cannot those who understand this fact and who aspire to a higher form of society prepare to overthrow these rulers before they embark on this monstrous enterprise? This is the profound challenge posed by Bob Avakian in his latest and most important work to date, *A Horrible End, or An End to the Horror?*

Avakian surveys the contemporary social and political terrain to reveal how and under what circumstances U.S. imperialism might be brought down. Yet what makes this such a compelling study is not merely its insights into revolutionary strategy but its insistence that these issues be viewed in the larger setting of the historical advance toward, and the problems attendant to, the achievement of socialism and communism.

Avakian casts his analytical gaze on the shortcomings of the movements of the 1960s, the recent assaults on Leninism, Marxist-Leninist military theory and experience, the enslaving essence of modern democracy, the role of dissent in socialist society, the centrality of the woman question to the revolutionary process, and the ideological roots of accommodationism and capitulationism within the revolution. Here, as in all his writings, Avakian articulates a Marxism for which revolution cannot be a halfway affair.

A Horrible End, or An End to the Horror? is not airy speculation but a lucid and riveting assessment of the problems, tasks, and opportunities that this critical historical period presents to revolutionary-minded people. It may be objected to but can no more be ignored than can the imperialists' plans for nuclear war: the world situation is just that acute and the approaching possibilities for the revolutionary seizure of power are just that real.