

The Political Paper of the COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY of the U.S.N.A.



Lenin

PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

"The Communist's ideal should not be a trade-union secretary, but a tribune of the people, able to react to every manifestation of tyranny and oppression."

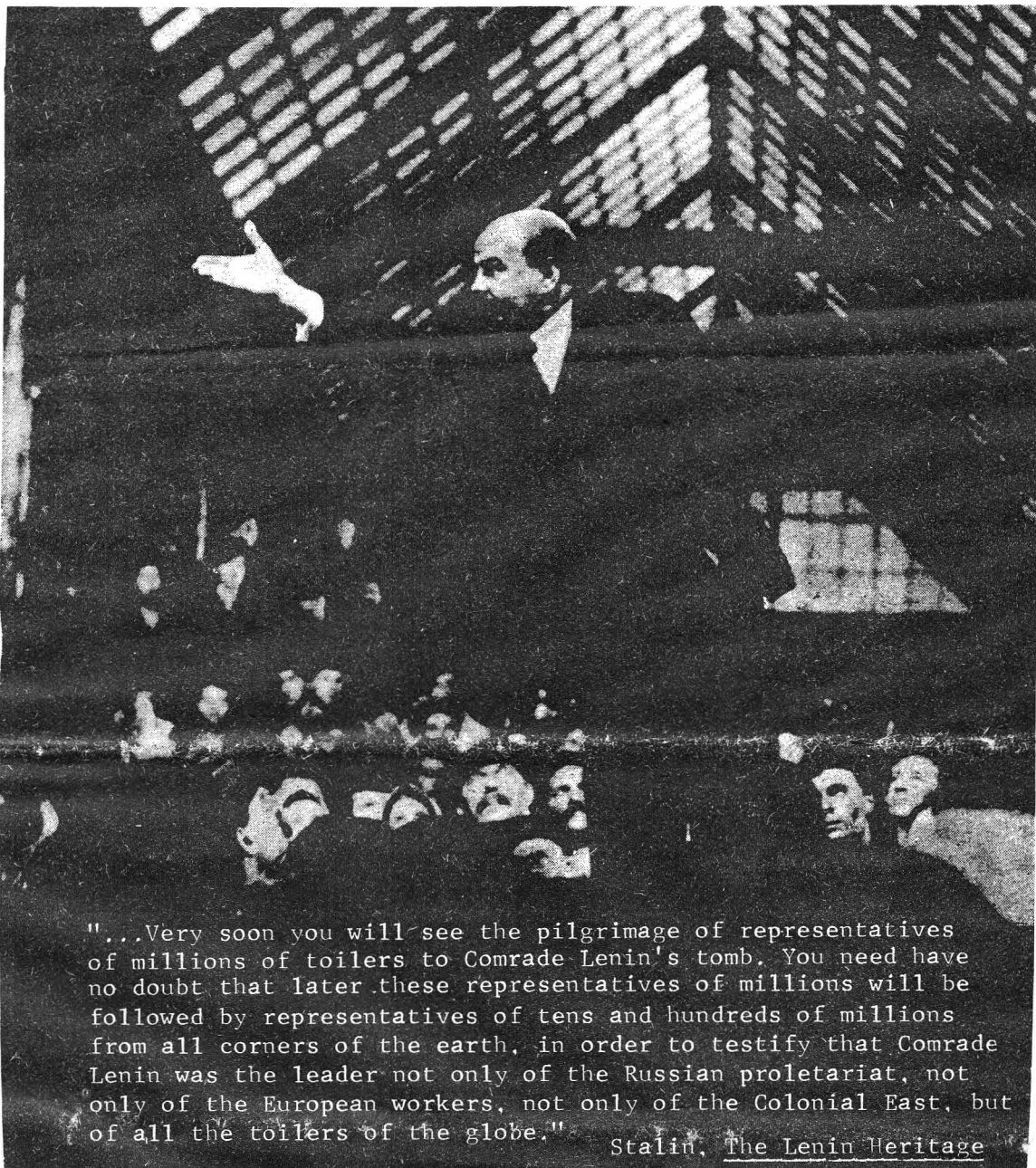
Lenin



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"...Very soon you will see the pilgrimage of representatives of millions of toilers to Comrade Lenin's tomb. You need have no doubt that later these representatives of millions will be followed by representatives of tens and hundreds of millions from all corners of the earth, in order to testify that Comrade Lenin was the leader not only of the Russian proletariat, not only of the European workers, not only of the Colonial East, but of all the toilers of the globe." Stalin, The Lenin Heritage

APRIL 26 MAY DAY

WORKERS RALLY FOR JOBS

On April 26th the Industrial Union Department of the AFL-CIO has called a demonstration in Washington, D.C., at Robert Kennedy Stadium. The I.U.D. represents among others the 945,000 member Steelworkers Union, the 779,000 member International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the 698,000 member International Association of Machinists, and the 545,000 member Federation of County, State and Municipal Workers. The demonstration is also being supported by individual locals of the U.A.W. and the Teamsters. Thus, the April 26th demonstration represents the possibility of a significant step forward for the USNA labor movement.

Why do we say possibility?

Because the forces organizing this demonstration are well known leaders of large international labor unions. It is clear that they did not call for this demonstration on their own initiative. They have been pressured into it by militant rank and file workers who are disgusted with the economic and social conditions in the USNA. The focus of this disgust is the unemployment rate which is now 8.7%, not including millions of workers who have given up looking for nonexistent jobs.

The working class is not only fed up with unemployment. Workers are rising up against a vicious segregationist educational system, deportations and imperialist war. It is this growing militant fightback of the working class which presents the possibility of a significant step forward, which has pushed the labor bureaucrats to call the demonstration. But is this growing militancy reflected in the demands of the AFL-CIO leadership?

No. Their demands are: 1) a tax cut, 2) release of impounded funds, 3) public service jobs, and 4) extended unemployment benefits. We wholeheartedly unite with these demands, but the

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INTERNATIONAL REPORT

LENINISM TODAY

This year we commemorate the 104th anniversary of the birth of Lenin. One of the legacies of Lenin's remarkable revolutionary life is his constant attention to the international situation. Lenin demanded of the Soviet Party that they proceed from an objective analysis of the international class struggle. In the development of our party, we have always made a serious effort to cut through the subjectivity and phrasemongering that the ideologist substitutes for concrete analysis. Despite some resistance from certain friends and comrades, we are determined to continue to struggle to master a Leninist style in analysing the international arena.

Our starting point is to acknowledge that ideological formulations are no substitute for concrete investigations and analysis of concrete situations.

DETENTE

If we are going to make some sense out of the contradictory aspects of the international situation, we are going to have to agree on what is the basis for the specific political projections of the USNA, the USSR and China. That basis is detente. While detente means to relax tensions, it is clearly based on an aggravation of tensions between the USSR and China. Secretary of State Kissinger, utilizing the oldest social tactic of divide and conquer, realized at once that if he could stabilize the struggle between China and the USSR, the two historic blocks to the continued expansion of USNA imperialism would be at least partially removed. Clearly, part of this maneuver would require that the struggle be removed from the high ideological and theoretical level achieved during the early stages of the cultural revolution. The State Department "theoreticians" certainly understand the basis of USNA strength in the international arena. Richard Rosecrance, in his article "Detente or Entente," published in the April, 1975 issue of Foreign Affairs, states,

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ANNOUNCEMENT

TRIBUNO POPULAR

A partir de abril el Partido Comunista Laboral de los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica va a publicar una Prensa de Habla Hispana. Este periódico se llamará Tribuno Popular. Este periódico expresará la línea del Comité Central del PCL. Anteriormente el Tribuno Popular se publicaba conjuntamente con el People's Tribune. Al comienzo del desarrollo del Partido esto será necesario para difundir la línea del Partido a los obreros de todas las nacionalidades.

El Tribuno Popular analizará la lucha de clases en los EUN. El Tribuno Popular hará accesible a los obreros de habla hispana en los EUN un análisis profundo de la lucha de clases.

El PCL siempre ha peleado por la creación de esta prensa, ahora la tenemos. Este hecho jugará un papel importantísimo en la unificación de la clase obrera de los EUN y de todo el hemisferio occidental.

Para más información sobre esta prensa pongase en contacto con: PT, P. O. Box 3774, Chicago, Ill., 60654.



As of April, 1975, the Communist Labor Party, USNA, will publish a Spanish language press. The name of this press will be the Tribuno Popular. This press will express the line of the Central Committee of the CLP. Formerly the Tribuno Popular was published together with the People's Tribune. In the beginning of the Party's development, this was necessary in order to get the line of the Party distributed amongst the workers of all nationalities.

The Tribuno Popular will be an analysis of the class struggle in the United States of North America, and will make accessible the issues of the class struggle, in depth, to the Spanish speaking workers in the USNA.

The CLP has always struggled to achieve the creation of this press; now we have achieved this goal. This development will play a role in the unification of the working class within the USNA and within the Western Hemisphere.

For information on this press, please contact PT, Box 3774, Chicago, Ill., 60654.

AKRON

CRISIS HITS RUBBER WORKERS

On March 1, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company announced that they will soon move another 1,271 jobs out of Akron to Virginia and Kentucky.

This is nothing new. Since 1950 the number of production workers at the major rubber shops in Akron (Goodyear, Goodrich, General, and Firestone) has declined from 37,991 to 15,480.¹ Most of these jobs have moved to the South. For example, between 1960 and 1970 employment in rubber went up 161% in Virginia² but down 30% in Akron.

Since 1950 the "Big 4" have built 70 plants in the USNA but only one small one in the Akron area.³

Why does this take place?

The bourgeois press and local corporate lackeys have an explanation for the exodus of jobs to the South. In the South the capitalists pay lower taxes, lower wages; they deal with weaker unions, plus the state provides them with more favorable laws. These are the best conditions for the capitalists to extract the maximum profits and to carry out their drive for fascism that insures their unhampered plunder.

In Akron the average per hour cost in wages and benefits is \$8.98 but only 6.96 outside Akron. Goodyear workers in Akron average \$5.80 an hour in wages but rubber workers in Tennessee average \$3.89⁴; in Arkansas \$3.71⁵; in Virginia \$4.16⁶; and in Mississippi \$3.90⁶.

In Obion County Tennessee an area where the rubber companies have moved many jobs the effective buying power per household is only \$4,950 a year or less than \$100 a week.⁷

Per capita local and state taxes on manufacturers averaged \$460 a year in the North as a whole but were much lower in the South, \$272 a year in Alabama and \$302 in Tennessee.⁸

Annual taxes paid into unemployment funds average \$54.41 per worker in the Anglo American nation but only \$17.80 in Texas and \$17.50 in Virginia.⁹

Unions are much weaker in the South. For example, in Virginia only 15.5% of non-agricultural workers are in unions compared to a national average of 27.2%.

Nationwide, there are 1/3 fewer strikes in Virginia.¹⁰ Georgia has the worst record for winning union recognition elections (37.65%) with South Carolina second. In addition almost every Southern state has a right-to-work law, (a right to scab).

The presence of the state's fascist arm is strongly felt. In California there is one National Guardsman per 756, in Pennsylvania there is one per 593, but in Mississippi there is one per 174 people and one per 187 in Alabama.

But why is all this true?

It is because most of the South--the "Black Belt" and the surrounding areas historically and economically connected to it--is an oppressed nation, the Negro Nation, a colony of USNA imperialism.

Where else but in colonies and neo-colonies such as the Negro Nation, Puerto Rico, the Philippines, or Brazil do you find essentially the same situation in regard to wages, taxes, unions, political rights, and the consequent extraction of superprofits?

What allows the imperialists to go in there and so ruthlessly plunder the colonia? There are two factors involved here. One is the bribe. For "As USNA Imperialism tightened its murderous grip on the colonies, and espe-

cially the Negro Nation, the material standard of life for the Anglo-American people began to rise." (People's Tribune, Vol. 2, #5, p. 4).

During times of economic crisis, as at present, the imperialists must increase their exploitation and oppression of the colonies, in this case of the Negro Nation, where, because of the colonial status of the Negro workers, the imperialists can reap a far greater rate of profit. Despite the loss of jobs, as a consequence, the Anglo-American working class as a whole continues to enjoy a higher standard of living as a result of this exploitation and oppression of the colonies.

On the other hand the workers resist this outright thievery and the bourgeoisie are forced to resort to fascism to prevent the workers' unity. That is why there are more National Guardsmen in the Negro Nation. The form that the fascist repressive state is manifested in the Anglo American nation is overtly by the rise of the KKK, but even more subtly and dangerously through opposition to bussing.

The decent human thing for the working class to do is to support bussing. Because if we don't support bussing the Negro people will be thrown back into segregation. They will be driven into the degrading and humiliating status of an inferior being. The bourgeoisie are attacking the Negro people because they are at the forefront of the labor struggle at this time. To oppose bussing is to deny the Negro people the right to a decent existence, and furthermore to strike at the labor movement as a whole. We must not allow the bourgeoisie to divide the class any further!

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Comrades and Friends,

The Communist Labor Party also publishes the Western Worker, which addresses itself to the special needs and demands of the class struggle in the West and the Southwest. We urge you to support the Western Worker. For further information, please write to:

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METROPOLITAN HOSPITAL DETROIT STRIKE

In Detroit, workers at Metropolitan Hospitals and Health Centers are now entering their sixth month of contract negotiations. Over the last four years the workers, the majority being Negro national minority women, have not only had to battle their traditional enemy, the Metro Management, but the labor bureaucrats of the UAW, Blue Cross, and their own International, the Office and Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU-AFL-CIO).

The Metropolitan Hospitals and Health Centers were created by the United Auto Workers (UAW) as a union hospital in 1954. In 1971, the UAW sold the health contracts for its workers to Blue Cross but retained control of the Board of Directors. In 1960, the employees organized Local 42 of OPEIU which is composed entirely of employees of the UAW. However, in recent years, particularly under the reign of Blue Cross, the workers have been subjected to speed up, layoffs and constant harassment during each shift. The last decade leading up to this strike has been marked by constant and bitter struggle between the workers at the hospital and the management.

The present contract demands have emerged out of this struggle. The average wage in the hospital is \$3.75 an hour, while the industrial worker receives over \$5.00 an hour. The hospital workers at Metro have no sick and accident benefits, no longevity pay, no overtime pay for the sixth day worked, no right to strike, no decent pension plan and no protection from speed up, layoffs and harassment. They are not only fighting for these things which every working man and woman deserves, but are also raising some important political demands. They are demanding freedom of speech, press and assembly on the hospital grounds. Further they are demanding that since the UAW controls the policy of the hospital that it continue free medical service to the thousands of laid-off auto workers.

The "management" replied by insulting the employees. They even refused to discuss the need for continuing medical care for the laid-off workers. They offered overtime only after 80 hours in two weeks; and took away the maintenance of working conditions clause, capped the cost of living increase, censored all literature and speech and demanded a three year contract with no right to strike over violations.

Therefore the workers of Metro have decided to strike on April 15. At press time the decision to strike remained, although the UAW was preparing proposals to attempt to avert this strike.

This strike would not only be for decent working conditions and a livable wage, but for the health care of the laid-off auto workers. It is being opposed by the embarrassed UAW officials and by the reactionary international officials of the OPEIU. Instead of discussing the demands, these high paid officials have joined the Metro management and started whining about "communist influences."

The importance of this particular strike is that it is the first time in the history of Detroit that a hospital strike will be carried out over contract demands and not over union recognition. The results of this strike affect all future hospital negotiations. That is why the bourgeoisie will make every attempt to break the organizing drive by refusing to

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FREE JOANNE LITTLE!

The case of Joanne Little in North Carolina, now gaining national attention is an archetypical example of the true nature of rape in the Negro Nation. Joanne Little is a twenty-year-old Negro woman on trial for murder in the killing of a 62-year-old Anglo-American male jailer. The preponderance of evidence clearly supports Little's claim that the jailer was attempting to rape her and she was only exercising her right to self-defense.

The incident took place on August 27, 1974, in Washington (Beaufort County), North Carolina. Joanne Little had been in the jail for about three months awaiting appeal on a charge of breaking and entering. She lived in a small, filthy cell. All the guards were male. If she wanted to take a shower, she had to call a male guard to turn the water on. Negro women have long been sexual prey for Anglo jailers in the Negro Nation. Since Little's case has become publicized, reports have come from other women about sexual attacks by guards at the Beaufort County Jail.

According to Little, the jailer had entered her cell and threatened her, ice pick in hand. In the ensuing struggle, as Little tried to defend herself, she managed to stab the jailer several times with his own ice pick, killing him. Knowing that the rest of the jail crew would probably kill her when they discovered what had happened, Little fled to save her life.

Her fears proved to be well justified, as the Beaufort County Police set out to hunt her down with high-powered rifles, not designed to bring the hunted person back alive. During the search, the police tried unsuccessfully to obtain a court order declaring her an outlaw. Under North Carolina law, an outlaw can be shot on sight by anyone. Little managed to elude the manhunt for eight days, finally making her way to Raleigh, North Carolina, where she turned herself in.

Of course, Raleigh was no haven. The repression set in fast. Little was thrown in solitary confinement at the Women's Prison in Raleigh.

First reports in the press concerning this incident praised the rapist Alligood as a "good man who died in the line of duty." Then, after investigations were carried out, the North Carolina State Medical Examiner verified that Alligood was found nude from the waist down and had recently engaged in sexual activity. These facts were purposely held back--the state medical examiner was not even allowed to testify before the grand jury.

Thus, Little was indicted for first degree murder by an all Anglo-American male grand jury, and bond was set at \$100,000 by Judge James Bailey, a former FBI agent. A first degree murder conviction in North Carolina carries a mandatory death penalty. In fact, North Carolina at present has 64 persons on Death Row, the highest number in the entire USNA.

Her trial will be held in Beaufort County, North Carolina, a traditionally strong Klan area, where the juries are always male and Anglo-American.

We see in this case the rampant white chauvinism and male supremacy which Negroes in the Negro Nation con-

tinue to be subjected to. Mainly we see clearly the true reality of rape in the Negro Nation. Throughout the history of the slave period and the succeeding development of the Negro Nation, the most common excuse for murdering and lynching Negro men was to accuse them of raping Anglo women. For decades, the police and the Klan wantonly killed and tortured Negroes falsely accused of the crime of rape. Even today, false rape accusations serve as the excuse for legal murders, part of the overall attempt by the fascists to terrorize the Negro people. We can point to the case of Thomas Wansley in Virginia or the Tarboro boys in North Carolina, both of which have gained national attention, to attest to the fact that the imperialists are not about to slacken up in their use of this time-worn tactic to brutalize Negroes and spread white chauvinism.

But the Negro people and anyone who has studied the history of the Negro Nation know that rapes have taken place in large numbers and on a society-wide basis in the Negro Nation. It is the Negro women who have been the victims. The wholesale rape of Negro women by the white slavemaster did not end with "emancipation." Thus, Joanne Little is one of a countless number of Negro women to feel the fangs of white chauvinism and male supremacy in this manner. To fight back as Joanne Little did, traditionally has meant death. As evidenced by the massive hunt for her, things are no different today. She was wily enough to escape murder outside the court systems, so now the bourgeoisie seeks to murder her within it.

North Carolina has a particularly bloody record of legal murders of Negroes. In the period between 1930 and 1962, there were 263 court-ordered executions in North Carolina, 199 of which involved Negro victims. Execution by the state, whether legal or extra-legal has always been one of the main weapons of the imperialists.

The Negro people are outraged at the crime being perpetrated against Joanne Little. We in the Negro Nation have long suffered at the hands of fascism, but the history of the Negro people is one of valiant struggle against fascist atrocities. Negro workers all over the South are collecting money for her defense. Many organizations have come to her aid.

But this is not enough. If this struggle for the freedom of Joanne Little is to be successful it cannot be isolated to only the freedom of this one individual. If it is to be successful, it must be linked to the oppression of the Negro Nation and the struggle for its freedom. It must be linked to the drive towards fascism that is developing in this country, which will attack the whole working class of the USNA state.

We workers of the entire USNA must begin to fight now in the defense of our class. We must develop, support and lend all possible aid, not only to the Joanne Little case, but to all struggles against the fascist acts that are being perpetrated against our class, but which are hitting hardest against the Negro and Mexican people at this time. We cannot wait until fascism has overtaken us to begin to struggle against it. An attack against one section of our class is an attack against us all.

FIGHT FOR THE FREEDOM OF JOANNE LITTLE!

FIGHT FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE NEGRO
NATION!

IMPERIALISTS KIDNAP VIETNAMESE CHILDREN

In a desperate attempt to rally support here in the USNA for further aggression in S.E. Asia, the USNA government is now attempting to steal the children of Vietnam. Premier Pham Van Dong of North Vietnam (quoted in the N.Y. Times of 4-7-75) stated in speaking of this "Operation Babylift", "Our people will never tolerate such a criminal action...The American plan is unhealthy and abominable. There is nothing human in it...It is pure irony."

The victorious struggle of the Vietnamese people for national liberation is approaching final victory. The USNA imperialists have done every atrocity, bombing, invasion, assassinations, torture, napalm, and now child-stealing and all this has failed to break the spirit of the Vietnamese people. The puppet troops, following a Nazi tactic, are driving the people out of their homes, so that the confusion can act as a buffer between the puppet troops and the liberation forces. There is talk here of "evacuating" as many as 200,000 of the thugs, murderers and traitors which the USNA has trained and supported, to save these "valuable" counter-revolutionary forces from their just trial and punishment by the Vietnamese people. Again there is talk about the USNA "commitment" and promises that "must be kept."

Finally, there is the obscene program of kidnapping helpless children and babies who cannot protest, "saving" them from communism and "race prejudice" by bringing them to the USNA strapped by the hundreds in unsafe planes, so they can be brought up in "freedom" in the USNA! Now that the victory of the Vietnamese people is at hand after decades of bitter struggle, we the proletariat of the USNA must give every possible support; we must see that the imperialists do not attempt to invade or bomb Vietnam again; we must demand the immediate end of all aid to the criminal Thieu regime. We must demand an end to the stealing of the Vietnamese children; we must demand that all of the puppet criminals be turned over to the Vietnamese people for trial and punishment; and we must demand the trial and just punishment for those war criminals here in the USNA who planned and plotted these acts of aggression--McNamera, Rusk, Taylor, Westmorland, Kissinger, Nixon, Ford and all the rest of them.

NO MORE AID OF ANY KIND TO THE THIEU REGIME!!!

Giai Phong Saigon!!! Liberate Saigon!!!

Long live the Victory of the Vietnamese People!!

TURN OVER PUPPET CRIMINALS TO THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE!!!

END THE THEFT OF VIETNAMESE CHILDREN!!

EDUCATION COLUMN

LONG LIVE

On March 18, 1871, 104 years ago, the first dictatorship of the proletariat in history, the Paris Commune, was proclaimed with these words; "The proletarians of Paris, in the midst of the defeats and betrayals of the ruling class, have come to understand that they must save the situation by taking the conduct of public affairs into their own hands. They have realized that it is their highest duty and their absolute right to make themselves the masters of their own fate and to seize the power of the government." (from the declaration of the Central Committee of the National Guard, March 18, 1871). This marked the beginning of one of the most truly great events of the revolutionary history of the working class. As Lenin said in Two Tactics of Social Democracy (Peking pg. 124) "Revolutions are the locomotives of history, said Marx. Revolutions are the festivals of the oppressed and exploited. At no other time are the masses of the people in a position to come forward so actively as creators of a new social order as at a time of revolution." The proletariat of Paris, attacked on all sides, in the midst of war, with all odds against them, boldly blazed the trail for the world to follow.

Marx wrote on April 12, 1871, (letter to Kugelmann), "If you look at the last chapter of my Eighteenth Brumaire, you will find that I say that the next attempt of the French revolution will be no longer, as before, to transfer the bureaucratic military machine from one hand to another, but to smash it, and that is essential for every real people's revolution on the Continent. And this is what our heroic Party comrades, in Paris are attempting. What elasticity, what historical initiative, what a capacity for sacrifice in these Parisians! After six months of hunger and ruin, caused rather by internal treachery than by the external enemy, they rise, beneath Prussian bayonets, as if there had never been a war between France and Germany and the enemy were not at the gates of Paris. History has no like example of a like greatness."

In commemoration of the Paris Commune, we reprint an article called, "In Memory of the Commune" by Lenin, written in 1911.

IN MEMORY OF THE COMMUNE

V.I. Lenin

Forty years have passed since the proclamation of the Paris Commune, According to the established custom, the French proletariat has honoured the memory of the revolutionary workers of March 18, 1871, by meetings and demonstrations. At the end of May they will again bring wreaths to the tombs of the Communards who were shot, the victims of the dreadful "May Week," and over their graves they will once more take the oath to fight untiringly until their ideas have fully conquered, until their cause has been completely victorious.

Why does the proletariat, not only in France but throughout the entire world, honour the workers of the Paris Commune as their forerunners? What was the heritage of the Commune?

The Commune broke out spontaneously. No one consciously prepared it in an organized way. The unsuccessful war with Germany, privations during the siege, unemployment among the proletariat and ruin among the petty bourgeoisie; the

indignation of the masses against the upper classes and against the authorities who had displayed their complete incapacity, a riotous fermentation in the ranks of the working class, which was discontented with its lot and was striving towards a different social system; the reactionary make-up of the National Assembly, which roused fears as to the fate of the Republic--all this and many other things combined to drive the population of Paris to revolution on March 18, which unexpectedly placed power in the hands of the National Guard, in the hands of the working class and the petty bourgeoisie which had joined in with it.

This was an event unprecedented in history. Up to that time power had customarily been in the hands of landlords and capitalists, ie in the hands of their trusted agents who made up the so-called government. After the revolution of March 18, when the Thiers government fled from Paris with its troops, its police and its officials, the people remained masters of the situation and power passed into the hands of the proletariat. But in modern society the proletariat, enslaved economically by capital cannot dominate politically unless it breaks the chains which fetter it to capital. This is why the movement of the Commune inevitably had to take on a Socialist colouring, ie. to begin striving for the overthrow of the power of the bourgeoisie, the power of capital, to destroy the very foundations of the present social order.



Two Communardes

At first this movement was extremely indefinite and confused. It was joined by patriots who hoped that the Commune would renew the war with the Germans and bring it to a successful conclusion. It was supported by the small shopkeepers who were threatened with ruin unless there was a postponement of payments on debts and rent (the government did not want to give them such a postponement but the Commune gave it). Finally, it had, at first, the sympathy of the bourgeois republicans, who feared that the reactionary National Assembly (the "backwoodsmen," ignorant landlords) would restore the monarchy. But the chief role in this movement was of course played by the workers (especially the artisans of Paris,) among whom Socialist propaganda had been energetically carried on during the last years of the Second Empire and many of whom even belonged to the First International.

THE PARIS COMMUNE!

Only the workers remained loyal to the Commune to the end. The bourgeois republicans and the petty bourgeoisie soon broke away from it; some were frightened by the revolutionary Socialist proletarian character of the movement, and others dropped out when they saw that it was doomed to inevitable defeat. Only the French proletariat supported their government fearlessly and untiringly, they alone fought and died for it for the cause of the emancipation of the working class, for a better future for all toilers.

Deserted by their allies of yesterday and supported by no one, the Commune was doomed to inevitable defeat. The entire bourgeoisie of France, all the landlords, the stockbrokers, the factory owners, all the great and small robbers, all the exploiters, combined against it. This bourgeois coalition, supported by Bismarck (who released a hundred thousand French soldiers who had been taken prisoner to put down revolutionary Paris), succeeded in rousing the backward peasants and the petty bourgeoisie of the provinces against the proletariat of Paris, and in surrounding half of Paris with a ring of steel (the other half was held by the German army). In some of the larger cities in France (Marseilles, Lyons, St. Etienne, Dijon, etc.) the workers also attempted to seize power, to proclaim the Commune, and come to the help of Paris, but these attempts soon failed. Paris, which had first raised the flag of proletarian revolt, was left to its own resources

bourgeois, opened military operations against Paris. The Commune had to think first of all of defence. Right up to the very end, May 21-28, it had no time to think seriously of anything else.

However, in spite of such unfavourable conditions, in spite of the brevity of its existence, the Commune found time to carry out some measures which sufficiently characterise its real significance and aims. The Commune replaced the standing army, that blind weapon in the hands of the ruling classes, by the universal arming of the people. It proclaimed the separation of church from state, abolished the state support of religious bodies (ie. state salaries for priests), gave popular education a purely secular character and in this way struck a severe blow at the gendarmes in cassocks. In the purely social sphere the Commune could do very little, but this little nevertheless clearly shows its character as a popular, workers' government. Night work in bakeries was forbidden, the systems of fines, this system of legalised robbery of the workers, was abolished. Finally, the famous decree was issued according to which all factories works and workshops which had been abandoned or stopped by their owners, were to be handed over to associations of workers in order to resume production. And, as if to emphasise its character as a truly democratic proletarian government, the Commune decreed that the salaries of all ranks in the administration and the government should

about 100,00 of its sons, including the best workers of all trades.

The bourgeoisie was satisfied. "Now we have finished with Socialism for a long time," said its leader, the bloodthirsty dwarf, Thiers, after the blood-bath which he and his generals had given the proletariat of Paris. But these bourgeois crows cawed in vain. Only six years after the suppression of the Commune, when many of its fighters were still pining in penal servitude or in exile, a new workers' movement rose in France. A new Socialist generation, enriched by the experience of their predecessors and no whit discouraged by their defeat, picked up the flag which had dropped from the hands of the fighters of the Commune and bore it boldly and confidently forward, with cries of: "Long live the social revolution! Long live the Commune!" And a few years after that the new workers' party and the agitation raised by it throughout the country, compelled the ruling classes to release the imprisoned Communards, who were still in the hands of the government.

The memory of the fighters of the Commune is not only honoured by the workers of France but by the proletariat of the whole world, for the Commune did not fight for any local or narrow national aim, but for the freedom of toiling humanity, of all the downtrodden and oppressed. As the foremost fighter for the social revolution, the Commune has won sympathy wherever there is a proletariat struggling and suffering. The picture of its life and death, the sight of a workers' government which seized the capital of the world and kept it in its hands for over two months, the spectacle of the heroic struggle of the proletariat and its sufferings after defeat--all this has raised the spirit of millions of workers, aroused their hopes and attracted their sympathies to the side of socialism. The thunder of the cannon in Paris awakened the most backward strata of the proletariat from deep slumber, and everywhere gave impetus to the growth of revolutionary Socialist propaganda. This is why the cause of the Commune did not die. It lives to the present day in every one of us.

The cause of the Commune is the cause of the social revolution, the cause of the complete political and economic emancipation of the toilers. It is the cause of the proletariat of the whole world. And in this sense it is immortal.



Barricades in Paris erected by the Communards.

and doomed to certain destruction.

For the victory of the social revolution, at least two conditions are necessary; a high development of productive forces and the preparedness of the proletariat. But in 1871 both of these conditions were absent. French capitalism was still slightly developed, and France was at that time mainly a country of petty bourgeoisie (artisans, peasants, shopkeepers, etc.). On the other hand, there was no workers' party, there was no preparedness and no long training of the working class, which, in the mass, did not even clearly visualise its tasks and the methods of fulfilling them. There were no serious political organisations of the proletariat, no strong trade unions and co-operative societies.

But the main thing which the Commune lacked was the time, the free time to look around and undertake the fulfilment of its programme. It hardly started working, when the Versailles government, supported by the entire

not exceed the normal wages of a worker, and in no case should exceed 6,000 francs per year.

All these measures showed with sufficient clearness that the Commune was a deadly menace to the old world, founded on slavery and exploitation. Therefore bourgeois society could not sleep peacefully so long as the Red Flag of the proletariat waved over the Paris City Hall. When at last the organised force of the government had managed to defeat the poorly organised forces of the revolution, the Bonapartist generals who had been beaten by the Germans and who were brave only when fighting their defeated countrymen, these French Renenkampfs and Meller-Sakomelskys, organised such a slaughter as Paris had never known. About 30,000 Parisians were killed by the ferocious soldiery, about 45,000 were arrested and many of these were afterwards executed, thousands were imprisoned and sent into penal servitude or exiled. In all Paris lost

On March 18, 1891, on the twentieth anniversary of the Paris Commune, Engels wrote, in his introduction to Marx's Civil War in France:

"Of late, the Social-Democratic philistine has once more been filled with wholesome terror at the words: Dictatorship of the Proletariat. Well and good, gentlemen, do you want to know what this dictatorship looks like? Look at the Paris Commune. That was the Dictatorship of the Proletariat."

LONG LIVE THE PARIS COMMUNE!

LONG LIVE THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT!

LONG LIVE SOCIALISM!



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" . . . But if the Sino-Soviet split is a relatively dependable reference point in interstate relations, the United States gains major advantages. Secretary Kissinger, like Bismarck, is in the position of being 'honest broker' between them. Kissinger formally declines such a role. He told James Reston recently, 'The current policy for the United States is to take account of what exists and to conduct a policy of meticulous honesty with both of them, so that neither believes we are trying to use one against the other.' It remains true, however, that Washington has approached Moscow through Peking. Just as Bismarck's Dual Alliance with Austria in 1879 made possible the Three Emperor's Alliance in 1881, so it is that good American relations with China make the Soviet Union more pliable. Only after the China visit in 1972 could Kissinger and Nixon have expected such a profitable reception in Russia.

"It could even be argued that the solidity of the Chinese military position on the Soviet border, tying up 1,000,000 Soviet troops, had some useful implications for European defense. In Secretary Schlesinger's Fiscal 1975 posture statement it is noted that the West may be able to counter a Warsaw Pact mobilized threat to Central Europe of 80 to 90 divisions if Nato continues and expands its force-improvement programs. But it could not hope to cope with the threat of up to 130 divisions that would result from a transfer of Soviet troops from the eastern regions of the Soviet Union. Since the Soviet Union has to be concerned with the Chinese theater, however, NATO can effectively concentrate upon meeting the designated threat of 80 to 90 divisions. This means that Chinese forces are an essential analytical ingredient in European defense. As long as Sino-American ties remain tolerable, Russia faces complications if she exerts pressure on either front. Some experts have recently speculated that if Russia sought to attack China or to eliminate Chinese nuclear capabilities, she could not be certain that Chinese nuclear weapons might not be replenished from the American arsenal, adding additional uncertainties to Soviet calculus. (See International Institute for Strategic Studies, Strategic Survey 1973, May, 1974, p. 69)."

In the three countries there is a strong and growing opposition to detente. This opposition is developing from different points of view, but as regards the USNA imperialists gaining a big trade advantage, recent studies show that this simply isn't true. The hearings of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Government Operations (U.S. Senate, April 17, 1973) pretty well proved that there wasn't a base for a great extension of trade with the Soviet Union. It is just as obvious that there is not and cannot be a great expansion of trade with China at this time. The inescapable conclusion is that detente does not rest on economic considerations in the first place but on political ones. The opposition is just as political. Evidence of this was Marshall Grechko's statement last year that, "the material preparations for a third world war have started." This attitude was reflected in Chou En-lai's statement, "The revolutionary people do not at all believe in so-called lasting peace or a generation of peace," and added, "So long as imperialism exists, revolution and war are inevitable." (Christian Science Monitor, October 23, 1974)

The attempt to explain detente to the Soviet people on the one hand and to the peoples of the socialist camp on the other hand has forced an even more anti-Marxist trend in Soviet propaganda. Pravda, March 16th, 1975, stated, "The past week, like many of the preceding ones, has been rich in events in the international arena. They show in all obviousness what acute clashes are taking place in various parts of the world between the forces of democracy and progress on the one hand, and the forces of imperialist reaction and their accomplices on the other." (Our emphasis) However, in a broadcast to Romania, March 19, 1975, the Soviet leaders took a different and more "revolutionary" stance. "The main direction of ideological struggle in our day and age is determined as before by today's main contradiction between socialism and capitalism." (Our emphasis) The Soviet leadership is attempting to present itself as the leader within the Socialist camp. Speaking to their own people, however, the formulation of the struggle as between "democracy and progress" and "reaction" conforms to the concept of the state of the whole people and other classless projections that are the 'theoretical' base of the revisionists.

INDOCHINA

In Cambodia and Vietnam, the peoples forces are close to the complete liberation of their countries. This historic event sharply poses the question of intervention by the US. It is clear that there is no possibility for intervention from the United Nations. The question is: can the Ford Administration withstand the pressure from such fascists as Walt Rostow and a number of leading generals who are demanding a full scale attack against north Vietnam. However, detente--a fundamental cornerstone of USNA foreign policy--would be seriously compromised if the imperialists should again intervene in Vietnam. There are powerful forces in the three major countries that are and have been in struggle against detente; their hands would be considerably strengthened by such intervention. If the Ford gang has shown any caution or restraint in these past few weeks it is because Kissinger's entire diplomatic scheme and his personal stake are absolutely tied to detente. The current governments in both the Soviet Union and in China would undoubtedly undergo some changes with the strengthening of the hand of those who want to find an accommodation between their countries in the face of new proof of the inevitability of war with the USNA.

In spite of the international relations, we can be sure that if the people of the USNA allow the Ford gang to drift--the drift will be toward intervention. Once this starts, it will be most difficult to stop. Communists and progressives must carry on struggle, no matter how small, to prevent the threat of intervention. War would alter the domestic situation to such an extent that it would be extremely difficult to carry out our program with the available forces.

MIDDLE EAST

In the middle east, despite the maneuvering and sell-outs of the leadership, the Arab masses are pushing irresistibly toward a violent solution of the question presented by a robber state--Israel--taking their land by force and then having the majority of the world's states treating the robber and victim as equals, demanding disengagement and negotiations. Anyone who cares to take time off to make any historical study of the relations of the Soviet Union with the near-east would conclude that the shuttle diplomacy of Kissinger was doomed to failure.

Why must it have failed? Because historically the Soviet Union has been

a part of this area. For centuries, Tsarist Russia pushed her frontier into the middle east. After the Soviet revolution, the USSR exerted considerable influence in the near east. The Soviets necessarily influenced the Turkish Revolution and other bourgeois democratic upsurges. In part, this was possible because of the big Turkish, Iranian and Kurdish minorities in the USSR.

Such ties are not easily broken; the influence of the Soviets, even under the revisionists, is considerable. What is new is that revisionist Soviet policy in the near east is to rely on the compromised and reactionary bourgeois nationalists rather than on the revolutionary section of the workers and peasants. The point is, that in no way is the Soviet Union a newcomer to the political struggle in the near east and they cannot be dislodged by coups or counter-coups or by being denounced by this or that leader. The USSR has a tremendous stake in the area--both financial and political, ethnic and cultural. One should also consider that this area is a close to their border as Mexico is to ours. It should be clear that the efforts of the USNA imperialists to establish their hegemony in the middle east by military force is bound to bring them into collision with the USSR. On the other hand, the imperialist bloc, headed by USNA imperialism, cannot help but move toward the use of military force. It is in the hope of avoiding a confrontation with the Soviets that the Pentagon is concentrating on the invasion of Libya instead of Syria. Each passing day exacerbates and makes clear the conflict of national interest and the growing inevitability of war, not simply in the near east, but between the USSR and the USNA.

Throughout Africa and Latin America the masses are moving more and more toward a violent solution to the liberation of their countries from foreign financial and military oppression and exploitation. The fact is that imperialism, headed by USNA imperialism, has no other way to safeguard their vital interests than by resorting to war.

Alongside of these continuing and developing contradictions between the oppressed and oppressor peoples is the fact that Japanese and European imperialism is growing very powerful and is threatening to nudge USNA imperialism out of its dominant position. Again we have to note that in a contest between equals, force always makes the decision.

In short, no matter which way we turn it, no matter how we look at it, we are being drawn into another imperialist war. We Marxist-Leninists are not people who believe in magic. The world is what it is today because people made it that way and people can and must straighten it out. In order to do this, however, it is necessary for us to have some estimate of what we are fighting, what we are, and how to win.

If we began our discussion by stating that the situation was very dangerous, it is because opportunity arises only within danger and it is the task of the Marxist revolutionary to separate the dangers from the opportunities and to uphold one while liquidating the other. This historic task cannot be accomplished by the mouthing of slogans and pat phrases, it can only be accomplished by scientific analysis and objective assessment of social motion. As we start to rally the working class against the growing danger of war, we must never forget Lenin's statement, "To forget the peculiarities of political and strategic interrelations and to repeat at every opportune and inopportune occasion the stereotyped word, "imperialism" is not Marxism at all." (Lenin, Selected Works, Vol. XIX, p. 239)

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WAR DANGER

What is the war danger and where does it come from?

We do not debate that the war danger is growing out of imperialist relations, but that in itself is not saying very much. If we are to understand something, we are going to have to understand the process of its development. Despite the ravings of the so-called "left" in this country, the USNA imperialists have been able, for historic objective reasons--not for subjective reasons--to secure a temporary hegemony over the world that is unknown in history.

How did that happen?

At the end of World War II the Allies had thoroughly and decisively defeated German Nazi imperialism. However the result was the destruction of Europe's immense means of production and the world historic fact that the Soviet Union had emerged from the war in a stronger position than that in which it had entered the war. Until the end of the war the most active aspect of the world's social contradictions had been the inter-imperialist contradiction, a contradiction so powerful and violent that it created an environment that made possible a relative identity of interest between the hostile camps of imperialism and socialism.

But with the defeat of the Hitler forces that social environment was brought to an end. The emergence of the Cold War was only the political face of, and the assertion of the prominence of the external contradiction--the contradiction between imperialism and socialism. This political environment allowed for a temporary identity of interest within the imperialist camp. Shattered European imperialist nations were forced to turn to the USNA for protection from their own working classes and the colonial world. USNA financial capital invaded Europe and Europe sweated the payments out of the colonial world.

But capitalism is a process of accumulation and by the middle 1960's, European imperialism had accumulated enough surplus capital to begin to struggle with USNA imperialism for a place in the sun--a profitable place to invest its surplus finance. This is the source of the growing war danger--the absolute demand of a number of imperialisms that the already divided world be redivided to allow for a more "equitable" investment of surplus capital.

No matter what the form--that of the struggle for energy resources, or for an anti-communist democracy such as south Vietnam (which incidental to the slaughter of a million people allowed for the US imperialists to replace the French as the hangman of the Vietnamese people), the fundamental question remains the question of where to invest the growing mountain of surplus capital. This projection can only point to the growing and fundamental danger of war with the Soviet Union. The reasoning for this is not the simple "twin imperialist" foolishness of the Left. The reasons, like all political reasons, are historic and complicated. The fact is that the USSR is becoming a greater and greater European power, that the role of trade within the Communist countries is--for better or worse--putting an end to East Europe's dependencies on Western European trade. The decades old claims to territory, the capitalists' absolute need to roll communism back from the gates of France and Italy, are some of the historic forces that are turning the war danger toward the USSR.

It isn't as if the imperialists were mechanical brutes who like war and

go to war for subjective reasons. It is this kind of incorrect thinking that leads to the development of movements against this or that hated individual, such as Nixon or Rockefeller, and keep such movements quite apart from the system. Now, such movements are necessary because they serve the purpose of bringing millions of people into political activity. However, they have not and cannot achieve any success without a scientific, conscious movement against not only the hated individual, but more exactly, against the system.

Because imperialist wars are not the result of this or that individual capitalist's outlook, we always find the period before the outbreak of war a period of intensive maneuvering on the part of the various blocs. They strive to achieve their goals in a cheap and peaceful manner. When these peaceful maneuvers are frustrated then non-peaceful methods are introduced to achieve ends unattainable by peaceful methods. Thus, we communists uphold the concept that modern war is the continuation of politics by violent means.

The growing international presence of the USSR and China, plus the laws of the uneven development of capitalism, have placed Japanese and European imperialism in a strong position to oppose the rampaging USNA. This is the inevitable process of transforming the peaceful exploitation of the colonial peoples into inevitable war. The USNA imperialists have carried on nearly 30 years of maneuvering against the other major imperialist powers. Taking advantage of their superior industrial and military strength they have pushed Japan and Europe into a series of financial disasters. That was the real meaning of the several years of financial crises, the glut of the world market and now the energy crisis. All of these crises were an expression of the struggle of the USNA imperialists to achieve their political goals by peaceful means. The present maneuverings indicate that the peaceful period is rapidly coming to an end.

WAR AND PEACE

It is clear that the contradiction between the social character of production and the private character of expropriation is basic to the general political crisis of imperialism. The current features of this contradiction are the growing unemployment based on the glut of the market, the financial instability and the inability to expand the market except by seizing other capitalists' markets--a solution that makes wars inevitable under imperialism.

All this social motion places the question of peace as point number one on the Communist's agenda. This fight for peace cannot be carried out except as a struggle for full employment with peace. We are going to have to conduct a real struggle within the revolutionary and working class movement as to the nature of modern war. The cowardly hysteria generated fifteen years ago by both the revisionist CP and the monopolists regarding the horrors of modern war is having its reaction in the movement. Whereas before the entire emphasis was on the destruction of modern war to the exclusion of the inevitability of revolution halting the war and with it capitalism, today the discussion almost completely disregards the unimaginable destruction of a nuclear war. Should war break out--even with the 7,000 so called tactical nuclear weapons admitted to by the USNA and an equivalent number from the USSR would mean at least 20 million European and Soviet people killed in the first few hours of fighting. Neither the USSR nor the USNA could survive such a war as economic or political entities. The alternative to this horror isn't submis-

sion--it is the intelligent planned militant struggle to check and overthrow the forces that generate modern war.

The capitalists fully understand that their choices today are either revolution or imperialist war. They cannot choose revolution, and yet they know that imperialist war will mean revolution. The First World War, which came because all the world was divided up between the imperialists with no way but war to redivide it, resulted in the birth of the USSR. World War II, which was fought out as a world war because the fascist states had to expand against the Soviet Union while the democratic imperialist states dared not allow Nazi imperialism to secure such a base, knowing full well that an anti-Soviet war won by Nazi Germany would result in a new war between the imperialist states. The result of this war was the construction of the lands of the peoples' democracies and the history-making victory of the Chinese people. There is no question that another war, which would be more destructive than all the previous wars combined, would result in the total victory of world communism, but at the cost of almost total destruction. Yet even with this knowledge there is the objective and relentless push towards war.

The basis of Marxism is the acknowledgement of the fact that people make history. What this means is that there is no force for the shaping of the world other than people. If something is done, it is because someone did it. If it is not done, it is because no one did it. This has to be our approach to the danger of war. It will happen if we don't prevent it; it won't happen if we prevent it. We can prevent war if we boldly mobilize all the peace-loving forces; and if we rely on the workers, the only class that by its social and economic position is opposed to imperialist wars.

However, the revolutionary struggle for peace is going to start with a common understanding of what we mean by peace. Peace for us isn't simply the absence of war, because we all know that the oppression and exploitation of people, even when done in the absence of military violence, always sets the stage for military violence. For us workers, to accept the idea that peace is the absence of war is to say that we have to accept our slavery in order to safeguard peace.

Every war has produced its peace movement; the greater and more horrible the war, the bigger the movement. But each movement dealt with results and not causes and therefore only stopped one war by setting the stage for the next.

It was Lenin who first saw clearly that the road to peace lay through war. He was the first to formulate the concept that the only method of opposing imperialist war was through civil war. He correctly saw that only such a war was able to root out the causes of modern war. Of course, it would be wrong for us to say to the people that they have to accept imperialist war or fight against it with civil war. The real decision is made as a process. It is in the fight for peace that the masses will learn that they must tear out the causes of war in order to have peace. Therefore in everything we do we have to bring forth this question of property and capitalist exploitation.

It would not be possible to conclude a discussion of the international situation without dealing with what is truly profound and history-making in the international scene. We are referring to the dramatic growth and consolidation of the working class. This is reflected in the recent developments

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in the struggle against revisionism and for the consolidation of the Marxist-Leninist parties. Party after party has or is in the process of moving away from a formulation of "for China" or "for the Soviet Union." In place of these shallow and often confused positions is emerging advanced Marxist analysis of the national and international class struggle. The support for projections rather than parties has led to the paying of more and more attention to the immediate and concrete needs of the various national working classes, especially in Latin America. This maturing of the Marxist-Leninist parties along with the international economic crisis has begun to cut some of the ground out from under the revisionists. The military victory over USNA imperialism in IndoChina has hacked away at the external base of revisionism--the fear of the invincibility of imperialist military power.

The fact is that it is the mighty forces of national liberation that are invincible. We can say with confidence that the results of the heroic Korean peoples' victory is bound to be repeated at a higher level. The fact that a small, colored colonial people has through protracted warfare and international solidarity defeated three groupings of imperialists in thirty years and have won the liberation of their country is bound to activate the most lofty ideals of the oppressed and exploited throughout the world and we should prepare for a new round of violent struggle against USNA imperialism.

What marks this period is the rapidity of change--change in international relations, change in the relationships of forces internationally. In the midst of all this change it is necessary for us to hold fast to that central link in the political chain: the struggle for jobs with peace. Recent events have shown that if we hold to this political strong point everything that is decent and revolutionary is bound to join us in this decisive struggle.

RUBBER WORKERS

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What can we do to prevent the same fascist state to develop in the Anglo American nation, and to kick it out of the Negro Nation?

Will we accept such solutions as the one John Nardella, president of United Rubber Workers Local 2 (Goodyear) offers. He complains that it is because the company won't give Akron workers a chance to "sacrifice" by working for lower wages and allowing job elimination. We already know what that means. In 1973 Goodrich workers reluctantly agreed to special contract provisions to supposedly keep jobs in Akron. The contract meant lower wages and an incredible speedup. But before the ink was dry Goodrich acquired three more plants in West Virginia and more jobs were leaving town. This year Goodrich is moving its industrial base operations to a non union plant in Tennessee. In 1947 there were more than 15,000 jobs at Goodrich, now there are less than 3,000.

We're not going to accept the bourgeois solution to the economic crisis. Their solution is unemployment, war, and increased colonial oppression.

We stand for the unity of the class. We demand a productive job for every able bodied worker at the expense of the military budget. And right along with that we must fight against all the various attacks thrust at the national minorities which are launched to divide the class. We must fight for bussing, and against deportations. We must fight

APRIL 26 / MAY DAY

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key to winning these, and all just demands of the working class is the unity of the workers, not the advocacy of labor bureaucrats nor the sponsorship of Democratic or Republican politicians. To really move forward, the working class movement must be based on the militant class solidarity of workers of all nationalities, independent of the bourgeois political parties whose only interest is in preserving capitalism.

On February 5, 10,000 militant auto workers gathered in Washington, D.C. The response of the U.A.W. leadership was to present a parade of Democratic politicians, and campaign promises. Leonard Woodcock stated that if steps were not taken by the government, 250,000 workers would march in Washington in protest. What has become of these promises?

Once again the anger of the working class has forced the labor leaders, this time the AFL-CIO, to move. But the prospect is no different--for these leaders, also, are tied to the bourgeois politicians and their capitalist masters. Thus, we predict that the AFL-CIO leadership will try to do three things with this demonstration, which all honest workers must oppose.

1) They will attempt to keep the demands of the labor movement on a purely economic level, in particular, avoiding the issue of unity between all nationalities of workers.

2) They will very likely try to make this into another mini-convention for the Democratic Party. The AFL-CIO has already opened the door to this by calling for a rally in a 55,000 seat stadium instead of a march and by promising that the speakers will include "representatives from government and labor." It is a sad comment on the independence of the labor movement when the labor unions organize campaign rallies for the Democratic Party! Let the millionaire politicians pay for their own rallies!

3) They will try to keep any mention of May Day, the international workingman's holiday, out of the April 26th rally.

Let us take note of the fact that the CPUSA, which calls itself "communist", has so far been guilty of all the omissions.

Are the millions of militant and honest workers helpless in the face of the united front of the labor "aristocrats", the Democratic Party, and the CPUSA?

We say No!

Accordingly, we put forward the following plan of action for every worker tired of being led around by the nose by reactionary labor leaders such as I.W. Abel and George Meany.

To start with we can urge in every union and mass organization that they support the April 26th Demonstration if they aren't already doing so. This support should be accompanied by a demand for the inclusion of the following 4

for the equality of the national minorities and support the just struggles for liberation of all oppressed nations. Concretely, that is what we mean by fighting for the unity of the class.

A PRODUCTIVE JOB FOR EVERY ABLE BODIED WORKER!!

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF THE WORLD UNITE!!

1. Akron Beacon Journal, 3-15-75,
2. Virginia Economic Review, Oct., 1972
3. Beacon Journal, 3-16-75, p. A9
4. Economic Statistics on Tenn., p. 4
5. Univ. of Arkansas brochure, pp. 5-13
6. Mississippi Labor Market, 2-13-75
7. Economic Statistics on Tenn., p. 13
8. Virginia Economic Review, Dec. 1972
9. Labor. Texas Industrial Commission
10. Virginia Facts & Figures, 1975

points in the April 26th program--in addition to the demands already advanced around unemployment:

- 1) Support bussing--end segregation of the schools;
- 2) Stop deportations;
- 3) Absolutely no USNA troops in Southeast Asia or the Middle East;
- and 4) nationalization of the energy industries!

Secondly, in order to prevent this demonstration from becoming a mini-convention for the Democratic Party, we must demand that top priority on the speakers list be given to representatives elected by the union members themselves. These speakers should represent the true interests of workers of both sexes and all nationalities.

Finally, there are millions of workers who would like to go to Washington, but can't. Therefore, in each city we should urge our local unions and mass organizations to sponsor a May Day demonstration as a follow-up for the April 26th Rally. May Day is an ideal day for this because it is a true holiday of the proletariat of the world, a day when, as Lenin wrote, "they celebrate their awakening to light and knowledge, their association in one fraternal union for the struggle against all oppression, against all tyranny, against all exploitation, for a socialist system of society." (Lenin, Collected Works, Vol. 8, p. 347)

In line with this we advocate a simple 5-point May Day program which can be embraced by any honest trade union or working class organization:

I. A job for every workers financed at the expense of the military budget.

II. Support bussing--smash the KKK and Nazi Party; all education to be financed by the federal government on a per-student basis.

III. An end to all deportations of undocumented workers.

IV. No USNA troops in Southeast Asia or the Middle East.

V. Nationalize the energy industries.

Fellow workers, neither the labor leaders, nor the Democratic and Republican Party hacks, nor the so-called "Communist" Party of the USA will make the labor movement independent. The independence of the labor movement at this time means ensuring that it is led by those workers who really represent the true interests of all workers, both union and non-union. We must seek to replace the corrupt leadership of the labor movement with leaders such as Juan Chacon of Local 890 of the United Steelworkers. The present leaders will oppose this every step of the way. We cannot succeed without a fight against the labor traitors in our own ranks. Let us start by making this May Day one worthy of our class, a day when we act as a united class for our own interests and against the interests of the capitalists who next year will celebrate 200 years of brutal exploitation and oppression in the USNA.

DETROIT STRIKE

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bargain or put forth any other proposals. And that is why during the strike, they will come out with all their dirty tricks to prevent the worker's unity.

Even with the soaring rate of unemployment that the Detroit area faces, the workers at Metropolitan Hospital are saying, "we can't go backward." Every worker and progressive person should support the demands and the strike of the Metro workers. They are good and decent working people who are not only fighting for their right to a livable wage, but also fighting against tremendous odds for the the health care of their brothers and sisters, the laid off auto workers.