

**WHY THE FARAH STRIKE WON (SEE P. 12)**

**PEOPLE OF  
THE WORLD  
UNITE TO  
DEFEAT  
IMPERIALISM**

# **THE CALL**

**POLITICAL  
NEWSPAPER  
OF THE  
OCTOBER  
LEAGUE**

Vol. 2, Number 8 - THE CALL, Post Office Box 2278, Bell Gardens, California 90201 - May, 1974 - Published by the October League (Marxist-Leninist) - 25¢

**TIME TO UNITE  
AND FIGHT BACK**



**UAW CONVENTION . . . P.3**

**WORKERS BEHIND  
DUMP NIXON . . . P.4**

**UNITED FRONT IN U.S.? . . . P.11**

**SECCION EN  
ESPANOL**



# People in Struggle

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### NATIONAL

- Demo Planned for UAW Convention—3
- Steel Settlement on Discrimination a Racist Hoax—3
- Workers Solidly Behind Dump Nixon Efforts—4
- Black Men Rounded-Up in "Zebra" Sweeps—4
- "I Saw My Daddy Die of Black Lung"—5
- Seven Arrested in Pikeville Hospital Strike Support—5
- Teamsters Threaten to Smash United Farm Workers—6
- Dow Strikers Face Savage Police Attacks—7
- S.F. Teachers End Longest Strike—7
- Fight for Women's Rights and the Working Class—8
- Response to R.U. Slanders—8
- Trial of AIM Leaders Exposes Role of FBI—9
- CALL Interviews Ex-POW Michael Branch—9
- Vets Occupy Washington Monument—9
- African Liberation Month Linked to Struggle Here—10
- A United Front in the U.S.?—11

### INTERNATIONAL

- Lin Piao, Confucius Tried to Turn Back History—10
- Bolivian Workers and Peasants Organize to Resist—15
- Syria Wages Liberation War in Golan Heights—15
- Revolution is the Main Trend—16
- Anniversary of Founding of Cambodian Front—16
- Augusto Collins Dies—16

### FEATURES

- People in Struggle—2
- On the Line—6
- Letters—11
- CALL Editorial: Revolutionary Leadership Needed—12
- Why the Farah Strike Won—12
- History of May Day—12
- Taking Up the Call—14
- Cultural News and Reviews—17

## S.F. RALLY TO FREE LOS TRES

A spirited and unified picket line and rally was seen and heard in front of San Francisco's Federal Building recently, demanding freedom for Los Tres del Barrio. More than 100 protesters, mainly from the Chicano communities but also including some Black and white supporters, chanted the main demand—"No more drugs in the community; free Los Tres!"

Los Tres is currently out on bail pending appeal of the railroaded conviction on charges of assaulting a federal narcotics officer, who was masquerading as a pusher. (see The Call, December, 1973) It is clear that what they are really convicted of is organizing in the East Los Angeles barrio for the liberation of Chicano people and of declaring peoples' war on drug traffic. Hard drugs, provided to oppressed people by government agencies (directly or indirectly), are a major obstacle to consciousness raising and organizing political action. For fighting this, the Federal courts have sentenced these three Chicano activists to a total of 75 years imprisonment.

Speaking at the rally, Rodolfo Sanchez (one of Los Tres) thanked everyone for their militant support and unity, and pointed out that the huge drug traffic supported by the U.S. government, the large secret police apparatus, the corrupt court system and the prisons are all related as means used by imperialism to enforce its rule over oppressed people, and especially national minorities. But Sanchez also stressed that as the peoples' movements develop and become unified, this rule will be broken.

Other speakers included representatives from American Indian Movement, the United Farm Workers of America, and K.D.P. (a Filipino organization). A delegation from K.D.P. entertained with patriotic songs of struggle.

Donations to help free Los Tres and the people from the drug traffic, or requests for more information, can be sent to National Committee to Free Los Tres, 4400 South Huntington Dr., Los Angeles, California 90033.

## LAWTON CASE LINKED TO WATERGATE

Los Angeles, Calif.—Speaking at a rally of 300 people attorney William Kunstler pointed to the connection between the trial of his clients, Gary Lawton and Zerebu Gardner, and the Watergate events.

"Both Watergate and the Lawton case," said Kunstler, represent a system gone mad—decaying and rotting away. Fascism can come if the American people are afraid, not willing to fight and don't understand that Gary Lawton is us all."

Lawton and Gardner, two Black activists, are facing their third trial, May 20, on the frame-up charge of shooting two policemen.

## 2,000 MARCH FOR FARM WORKERS IN BOSTON

Boston, Mass.—2,000 people—a sizeable number of them workers—turned out for a march and rally Saturday, March 23, to support the farm workers' struggle for recognition of their union, the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO.

Three feeder marches coming from Boston, Roxbury and Cambridge stopped at A&P supermarkets along the way. A&P, the last remaining hold-out that still carries non-UFWA lettuce and grapes, has been the target of a massive boycott campaign.

Cheers of solidarity rang out as the demonstrators met for a rally at the Government Center. Asked how many in the crowd held union cards, at least one-third of the people raised their hands, thus signifying the rising solidarity between organized and unorganized workers, and the growing role of workers in the broad campaign to support the farmworkers.

Participants in the rally included rank-and-file teamsters, the Boston Teachers Union, Local 66, Independent Restaurant Workers Union, United Electrical Workers, Local 1565, along with community boycott committees and radical and revolutionary organizations.

Chants to get rid of Nixon rang out loud and clear. In response to a request by the M.C., 50-100 children under the age of 16 stood up the express solidarity with the estimated 80,000 laboring in the fields of California.

Following songs of the migrant workers by Utah Phillips, Richard Chavez spoke of their living conditions and about the sweetheart contracts the growers have signed with the Teamsters. Virginia Jones, co-head of the UFWA in Boston, spoke about the significance of the boycott and its role in the struggle.

## COMMUNITY DEMANDS CONTROL OF SCHOOLS

Oakland, California—"Who are you to decide the fate of our children?" These words on a hand-held sign expressed the anger and outrage of the nearly 100 people who, at a meeting of the Oakland Board of Education on April 9, challenged the Board's "right" to select a new superintendent to replace Dr. Marcus Foster (assassinated last November by the SLA) over the heads of the community.

The demonstration and the speakers at the School Board meeting were organized by the Ad-Hoc Committee for Community Selection of a Superintendent. The Committee represents and has the support of such groups as the Coalition to Save Our Schools (CSOS), El Comité Popular Educativo, United East Oakland Clergy, The Ministerial Alliance, Oakland Federation of Teachers, and other forces in the predominantly Black and Chicano sections of Oakland.

They demanded that the Board retain five community people to serve on the committee that will select the new superintendent. The plan that the School Board has in mind is to appoint five "educational experts" to come up with a replacement for Dr. Foster.

Several speakers at the meeting pointed out that it is, in fact, the community that knows what is best for itself—not the wealthy members of the Board of Education who have no understanding of the lives of working people and minorities in Oakland. One Chicana woman stated that "When the community, with all its creative capacities, comes to you with ideas, you say no—just because you have the power to say no." Speaking to the Board's refusal to even recognize the Ad-Hoc Committee and its demands, she pointed out that "This Board is supposed to serve the community—not perch itself above it!"

Regardless of what decision the School Board makes in regards to giving the community a say in the running of their own schools, the people of Oakland will continue to fight for better education for their children, and for community control of their schools. As one spokesman from the Committee stated, "The hope of our children does not lie in politicians who would sacrifice our children's good for their own advancement". It lies in the people themselves.



Call Photo

## RAPE FRAME-UP GOES TO COURT

Richmond, Va.—The U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals on April 1 heard arguments on James Carrington's attempt to win a new trial. Carrington is a young Black man who has served four years of a 75-year sentence on a framed-up rape charge.

The Prisoners Solidarity Committee and the Carrington family brought supporters from throughout the state to attend the short hearing, in which Carrington's lawyers argued that there had been racist discrimination in the selection of the Appomattox, Va. jury which convicted Carrington in 1970.

The jury, composed entirely of elderly men, all white, declared Carrington guilty of raping a white friend whom he was dating at the time. During the trial, a doctor testified that there was no evidence of a sexual act, much less rape, and even the FBI said there was no evidence of abduction. All that the evidence showed was that Carrington had been found sitting in a car with a white woman friend on the night of April 10, 1970.

The true purpose of the "trial" was revealed by the prosecutor, who stated, "We're going to make an example of this boy, so that no colored man will ever lay hands on a white girl again."

## MAY DAY POSTER OFFER

THE MAY DAY POSTER SHOWN ON PAGE ONE THIS MONTH IS AVAILABLE FOR \$1 EACH  
ALSO AVAILABLE THIS MONTH ARE LARGE RED MAY DAY BUTTONS AT 50 CENTS EACH

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

THE CALL  
P.O. Box 2278  
Bell Gardens, California 90201  
Make checks payable to THE CALL

Enclosed is: \$5 for a one-year subscription, \$3 for a G.I. subscription  
\$3 for a six-month subscription

SUBSCRIBE



# Demo Planned for UAW Convention

Thousands of delegates from every UAW local in the U.S. and Canada will meet in Los Angeles this June for the 24th International Convention of the United Auto Workers. Occurring at a time when massive lay-offs have struck the industry, and rank-and-file union members are demanding action from the UAW leadership, the convention activities will have a profound impact on the entire U.S. labor movement.

The Brotherhood Caucus of GM's Local 1364 in Fremont, Calif. has issued a call for a demonstration by auto workers at the convention denouncing the union leadership's failure to fight in the interest of the membership, and demanding more democracy in the union.

Specific demands put forward by the Brotherhood Caucus include:

1. **Jobs or income! No more lay-offs! No overtime work while union members are laid-off.**
2. **End discrimination in hiring, promotions, and lay-offs!**
3. **Democracy in our union! Direct elections of all officials.**
4. **Stop runaway shops! Union wages for workers around the world.**

The planned demonstration will come in direct contradiction with the UAW bureaucrats' attempt to win support among workers for their own "program" around industry lay-offs. This program, rather than blaming the crisis-ridden capitalist system for the current problems, seeks to put the blame on "foreign workers," and proposes to solve the crisis by limiting the import of foreign cars. UAW leaders are pushing this "solution" along with a major campaign of letter-writing and lobbying in Congress. Their political program is to support all Democrats seeking office this year and in 1976. They claim the Democratic Party is the answer to the corruption and attacks on working people launched by the Nixon administration.

Failure to deal with real answers to the real problems faced by auto workers is shared equally by the different candidates contending for the presidency of the union, from which post Leonard Woodcock will retire this year. Seeking election are Doug Fraser (head of UAW-Chrysler), Pat Greathouse (agricultural implements), Irving Bluestone (GM), and Ken Bannon (Ford).

Regardless of who wins this election, the general direction of the union leadership will continue on the course that Woodcock set for it... the maintenance of "labor peace," and the attempt to convince the rank-and-file that strikes are "outmoded" and wages should be held down in "the national interest."

## RANK-AND-FILE FIGHT CHAUVINISM

While openly condemning the militant wave of sit-ins and wildcat strikes which took place last summer, top UAW bureaucrats have filled the pages of their newspaper, *Solidarity*, with a complex program which can never succeed in improving the lives and working conditions of auto workers. For when any real opportunity presents itself to fight for workers' rights, these union leaders are nowhere to be found. An example of this is the fact that Woodcock has gone on record saying, "The UAW is against all overtime while UAW members are laid off," and yet, while hundreds of thousands of auto workers have no jobs, other assembly plants are running around the clock working nine and ten hour shifts. The UAW has not taken a single concrete action against these policies.

The most reactionary part of Woodcock's program, however, is the abandonment of the fight for the rights of women and minority workers. In one plant after another, women and minority workers have been the first to be laid off, since their seniority is generally the lowest. Under the cover of "preserving the seniority system at all costs" the UAW leadership is allowing hard-won gains made by minority and women workers to be wiped out.

Another convention issue will be the UAW leadership's refusal to sell union-held Israeli war bonds, which help finance military aggression against the Arab peoples. Last winter, Arab auto workers, community groups and supporters demonstrated against Woodcock in Detroit, demanding that union dues not be used to finance the murder of Arabs in the Middle East. Not only did Woodcock defend the purchase of the war bonds, but UAW leaders responded to the workers' demands with renewed support for Israel and a call for the "destruction of the Arab states." A number of union locals have denounced the leadership's stand on this question, and intend to raise it before the whole convention.

The chauvinist stand taken by the UAW leaders towards Arab workers and the Arab people has been repeated by their wholesale attack on the working people of Germany, Japan, France, and other countries. Woodcock has accused



Members of the Brotherhood Caucus at GM Fremont plant at one of their many rallies. The Brotherhood has called for a demonstration march outside of the UAW convention, which will be held at the beginning of June. (Call Photo)

these workers of "robbing" American jobs, and has teamed up with the owners of the Big Three auto companies in the quest for control of the world auto market. The "Be American-Buy American" type logic the UAW hopes to spread at the convention is very similar to the campaigns which labor bureaucrats in the other big unions have been pushing for years. In fact, the UAW leadership has actually proposed a merger with the AFL-CIO, and will bring this up on the convention floor.

This move, while posing as an effort to build up trade union unity, is in fact, an attempt to bring the UAW into the fascist labor front headed by Meany, Abel and Fitzsimmons, who have taken the lead in smothering internal democracy in their union locals, and helping Nixon outlaw the right to strike.

The June UAW convention will be a battleground between

the surging rank-and-file movement and the leadership's maneuvers to crush it. In answer to the Brotherhood Caucus' four points, angry auto workers, both delegates and non-delegate demonstrators, will demand:

1. **Dump Nixon!**
2. **No overtime while UAW members are on lay-off!**
3. **Re-open our contract! We want a livable wage increase!**
4. **Support the United Farm Workers! Oppose Fitzsimmons' growers' union-busting!**

The Brotherhood demonstration in June, in conjunction with the representatives of the rank-and-file on the convention floor, reflects the growing militancy of U.S. auto workers and dissatisfaction in the UAW's ranks. The demonstration will provide an opportunity for broad unity and participation by many rank-and-file forces.

# Steel Settlement on Discrimination a Racist Hoax

The government, the steel companies, and the United Steel Workers of America (USWA) have adopted an agreement which they claim will eliminate racial and sex discrimination in hiring and promotion in the steel mills. The plan provides a back pay settlement to minority and women workers who have suffered a loss of wages through discrimination.

Announcing the agreement on April 25, government and management spokesmen praised the plan as "unprecedented," "equitable," and stated that it could be more widely applied to remedy discrimination throughout American industry. However, in reality the agreement is a direct attack on minority and women workers and if successfully adopted, it will be a major defeat for working people.

The back pay provision provides an estimated \$31 million payment to 40,000 to 50,000 Black, Spanish-surnamed and women workers hired before January 1, 1968. This would amount to an average of \$500 to \$750 per person. In order to receive this money all workers would have to sign a waiver stating that they would not sue the company, or the union at anytime for damages resulting from discrimination.

As Francis Brown, chairman of the Black Caucus Steelworkers for Equality said, "To a poor man, \$30 million sounds like a lot, but split it among 10 steel plants and that ain't shoe shine money." A recent labor department investigation of discrimination in the steel industry at the Bethlehem Steel Sparrows Point plant showed that there was an average of 40 cents per hour difference between the pay in predominantly black and predominantly white departments. This would amount to about \$800 less per year for the Black workers. So clearly this back pay settlement should be thousands of dollars per worker, not hundreds.

Seniority provisions in the agreement allow women and minority workers to transfer into the lowest job classifications in the predominantly white and male departments without loss of pay for two years. Supporters of the agreement say this will remedy the effects of discriminatory hiring practices that placed minorities and women in the lowest paying, dirtiest departments. However, since vacancies rarely occur in these departments, transfers and promotions will be slow. For many years to come, steelworkers will remain segregated in departments along racial and sex lines.

The steel firms also agreed to hire one woman for every four men hired over the next year. However, because we are in a period of recession and layoffs, few people will be hired and this one year plan will not bring many women into the steel industry. It is obvious that the companies' new policies on hiring, seniority, and back pay

are not designed to eliminate discrimination, but are an attempt to maintain the status quo and silence rank and file discontent.

The reason why this decision was reached at this time was not because of the good will of the steel companies, government, and the USWA leadership. It comes as a result of the rising militancy of the industries' minority and women workers, and years of pressure from the civil rights movement. Black workers at Fairfield, Alabama and Sparrows Point, Maryland have fought for and won decisions changing the hiring and seniority systems, and giving them special transfer rights. Black and women workers at Sparrows Point have both filed back pay suits in the courts for substantially larger settlements than the present agreement provides.

## WORKERS WON'T GIVE UP

These actions and others like them made it clear to the steel companies and the USWA that they would have to take action or face much more costly results in the form of law suits. So clearly this agreement was reached so the steel companies could get off the hook as cheaply as possible, and also stem the tide of rising militant rank and file movements against discrimination.

As is usual for the Abel leadership of the USWA, they sided with the company and the government in coming up with this agreement. It is another secret deal like their no-strike agreement and the new contract negotiations. Also, as is usual, the rank and file members of the USWA will have no say in whether or not the agreement is acceptable to them.

The decision was reached in secrecy with no representatives from national or women workers taking part. Herbert Hill, the national labor director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, attacked the agreement saying, "The most significant aspect of the steel industry agreement is that the affected class of employees was excluded from the negotiations and therefore the settlement should be rejected by the courts..." Frungle Brown, SWFE chairman and a leader in the struggle against discrimination, said, "I represent the Black Steel workers and I read about the decision in the morning paper over coffee."

Civil rights and women's rights organizations have attacked the plan and have made it clear that they do not plan to accept it. The NAACP has stated that they will file suit in district court demanding that the agreement be nullified, and the National Organization of Women (NOW) has announced that it will continue to press for back pay settlements larger than those provided in the agreement.

# Workers Solidly Behind Dump Nixon Efforts

Despite Nixon's desperate efforts at stirring public sympathy for himself, he is bucking the near-unanimous sentiment of the working people of the country who have begun to militantly express their opposition to the government's assault on them.

In April, Nixon ventured out into the farm country of Michigan, hoping that support among the large farmers there would combat the view that his continued presence in the White House is hurting the Republican Party. However, despite widespread media coverage showing hundreds of Nixon supporters at Bad Axe, Mich., Nixon was afraid to wander into the cities of that state where the industrial workers are concentrated, such as Detroit, Flint, etc.

Following his visit to Michigan, the Republican candidate for Congress got clobbered in a district that has historically been a GOP stronghold. This is the fourth such defeat in five elections this year and has deepened the rift within the leadership of the party.

Further contradictions within the ruling circles of the country have deepened as Nixon's position in dealing with the U.S.'s main rival, the Soviet Union has been weakened. Kissinger's unsuccessful visit to Moscow was blamed directly by many on the fact that Brezhnev and Co. are taking advantage of the weakness in the White House. As Senator Kennedy put it, "We can't stand for another Russian wheat deal in the area of diplomacy," referring to the fact that the Soviet Union made millions in profits by buying billions of bushels of U.S. wheat last year cheaply, and then selling it on the European market at inflated prices. In the hopes of carrying out their dual policy of "detente" and competition with the Soviet Union, large ruling class circles are coming to see Nixon's weak position as a detriment.

The Soviet Union has made no bones about its support for Nixon in his troubled times. The Soviet newspaper, *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, in an article on the 109th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's death, equated the movement to

dump Nixon with reactionary forces which "conspired to assassinate Lincoln. These forces described as 'reactionary,' 'were ready to use any methods in the struggle against unwanted political leaders—like now,' the Soviet paper said.

The article written by historian R. Ivanov, invited the Soviet readers to draw parallels between Lincoln and President Nixon, whose tax and Watergate problems have received brief but sympathetic mention in the Soviet press.

## WORKERS' INTEREST

The working class has its own interests in dumping Nixon. Faced with increasing taxes, widespread unemployment and rising inflation, they have witnessed in recent months the exposures of Nixon's shady dealings, not only around Watergate but in getting rich off of the presidency. The facts relating to Howard Hughes' \$100,000 gift handled through Nixon's buddy, Bebe Rebozo, have now come to light, as has Nixon's various tax evasion schemes which showed him owing the government more than a half million in unpaid taxes along with \$4,383 he owes to the state of California.

The House Judiciary Committee has now issued two subpoenas for secret Watergate tapes which can show Nixon's involvement in the cover-up as well as his efforts to unleash a fascist terror assault against his political opponents.

As the April 22 issue of U.S. News and World Report states, the subpoenas have "locked Mr. Nixon himself into a Damoclean personal dilemma: whether to yield up the evidence that might be used to impeach him—or to resist and risk the certain judgement that he has something incriminating to hide."

Of course to most people, there is no doubt but that he has "something to hide." The most recent Harris Poll for the first time returned a plurality (43 to 41 per cent) in favor of his removal from office and House Speaker Carl Al-

bert privately predicted that he will in fact be impeached by mid-July.

Yet despite all the impeachment talk, Congress appears paralyzed as the liberals show that they don't mind dragging out the proceedings in order to make political hay for themselves in local congressional elections. There is also fear that impeachment proceedings will expose to the people that the question is not simply Nixon, but the nature of the capitalist system itself, which breeds fascism and corruption as well as inflation and economic crisis in general.

"I know we're sometimes weak-kneed and sometimes political," said Peter Rodino (D.-N.J.) chairman of the Judiciary Committee to a press conference last month, "But I really believe this is an instance when we can demonstrate that the system does work."

In response to this "weak-kneed," "political" stand of the politicians, the peoples' movement to "Dump Nixon—Stop the Fascist Tide" has grown rapidly and gained momentum. As we go to press, major large-scale demonstrations are mobilizing in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and Chicago for April 27. The demonstrations represent the unity of broad coalitions of students, unions, civil rights organizations, peace forces and revolutionary groups.

A week later on May Day, the working class and revolutionary forces are linking the struggle to dump Nixon to the fight to defend the rights of working people, in celebration and rallies around the country.

More than anything else, it will be in the strength of these actions that will determine the effectiveness of the movement to dump Nixon. Those who try and steer this movement behind the tail of the liberal politicians or who try and confine it simply to a movement for new elections will only rob it of its potential strength if they succeed. The real strengths of the Dump Nixon movement are 1) that it represents the feelings and desires of the masses and 2) that it is not chained to the Democratic Party. It has maintained its independence.

This second factor is due largely to the presence of the revolutionary forces who have tried to show that the real question is not the machinations of one man, Nixon, or one party, but the bankruptcy of a capitalist system which breeds these anti-people policies.

## Black Men Rounded up in Racist "Zebra" Sweeps

San Francisco, California—Police in this city began rounding up hundreds of Black men in sweeping assaults through the ghetto, with the excuse that they are hunting the "Zebra killer."

The sweeps have been described as "fascist" by the entire leadership of the Black community, by many politicians and people from all walks of life. Mayor Alioto, who is in the midst of the California gubernatorial campaign, ordered the racist sweeps as part of an overall offensive against minorities in the Bay Area and against the left, following the Hearst kidnapping and the alleged murders of 12 people, by the so-called "Zebra."

### "POLICE STATE" METHODS

Alioto gave the order to stop "every Black man that fit the description of the killer." The Rev. Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial Methodist Church called the dragnet the equivalent of a "police state." Rep. Jerome Waldie (D-Antioch) attacked the raids as "an outrageous intrusion on civil liberties." The sweeps were also condemned by the American Civil Liberties Union, the NAACP, and Bobby Seale, Chairman of the Black Panther Party, whose headquarters were also raided last month, with 14 people being dragged off to jail before being released with no charges against them.

Thomas Fleming, managing editor of the Sun Reporter, a newspaper widely circulated in the Black community pointed out, "The police didn't stop all whites when they were searching for the Zodiac Killer (who has been described as white.) And they are not stopping all white girls that might be Patty Hearst or the girls of the SLA."

One of the first men stopped by police, Robert Brooks, a 23-year-old security guard said, "I think the mayor is persecuting the Black community for the acts of a few crazy dudes." Brooks, who was stopped at a bus stop only minutes after Alioto announced the stop-and-search procedure as "an extraordinary measure" said, "If the killings continue some other people are talking about retaliation against Blacks."

The round-ups followed upon the heels of an SLA bank robbery and a statement by Patty Hearst that she had "joined the Symbionese Liberation Army." Ms. Hearst's father changed his tune from the days of mealy-mouthed statements about the "sincerity" of the SLA, now calling them "unreasonable and cruel." Meanwhile, the state and



Marchers demand that police who murdered 14-year-old Tyrone Guyton be brought to justice in Oakland. (Call Photo)

country's top cops are laying the necessary technical and propaganda groundwork for turning the SLA case into a massive witch-hunt for progressives and communists.

San Francisco police recently unveiled a new \$2 million computerized "crime prevention" system which is tied into every law enforcement agency in the country. Police say they can stop a man on a traffic violation and within 60 seconds run a check on him which will reveal, not only outstanding warrants, but also his "arrest record, danger potential, associates, intelligence contacts and aliases."

In a move to beef up California's intelligence-gathering apparatus, the state Senate's subcommittee on civil disorders recommended that radical groups be put under "constant surveillance" and that measures be adopted to prevent further political kidnappings, including a neighborhood spy system. "Every neighborhood has a busy-body," stated the report, "and they can be useful." Besides these busy-bodies many activists in the left movement here have noticed that they have brand new neighbors these days—FBI agents who have moved in across the street or down the block.

U.S. Attorney General Saxbe made it clear, in an interview in Washington, D.C. exactly who the ruling class would like to pull into their dragnet: "The Symbionese and others are taking this thing right out of some Maoist doctrinal textbooks." He said he had evidence of a "World Wide Conspiracy." This, despite the fact that the SLA and terrorism in general has been consistently opposed by every communist organization.

On the local level, attacks came down on the groups which had helped with the People In Need (PIN) free food program, intended as a ransom for Patty Hearst. No sooner had the "giveaway" ended than PIN coordinator Ludlow Kramer turned on the National Welfare Rights Organization, American Indian Movement and the United Prisoners Union (UPU), insinuating that they had been responsible for the violence and confusion which often surrounded the food giveaways.

But Popeye Jackson of the UPU pointed out that the PIN organizers were the ones responsible for screwing up the program: "I found Ludlow Kramer to be totally incompetent...a righteous asinine ass. He continually talked down to the people in the coalition like we were just a group he didn't have to deal with. He was from a different class." Popeye returns to prison this month for a parole review, and faces a lengthy prison term if the review board can find "probable cause" to keep him in San Quentin.

The threat to people like Popeye Jackson and other activists, as well as the increasingly visible police presence in the working class communities were more a topic of concern for most Bay Area residents than Patty Hearst's quickie "conversion" to ultra-left politics. As one working woman expressed it, "She wasn't living in the real world when she was in Hillsborough, and she's still not, when she's with the SLA."

In fact, the view expressed in Patty's dire warnings that "Black and poor people are about to be murdered down to the last man, woman and child" and that automation will quickly replace the entire working class is the same kind of wishful thinking that her father and his friends must engage in: "The ruling class is all-powerful, and the people are weak and passive." This kind of elitist and arrogant thinking has consistently characterized the SLA's rhetoric and actions. But their most recent statements have added an almost Manson-like concept of revolutionary leadership: "Cinque is a prophet and leader... he is the instilled hope and spirit of his people and all peoples... he is himself the bringer of the children of the wind and the sound of war."

But the people themselves should have no illusions about the SLA and their "prophet" Cinque.

Isolated terrorist acts by the SLA or any other group cannot solve the people's problems. Only by the united actions of the people themselves will this rotten system of capitalist exploitation and oppression be brought to its knees.

# "I saw my daddy die from black lung."

Profit, the god of capital. It stalks the working class like a hungry animal. For the sake of profit the capitalists destroy the lives of thousands of workers every year through disabling disease brought about by dangerous health conditions at work. Too many are killed outright, but thousands suffer a lingering death, disabled and tortured with sickness and pain.

One of the most widespread of these occupational diseases is coal workers pneumoconiosis—Black Lung. It is incurable and untreatable, even to make a man more comfortable. Black Lung yearly chokes thousands of coal workers to death. Though most states keep no accurate statistics the 2,450 coal miner deaths in 1969 in Pennsylvania alone show that there are more than just a few miners with crippling lung disease.

The Public Health Service admits that 40 per cent of the more than 130,000 active coal miners have black lung. The actual figure is even higher. Some doctors estimate that anyone working in the mines 10 years has a minimum 10 per cent disability.

One clinic in southern West Virginia has measured over 10,000 men with an 80 per cent loss of lung function (the ability of the lungs to transmit oxygen to the blood). Most of these men are in Virginia and West Virginia. These men are unable to even walk across an ordinary room without gasping for air.

Exactly what is Black Lung, how does it affect the lungs? Black lung is a non-obstructive lung disease. Unlike bronchitis which is obstructive (and treatable) and prevents air from entering the lungs, air can get into the lungs with Black Lung. However, once in the lungs the air cannot enter the blood stream. The coal dust destroys the end cells of the lungs (alveoli) where the transfer of oxygen to the blood stream is made. Therefore, the body is left without the ability to provide life-giving oxygen to every cell. A worker with Black Lung will slowly suffocate for years with symptoms ranging from shortness of breath to dizziness, black-outs, leg cramps, smothering at night, to heart disease, complications of lung cancer, bronchitis, and obstructive emphysema.

## GETS WORSE

Even after a man has left the mines the disease often progresses degeneratively. It continues to get worse until death at an early age of 50 or 60 years. With automation, dust levels have grown worse as profit has risen. Now there are men being tested at the age of 30 who will be crippled by the time they reach 40.

The way in which the disease progresses is not fully known. Black Lung doctors say it is possible that diseased tissue destroys the moderately healthy surrounding tissue. However, there is almost no research being done on Black Lung. This is especially true when compared to the money spent on raising production research. A great deal of the medical profession still denies the existence of the disease. Despite the Black Lung laws forced into being by mass action of miners, many government agencies still try to deny the seriousness or how widespread the disease is. One Public Health Service official, Keith Morgan, made a tour of the country claiming most miners who were sick got that way from "smoking."

The incidence of Black Lung is higher here than in any country in the world. Even the other capitalist coal producing countries such as England and Australia recognized the disease in the 50's and have taken steps to significantly control dust levels in the mines.

One visitor in an operating mine in China remarked that he noticed very little dust. In an American mine, the dust would be noticed. A man is often unable to see even a few feet around him because of it.

What are the human effects of Black Lung? A wife of an active coal miner gave *THE CALL* this account of her father's death. "I saw my daddy die from Black Lung. Anyone who has seen it wouldn't soon forget. He suffered slow death for 12 years. He had to struggle and fight for every breath he drew. Yet he still worried about his family being cared for. When it would rain, Daddy would choke and gasp until I would just have to pray for the rain to stop so he could get just one breath. The last stages are horrible, like a man being strangled to death. You go some places and you can see old men, retired at their homes in their 70's and 80's. Just try to find many old miners. When they're 40, they look 60, when they're 60 they look 90. There isn't any such thing as a retirement to be enjoyed, just sickness and death."

The policy and attitude of government agencies towards this is predictable. Right in line with coal company doctors who deny the existence of Black Lung, the government agencies responsible, HEW and the Department of Labor make things as hard on the miner as possible. The 1969 Black Lung laws which provided for dust control and Black Lung compensation came as a result of a rank-and-file strike. The strike against the state of West Virginia and the Federal government was participated in by 45,000 miners. The government has done everything in its power to weaken the law and subvert its purpose. It has made regulations as tight as possible, denied medical evidence, and cheated thousands of disabled men out of their compensation. These men whose lives have been destroyed providing fuel for American industry have been left with crippled bodies and nothing to feed their families with. The feelings of the men are strong on this. In the words of a disabled miner from West Virginia, "After workers go in and sacrifice and die, they're entitled to more than a hand-out from the wealthy of this country. When a man works till he is disabled, he should get a decent living."

The primary organization fighting for decent compensation for Black Lung miners has been the Black Lung Associations. The BLA's are organized on a county basis and affiliated statewide. They developed out of the strike in

## Both Lungs is Broke Down

by Nimrod Workman

*Forty-two years, it's a mighty long time  
To labor and toil down in a coal mine*

*Put down in a deep hole where the bright lights did glow,  
Then back in that dark room I was spadin' up coal*

*My bone: they did ache me, Lord, my knee caps got bad  
Down on that hard rock on a set of knee pads*

*They sent me to a city to find a new job  
I went to this doctor and I heard him say  
Both lungs is broke down, you've spent your best day*

*Both lungs is broke down, you've spent your best days  
Go back to that coal mine that got you this way.*

1969 because of the need to organize the spontaneous rank-and-file sentiment leading to the strike. The refusal of the union under convicted murderer Tony Boyle to speak for the miners became more and more apparent. Especially after the Mannington explosion killed 78 men and Boyle came to the mine to praise Consolidation Coal.

Along with the group, Disabled Miners and Widows, the Black Lung Association participated in another strike in 1970 around health and safety laws. Though loosely organized, the BLA has been active in every major struggle for miners and their families since 1969. Arnold Miller was head of the West Virginia Black Lung Association when he ran against Boyle. BLA members provided major backing for the reform movement.

Still an independent rank-and-file organization, the BLA's are a significant part of the United Mine Workers of America reform movement as well as fighting for the welfare of the miners.

The demands of the Black Lung Association are far-ranging but the main battle at present is the fight for more fair testing procedures and against cutbacks and unjust settlements. The struggle for medical research and a more just compensation law that will give any man disabled with Black Lung a decent living is of vital importance to miners and their families. Most importantly of all is the fight for strict enforcement of dust control standards in the mines to prevent the disease in the first place. Although laws are on the books, they are poorly enforced if they are enforced at all.

The corruption and power of the coal industry reaches deep into the heart of the government agencies involved. It is among the rank-and-file miners that the final battle lines will be drawn because the men know that in the long run no amount of compensation can pay a man for his lungs and his life.

"During my recent inspection of your mine, I found conditions to be ideal..."



## SEVEN ARRESTED IN PIKEVILLE HOSPITAL STRIKE SUPPORT

**Pikeville, Kentucky**—Seven people were arrested during a support rally for the nearly two-year-old strike at the Pikeville, Methodist Hospital on Monday, April 8. Six were charged with assault on a police officer and disorderly conduct. A seventh was charged just with disorderly conduct. Total bail was finally lowered on appeal from \$42,000 to \$12,000.

The seven were arrested from a group of 60 supporters of the striking workers. The group, having attended a religious ceremony in Pikeville, marched in the rain to the hospital in a show of solidarity. At the hospital, they tried to see the Accreditation Board visiting there to protest the bad medical practices, discrimination against the poor, and repressive anti-union attitudes on the part of the hospital administration. However, on arriving they found the front doors locked and the hospital turning away patients.

State police were in the city from posts all over the area. They were called to the hospital by administrator Tom Keene to quiet a "disturbance." The police were made to admit in court that they neither heard nor saw a disturbance when they pulled up. When the doors were unlocked for the police, two women from the Brookside Women's Club, which formed to support the striking Brookside miners, began to enter the building also. At this point the police

shoved the women and began to drag them from the front of the building. When others nearby came to the defense of the women they were likewise attacked by the police. Many people were beaten and choked by the police who now deny that they even had clubs.

Despite the erroneous attempts by some pacifist religious leaders to cool-out the people, strike morale was heightened by the incident. The refusal of those arrested to submit to brutality and oppression shored up the determination of the people to continue their strike.

The hospital strike, now well into its second year still has 80 per cent of the original strikers out. The purpose of the march on April 8 was to boost the morale of the people and demonstrate the determination of the working people of this area that Eastern Kentucky will be unionized.

After Brookside and Harlan County, Pike County is going to be an important target for the organizing drive of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA). The desire of the working people of the area is clearly for unionization. Among those supporting the march were the Brookside Women's Club and UMWA members from the Brookside strike, the Eastern Kentucky Welfare Rights Organization, Kentucky Black Lung Association, Council of the Southern Mountains, and Council on Religion in Appalachia.

On the other side of the fence the power structure in Pike County is determined not to allow a union at the Methodist Hospital. Pike is the second largest coal-producing county in Kentucky. It is almost totally non-union and has the largest number of millionaires in proportion to population of any industrial area in the country. The contradictions in the county between the very rich and the very poor are clear and sharp. The rich rule with an iron hand, ruthlessly controlling everything in the county with corruption and violence. Attempts to unionize Pike County over the years have been met with fierce violence and political repression.

The resistance of the hospital board to recognizing a union is directly tied in with the fact that it is controlled by these same coal operator, racketeer, politician interests. The only thing that is going to defeat such open combination is the continued determination and militant struggle of the working and poor people of Pike County and Eastern Kentucky.

Any contributions that can be made to assist with legal expenses for the seven at Pikeville should be sent to the Reverend Robert Forester, 1176 Main Street, Jackson, Kentucky, 41339. Six of these people face felony charges and possible long sentences. Letters of protest about this should be sent to Council of Southern Mountains, Drawer N, Clintwood, Virginia for use in exerting pressure on that hospital.

# Teamsters Threaten to Smash United Farm Workers

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters union, under the leadership of Frank Fitzsimmons, in close alliance with the rich growers of California, have unleashed what they hope will be the final assault on the United Farm Workers union.

In a statement to the press in late March, Fitzsimmons announced that the new attack would be shifted to the fields and hiring halls with a \$100,000-a-month organizing drive to sign up field workers into the Teamsters. Already, the scab Teamster leadership has placed more than 100 well-paid organizers, clerks and secretaries in fancy offices in Salinas, Delano, Fresno and other cities. This is in contrast to the simple storefront offices of the UFWA whose staff members receive only \$5 a week plus expenses.

Coordinating this new reactionary assault is Charles W. Colson, former White House aide and Watergate defendant. His experience in carrying out Nixon's anti-labor, fascist policies fits right in with the Teamsters' often violent efforts to destroy the young militant union of farm workers. Already most of the grape and lettuce growers have signed with the Teamsters, repudiating their contracts with UFWA.

## "PRIVATE ELECTIONS"

An example of how the Teamster-grower alliance is working could be seen in the elections held on the ranch of grower K.K. Larsen. These "private" union elections were held without the Farmworkers union even being notified. A priest who has a long history of anti-UFWA activities was brought in to supervise, and field workers were told by foremen that if they voted against the Teamsters, they would be fired. When these rigged elections were exposed, Larson met with Teamsters leaders anyhow and signed a sweetheart agreement. Commenting on why their contract meeting only took a few minutes, Mrs. Larson said, "the demands seemed reasonable to me and I saw no need to drag things out."

The key point in the Teamster contracts is the abolition of the union hiring hall which will leave field hands at the mercy of the contractors, who will be able to decide arbitrarily who can and can't work. This is a vicious weapon which can easily be used for union-busting.

In other developments, the AFL-CIO, while refusing to endorse the farmworkers' secondary boycott of stores carrying scab products, did throw its weight behind the nation-wide boycott of grapes and lettuce. AFL-CIO leader George Meany claimed that the secondary boycott would hurt members of other unions working at boycotted stores. However, the rank-and-file has always willingly supported the UFWA boycotts, realizing that if the UFWA is smashed, it would be a serious blow to all workers' right to organize.

Because of this refusal, the UFWA leadership was forced to settle for a compromise agreement, which while taking away an important tactical weapon, will ensure broad trade-union unity behind the farmworkers, enabling them to defend themselves against the powerful Teamsters.

## FULL SUPPORT

In announcing his backing for the boycott, Meany said, "The entire AFL-CIO continues to fully support the UFWA in its struggle against the unconscionable raid by the Teamsters and growers (who) are jointly seeking to destroy the farmworkers' union."

"We urge the entire AFL-CIO membership to rally behind the farm workers and support the boycott as they did in the GE and Farah boycotts, to win justice for these workers."

The AFL-CIO agreement effectively moves the struggle for UFWA support into the local union halls where it is now more crucial than ever that rank-and-file and local leadership get behind the boycott. Many locals have long supported the boycott and many rank-and-file committees of support have sprung up.

Responding to the AFL-CIO support, Fitzsimmons warned that he would retaliate against any union which backs the labor federation boycott. Threatening to use Teamsters as scabs against AFL-CIO unions, he warned, "If you are not with us, you must be against us. We do not propose to support unions that are fighting us."

In answer to Fitzsimmons' scabbing threats, many AFL-CIO unions took up the challenge. Paul Hall, president of the Seafarers International Union, called for full support to the boycott. Hall, who is also an AFL-CIO vice-president, said that Fitzsimmons' threats "will do more to solidify the opinion of the AFL-CIO unions and

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 18)

# ON THE LINE!

A SUMMARY OF WORKERS  
STRUGGLES FROM  
AROUND THE COUNTRY

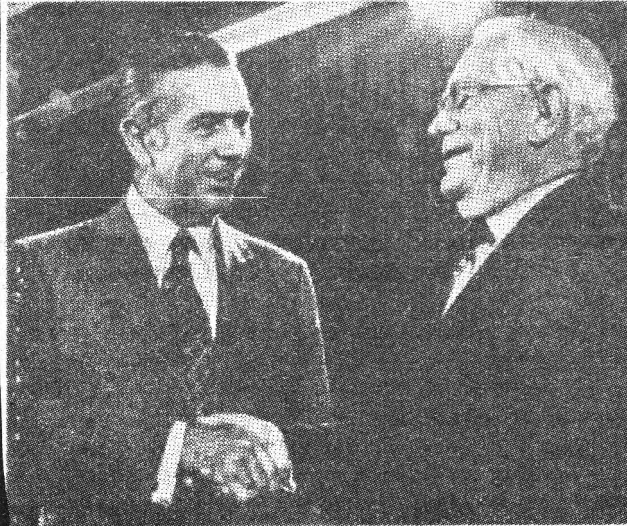


## "HIRE MORE WOMEN!"

**San Leandro, California**—The International Harvester plant in San Leandro, California, which employs only 20 women out of a work force of 1,100, was the scene of a picket line and rally on April 10, protesting the company's discrimination against women. A large group of women who had been denied jobs at the plant because, according to the personnel director, they were "too thin" or "too short," marched along with male supporters, chanting: "Harvester Discriminates—Hire More Women!"

Men who came out of the plant on their lunch break listened as a spokeswoman for the group read a list of demands, including: "An end to all discriminatory hiring practices; immediate hiring of the women who were told they did not meet height and weight requirements, with back pay; and immediate hiring of Chicana, Asian and Native American women. (There are none working in the plant at this time.)"

Despite the heckling instigated by a few foremen in the crowd, many of the men workers told the women afterwards that they supported their efforts, and that they "should be out here every day until you get more women hired!" The demonstration was organized by a new Bay Area women's group, Women United for Equal Rights.



Sell-out Abel with steel company negotiator.

## PACT GIVES SHAFT TO STEEL WORKERS

While hailed in the press and by the international union leadership as "the most generous contract in history," the April 12 settlement between the United Steel Workers of America and the steel companies is a disaster, especially for the lowest paid, mostly minority workers in basic steel.

Operating under the no-strike Experimental Negotiating Agreement (ENA), the nation's 352,000 steelworkers will get the shaft under the new contract, signed April 12 by United Steel Workers union boss, I.W. Abel.

The contract, which provides pay raises of about 60 cents over the next three years in hourly wages, does not come anywhere close to keeping pace with the sky-rocketing inflation. Furthermore, none of the basic demands which steel workers have been fighting for over the past year were included in the pact.

The settlement, which was arranged behind closed doors between Abel and the steel monopolies, is not even open to ratification by the membership of the union. It follows the pattern of sell-out settlements set earlier this year in the aluminum and can industries, made possible because the workers have been robbed of their basic right—the right to strike.

Steel workers over the past year have begun to organize a strong rank-and-file movement around three basic questions: 1) the need for plant-wide seniority in an industry which has used departmental seniority systems to keep minority workers in the lowest-paying, dirtiest jobs; 2) safer working conditions, as hundreds of workers have been maimed and too many killed in the past year; 3) decent wages, in line with the rising costs and rising profits of the steel giants.

The new contract, which threw a crumb to the older, mostly skilled workers by reducing the retirement age to 62 instead of 65, failed to deal with any of these basic issues. It also extended the probation period under which new hires must wait until they get union protection from 30 working days to 13 weeks, or about twice as long.

The ENA provides that every worker will get a "bonus" of \$150 as compensation for giving up the right to strike. In return, the union can only go out in each local plant, around local issues. This in effect has broken the back of the USWA's membership to wage an industry-wide struggle.

But this won't go down easily with the more than a quarter of a million workers affected by the sell-out contract. The policies of the Abel leadership have given rise to a broad movement in the mills for a democratic union and an end to discrimination. The April 12 sell-out is not going to be the last word from the steelworkers.

There will be a steelworkers' conference to defend the right to strike in Chicago on May 25. For info. phone 219-937-9171 or write to P.O. Box 801, Hammond, Ind.

## PROTEST CLOSING OF SUGAR REFINERY

**Boston**—Workers at the Revere Sugar refinery in Charlestown, Mass., protested the closing of their plant last February and forced concessions from the owners, including the rehiring of some of the workers and severance benefits worth \$2½ million.

United Brands, the giant conglomerate that owns the refinery, thought the 500 men and women—most of them having over 25 years seniority—would just passively accept its decision to close the plant for a tax write-off. Company lawyers pointed to a 37-year old contract clause that said the owner had the right to terminate operations permanently and would owe the workers nothing. Five times the union tried to negotiate a decent settlement but got nowhere.

It was only after scores of Revere workers began picketing at United Brands' world headquarters in downtown Boston and after the union—Local 400 of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters—hinted at a boycott of United Brands products that the conglomerate began to whistle a different tune.

Under the new agreement, workers over 45 with 15 years service will receive pensions, all workers will get some severance and vacation pay and the health and welfare fund will continue to operate until it runs out. The new owner, Sucrest, agreed to rehire some of the people laid off, but refused to recognize seniority.

The union president, Orman Phillips, summed up the agreement by saying, "We had a hard fight. It was like squeezing blood from a stone. But we ended up with what we could get. Not what we deserved, but what we could get."

"The demonstration was the factor that moved them from zero to the final package," John Mitchell, the union's International Representative, said. "When they saw that, they felt we were capable of holding more demonstrations."

## LABOR UNITY HELPS BUS DRIVERS

**St. Petersburg, Fla.**—Working class solidarity gave a new boost to the struggle of striking members of the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU). The bus drivers, in the face of a vicious union-busting attempt, had maintained their strength. Southern Tours Bus Company was threatening mass firings and the use of scabs. After several weeks, ATU funds were almost depleted. But on the picket line they remained strong and determined.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) local from the telephone company in St. Petersburg sent a hundred dollars and telephone workers marched on the picket line. A United Electrical Workers (UE) local from nearby Tampa supported the strike. Both workers from the UE-organized Westinghouse plant and organizers from the union participated in the picketing. They took a collection on the line. Support also came from the United Farm Workers union and various local organizations. Members of the October League also picketed with the bus drivers.

As the picket line grew there was a great deal of talk about continuing this type of supportive activity wherever it is needed. Such solidarity could certainly strengthen the workers movement in St. Petersburg.

Special to the CALL  
Midland, Michigan--

# Dow Strikers Face Savage Police Attacks



State police called out by Michigan Governor Milliken in a futile attempt to break strike by Dow workers. (Call Photo)

More than 5,300 members of United Steel Workers Local 12075 struck the Dow Chemical Company's headquarters plant March 18 in Midland, Michigan, after rejecting two-to-one, Dow's three year contract proposal.

The first three days of the strike saw savage attacks on the workers by state and city police in an attempt to justify company requests for a court injunction against mass picketing. In the early hours of the strike, Governor Milliken, acting on request from Midland city officials, ordered 150 riot-trained state police to the scene. Forty-seven workers were arrested and forty-six were reported injured, many hospitalized with head injuries and broken bones. Workers, some wearing helmets for protection from the police as well as the cold, responded by cutting valve stems and air hoses and hurling objects at the police and trucks entering the plant.

The court refused to issue an injunction against picketing and the state attorney general was called in to assess the confrontation. The state police were withdrawn after three days but the injunction was issued later in the week limiting picketing to 30 persons per gate. Talks resumed but fell apart again Saturday, March 30.

On Monday April 2, 50 more pickets, including 8 women and several members of the bargaining team, were arrested for mass picketing when 300 workers blocked entrances to the plant. Acting Circuit Court, Judge Robert Frazier, after consulting with Governor Moore, arranged for resumption of negotiations with assistance of state and federal mediators. With the state treasury already drained by massive lay-offs in the auto industry, Governor Moore is not anxious to add to the number of unemployed. The January '74 unemployment rate for nearby Flint, home of GM, was 16.9 percent. This is typical of many Michigan cities.

## NO "CAP" ON COST OF LIVING

Issues in the strike are inadequate wage increases and a "cap" on the cost of living that will not keep pace with current inflation. Other issues are the company's rejection of joint decision making, refusal to bargain 30-and-out retirement, and inadequate pension and insurance plans. Older workers lost thousands of dollars when Dow rescinded its profit sharing program, a plan not covered by the previous contract. In one case a worker with 32 years seniority lost \$13,800 to the company.

Items not being bargained in the contract but which concern the workers are the safety, health, and pollution standards in the plant—an extremely important issue since dangerous chemicals are routinely used in production—the all-pervasive closed circuit television surveillance which extends even to the lunchroom; the gate searches of hourly workers when outside businessmen and foreign emissaries are given unlimited access to the plant; and the company's attempts to equip unsupervised workers with heart-beat sensors to monitor their activity.

Unlike USW contracts with basic steel, this USW contract does not contain a no-strike clause. Workers here broke with the United Mine Workers a few years ago when that union refused to authorize a strike over the last contract. Any attempt to include a no-strike clause in the forthcoming contract will probably be met with heavy resistance.

Workers are prepared for a long strike and have been working actively to gain community support. Four hundred women workers and wives of workers marched through downtown Midland carrying signs reading "Our business is your profits," and "No money, no sales."

The march was part of a campaign to win over small businessmen in this company town.

Strikers feel Dow's actions indicate an intention to break the union. Salaried workers from company plants in Texas and Canada have been flown in to attempt to keep the plant operating, and rent-a-cops have been hired

to drive trucks. In all about 2,300 salaried employees are still inside the plant. But pickets equipped with binoculars and two-way radios believe very little actual production is taking place, that Dow is trying to maintain a facade of activity inside the plant—trucks driven in one end of the plant often exit minutes later at the other end several miles away. Activities such as this are aimed at demoralizing the strikers.

A multinational corporation with sales exceeding \$3 billion last year, Dow has plants throughout the U.S. and in 32 foreign countries. Nearly half of its capital investments of \$402 million for 1973 were made outside the U.S. J. M. Leathers, Director of Operations on the U.S. Area Management Board of the Dow corporation, has indicated the company would like to establish a salaried non-union status for all its plants. The success of this plan depends on breaking the union at Midland because it is the largest operation and the parent plant.

## STRIKERS' MORALE HIGH

The level of militancy is high. Many workers see their problems as part of the deteriorating economic conditions in the U.S. They are unwilling to accept a cost-of-living increase which will mean a lower standard of living for them over the next three years, while Dow reports profit increases of 28 percent in the U.S. alone. A 50-year-old worker said, "Good days are over for the working man. When we had prosperity, the rich were down in Washington making laws we can't live with. The working people are going to change this."

## LATE DEVELOPMENTS:

As we go to press, the Dow workers are continuing to fight. At the Midland plant on April 16, 1,500 workers marched, chanting and overturning plant fences and company and scab vehicles. According to Dow spokesmen, the strikers caused \$50,000 damage to company property.

## S.F. Teachers End Longest Strike

San Francisco—Striking members of the American Federation of Teachers Local 61 voted on March 27th to end the longest teachers' strike in San Francisco history. Encouraged by the victorious city workers' strike, teachers won a 6 percent wage increase, improvement in reading and language programs for minority students, a committee to study expansion of children's centers, and improvement in benefits for para-professionals and other non-certified employees.

For two years the San Francisco School Board had refused to discuss teachers' demands for improvement in the quality of education and for more teacher participation in decision-making. But when the strike began, the Board and the news media attacked the teachers, saying they weren't concerned about their students. Parents were encouraged to believe that the striking teachers, and not the Board of Education, were responsible for the poor quality of education in the schools.

From the beginning, unity of the teachers was difficult to maintain due to rivalry between the A.F.T. and the other major teachers' group, the Classroom Teachers Association (C.T.A.). The C.T.A., an affiliate of the National Education Association, sees teachers as professionals who don't need a union, and includes administrative personnel in its membership. The C.T.A.'s role in the strike reflected the national power struggle currently being waged between the N.E.A. and the A.F.T. for control of teacher representation.

## UNITY THE BOSS WASN'T COUNTING ON

The A.F.T. voted to strike on March 7th, demanding a 15 percent wage increase, along with the demands for improvement in the educational system. Opposing the strike, the C.T.A. attempted to settle with the Board of Education in private negotiations. But when the strike didn't end, the C.T.A. executive board voted its support on March 25th. One day later they turned around and accepted the Board's offer. This concluded three weeks of strikebreaking activity by the C.T.A.

Within the A.F.T. itself there were differences between supporters of union President Ballard, and the radical Teachers' Action Caucus. Seeing the importance of worker unity, the caucus worked with certified teachers, para-professionals, children's center teachers, and substitutes to put pressure on Ballard who runs a top heavy structure. Most excluded from the union hierarchy, the para-professionals, substitutes and children's center teachers were the most vocal and militant. They organized support for the strike by the Associated Bus Company drivers who carry most of the elementary school children to the city schools. They were also the least satisfied with the settlement and voted not to end the strike.

The emergence of these rank-and-file forces within the union, are the ones whose needs are closest to those of the parents and children and was a positive development that came out of the strike. They are a powerful force for uniting teachers to fight for decent working conditions, pay and a quality education for working and minority people in San Francisco.



Four hundred women workers and wives of workers, marched through downtown Midland carrying signs reading, "Our Business is your Profits," and "No Money, No Sales!" (Call Photo)

# Fight for Women's Rights and the Working Class

The following is a report from October League members who attended the CLUW founding conference.

On March 23, the founding convention of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) was held in Chicago. 3,600 women from over 58 unions poured into Chicago, drawn by the call to the convention, which stated, "In an inter-union framework, the Conference will con-

sider positive action in the areas of equal pay, equal rights, and equal opportunity . . . (more specifically) . . . education about women's legal rights, adequate maternity benefits and child care, equitable hiring and promotion practices, adequate minimum wage, up-grading and affirmative action, organizing the unorganized women workers, and equitable representation of women in union structures and policy-making decisions."



The CLUW Conference held in Chicago attracted some 3,600 trade union women and marks a successful beginning for an effort to link the struggle for women's equality, with the general workers' movement. (Call Photo)

The formation of CLUW is directly related to the growing upsurge of working women's fight for equality on the job. Recent struggles for equal pay, maternity benefits, fights for union recognition such as the Farah and Oneita strikes, plus the entrance of hundreds of women into basic industries like auto and steel, have paved the way for uniting working women into their own organization to fight for their special needs.

One of the speakers opened up the convention by saying, "We're here because of the women's liberation movement." Indeed, as much as the employers and the majority of labor leaders like to denounce it, the women's movement has given a real thrust to women's battles on the job—encouraging women in their fight for equality in their unions, and in the whole society. The CLUW conference reflected the positive effect the women's movement has had on millions of women by awakening them to their particular oppression, and by making women's demands a legitimate part of the peoples' movements.

Struggle developed quickly at the weekend conference. The major questions that faced the conference were very basic—was CLUW going to be a fighting organization encompassing the interests of the millions of working women or was it going to speak only in the interests of a privileged few? Secondly, would CLUW take up the struggles of minority women, who swell the ranks of the unorganized and unemployed, or would CLUW merely give lip-service to these sisters? Finally, would CLUW ally itself with the growing rank-and-file movements in the plants or would it merely be another paper organization to serve as a mouthpiece for the labor bureaucracy among women workers?

Women representing various strata of the labor movement took part in debating these questions. A small number of women, the conference leaders, were top-ranking officials of international unions. These women had initiated CLUW—without the blessings of many of the more right-wing labor leaders such as Meany. The overwhelming majority of women at the conference were women holding lower level union positions in locals and women staff members. Importantly, there was a significant minority of rank-and-file left women, some representing rank-and-file caucuses, some members of local women's committees, many elected as delegates from their unions.

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 18)

Dear Friends,

We are writing this in response to an article in the April issue of Revolution, which grossly distorts the International Women's Day coalition and march in Chicago. We are doing this because the march was a significant event in the development of the women's movement, and we want people around the country to get a more accurate picture of what happened and why. We are all people who worked on the march from beginning to end. We write as individuals, not representatives of our organizations.

We and other groups came together through the initiative of the Chicago Women's Liberation Union because we felt that a major response to the economic and political crisis was necessary. We saw that women were affected in particular ways by this crisis, and that it was important for them to organize as women to fight back and to bring women's issues into the general movement which is developing in response to the crisis. We thought the best way to build women's participation was to focus on specific ways women are feeling the crunch, and to link them together. We also wanted to bring out the international and class significance of International Women's Day. Consequently our demands were:

1. Pass the ERA and protective legislation for all workers.
2. End forced sterilization.
3. Roll back prices on food, fuel and other necessities to August 1971 and make sure that supplies are available.
4. Release funds for childcare and other human services.
5. An adequate welfare grant with additional allowances when necessary.
6. Support the struggles of women workers, such as the Farah strike and farm workers strike.
7. Support for women struggling in other countries.
8. Impeach Nixon and throw out the policies he represents.

We focused on a few of these demands specifically on the Thursday before the march, in actions around food prices, welfare cutbacks, and equal pay for equal work at City Hall. Between 4-5 thousand people came to the demonstration. For one-third to two-thirds of these, it was their first demonstration; so the event certainly built and broadened the movement.

The R.U. distorts the character of the coalition. It makes it seem as if only the R.U., the O.L. and the C.P. were actively involved, and that all the debate there was went on between these groups. In fact, over 45 groups supported the coalition and most actively participated in these debates. The bulk of these were women's groups, but there was also strong participation from student groups, a few trade unionists, community groups, Welfare Rights, and the left. On questions like the ERA, the vast majority of these groups were opposed to the R.U. position (which did not support the amendment). The R.U. line was defeated not by any "collusion between the O.L. and the CP," but because almost every group saw that it was wrong.

The R.U.'s attack on the coalition takes the form of an attack on the so-called collusion between the O.L. and the C.P., but it is really an attack on the women's movement and its demands, and on the thousands of women who support them. The R.U. fails to even acknowledge the existence

of the women's movement as an independent political force. They portray the coalition as a battleground between the R.U. and the O.L. They seem to think the only purpose of a coalition is for left organizations to fight over slogans, with the strongest or most long-winded taking the cake. We think the struggles that went on over demands were very important. But they were important because they determined whether or not we could reach the masses of women with our slogans, not in the abstract. The correct demands for a demonstration are those that strike to the heart of the people and move them forward, that direct the movement at the target and build it broader and deeper, that move masses of people into action at a specific time. The R.U. has a different view. They even criticize the march for not being "pure" and for including gay women. Gay women supported the coalition's demands even though there was no specific gay demand; their participation strengthened the march, contrary to what the R.U. implies. We want to unite all groups on the basis of fighting for women's equality and economic justice. The broader the movement to fight for this is, the greater its chances of success.

## Women answer attack

# RESPONSE TO R.U. SLANDERS

The R.U. also misrepresents the slogans of the march. It isolates two demands ("Pass the ERA and protective legislation for all workers" and "Impeach Nixon and throw out the policies he represents") from all the rest in order to portray them as reformist.

First, we don't think reformism consists primarily in the wording of a demand, but in how you work with it and what you use it to build.

Second, the total list of our demands presents a fairly sweeping picture of a lot of the specific ways in which women are oppressed, and what that adds up to. People make connections between these concrete demands and learn from that.

Third, the R.U. thinks that demands like "Equal rights for women" or "End the attack on our living standards" are always better than ones like "Pass the ERA" or "Roll Back Food Prices." We disagree. The more concrete a demand is, the better people can understand it and the more it strikes home to their own lives. That is how people who are not already anti-imperialist get moved to action. The concrete demands we chose were ones that have arisen out of the struggles of specific groups of women. Consumer groups came into the coalition largely because of the food

prices demand. Welfare rights joined because of the welfare demand. An abstract list of slogans is not, as the R.U. thinks, more broad and inclusive; but ends up leaving most people cold because it doesn't take off from where they are at. We agree with Lenin that, "The substitution of the abstract for the concrete is one of the greatest and most dangerous sins in the revolution." (On Slogans.)

The ERA slogan is a case in point. Almost every group in the coalition supported it. The women from trade unions wanted it in part because the AFL-CIO supports it; and so they could use it to convince their unions to support the coalition and thus bring rank-and-file women to the march. The R.U. makes a contradiction between the ERA and protective legislation. This is beating a dead horse. Protective legislation, in Illinois at least, has already been wiped out by Title 7. The ERA won't undo that, but it will provide a better basis to fight to extend protective legislation to men as well as women, on things like the 8-hour day. That is why we coupled the two demands.

The R.U. makes specific errors of fact in its article:

1) One of the points of unity of the coalition was that member groups could not attack the demands of the coalition at the march. We agreed that groups could put out independent leaflets and say whatever they liked in addition to the demands of the coalition. But they could not undermine its basis of unity by attacking any of the demands. After the coalition decided this, the R.U. withdrew from it (a fact they neglect to mention in their article).

2) The R.U. claims that the O.L. nominated a woman from the C.P. to be head of the program committee on the grounds that the C.P. has a mass base. This story is a complete fairytale. A woman from the Chicago Women's Liberation Union was head of the program committee, and no one else was ever nominated by anyone. What is the point of this kind of slander?

3) The R.U. claims the coalition downplayed the international significance of International Women's Day. In fact, there was a slogan about this, the international aspect was stressed in the press releases and the program of the march, and there was a strong international contingent.

In conclusion, the character of the R.U.'s participation in the coalition could be described as "All talk, no action." They came to meetings to argue for their slogans, but they didn't do any of the hard work of the coalition. When they weren't allowed to do a leaflet trashing the ERA, they left. We went on to build the largest and strongest International Women's Day demonstration in over 30 years. They went on to do a small forum. In our opinion, this is not the way for communist groups to win respect and leadership in the mass movements.

All of us who worked on the demonstration felt it made a strong contribution to building the women's movement in this city; and we plan to have an even better one next year.

Vicki Cooper, Chicago Women's Liberation Union  
Caren Levy, Chicago Women's Liberation Union  
Rinda West, Oakton Community College Women's Liberation  
Meredith Tax  
Susan Brand, National Lawyer's Guild  
Debby Romine



The movement for veterans' rights continued to build through March and April, reaching a high point when seven members of the American Veterans Movement occupied the Washington Monument in order to get their demands across to Nixon more directly. The seven, all disabled, were brutally attacked by police and security officers, thrown from wheel chairs, and beaten up.

This kind of treatment has followed the vets everywhere in their attempt to expose the conditions which most disabled veterans face. Among the issues they have singled out is the denial of benefits, and the miserable conditions in the hospitals and veterans' centers.

## Vets Occupy Washington Monument

To further focus national attention on these problems, and the Nixon administration's refusal to solve them, the American Veterans Movement has called for a national demonstration and car caravan starting on June 14, and culminating the Fourth of July in Washington, D.C.

In numerous towns and cities, veterans are mobilizing to demand their rights. Farmingdale, N.Y. was the scene of an April rally in which 1,000 veterans took part, charging the government with "neglect." The action was sponsored by the Long Island Collegiate Veterans Forum.

## The Call Interviews ex-P.O.W.

### Michael Branch

*Michael Branch of Highland Heights, Kentucky, spent 58 months as a prisoner of war in Vietnam. Soon after his release last March 16, he and seven other men were charged by another POW with a number of offenses stemming from anti-war statements they had made. These charges were later dropped. In this interview with THE CALL, he talks about some of his experiences and how his views have changed.*

**What were some of your first feelings about being in the military?**

Before I enlisted, I thought the military was the defender of the country. It would do just about anything for the people. But after you get in the first thing you learn is to hate civilians. They start screaming at you, "You're not a slimy civilian anymore!"

**What was your attitude as a soldier in Vietnam?**

I thought I was over there fighting communism. I thought that the North was invading the South, which I considered to be a separate country at the time. We were all arrogant. You feel like you're an American and you own the place. You get to think the Vietnamese are not quite human-like the way the Black man is treated in this country, only worse.

I was captured in the south. When I met my first interpreter, I showed him a card listing the rules for POW's under the Geneva Convention of 1948. He laughed at me. "What about the Geneva Accord of 1954?" he asked. (referring to the temporary partition of the country—ed.) I didn't know what he was talking about. I thought he was some kind of nut.

**How did your understanding of the war change?**

It was my own experiences that changed me—mostly travelling—when I was being taken to the north. After I was captured, the first thing I noticed was all the people. Like on Highway 1 during the day there would be U.S. convoys. At night it would be filled with Vietnamese. You'd see them everywhere, carrying supplies for the Viet Cong. The women were incredible. They'd carry anything on their backs. In the north, everyone was carrying arms. I was surprised. I expected them to be afraid of their government.

I got to thinking, this government (in the north) must have the support of the people. Otherwise they could overthrow it at any time. In the south, the majority didn't support the government. There were the south Koreans,

## THE CALL

THE CALL is the political newspaper of the October League (Marxist-Leninist) and is published monthly throughout the year. THE CALL includes a Spanish section (EL CLARIN) with selected articles for the Latino communities.

Correspondence and subscriptions should be addressed to:

THE CALL  
P.O. Box 2278  
Bell Gardens, California 90201

Subscriptions are \$5 for one year, \$3 for six months. GI's and prisoners, \$1 per year.

# Trial of AIM Leaders Exposes Role of FBI

The trial of American Indian leaders Dennis Banks and Russell Means in St. Paul, Minnesota has revealed the extent to which the FBI infiltrated and illegally spied on participants in the Wounded Knee occupation of 1973. Banks and Means, who are charged with several felony counts for their leadership of the Wounded Knee uprising, interrupted their trial to put the FBI on the defensive for its misconduct in the case.

A "special evidentiary hearing" began after Phyllis Fastwolf, an Oglala Indian who was in Wounded Knee during the Uprising, testified that she saw a telephone and speaker-equipped van outside the Pine Ridge reservation. She further testified that she could hear the voice of Dennis Banks through the FBI speaker, and that he was talking to someone inside the Wounded Knee trading post. This indicated that it was not just phone calls which the FBI tapped, but all meetings and conversations that took place inside the trading post, as well.

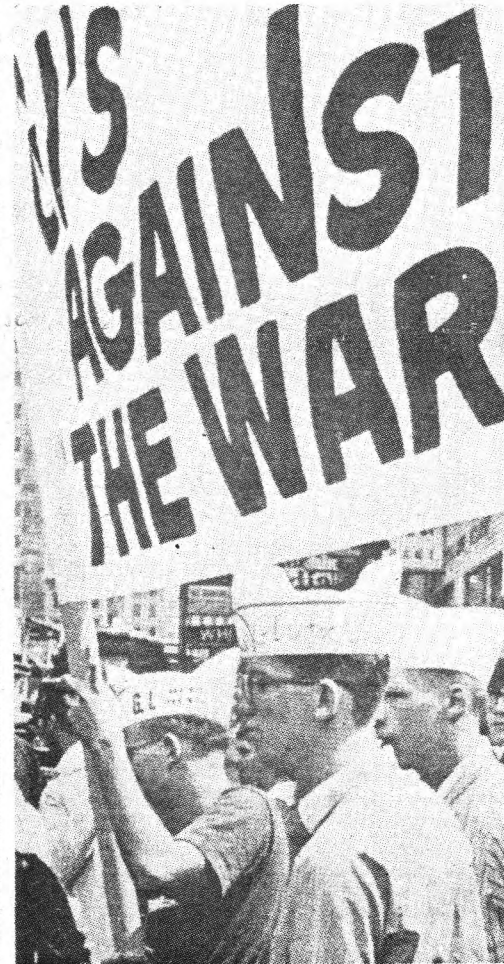
While presiding Judge Fred Nichol did rule that "government negligence" was clearly present in the wiretapping practices, he would not dismiss the case on these grounds, and called for further evidence. The defense then detailed how the FBI had accumulated 316,000 items of "evidence," but refused to let the defense see them in defiance of a court order. Memos relating to phone monitoring were among this evidence, and proved that FBI agents lied when they told defense attorneys that their conversations with those inside Wounded Knee would not be monitored. This type of wiretapping was not only illegal, but violated the principle of "confidentiality" between attorney and defendant.

When the prosecuting lawyers were asked whether or not any paid informants had been utilized by the FBI, they answered that it was impossible to comment on this, because the FBI wouldn't tell them, and wouldn't let them look into the files. Judge Nichol then demanded that the Attorney General's office open up its files.

Like many earlier "conspiracy" trials such as the "Chicago Seven," the "Panther 21," and the "Gainesville Eight," and others, the government's case against Banks and Means is trumped up, and riddled with holes because of the government's own illegal tactics—wiretapping, invasion of privacy, infiltration, and provocation. But, as earlier cases have also shown, it is not sufficient to let the judges decide the verdict. Mass support and mass pressure has been the key to the success of every conspiracy-defense case. While large and militant support has followed the Wounded Knee defendants at every point so far, this support must continue and grow.

At the beginning of the trial, Banks, Means and their lawyers pledged themselves to making their defense into an offense. They said that they wanted to use the opportunity of the trial to expose the government's crimes against the Indian people throughout history and especially at Wounded Knee. The support built around the country has echoed this. Everywhere that demonstrations have been held, the demand for justice for all Native Americans has been linked to freeing the Wounded Knee defendants. As Russell Means told one group of supporters in the Midwest, "We have been singled out and charged with crimes. But it is really the crimes of those in Washington we should be discussing. They have a long history of exploitation and greed. They have killed and jailed many of our people. The government is taking us to court. But we intend to bring with us all those we represent and turn the tables."

When the prosecuting lawyers were asked whether or not any paid informants had been utilized by the FBI, they answered that it was impossible to comment on this, because the FBI wouldn't tell them, and wouldn't let them look into the files. Judge Nichol then demanded that the Attorney General's office open up its files.



Australians, New Zealanders and Americans in there fighting for them. The north Vietnamese had help with equipment, but they never had Russians, Chinese or anybody else in there fighting for them.

As a prisoner, you had lots of time to think. I got to see we had no moral, ethical or legal reasons for being in Vietnam. I'd say most of the guys in camp were against the war.

**Were you pressured or forced to make anti-war statements while you were in captivity?**

At first, they wanted me to make statements telling other American soldiers to defect or sabotage operations. I didn't want to do it. I still believed "My country, right or wrong." One time, I was refused medical treatment until I agreed to make a statement like that. But when the 8 of us signed a statement calling for an end to the war, we did it on our own. We wanted to do it.

**Were there any pressures on you from the military to respond in any certain way once you were released?**

"Just remember, Nixon brought you back," we were told. A lot of guys who had been against the war began to change their stories. People said what they were supposed to say, "God Bless America, thank you Mr. Nixon," because they didn't want to get in trouble. The guys who spoke out against the war were isolated. We rode in a separate plane.

They were afraid to let the news media talk to me. My lawyer asked, "Is he a patient or a prisoner?" I had three mock press conferences with the military, where they coached me on what to say. At my real press conference, about twenty colonels and majors were lined up around

the back of the room, all of them staring at me. I could hardly talk. The press coverage went the way the military wanted it to go.

**Why do you think the charges against you were dropped?**

They pretty much had to drop them because of public pressure. There was too much pressure against it to carry out the investigations. Also, it would have ended up involving a lot more than the eight of us. They didn't want that to come out.

**What are some of the changes you've seen since you've been back?**

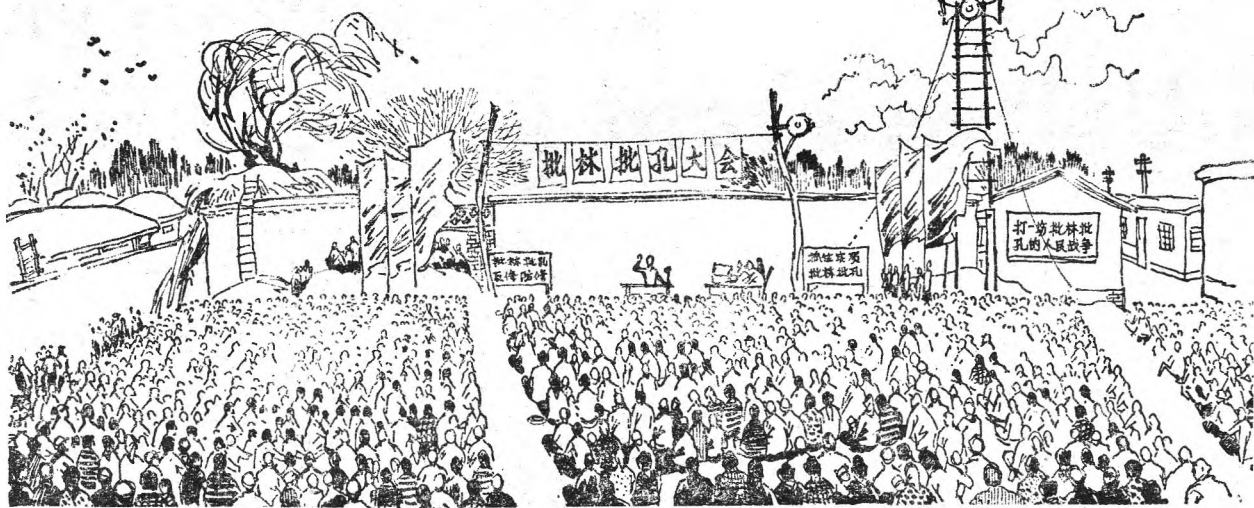
Terms like "capitalism", "imperialism"—when I left the country, you never heard them. I came back and everyone knows them, even if it's not always in just the right way. People are more aware. There are different groups around now. They seem to be working for the same things, but they don't get together on it.

**What do you think of the anti-war movement?**

I think the anti-war movement helped to end the war. If there weren't so many people demonstrating I don't think the war would have ended as soon as it did. We used to see films of the demonstrations. Before that we were against the war but thought "What can you do about it?" It was the anti-war movement in the U.S. that gave us the idea to sign the statement calling for an end to the war.

**What do you think are important issues now?**

Amnesty for deserters, draft-dodgers—anybody who went to jail because of the war. They didn't do anything wrong. The majority of the people here know we had no right to be over there.



Throughout the People's Republic of China, workers, peasants, students, soldiers and intellectuals are holding mass meetings to criticize the ideas of Confucius and the efforts of Lin Piao to restore the old order.

# Lin Piao, Confucius Tried to Set Back Wheel of History

Lately the U.S. press is clamoring about the new struggle taking place within the People's Republic of China against the ideas of Confucius and the plottings of Lin Piao. There is widespread interest among the people in this country because the future of China is closely bound up with the future of socialism and the future of socialism means the future of the people of the world.

While the press plays up the struggle as one between different "leaders" and different "factions" they are in effect simply trying to create an image of the world based upon their knowledge of capitalist politics a la Watergate. The truth is that the current struggle in China is just the opposite. It is being waged to wipe out the remnants of capitalist politics and capitalist culture and to bring the structure of society in that country in line with the socialist economic base which was established after the revolution of 1949.

We are presently living in an era in which the capitalist system is headed for its final destruction and the victory of socialism as a worldwide system is daily becoming a greater reality. This backward capitalist system of exploitation of the many by the few is outmoded and destructive and like all things that have outlived their usefulness, it will be replaced through the process of revolution by that which is young and rising. This has always been the case. It is a law of history and the essence of dialectical and historical materialism, the world outlook of Marxist-Leninists.

Primitive communal society gave way to slavery, which at the time was a positive advance and gave rise to great strides forward in peoples' knowledge and their ability to produce and raise the livelihood of many people. After a time, the basic contradictions in the slave system caused revolutionary struggles by the slaves and tremendous upheaval as the feudal system rose up and finally replaced slavery.

Feudalism was destroyed through the bourgeois or capitalist revolutions and now socialism, for the first time, is bringing a new society to the world where the majority of the people who work and produce the wealth of society are no longer ruled by a few exploiters. The struggle between these two systems is the basis for the world revolu-

tion that is taking place in this epoch.

Confucius lived in China more than 2,000 years ago (551-479 B.C.) when that country was in the process of ending the rule of the slave system and feudalism was on the rise. But Confucius, like the reactionaries of today, wanted to turn back the wheel of history and "restore the rites" of slavery. He took as his lifelong objective, the restoration of the slave system with its extinct slave states, its hereditary privileges for those "designated by God" to rule and the bringing back into power those who had been thrown out by the new Chin Dynasty.

## "RESTRAIN ONESELF"

When slaves rose in revolt, Confucius taught, "Of all things, this is the most important: to restrain oneself and restore the rites." He required his sworn followers to carry out these teachings. At the age of 26, he became a petty official in the State of Lu, taking charge of livestock on one occasion and keeping records on another. He began to run a private school to train people for the restoration of the old order. He taught his pupils to study hard, and to keep the slave system and its traditions intact even at the cost of one's life. Nearly all his disciples came from the aristocracy.

The thought of Confucius has always been peddled by various ruling classes throughout China's history to "restrain" revolution and to keep the people down. In recent years, it was peddled by people like Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao in order to put a halt to the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution which overthrew those in power taking the capitalist road. Confucius' teachings were dug up again to "restore" the overthrown enemies of socialism and to "restrain" those who rebelled against their policies. In this way, they were trying to accomplish the same thing under socialism that Confucius attempted during feudalism.

Lin Piao, who was designated as the successor to Chairman Mao Tsetung, at the Ninth Congress of the Communist Party of China, was a careerist and an opportunist who was interested more in his personal position than in the welfare of the Chinese people. After nestling in the ranks of the Party for a long time, making it appear as if

he agreed with the Party's line, in order to worm his way into leading positions, Lin Piao grew impatient for personal power.

He tried to have himself named as head of state in 1970, against Chairman Mao's wishes, and failing this, he attempted an abortive counter-revolutionary coup at the second plenary session of the Ninth Central Committee meeting.

In 1971, Lin and company secretly worked out a plan for an armed counter-revolutionary coup, which they called "Outline of Project '571'" in an attempt to seize power. This plan included the assassination of Chairman Mao. Playing the same role as Confucius and his gang did thousands of years earlier, Lin Piao launched his coup in September of 1971 and when it failed, he stole an airplane and tried to defect to the Soviet Union in a total betrayal of his Party and his country. He died in a crash at Undur Khan in the People's Republic of Mongolia.

In carrying out his schemes, Lin Piao spread among his followers the same teachings as Confucius. He described Confucianism as historical materialism and preached that the enemies of the revolution should be treated with "benevolence" and "love." He used Confucianism to slander the dictatorship of the proletariat as being "dictatorial" and said it was "doomed to failure." He labeled the Party's struggle against Soviet revisionism and against Liu Shao-Chi's revisionist line as "going to the extreme" and "too hard a struggle."

## "WILL OF HEAVEN"

In order to build himself up and to restrain those who would rebel against his policies, Lin tried to revive Confucius' theory of "the will of Heaven." Confucius said that heaven created the slave-owners as "the sons of Heaven" to rule over the people. Lin Piao developed this into the theory of "innate genius" and claimed that Heaven had endowed him with a "good head" which was "especially clever." In other words, some people are "born with knowledge" and are fit to rule.

This goes completely counter to the dialectical and historical materialist theory of knowledge which shows that knowledge develops through social practice and study combined with application of the mass line.

Confucius and Lin Piao are both dead, but their theories of "restore the rites" and "restrain oneself" are still alive in China. Today, under the leadership of the Party, the whole country has entered into a movement to criticize Confucius and Lin Piao. This is being done to raise the political level of the people in order that they can best defend socialism and distinguish between Marxism-Leninism and phony Marxism. In the process, people are going through great changes and the old ideas from previous societies are being criticized and defeated. Workers, peasants, students and intellectuals are all engaged in mass study and struggle to defend their country and to fight for the advance of socialism.

In the meantime, the Soviet Union and the U.S. leaders are frantically trying to attack this new movement and to glorify Confucius, trying to revive everything old and backwards in the cultural realm. In their newspapers and books, the Soviet leaders call Confucianism "a superior compendium of solely valuable wisdom accumulated for centuries." They, along with Chiang Kai-shek and the reactionary government in Taiwan claim that the Chinese people are "destroying cultural treasures."

But these "treasures" are nothing more than the old rubbish of the exploiting classes who never give up their old paradise without a last desperate struggle. But try as they may, the old reactionaries cannot turn back the clock. The wheel of history cannot be stopped. Socialism is the future!

# AFRICAN LIBERATION MONTH LINKED TO STRUGGLE HERE

This May's annual demonstrations sponsored by the African Liberation Support Committee have undergone a qualitative change from last year.

Instead of organizing one-day marches, the ALSC has declared the entire month "Africa Liberation Month," and will mobilize the Afro-American people not only in support of the struggles of their African brothers and sisters, but also against their own oppression here in this country.

This development from the original African Liberation Day in 1972 is a concrete expression of the challenge the ALSC took upon itself, namely: "showing the interrelationship of the oppression of the people of Southern Africa and the exploitation of the Black people in the Western Hemisphere."

## ENERGY CRISIS

Along with the central issue of African Liberation, African Liberation Month (ALM) will focus on the so-called "energy crisis," police repression and the prisons, and getting rid of Nixon. ALSC chapters throughout the country will hold educational forums about the growing crisis of U.S. imperialism the first three weeks in May. On May 18 or 19, there will be demonstrations aimed at uniting all Black people around these issues and to commemorate the birthday of Malcolm X.

From May 22 to May 24 a National Conference on Racism and Imperialism will take place in Washington, D.C., to be followed the next day by a massive, national demonstration in the streets of the capital.

The ALSC—the main force behind ALM—sets as its main task the building of a United Front of Afro-Americans from all classes and strata opposed to racism and imperialism.

African Liberation Day, May 1972, marked its first political activity, when over 60,000 Black people marched in six cities of the Western Hemisphere and in Africa. Over the following two years, the ALSC has played a major role in organizing the boycotts of Portuguese imports and products from the Gulf Oil Corporation; protests of the assassination of Guinea-Bissau patriot, Amilcar Cabral; support of Black longshoremen who refused to unload illegal chrome shipments from Rhodesia; a massive campaign to repeal the Byrd Amendment; the International Weeks of Solidarity Against Portuguese Imperialism and, most recently, anti-repression coalitions in several Black communities. In May 1973 local demonstrations sponsored by the ALSC brought out over 80,000 Afro-Americans in over 30 cities.

The changing character of the ALSC's program is rooted in the development of its political principles. Ignoring neither the class nor the national oppression which Black people face, ALSC's statement of principles puts forth that, "Black people throughout the world have finally got the news—the news that racism and imperialism, the two-headed monster—are our enemies. . . . We here have the same duty as all progressive Black people—to fight imperialism in all its manifestations."

## PROGRAMS ON GUINEA - BISSAU available from The Rest of the News

### Guinea-Bissau: Birth of a Nation

A program on the history and current situation of the struggle in Guinea-Bissau told through interviews with members of the PAIGC and excerpts of speeches by Amilcar Cabral. Produced by Bob Manning in co-operation with KPFA. 30 minutes. \$15.00

### Guinea-Bissau: A Struggle for Liberation

Gil Fernandez, representative of Guinea-Bissau to the UN Maritime Conference, discusses the anti-Portuguese struggle. 14 minutes. \$6.00

Programs available on reel-to-reel or cassette

Make checks payable to:

The Rest of the News, (catalogue available)  
306 East State Street, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

"The principal task of our movement," according to the statement, "has two aspects. We must merge the Black liberation struggles in the U.S. with the National liberation struggles in Africa, because a victory anywhere in the fight against U.S. imperialism is a victory everywhere. We must coordinate the Black Liberation struggles in the Western Hemisphere with the overall struggle of people of (PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 18)

The Communist League (CL), an organization which has recently called a conference to build a new party in the U.S., has engaged in a slanderous, vicious attack against the October League, the united front movement against imperialism and even the People's Republic of China.

Because of this, we feel that it is our duty to defend the revolutionary forces against such attacks and use the opportunity which the CL has provided for us to expose these dishonest tactics.

The Communist League represents one of the trends which broke away from the camp of the revisionist CPUSA and in the sense that it broke some honest revolutionary people from this counter-revolutionary cesspool, they have made a contribution to the growing, young movement.

But while breaking from the CP, they have failed to guard against the twin brother of revisionism—ultra-“leftism.” CL has now gone completely into the swamp of sectarianism and has begun to wage a systematic attack on the other revolutionary forces and especially on the whole concept of the United Front Against Imperialism. This along with the party, constitutes a major strategic weapon with which to end the rule of the monopoly capitalist class in this country and around the world.

Even worse, in the March issue of their newspaper, the People's Tribune, CL opportunistically tries to use China to attack this concept and to attack the October League. The article entitled “Bridge to Revolution,” while paying lip service to the anti-fascist struggle, makes the following statement:

“Several years ago, the Chinese made a general call to build a united front against imperialism. The October League and other organizations in the ‘left’ have distorted this call by calling for a united front against imperialism within the USNA. (CL uses USNA to mean “United States of North America”—ed.) The call by the Chinese was a call to the colonial world which is exploited and oppressed by imperialism. Within the USNA, we are not exploited by a foreign power, but by the USNA capitalist class. The way we can best support the struggle of the colonies against imperialism is to build a Communist Party to lead a united front to stop the fascism the imperialists need to further plunder and rape the colonies. Then we must strike the death blow to capitalism itself.” (People's Tribune, Vol. 6, No. 3, p. 11.)

It is due to the great prestige which the Communist Party of China has won in the eyes of the revolutionary peoples of the world that many opportunists try to use China for their own purposes. This was the ploy of the Progressive Labor Party (PL) who claimed that China joined with them in their traitorous attack on the Vietnamese struggle and in their break from the anti-imperialist united front. It was in 1970, when they were finally forced to stop hiding behind China and come out in the open before the working people of this country with their shameful anti-Marxist line.

Now the Communist League is using the same tactics in their attack on the united front and will surely come to the same end. Fortunately for the working class, it is not illiterate, and despite what the CL leadership may think, workers are able to think and reason for themselves and judge, not only the correctness of China's views, but most importantly are able to examine Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought in the light of the concrete conditions of this country. They do not have to rely on the “geniuses” in CL to tell them what China and the world comm-

## ULTRA-“LEFTS” SAY NO

# A United Front in the U.S.?

unist movement says about the united front.

The call about which the People's Tribune refers to is “A Proposal Concerning the General Line of the International Communist Movement” which was published March 30, 1963. This call served as a sharp blow to the revisionist party of the Soviet Union and laid down many of the basic principles upon which the genuine communist parties and organizations are formed. Let's see what the “Proposal” says about the question of the united front in the imperialist countries:

“The proletarian parties in imperialist or capitalist countries must maintain their own ideological, political and organizational independence in leading revolutionary struggles. At the same time, they must unite all the forces that can be united and build a broad united front against monopoly capital and against the imperialist policies of aggression and war.” (p.19, FLP ed., 1963)

If this was the only statement the Chinese comrades made on this question of principle, perhaps we could overlook CL's distortion as an honest mistake. But the CL leadership is very well-read and familiar with the views of the Chinese party. So let us examine another statement they made called “A Comment on the Statement of the Communist Party of the U.S.A.” which served as one of the most important guides for U.S. communists in the struggle against the revisionist leadership of the CPUSA. The statement reads:

“The leaders of the CPUSA assert that they are conscious of their international obligations in the heartland of the world's most powerful and arrogant imperialism. We will of course be glad if they indeed have a correct understand-

ing of their obligations. In the United States there is a powerful working class, there are extensive democratic and progressive social forces, and there are many fair-minded and progressive people in the fields of science, art, journalism, literature and education. In the United States, there are large-scale workers' struggles, there is the ever growing struggle of the Negro people, and there is the movement for peace, democracy and social progress. In the United States, there is a social basis for a broad united front against monopoly capital and against the U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war. (p.16, FLP ed., 1963)

We ask the writers of the Tribune article, is there any way these statements can be interpreted as meaning that the call was directed only at the people in the colonial countries?

We would like to point out that the task of the united front is different depending on the concrete conditions internal to each country. The basis for the united front in this country is not the driving out of foreign imperialists or the carrying out of the democratic revolution as it is in the colonial countries. This was the task of the bourgeois revolution of 1776.

Nor is the united front simply a tactical weapon in the fight against fascism as CL claims, although this is one important part of its work. The anti-imperialist united front, based upon the leadership of the working class in alliance with the revolutionary movements of the nationally oppressed peoples in the U.S., is a strategic weapon for the complete overthrow of U.S. imperialism and its reactionary policies. It leads to the establishment of socialism, i.e. the dictatorship of the proletariat.



Within the U.S. today, there is the basis for a broad united front which unites the masses in their millions to attack the imperialist system and its fascist, aggressive policies.

## LETTERS TO THE CALL

### 19th century conditions

Comrades,

We here on Cape Cod are hit with 19th century working conditions, as well as 20% unemployment, crucial housing shortages, especially in view of the fact that the bourgeoisie is throwing all the working class people out of their summer rentals in order to jack up the price for what most folks believe to be the last “tourist season” the Cape will see for a long time.

The very economic structure of the Cape is one of a sedentary nature. The boom years for the *nouveau-riche* has seen the emaciation of the fishing industry, and the growth of the tourist trip.

Jobs are just not available during the winter, and one must also get screwed in the summer, because the employment that accompanies the tourist season is usually seized by middle-class college and university students who do not even live around here. The money they earn is stashed away for their next year's study, and thusly this money is not thrown back into the market, and all the year-rounders suffer, naturally at the hands of the fat cats.

Last week marked the initiation of the infamous “food lines” for elderly sisters and brothers, who after working all their lives, are now “unproductive” and must be beholden to the charity of the state. These meals are prepared, naturally by off-Cape business, and piped in to the local “churches” of course, and the older people are bussed in for a meal. Since 30% of the population is older people, obviously many of them have been literally starving before this program was instituted, which is a progressive move to counter the embarrassment of politicians at finding news stories of people dying from starvation. Especially if those that are starving worked within the system for 40 years or longer, and found out what the true benefits of their labor

has been. It is very important for youthful workers, who face unemployment because of lack of jobs, in a country that has prided itself on its industrialization, but at the cost of its youth, to unite with the older and retired workers and learn from the rich and unsung history of the working class of the U.S.

Good luck this day to all the sisters and brothers of the staff of the OL's *CALL*.

J.B. Chatham, Mass.

### greetings from India

Dear Comrades,

This letter comes to you on behalf of a Marxist-Leninist Study group in India. We are followers of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist). While carrying out the armed agrarian revolution in our country, we suffered serious setbacks. The reactionary government murdered 12,000 comrades and arrested about 42,000. In Kerala state, the reactionary government headed by the Communist Party of India arrested all of our leading comrades. Now we are reorganizing the party in our state.

Comrades, with the help of Soviet imperialists, Indian reactionaries are now propagating anti-China slogans before the people to hide the great programs achieved by the heroic Chinese people under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tsetung. To expose the above reactionary plot and to build a genuine Marxist-Leninist Party we have started a revolutionary journal in Malayalam from November 1973. We wish to publish articles about the revolutionary movements in the U.S.A. For that purpose, we expect your help to get the journal *THE CALL* regularly by air mail.

K.R.  
Kerala, India

### israeli student

Comrades!

I'm a 17-year-old, Israeli high school student, and socialist. I happened to hear about you and some of your revolutionary activities, and I'm very interested to hear more about you, your political opinions (especially about the middle east conflict), and to read your paper. I would like to ask you several questions about nationalism and internationalism and about your argument with Trotskyism. As a high school student, I can't pay for a subscription, but be kind and send me a copy of your paper. (I promise that I won't be the only one who will read it!)

In solidarity,  
D.P.  
Tel Aviv, Israel

### from inside

Dear Comrades:

*THE CALL* is undoubtedly one of this country's best Marxist-Leninist newspapers. Its overall news coverage of the struggle, in depth analysis on major issues and questions and editorials provide us inside with invaluable news.

I would like to see more articles on the women's movement, particularly as concerns our captive sisters—far too little attention has been given to women in prison as opposed to men prisoners, and there are many women today in prison contributing much to our common struggle.

I would also like to see more coverage of Ireland's fight against British imperialism. Their fight is an important one, with lessons which can provide all revolutionaries a stronger bond of internationalism.

Keep up the good work. Venceremos.

M.G.  
San Quentin, Calif.

## MAY DAY EDITORIAL

# REVOLUTIONARY LEADERSHIP NEEDED IN WORKERS' FIGHT BACK

May Day, 1974 finds the working people of the U. S. locked in a life-or-death battle in defense of every right and every gain that they have won in the last 50 years. The present crisis in the capitalist system finds the bosses desperately trying to shift the burden of that crisis onto the shoulders of the producers.

The U.S. working class is facing the brunt of a major capitalist offensive. It is aimed first and foremost at the vanguard section of the working people as well as the movements of the Afro-American, Chicano, Asian, Puerto Rican, Native American Indian and other minorities. Recent events, such as the major assault on the United Farm Workers' union and the total betrayal of the steelworkers' leadership in the most recent contract sell-out, are setting the pattern for this offensive.

The anti-worker offensive would be impossible without the aid and comfort being given by the boot-licking labor aristocrats sitting at the head of the major unions. In the most recent statistics handed out by the U.S. Department of Labor, it is shown that since 1971, the number of days lost due to strikes in this country has dropped from 66,414,000 to 27,000,000 last year. This has come at a time of rapidly rising unemployment and skyrocketing inflation that has brought the cost of living far beyond the wages of the average working class family, in other words, just when the strike weapon is most necessary.

The working class has time and again shown the willingness to fight back. But it has been the role of those like Meany, Abel, Woodcock and Brennan who have done everything possible to smother this spirit. They view the working class as living comfortably with no problems. As Meany said recently, "there is a growing feeling that strikes of people getting \$7,500 a year or more just don't make sense."

### "CONTENTED" WORKERS?

Brennan said, "... He (the worker) is paying off a house and car and vacation trip, and sending his children to college. ... He finds now that he's on the other side, thinking like some of the people he was shouting at before." It is with this view of the "rich" workers sharing in the "benefits" of capitalism that the labor leadership has peddled complete compliance with the government's rotten freeze in wages. Unfortunately, this line is also peddled by some in the left who claim that the U.S. working class is "bought off."

This fascist logic has the two-fold purpose of blaming the rank-and-file for the continued policy of class-collaboration which has been forced upon the trade union movement and covering up the widespread and increasing impoverishment of working people and unemployed. It is this bought off strata of apologists who are the main enemy of the workers within the labor movement and who spread this dangerous lie.

In response to this growing assault, the rank-and-file is experiencing a new awakening this year. The recent victory at Farah has provided a spark to the entire working class (see article on this page). The miners in Appalachia have made it clear that they will fight back this year. Their contract expires in November.

The UFWA, despite being shackled by Meany's forced compromise on their boycott of scab markets, are in the forefront of the whole labor movement in opposing the fascist labor front headed by the Teamsters' leadership. Within the basic

industries, such as auto and steel, the rank-and-file is organizing itself in defense of the right to strike, and an end to racial discrimination and in defense of their basic working conditions. The UAW National Convention in June will be the scene of large demonstrations, called by the Brotherhood Caucus at GM, Fremont, aimed at the sell-out Woodcock leadership.

Another important weapon in the fight-back has been the founding of Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) which has created the conditions for millions of women workers to organize themselves, especially in the areas of basic industry, where they have been ignored by the union leadership. The past year has seen working women make great strides forward in their struggle for dignity and equality. They have added new unity and fighting spirit since they have entered many areas of industry previously closed to them.

### MAY DAY LINKS STRUGGLES SETS GOALS FOR WORKING CLASS

The May Day celebrations this year are an important weapon in the fight-back. They are a step forward in linking the political tasks which the working and oppressed people face, with the economic struggles. May Day will provide an opportunity for the advanced section of the labor movement to consolidate itself, set its goals for the coming fight and develop its revolutionary leadership as it has historically done. It will also provide a chance to demonstrate its internationalist outlook and express solidarity with the workers and oppressed nations around the world.

At many of the celebrations, representatives from the leading struggles of the Farmworkers, the independent truck drivers, autoworkers and other labor struggles will speak along with representatives of the various national liberation movements, both outside and inside the U.S. This international spirit of May Day has always been a mighty weapon against chauvinism of the labor aristocrats' "Be American, Buy American" mentality.

May Day is also a day when the struggle to 'Dump Nixon' can be integrated with the fight for working class leadership. It is the overwhelming sentiment of working people everywhere that Nixon be dumped and that his offensive against the working class be stopped.

But most importantly, in trying to bring the working class and oppressed people from the defensive position in which they now find themselves to the offensive position, is the need to build revolutionary leadership, and for revolutionaries and communists to unite and take their rightful role in the struggles of the laboring people.

Without a revolutionary communist party, which does not now exist in this country, the shackles of the present bought-off labor leadership cannot be broken. May Day is a day for communists to unite with militant rank-and-file forces and consolidate this unity in the labor union movement. This unity will bring victory closer than ever before.

**DUMP NIXON-STOP THE FASCIST TIDE!  
FREEDOM FOR AFRO-AMERICAN, CHICANO, PUERTO  
RICAN, ASIAN, NATIVE AMERICAN AND ALL  
PEOPLES!  
DEFEND THE RIGHT TO STRIKE!  
DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN!  
WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES UNITE!  
LONG LIVE MAY DAY, THE WORKERS' HOLIDAY!**

## WHY THE STRIKE



*"Here is the real modern labor problem. Here is the kernel of the problem of Religion and Democracy, of Humanity. Works and futile gestures avail nothing. Out of the exploitation of the dark proletariat comes the Surplus Value filched from human beasts which, in cultured lands, the Machine and harnessed Power veil and conceal. The emancipation of man is the emancipation of labor and the emancipation of labor is the freeing of the basic majority of workers who are yellow, brown and black." (W.E.B. DuBois, Black Reconstruction in America).*

The victory of the Texas Farah strikers is a victory of major significance for the entire working class. The 3,000 mostly Chicano strikers, after 93 weeks of struggle broke the back of the textile giants' attempt to keep unions out of the Southwest.

If you read the words of the capitalist press and listen to the politicians you can get their interpretation of the strike and why it won. It is an interpretation full of lies. In the March 11, 1974 issue of the Time Magazine, for instance, we get the view that it was the benevolence of Willie Farah himself that "allowed" the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America (ACWA) the right to organize at Farah, rather than the militant struggle of the workers themselves. In an article entitled "Farah Knuckled



May Day is an international workers holiday born and built in struggle. All over the world, millions of workers lay down their tools and leave their shops. Once again on this May First, millions of marching workers will take to the streets of Paris, Rome, Mexico City, and cities large and small around the globe.

In the United States some years ago, over a million workers would take part in this worldwide day of solidarity. Over 300,000 left their jobs and paraded down the street of New York City in 1936. These yearly shows of working-class power continued to take place well into the 1940s, but now very few workers in the U.S. even know about May Day. How was this important holiday robbed from the working class? Why did the rich classes and their friends in the labor movement try from the very beginning to destroy this day?

May Day was born right here in the U.S. during the fight for the 8-hour day in the 1880s. Masses of workers, forced to work fourteen, sixteen and even eighteen hours a day, militantly took up the demand. Eight-hour Day Leagues and Associations sprung up in various cities, and by 1886 over a half million workers were directly involved in strikes for the 8-hour day. The young American Federation of Labor (AFL) in its convention of 1884 "resolved . . . that eight hours shall constitute a legal day's labor from May First 1886." A national strike was organized and took place on that day.

This first May Day strike was a great victory for the U.S. working class and an historic event for exploited

# RY ED IN BACK

o and steel. the rank-and-  
in defense of the right to  
racial discrimination and in  
working conditions. The  
ntion in June will be the  
trations, called by the Bro-  
M, Fremont, aimed at the  
dership.

weapon in the fight-back  
of Coalition of Labor  
(V) which has created the  
s of women workers to  
specially in the areas of  
they have been ignored by  
The past year has seen  
great strides forward in  
ity and equality. They  
and fighting spirit since  
ny areas of industry pre-  
n.

## ANKS STRUGGLES OR WORKING CLASS

rations this year are an im-  
fight-back. They are a step  
political tasks which the  
d people face, with the eco-  
Day will provide an oppor-  
d section of the labor mo-  
itself, set its goals for the  
lop its revolutionary lead-  
cally done. It will also pro-  
nstrate its international-  
s solidarity with the workers  
around the world.  
brations, representatives  
gles of the Farmworkers,  
drivers, autoworkers and  
will speak along with repre-  
us national liberation move-  
nd inside the U.S. This inty  
Day has always been a  
t chauvinism of the labor  
can, Buy American" menta-

y when the struggle to  
integrated with the fight  
ership. It is the overwhel-  
rking people everywhere  
l and that his offensive  
ass be stopped.  
y, in trying to bring the  
ressed people from the de-  
ch they now find them-  
osition, is the need to  
adership, and for revolu-  
ists to unite and take their  
uggles of the laboring peo-

ary communist party, which  
this country, the shackles of  
labor leadership cannot be  
lay for communists to  
nk-and-file forces and conso-  
labor union movement.  
ictory closer than ever be-

E FASCIST TIDE!  
AMERICAN, CHICANO, PUERTO  
TIVE AMERICAN AND ALL

TO STRIKE!  
OF WOMEN!  
SSED PEOPLES UNITE!  
THE WORKERS' HOLIDAY!

# WHY THE FARAH STRIKE WON



*"Here is the real modern labor problem. Here is the kernel of the problem of Religion and Democracy, of Humanity. Works and futile gestures avail nothing. Out of the exploitation of the dark proletariat comes the Surplus Value filched from human beasts which, in cultured lands, the Machine and harnessed Power veil and conceal. The emancipation of man is the emancipation of labor and the emancipation of labor is the freeing of that basic majority of workers who are yellow, brown and black." (W.E.B. DuBois, Black Reconstruction in America).*

The victory of the Texas Farah strikers is a victory of major significance for the entire working class. The 3,000 mostly Chicano strikers, after 93 weeks of struggle, broke the back of the textile giants' attempt to keep unions out of the Southwest.

If you read the words of the capitalist press and listen to the politicians you can get their interpretation of the strike and why it won. It is an interpretation full of lies. In the March 11, 1974 issue of the Time Magazine, for instance, we get the view that it was the benevolence of Willie Farah himself that "allowed" the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America (ACWA) the right to organize at Farah, rather than the militant struggle of the workers themselves. In an article entitled "Farah Knuckles

Under," the magazine states, "Indeed, stories spread that Willie quietly passed word to the workers that he would not be disappointed to see the union win in order to end the strike. A company official claims that the majority of the workers were opposed to the union but went along out of loyalty to Farah. One union official asserts: "We suspect Farah told his people it was O.K. to sign up."

This image of the "new Willie Farah" suddenly turned pro-union, "forcing" his workers to sign up, is matched by the rhetoric of the liberal politicians who give credit primarily to the government and the courts for their favorable rulings near the end of the strike. Says Senator Alan Cranston, "It was a National Labor Relations Board judge who gave the strikers a major moral and legal victory last month," describing Farah's anti-union tactics as "lawless."

## LABOR'S "LONG-TIME FRIENDS"

Statements like these make one wonder why, after a hundred years of benevolence from textile barons like Willie Farah and the protection of the courts, 99 percent of the mills and plants employing thousands of Chicano workers throughout the Southwest are still unorganized and operating under semi-feudal conditions. With such liberal help, why are workers making \$1.60 an hour,



## BORN IN THE FLAMES

May Day is an international workers holiday born and built in struggle. All over the world, millions of workers lay down their tools and leave their shops. Once again on this May First, millions of marching workers will take to the streets of Paris, Rome, Mexico City, and cities large and small around the globe.

In the United States some years ago, over a million workers would take part in this worldwide day of solidarity. Over 300,000 left their jobs and paraded down the streets of New York City in 1936. These yearly shows of working-class power continued to take place well into the 1940s, but now very few workers in the U.S. even know about May Day. How was this important holiday robbed from the working class? Why did the rich classes and their friends in the labor movement try from the very beginning to destroy this day?

May Day was born right here in the U.S. during the fight for the 8-hour day in the 1880s. Masses of workers, forced to work fourteen, sixteen and even eighteen hours a day, militantly took up the demand. Fight-hour Day Leagues and Associations sprung up in various cities, and by 1886 over a half million workers were directly involved in strikes for the 8-hour day. The young American Federation of Labor (AFL) in its convention of 1884 "resolved . . . that eight hours shall constitute a legal day's labor from May First 1886." A national strike was organized and took place on that day.

This first May Day strike was a great victory for the U.S. working class and an historic event for exploited

and oppressed peoples around the world. It is estimated that about half the workers who struck on May First 1886 were successful, and most of those who didn't win the 8-hour day immediately did have their working day greatly reduced.

The factory owners didn't take this militant upsurge lying down. They were scared by the workers' organized strength and were determined to take back what the workers had won in struggle. The city of Chicago had been the center of the most aggressive May Day strike activity under the leadership of revolutionary labor groups in a united front with the AFL, Knights of Labor and the Socialist Labor party. Here is where the owners began their counterattack. On May 3, 1886, workers at the McCormick Harvester Works, who were locked out because of May Day activity, were attacked by the police. Six workers were killed and many were wounded.

The next day, May 4, a protest demonstration was called at Haymarket Square which was peaceful until the police attacked again. A bomb was thrown, probably by a police agent, killing seven cops and four workers. The Chicago papers cried "Now It is BLOOD!" and the militant leaders of the movement were arrested for the bombing and railroaded to their death on the gallows. Terrorizing the workers and killing off the leaders was the owners response, but the movement and May Day still grew stronger.

Some leaders within the organized labor movement were also trying to sabotage and destroy this growing 8-

with women workers  
trol pills to keep them  
gnancy? Why are pro  
workers usually have t  
by? Without union pr  
being fired on the spot

The reason why labor  
such a position is beca  
States constitutes the  
and Mexicano people  
their land was stolen fr

Spanish speaking wo  
land and into the indu  
labor, making the area  
The AFL-CIO never co  
organize in the Southw  
leadership of George M  
not capable of organiz

The government, un  
ocrats and Republicans  
protect big business in  
of strike-breaking and  
ers in the mines of Nev  
the Rangers have serve  
growers and owners th

Even the communis  
ly had a blind spot wh  
cano labor. A quick gl  
texts on the American  
from the left or the rig  
the role of Chicano or

## UPSURGE O

What then is respons  
it will be granted that Will  
union and understandi  
become, all of a sudden  
vement?

The answer lies in th  
five years of the Chica  
out the Southwest. Fr  
has been closely connec  
through the organizing  
has greatly influenced  
and given it great imp  
was this movement for  
Farah workers into the  
not only Farah, but ag  
ward agricultural devel  
of the people of Mexic  
annexation of these te

This, in many ways,  
liberation struggle has  
the South and especial  
try that fled from New

The Farah victory can  
tory of the Oneita stri

With Chicano worke  
built among the work  
fore, the labor movem  
left forces, mobilized i  
Paso and San Antonio

hour day, May Day mo  
of the largest labor org  
of Labor, was as fright  
as the owners were. Be  
ness," newly organized  
Knights of Labor whic  
year, and were demand  
along with his upper-cl  
and useless and that ed  
for the "gradual" repla

As the 8-hour day mo  
May Day became an int  
1890, some other refor  
ing to cripple May Day  
instead of a day of strug  
trations be held on Sun  
duction. They tried to c  
action of the workers b  
out of May Day. In the  
head of the AFL, succe  
ment by allowing only t  
that day in 1890.

With the outbreak of  
First was marked by pro  
imperialist war. Many o  
ers totally backed this v  
redivide Europe and the  
few European capitalist  
this slaughter of workin

# WILLIE FARAH HE WON



with women workers being forced to take birth control pills to keep them from missing work due to pregnancy? Why are production quotas set so high that workers usually have to pass up lunch and breaks to get by? Without union protection, any complaint meant being fired on the spot.

The reason why labor throughout the Southwest is in such a position is because the Southwestern United States constitutes the area where the masses of Chicano and Mexican people have long faced domination since their land was stolen from them in 1848.

Spanish speaking workers were driven in mass off the land and into the industries. They were used as cheap labor, making the area a haven for anti-union companies. The AFL-CIO never considered it important enough to organize in the Southwest and still expresses, through the leadership of George Meany, the view that Chicanos are not capable of organizing themselves.

The government, under the leadership of both Democrats and Republicans has done everything possible to protect big business in the area, including a long history of strike-breaking and sending troops to suppress workers in the mines of New Mexico and Colorado. In Texas, the Rangers have served as the military arm of the big growers and owners throughout the state.

Even the communists and revolutionaries have seemingly had a blind spot when it came to the question of Chicano labor. A quick glance through any of the major texts on the American labor movement, whether written from the left or the right, will find no mention made of the role of Chicano or Mexican laborers in this country.

## UPSURGE OF CHICANO MOVEMENT

What then is responsible for the recent victory, taking it for granted that Willie Farah didn't really organize the union and understanding that the NLRB hasn't really become, all of a sudden, the best friend of the labor movement?

The answer lies in the developing upsurge of the last five years of the Chicano liberation movement throughout the Southwest. From its inception, this movement has been closely connected to the working class, especially through the organizing of the United Farm Workers. It has greatly influenced the working class movement here and given it great impetus and organizational ability. It was this movement for national rights which threw the Farah workers into the forefront of the struggle against not only Farah, but against the entire system of backward agricultural development and national persecution of the people of Mexican ancestry that came with the annexation of these territories.

This, in many ways, is similar to the effect the Black liberation struggle has had on the labor movement in the South and especially in the backward textile industry that fled from New England to escape unionization. The Farah victory can easily be compared with the victory of the Oneita strikers last year in South Carolina.

With Chicano workers in the lead, strong unity has been built among the workers. To a larger degree than ever before, the labor movement, with strong influence from the left forces, mobilized in support of the workers in El Paso and San Antonio a boycott of Farah products that

turned Farah's 1971 profit of \$6 million into losses of \$8.3 million in 1972 and sent Farah stock downward from \$56 the day of the strike to below the \$8 mark the Friday before the settlement. California longshoremen and workers from Hong Kong to Europe refused to handle Farah pants.

Because of the fact that women were the main target of Farah's policies of super-exploitation, the National Organization of Women (NOW) and other organizations were able to bring thousands of women out into the streets in nationwide actions to support the strikers. Women were among the most active leaders of the strikers in both San Antonio and in El Paso.

Thousands of dollars were raised in strike support, and strikers toured the country explaining the issues of the strike to others. Under these conditions, even the Roman Catholic Bishop of El Paso and the El Paso City Council put pressure on Willie Farah to settle. This pressure finally forced Farah to allow for a vote among the workers who turned out overwhelmingly in favor of unionization.

But it was the merging of the movement of the Chicano people for their national rights in the Southwest with the general workers' struggle that made the difference. Both were embodied in the Farah strike. Whenever the organized labor movement can take up a struggle of the nature of the Farah strike, it cannot help but strengthen itself and its overall ability to fight for the needs of all workers.

## LABOR FIGHTS FOR CHICANO RIGHTS

Through the increasing influence of the Chicano struggle for national rights and the revolutionary left forces, large sections of the working class were united in a struggle against the national and class oppression of the people of the Southwest. This has to be seen as a victory not just for the workers at Farah, but a blow against the white-supremacist attitudes of the leadership of the organized trade union movement, which has so long ignored Chicano, Black and other minority workers—attitudes which for so long have shackled the entire workers movement in this area.

Those who fail to take up the fight for Chicano rights, even while supporting the farm workers and Farah strikers, will be missing the boat and acting as added weight on the labor movement.

The victory at Farah is in no way the end of the struggle. A decent contract has yet to be won and union recognition in and of itself has never meant heaven for the working class. Hagar Co.; Mann; Hicks-Ponder and Levi-Strauss still run rampant over the organizing efforts of the Chicano workers at these plants throughout the Southwest. But the tide has turned and if the example of class unity set during the Farah strike continues to hold up, the 19th century conditions that prevail in the Southwest will soon crumble along with the whole system set up to maintain domination over the Chicano people.

When this happens, it won't be because of the kindness of the rich; the goodness of the courts or the heroism of the AFL-CIO leadership. It will be because of the unity and militancy and revolutionary leadership of the workers themselves.

Under," the magazine states, "Indeed, stories spread that Willie quietly passed word to the workers that he would not be disappointed to see the union win in order to end the strike. A company official claims that the majority of the workers were opposed to the union but went along out of loyalty to Farah. One union official asserts: "We suspect Farah told his people it was O.K. to sign up."

This image of the "new Willie Farah" suddenly turned pro-union, "forcing" his workers to sign up, is matched by the rhetoric of the liberal politicians who give credit primarily to the government and the courts for their favorable rulings near the end of the strike. Says Senator Alan Cranston, "It was a National Labor Relations Board judge who gave the strikers a major moral and legal victory last month," describing Farah's anti-union tactics as "lawless."

## LABOR'S "LONG-TIME FRIENDS"

Statements like these make one wonder why, after a hundred years of benevolence from textile barons like Willie Farah and the protection of the courts, 99 percent of the mills and plants employing thousands of Chicano workers throughout the Southwest are still unorganized and operating under semi-feudal conditions. With such liberal help, why are workers making \$1.60 an hour,



# BORN IN THE FLAMES OF WORKERS STRUGGLE

and oppressed peoples around the world. It is estimated that about half the workers who struck on May First 1886 were successful, and most of those who didn't win the 8-hour day immediately did have their working day greatly reduced.

The factory owners didn't take this militant upsurge lying down. They were scared by the workers' organized strength and were determined to take back what the workers had won in struggle. The city of Chicago had been the center of the most aggressive May Day strike activity under the leadership of revolutionary labor groups in a united front with the AFL, Knights of Labor and the Socialist Labor party. Here is where the owners began their counterattack. On May 3, 1886, workers at the McCormick Harvester Works, who were locked out because of May Day activity, were attacked by the police. Six workers were killed and many were wounded.

The next day, May 4, a protest demonstration was called at Haymarket Square which was peaceful until the police attacked again. A bomb was thrown, probably by a police agent, killing seven cops and four workers. The Chicago papers cried "Now It is BLOOD!" and the militant leaders of the movement were arrested for the bombing and railroaded to their death on the gallows. Terrorizing the workers and killing off the leaders was the owners response, but the movement and May Day still grew stronger.

Some leaders within the organized labor movement were also trying to sabotage and destroy this growing 8-

hour day, May Day movement. Terence Powderly, head of the largest labor organization at that time, the Knights of Labor, was as frightened of the workers' new strength as the owners were. Because of this 8-hour day "madness," newly organized members were flooding into the Knights of Labor which increased over sevenfold in one year, and were demanding strikes. But Powderly believed, along with his upper-class friends, that strikes were wrong and useless and that education was all that was needed for the "gradual" replacement of capitalism.

As the 8-hour day movement spread world wide and May Day became an international workers holiday in 1890, some other reformist leaders of labor were attempting to cripple May Day by turning it into a day of rest instead of a day of struggle. They insisted that demonstrations be held on Sundays, so no strikes would stop production. They tried to discourage unified, international action of the workers by taking the heart (class struggle) out of May Day. In the U.S., Samuel Gompers, reformist head of the AFL, succeeded in limiting the strike movement by allowing only the Carpenters' Union to go out on that day in 1890.

With the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, May First was marked by protest demonstrations against this imperialist war. Many of the old so-called socialist leaders totally backed this war whose only purpose was to redivide Europe and the entire world for the benefit of a few European capitalist nations. Gompers was gung-ho for this slaughter of working class men for the interests of the

rich, just like the George Meany's of today who backed Nixon's war in Vietnam. The anti-war May Day demonstrations were organized by a new leadership who understood that an end to these wars and the other demands of the working people would only be won when political power was taken away from the ruling capitalist class by the unified struggle of the working class. One of these leaders, a communist named E. Ruthenberg, organized a May First demonstration of over 20,000 workers on the streets of Cleveland, Ohio in 1919. The police attacked the marchers killing one and disabling many, a common occurrence as the revolutionary consciousness of the workers' movement grew. Soon, Ruthenberg and many others left the reformist Socialist Party to found a new and militant Communist Party which would help lead May Day and other workers' struggles.

One of the main struggles of the 1920s in the U.S. was for workers to be organized into unions and for the separate unions to link together. The demands of May Days called for amalgamation of the unions in each industry, for a National Farmer-Labor Party, and forward to a Workers and Farmers Government. The Secretary of Interior of President Harding's administration at that time was imprisoned for taking bribes in turning over the Navy's oil reserves at Teapot Dome to private oil companies. "Down with the capitalist Teapot Dome" expresses the workers' feelings on the exposed corruption of that de-

(PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 17)

**"Countries want independence, Nations want liberation, People want revolution"**

# TAKING UP THE CALL

## THEME OF THIRD WORLD UNITY AT UN

The United Nations held a special session to study the problems of raw materials and development on April 9 in New York. Teng Hsiao-ping, Chairman of the Delegation from the People's Republic of China delivered a major address in which he pointed out that it was exploitation and plunder by the imperialist powers which was the root of all problems of economic development in the world.

Teng discussed two important trends in the world: the drive by the two superpowers, the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., to dominate all the countries of the world; and, in opposition to this, the movement sweeping the Third World countries to fight for their independence from the superpowers economically and politically. In addition, said Teng, there are contradictions between the two superpowers, and other developed countries, even though some of these countries may be imperialist countries in their own right. Teng commented that, "all these developed countries are in varying degrees controlled, threatened, or bullied by one superpower or the other."

Although the two superpowers share the common desire to control the world, "their compromise and collusion can be only partial, temporary, and relative, while their contention is all-embracing, permanent, and absolute."

Among the advances made in the fight for independence from foreign domination, Teng cited the wars of liberation which have been waged in Indochina, Africa, and Palestine. He further observed that organizations of Third World unity such as the O.A.U., the Arab Summit, the Islamic Summit, and the Conference of Non-Aligned Nations have contributed much to the struggles against imperialism, colonialism, and racism.

### UNITY AGAINST SUPERPOWERS

The theme of Third World unity against the superpowers ran through Teng's remarks. He commented extensively on developments such as the Arab oil embargo, which he called "a pioneering action taken by developing countries in their struggle against imperialism." He said, "The oil battle has broadened people's vision. What was done in the oil battle should and can be done in the case of other raw materials." Teng raised the question, "If imperialist monopolies gang up to manipulate the markets at will to great detriment of the vital interests of the developing countries, why can't developing countries unite to break this imperialist monopoly and defend their own economic rights and interests

"We maintain," said Teng, "that the safeguarding of political independence is the first prerequisite for a Third World country to develop its economy." In order to obtain real political independence, Teng spoke of the need for countries to develop their own resources, utilize the wisdom of their people, and make plans for production in accordance with their needs, free from foreign interference. However, this program of self-reliance, said Teng, "in no way means self-seclusion and rejection of foreign aid." In fact, economic cooperation is essential to the developing countries, and should be increased on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

Teng Hsiao-ping defined a superpower as a country which everywhere subjects other countries to its aggression, interference, control, subversion, or plunder." He said China is not a superpower, but a socialist country which is part of the developing world. The current campaign inside China against the wrong ideas of Lin Biao and Confucius is taking place in order to keep China from restoring capitalism, and becoming a superpower. Teng concluded by saying that if China ever did become a superpower, oppressing and exploiting other countries, then the people of the world should identify this as social-imperialism and unite with the Chinese people to overthrow it.

## OPEC FUND TO AID SMALL COUNTRIES

Iran's Finance Minister Jamshid Amouzegar has announced the creation of a special fund for aid to Third World countries which will be set up by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The purpose of the OPEC fund is to provide long-term, low interest loans to third world countries for development projects such as industrialization, transportation, and agricultural improvement.

Amouzegar said that Iran was prepared to contribute the equivalent of \$150 million annually to the fund. By expanding third world cooperation on programs such as this, developing countries will become less reliant on the two superpowers for economic assistance, and freer from the strings usually attached to such assistance.

The move to establish the OPEC fund exposes the lies of the recent campaign in the U.S. press to portray the newly-wealthy oil producing countries as concerned only with their own economies, and disinterested in the problems of the rest of the Third World.



## SETBACKS IN NORTH KALIMANTAN

The struggle in North Kalimantan (a section of Malaysia) suffered a serious setback in March when several leading members of the People's Armed Forces turned renegade and surrendered to the Malaysian authorities. The government then proceeded to make the most out of this development in a propaganda campaign aimed at undermining the unity of the people of North Kalimantan. The government asserted that a major "split" had taken place, and that the revolutionary fighters were "hopelessly disunited."

The "Voice of the Malayan Revolution" radio, however, responded to these events by charging that the whole episode was nothing more than a large-scale government intrigue, which for a time would weaken the forces in North Kalimantan. "But," said the radio broadcast, "A bad thing can be turned into a good thing, provided that the North Kalimantan revolutionary fighters and people sum up experiences, draw lessons from it, and persist in revolutionary armed struggle. . . Frustration in one way or another may take place in the course of revolutionary war. Frustration serves as a severe test for the revolutionary ranks, before which all opportunists and cowards show their true colors, but real revolutionaries are tempered and come out stronger than before. . . No tricks played by the enemy can stop the torrent of the North Kalimantan people from surging forward."

In a statement on April 8, Wen Ming Chuan, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of North Kalimantan, pointed out that "This betrayal is certainly a bad thing, but it has a good aspect. . . Our party and armed forces have become purer and more reliable despite the reduction in number after this incident." Wen Ming Chuan added that when armed struggle was first launched ten years ago, the people's army numbered only forty. Since that time, the army and the party have braved many hardships, and always grown stronger.

Wen Ming Chuan concluded his statement by stressing the need to adhere to Marxism-Leninism to oppose the revisionist and capitulationist line of abandoning armed struggle, and to place more emphasis on the development of the People's Army than ever.

## JAPANESE LABOR ON THE MARCH, MILLIONS STRIKE

The Japanese labor movement has launched a militant, widespread offensive against low wages and rising inflation which has already taken millions of workers out on strike, and will probably culminate with a massive general strike on May Day.

The majority of workers on strike so far have been transport and communications workers. Their week-long strike in April brought commuter traffic in Tokyo and other major Japanese cities to a standstill, paralyzed the post office, and left millions of tons of cargo unloaded on the docks at Osaka.

Workers from many government-run enterprises including printing press, broadcasting, and chemical workers joined the strike, demanding the restoration of the right to strike by government employees. At one point, almost four million workers were on strike.

## BRITISH AUTO WORKERS FIGHT SPEED-UP

A wave of strikes swept the British auto industry in April as thousands of workers held stoppages and strikes to protest speed-up. British Leyland, one of the world's biggest auto manufacturers was hit by strikes at plants in Oxford, Carlisle, and Birmingham. In many of the strikes, demands for higher pay accompanied the fight against speed-up.

Like many auto makers in the U.S., Leyland has speeded-up its production of smaller cars in order to compete on the world market during the "energy crisis." This has meant loss of jobs to workers in some plants, while others have been forced to double production speed and work overtime.

## AFRICA STRUGGLE ADVANCES, PORTUGAL ISOLATED

Mozambican freedom-fighters report that during January and February of this year, they successfully carried out a series of ambushes killing twenty-seven Portuguese soldiers and three Rhodesian soldiers who were in Mozambique to collaborate with the Portuguese. In Angola, units of the Angolan National Liberation Army killed 30 Portuguese troops when they attempted to penetrate into regions under the control of the liberation army.

Speaking at a celebration of the 13th anniversary of the launching of armed struggle in Angola, President Holden Roberto of the FNLA (National Liberation Front of Angola) observed that the Portuguese colonialists were in desperate straits in spite of the support of their accomplices (mainly the U.S. government which supplies the Portuguese with money and arms). Roberto said that Spínola, ex-commander-in-chief of the Portuguese repression forces in Guinea-Bissau, admitted that the resistance put up by the patriots in Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau was unbeatable.

The Portuguese colonialists' difficulties have extended to the "home front" where a 10,000 ton Portuguese troop ship exploded on April 9 in the port of Lisbon. Credit for the action was claimed by people who oppose colonial wars in Africa.

## NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT A VICTORY FOR LAOTIANS

A coalition government has finally been set up in Laos after months of sabotage by U.S.-backed rightists and CIA agents. The new government, the third such coalition to be formed in the last seventeen years, has representatives from the Lao Patriotic Front (Pathet Lao), the Lao Patriotic Neutralist Forces, and the Vientiane government.

The new Provisional National Union Government will be headed by Prince Souvanna Phouma, while the National Coalition Political Council will be led by Prince Souphanouvong. These two bodies, independent and on an equal footing, will attempt to work out the political direction of the country and mobilize the people to build up and develop Laos, free from foreign intervention. The basis for the coalition government is the Vientiane agreement of February, 1973, which calls for the restoration of peace and the achievement of national concord.

The Laotian people have persevered through a long and bitter struggle against U.S. imperialism in order to bring about peace and national unity. Led by the Pathet Lao, they remain firm in their determination to preserve the coalition against all attempts by reactionaries to divide or destroy the unity which has been built.



Political prisoners of fascist Chilean junta.

## FUNERAL TURNS INTO PROTEST AGAINST JUNTA

Two thousand people in the capital city of Santiago turned the funeral of former Chilean vice-president Jose Toha into a protest march against the fascist military junta which has ruled the country since last September.

Mourners gathered in the cemetery and were able to make speeches despite attempts by police to silence them. Numerous slogans were raised, among them "Down with Fascism" and "The government is a government of murderers."

Jose Toha has been imprisoned by the authorities since last September. The cause of his death was listed as "natural" by the authorities, but the demonstrators shouted, "Toha was murdered by fascism."

In April, the Chilean junta continued its program of returning ownership of companies expropriated under the Allende government to their foreign imperialist owners. New sections of Dow Chemical and Ford holdings were returned to the parent corporations in the U.S.

# WORKERS AND PEASANTS ORGANIZE RESISTANCE

*This article was adapted from an article written for The Call by Jerry Harris, who is currently travelling in Latin America.*

The new year has witnessed the first large-scale upheavals of the Bolivian masses since the 1971 coup of General Hugo Banzar. For two weeks earlier this year (Jan. 23—Feb. 4) Bolivia was under a State of Siege, as the fascist dictatorship of General Banzar fought to maintain control of the country. The outbreak started when the regime upped all food prices by 14 percent, and doubled many of them, but this was only one in a long series of repressive economic measures adopted by the Bolivian government.

This wave of repression and inflation has been the policy of the Bolivian government since the 1971 coup. The coup was engineered by a few small fascist organizations at the instigation and with the backing of the U.S. and Brazil. The coup was not only financed by imperialism, but the military campaign to wipe out peasant resistance was actually commanded by U.S. and Brazilian military officials.

Since the 1971 coup, Bolivia has been ruled by an alliance between the so-called "National Revolutionary Movement" (MNR) and the most reactionary sector of the military, the Falange Party which is patterned after Franco's fascist-Catholic party in Spain. MNR has gone through a 3-way split with control of the Party gained by Humbolt and Rocco, the most clearly pro-imperialist fraction. Pas Estensoro held a middle position, but was expelled recently when he tried to lead MNR out of the government. Estensoro represented the interests of the national bourgeoisie who has been slowly cut off from profits by further and further imperialist economic penetration. A youth sector also exists in MNR, and it has been in the process of uniting with left organizations.

## GIVES UP RESOURCES

In the last few years, Bolivia has seen its most important resources given over to U.S. and Brazilian capitalists. Money underwent a 40 percent devaluation while the prices of bread, flour, coffee and sugar all rose. The plantation system was redeveloped in the Santa Cruz region under German and Brazilian control. The mines underwent decentralization with some falling back into the hands of private families. New and important gas resources have been given out to Brazilian contractors, while iron is being developed with North American dollars. The miners have stated "the Bolivian government of today offers nothing but the black perspective of hunger, misery and oppression."

It was this situation which led to the recent uprisings. On January 23, workers and peasants throughout Bolivia went on strike. In La Paz 14,000 workers called a 2-day general strike and the city was quickly occupied by the military. Armed peasants erected road-blocks, as 30,000 employees of the commercial sector went on strike nation-wide. C.O.B. (the outlawed "Bolivian Workers Central" federation for the workers' unions) publicly assumed political responsibility for the strike. Miners joined other factory workers in the protests and uprising, while COB called for a permanent state of alert and unity with other popular sectors.

By January 26, 10,000 poorly armed peasants were in control of some 60 miles of the 3 main highways in Bolivia. The army general sent to negotiate with the peasants was taken prisoner, and trucks and buses were also captured.

On January 30th, Banzar ordered an attack of planes,

tanks and infantry. For two days a state of war reigned and Cochabamba province was declared a "military zone." A dike was dynamited near La Paz and road blocks established further north in the Yungas, but the government attack was concentrated against the peasants of central Bolivia. Approximately 100 were killed and many others wounded. Banzar declared the rebellion was due to Communist subversion and drunk peasants. On February 1, miners in the major centers of Siglo XX and Catavi declared a 48-hour strike in solidarity with the peasants of Cochabamba. The 5,000 workers of these mines held militant demonstrations and other actions, although they did not enter into armed confrontation with the military.

Banzar has now ordered an all-out hunt for communists and has detained various union and civil opposition leaders. The dictatorship has also offered 5 tractors, 5,000 trees, electrification and a million dollars for machinery to Cochabamba peasants, but anticipating the failure of this bribe, it has also decided to establish military garrisons in the region. Although the 2-1/2 year old Banzar dictatorship has managed to survive the rebellion, it has solved no problems and is now on more shaky footing than ever.

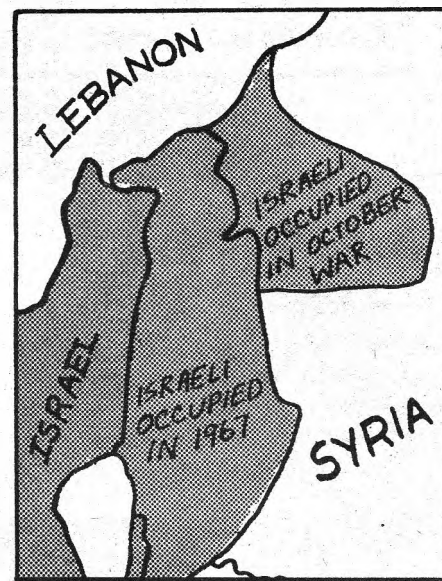
## NEW AWAKENING

The two weeks of uprising demonstrated the awakening and militancy of both workers and peasants in Bolivia. The peasants have re-entered Bolivian politics with a powerful and clear revolutionary call. The militancy of the peasants took everyone by surprise, including the miners who while calling for a new unity, had viewed them as politically backward.

The only political party to have concentrated organizing efforts among the peasantry has been the CP(M-L), though many of its leaders were murdered by the reactionaries or forced into exile. The CP (M-L) built up many unions and other organizations of the peasants. Their political line stressed the unity of peasant and worker struggles and the need to oppose not only Banzar and the local fascists, but imperialism as well. The CP(M-L) actively fought in several major campaigns for reform since 1971, but has consistently maintained the need to wage armed struggle and build a people's army.

The development of a new worker-peasant alliance, and a furthering of revolutionary struggle in Bolivia is now the main trend. The uprising of the peasantry was basically spontaneous, while the actions of the workers were directed through the unions, which despite government bans, were able to resume their activities. Though the objective conditions may have existed for an overthrow of Banzar, the left was not prepared for such an outbreak. The miners and most advanced labor sectors have been organizing a struggle for the re-establishment of democratic rights and not revolutionary insurrection.

Throughout the period of blockades and strikes there was no organized effort by workers to mobilize an armed confrontation with the military. This was probably a conscious political decision which may have been influenced by the spontaneous and unexpected nature of peasant resistance, unpreparedness among left forces, and an orientation limited towards the struggle for democratic rights, pushed by the strong revisionist Communist Party faction within organized labor. Yet, now the new wave of struggle puts Bolivia into the perspective of a rapidly developing revolutionary situation.



## Syria Wages Liberation War in Golan Heights

The war in the Middle East entered a new stage in April, as major fighting erupted again in the Golan Heights area between Israel and Syria. Seventeen Israeli jets were downed on April 19, in the heaviest fighting since the October War.

While the fighting raged in the Golan Heights, Nixon and Kissinger asserted that peace in the Middle East was at hand. Nixon greeted Ashraf Ghorbal, Egypt's first ambassador to the U.S. since 1967, saying, "I realize that we are entering into a period of building not just a temporary, but a permanent peace in the Middle East."

The significance of the Syrian fighting lies in the fact that despite Nixon and Brezhnev's efforts to force an unjust and so-called "permanent peace," the Syrian government and the Syrian people will not allow such a deal to deprive them of their lands. Consequently, they are continuing the fight to win them back.

The Golan Heights, Syrian lands occupied by Israel in 1967, is a strategic area used for controlling a large section of Syria, taken by Israel in the recent war. Moshe Dayan, the Israeli Defense Minister, had claimed that Israel was "ignoring" Syrian attacks on the Golan Heights in the interests of "preserving peace." In fact, however, aggressive Israeli attacks were recorded throughout March, and by mid-April Israel was launching phantom jet raids inside Syria and Lebanon. After the Syrian offensive of April 19, Dayan dropped his mask of "preserving peace" and announced that Israel would hit Syria "without restraining ourselves."

Speaking at a rally commemorating the founding of the Arab Baath Socialist Party, President Hafez Assad of Syria vowed to continue the struggle to liberate all land occupied by Israel after the June, 1967 War. He said, "We want just peace, and we struggle for it, but we will never accept an unjust peace because it means capitulation... We shall go on preparing and training our people and armed forces and our determination will remain as it is until we win victory."

The Syrian determination to continue fighting, coupled with tremendous internal upheavals finally forced Golda Meir to resign as Prime Minister of Israel. Her resignation has led to even wider internal political crisis with contending forces vying for the leadership of the government. Those who represent an even more "militarist" position than Meir appear to be among the front runners. Their solution to Israel's problems is full scale war to "wipe out" the Arab countries. Dayan has announced Israel's intention to "devastate" southern Lebanon if "terrorist raids" are not stopped.

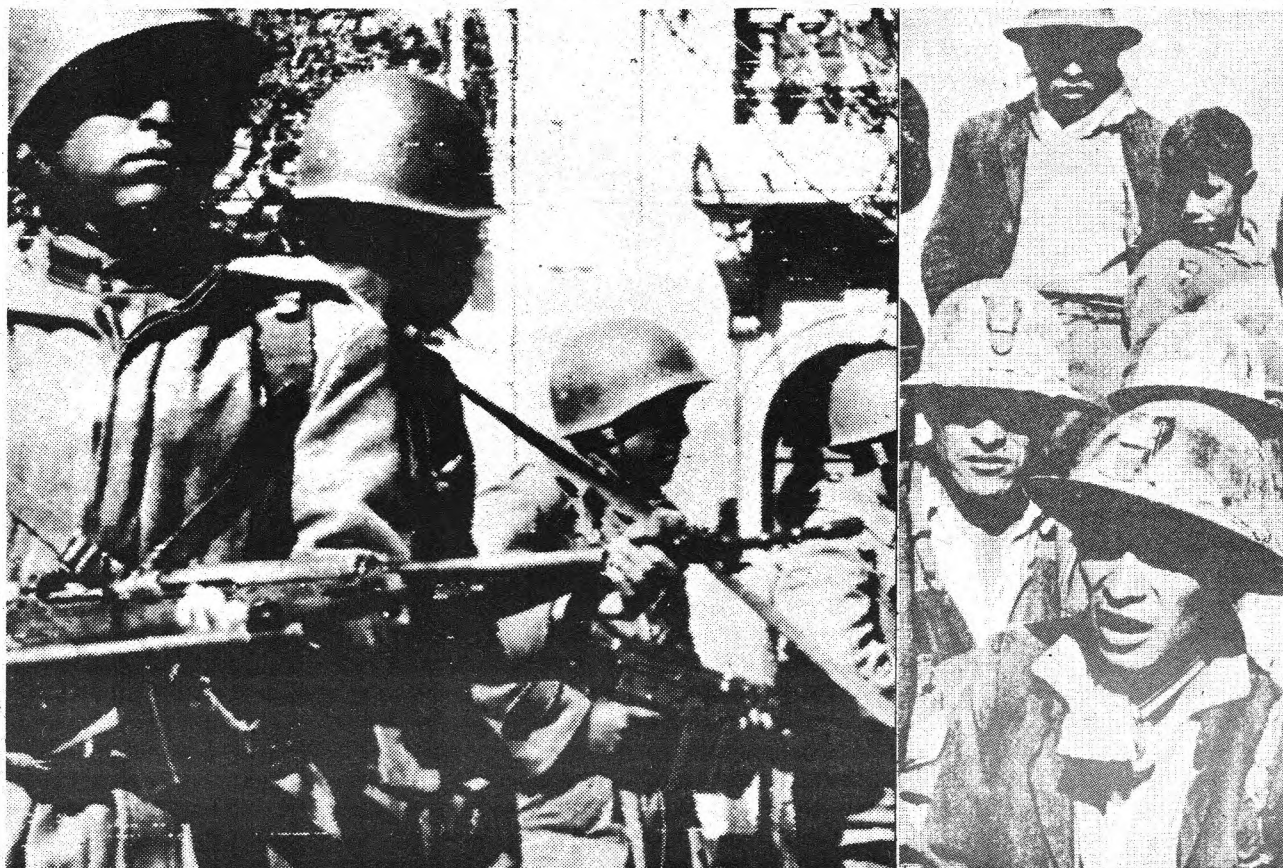
## VANGUARD OF ARAB STATES

While the Syrians have now become the vanguard of the Arab states' military struggle, the Palestinian liberation movement has also continued to grow. Kamal Chatila, Chairman of the Palestinian National Council, reaffirmed the will of the Palestinian people to continue the struggle for liberation in a March 21 address. Said Fahum, "Peace cannot be realized if the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are not realized. Our legitimate rights are that all our people must return to their homeland, to their houses and lands. Our legitimate rights are to go on struggling until a democratic state is established on the lands of Palestine."

The Soviet Union's policy of using its influence in the Middle East to force a settlement favorable to superpower interests has come under increasing attack by Arab leaders in recent weeks. Kamal Chatila, President of the Lebanese Union of the Forces of Working People said in Beirut, "The Russians want the Arabs to knuckle under to their conditions... A man with confidence will not be bitten by the snake twice..."

An April 6 article in the Cairo weekly, "Akbar El Yom" stated, "Our minds warn us against letting either of the two superpowers use us against the other or against letting one or the other superpower damage our future in pursuit of its own interests."

The war in the Middle East is continuing despite the attempt by the two superpowers to settle it among themselves. The Arab resistance will never die out until the Arab lands are won back, Palestine is liberated, and the people of the region are allowed to settle their own affairs without superpower influence.



Right-wing Bolivian troops guard road after overthrow of nationalist President Juan Jose Torres. Striking miners (right) during recent uprising, completely closed down the country's mines.



# "Revolution is the Main Trend ..."

## Mao Tsetung's Statement of May 20, 1970 "People of the World, Unite and Defeat the U.S. Aggressors and all Their Running Dogs!"

Mao Tsetung's historic statement of May 20, 1970 marked a major turning point in the struggle of the world's peoples against U.S. imperialism. Since its publication, Mao Tsetung's views have been borne out in practice by the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia who are showing that a big superpower can be defeated by the unified armed struggle of the people of a small country.

The Call is reprinting this historic statement which was written four years ago this month, so that it can be studied and further applied to the concrete conditions in this country.



Cambodian patriotic fighters receive arms training from a CPNLAF instructor.

## HISTORIC ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF CAMBODIAN NATIONAL FRONT

The Cambodian people have joined with people all over the world in celebrating the historic four years of struggle since the founding of the Cambodian National United Front (CNUF) and the Cambodian People's National Liberation Armed Forces (CPNLAF) on March 23, 1970. This event marked the beginning of the heroic armed struggle to free that country from foreign domination.

Within the capital city of Phnom Penh itself, patriotic Cambodians held mass meetings to denounce dictator Lon Nol, who was put in power by the CIA following the coup which overthrew the government of Norodom Sihanouk. The CPNLAF has already succeeded in liberating 90 percent of the countryside from the Lon Nol puppet government.

During the days and weeks of celebration, the puppets in Phnom Penh were driven deeper into chaos by two mass strikes of workers in the city, and the announcement by many high-ranking Buddhist leaders that they were abandoning their support of Lon Nol. Similar announcements came from three cabinet officials, including Srey Pong, former Secretary of Industry.

"The domain of our enemy has shrunk rapidly, like ice under the sun," said Samdech Penn Nouth, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union, in his message to the Cambodian people. His words were proven true by the Liberation Army's overwhelming victories at O Dong and Phsar Oudong as the month of March drew to a close. These victories were accompanied by renewed bombardments of Phnom Penh by liberation fighters.

### PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT STRATA

In celebrating the anniversary of the founding of the CNUF and the CPNLAF, the Cambodian people summed up their achievements in developing both liberation organizations. The National United Front has brought unity to the people of different strata, who all oppose Lon Nol's treacherous role as the agent of U.S. imperialism. It has welded together workers, peasants, students, teachers, Buddhists, puppet soldiers, and even puppet government officials in a common front. As this political unity has deepened, the military successes of the Liberation Army have increased, tenaciously defending areas already liberated, tightening the siege of Phnom Penh, and expanding the area under CPNLAF control.

In Peking, the Chinese people joined a delegation from the

A new upsurge in the struggle against U.S. imperialism is now emerging throughout the world. Ever since World War II, U.S. imperialism and its followers have been continuously launching wars of aggression and the people in various countries have been continuously waging revolutionary wars to defeat the aggressors. The danger of a new world war still exists, and the people of all countries must get prepared. But revolution is the main trend in the world today.

Unable to win in Viet Nam and Laos, the U.S. aggressors treacherously engineered the reactionary coup d'etat by the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique, brazenly dispatched their troops to invade Cambodia and resumed the bombing of north Viet Nam, and this has aroused the furious resistance of the three Indo-Chinese peoples. I warmly support the fighting spirit of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, in opposing U.S. imperialism and its lackeys. I warmly support the Joint Declaration of the Summit Conference of the Indo-Chinese Peoples. I warmly support the establishment of the Royal Government of National Union under the leadership of the National United Front of Kampuchea. Strengthening their unity, supporting each other and persevering in a protracted people's war, the three Indo-Chinese peoples will certainly overcome all difficulties and win complete victory.

### NIXON'S FASCIST ATROCITIES HAVE KINDLED RAGING FLAMES

While massacring the people in other countries, U.S. imperialism is slaughtering the white and black people in its own country. Nixon's fascist atrocities have kindled the raging flames of the revolutionary mass movement in the United States. The Chinese people firmly support the revolutionary struggle of the American people. I am convinced that the American people who are fighting valiantly will ultimately win victory and that the fascist rule in the United States will inevitably be defeated.

The Nixon government is beset with troubles internally and externally, with utter chaos at home and extreme isolation abroad. The mass movement of protest against U.S. aggression in Cambodia has swept the globe. Less than ten days after its establishment, the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia was recognized by nearly 20 countries. The situation is getting better and better in the war of resistance against U.S. aggression and for national salvation waged by the people of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia. The revolutionary armed struggles of the people of Korea, Japan and other Asian countries against the revival of Japanese militarism by the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries, the struggles of the Palestinian and other Arab peoples against the U.S.-Israeli aggressors, the national liberation struggles of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples, and the revolutionary struggles of the peoples of North America, Europe and Oceania are all developing vigorously. The Chinese people firmly support the people of the three Indo-Chinese countries and of other countries of the world in their revolutionary struggles against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys.

### IN ESSENCE A PAPER TIGER

U.S. imperialism, which looks like a huge monster, is in essence a paper tiger, now in the throes of its death-bed struggle. In the world of today, who actually fears whom? It is not the Vietnamese people, the Laotian people, the Cambodian people, the Palestinian people, the Arab people or the people of other countries who fear U.S. imperialism; it is U.S. imperialism which fears the people of the world. It becomes panic-stricken at the mere rustle of leaves in the wind. Innumerable facts prove that a just cause enjoys abundant support while an unjust cause finds little support. A weak nation can defeat a strong, a small nation can defeat a big. The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country, if only they dare to rise in struggle, dare to take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country. This is a law of history. People of the world, unite and defeat the U.S. aggressors and all their running dogs!

## AUGUSTO COLLINS, A SELFLESS FIGHTER

The people's struggles on two continents lost a selfless fighter March 8, when Augusto "Jomo" Collins died in a New York hospital. His heart stopped during surgery for a nervous disorder.

In his homeland of Panama he had been a militant student leader and had played an important role in the 1964 rebellion against U.S. domination of that country. Ten years later, that struggle is bearing fruit and the U.S. has been forced to reopen negotiations on the status of the Canal Zone.

Imperialist domination of his homeland forced Augusto, like thousands of others in the Third World to immigrate to the U.S. in search of work. Being Black and Spanish speaking he was driven into the lowest-paying jobs. Despite the risk of deportation, he engaged in the drive for union recognition where he worked. We should all learn from this example of proletarian internationalism. We should also learn from his example of overcoming physical handicap—Augusto had a spinal deformity—to become a leader of the anti-imperialist struggle.

Augusto's life personifies the unity of the liberation struggles in the third world countries and the struggle of the working class of the capitalist countries. His death is a loss to us all, but his spirit lives on in the just struggles of the Panamanian and American peoples.

CNUF in celebrating the four years of victory and struggle. Chinese Premier Chou En-lai told the Commander-in-Chief of the CPNLAF, Khieu Samphan, that "it is of immense significance that Cambodia, with only a population of 7 million, dares to resist U.S. imperialism, a country of 'superpower' repute, and is advancing from victory to victory."

Chou added, "The revolutionary people do not at all believe in so-called 'lasting peace' or 'a generation of peace'. So long as imperialism exists, revolution and war are inevitable. The entire world will continue to advance amidst violent turbulence."

### CHINA'S RESOLUTE SUPPORT

Khieu Samphan expressed the Cambodian people's gratitude towards the Chinese and other Third World peoples who have stood resolutely with Cambodia's just struggle. Over sixty countries now recognize the Royal Government of National Union, of Norodom Samdech Sihanouk as the only legitimate government in Cambodia.

Khieu Samphan further stressed that while the imperialists and puppets have been isolated and defeated, they are still trying to stave off final defeat by using sham ceasefires, sham talks, and sham peace. They have launched propaganda campaigns of lies and slanders to split the growing unity of patriots inside Phnom Penh. Samphan detailed the presence of 3,500 U.S. military agents attached to the embassy in Phnom Penh, and said there are plans to raise this number to 10,000.

The Cambodian news agency, AKI, has reported that U.S. personnel are now commanding all military operations such as communications and logistics, while American journalists have confirmed that U.S. officers are leading troop movements on the battlefields.

With this new buildup of U.S. forces in Cambodia, the task remains before the American people to continue opposition to U.S. aggression in Indochina, and to force Nixon to withdraw all support from Lon Nol. As Khieu Samphan stated in his Peking address, "The Cambodian problem can only be solved if imperialism evacuates all its military advisers and military personnel from Cambodia, stops its aggression against Cambodia, and ceases to provide the traitorous Phnom Penh clique with any form of assistance and leaves the Cambodian people to settle the question by themselves."

## May Day Offer



-A Special Package Offer

of New Political Documents from China-

†The Tenth National Congress of the Communist Party of China. Documents.

†Speech by Chiao Kuan-hua at the 28th session of the United Nations.

†Cheap Propaganda. A criticism of Soviet disarmament policy.

†A Vicious Motive, Despicable Tricks. A critique of Antonioni's film on China.

†Three Major Struggles on China's Philosophical Front.

†China Reconstructs No. 1, 1974 with the pamphlet: Some Basic Facts About China.

†Peking Review No. 8 and 9, 1974. Articles on Lin Piao and Confucius by Yang Jung-kuo.

ALL FOR \$2 (Includes postage, ad:tax where required.)

Papercuts of the Nanking River Bridge. \$2.00

## China Books & Periodicals

WRITE FOR OUR FREE CATALOG.

2929 Twenty-fourth St.  
San Francisco, CA. 94110

900 W. Armitage Ave.  
Chicago, ILL. 60614

125 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N.Y. 10003



# A CENTURY OF BLACK STRUGGLE

## STORY OF JANE PITTMAN

No one may have heard of Jane Pittman a year ago, but now she is famous. "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," presented by CBS on January 31st was one of the most progressive and talked-about shows to come along in many years. A century of the Afro-American liberation struggle was revealed as Jane Pittman told her life story to a reporter.

Jane Pittman was billed as a fictional character, but in fact, her experiences were the collected experiences of thousands of Afro-Americans living between the Civil War and the modern civil rights movement of the 1960's. The film shows, through Jane's eyes, the realities of life in the Black South during that period—the racist attacks and lynchings, and the continuing plantation system, based now on sharecroppers rather than slaves, which tied most Afro-Americans to the soil of the southern states.

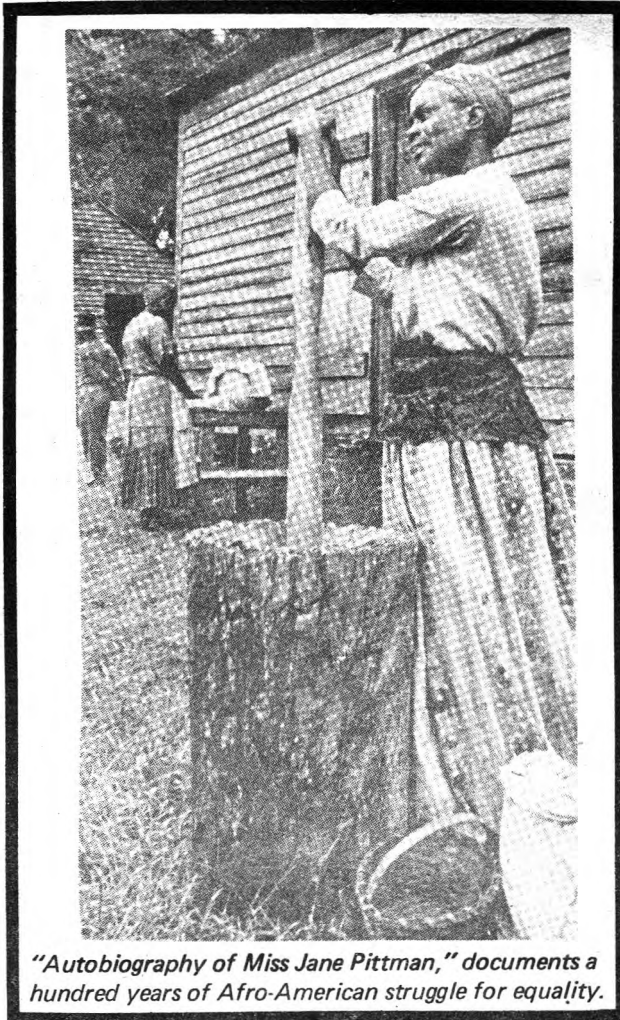
The emphasis of "Miss Jane Pittman" is on the continuing nature of the movement for equality. No specific tendency or period within that movement is thoroughly examined. The film is more a cursory history of the movement as a whole as it developed after the Civil War, through Reconstruction, the Depression, and into the Civil Rights era of the 60's. The film documents the development of organizations for self-defense, educational advancement, civil rights, and political power as they grew within the Afro-American liberation movement. The film points out the gains and setbacks of each period, always emphasizing that the struggle continues.

### BABIES BORN

Many leaders are born and killed during the course of Jane's life. Jane tells the reporter that every time a new baby is born, the people ask if he is going to be the leader who sees them through to complete liberation. The point Jane is trying to make is that as long as there is racism and oppression, people will struggle against it. No Black child born in this country can escape that oppression. As one leader falls, another fighter takes up the call. For as long as there is oppression there will be leaders and fighters in the liberation movement.

This point is most dramatically emphasized in the last scene of the film. Jimmy, a young activist, returns to the plantation to enlist the help of the people there for the school integration struggle going on in town. He is killed. When Jane hears of his death, she leads the people from the plantation into the town, although the owner has said anyone who goes into town would be thrown off the plantation. Once in town, Jane, with all the slow grace of 110 years, walks past the sheriff and the mayor to drink from the "Whites Only" fountain.

The film does an excellent job of showing how the plantation system stayed intact throughout Jane's 110 years. She was always a farm laborer. With the exception of the small ranch her husband owned part of, Jane always worked with other Blacks for a white man. There are several scenes where the plantation owners call together their Black workers. First one slave owner reads the emancipa-



"Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," documents a hundred years of Afro-American struggle for equality.

tion proclamation to his slaves and finally the owner warns his workers not to go into town where civil rights activists are staging various forms of protest. The scene is the same in each case, emphasizing the continuing oppression of the Black farm laborer.

Jane tries throughout her life to get off the plantation, but is always forced back. As a young freed slave she tries to cross a river on her way north and is refused because she doesn't have a nickel. She goes to work on a plantation to earn the nickel. Twelve years later, she is still at that plantation. Jane's entire life was spent in the rural South, the heartland of the Afro-American struggle. Even today, 50 per cent of the country's Afro-Americans live in the South. During Jane's lifetime the majority of Black Americans were tied to the land. The signs of industry clearly read "whites only." The film attempts to differentiate between the conditions in the North and the South by portraying the North as the Promised Land for Afro-Americans—a place where Black leaders could go to be educated, a place without discrimination. The characters from the North, including a Union soldier and the magazine reporter, are sickeningly paternalistic. This is a major weakness in the film. Any attempt to portray racism as a regional attitude is quickly seen through by the audience. Terrorism, discrimination and other expressions of racism seen in the show are as much a part of life in the North today as they were in the rural south in 1870. Exploitation of Afro-Americans by bosses in factories, service and domestic jobs in the North has historical roots in the plantation system exemplified by the treatment Jane and her friends received from the plantation owners in the South.

"The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman" was an excellent document of a hundred years of struggle in the mass movement for racial equality from the viewpoint of a participant. It was both informative and engrossing. CBS is planning to rescreen the show in the fall.

## HISTORY OF MAY DAY ...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13)

cade, just as "Dump Nixon," Watergate, and protests against the fuel crisis expresses today's discontent.

The demonstrations also continued to grow internationally. In Tokyo, over 50,000 workers marched and Madrid had one day's strikes in the 1920s. Even as Hitler was coming to power in the '30s, over 150,000 marched with waving red flags through the streets of Berlin. Millions paraded in the Soviet Union, and in other countries where it was a legal holiday, like Mexico and Peru, tens of thousands poured into the streets.

Demands were also put forward defending the rights and lives of Afro-Americans, particularly in the South. During the four crisis years (1929-33) 150 Black people were lynched, and nine Black youths in Scottsboro, Alabama, falsely accused of the rape of two white women, were jailed and sentenced to the electric chair. Only the mass protests organized by the Communist Party and the International Labor Defense saved their lives. "Unconditional Liberation of the Scottsboro Boys," "Against Lynchings," as well as "Full Equal Rights for the Negro People" were the marching slogans in the 1930s and early '40s.

Still the forces of reaction and reformism kept uniting in an attempt to destroy the workers' holiday. May First, 1928, was declared Child Health Day by the federal government, even though over two million children under 17 still sweated in American shops and fields.

Attempts were also made to substitute Labor Day for

May Day since its beginning. Labor Day was started in the 1880s as a "general holiday for the laboring classes" without any connection to the valiant struggles of the workers. As the Toiler of 1920 put it: "Labor Day—A special day set apart by law for the purpose of permitting union men to come together in public parks to 'listen to politicians'."

With the U.S. entry into World War II, the energy of the working class concentrated itself mainly on the fight against fascism. "Against Hitler, Against Fascism" was the main shout of the May Day demonstrators. But within the leadership, the once militant Communist Party, something had been changing. They had begun to rely on the laws and capitalist politicians like Roosevelt instead of the independent power of the working class. They even at one point dissolved their own organization, relying so deeply on their unity with the New Dealers. The whole workers' movement was weakened, and, at this time, the reactionaries, the owners with their labor leaders and their government power again opened the attack.

Under the McCarthy anti-communist scare, the working class without its militant and farsighted leadership could not defend itself or its great holiday. May Day was banished from the United States. In 1955, Eisenhower proclaimed May First as national "Loyalty Day," later, "Law Day," a day for patriotic speeches and parades. And so from over a million workers marching through the streets with bright red banners waving, the May Day demonstrations

## "Southern Exposure" Worthwhile Reading

Atlanta, Georgia—The latest issue of "Southern Exposure," recently published here by the Institute for Southern Studies, is an extraordinary collection of articles on the struggles of workers and farmers in the South, mostly during the 1930's.

The heart of the 226-page issue is the series of interviews with participants of those struggles. Men and women, Black and white, tell in their own words about the creation of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, about the UAW's sit-down strike in Atlanta in 1936, about the famous 1929 Gastonia textile strike, about coal mining battles in the East Tennessee hills in the 1890's and the 1930's, and about a cooperative colony in New Llano, Louisiana.

Rounding out the issue are Vincent Harding's provocative essay on "History: White, Negro, and Black"; Larry Neal's profile of Zora Neale Hurston, a significant figure in the Harlem renaissance of the 1920's; and Bernice Reagon's interesting survey of "World War II Reflected in Black Music."

Entitled "No More Moanin': Voices of Southern Struggle," this issue of "Southern Exposure," its editors write, "is not the kind of history that is found in textbooks or definitive theoretical works. It represents a search for that part of southern history that is usually ignored or distorted, the history of people fighting for the right to lead decent and productive lives."

Copies of the issue may be obtained for \$2.75 from the Institute for Southern Studies, 88 Walton Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

## New Latino Community Bookstore

In March, a new, revolutionary bookstore opened in East Los Angeles, a predominantly Chicano community. On the opening night, an enthusiastic crowd with an informal presentation of "placas" (Chicano graffiti) marked the opening of Unidos, (United) to fill the growing demand for revolutionary literature in the Latino community.

Unidos carries an exciting collection of literature, in both Spanish and English. Its focus is on the history and struggles of Chicano and Latino people, from the Chicano Moratorium, the largest minority anti-war demonstration held in this country to the struggles of the farm workers today. It also has a wide selection of books, both old and new on trade unionism, workers history, the history and struggles of Black people, G.I.'s, prisoners, and women's struggles, as well as the liberation struggles of the people of Vietnam, Africa, Latin America, and the Arab countries. There are also colorful posters and literature from China and Albania, as well as the classics of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and the works of Mao Tsetung.

Unidos is located at 918 McBride Avenue (1/2 block south of Whittier), Los Angeles, California (213-262-2010).

## UNIDOS bookstore

Unidos carries literature dealing with the Chicano movement and people, other left movements and with international events. Unidos also carries Marxist-Leninist works, periodicals and posters.

SPECIAL ORDERS: Discounts given to organizations

Spanish and English

918 McBride,

1/2 block south of Whittier

East Los Angeles

(213) 262-2010

dwindled to a mere handful.

But May Day is not dead. Internationally, the masses of workers still turn out in the millions on this day. In the U.S. today, a new communist movement is on the rise and the working class is experiencing a new awakening. Under this revolutionary leadership, May Day is once again being celebrated with activities throughout the country.

Marching in step with millions of working people in the socialist countries and the oppressed peoples of the Third World, the working classes in the capitalist countries are once again making their voices heard. "May Day is our Day! Dump Nixon! End the Attacks on Working People! Self-Determination and Full Rights for all those Suffering National Oppression!"

# CLUW REPORT ...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

The focus of struggle during the conference quickly emerged over the issue of support for the United Farm Workers. Many women had come to the conference convinced that CLUW would join in the widespread support for the UFWA against the fascist attempt by the government and the Teamster leadership to smash the farm workers' organizing efforts. Much to their surprise, however, CLUW's Statement of Principles, introduced by the conference leaders, included a point stating that CLUW should not get involved in "issues or activities which a union involved identifies as related to a jurisdictional dispute." While not explicitly naming the UFWA and the Teamsters, this point was clearly aimed against CLUW making any measure of support for the farm workers.

The majority of women at the conference, led by the left-wing, actively opposed the inclusion of this point. While the struggle was waged over the particular issue of the UFWA, broader questions arose in the context of the debate. By not taking a stand on the farm workers, CLUW would isolate itself from the most democratic and hardest-fighting section of the labor movement. By not taking a stand on the farm workers, CLUW would be allying itself with Nixon, Fitzsimmons and the reactionary forces trying to smash the UFWA. By not taking a stand on the farm workers, CLUW would be opposing itself to the millions of Black, Chicano and other minority workers, traditionally unorganized by the labor bureaucrats, and kept in the lowest-paid, worst jobs. How could CLUW, an organization of working women fighting for equal rights, expect to wage its fight successfully if it cut itself off from the minority workers?

Most of the conference leaders, themselves highly paid labor aristocrats, took the historical position of the reactionary labor bureaucrats on this issue—to attack the minority workers and divide the ranks of the labor movement. When they couldn't convince anyone that the case of the farm workers was a "jurisdictional dispute," they argued that it "wasn't germane" to the issues facing working women. In the face of widespread opposition, the conference leaders were forced to back down. They deleted the controversial point and allowed the Farm Workers to address the convention. But, using the excuse of "there isn't time" they successfully blocked a support resolution of the UFWA from coming to the floor of the convention.

A similar struggle took place on the convention floor over the question of the fight for democracy in the unions. Throughout many trade unions across the country, rank-and-file workers are organizing into caucuses aimed at restoring a class-struggle program and democratic structure in their unions. These fights are directly related to the fight for equality being waged by minority and women workers, who are often kept out of the functioning of their unions and whose demands are ignored by the union leadership. Most conference leaders and their supporters said, "How can we fight for democracy in the unions when we are the unions? If women don't participate in their unions, it is their own fault."

## ANSWER OF RANK AND FILE

The answer of the rank and file, the left, and many of the staff people was to say, "Yes, we are the unions, we pay the dues, but we have been kept from having a say in our unions by a lack of democracy and bureaucratic leadership."

A significant victory for the rank-and-file forces was scored when the clause on the fight for union democracy was voted into CLUW's principles.

Many other struggles of the same character took place during the weekend convention. Throughout the conference, the left forces were able to unite with rank and file, and on some issues with the lower level staff women, in support of many resolutions aimed at building CLUW into a mass, fighting organization.

Taking the same stand as the conference leaders, were members of the Communist Party, USA, who only "distinguished" themselves by attempting to attach their "Women's Bill of Rights" to the resolution calling for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). This "Bill of Rights" is nothing more than a long-winded rider, that if attached to the ERA, would make its passage impossible. In reality the CPUSA is opportunistically trying to defeat the ERA which, if passed, would be a major step forward in the fight for equal opportunity for women.

More "outstanding" was the role of the Trotskyites, in particular, the Spartacist League. They were openly disruptive, monopolized the microphones, and attacked everyone there with their "left" phrasemongering. They provided the perfect excuse for the conference leaders to cut off debate, and did everything they could to discredit the left at the conference.

Both the CPUSA, with their capitulationism, and the Trotskyites, with their phrasemongering, have the same effect in CLUW as they have in the labor movement as a whole—they do nothing to develop the progressive forces, and whenever they can, they impede the struggle against the bureaucratic and reactionary policies. Both these trends will have to be isolated in building CLUW.

Contrary to the views held by other revolutionary organizations who stood on the sidelines criticizing the conference, CLUW has tremendous potential to act as a force that can strengthen the left wing of the labor movement.

The struggle against the sell-out policies of the labor bureaucrats, policies expressed by people who make up the majority of CLUW's leadership right now, must be waged from the inside to insure that CLUW will line up with the new upsurge in labor movement. A struggle must be waged to see that CLUW represents the interests of the millions of working women and we must make sure that the thousands of people taking part are not simply left in the hands of the bureaucrats. It must be done in the course of building CLUW.

The key to building CLUW as a fighting organization will be hard day-to-day work in the factories and cities, waging constant struggle to consolidate the left forces in CLUW and basing the organization among rank and file women workers.

Although the conference leadership has opposed the idea of building CLUW at the plant floor level, we must try to make CLUW based among the rank and file. From this position, it will be possible to also unite with many of the local officials and staff women, who genuinely want CLUW to take up the struggle of the women workers. CLUW must be built as an integral part of the whole caucus movement springing up around the country.

CLUW must take a fighting stand on issues facing the entire working class such as support for the UFWA and dumping Nixon. This will insure that the struggle for women's rights in the plants will be closely linked with the struggle of minority and unorganized workers and that CLUW will be linked up with the forces opposing the government's fascist onslaught against the labor movement.

# TEAMSTERS ...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

the public generally than anything Fitzsimmons could have done because nobody likes to be threatened even by their friends."

Sigmund Arywitz, head of the Los Angeles County Labor Federation, said, "We have lived under threats from employers for centuries and we have never been afraid of those threats. We are not afraid now of the threats from Fitzsimmons."

Al Zack, AFL-CIO spokesman said, "Evidently the boycott is having some effect but we do not expect many Teamsters Union members to start crossing picket lines because Fitzsimmons wants to protect some growers in California."

However the threat from the Teamsters is a real one and must be taken seriously. The wavering support from the AFL-CIO hierarchy is not enough to defeat the grower-Teamster alliance, which has the full backing of Nixon and the government. The AFL-CIO failure to support the secondary boycott is a major blow to UFWA and pulls the rug out from under UFWA efforts to win mass community support.

UFWA now has its back to the wall and must rely on the rank-and-file and community support which needs to be organized, more than ever before. Farmworkers have already begun picketing in Coachella Valley, the scene of last year's intensive strike activity, where thousands manned UFWA picket lines in the face of Teamster-hired thugs and goon squads.

The spirit of "Si Se Puede" ("Yes, It Can Be Done") still drives these farm workers in their fight for union rights and justice. It is in this spirit that the fight must be carried forward in the community and on the shop floor to defend workers' rights against the Teamsters' fascist threat.

# PRAIRIE FIRE Book Center

books about revolution & progressive movements around the world.

po. 54538  
Atlanta, Georgia

30308

WRITE FOR CATALOG



# AFRICA MONTH ...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

color to change the fundamental nature of this society, because we have a responsibility to the world to fight exploitation and oppression in this very stronghold."

Key to the work of building the Black anti-racist, anti-imperialist united front, is the role of the Black worker. The organization states: "We must give the highest priority to mobilizing Black workers. . . It is this section of the Black community that has the most to gain by the victory of our struggles and yet they have been ignored by the movement. . . they have demonstrated the power to do many things, such as stopping illegal chrome shipments from Rhodesia, expose repressive use of Polaroid identification systems and stop production of cars, not only in solidarity with the liberation movements, but also as part of the fight against their own oppression. Therefore, we encourage Black workers to take the lead."

## Things like the Guardian don't 'just happen.' There are causes.

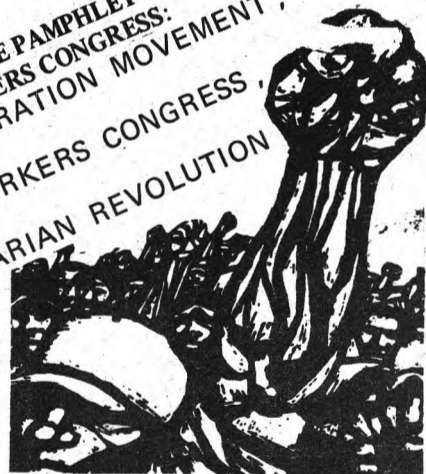
Why is the Guardian America's largest-circulation independent radical newsweekly? Why has it not only survived but grown for 25 years? It has no advertising revenue to speak of, no rich bankers, no organizational support — yet it expands. Why? Because it meets people's needs.

What are those needs? Simply the need to know what's really happening in Indochina or the Mideast or China or Chile or Washington or San Francisco from the perspective of partisans of revolutionary struggle. The need to understand developments within the international and U.S. left.

We could go on—but our best advertisement is the Guardian itself. Our regular one-year subscription price is \$12. \$12.50; two years is \$20.00; student, G.I., retired or unemployed worker is \$7.50; prisoner is \$1. Not completely convinced? Try our 8-week trial sub for \$1. Guardian, 33 W. 17th St., NYC, N.Y. 10011.



A NEW COMPREHENSIVE PAMPHLET from the BLACK WORKERS CONGRESS: THE BLACK LIBERATION MOVEMENT AND PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION



This statement by the Black Workers Congress is a 100-page pamphlet available to the revolutionary movement and the masses of American people by writing: Black Workers Freedom Convention P.O. Box 38096; Detroit, Michigan 48238 (Make all checks payable to: BWFC.) Price: \$1.00

# SELL THE CALL

—in your community and to your friends at work.

We'll send you papers for 15 cents per copy. For more information contact The Call.

\_\_\_ Yes, I am interested, send me a bundle each month.

\_\_\_ Please send me more information.

Name . . . . .

Address . . . . .

City . . . . . State . . . . . Zip . . . . .

Mail to: The Call, Box 2278, Bell Gardens, Cal. 90201.