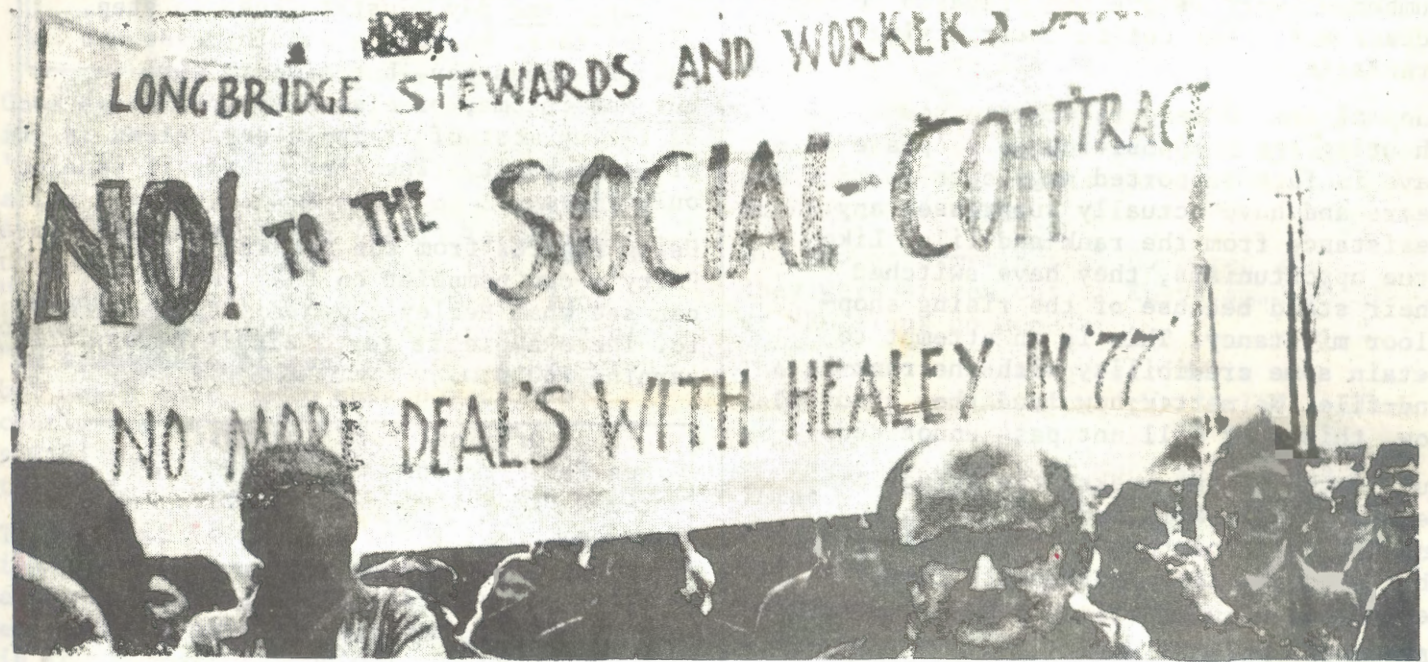


CLASS STRUGGLE

No. 10 March 1977 MONTHLY

FIVE PENCE

STRUGGLE TO END THE SOCIAL CONTRACT GROWS



After 2 years of vicious wage cuts, many sections of workers throughout the country are militantly proclaiming their opposition to a 'phase 3' of the social contract.

They include:

- Vauxhall Combine Committee Stewards;
- Dockers at Hull and Southampton, at large mass meetings;
- The National Busmen, T&GWU;
- Nottinghamshire Miners' Delegates representing 34,000 men;
- British Leyland Shop Stewards, who plan a national campaign of opposition to the social contract and a one day strike, while 10,000 Leyland workers marched against the social contract;

- Shop stewards representing 16,000 workers at the British Aircraft Corporation;
- Fords Convenors, representing 50,000 workers, demand parity with Ford of Europe and a 35 hour week; (cont'd on p2)

CONTENTS INCLUDE:

WORKERS OPPOSE TU PAYMENTS TO LABOUR
 IT IS PEOPLE, NOT WEAPONS, THAT ARE DECISIVE
 BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY - Central Task in Britain
 NO INFLATION IN SOCIALIST CHINA

**JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE
 COMMUNIST FEDERATION OF BRITAIN (MARXIST-LENINIST)**

Struggle to end the social contract grows

(cont'd from p.1)

- ASLEF, train drivers, demanding £20 p.w. rise, to make up wage cuts over last two years;
- Arthur Scargill of the Yorkshire miners urged the TU movement to "kick out the social contract";
- 44 resolutions to end social contract will be made at the NUPE national conference in May;
- Engineers at the London Transport Underground depot said they were not prepared to wait until the end of the pay policy in July.

These facts show that an increasing number of workers are not prepared to accept a further cut in their living standards.

Many of the TU leaders who are now shouting their opposition to a 'phase 3' have in fact supported wage cuts for 2 years and have actually suppressed any resistance from the rank-and-file. Like true opportunists, they have switched their stand because of the rising shop-floor militancy. This is an attempt to retain some credibility with the rank-and-file. No matter how loud they shout now, this fact will not pass unnoticed.

But in the coming weeks, the struggle between the workers and the Government and TUC collaborators will intensify. In this struggle the opportunists cannot be trusted.

TAX 'DEAL' FRAUD

Healey indicated, some time ago, that the 'deal' this time would include another so-called tax cut. It's the old game of the carrot and the big stick:- "If you accept a low wage rise, I'll reduce your tax; if not, I'll hammer with tax what increase you do get." But as our example shows, even the so-called tax cut is just a big con-trick. Healey, along with Murray and Jones, claim that the social contract will benefit the working class. But their real aim is to fool workers into accepting a wage cut, while profits soar. Healey's fraud is designed to save capitalism, and is directly opposed to the interests of the working class. All wage cut policies - statutory or voluntary - serve the interests of capitalism.

The present opposition to these policies

is excellent and must be strengthened. Only direct action by the rank-and-file can sweep aside the opportunist TU leaders and destroy Healey's anti-working class schemes.

WAGE/TAX DEAL

Last year, Healey offered a 'deal' of a wage increase plus tax relief. This sounds pretty good:- we get a pay rise, and he takes a cut in tax revenue.

But what are the facts? If inflation is running at 15% we need a 15% increase in take-home pay, just to keep in step. To get this, we need a 15% increase not only in gross pay, but also in our untaxed income, or else Healey will be taking most of it in taxes, instead of us in wages. (The chart shows it is only 7½%).

Using figures from the Labour Party's own pamphlet on the 'deal', we can see what Healey's generosity amounts to. The example is for a single person earning £60 p.w. *Not typical*

	Original rate	Increase	%
Gross Pay	£60	£3.00	5%
Untaxed Pay	£15	£1.15	7½%
Take-home Pay	£40	£2.18	5½%

So with inflation at 15% at least, and take home pay rising by only 5½%, the result is a savage cut in living standards.

And what about the apparent cuts in taxes? Considering the facts, for the same worker:- the rise in untaxed income of £1.15 means a saving of 40 pence in tax (at the rate of 35 pence in the £). But he does pay tax (at this rate) on the £3.00 rise in his gross income, and this equals £1.05. So the net result is an increase in tax of 65p!

It's Healey and his bosses' state that wins both ways, cutting our real wages, and increasing taxes! Last year the government took 15% more in tax than the year before despite the 'tax cut'. Healey's 'generosity' amounts to giving the illusion of tax cuts, in return for wage cuts! It's like a thief who has stolen your watch, giving back the strap in exchange for your wallet!

WORKERS OPPOSE TU PAYMENTS TO LABOUR

Recently, a meeting was held between the financial chiefs of the Labour Party and the Trade Unions to discuss the growing financial crisis within the Labour Party. In the past, because the Unions are the main source of revenue for the Labour Party, such a meeting would be a formality in as much as the Unions have always readily come to the rescue of the Labour Party's financial problems. On this occasion, whilst some of the Union chiefs, like Fisher of NUPE and Buckton of ASLEF were happy to pay over their members' money to the Party that is trying to save capitalism through its assault on the working class, others were reluctant to agree to increase their contributions because of fears of a backlash from the rank and file. Why has this situation come about? It is because in ever growing numbers workers are contracting out of paying the political levy to the Trade Unions which in turn, in the main, goes to support the Labour Party.

British imperialism is in the throes of an ever deepening crisis. At home this is reflected in greater exploitation of the working class, unemployment, inflation, social service cuts and an ever declining standard of living. The Trade Union leadership is locked in a tri-partite alliance with the Labour Government and the employers in an attempt to prop up capitalism. In the absence of a workers' party or a co-ordinated leadership, workers are reacting to their oppression by spontaneous actions. Many workers are contracting out of the political levy as a protest against the Labour government, and their Labour Party Trade Union leaders.

HUMBERSIDE WORKERS CONTRACT OUT OF POLITICAL LEVY

The political levy is a percentage of the Union contribution that is paid to a separate fund within the various Union structures and in the main administrated separately in support of unions' political activities which is almost wholly the propping up of the Labour Party. On Humberside lorry drivers who are members of the TGWU have been the first to give a positive lead in contracting out. Dissatisfied with the T&G's failure to tackle the Labour government over such issues as the Tachograph (spy in the cab) which records the driver's movements and which is opposed by drivers, whole groups of drivers, in some cases the whole of a particular firm have gone

down en bloc to the TGWU offices and contracted out of the political levy. This has led other sections of workers such as chemical workers, along the Humber bank to begin to contract out. As well as contracting out the political levy, Union branches are refusing to affiliate to the local Labour Parties.

THE STRUGGLE ROUND THE POLITICAL LEVY

In the long term we must fight for the abolition of the political levy as a separate item within the Union structures. We must aim to bring back such questions as political support and the political payments to the control of the rank-and-file membership within the Unions and not administered by some obscure unrepresentative committee. In those Unions where there is a degree of control by the rank-and-file then we must fight for the levy to be used in the interest of the working class. In the meantime we must give support and leadership to those advanced workers who are contracting out of the political levy in groups because of their opposition to the Labour Party.

SOVIET SANCTIONS-BUSTING EXPOSED

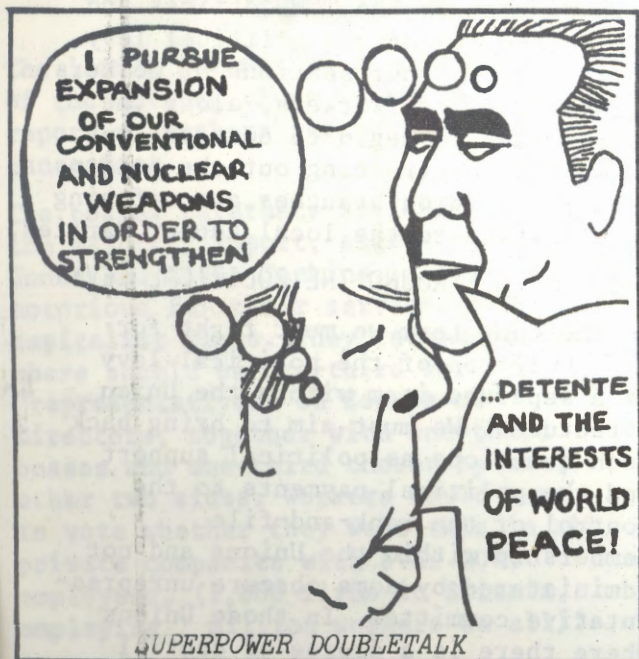
The United Nations Security Council's Committee to Police Economic Sanctions against Rhodesia issued a report last month accusing the Soviet Union and three other revisionist East European countries of conducting "major sanctions-breaking operations" on a "regular basis".

The Soviet Union claims to be the 'natural ally' of the national liberation movements. It has frequently criticised the US superpower for importing chrome from Zimbabwe, but now it has been caught with egg on its face.

The Soviet state-owned 'All Union Corporation for Trade in Miscellaneous Goods', trading through Geneva-based companies like 'Centrex' and 'Intrabex' has been exchanging Rhodesian tobacco for metals, chemicals and agricultural goods.

Such is the hypocrisy of the social imperialists who are helping prop up the fascist settler regime of Ian Smith at the expense of the people of Zimbabwe.

IT IS PEOPLE, NOT WEAPONS, THAT ARE DECISIVE



Once again the two superpowers are playing at their hypocritical game of 'detente', talking of peace while preparing for war. A new round of Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) is coming up soon. US President Carter talks of "banning nuclear weapons from the face of the earth", and the Kremlin speaks of "an atmosphere of confidence". Fine words - but empty ones. Both superpowers are continuing to build up their arms supplies in their attempts to control the whole world.

The USSR in particular has been feverishly building up its nuclear arms in order to back up its policies of aggression. The USSR even claims that this is in the interests of peace. The Russian paper 'Soviet Russia' said that "the appearance and development of weapons of mass destruction have become an important new factor favourable to detente". In other words, the more nuclear weapons and guided missiles the Soviet Union has, the more "relaxed" the world situation will be!

Both superpowers are staggering, as the Third World militantly struggles for political and economic independence. The Americans and Russians have both said that the main aim of the SALT meeting will be to limit or stop the sale of modern weapons to the Third World. (Only the superpowers can be trusted with these arms!)

Soviet Social Imperialism is the more dangerous superpower, partly because it covers up its actions with words of socialism. But with the rapid increase in Soviet aggression throughout the world, Brezhnev and his fellow social-

fascists are finding themselves increasingly isolated, despite their sugary words of peace and detente. Their socialist words hardly amount to a fig leaf for their fascist deeds.

Within the armed forces, the Soviet rulers are facing increased opposition, despite the rigid controls they place over their soldiers. An army whose main task is to carry out aggression, and suppress the people, can never maintain high morale.

GROWING OPPOSITION IN SOVIET ARMED FORCES

Do Soviet soldiers believe they are "discharging an internationalist obligation" when they face the denunciations of the Czechoslovak people, suffering under Soviet occupation?

Do the looks of hatred encountered by Soviet soldiers in Poland, Hungary and wherever they go in Eastern Europe have no effect on them?

Did Soviet armymen feel honoured after they were driven out of Egypt amid shouts of "Russians go home"?

The answer to these questions is definitely no. Although the Soviet leaders try to gloss over the acts of protest, it is well known that many soldiers are inmates of prisons and mental hospitals, and the Soviet fascists cannot cover up all acts of resistance.

In November 1972 a mutiny broke out on a Soviet submarine in a Norwegian fjord.

In November 1975, the crew of the Soviet missile carrying destroyer 'Storozhevoi' mutinied, and the boat had to be bombed before the mutiny was put down.

On September 6th 1976, Soviet pilot V.I. Belenko defected with a MiG 25 fighter plane. He refused to be repatriated, saying among other things that "the Soviet Union today resembles Tsarist Russia".

Seventeen days later, Lieutenant V.I. Zashimov flew an AN-2 plane from the Soviet Union, saying that he "could not put up with the Soviet system any longer".

With the development of the revolutionary struggle of all peoples living under Soviet fascism, the discontent and resistance of the Soviet soldiers is intensifying. No matter what they say about peace and detente, the Soviet leaders make more and more weapons. But weapons must be used by man. The more they attack the people, the more their own armies will turn against them.

BULLOCK PLAN THREATENS WORKERS

The latest attempt to stifle the struggle of the working class is the Bullock report on workers' participation in management.

The bosses' interests are enshrined in the majority Report, signed by Jack Jones and Clive Jenkins, union leaders notorious for their service to the capitalist class. They recommend that there should be one-third workers' "representatives" on Boards of Directors, together with one-third bosses and one-third chosen by the other two sides. Workers would have to vote whether they want this in all private companies with over 2000 employees, (1,800 firms in Britain, employing 7 million workers in all).

The bosses' agents make out that this plan heralds a new dawn of 'industrial democracy'. In fact, it is a plan to prop up the parasitic system of capitalist exploitation and persuade workers to sacrifice still more for the sake of the profits of private and State capitalists. Bullock himself put it clearly: "nothing will do as much to guarantee the continuation and increased efficiency of the mixed economy".

WORKERS PLANNING THEIR OWN REDUNDANCIES

The Report says it will involve "the whole of the workforce in sharing responsibility for the success and profitability of the enterprise". In other words, workers working all out for the interests of the bosses' class. Managing capitalism means controlling wages and conditions, productivity and manning, to get maximum profit. Workers would be involved in clamping down on wages and conditions, and even presiding over programmes for their own redundancies.

Jack Jones and other traitors in the working class are likely to offer further "pay restraint" in return for the government carrying out these proposals. Workers' massive opposition is already showing the likes of Jones what he can do with his pay restraint.

ALL THE BOSSES WANT WORKERS' CO-OPERATION

The bosses' organisation, the CBI, and the private capitalists on the Bullock

Committee disagreed with the Report, but not with its aim. The disagreement is on details. The bosses on the Committee want workers on a separate "supervisory" Board. The CBI want to begin participation on the shop floor, not in the boardroom. All the bosses want 'industrial democracy', so that workers will co-operate in their own exploitation.

The revisionist fake 'Communist Party' of Great Britain, pretends to oppose the plan, but is really hedging its bets. In the 'Morning Star', they praise what they call the "positive aspects" of the Report. They say the plan is good for workers in nationalised industries, "where it does't conflict with their class interests", and support the Labour Party demands for the Bullock plan to be tested in the nationalised industries.

The nationalised industries have proved most effective at exploiting the working class, holding down wages, and creating massive redundancies (like the 167,000 jobs lost in British Rail). The revisionists pretend that industries owned by the bosses' state serve the interests of the working class! In truth, they thoroughly represent the interests of the capitalist class, just like all the industry in the fascist Soviet Union.

INDUSTRIAL SLAVERY

The real aim of the bosses and their agents in the trade unions, and of the revisionists, is to sap the fighting strength of the working class and cripple their organisation. In the name of 'industrial democracy', they offer industrial slavery, with workers helping the slave drivers. In both capitalist and state capitalist industries, the only reply can be total opposition.

There can be no true democracy, in industry or in any part of life, while the tiny minority of the ruling class are in control of society. The working class can defend its interests by making the unions fighting weapons against the bosses. When the workers seize control of the state, and suppress the capitalists, they can bring about a democratic society run by the mass of the working people. Only then can there be any true industrial democracy. ■

Suggestions and criticisms help strengthen the paper. Contact the CFB(ML), c/o NEW ERA BOOKS, 203 Seven Sisters Road, London N.4.

'BRITISH ROAD'— A DIVERSION

The leaders of the 'Communist Party of Great Britain' have just published a new draft of their programme, 'The British Road to Socialism'. First published in 1951 the redrafted programme again distorts and revises the main lessons that are there to be drawn from workers' struggles over the last hundred and fifty years. While workers are fighting back against the oppressive capitalist Labour government, the so-called 'Communist Party' leaps to its defence.

The 'CP' is in decline in membership and in the number reading its paper 'The Morning Star'. It admits that it sells a third of its copies to Eastern Europe and less than 30,000 here in Britain. Many of its leaders leave, seeing that there is little hope for them forwarding their opportunist careers in the 'CP'. Jimmy Reid, the 'Party' golden boy, John Tocher its ex-Chairman, Max Morris ex-Political Committee member and leading reactionary teacher, Panter, Farrelly and Norton - leading AUEW revisionists...the list goes on and on.

The new draft of the 'British Road' is an attempt to restore the 'CPs' fortunes.

Lenin said that the bourgeoisie needed servants in the working class, "who would divert the people from revolution by depicting in glowing colours the charms and possibilities of the reformist path".

The 'CP' depicts the capitalist crisis as soluble, says capitalist democracy can be saved, boasts that it can rescue the Labour Party and that socialism can be achieved peacefully and gradually. These 'charms' and 'possibilities' are quite false.

CAPITALIST CRISIS

'The British Road' pays lip service to the fact that there is a crisis and uses the terms of Communism to describe it, in a pale and abstract way. But it then outlines its plan to 'tackle' "the essential causes of the crisis".

All that needs to be done it claims, is to nationalise top firms, direct investment, and bar the export of capital and spend more on social services. That would mean that 'unions would take this into account in forming their wage

demands' and thus 'the essential causes of the crisis', are 'tackled'. But nationalisation, the directing of investment, limiting export of capital and social service spending are all being done by different capitalist governments. The 'CP' is another capitalist party just wanting more of the same medicine.

LEFT GOVERNMENT

All this, they say, would be done by a Left government. In addition it would have to 'extend democracy'. To the 'CP', present capitalist democracy is excellent but we just need more of it. So MP's need 'greater control' over the government, there should be proportional representation, no House of Lords and a 'more democratic' Civil Service. The fact that the vast bureaucracy of the modern capitalist state could not possibly serve the working class, is glossed over.

The Left government would 'open the way to Socialism' according to the 'CP'. While carrying through these economic and 'democratic' policies under capitalism living standards would improve and production would expand. So according to our revisionists capitalism can be made to work for the people if only we have a Left government, a Labour government. By trying to disguise the nature of the capitalist crisis of over-production, they hope to slide smoothly into state capitalism managed by them, themselves.

LABOUR PARTY

This Left policy would be carried out by 'a new type of Labour government'. Central to the revisionist programme is a campaign to restore working class faith in the discredited Labour Party and Labour government. It claims the Labour Party is "the mass Party of the working class" and grossly exaggerates its membership by repeating Transport House's claims. It hides the fact that the Labour Party is the main Party to have fought for the acceptance of capitalism and its policies within the working class. This is because as they say "the 'Communist' Party does not seek to replace the Labour Party as a federal Party of the working class". It just wants to join it and become its leading force within the Labour Party.

SOCIALISM

The revisionists deny that the present ruling class would defend their property

(Cont'd on p?)

'British Road'— a diversion

(Cont'd from p6)

by using violence against the working class. It says that by changing just the 'top personnel' of the State and the Army and 'mobilising' the people this would be prevented. The very State and Army which have been built up over hundreds of years to defend the ruling class, are mortal enemies to workers and the revolutionary transformation of society. To revise this experience is to attempt to leave workers defenceless in the real fight for socialism.

REVISIONISM THE MAIN DANGER

The revisionist 'CP' paint in glowing colours the reformist path. They hope to become popular by saying how easy it will be to change society in a 'democratic' way. They want to be welcomed into the Labour Party and become its leadership. That is the only way they can see of getting into power. They try to win workers back to support for Labour and cover up for Labour's capitalist policies by blaming it on a few right-wingers. On the surface their's is an attractive offer.

With a Labour government cutting living standards as never before workers are not going to give the Labour Party any active support. The revisionists are most dangerous because with some Communist words they try and 'direct people from revolution' to the illusion of reforming the present rotting capitalist system. Support for them would lead to an ever more oppressive fascist-type system like that of the Soviet Union.

But their confusions and distortions are crude and transparent. In the working class struggle against ruling class attacks their decline will continue ■

Revolution

THEORETICAL JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL
COMMITTEE OF THE CFB(M-L)

Building the revolutionary Communist Party to lead the revolution is the central task for all genuine Marxist-Leninists in Britain today. 'Revolution', the theoretical journal of the CFB(M-L), has been founded to be a sharp weapon in the struggle to build that Party.

Issue Number Three contains:

UNITY IS THE AIM OF STRUGGLE

The Marxist-Leninist movement in Britain is still small and disunited. The key link in uniting the ML movement for Party building is active ideological struggle. This statement criticises the main errors of the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) as part of the struggle for unity.

The struggle for unity is a high priority for Marxist-Leninists at the present time. The Communist Federation of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) has drawn some important lines of demarcation with the proposal of the Communist Workers League of Britain (Marxist-Leninist) for a Commission on Party building. These are explained in the article 'Ideological Struggle is the Key Link in Party Building'.

INTEGRATE THE UNIVERSAL TRUTHS OF MARXISM-LENINISM WITH THE CONCRETE PRACTICE OF THE BRITISH REVOLUTION

In the contradiction between theory and practice, theory is primary at the present stage. This means that the universal truths of Marxism-Leninism must be grasped in the struggle for correct policies which show the way forward to the socialist revolution in Britain. These universal truths reflect reality of the class struggle, and sum up the last hundred years of working class struggle throughout the world. In the struggle for a revolutionary Communist Party, and for state power, they must be integrated with the concrete practice of the British revolution.

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BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY

—Central Task In Britain

Like workers and oppressed peoples and nations throughout the world, the British working class is locked in continuous struggles against the bosses. This is nothing new; it has happened ever since the beginnings of class society. Class struggle will continue as long as there are classes.

The worldwide crisis of imperialism is showing all the time that the capitalist system works against the interests of the people. The bosses' politicians, themselves, tell us everyday that wage cuts, unemployment, cuts in education and health, homelessness, work speed up etc. etc. are 'necessary' and 'inevitable'. For the capitalist system it is! It is also 'necessary' and 'inevitable' that the working class is fighting back - against the social contract, for the right to work, and against the cuts and against all the other ways that the system exploits and oppresses the people.

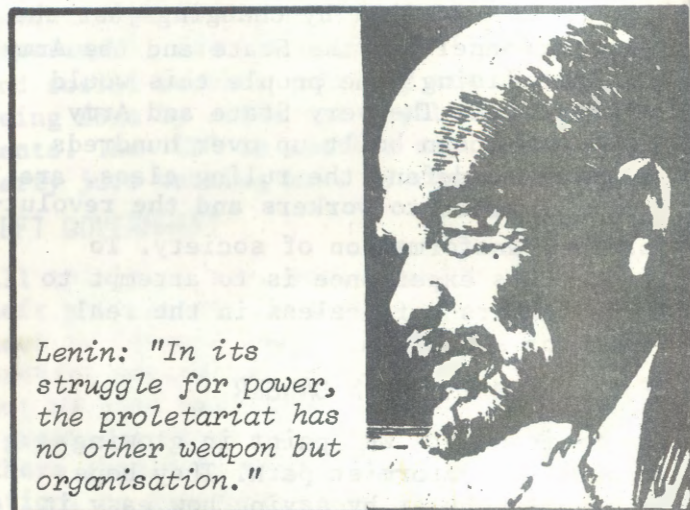
THE WORKING CLASS NEEDS ITS OWN REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY

Communists did not invent the class struggle, but without its own Party, the struggle of the working class will remain in their present state - localised, fragmented struggles aimed at defending its conditions. These inevitable struggles are absolutely necessary, but they do not strike at the basis of the bankrupt system. We need our own Party to transform the fragmented defensive struggles into a single united offensive struggle to destroy the capitalist system, and the state that manages and protects it, and to establish working class state power - the dictatorship of the proletariat.

We need the revolutionary Communist Party to lead the working class in the socialist revolution. Only through the socialist revolution and the struggle to build communism, can our class rid itself of the exploiters, of inequality, unemployment, homelessness and all the other rotten abuses of the capitalist system.

THE ENEMY WITHIN

57 varieties of opportunists claim to act for our class. These 'saviours



from on high', act to suppress the struggle or divert the working class from the only road to socialism, the revolutionary road. The Labour Party is the Party in power attacking the working class, its members in the TUC have policed the social contract - cutting wages, and sabotaging struggles for the right to work. The Bullock Report aims to divert the struggle by preaching the common 'national interest' of the exploiter and the exploited. All the opportunists from the social democrats to the revisionist 'Communist' Party of Great Britain to the Trotskyites hide the class nature of the state; they call for State ownership of industry by the capitalist state, and dress this support for state monopoly capitalism up as 'socialism'.

The defeat of capitalism calls for the defeat of these and other bourgeois ideas within the working class - for the defeat of opportunism. This struggle can only be won through the leadership of the revolutionary Communist Party - the organised vanguard detachment of the working class.

BUILDING THE PARTY - CENTRAL TASK

The working class absolutely needs its own party to lead it in a united offensive revolutionary struggle for socialism. The task of building the Party is the central task of all our work.

*BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY
TO LEAD THE REVOLUTION!*

FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK

Stewards at Liverpool's Lucas Aerospace plant in Broadgreen have started to organise a militant fight back against proposed redundancies. On Wednesday February 16th stewards were called in by the boss and warned that 500 jobs were to be axed in August, and another 250 in Birmingham and 280 in Burnley were planned for the same time. The stewards have also heard that the bosses plan to phases out 1 in 5 of the jobs at the Netherton plant.

The bosses also informed the stewards that they were sending letters with their plans to the local and national officers of all the unions involved. The stewards stated flatly that they would decide if and when to call in full-time officers. Later the stewards committee unanimously passed a resolution that National Trade Union Officers would not meet the management without the site shop stewards being present; there will be no negotiations over the their heads.

That afternoon a mass meeting supported the stewards' call for total opposition to the redundancies. In the evening the stewards' committee agreed that they would not negotiate the question of redundancies on any basis - no negotiation on redundancy payments, because they would not accept any form of redundancies; no 'voluntary' redundancies; no 'natural wastage'. An overtime ban was called.

One of the Lucas workers explained his opposition to 'voluntary' redundancies and 'natural wastage': "That would just be accepting loss of jobs. Unemployment is already over 1½ million; we're fighting to keep all jobs". Their stand on the right to work, and against these weapons of the bosses, should be firmly supported.

FOR NATIONAL UNITED ACTION

The Broadgreen Stewards Committee also called on the Combine Stewards Committee, which has delegates from all Lucas Aerospace factories, to call a national strike as soon as any worker is handed a redundancy notice.

At the emergency Combine Committee meeting on February 22nd, whilst supporting the opposition to the redundancies, the majority of the Combine Committee ammended the resolution for a national strike to say that as soon as any redundancy notice is served, "...the site involved would pursue a policy of withdrawal of labour, and seek support of other sites throughout the combine".

Why the change? Lucas have stated their intentions. The Combine Committee KNOW when and where the redundancies are planned. They should be giving leadership now, and planning solidarity action in advance, as the Liverpool stewards are proposing. In the end this issue affects all Lucas Aerospace workers. Since 1974 the company has cut the work-force by 7,906. Now they are planning more than a thousand more! It is time the Combine Committee led a national action to stop the redundancies. Solidarity in general, and particularly solidarity within a company, is the basis of shop floor strength. The combined action of the 4 directly affected sites will be strong, but obviously action by the whole combine will be even stronger!

ONLY SOCIALISM THE FINAL ANSWER

The bosses see workers as a "dispensable commodity", as one steward pointed out, that they can use and dispose of according to the needs of their profit margins. There has always been unemployment under capitalism, it is part of the system. Only under socialism can there be no unemployment, as in Albania and China where the right to work is guaranteed. But we must also fight for the right to work now, by taking direct action against the boss class. Workers who have suffered from the TUC-supported wage cuts of the past two years, and from massive unemployment, have had enough of collaboration and capitulation to the bosses. Lucas Aerospace has got a fight on its hand!

*NO REDUNDANCIES IN ANY FORM!
FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT TO WORK!*

✱ Actions by Health Service workers shows their determination to fight for the right to work.

- At St. Bartholomew's Hospital in East London, 3 night porters were suspended after refusing to sort out medical records. The joint shop stewards committee had told the management that 2 clerical workers should be employed to deal with records. 500 ancillary workers went out on strike in support of the porters, and succeeded in getting the suspensions lifted.

- 75 catering workers walked out in protest over 9 threatened redundancies at Cardiff Royal Infirmary.

- Porters at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital in Welwyn Garden City are refusing to take on any extra duties after the management had announced they would not be replacing a porter who had retired.

SOCIALIST CHINA HAS NO INFLATION

All over the world the capitalist economy is in turmoil. In the countries where the capitalists and revisionists are in power, industrial production is stagnant or falling, unemployment has reached 100 million, currencies are devalued, inflation shoots ever upwards. Every British worker knows the results of this crisis. Wages are held down, while rents, transport costs and food prices soar. The capitalists - whether 'Labour', 'Conservative' - are trying to solve the crisis by further oppression and exploitation of the working people.

WORKING CLASS POWER - NO INFLATION

Contrast this with the situation of the workers in Socialist China. Compared to Britain, China is still a poor country. Yet, because the working class is in power there, there is no unemployment and no inflation.

The Chang family are a typical workers' family. The husband and wife work in the Peking No. 2 State Textile Mill. They have two children. Their total monthly income is 154 yuan (about £45). Out of this money each month they spend only 0.84 yuan (25 pence!) on rent, 3.90 yuan (£1.15) on water, gas, electricity and transport, and 67 yuan (£19) on food. They are able to save 40 yuan (£12) each month. Apart from spending on food and clothing which has increased because of the birth and growth of their children, the Chang family's expenses have not increased since 1965!

STABLE PRICES

In China most food prices have remained the same for years. For instance in Peking a kilo of pork cost 2 yuan in 1965, and 1.80 in 1974. The cost of housing is always decreasing as more and more houses are built. The Changs have a low rent, even for China, but the average rent for a family apartment in Peking is 5 yuan per month, or 4½%



of average monthly income. The equivalent in Britain would be a rent of £2.50 per month.



In addition medical services are free for all workers, schooling costs only 2.50 yuan (75p) for 6 months and day nurseries cost between 3½ and 10 yuan per month. It costs almost nothing for workers to go out and enjoy themselves (about 3p for a cinema seat). All of these prices have remained the same for years. On top of all this, there is no income tax in people's China.

CHINA'S SECRET

Things were not always so. Before Liberation in 1949 the Chinese people suffered from some of the worst inflation the world has ever known. The reactionary Kuomintang government printed vast amounts of money to finance its wars against the people. The result was galloping inflation. So much so that the money needed to buy 2 cows in 1937 would only buy a grain of rice or a sheet of toilet paper in 1949. When the Communist Party of China led by Mao Tsetung took power, one of its first priorities was to stop this inflation which oppressed the working people. The power of the money speculators was destroyed. Production was taken into the hands of the people, and it is used to serve the interests of the people - not of the profiteers. Prices were regularised and the circulation of money controlled. All of these measures are summed up in the answer of a Chinese worker to the question 'Why does China have no inflation?' - "Well it's because we're a socialist country". The real 'secret' of China's success is the socialist system, economic planning and reliance on the masses.

The example of China shows us the truth which the capitalists - the social democrats and revisionists - are trying with all their strength to conceal; that capitalism causes inflation, and that the only way for the working class to escape from the crisis is revolution.