



REVOLUTION

Organ of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA

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Big Victory for Working Class

Battle of the Bicentennial

"We did it! On July 4th in Philadelphia thousands of working people marching shoulder to shoulder through the streets for miles. Where you couldn't see the front of the march and you couldn't see the back of the march, but you could feel the march. We did it! We did it in the organized, disciplined, serious, militant, angry way working people do things. In the proclamation of the Rich Off Our Backs—July 4th Coalition, we said months ago, 'as we have always fought them we will fight them on the day they choose to celebrate their bloodsoaked rule.' And we have fought them on that day, and we have won!"

These were the words of the first speaker as over three thousand marchers pouring into Norris Park on July 4th roared their agreement. It was a truly magnificent day.

Continued on Centerfold



Qualifications: New Face, Smooth Talk

Carter Gets the Nod From Capitalists

"But what is the main issue? The main issue is not economics. The main issue is the restoration of integrity and confidence in government. The main issue is trust, the restoration of trust."—Hubert H. Humphrey at the Democratic National Convention.

And here was Jimmy Carter, the smiling peanut farmer, the man of the soil, the good ol' boy from Plains, Georgia, the disciplined nuclear submarine officer who went against all the odds. Here was a good family man, with dozens of the clan gathered round to prove it—almost as numerous and toothy as the Kennedys, but without the taint of sex scandal and manslaughter. Here was a spokesman for the common man, telling us that it's time for the people to run the government and not the other way around, but without the tin-horn image and taint of racism of George Wallace.

"Trust me," said Jimmy Carter. "Trust him," said the bourgeoisie.

Hubert Humphrey wanted badly to be the "man to be trusted." But in the end he was told to back out. "People have been watchin' your lips flappin' too long Hubert. You're too covered with the dirt of your many battles for the capitalists." "Trust me," Scoop Jackson had pleaded, and the bourgeoisie knew they could. "But you're just too dull Henry. Your moves have 'hack' written all over them. You stir as much excitement as a prune at the breakfast table." So they pulled the plug on his campaign. Frank Church investigated

the CIA "with restraint" to show that he knew how to get trusted, but he just came off a bit too limp-wristed. Jerry Brown, the mad monk from California was a fresh face, and certainly would be useful in the future. But a few years on the shelf might mellow out some of his weirdness and ego maniacal approach.

Carter's the One

So finally it was Jimmy. The capitalists had found a new horse to ride, a candidate they hope can overcome their repeatedly admitted problem that "millions are disgusted, skeptical and suspicious" of the bourgeoisie's political system. Speaker after speaker at the convention proclaimed that "the difficulty lies not with our system of government, but with the leadership." And here was the new leader, the good man that Martin Luther King Sr. announced "was sent by the Lord to bring America back to where she belonged." Issues were strictly second fiddle. It was the pledge of simple decency that people supposedly wanted. "I love you," said Jimmy. "Love me and all will be fine."

The image of Carter projected by the media and his ad men is that of the man who emerged from nowhere. He is pictured alone, determined, the unknown, visiting barbershops, union halls, laundermats; introducing himself to countless would-be voters before the New Hampshire elections. In the pack of candidates that

the bourgeoisie ran out in the early primaries Carter was comparatively unknown to people. In fact, that was perhaps his main advantage. The capitalists were definitely looking for someone who could be distinguished from the discredited and shopworn politicians that have been huffing and puffing around Washington doing their bidding so openly for years.

The ruling class is faced with a major political crisis. People are sick and tired of bearing the brunt of their economic crisis. Millions of working people know that the only thing they will get from the bosses and their politicians are more attacks and abuses. They are tired of listening to lies and rhetoric from politicians who serve the interests of the capitalists, telling workers to sacrifice, while many of them line their own pockets and live degenerate lives. The rulers are desperately looking for new faces, new pied-pipers. Carter didn't ride any wave of enthusiasm. He rode in on the fact that he was unknown and therefore untainted—and promoted to the tune of millions of dollars.

Jimmy Carter was not unknown to the ruling class. As the Christian Science Monitor admitted, despite the fact that "Mr. Carter's public image is dominated by Plains, Georgia and peanuts, he is just as comfortable, and as familiar a figure in the board rooms of New York, Tokyo and London."

As soon as he showed the capitalists that he could attract more votes than their other candidates and put himself over as an honest face, the political support and financing came rolling in.

People were subjected to millions of dollars worth of TV image making for Jimmy. His mother and daughter were paraded before the cameras *ad nauseam*, showing us how cute and quaint they were. The Carters got the biggest hype job since the Kennedys.

Like most of the Democratic politicians Carter made his pitch to the working man and woman. And Carter acted like he was a "common man" himself. But Jimmy Carter is no man of the soil. He is a big capitalist farmer. He is a man who pushes others into the dirt. Carter said "As an engineer, a planner and a businessman, I see clearly the value of a strong system of free enterprise based on increased productivity and adequate wages." Presumably the \$2.30 an-hour he pays to workers on his peanut farm is an indication of what

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Battle of the Bicentennial

The colorful banners held firmly in the air let on who was there. Steel workers from the major steel centers of the country like the mammoth mills of Chicago and Gary, Indiana. The men and women who make the country's automobiles were there, holding high a banner that declared their intention to put it to the companies when the auto contract expires in September. Textile workers from the sweat shops of the South were there, as were garment workers who turn the cloth those workers make into clothing. Unemployed workers from around the country carried with them the signatures of a quarter of a million workers lending their voices to the demand of the marchers for Jobs or Income Now!

From the coal fields of Appalachia came a contingent of miners wearing their hard hats, fresh from an on-going battle against the mine owners and their golfing partners who sit on top of their union and who are trying to take away the strike weapon from the rank and file. There were postal workers there from cities around the country, many from New York, the city whose massiveness is testimony to the ability of the working class to create wonders, and whose daily rotting is evidence of the decay of the capitalists' system. From every major industry, from every corner of the country, from every nationality, workers came like a crest on a mounting wave of working class struggle. The march was stamped with the character of the working class.

Joining together with the workers were many others. A contingent of veterans led off the march, those who had been sent off to fight and die for the profits of the corporations were chanting "We Won't Fight Another Rich Man's War, It's the Working Class We're Fighting For." Students, organized by the Revolutionary Student Brigade, took up their positions. Hundreds of young people joined in the march, many of whom only months before saw only unemployment staring them in the face, or a uniform, or a lifetime of wage-slavery in the factories that had squeezed their parents.

The marchers had come from the thick of the major struggles of the working class and oppressed masses in this country. But the march was more than the collection of their individual fights. In one voice the demonstrators chanted as they marched, "We've Carried the Rich for 200 Years—Let's Get Them Off Our Backs!"



Along the line of the march were thousands of working people of Philadelphia, standing on the sidewalks and leaning out of windows. They were eagerly taking leaflets and purchasing literature, encouraging the marchers as they passed by. Many of the workers of Philadelphia were both amazed and inspired that the demonstration was taking place, that the hundreds of police waiting in buses and perched on the rooftops with rifles could only sit while the demonstration flowed by triumphantly. Mayor Rizzo of Philadelphia had pledged to his masters, the capitalist class, that he would prevent this demonstration of the workers on the day the rulers were celebrating and propping up their rule. Yet this day he was forced to eat his words.

The march itself was the culmination of a sharp struggle that had been going on with the capitalist authorities in Philadelphia for many months, reaching a feverish peak a few days before as the first contingents began to arrive in town.

They had tried to brand the Rich Off Our Backs Coalition as terrorists, as fanatics interested only in spoiling the official Bicentennial events—with no rhyme or reason. They had threatened to bring out 15,000 federal troops against the demonstration. They had banned unemployed workers from setting up a Tent City to dramatize the needs and struggle of the ten million unemployed workers in this country. Ruse after ruse had been used to keep the Coalition from setting up a Workers History Pavilion, which would feature a beautiful and powerful photo display of the history of class struggle in the U.S.

On Wednesday, June 30, five hundred workers and others arrived in Philly after holding a successful action in Washington, D.C., demanding Jobs or Income Now!



For four days the workers were engaged in a toe-to-toe win and protect the right to demonstrate on the Fourth, the capitalists' lies about the demonstrations and their purposes, to the workers in Philadelphia about the demands of the Coalition.

On July 1 the first actions took place. People loaded on flatbed trucks that were used to have "demonstrations on" and made their way to a Philadelphia unemployment office to demand Jobs or Income. From there, workers, students, veterans and youths proceeded to City Hall and held a picket line in support of Philadelphia's city workers who were in the process of fighting wage cuts and layoffs by the authorities.

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Bicentennial



The next day, July 2, the Coalition con... phia. A demonstration was held in front o... stated to be closed.

While workers were marching in the str... demonstrations. A two-bit local judge in f... march on Sunday the 4th. But this was to... "democracy and freedom" cover. Another... evening.

That night with clockwork precision tru... ers History Pavilion in exile, then left in an... had an excuse for an attack.



On the morning of the third, the day befo... stration at the site of Admiral Dewey's flags... Philippines during the Spanish-American Wa... people off to fight and die for their profits, y... Spain as the overlords of the Philippines, Cul... In the afternoon an exciting scene took p... from around the country to join in the demc... That evening over two thousand gathered... culture and speeches. When the MC opened... thunderous applause at this simple statemen... to make a powerful statement to the Americ...

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For four days the workers were engaged in a toe-to-toe battle with the capitalists, to win and protect the right to demonstrate on the Fourth, to knock down the capitalists' lies about the demonstrations and their purposes, to speak directly to the workers in Philadelphia about the demands of the Coalition.

On July 1 the first actions took place. People loaded on board the flatbed trucks that were used to have "demonstrations on wheels" and made their way to a Philadelphia unemployment office to demand Jobs or Income. From there, workers, students, veterans and youths proceeded to City Hall and held a picket line in support of Philadelphia's city workers who were in the process of fighting wage cuts and layoffs by the authorities.

A speaker on the steps of City Hall said, "The fact

The Evening Bulletin
SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1976
Phila. May Seek U. S. Troops To Keep Order on July 4th

is that this City told us three or four months ago, you're never going to march in this city. And they told us that you'll never have a tent city.

And the fact is that right now we have a tent city set up in three or four churches. And unemployed and employed workers are marching."

Marching they were, right into the center of Philadelphia that had been declared off-limits to the organized forces of the working class!

That evening the capitalists tried to make up for the losses they suffered by the successful demonstration earlier in the day. When the Coalition showed up at Norris Park for an evening event they were met by hundreds of police, uniformed and plainclothed poised for the attack. A small picket line of eight local political hacks—poverty pimps—and twenty children claiming to represent the community in the area was set up to demand that the Coalition stay out of the park.

The police were going to use this as an excuse for an attack. The Coalition leadership wisely chose to retreat, for then, moving the site of the rally to another location, leaving some people to explain what was going on to the hundreds of people from the community who were checking out what was happening, and who had nothing to do with the handful masquerading as their leaders.



The next day a tremendous victory was... the ruling class which swore to stop it. Star... sacred day of the capitalist class, and declar... From the speakers stand in Norris Park... significance of the Battle of the Bicentennia... "We united with the hopes and dreams a... and that's why it's been such a success. An... years and this is what they've been, and the... going to be and what we're going to make i... when we pull people together, that same th... Texas marching together with garment wor... we see is the seeds of our future and we're g...

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