

NOVEMBER, 1963

Since President Kennedy's nomination for the Presidency, the editorial board of HAMMER & STEEL has fought his policies. We have emphasized the duty of Marxist-Leninists in the U.S. to expose the reactionary policies of those who use liberal words and poses to hide their role as instruments of U.S. imperialism. We did everything possible to challenge the revisionist glorification of President Kennedy as capitulation to reaction. We have achieved significant results by our efforts. The assassin's bullets in Dallas have made our work more difficult because the people had not fully learned the truth about the Kennedy administration.

In "Where to Begin" written in May, 1901, Lenin pointed out that terror against individuals in government "will disrupt not the government forces, but the revolutionary forces." Lenin also pointed out that all revolutions have been attacked by the violence of those in power and that it was necessary to meet violent attacks from the class enemy with the violence of the majority--the working class and its allies. Anyone can see that Lenin correctly differentiated between such struggle and the folly of assassinations.

The history of Texas is replete with federal, state, county and city violence against Indians, Mexicans, Negroes, small farmers and workers. The railroad magnates, large ranchers, oil tycoons and the war plants achieved and maintained power by legal trickery and open brutal terror. The CPUSA, strongly influenced by Khrushchev's revisionism, has disavowed Lenin's thesis on the violence of the exploiting class. Recently they liquidated the Communist organization in Texas as did Browder in 1944. No Marxist-Leninist organization exists in Texas to lead the people of that State against the organized violence of the ruling class.

What has been the attitude of the ruling class in our country--the Wall St. imperialists--toward assassination? We have not space to list all who were assassinated in the rise to power by Wall St. We restrict ourselves to certain

assassinations since the election of Pres. Kennedy, which took place either at the direction or with the full approval of the U.S. ruling class.

The U.S. government was the main influence both financially and militarily in the Congo when Premier Lumumba was tortured for weeks and then assassinated.

The U.S. government has sponsored numerous murders of Cubans and it is no secret that the CIA has attempted the assassination of Premier Castro and his brother, Raoul.

The U.S. sponsored Diem regime assassinated tens of thousands. When its usefulness was in doubt, a U.S. supported clique then murdered the Diems (Madam Nhu's husband and brother-in-law).

Medgar Evers, NAACP leader in Mississippi was murdered. The federal government expressed verbal remorse and arrested nobody altho the Bill of Rights was violated in wholesale fashion. Now a mock State trial is planned.

A white Maryland postman advocating integration was assassinated in broad daylight in Alabama. The federal government could find no violation of federal laws. No one was or will be punished.

Those who slaughtered the little Negro girls in a Birmingham church go unpunished--again the federal government gave pious regrets and in practice took great care not to bother the assassins.

It is clear that Marxist-Leninists never use the weapon of assassination. It must be equally clear that U.S. capitalism in its dying, moribund stage practices large scale assassination both at home and abroad.

In the week prior to Nov. 22, U.S. imperialism had received severe setbacks in Cambodia, Viet Nam, Venezuela and Argentina. The decision to curtail U.S. oil interests in Argentina by the Argentine government shook the confidence of the oil interests in Texas and else where in Kennedy's leadership.

The purging of the Diems had not set well with the Texas billionaires. When Vice-President Johnson was in S. E. Asia he heaped extravagant praise on the Diems.

The Texas oil-military-landholding interests financed most activities of Sen. McCarthy. They were behind the recent assault on Adlai Stevenson in Dallas. Stevenson, the Kennedys and Rockefeller favor moving toward war and fascism with a "democratic" smokescreen while their Texas counterparts favor dispensing with such a disguise. The Easterners have the pick of foreign investments and the smokescreen serves their deceptions abroad, while the Texans are after new investments and are not so concerned about deceptions.

The award of the TFX contract to General Dynamics, a great boon to Texas profiteers, and the setback to Boeing and its Eastern financial interests lead to a Senate investigation. That Pres. Kennedy was either unwilling or unable to prevent the investigation disturbed Texas interests. The award never smelled right and could not stand any investigation.

The Senate investigation of Bobby Baker's rise to great wealth did not please the Texas interests either. Baker is a close friend and protege of Pres. Johnson. There were powerful forces in Texas who felt that exposure of Baker on top of the Billy Sol Estes mess endangered the career of a most powerful Texas politician--Vice-President Johnson. In fact, the early afternoon headline of the Boston Globe on the day of the assassination was "JFK may Dump LBJ."

It is logical that the Texas interests, not necessarily satisfied with Mr. Johnson's position on all questions, still did not wish to see him out of the national Democratic Party leadership and out of the Vice-President's office.

The above facts insist on the following conclusions:

- (1) That the general crisis of U.S. capitalism has deepened the power struggle between the nouveau rich

in Texas and the longer established eastern financial interests.

(2) That the assassination of President Kennedy cannot be separated from this power struggle.

(3) That the assassination was committed in the hope of striking a blow at any opponents to war and fascism by falsely accusing Marxists. At the same time the plotters sought to protect and strengthen the interests of the Texas billionaires both financially and politically.

(4) That the struggle is not over between the rival imperialist groups and more convulsions will soon appear for the Texas interests have by no means gained control of the government. President Kennedy's death does not mean that Johnson will necessarily do their bidding. The power of Eastern capital remains in the Wall St. saddle and that is what mainly determines Washington events.

HAMMER & STEEL wishes to point out certain facts about the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald.

(1) The CIA, the FBI and Project X are spending millions planting agents in the left wing in the U.S. and other countries.

(2) The CIA's support of Diem was recently rebuffed by Pres. Kennedy. It is certain that the CIA had the same attitude toward the purge of the Diems as did the Texas billionaires. (Full page ad in Dallas press to that effect on Nov. 22). Neither were motivated by humanist reasons, let us hasten to add.

(3) The assassination of Oswald was committed by a man obligated to the Dallas police.

(4) The Oswald murder could not have happened except by pre-arrangement with forces in the Dallas police. This prearranged murder took place while the FBI was working with the Dallas police.

(5) The chief of Dallas police stated that Oswald and the FBI had a conference two weeks before Nov. 22. A few hours later the chief tried to retract this statement.

Some obvious questions are:

Was Oswald innocent and sacrificed by the Texas bigwigs? Was he involved and knew too much about his billionaire employers? Why was the prosecuting attorney so anxious to close the case?

If they had an "open and shut case", why did they tell the world the arrangements for moving Oswald and hold him defenseless for Ruby's shot? Did Wade and the FBI seek time to doctor evidence against a dead man?

Why wasn't the building from which Kennedy was allegedly shot immediately surrounded? Why were people allowed to leave after it was surrounded?

Representatives of both rival monopolist groupings have been involved in many joint crimes in the Congo, Cuba, Viet Nam and against the Negro people. Neither group can be counted on to tell the truth about the other.

It is likely that the full details concerning Dallas will only appear with a working class government in the U.S.

In the October Political Affairs, in an article slandering China, the revisionists claim that it is possible to gain peace mainly by relying on differences among monopoly groups. The events in Dallas prove them completely wrong. While the working class and Negro people must utilize differences between imperialist groups they can defeat war and fascism only if they concentrate on struggle against the entire structure of U.S. imperialism. The main contradictions in the U.S. are between the struggle of the Negro people for liberation plus the struggles of the working class against the policies of U.S. imperialism, regardless of which group of cartels is dominant. The forces for peace and progress have strong allies in the rest of the world against the common foe--U.S. imperialism.

Not a few people are disturbed that President Johnson, in his speech to the joint session of Congress, Nov. 27, 1963, failed to discuss Texas. Does not he, as the most powerful politician in his home state, have the responsibility to explain what he did or didn't do about developments there? In stead Pres. Johnson has resorted

to the cry "beware of the extremes of left and right." This means hide the guilt of the rich and powerful--"the right"--and use fascist tactics against the left. Walter Lippman and Ralph McGill are also taking up this cry. The reactionary nature of these "moderate" spokesmen for U.S. imperialism is exposed in time of crisis. They refer to Oswald as an assassin (dead men cannot file libel suits). Such a charge against a murdered man who never confessed, was never formally charged and never had a trial is an "extremist" attack on the Bill of Rights and the democratic rights of the people.

The reactionary nature of the U.S. government is all the more glaring under President Johnson. Though reaction tries to distort the Dallas events, their lies and slander expose further the cannibalistic nature of capitalism and the need for a Socialist U.S.A.

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