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South
Korea:

U.S. Hang- man Dies in U.S. Noose

The gangland-style execution of South Korean dictator President Park Chung Hee, his chief bodyguard and four of his other thugs last week marks another tombstone in what has been a very bad year for the U.S. imperialist worldwide network of flunkies and highlights a growing fear on the part of the U.S. that yet another of their "islands of stability" may be sliding towards turmoil and revolution.

The first official Korean pronouncements on the assassination attempted to put over the story that the head of the KCIA or Korean Central Intelligence Agency, Kim Jae Kyu just lost his head in the midst of a personal quarrel with Park's bodyguard and "accidentally" killed Park in the ensuing gun battle. Even the nameless "State Department analyst" often quoted by the *New York Times* laughed that one off, chuckling that "If you believe that you can believe in Santa Claus."

Within a couple of days, the South Korean military command amended their earlier report and charged Kim with a conscious plot, citing long standing policy differences. According to the version now being promoted in the U.S. press, the head of the fascist KCIA was actually "a moderate by South Korean standards," and he was arguing for a liberalization of the police state terror with which Park has ruled South Korea since he seized power in the early '60s.

It is an interesting coincidence, not much noted in the American press, that Kim's views accord precisely with that of the United States. You want to know who really pulled the trigger on Park, just take the "K" off KCIA. Kim was acting with the tacit approval of the United States, if not under its direct orders. In fact, circumstances of Park's death are remarkably similar to those of the CIA-engineered assassination of South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem in 1963 at a time when spreading social turbulence in the south convinced the U.S. that Diem was unable to control the situation.

Park's dinner-time demise came in

the midst of the most widespread and violent series of riots and demonstrations against his government since the unrest in the early '60s, after which U.S. puppets changed, bringing Park himself to power. Tens of thousands of protestors attacked police stations, set fire to patrol cars and burned the offices of pro-government newspapers and radio stations in South Korea's second largest city of Pusan; despite Park's proclamation of martial law and his violent suppression of the Pusan revolt, the street fighting had spread to several other cities throughout South Korea. *Newsweek* magazine, in an article which hit the stand just before Park's death, quoted a prominent South Korean opposition leader saying that "no one can be sure that a situation similar to that in Iran will not take place in Korea." *Newsweek* commented "that may be an exaggeration, but most analysts think the pressure on Park is growing," and editorialized that "the government was largely to blame for its own predicament." Of course the fact that the U.S. trained, sponsored, and defended this government for years is conveniently "forgotten."

The United States has been increasingly concerned over the situation in South Korea, especially in the wake of its disasters in Iran and Nicaragua. When Park expelled the opposition leaders from the National Assembly—the immediate catalyst of the rioting—President Carter angrily recalled his Ambassador. When he returned, U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown was at his side, carrying a letter from Carter highly critical of Park's domestic policies.

According to South Korean accounts as well as commentary in the U.S., efforts on the part of Kim, the KCIA head, to get Park to "moderate his repressive policies" to head off a possible "new Iran" were rebuffed and many of his recommendations were blocked by Park's bodyguard, Cha Chi Choi, a martial arts fanatic who ap-

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The largest political demonstrations in nearly 20 years shook S. Korea during the week before Park's timely assassination. In response, Park mobilized his U.S.-equipped military to guard his government buildings.

Report from Party Central Committee

The Prospects for Revolution And the Urgent Tasks in the Decade Ahead

Recently the leadership of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA held a very important meeting. The third plenary session of the Second Central Committee took up key questions relating not only to the immediate period and the crucial tasks facing us now, but also to this whole period leading up to the very real possibility of a revolutionary crisis in the years ahead.

What was taken up at this meeting is vital to the revolutionary movement and its prospects for success in the coming period. For this reason we are going to publish large parts of the documents from the Central Committee meeting over the next few weeks in the *Revolutionary Worker*. *Revolution magazine* also will carry it. These sections have been excerpted and edited for publication.

This issue includes excerpts from the opening talk given to the Central Committee by its Chairman, Bob Avakian. It also includes the first section of a report ("Outline and Summary") submitted by the Chairman which was discussed and met with the strong approval of the whole Central Committee. The subheads are ours—RW.

It is very important for us to recognize just how crucial this meeting is, and what context it is taking place in, both in terms of the development of the objective situation and also of the subjective factor, that is, our Party, and overall in terms of the sharpening class struggle in society. And I think one of the things that has to be recognized—and to a certain degree, although unevenly and not without struggle, is being recognized within our Party—is that what goes on be-

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"We're Volunteering for the D.C. Front"

Following are two letters received by the Party from workers volunteering to go to Washington, D.C. to fight in the battle to Stop the Railroad of Bob Avakian and Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants. One letter is from a Black woman in the Midwest, a veteran of struggle for many years, and the other is from a young worker in the Northwest who is a member of the National United Workers Organization and has been reading the Revolutionary Worker regularly for several months.

I was born Black and poor in Mississippi during the depression. We couldn't find enough to eat so we moved north to "better" our conditions only to find it was colder with worse conditions there.

After I started my own family I saw a child die for the lack of a \$50 operation welfare thought we were arrogant enough to request. I watched my sons with no future on the streets forced to join the army. One volunteered for Vietnam but he found out he was in the wrong place fighting the wrong folks. Stateside they said he was mental when he and 48 others refused to fire on the demonstrators at the 1968 Democratic convention. He was so mental they convicted him and sent them to 45 years in Leavenworth. I learned a lot through the struggles to free them. That basically it was a rich class of bloodsuckers that use us to kill each other off. I was in Washington, D.C. and lived in Tent City in the Poor People's Campaign. There I saw things that were indescribable—brutality from the pigs, people starving but the rich who rule this country and the class they represent didn't give a damn. What was the final straw for me was last week I lost my oldest brother who dropped dead at 46, worked like a dog at one cockroach capitalist factory for twenty years and put out in the street like yesterday's garbage when the factory decided it could exploit non-union people elsewhere. The grief and rage I felt for my whole life boiled over into anger at this capitalist system. When the RCP put out a call for volunteers I knew it was my chance to rise up and fight again. I've been in struggle all my life but by now I can see what's the source of my misery. It's not that I'm poor or Black but this vicious system of exploitation, this capitalism. I feel I have a message to carry to oppressed Black people and others that there is a revolutionary movement that offers a vision of liberation for all toiling people and the leadership that can



A car caravan, winding its way through Washington D.C., stops for agitation at a housing project.

lead through this struggle. I realize the U.S. ruling class knows this and that's why they're attacking Bob Avakian and the Revolutionary Communist Party. They know what's ahead and they want to be sure there's no one out there who can talk truth to the people and point the way forward out of this hell-hole. Revolution is on the way in this country. Whether we'll be able to seize the time when it comes depends on whether we have Bob Avakian and the RCP. I stand 100% behind Bob, what he stands for and the Party. That's why I'm proud to be going to the front lines in Washington, D.C.

Comrades,

The Revolutionary Communist Party is the party of the working class in this country and I'm proud to be a supporter of the Party in solidarity with working and oppressed peoples around the world in their struggles of liberation.

The ruling class is desperately trying to scare the revolutionary line out of the RCP by attempting to jail Bob Avakian and the 16 other Mao Tsetung Defendants. They are trying to remove our leadership, well fuck them 'cause we're not going to sit on our ass and let them do it. I've given this trip to D.C. a lot of deliberation and it's true I'd have to make some big sacrifices, monetary

and personal. If I was into making money I wouldn't be a communist, although this personal stuff is important to me it's secondary compared to the tasks we have now and the battles we'll be waging in the future. The stakes in this stuff are high and I don't think any of us can afford the luxury of neutrality.

This revolutionary work we do is no sacrifice. It's an honor and I think I could contribute to the struggle in D.C. and learn and grasp our revolutionary science more thoroughly and gain more strength and become more dedicated so I can contribute more toward the destruction of capitalism as a system and the suppression of its politicians, pigs and all enemies of the people.

Understandably a lot of people want to be in the front lines in D.C., and right now few will be able to. I just

hope I'll be taken into consideration. When I met Bob Avakian in Seattle I told him I'd do everything I could to help. That is no bullshit!

Historically, all reactionary forces on the verge of extinction invariably conduct a last desperate struggle against the revolutionary forces, and some revolutionaries are apt to be deluded for a time by this phenomenon of outward strength but inner weakness, failing to grasp the essential fact that the enemy is nearing extinction while they themselves are approaching victory.

Mao Tsetung, October 12, 1942

We aren't quite on the verge of victory yet, but it's only a matter of time and perseverance.

A Daily REVOLUTIONARY WORKER for D.C.

Beginning on the opening day of the upcoming hearing in Washington, D.C., November 19, and continuing throughout the period that the picked troops are there, the Revolutionary Communist Party will publish a daily *Revolutionary Worker* in that city. This paper will get underway soon—with several issues appearing before the 19th. This is a new, bold and most of all necessary step. Why? Because the daily *Revolutionary Worker*, together with the weekly, will in fact be the key and central weapon in the battle to Stop the Railroad of Bob Avakian and Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants. The "picked troops" arriving now in D.C. will go every day among the people, arming them with this weapon.

On a daily basis, as the hearing progresses, this newspaper will expose the scheming of the bourgeoisie as it attempts to cripple the Party; it will report on the developments in the battle and, by dragging their calculated political assault into daylight for all to see it will move people to act. We aim not only to get this newspaper (and with

it the weekly *RW*) into the hands of thousands of people in the D.C. area, but also to see fresh activists, even those who are presently unaware of the trial, take up and distribute the paper even more broadly. The daily paper is a critical element in this life-or-death struggle, and its impact on the D.C. area will be stunning.

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CAMBODIA STARVATION: A Bellyful of Imperialist "Humanitarianism"

The mask of "humanitarianism" has been employed many times in the past to shield the face of atrocity from public view. But never has there been assembled a more hideous group of "humanitarians" than the gaggle of witches now dancing around the cauldron that is Kampuchea (Cambodia). With the U.S. imperialists screaming loudest of all, they screech and moan about the suffering, the starvation and the bloodshed that is the "sorry state" of the Kampuchean people. And the bloodier their own hands are, the louder are their wails, their pleas, their offers of "humanitarian assistance."

The Vietnamese have already offered their "assistance" to Kampuchea—expressing their "concern" for the so-called plight of the Kampuchean people under the Pol Pot government of Democratic Kampuchea by invading the country, killing the people and instituting a war policy of burning and stealing the food crops.

The current clamouring on the part of U.S. political leaders and the media

attempts to paint a picture of generous would-be benefactors freely offering humanitarian assistance which is being blocked or rejected by the "warring factions" within Kampuchea itself. The government led by Pol Pot is accused of having allowed four million Cambodians to starve to death during the period between the withdrawal of U.S. troops in 1975 and the Vietnamese occupation of that country earlier this year. The new Vietnamese puppet regime of Heng Samrin backed up by 20 divisions of Vietnamese troops is portrayed as holding up any aid in return for diplomatic recognition. Only the U.S. and various other western "angels of mercy" are pictured above such grimy political considerations, seeking solely to relieve the burden of suffering imposed on the people by two "rival communist tyrannies." What is behind this ridiculous distortion of both history and the current situation? What are the political objectives of the U.S. imperialists and their allies who are being draped in the mantle of the Good Samaritan?

Even before the victory of the Kampuchean people in their war against the U.S. and its murdering clique of puppets in Phnom Penh, the U.S. leaders and media seized upon the "prospect of a bloodbath" in the event of a communist victory as a major justification of their continuation of the war. The history of U.S. involvement in Kampuchea is, of course, itself a long bloody smear. In addition to the massive and unrestrained B-52 bombing, the 1970 U.S. invasion, the napalm and the defoliants, all of which led directly to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people, starvation and disease were rampant in the last years of the U.S. war in Kampuchea.

Starvation Under U.S.

This is the scene in Phnom Penh during the last period of U.S. control in early 1975:

"... most of the starving and gravely ill children were probably never even brought to the clinics because their parents had given up hope for their survival. A Red Cross doctor noticed the

common pattern of behavior among the poor in the final months of the war; when a family had several starving children, the parents would decide unconsciously not to give any more to the weakest child.

"Although no effort was made to estimate how many people were dying each day from starvation, it is clear that the numbers were very high. . . Red Cross doctors were quoted as saying that 'thousands and thousands of children may be tipping over.' An eyewitness in Phnom Penh in March described seeing 'thousands of small children, their bellies swollen from hunger,' who 'waited for slow death from Marasmus.'" Where was the "humanitarian concern" of the U.S. officials then, when they controlled Phnom Penh, when they could bring as much "relief" as they wished?

In fact, the U.S. government explicitly made clear that they didn't give a damn about the hundreds of thousands of refugees who had swollen Phnom Penh as a result of the U.S. bombing

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1,000 Arrested on Wall St.

New York City. On October 29, the 50th anniversary of the 1929 stock market crash, it was not business as usual on Wall Street. An anti-nuclear demonstration of 3,000 filled the streets around the New York Stock Exchange located in this white-shirted blood-sucker's mecca. Here in the very heart of the capitalists' financial network, where these vampires huddle together, their jaws dripping with blood, as each tries to get the biggest share of the loot sucked out of the workers in the U.S. and around the world, 3,000 people were exposing the billionaires, whose nuclear power plants and weapons threaten the lives of millions and even hundreds of millions of people.

It was indeed fitting that the demonstration, called by a coalition of many anti-nuclear groups and appropriately called the Manhattan Project (also the code name of the first A-bomb experiments), was held on this anniversary of the crash that signaled the beginning of a period where the contradictions of capitalism stood naked and exposed to a degree never before seen in the U.S., during the depression of the 1930s. At the same time, this anniversary comes when a period of even greater crisis than the 1930s is approaching and world war looms on the horizon.

Though the demonstration was not fully successful in accomplishing its original objective of sitting in at the Stock Exchange and closing it down, it was a significant and powerful action, exposing and opposing the nuclear industry and the U.S. government. It was aimed at hitting the money men right at one of their big hangouts—Wall St.

Just how much the bourgeoisie fears this anti-nuke movement, even though it is openly non-violent, is revealed in the preparations they made for the demonstration. On Friday, Oct. 26, the visitors gallery at the Stock Exchange was closed. The management of the exchange worked to counter the literature that was passed out in front of its doors, which revealed the investments of the biggest monopolies and banks in nuclear power. They circulated a memo to employees stating that any sympathetic action on their part would not be tolerated. Workers were told to report to work several hours before the demo, and anyone absent without an accepted reason would not get paid.

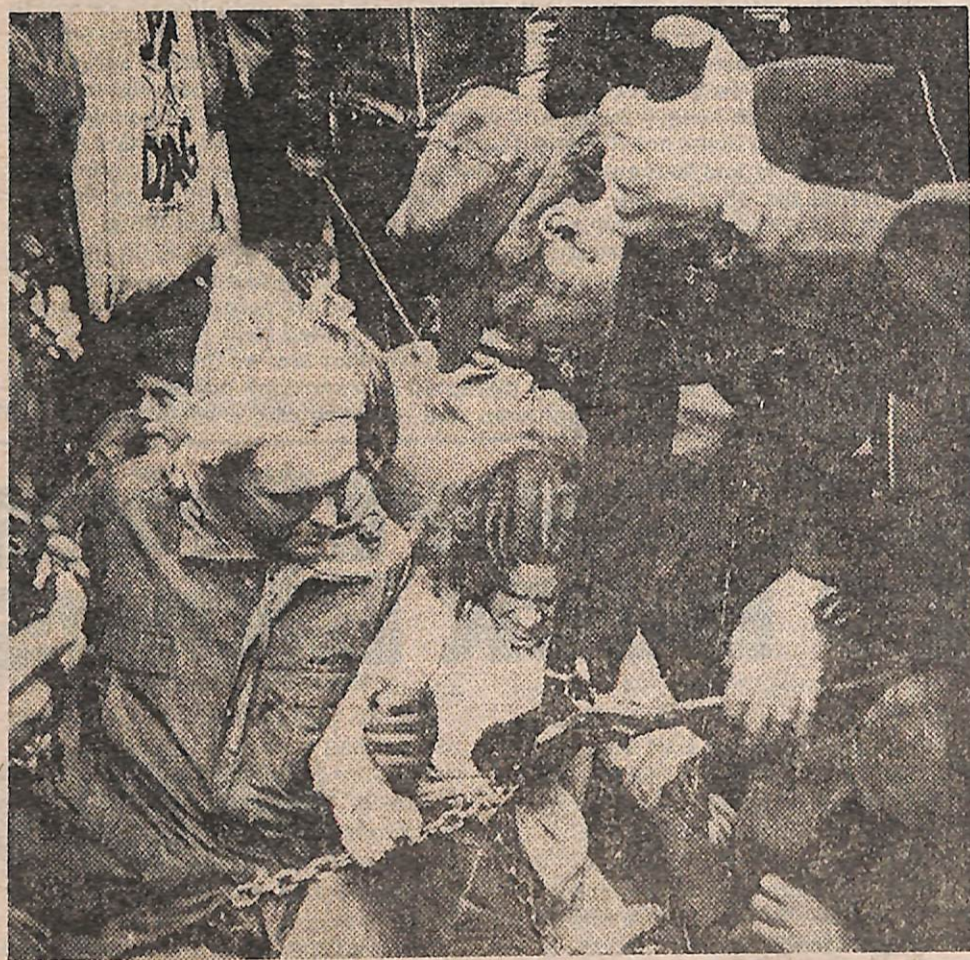
People arrived early in the morning

for the demonstration after word of the memo to the employees of the Exchange leaked out. But they were greeted by a massive army of 800 police, including some on horseback, who had sealed off a 4-block area surrounding the building hours before. The cops were dressed in riot gear and would only let people with proper identification into the Exchange. It was like an armed camp—the pigs outside defending the fortress as the decrepit buzzards and vultures did their dirty business inside. Messenger service in and out of the Exchange was halted. All important papers were kept locked up. And workers were told to stay inside during the lunch break. This is how much EXXON, Morgan Trust, Chase Manhattan and their kind feared this action.

Demonstrators amassed at the barricades—3,4,5 rows deep, trying to prevent people from entering the Exchange. For eight hours protestors sat down in the streets and sidewalks. They marched and chanted throughout the Wall St. area. During the day, over 1,000 people were arrested in one of the largest mass arrests in New York history. In the first hour and a half alone, over 300 people had been arrested.

Throughout the demonstration the leadership of the coalition treacherously and insidiously aided the police by promoting the line of cooperation with the arrests and called on people to surrender in the face of police attacks. They worked overtime to blunt the powerful thrust of the action. As the pigs came in to arrest people, the coalition leadership would yell, "GO LIMP! GO LIMP!" They had made an agreement with the police that they would cooperate—getting people to not resist police provocations and arrests in return for light charges. Such deals only work one way—for the bourgeoisie. They can only serve to disarm the people and prettify the capitalists' vicious and bloodthirsty rule.

From the beginning the police intended mass arrests. These arrests, as has been the case at many recent anti-nuke actions, were a planned political attack on the anti-nuke movement and a show of force by the government. The fact that some people could be won to accept this is all the better for the enemy. Not only can they make the intended point that the full force of their government stands behind their nukes, and



people better get in line, but through their agents, whether conscious or unconscious, they can partially and temporarily cover up the real nature of their system that is revealed by the lashing out of its armed defenders. And as for any deals, they can be broken at any time. Take what happened at Seabrook a few weeks ago. The police brutally and viciously attacked a demonstration at the Seabrook nuclear plant to the shock and horror of many who thought the police would play by the rules or at least abide by their own laws.

Even at the Wall St. action, where the bourgeois press glowingly portrayed everything as peaceful and happily noted how "cooperative" both the police and demonstrators were, there were a number of vicious attacks by police. On one street corner near the Exchange, groups of demonstrators were tightly wedged against police barricades, forming a human blockade against those trying to get through. One group of a dozen people had been sitting on the sidewalk when three cops from the 23rd Precinct decided they had had enough. They took off their badges

and threw the protestors into the street. People refusing to leave were carried off on stretchers, and the cops made a point of periodically dropping them. One woman's head was cut open as the police dragged her onto the bus.

It's vicious actions like the police beating on demonstrators and mass arrests that reveal the real deal—the real workings of this system. The bourgeoisie wants to smash or sidetrack the anti-nuke movement by whatever means they can find. They want a clear field to contaminate the people with radiation from unsafe plants and to make their cold and calculated preparations for all out nuclear war with the Soviet Union. Actions like the one on Wall St. this past week and other powerful actions are a real threat to their plans and this is why they were so uptight about it. In spite of their mass arrests and security precautions, however, the capitalists were not able to prevent the demonstration from taking the anti-nuke movement right to their doorstep and despite all their attacks, the anti-nuke movement continues to grow.

Message from Union of Iranian Communists

MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY FROM THE UNION OF IRANIAN COMMUNISTS TO COMRADE BOB AVAKIAN, CHAIRMAN, C.C. OF R.C.P., U.S.A. AND THE MAO TSETUNG DEFENDENTS:

Once again the god of capital and profit has risen to take as hostages a number of proletarian leaders and revolutionaries in the U.S. Once more the bloody hands of U.S. imperialists have reached out from behind the phony mask of "human rights" to deny the heroic working class and revolutionary masses of the U.S.A. their finest sons and daughters.

Comrade Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, U.S.A. along with a number of revolutionary leaders and active members and supporters of the U.S. proletarian party have been arrested, detained and in a short while are going to be "tried" in a Washington D.C. kangaroo court on a daily increasing number of fabricated charges. The blood-thirsty bourgeoisie has declared that it intends to put our American comrades behind bars for more than 241 years!!

The big and powerful bourgeois gentlemen of "the high and mighty" U.S. imperialism are "indignant"! "You have broken our sacred laws," they say, "and for this you have to be punished, you have to be put away in our big and scary prisons until you rot! We will break you, we will make an example of you so that the thousands and millions of others who want to be like you will be scared away from revolution and will not violate the sanctity of our laws!"

241 years for breaking your laws! That is fine gentlemen of the bourgeoisie. But what makes you think your bloodsoaked class rule, your predatory dictatorship of the class of monopoly capitalism is going to be around for that long to guard the prisons? What makes you think the guns that are now in your hands, trained on the revolutionaries and masses of people, will not be turned around much sooner than 241 years to blow your decadent class off the face of this earth? The bourgeoisie has no answer.

The U.S. ruling class is not simply "indignant" over some "violation" of the "law." No. The bourgeoisie is scared. For it can feel the rising heat of revolution beginning to scorch its antiquated, backward and reactionary class rule.

The U.S. ruling class invited over its newly risen class brothers, the Chinese revisionist leaders headed by the Hua-Teng clique, to celebrate the defeat of revolution in China, to again establish the bonds of exploitation and plunder of the billion-strong masses of China, to announce to the proletariat in the U.S. and around the world that the revolution is dead, that Marxism-Leninism is dead.

Yet, instead of hoodwinking the proletariat, the U.S. bourgeoisie was only successful in intensifying the burning anger of the revolutionaries and masses of people. Parading Teng Hsiao-ping around the U.S. like a two-bit clown helped only to convince the broad masses of people that he certainly is no revolutionary, no heir to the magnificent legacy of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution; that he and his ilk are not the representatives of revolutionary China, the China of Mao Tsetung but much the opposite. People in the U.S. and around the world watched with indignation the way in which Teng, wearing a 10-gallon cowboy hat, was in fact announcing to the world that he is the new Chiang Kai-shek, that the new rulers of China are the comprador-feudals and bureaucratic capitalists who have come crawling on their bellies before the altar of U.S. imperialism begging for protection from the proletariat and that to this end they are willing to sell China for a Ford Pinto.

More than anyone else it was the revolutionary activity of the RCP, USA and the "Committee for a Fitting Welcome" that helped shape correct opinions among the U.S. proletariat on this matter. Everywhere Teng showed his ugly face, he received a "Fitting Welcome." Thinking Mao Tsetung dead and buried back in China, the revisionist dog watched in utter disbelief and with terminal fear as the ceremonies on the White House lawn were so justly disrupted by comrades holding up the Red Book and denouncing him as a murderer. And this was only a small taste of the

angry opposition Teng Hsiao-ping faced, as hundreds of revolutionaries battled the cops outside the White House on the same day.

The U.S. bourgeoisie who had seen its revisionist guest so rightly denounced and exposed could do no more than to resort to violent suppression of the RCP comrades, going especially after Comrade Avakian.

And yet the ideologically bankrupt U.S. ruling class could not come out and tell the people that it had arrested the Mao Tsetung Defendants and intends to suppress them for being what they are; proletarian revolutionaries. No! Because it wished to portray Teng as the "real revolutionary" and to tell the working class that it should act as Teng had done, i.e., to lick the bloody boots of U.S. imperialism.

So it had to concoct one "riot" charge after another against the Mao Tsetung Defendants in order to cover up its real aims. But even in this the revolutionary masses of people will not be deceived. They know first hand how the bourgeois system of justice works. They have seen that when the reactionaries like Nixon break even their own formal bourgeois "laws," they are at most confined to their palaces drawing their million-dollar pensions and "pardoned" even before being "legally convicted"; that the architects of mass slaughter (like those who thought up and implemented the Phoenix Program in Vietnam, those who gunned down Fred Hampton, or crushed the Wounded Knee rebellion, or massacred at Attica, etc.) are all lavishly praised and rewarded, but when it comes to justice for the people the only thing they can expect from the bourgeoisie is imprisonment and death. The people know from their experience that bourgeois law and bourgeois justice only means freedom for imperialist butchers and reactionary exploiters and fascist suppression for revolutionaries and masses of people.

Comrades,

As the U.S. bourgeoisie is preparing its "legal" slaughter of the Mao Tsetung Defendants, it actually intends to crush the RCP as an important step towards establishing "law and order" in its "own" backyard so as to be able to carry out its criminal plans for a new world war. With revisionist China as its potential ally, the U.S. intends to go to war with its superpower rival, the Soviet social-imperialism, in order to redivide the world and to reestablish its uncontested leadership of the imperialist camp.

Yet with the great achievement of the RCP, USA thus far, we are certain that the proletarian party of the U.S. working class will prove more than a match with the U.S. ruling clique and will win its struggle not only in the case of the Mao Tsetung Defendants but that it will go on to achieve its lofty aim of replacing the rule of the imperialist gangsters with the revolutionary dictatorship of the proletariat. In this heroic struggle the valiant people of Iran will always stand in internationalist solidarity with you.

Comrades,

The Union of Iranian Communists, while struggling to build the party of the working class as the only means of enabling our revolution to deepen in the face of increasing attacks by the counter-revolutionary forces of the anti-communist bourgeoisie, pledges its full support to your courageous struggle to free the Mao Tsetung Defendants and to build revolution in the U.S.

As you prepare to battle the U.S. imperialist ruling class you may be assured that the Iranian working class and revolutionaries will fully carry out their internationalist duty to defend your struggle and your cause.

As confident as we are of the continuing advancement of the revolution in Iran, so are we certain of your victory.

- Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants!
- Long live Marxism-Leninism and Proletarian Internationalism!
- Down with the imperialist war moves of the two superpowers!
- Struggle to expose revisionist China and its lackeys!

With communist greetings,
Union of Iranian Communists

D.C. Court Tries to Duck Blows

The government has already felt the sting of the strong political response to their attempted railroad of Bob Avakian and the Mao Tsetung Defendants. As the "picked troops" were beginning to head for Washington D.C. to mobilize people there around the November 19 hearings in this trial, as announcements were going out about a weekend of actions in D.C. and the San Francisco Bay Area on Nov. 17-19, the authorities were going through twists and contortions once again trying to use their weapon, the courts, to duck and block these powerful political blows.

A court ruling last week by Judge Carlisle Pratt will mean a major change in the pretrial hearing scheduled for November 19. Instead of hearing the major defense motion to dismiss the charges, the judge has now ruled that he will hear another defense motion at that time—the identification motion, aimed at exposing illegal selective arrests and line-ups.

Now, reversing what had been clearly understood at an October 17 status hearing, the hearing on the motion to dismiss not only is put off from November 19, but is called in the judge's new order a "projected hearing." He now orders the defendants to "file with the Court, in affidavit form, a proffer (statement—RW) of what their evidence will be on this motion," and gives the government time to respond. Following this, Pratt says he will rule "on when and if such a hearing will be held" (emphasis

added).

All this had been argued out before, so what had changed? One thing only—the "honorable court" had just seen the spectre of "picked troops" out among the people of D.C. and the haunting vision of mass demonstrations. So, along comes this flagrant reversal of earlier decisions.

Some people, their eyesight dimmed by the blindfold of bourgeois justice, might think all this is really just a twisted legal move and a coincidence. Rip off the blindfold and look again. A related incident helps make this clear. A representative from the Committee to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants recently went to the D.C. police station to ask about permits to demonstrate in front of the courthouse on November 19. A D.C. police spokesman told them that no permits are needed to picket in D.C. if the demonstration is, as he said, orderly and peaceful and does not obstruct pedestrians or traffic.

At the same time, this cop just happened to have handy and available for the Committee representative a typed out copy of a certain section of a U.S. Code of Law which reads: "Whoever, with the intent of interfering with, obstructing, or impeding the administration of justice, or with the intent of influencing any judge, juror, witness or court officer... pickets or parades in or near a building housing a court of the United States... shall be fined not more than \$5000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both."

The fact that the Committee's in-

quiry about permits was met with a copy, prepared and typed out in advance, of this particular section of the law, clearly indicates that the D.C. authorities were already aware of the plans made for November 19. Beyond that it represents another clear attempt to mess with these plans—to intimidate people from the express purpose of this demonstration: to expose the political railroad going on in the "sacred halls of justice."

All these maneuverings show clearly once again that this case, behind all the legal sham, is purely political. Far from discouraging or stopping all the planned mass political action, this should encourage it all the more. If the forces of the defense were to pitch all political activity to the legal maneuverings in the courtroom, it would be fighting only on the enemy's terms. Each time a political blow has been dealt to their railroad, the capitalists have made their political response with another "legal" twist. This latest flip-flop will be met head on, including in

the court. They have to be fought on the ground of their courtroom, but the fight can never be based there.

By his latest maneuvers, the judge is showing how the authorities are engaging in wishful thinking. Somehow they think they will be able to go through so many twists and contortions that the supporters of Bob Avakian and the Mao Defendants will tire—even quit. "Divert them and run them dizzy," the authorities say. They still hope for a sterile quiet atmosphere in which to carry out their legal railroad.

But if they think they will exhaust the support, they are badly mistaken. The "picked troops" are arriving in D.C. and all plans are going ahead even more forcefully. We've heard the stuck pig squeal in the face of a political counter-attack. It's hardly the time to lighten up. Every day more people come forward to see this railroad for the crucial political battle that it is and to take up the defense themselves. And this will be true until this battle is fought through and won. ■

"We Just D.C. Resident Unites Might Win!"

To the Committee to Free the MTT Defendants, and to the Revolutionary Worker.

I am from East Capital (a run-down neighborhood of D.C. in the shadow of the Capitol building—RW). I see the need to make some kind of sacrifice. I have two children and not much money, but if we are going to stop the

railroad of Bob Avakian sacrifices and more is going to be needed. I am sick right now and could not make the meeting, but my thoughts are with all of you. As I said I don't have much money, but I will open my home to two people to stay. I wish I could do more. If all of us would pull together we just might win. ■

Chairman Speaks to Chester S.C. Meeting

Expresses Support for Struggle

In the AME Methodist Church a few miles from Chester, every seat was taken and many were standing. It was Sunday, October 28, the regular bi-weekly meeting held to build the struggle against the lynching of Mickey McClinton Poag. This rural part of South Carolina is Klan Country and guards were posted outside the meeting to protect people from attack.

The heat might have been intolerable in other circumstances, but tonight nobody minded. The recent official autopsy whitewashing of the lynching, far from defusing the issue as the state authorities and their local flunkies had hoped, only intensified the mass fury that has been unleashed in Chester.

Everyone was clear that they weren't there to hear about turning the other cheek. A battle was brewing and the questions were sharp: "Who or what are we fighting? What is our goal? And how do we fight?" Every face was intense and every mind was alert, weighing each word as various speakers offered their solutions. One speaker claimed a Black god would solve Black people's problems, while another promoted the red, black and green flag of Marcus Garvey. The debate was particularly intense over the role of some Black officials who are attempting to put a lid on this struggle.

But tonight something electric was about to happen, something the likes of which this town had never seen or heard before. The most dangerous man in America was in the audience. Bob Avakian, the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, had taken time out from his ongoing national speaking tour to come to check out this South Carolina town to express the support of the entire Party for this inspiring struggle.

First a local reporter from the *Revolutionary Worker* was introduced. She had spent months in Chester going door to door, talking to literally hun-

dreds of people, uncovering the gruesome and outrageous facts about the lynching of Mickey McClinton Poag. She was warmly received as she spoke of the need for the working class of all nationalities to take up the struggle against the oppression of Black people. She then introduced another supporter of the RCP who had been active in the battle in Birmingham, Alabama against the brutal police murder of Bonita Carter.

He powerfully drew out how the lynching of Mickey McClinton Poag and the murder of Bonita Carter were not isolated instances but were part of the overall oppression and exploitation of Black people and of the working class as a whole, and how this is rooted in the capitalist system itself. "We just don't have slaves for ancestors. We are still slaves—wage slaves." This was greeted with tremendous applause. "We work and slave our lives away only to be thrown out into the streets with nothing or to be lynched by some dogs. That red, white and blue flag over there, every inch of it, is dripping with blood that represents all of our oppression and that of people everywhere. The only way out is proletarian revolution. And don't tell me that all white people are the same. If you tell me that, you have to tell me all Black people are the same, and I'm sure as hell not the same as those Black pigs out in the streets." Again, more enthusiastic applause.

The people in the church were hearing it like it is and loving every minute of it, but this was only the beginning. "Now I want to introduce you to the man the capitalists are trying to put away for 241 years, the man they don't want on the streets during this next decade, because things are going to get worse, much worse. We haven't seen anything yet. And because the capitalists are preparing for World War 3 they don't want revolutionary leaders

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IN WASHINGTON D.C. ON THE EVE OF BATTLE

**A Major Rally on
Sunday Nov. 18**

**A Demonstration as Court
Convenes on Monday, Nov. 19**

On the West Coast:

**Rally—Saturday Afternoon, Nov. 17,
Oakland Auditorium
Demonstration—Mon., Nov. 19**

**Contact the Committee to
Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants
(202) 387-8863**

Or the Revolutionary Worker in your area (see page 2)

**Stop the Railroad of Bob Avakian!
Free the Mao Tsetung
Defendants!**



Anti-Nuke Demo at Sub Base Bangor

Bangor, Wa. Kitsap County Sheriffs cruised up and down the street. Some stopped in the middle of the road or stopped alongside, blue lights flashing. Over the hill a crowd of 2,500 descended on the main gate of Naval Submarine Base Bangor.

This small community in western Washington has become the focal point of a national movement aimed at U.S. imperialism's nuclear arsenal. The Tri-

dent submarines, each as long as a football field, altogether costing \$90 billion, with nuclear missiles designed for pinpoint accuracy, will someday be based here. Or at least that's the plan.

But on October 28 thousands came to express their determination to stop it. Jesuits, pacifists, students and teachers; they came from as far away as Oregon, Montana, Colorado and Oklahoma.

At the same time, demonstrations

were held at other sites across the country, from the shipyards where the subs are built in Groton, Connecticut to the Lockheed facility for the production of Trident missiles in Sunnyvale, Ca. The actions were also coordinated with anti-nuke demonstrations in D.C. and Wall Street.

On the Navy base itself hundreds of security guards were deployed, equipped with riot helmets and clubs. They chatted nervously, waiting for the demonstrators.

When they did arrive, erecting "Peace Conversion City" in front of the main gate, a lone guard appeared. From inside the gate he announced through a bullhorn, "You are blocking the entrance and exit from Sub Base Bangor and therefore interfering with its mission's accomplishment." He threatened arrest of the demonstrators.

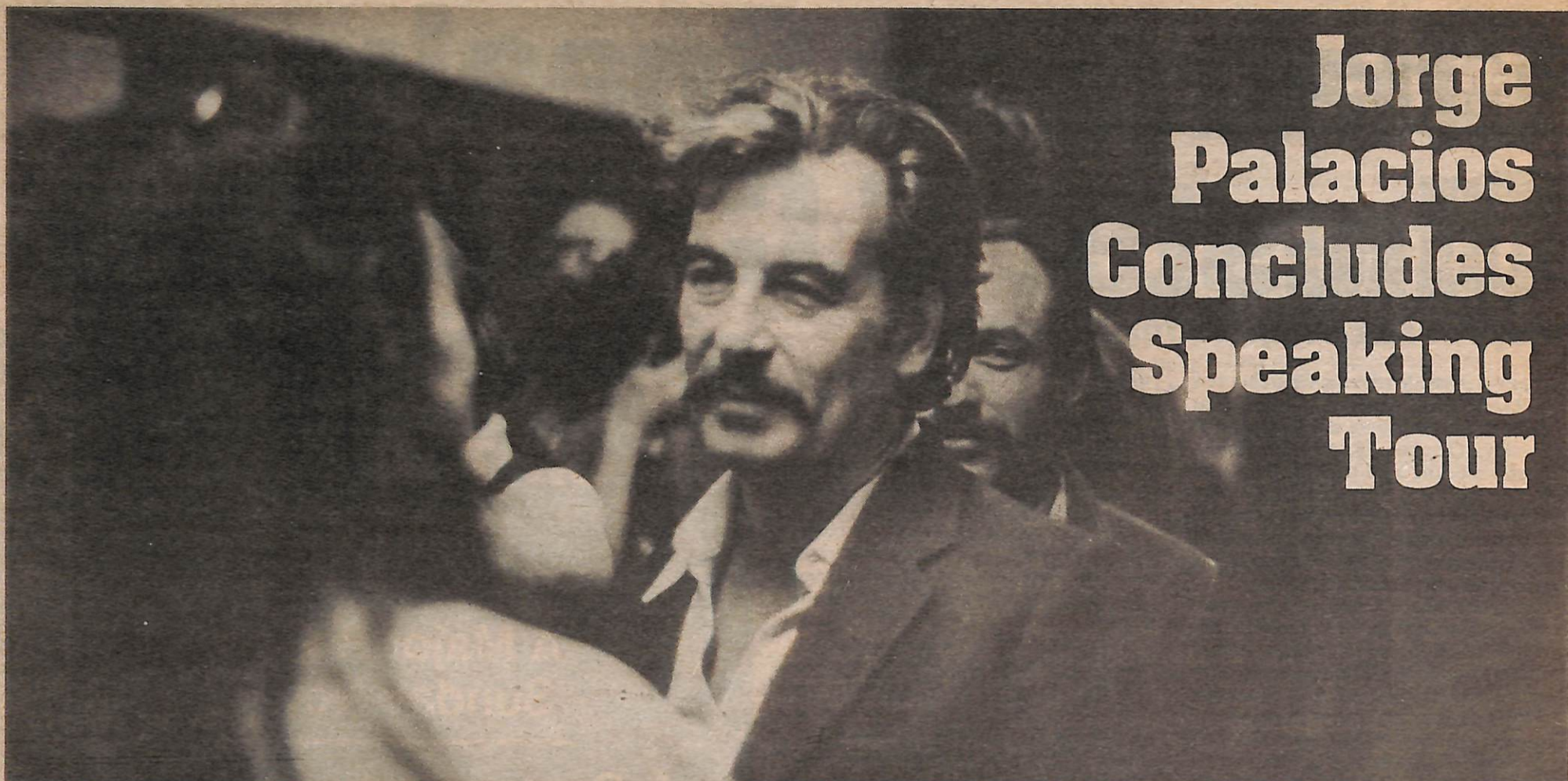
No arrests were made until the following morning. Then 88 demonstrators climbed the fences surrounding the base, sat down on the grass and waited for the guards to take them away. As they were handcuffed and carried to the waiting buses, the crowd of supporters on the other side of the fence dwindled.

Some left pleased. Another in a series of massive protests against Trident had ended peacefully. Others left more cynical, as fewer people had come this year than last. And many were frustrated. How many times would people climb the fence and go to jail? "It's all too symbolic" commented one protestor from Bellingham as he stood at the fence watching those arrested get loaded onto buses. He was only one of the many feeling the frustration of at-

tempting to stop Trident with passivity and non-violence.

Although it was a frustrating day for many of the demonstrators, it was certainly not a good day for the imperialists' war preparations. Once again thousands had expressed their determination to fight their war preparations and to find a way out of the madness that, if allowed to run its course, will bring World War 3. ■





Jorge Palacios Concludes Speaking Tour

Revolutionary Worker

Fighting Fascism, Combatting Opportunism

The month-long tour by Chilean revolutionary leader Jorge Palacios has come to a successful conclusion.

After touring both the East and West Coasts, Comrade Palacios spent the last week of October in the Midwest. He spoke before large audiences at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, as well as at smaller programs at several other universities. In the main event in Chicago—sponsored directly by the Chicago Committee of Frente del Pueblo, a mass organization of the Chilean resistance—he addressed a very enthusiastic crowd of 240 people of all nationalities in Chicago's mainly Mexican Pilsen community.

Palacios' Detroit appearance was particularly notable for the long and very serious question and answer period, including a very sharp exchange around why the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile follows Mao's line of uniting the working class with other class forces to make revolution, since in China where the working class did unite with a section of the capitalists to throw out the imperialists, the workers eventually found themselves under the heel of a new set of exploiters.

This program was followed by an informal, shirt-sleeve reception, as Comrade Palacios sat around until the small hours of the morning with a fascinated and varied group of people, including some class-conscious workers who'd closely followed Palacios' tour and read his book and others who'd never been to a political event before. By the end of the discussion people were so happy and excited at having had the opportunity to talk with a revolutionary leader from Chile and seeing in a concrete way how the working class in this country is fighting as a detachment of an international revolutionary army, that the smokey air itself in this small room seemed to vibrate with emotion.

The whole evening was symbolic of both the broad impact this tour had in awakening thousands of people to a fuller understanding of imperialism and revolution, and of its particular impact within the revolutionary ranks where it did so much to raise the sights and the spirits of the people. In all, about 4000 people attended Comrade Palacios' speech in seven major cities, including 20 university appearances—not including the many tens of thousands more who heard him in a number of radio and TV interviews. Although the pro-Soviet Communist Party and other revisionist forces tried to organize a boycott and sabotage the tour, causing problems in some areas, overall this clash added interest to the tour. It has had a lasting effect in several areas, especially among Latin Americans in the U.S. as well as revolutionary-

minded people in general.

The following are excerpts from Comrade Palacios' Oct. 27 Chicago speech. Here he spoke officially in his capacity as a member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile.

It has now been six years since the fascist dictatorship was established in Chile. Pinochet's military dictatorship finds itself extremely isolated, both inside Chile and internationally. Internationally, because progressive forces all over the world have looked with horror at its crimes and tortures. Inside Chile, not only because of their repression, but also because of the vicious super-exploitation which it has carried out against the workers, and because it has eliminated the middle industrial and commercial sectors to further the monopolist concentration of capital. Not only has the Christian Democratic Party, which supported the coup, come to oppose the junta, but also the major part of the Catholic Church and even certain sections within the professional associations which had been won over to supporting the coup in the past.

At the same time, a vast network of underground organizations has developed, which is mobilizing the masses to wage an increasingly more open and militant struggle against the dictatorship. Repression has become incapable of saving the fascist military regime. Today, if Pinochet stays in the government, that is due less to his ability to repress than to the influence in Chile of the pro-imperialist leaders of the Christian Democratic Party and the opportunist leaders who head up the pro-Soviet Communist Party and a few others who follow them in opposing the overthrow of Pinochet. These are the same leaders who, due to their opportunist politics, refusing to mobilize the people against fascism—even repressing their struggles during Allende's government, made the fascist coup d'etat possible....

The new betrayal on the part of the opportunists is in fact stabilizing Pinochet's government by opposing the struggle to overthrow him. So far they have permitted him to stay in power for more than six years, and even allowed him to achieve some economic successes; successes which were achieved, of course, at the expense of the worst lowering of the people's standard of living in Chile's history. The fact that this ferocious dictatorship, widely hated inside and outside of Chile, has remained in power so long, has led many powerful U.S. monopolies, which before refused to invest in Chile because of a lack of confidence in the dictatorship's ability to stay in the government, to begin investing. Recently the U.S. press spoke of plans to invest over \$1.5 billion in copper and other industries.

And one of the representatives of those foreign monopolies pointed out that they hadn't wasted even five minutes in discussing Chile's human rights with the Pinochet government.

In spite of this, some political forces who present themselves as firmly anti-dictatorship and opposed to the line of simply replacing Pinochet, have already spent six years trying to convince the leaders of the pro-Soviet Communist Party of Chile and those who follow them in the leadership of the Socialist Party, that it is necessary to overthrow Pinochet. Furthermore, instead of politically uniting with those forces which are truly fighting to overthrow him, at the head of the masses, in order to offer a clear alternative to the people and to the very party members who are deceived by the phony Communist Party, the Christian Democrats, and other forces headed up by opportunists and reactionaries, they insist on the need to fuse into a single bloc with the Communist Party of Chile and their followers.

This would lead, however, to the same situation which brought about the failure of Allende's government, in which phony communists and phony socialists played a leading role, opposing the struggles of the people and thus allowing fascism to grab the government. If those forces which block the revolutionary anti-fascist front persist in their erroneous stand, if they oppose a genuine unity of revolutionaries, demanding that this unity be carried out on the coat tails of the opportunists, they will also—in spite of their revolutionary phraseology—be found guilty of the continuation of the dictatorship and the suffering of our people.

Our Party, the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile, is making the maximum efforts, both inside and outside the country, to unite and to unite with, those political sectors and forces willing to place themselves at the head of a firm struggle to overthrow the fascist junta. We don't deny the possibility of common actions with those forces who, because of their own

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Chile: An Attempt at "Historic Compromise"
The Real Story of the Allende Years

by Jorge Palacios

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Report from Party Central Committee

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tween the ruling class and our Party is not some abstraction without any relation to the class struggle. Rather it is in fact not only a part of but in an important way a concentrated expression of what is going on in society as a whole.

In fact, some of the masses have come forward on the basis of seeing that when attacks come down on an organization like ours, that is precisely an attack on the working class and masses of people that we represent. They understand that precisely what the ruling class goes after first and foremost is that force which is the potential—and is developing as the actual—leadership; that when you want to go after the masses of people, over whom you have to tighten your grip and crack your whip harder, you go after the people, the organized force, that can lead them, most fundamentally, in doing something about it. And increasing numbers among the masses come forward and immediately grasp that this is what's involved and at stake; they don't see the attacks on our Party as something divorced from and unrelated to what's developing in society as a whole, but as a concentrated form of the class struggle in society, a particularly intense and acute form. And this should give us a sense of the importance of the battle around the Mao Tsetung Defendants.

Lenin wrote in one of his works (I think it was "The Collapse of the Second International") about how some people, even whole parties, become accustomed to relatively peaceful times and of the relative stagnation that can set in for periods when you're in an imperialist country; they become accustomed to more or less peaceful conditions and *evolutionary* change. And Lenin pointed out that as things sharpen up, and the conditions clearly begin to undergo dramatic change, some people do not go forward, and among them in particular there are two kinds of responses—they either panic or they just simply refuse to believe it, to believe that sudden and drastic changes are already taking place and will take place on an even grander scale in the period ahead.

And I think that we see some of this phenomenon right around us now: some people look reality right in the face and they try to deny it. Some people are saying, "Well, I don't really see why we say that world war is coming (and so on)"—when the signs of it are more and more *blatant* every day. And this is primarily an ideological question; it takes the form of a political line, but it's an ideological question—what are you going to do in the face of these developments? And some people actually take the attitude, whether they're fully conscious of it or not, and whether they openly formulate it this way or not, that maybe if they refuse to acknowledge that heavy things, including world war, are shaping up, then they might not happen (this, of course, is subjective idealism, and solipsism, in the extreme!)

Crisis, Lenin said, crushes and breaks some people, and other people it tempers and steels and strengthens. And overwhelmingly, he said, looking at the overall situation, those in the second category are the greater number. And all this is what's happening already, and will increasingly go on.

As an important part of this you see new people, coming forward especially from among the basic masses, more and more whose feeling is that the situation is intolerable. For some of them it's *been* intolerable for 30 or 40 years and their question especially is, what are we going to *do* about this? And with them it's more a question of explaining the necessary political work that has to go on, to temper their hatred and not have it just give vent to impatience, and then demoralization. Line is decisive. But the kind of revolutionary line we're putting out does have a dialectical relationship with social forces—if you put out this kind of line it brings forward social forces who see the need for, and more than that feel the urgency for, revolution—some of whom have felt the burning desire for drastic change for most of their lives, and others who are beginning for the first time to feel this way and to understand that it is necessary, and just maybe possible.

And in one of the cities in the tour, I was told that during the speech a middle-aged Black guy came out of the meeting about half-way through and he was crying. People asked him what was going on, and what he said was, "Listen that man up there is saying everything I've wanted to be able to say my whole life, I just can't believe it." It was overwhelming to him—he went back into the meeting—but it was so heavy for him, to actually see an organization that takes such an uncompromising stand, puts all this

together, explains it and explains what can be done about it.

To me this is not an isolated individual. He represents millions of people. Not enough yet to launch an insurrection, but millions of people. And this pinpoints this question: are we speaking to the real contradictions and the way things are moving and developing? Are we speaking for the people who have been on the bottom all along and have felt this way all their lives, as well as other people who see their conditions changing and recognize some new things for the first time? Or are we just crying in the darkness; is it the case that we are just gritting our teeth and doing all this because it's the *right* thing to do, even though it has no real relationship to the actual situation and its development?—another form of utopian socialism, idealism, moralism. And if we base ourselves on this utopianism—we have a better "idea," divorced from material reality—then we won't be able to keep pace with developments and maintain a revolutionary orientation and line. And this is exactly because things *are* sharpening up.

By grasping what's involved, we can get a much sharper sense of the importance of this meeting and the questions it is focusing on. I think that, all of us, to one degree or another, have become accustomed to living and working politically in a certain kind of context; and if we really want to be honest about it, as much as people have dedicated themselves to revolution and even put their lives on the line in certain situations, how many of us have really confronted until recently the question that maybe it is going to fall on us to actually do this in the period ahead? And that there is nobody else out here that is going to do this.

A Lot of Trouble

And this gets even sharper when you start really realizing that the imperialists *are* in a lot of trouble, they're in a *lot* of trouble. And one of the points that we've been stressing on the tour and more generally in talking to the masses is that *you* may not think that revolution is a serious possibility, but the rulers of this country think that it is a real possibility, and they're starting to talk about it more—and act on that understanding, too. That doesn't mean that it is certainly going to happen in the next period. But the question of whether it's a real possibility is something we have to get into very deeply, because it sets the objective stage and the framework for everything else we're talking about. If our basic analysis is wrong, that they're not really getting ready to, and being driven to, go to war and there's not really any serious crisis—already serious crisis and deeper crisis on the horizon, including world war—then what we're doing and what we're talking about doing, our political line and specific policies, etc. are all off, all wrong. They wouldn't fit the circumstances and would in fact subject us to unnecessary risks and sacrifices.

And, again, there is constantly the tendency to want to settle into whatever the present situation and level of our work is. And maybe it seems, subjectively, that every time the Party sort of settles into the tasks at hand, some people in Chicago, or somewhere just keeps upping the ante. But that's not what is happening, if we look at it more fundamentally. The ante keeps getting upped by the development of the objective situation, including what the ruling class is doing. We are coming to gulfs and chasms, and if we don't strain and leap—and maybe grab the other side by our fingernails and pull with every muscle, pull ourselves up, raise ourselves up, and then race and do it yet again—then it's not just abstractly we're not going to be able to ascend, but we're going to crash and be shattered.

Because, whether or not things develop all the way to a revolutionary situation in the period ahead, there is certainly going to be a heavy situation developing out here. The question is not whether heavy things are going to be happening, the question is whether they're going to be one-sided or two-sided in a basic sense. Whether there's going to be one program out here or two programs, one answer (with many different variations), or two answers as to which way things have to go. Whether or not things sharpen up all the way, they are *certainly* going to sharpen up. We're going to have to be making leaps. If you don't make these leaps, then you end up with nothing, because conditions change and the ground you've been standing on is continually cut out from underneath your feet, and either you leap or you don't move at all—except down. And the reason the ante keeps getting upped in terms of our tasks and what we're called on to do is that, by and large, the leadership of this Party has been correctly grasping this and formulating the lines and policies to

leap ahead in the face of these conditions—and not only the difficulties, but also the increasing opportunities they provide.

The kind of people we bring forward are gonna put some demands on us. It's not like when you go out with a trade-unionist line, and you bring forward another kind of social base. Instead we're bringing forward the *advanced* more and more. And these people are gonna put us to the test—what about this and this, and are you really serious? And so are the intermediate and the backward among the masses, in a different way—they're gonna jump in your shit all the time about every question going down. You're going to have to really read the *Revolutionary Worker*, you're gonna have to study *Revolution* and *The Communist*, you're gonna have to struggle ideologically and deal with questions coming up from all different sections of the masses. You're not going to be able to say, "I don't feel like talking about political questions today, I'm too tired," you're not going to be able to pick and choose *when* you will discuss world affairs. People are going to be coming up to you and *challenging* you, some from a more backward, and some from an advanced position.

We *all* have to study, we all have to strain and put heavy demands on ourselves—or really, struggle to meet the demands that *are* placed on us. Otherwise, you're really accepting—through the back door and self-cultivation—the very outlook that we're being attacked with: that being a revolutionary leader is some kind of question of a career or trying to be a great man or woman in history, rather than rising to the necessity and the responsibility you have to do what has to be done. And we should accept nothing less than striving to be on that kind of level. We'll let history judge how well we do, but we should do as well as we can.

Race Against Time

Because for the first time, we are actually confronting the fact that the situation *might*—not certainly will but *might*—ripen into a revolutionary situation in the period ahead—and what are we going to do about it? This, obviously, is a fundamental question, a decisive question of orientation and political line.

Looking at it in that light, we can see more clearly that we are in no position to be wasting time. This is not a question of hype, but in a real sense we are in a race against time. Things are going to be sharpening up anyway. If we decided to fold up our tents and go out of existence, that doesn't mean that the masses of people are going to have an easy life and that there's not going to be tremendous turmoil, upheaval, and destruction. So if we want to do something about it, if we want to be what we are and lead people to fight for their real interests, if we want to prepare for the future and the real possibility of revolution—and the certainty of greatly intensified conditions—then we've got to race against time in a real sense.

Do we really understand things this way? Do we really understand, for example—and just to take a somewhat arbitrary number—that whether or not a thousand networks of the *Revolutionary Worker* are actually developed might be decisive in determining whether or not we can make revolution in this country in the next decade—*might* be decisive, I don't say "will be," but will in any case be extremely important and might even be decisive.

And it goes back to what I raised at the start—how do we view the attacks on the Party, and specifically the battle around the Mao Tsetung Defendants. How do we see the fight to keep them from putting the Chairman of our Party in jail? Is this just another campaign, or is it a crucial battle? Does it have anything to do with the overall class struggle, is it a vital part of that, does it have any effect on building a revolutionary movement in this country and does it play a very important part in advancing that struggle or suffering a setback in it—does it in fact, even have a great deal to do with whether or not we will be in a significantly stronger or weaker position as things sharpen up and if indeed they do ripen to revolutionary conditions—is all this the case, or is it just something we have to do?

How do we look at the May Day demonstration? Do we understand it correctly, in this way: that whether or not we can make a success of May Day, whether we can actually mobilize many thousands of workers (and thousands of others), will tell us something very important about the situation, and more importantly will significantly and dramatically *change* the situation. Again, just as with the networks, and with the battle around the D.C. trial, (and the fund drive, too), whether or not we succeed with May Day may well have a lot to do with whether or not we can actually push things all the way, if the objective conditions do ripen.

Are all these urgent, do they have everything to do with preparing for revolution—whether the situation ripens sooner or only later—so that we have to study and wage theoretical, and ideological, struggle even while we're carrying out the work of building these battles and campaigns—and in fact, do this all the more deeply and thoroughly?

Somebody told me, for example, that on the leading body in one area, half the people have not yet read the article in *The Communist* on Enver Hoxha's book. I find that criminal. I don't think that's a situation we can tolerate. I frankly don't know how anybody in that situation could sleep—I couldn't sleep. As soon as I found out there was an article like that in *The Communist*, I don't care if I didn't eat or sleep for two

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Report from Party Central Committee

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days, I'd have read the goddamn thing. Maybe some people don't have as much freedom, but we're all very busy and working hard, so that's not the reason. There's something wrong with people's understanding if they don't stay up all night if necessary to study, especially something as important as that.

So, it comes back to this: how are we viewing things, how are we viewing the situation that is in fact sharpening up? Because the simple fact is that, until we can move and influence millions, even ultimately tens of millions of people, we can't do what we want to do, we can't launch an insurrection and seize power. And everything we're doing right now, especially the main campaigns and the work to develop and expand *Revolutionary Worker* distribution, build these networks, etc.—all this has everything to do with whether we will be able to move and influence those millions and tens of millions in the future, whenever the situation does fully ripen. As I said before, it is through this kind of political work that we will know, as the objective conditions sharpen up, what the mood is, what the contradictions are within that, and ultimately when in fact a revolutionary situation has ripened. And, as I also stressed, we are not just measuring the situation and the mood of the masses, we are also significantly *changing* them through this kind of work. We are not merely taking the pulse beat, we are *quicken*ing that pulse beat, accelerating the development of things.

And it is with this kind of understanding, and this sense of urgency, that we have to approach this whole meeting. We have to understand that we are not just meeting to discuss developments in the next few months, or even for the period up to May Day, we are setting a whole orientation for the whole period ahead.

Ideas and Questions on the Points

(1) The objective situation and our work.

Is there a real possibility that a revolutionary situation might actually ripen within this country in the next decade (through the working out of this spiral)? In my opinion, yes. This is not the same thing as saying it certainly will develop—nor that if it does we will certainly be able to succeed. We are talking about prospects and possibilities, not promises and guarantees. But, in any case, as Lenin put it, only the work of preparing for revolution, preparing to seize the time when a revolutionary situation does develop, whether sooner or later, "it is *only* work in this direction that deserves the name of socialist work." (*Collected Works*, Vol. 21, p. 258, "Collapse of the Second International")

But what leads to the conclusion that the *possibility* is a real one and not something so remote as to make preparation simply long-term and general principle? Our analysis of the "downward spiral"* is not only correct but is being more and more borne out. 1974-75 was indeed a serious crisis, and more than that did indicate that a qualitative—downward—leap had been taken (actually a few years before). And the "recovery," partial and temporary as it is, has been achieved largely through credit manipulations and inflation of currency—both internally and internationally—on a tremendous scale. This is a case of laying the basis for deeper, more devastating crisis in the future, under the conditions of—and through the recourse to—imperialism and incredible parasitism.

The present new "downturn" very likely will not mean a complete "crash"; and it is even possible that such a "crash" may not happen before the world war—though it may well. But should war come first, that would not at all constitute or signal some resolution of the crisis for the imperialists, in and of itself—for that, they would have to win the war, redivide the world favorably and at the same time prevent or significantly limit revolution leading to socialism in various parts of the world. War in itself is not the *end* of crisis (or a particular spiral), but on the contrary represents the extreme concentration of the contradiction of the imperialist system and the crisis that preceded and led up to the war. Lenin was dealing precisely with a crisis occasioned by the first world war when he drew the general conclusion that "it is the great significance of all crises that they make manifest what has been hidden; they cast aside all that is relative, superficial, and trivial; they sweep away the political litter and reveal the real mainsprings of the *class struggle*." (*CW*, Vol. 24, p. 213, "Lessons of the Crisis")

A basic question of great importance that has to be seriously taken up in connection with this: Under im-

perialism does war essentially, and on a grand scale, exercise the "purgative function" that economic crisis does under pre-monopoly capitalism; in a basic sense, is it correct to view the (major) spirals of imperialism as spirals from one inter-imperialist war to the next inter-imperialist war—being principal over and conditioning the cyclical development of the economy of the various capitalist countries, which (cyclical development) is not eliminated under imperialism but significantly altered by and subordinate to the spirals determined by inter-imperialist war? Historical analysis and examination of the economic situation in the various imperialist countries since the advent of imperialism seems to strongly suggest that this is in fact the basic pattern—or dialectic.

Returning, then, to the question of how the imperialists can resolve this crisis in their interests—and specifically to their necessity to *win* the war and achieve a *favorable new redivision*—our own imperialists in particular are not at all in the same favorable position they occupied before each of the two previous world wars. Then they were able to play the game of "sitting on the mountain top and watching the tigers fight". Why? Because *other* imperialists found their interests more directly and immediately threatened. But the division coming off WW2 has dictated that this time around it's the U.S. imperialists' turn to be "on the front lines"—even if the war starts in Europe or some other place outside U.S. borders (which it almost certainly will, though nuclear weapons could quickly change that and introduce a new and completely unprecedented element for the American people—massive destruction *in the U.S.* in inter-imperialist war). Already the U.S. imperialists have had to absorb the "preliminary tremors" before the inter-imperialist war—with Indochina being the most outstanding example—and this has taken no small toll on them. Thus, though it may well be true that, at the outset of the war, (if revolution has not prevented war), our imperialists may be strengthened economically, politically and ideologically, this will be fraught with sharp contradiction from the beginning and these contradictions will intensify as the war drags on and no quick victory or easy, "lay back" policy is possible for U.S. imperialism.

It is also possible that a revolutionary situation—occasioned by a serious economic crisis (including a "crash") and/or a serious political crisis (including the more blatant preparations for world war)—may develop before world war breaks out (and we must bend every effort to prepare for and seize this opportunity if it does arise to make revolution and prevent world war). This requires us to criticize the position taken at our Founding Congress and in the *Programme* adopted there—that only revolution in *both* superpowers could prevent world war. In my opinion, revolution in either superpower would drastically alter the world situation and might prevent world war—though some kind of global conflict resulting from inter-imperialist rivalry among the remaining imperialists might still occur.

Weak Link

All this is why both the possibility of a revolution in this country within the next decade and the necessity, and urgency, of preparing for this possibility, are real. Here a word must be said about the "weak link" formulation. This is spelled out in Stalin's work *Foundations of Leninism*, where in Chapter III, "Theory," Stalin says this: "The front of capital will be pierced where the chain of imperialism is weakest, for the proletarian revolution is the result of the breaking of the chain of the world imperialist front at its weakest link." (p. 29, Peking FLP, 1965)

A few comments on this. Stalin's main thrust and argument is against the Mensheviks and other social-democrats, as well as the Trotskyites, who, following the outlook of mechanical materialism and in particular the "theory of the productive forces," insisted that revolution must first take place in one or even a number of countries where capitalism was most developed. It was quite correct and necessary for Stalin to combat this, and not only does the "weak link" analysis have a good deal of truth to it, but it was an especially important weapon of the Marxist-Leninists of that time, particularly in explaining the basis for and consciously fighting to defend the newly emerged Soviet Republic.

But this analysis must not be mechanically applied either. This is important in at least three ways: (1) The "weak link" is not a static thing, but changes with the changes in the overall world situation and the situation in particular countries, which are of course dialectically related; (2) "weak link" should not be taken to mean that place where the imperialist system is literally the weakest, in (mechanical) materialist terms—i.e., where capitalism is the least developed—this would be the mirror opposite (the opposite pole of the same stupidity) of the Menshevik/Trotskyite line Stalin is combating. Weakness refers essentially to the political situation of the ruling class, to its being caught in a severe crisis, and not to the level of development of the productive forces in the particular country (remember, for example, that revolutionary situations and at least one serious attempt at seizing power did occur in Germany at the end of and shortly after WWI); and finally (3) the "weak link" formulation should not be taken to mean that revolutions could not occur in more than one country during the course of a particular crisis, especially a deep-going, international crisis (including world war)—revolutions are extremely unlikely to oc-

cur (or at least win victory) at exactly the same time in different countries (though even this is not impossible), but they may well occur in several countries during the course of the same crisis, if it is significant and long-lasting enough.

Seize It—or Throw It Away

All the above should help us to grasp more deeply the meaning and extreme significance of Lenin's analysis of a revolutionary situation and the sudden and dramatic leaps and changes, affecting literally millions in a concentrated way in a brief period of time. Lenin powerfully expressed this point in the following terms: "It is *not so often* that history places this form of struggle [revolution for the seizure of power] on the order of the day; but then its significance is felt for decades to come." (*CW*, Vol. 21, p. 254, "Collapse of the Second International") This emphasizes all the more the importance of preparation, of developing the revolutionary aspects within the non-revolutionary situation, and of the question—raised by the Chinese Communist Party in the "General Line" polemic—of seizing vs. throwing away the revolutionary opportunity. Lenin said that in non-revolutionary situations, to influence and mobilize thousands really means moving and leading "masses," for as the revolutionary situation develops, thousands become millions, and the thousands we have trained and kept "tense" during "ordinary times" become the *leaders* of the millions who quickly go into motion and learn in weeks what they can't learn in years of "normal times" once a revolutionary situation does ripen.

Even if a revolutionary situation does not mature through this spiral—or even if we are not able to win victory if it does develop—still if we carry out the only kind of work that deserves the name of communist work (to paraphrase Lenin), work to expose the system and prepare for revolution when the time finally does ripen, then even if we suffer severe repression in the short run and take some *organizational* defeats at the hands of the ruling class, we will remain unconquerable *politically*, our roots will go deep and spread broad enough that they cannot be completely pulled up, and our forces will be able to regroup, continue to hold aloft the banner of revolution, rally the advanced and continue the work of preparing for the future trial of strength and the eventual victory. And the significance of *this* will be felt for decades—it will lay the basis for future advances, rather than setting the struggle back for years to come (think where we'd be now if the old Communist Party [CPUSA] had consistently carried out a revolutionary line, even if it was for a time dealt a severe blow organizationally as a result of doing so!).

The Chinese Communist Party "General Line" polemic stresses that the Marxist-Leninist party must master all forms of struggle and be able to quickly change from one form of struggle, and one set of conditions to another. Otherwise it will not be able to win victory.

Lenin, in "The Collapse of the Second International" calls sharp attention to the ways in which the German party and others became accustomed to and corrupted by the relatively stable, peaceful atmosphere over several decades in their countries, and how this was dialectically related to the increasing adoption of opportunist policies by these parties—the "boil" which festered for a long time before finally bursting into social-chauvinism during WWI. Lenin also points to a further dialectic: the lack of preparation for the increasing repression against anyone carrying out a revolutionary line with the advent of the war meant that these parties' tendencies toward opportunism were strengthened—they were in no position to carry out a revolutionary defeatist line, except at the price of being virtually decimated organizationally. Of course, it would have been far better, as the class-conscious German workers insisted to these traitors, if they had gone to jail, even been killed, for upholding and educating the masses in a revolutionary line. And had they done so, they would have laid the basis for the regrouping and re-constituting of the revolutionary vanguard, on a more solid basis. But, even so, at best this would have meant that, because of their lack of organizational preparation, they would have suffered far greater losses than necessary. The point, again, is that there is a dialectical relationship between political preparation and organizational preparation, which means that they inter-penetrate with and significantly influence each other.

This is especially important for us to take up in light of the intensifying attacks on our Party and our analysis of the character of the '80s; all this requires us to have the correct organizational as well as political (and ideological) line and methods to be able to meet and counter these attacks and, most important, expand and deepen our revolutionary work.

And to repeat: the possibility of a revolutionary situation actually developing in this country in the next 10 years (through this spiral) certainly cannot be ruled out—nor can the possibility of actually seizing victory if such a situation does develop. And if this occurs, then surely the effects of our revolutionary work to prepare and then our attempt to scale the heights at the decisive moment will be felt for decades—even if that attempt should constitute a "dress rehearsal" for later victory, as Lenin summed up the role of the 1905 revolution in Russia.

(To be continued)

* This analysis of a "downward spiral" was made at the time of the founding of the Party in 1975 and has been deepened since. The second plenary session of the first Central Committee (1976) described it this way: "It means that, as opposed to earlier times in the post WW2 period, when the U.S. economy was hit by recession, things have entered into a specific downward spiral (not a straight line down) which will only give way to another spiral through a major change in the relation of forces in the world—redivision of the world, through war, among the imperialists, revolution, or—most likely—both, on a world scale." (*Revolutionary Work in a Non-Revolutionary Situation*, p. 3)

They're Trying to Kill Terrence Johnson

Marlboro, Maryland. October 26: Terrence Johnson, a 16-year-old Black youth who was sentenced to 25 years in jail last May for killing two crazed murdering pigs in self defense (see *RW* No. 2), was back in court for a hearing on his request for release on bail pending appeal. This hearing was crucial—the pigs are trying to kill Terrence in jail and they are dead serious about doing it!

Terrence Johnson came before the same twisted racist Judge Jacob S. Levin, who sentenced him in the first place. The judge gave him the maximum sentence for the charges of manslaughter and illegal use of a firearm that he was convicted on. At that time Levin had told Johnson to be thankful that the law limited what he could do to him. 100 people packed the courtroom and had brought a petition signed by 5,000 demanding Johnson's release.

The hearing began with Terrence taking the stand. His story horrified and outraged those who filled the courtroom. They burned with hatred for the prison guards at the Maryland Correctional Institution at Hagerstown who have been committing foul atrocities against the youth in their attempts to murder him in jail. He gave 30 separate examples, involving 13 prison guards. The list included: being stripped naked, called "nigger" and then pushed around and told to "throw a punch, and then we'll see who's a faggot and who's the tough guy," prison gates slammed on his face, beaten up, spit on, and numerous challenges like "if you're so tough, nigger, try for my gun."

It seems that every guard at Hagerstown wants to "re-enact" that night in the fingerprinting room in June, 1978 when Johnson had killed the two animals who were trying to kill him; only this time they wanted Johnson to become *their* victim—another "justifiable homicide", another notch on their guns.

But there was more. Terrence had been denied medical care in jail so there would be no evidence of the beatings he had received—evidence that could be used in court for his release hearing. In the Maryland Penitentiary where he had been sent just the night before the hearing, a fire had been set in his cell near his bed. He had awoken just as the fire was beginning to ignite his blanket.

Throughout the trial the judge exchanged smiles and small talk with the prosecutor and repeatedly interrupted Johnson to tell him to hurry up and finish. "Hasn't the FBI's civil rights unit been investigating the allegations you are making? What are their findings?", asked the Judge gleefully. He



Terrence Johnson arrives for hearing.

of course already knew the answer. The FBI, called in to investigate the treatment of Johnson and other Black prisoners at Hagerstown, had declared only days before that they saw nothing meriting "litigation" going on at Hagerstown.

Then Assistant Superintendent of the prison, Donald Kenneth Corning took the stand. Not only did he deny any harm had been done to Johnson but he revealed that a "prison board" made up of 2 guards and one prison official had declared the youth guilty of

"disobeying an officer," "breaking prison rules" and a large number of other bogus "offenses" and had already sentenced him to over 12 months in "segregation" (that is, the tiny, dark dungeon known to prisoners as "the hole"). Before this kangaroo prison board, Johnson was not even permitted to call other prisoners as witnesses. It was only his word against the guards!

Judge Levin had already made his decision before the hearing even began. He wanted his dream and the dream of his masters, fulfilled. He wanted Ter-

rence Johnson to get the death penalty. On Oct. 26, Johnson's motion for release on bond was DENIED "in the best interests of the 700,000 residents of this county (Prince Georges County)." But one thing for the consideration of Judge Levin and all those pigs who have Terrence Johnson in their clutches, the truth is out now and we have this to say: the eyes of the masses of people in Prince Georges County and around the country will be focused on what you do to Terrence Johnson. Keep your bloody hands off him!

PUERTO RICAN NATIONALISTS SPEAK IN NEW YORK

New York City, October 28. Hundreds of Puerto Ricans came from all parts of New York City to the school auditorium on 109th street in the barrio, to celebrate the anniversary of the nationalist revolution of Jayuya, October 30th, when 20 years ago the Puerto Rican people rose up in revolution against the domination of the U.S. imperialists. People came full of enthusiasm and impatient to hear two of the four nationalists who were recently released after 25 years in U.S. prison, Ervin Flores and Rafael Miranda.

When the two revolutionaries finally appeared, the warm applause shook the walls of the auditorium and it looked for a moment like people would never stop clapping. This was the second time that the two men have participated in public demonstrations since they got out of jail. Ervin Flores spoke first,

"Thousands of Puerto Ricans have been forced to leave their country and come and live in the very belly of the imperialist monster, but they have never forgotten that Puerto Rico must be liberated... I took part in the revolution of Jayuya in the '50s. The Americans used the National Guard of Puerto Rico. This Guard is led by North American imperialists, but it is made up of Puerto Ricans. The imperialists used this fact to say to the world that the struggle of the Puerto Rican people was not against yankee imperialism, but a struggle between Puerto Ricans."

After summing up the revolutionary movement which shook Puerto Rico in the decade of the 50s and the desperation of imperialism to smash the struggle for independence using all kinds of schemes, Flores indicated how the action of the nationalists at Blair House

and the armed assault on the Congress by the four were directed primarily at unmasking the maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and at the same time, to say before the whole world that the revolution of the Puerto Rican people was alive and that they would never allow the imperialists to dominate their country. "When we shot up that same Congress which sends its army to smash the peoples of the world, those men went running like chickens when they heard our shots."

Rafael Miranda continued, "I said it before, and I say today, I am not sorry for my action." Speaking in English, Miranda said, "Yes, I must speak English since there are American brothers and sisters who do not speak Spanish, but who are part of our people."

Miranda emphasized internationalism. He talked about how the enemy of

the Puerto Rican people is not the North American people, but rather how the people have a common enemy—imperialism. They concluded by calling for strengthening the unity in the pro-independence movement, saying, "If we did not lose our faith in our people as we held out for 25 years imprisoned in the dungeons of North American imperialism, much less are we going to lose it now that we are among you."

In a rushed interview at the end of the program Miranda took the time to speak with the *Revolutionary Worker*. When asked what had sustained him in jail for 25 years, this freedom fighter answered, "Faith in the people, faith in myself and faith in what we're fighting for."

Gov't Twists Truth on Sickle Cell

Carol is a 22 year-old Black woman. Her life has been a history of pain—the recurring bouts of bone-crushing pain that comes with Sickle Cell Anemia (SCA). An average of two weeks out of every two months of every year of Carol's life has been spent in the hospital where she is given pain-numbing drugs and I.V.s. Massive iron deposits from innumerable transfusions have caused her heart to malfunction, and her liver and spleen are enlarged, a complication of Sickle Cell Anemia that frequently results in death.

When she is not in the hospital, Carol works as a receptionist at a doctor's office, a job that requires little physical exertion. She never knows when sickle cell crisis will strike. Usually there is a short warning that the blood is starting to "sickle" when she is overcome by a feeling of total weakness. But under emotional or physical stress Carol has been known to suddenly drop into a coma, only to wake up hours or days later in the hospital, wracked once more by the agonizing pain of sickle cell crisis.

Carol's case is severe. But tens of thousands of Black people in the U.S. suffer from similar effects of the disease. It is a cause of early death for many with the highest mortality rate being for children under five.

* * * *

Sickle Cell Anemia:crippler, tormentor, killer of Black people. For years this disease, which afflicts an estimated 50-60,000 Blacks in the U.S., was virtually ignored and unknown in this country, except by those who suffered and witnessed its pain.

As early as 1949, Sickle Cell Anemia had been identified as a genetic mutation of the blood hemoglobin which is passed in the genes from parent to child. A simple test had been developed to diagnose the disease. Yet by 1970 there were no testing programs. Many doctors and health workers were totally unaware that the disease existed. In 1970, a total of \$66,000 was spent on research into the cause and treatment of SCA.

As far as the capitalists are concerned, there was no need to devote money and resources to a disease which afflicted mainly Black people, the poorest and most "expendable" of their wage slaves. If some died, so what? SCA was

simply one more misery that would have to be suffered in silence by Blacks.

The "discovery" of Sickle Cell Anemia by the bourgeoisie was prompted by the powerful Black liberation struggle of the latter '60s and early '70s. Shaken by the storms of rebellion that laid bare the brutal and systematic oppression of Blacks, the ruling class scrambled to cool things out by promising reforms, and coming up with a few token concessions to give the appearance of addressing the needs of Black people. They ran ads on nationwide TV expressing their new-found "concern" about this disease of Black people and set up a few showcase programs.

Almost 10 years have passed, and where are things at today? As an editorial in the Sept. 27 *Chicago Defender*, a Black daily commented: "You don't hear much about Sickle Cell Anemia any more." In fact, if you don't listen to a Black radio station, you probably don't know that September was Sickle Cell Anemia Month.

Why don't you hear too much about SCA anymore? It is certainly not because the problem of the disease has been solved, like polio and other diseases which can now be prevented. There is still no cure for SCA. There is still no way to reverse the sickling process in the blood, or to prevent the disease from being passed on to future generations. SCA is as widespread today as ever.

As part of the wholesale attacks on the gains won from the struggle of Black people and the intensifying oppression of Blacks and other minority nationalities, the bourgeoisie is trying to cut every possible social program they can get away with. Along with the Bakke and Weber decisions, comes cuts in various "equal opportunity" programs as well. This is very much brought on by their deepening economic crisis.

The wall of silence around Sickle Cell Anemia has been reconstructed as part of a conscious reversal of all efforts, however small, to diagnose and treat SCA. In the early '70s, 12 states passed statutes requiring mandatory screening for SCA in newborns and/or school children. Today every state except New York has struck this law from the books, on the most reactionary and transparently ridiculous grounds.

In Mississippi, the law was struck down because it was "exclusionary"—it only required that SCA tests be perform-

ed on Black children. It would be hard to find a more ludicrous extension of the ridiculous "reverse discrimination" bull now being spread. In the District of Columbia, which is 80% Black, mandatory screening of school children was overturned because it "coerced" all children, white as well as Black, to have the test. The law was thrown out in Virginia because it (can you believe?) "violated the civil rights" of prisoners and mental patients who were required to have the test.

The effect of slashing these mandatory programs was to spare the government the expense of widescale screening programs, while leaving thousands of cases of SCA undiagnosed and untreated. Needless to say, the concern for individual "freedom" which led them to strike down these laws did not lead them to implement voluntary screening programs in their place.

Most doctors agree that screening of newborns would save lives, since the early symptoms are often hard to detect, and young children can die of strokes and infections before the disease is recognized. Yet most public hospitals, faced with budget cuts and limited funds, do not routinely screen newborns for SCA, though all it requires is a simple blood test. However, Sickle Cell tests are routinely given in most hospitals before they operate on Black people, to protect the hospital and doctors from malpractice suits if the patient dies in surgery.

Treatment of SCA patients has not improved. It has gotten harder to get and harder to pay for, as unemployment rises and inflation drives up medical costs. More people are forced to endure the agony of Sickle Cell crisis in their homes, without potentially life-saving medical supervision, or in overcrowded emergency rooms at county hospitals. Other health care cutbacks have had disastrous consequences for Sickle Cell patients. The new abortion laws that severely limit federally funded abortions make it virtually impossible for women with SCA who can't afford to pay for an abortion to get one, even though pregnancy poses a much greater risk to both the mother and child than for women without the disease.

Most hospitals still do not have SCA specialists or adequately trained staff to deal with the disease, and special training programs are being cut back. In 1977, the government did not renew grants for five of the 15 Comprehensive Sickle Cell Centers for research and

education that were set up in 1972. Today there is only one center in the South where almost half of the Black population lives.

To justify these reversals and cutbacks, millions of dollars have been spent on a massive campaign to popularize the idea that Sickle Cell Anemia is really no big deal and has no real serious effects on those that have it and people that have it should just learn to live with the "minor inconveniences" it causes.

Sickle Cell foundations across the country have devoted their main work to what they call "countering the psychological fallout from the disease." The donations that people send in are used to churn out reams of literature to spread the idea that SCA is really nothing to worry about. One popular pamphlet is entitled "Helping Your Child to Live with Sickle Cell Anemia." Another brochure says it straight out: "The hoped-for breakthroughs (in finding a cure for SCA—RW) have not materialized... Now we must concentrate greater effort on the psychological front." They won't cure you, but they'll reassure you.

Is Sickle Cell Anemia a deadly disease? "Flatly untrue," says the latest literature on SCA, "A gross exaggeration." A primer for physicians instructs doctors to tell their patients that "the prediction which is often quoted of 50% dying by age 20 is grossly inaccurate." Do they say what is an accurate figure for mortality or life expectancy? No, because they have not even bothered to determine what percentage of children die from the disease.

Don't use the word "crisis" to describe the recurring bouts of pain, advises the doctor's manual. Call them "pain episodes," a less frightening term. And spare your child the psychological trauma of bringing him to the hospital. Just keep him at home and give him a couple of aspirin. The sickling process will eventually reverse by itself.

Don't test for Sickle Cell trait. The test is "more harmful than beneficial," they say, because it can cause "needless fear and anxiety" in those who carry the trait but do not have the disease. Since there is no counseling or treatment, people are really better off not knowing they carry the trait and can pass SCA to their children.

This is the bourgeoisie's new plan to wipe out Sickle Cell Anemia—to try to blot it out of people's minds. ■

Cops Get New Sentence for Joe Torres Murder

First \$1 Fine—Now This!

New outrages have been added to the Joe Torres case in Houston, Texas as the cops who were convicted of murdering him have been resentenced in Federal Court. In the face of the demands of the Chicano people of Houston and others across the country for "Justice for Joe Torres," three of the six pigs who murdered him and threw him in the sewer (called Buffalo Bayou) two and a half years ago, were convicted in State Court of negligent criminal homicide—a misdemeanor. They were each fined \$1. Also they were convicted in Judge Ross Sterling's Federal Court of violating Torres' civil rights and sentenced to 10 years probation. They were also convicted and given a 1-year sentence (which they have yet to serve) on charges of misdemeanor assault. These outrageous deci-

sions, especially the \$1 fine, fueled the burning anger of the people that exploded in the righteous Moody Park Rebellion on May 7, 1978.

Recently, assistant U.S. Attorney Mary Sinderson, one of two attorneys in charge of the U.S. Attorney's civil rights section, filed an appeal of Judge Sterling's sentence. The appeals court ruled that Sterling would have to resentence the cops since probation cannot be given on charges that carry potential life terms. Last week he resentenced the cops to a year and one day to run concurrently with the year term they are slated to serve for the misdemeanor charges. This new sentence means that these pigs, who murdered Joe Torres and who knows how many others, will actually serve less time than they were already suppos-

ed to serve. It seems that, according to state law, jail terms of one year or less are not eligible for parole. But with the new year and a day sentence, the cops will be eligible for parole in one third of a year.

"Now," the bourgeoisie and its flunkey's are saying, "Are you happy? You got a resentencing and justice has been done. Case closed." Yes, justice has been done—the same kind of bourgeois justice that drowned Joe Torres in the Bayou. Like the people chanted in Moody Park on the night of the rebellion, "Joe Torres dead, cops go free—That's what the rich call democracy." ■

In another related item regarding

bourgeois justice, a federal judge has thrown out the "unprecedented lawsuit" filed a few months ago by the federal government, against Philadelphia mayor Frank Rizzo, 19 other city officials, and the Philly police department. This whole affair was a classic example of a common little charade played by the government. First they made a big deal about the "unprecedented suit" against a "pervasive pattern of police abuse" to try to make it seem like they were going to do something even if it only was a little slap on the wrist, and then after a little time has passed they very quietly drop the whole thing. Of course, they never intended to do a damn thing about the Philadelphia police department or any other one except beef them up. ■

Tom Snyder Gets a Taste of Tomorrow



"I never saw Tom Snyder get the socks knocked off him before... my dad always told me to forget about politics, but Avakian's politics are something else!" said a Chicano vet watching the Chairman on TV with a dozen friends from the electronics plant where he works.

For two weeks they had postponed Bob Avakian's agreed on appearance on the Tom Snyder "Tomorrow Show." And finally on October 30 when it did come on, Tom played his card. He had come up with somebody who he could "feel comfortable" with after Bob had said all that "nasty stuff" on his show. As Tom put it at the beginning of the show, "It's depressing, the man thinks the U.S. government ought to be overthrown violently." But his next guest—aah! here was "Mr. John Ebling," whose credentials included imitating a Russian official in front of 3000 CIA and FBI agents—to get them all hot and patriotic. Now here was somebody Tom could really relate to—and by the time it was all over, Tom "tough guy" Snyder was gushing all over this foaming reac-

tionary. Not depressing at all, right Tom? Just like therapy—he made Tom feel safe. Ebling kept on babbling about how we should all "feel good about America and free enterprise." "It's wonderful here!"

Ebling's little act was real sharp—and a real upper. He described performing in front of a "good Christian crowd" and getting them to "fight that third world war in their minds right there. They see it happening to them and they all get together for that great show of hatred for the godless, the atheist, the un-American." Well, Tom, sorry you find the Chairman and revolution depressing.

Some other's don't. Like a story we got from the San Francisco Bay Area the day after. One guy was standing at a bus stop, wearing a button with Bob's picture on it. A Black guy waiting for the bus came up to him and said, "Hey, I saw my man on TV last night." He promptly bought a copy of the *Revolutionary Worker*.

FRASER TAKES FITTING SEAT ON CHRYSLER BOARD

On the heels of a traitorous tentative agreement between the UAW and Chrysler Corporation that is significantly worse than the contracts with GM and Ford, it was announced that UAW president Doug Fraser would become a member of the Chrysler board of directors. This move is more than simply a reward from the bourgeoisie to one of its faithful lackeys. It is aimed at promoting the ideas of harmony and common interest between the workers and the capitalists that are the trademarks of social democrats like Fraser.

In fact the whole Chrysler-Fraser affair is a classic example of what these smiling "spokesmen for the working class" who sometimes mention that they are some kind of "socialist" are all about. First they preside over and work closely with the bourgeoisie in pushing through a sharp attack on the masses, and then they offer "consolation" to those they have screwed over by pointing to what a tremendous advance it is for the "people" to have their "own" representatives (social democrats) in positions of power and influence. Their "consolation" is itself another attack aimed at pouring cold water on the inevitable anger that erupts when the bourgeoisie attacks and channeling the struggle down a harmless reformist dead end.

Thus Fraser proclaimed that his election to the Chrysler board shows that now the workers can help run the very



corporations that suck their blood every day and can help "control their own destiny" by having a voice (Fraser's, of course) in high places. And behind his spineless back he clutched the knife he had just jammed into the back of the Chrysler workers. He had just worked out a settlement with the company that

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saves the company at least \$438 million stolen directly from the Chrysler workers.

The settlement included: a delay in wage and benefit increases, allowing Chrysler to divert \$200 million in payments to the pension fund, a cut in the cost of living allowances, lower pen-

sions, and fewer paid personal days. All this was conceded in exchange for the milestone "concession" of putting Fraser on the Chrysler board of directors. From this example alone it should be clear exactly what people like Fraser are all about.

Debate with CPML Begins

Two weeks ago we issued a challenge to the CPML for a debate on the situation in China. We offered to exchange articles in each other's newspapers as the form of debate. Since the CPML has not yet replied, we have decided to begin printing their articles anyway. The first installment which appeared in the October 1st issue of *The Call* was titled—unbelievably, as usual—"China's flourishing culture seen in Bob Hope special." Among other things, this article shows that in order to reverse right and wrong politically, *The Call* also has to go to great lengths to reverse long settled questions such as whether or not Bob Hope is funny. The Gang of Four are accused of suppressing reactionary comedians like Mr. USO Bob Hope, who was also run out of Vietnam by the American troops he was sent to entertain. If this charge against the Four is true, then this proves conclusively that not only did they have a correct political line, but they were also artistically excellent and had a great sense of humor. The Revolutionary Worker printed an article on this same Bob Hope special in the September 21st issue. The *Call* article is reprinted in full below:

China's flourishing culture seen in Bob Hope special

Bob Hope's TV special "On the

Road to China" provided American audiences with a good look at China's flourishing cultural life in the wake of the gang of four.

The three-hour special, which was a product of a four-week stay in China by Hope and his company, featured traditional Chinese opera, acrobatics, classical ballet and skits performed by three Chinese comedians.

The cultural dictatorship imposed on the Chinese people by the gang had suppressed most of these art forms. In fact, one of the comedians had been jailed for his political opposition to the gang and the two others forced to abandon their craft.

In place of a hundred flowers blossoming, the gang created a cultural desert. Jiang Qing's eight "model works," with their stereotyped style, were performed endlessly and nothing else was allowed.

The recent TV special, aired Sept. 16 on NBC, demonstrated that China is again experimenting with and mastering many different art forms. Compared to life under the gang, in fact, a cultural revolution of sorts is taking place in China today.

The U.S. contribution to this cultural exchange was well within the mainstream of American culture but without any of the T'n'A usually associated with variety shows. Peaches and Herb and Crystal Gale carried the disco and country rock sounds to China while Big Bird of *Sesame Street* and mimes

Shields and Yarnell added comedy.

The show featured two especially touching moments. One was the reception given Mikhail Baryshnikov by a Chinese ballet company which had been unable to perform for nearly a decade due to the gang's xenophobic outlook. Classical ballet was one-sidedly viewed as bourgeois and "foreign" although millions find great beauty and powerful emotions in the incredible technique demanded by this art.

The other moment was an exchange between Hope and the three comedians whose pantomimes were both hilarious and poignant in light of the fact that their talent had been suppressed for so many years.

One thing marring the show were the chauvinist remarks made by Hope. But

some of his humor was in fact geared to the Chinese. Hope confided that they especially liked two of his jokes.

One was a crack about how he had enjoyed the ride from Beijing airport even though the handlebars were a little rough. Another was when he quipped after a toast of Mao-tai, "One sip of that and your head will have a cultural revolution."

The Hope special had a larger significance, though, than just a cultural exchange. In part because of Hope's immense popularity among the American people, his "On the Road to China" special was symbolic of the developing ties of friendship between the American and Chinese people. ■

Gestapo Attack at Cabrini-Green

The Oct. 12 issue of the *RW* reported on the construction of an iron fence around the Cabrini-Green public housing project in Chicago and the militant resistance of the people to this attempt to wall off the projects and pave the way for the bourgeoisie's plans to resettle the area with white, upper-income residents.

Not only did the residents tear up, dig up and saw through sections of the fence, but when police came into Cabrini-Green to harass some youths, people overturned two pig cars and set one ablaze. Tenants also organized to protest against rent increases of up to \$100/month which were aimed at driving people out of the projects. One organizer, Rosemary West, collected 500 signatures on a petition in the space of a few days, and then went on a local radio show to expose the intolerable conditions in this made-in-America bantustan.

This was too much. On the night of

Oct. 29 Rosemary West was watching TV in her fifth-floor apartment in a Cabrini-Green hi-rise. Suddenly the door burst open and 3 well-known Chicago detectives forced their way in, brandishing pistols and a rifle. While two armed pigs stood guard outside the door, the thugs swaggered through the rooms, thrusting their weapons in the woman's face. Foamy-mouthed, they spat out their message: "We're tired of this shit. The CHA (Chicago Housing Authority) is tired of this shit. We're not going to put up with it any more." With that, the pigs slammed out, retreating nervously down the corridor, guns at the ready.

What was "this shit" that prompted this gestapo-style invasion? Nothing more than an attempt to stand up against oppression. "They are trying to intimidate me," said Rosemary West. "But I have been living in Cabrini-Green too long to scare that easy." ■

"Singin' in the Acid"



Hundreds of fishless lakes in the northeastern U.S. and Canada—90 in the Adirondack Mountains alone. Reports of corrosion eating away at marble statues and buildings. Lakes and drinking water in some areas contaminated with poisonous mercury and lead picked up in the runoff. Rainwater is fast becoming a corrosive and poisonous acid.

The cause and effects of acid rain have long been documented but this has meant nothing to the U.S. capitalist class. Over the last few years, they have worked to expand their use of coal, particularly the highly-polluting, high-sulfur-content coal. And this despite the fact the pollutants of coal-burning power plants and factories, sulfur and nitric oxide, are the raw ingredients of acid rain.

The result is that acid rain is rapidly growing worse. A recent study of acid rain in the Rocky Mountain states has found that the acid content of rain has increased five to ten times in just three years.

And the worst is yet to come. With the dollar falling like a rock while their balance of payments deficit soars, the appeal of high-sulfur coal which can be cheaply strip mined in many parts of the country has become irresistible. The fact that high sulfur coal causes the most sulfur, acid-rain producing pollution of all is thrown to the winds.

Jimmy Carter's summer "energy crisis" program called for "relaxing" the few remaining pollution-prevention requirements on coal-burning power plants and the lifting of restraints on the use of the high sulfur coal.

The response of the Environmental Protection Agency to this has, appropriately enough, been the funding of "a study of aging tombstones throughout the U.S." to "reach a better understanding of acid rain effects." No doubt they expect plenty more tombstones to "study" in the years to come.

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WORLD IN STRUGGLE

El Salvador

Two weeks of nearly continuous reports from the U.S. government, the Western press, and the junta about how calm things are in El Salvador were shattered on October 29 when troops and armored cars and sharpshooters on rooftops opened fire on an anti-government demonstration. After hitting the demonstrators, the junta's soldiers drove up and down nearby streets, machine-gunning people walking by. At least 50 people were reported killed and well over 100 wounded.

Immediately following the attack, State Department officials, who asked to remain anonymous, told the press that the U.S. government is willing to supply the junta with riot control equipment, since, according to these officials, the junta is sincerely trying to ease the repression of the Romero regime it replaced on Oct. 15. This points up very sharply the dilemma facing the junta and its U.S. masters. While desperately needing the mask of "democracy" to win large sections of the people to support the government, they continue to unleash the most brutal repression in an attempt to halt the revolutionary movement of the El Salvadoran people.

And that movement has increasingly been aimed at the bloody hand of U.S. imperialism behind the junta. Within hours of the U.S. government's offer of riot control equipment, 300 demonstrators marched on the U.S. Embassy in protest and attempted to scale the walls of the Embassy grounds, throwing firebombs. There were also shots fired both by demonstrators and by the Salvadoran National Guard and U.S. Marines. Two demonstrators and two marines were wounded.

These latest actions came less than a week after 1000 people marched in a demonstration called by the Popular Revolutionary Bloc (BPR), at the end of which 100 of the marchers occupied two government buildings, the Ministry of Labor and Ministry of Economy. As we go to press, they are still holding certain officials as hostages, including three top Cabinet ministers and five top officials of ABECAFE, one of the largest organizations of coffee growers in the country. Their demands include freedom for all political prisoners (which the junta says it "can't find" in the country's jails), land for the campesinos, a 100% increase in wages, and an end to layoffs and factory shutdowns.

Since the new junta came to power, revolutionaries in El Salvador have been exposing the manipulations of the government through loudspeakers on the government buildings and churches they have occupied, and through masked teams of agitators with leaflets on the streets of San Salvador and the other major cities. The mask of "democracy," which U.S. imperialism has worked so hard to install with the recent coup in El Salvador, is being ripped apart by the revolutionary movement of the El Salvadoran people.



Women members of the Popular Revolutionary Bloc (BPR) denounce "demagogic maneuvers" of the new ruling junta.

Kurdish Rebels Retake Mehabad

The tables have turned in Mehabad, in northwest Iran. On October 20, after a week of fighting, the Kurdish people drove the government troops out of this key city, taking over the radio station and the city government. This is a great blow to the reactionary regime of Ayatollah Khomeini, who last month claimed to have crushed the Kurdish struggle when his Islamic "revolutionary guards" and government troops occupied Mehabad.

In cities all over Kurdistan, there is a see-saw, tit-for-tat struggle going on. First the government viciously attacking and taking over, then the masses coming to seize back what the government has taken. Ezzedin Hosseini, the prominent Kurdish religious leader denounced by Khomeini, has issued a call from his headquarters in the mountains for all the people to join in the struggle for a democratic Iran and for autonomy in Kurdistan. Tens of thousands of Kurdish revolutionary fighters—known as Pesh Mergas—have launched lightning attacks on Khomeini's forces from their mountain bases, making it impossible for the government to consolidate its control over the area.

The Khomeini-Bazargan government has been determined to make an example out of this struggle and to demonstrate the high price of challenging their rule. The government attacks on the Kurds have been

ruthless. Every time revolutionaries are executed, their pictures have been printed in the major newspapers, branded as Zionist, imperialist and communist traitors. One 12-year-old boy was executed for throwing a Molotov cocktail; in another incident, the government forces took over a Kurdish hospital where revolutionary doctors were treating the wounded. They set up mock trials and killed the doctors as well as their patients, assuming the patients must be revolutionaries if they were being treated by these doctors.

This brute force has steeled the people's hatred and determination and strengthened their unity throughout Kurdistan. When the government was attacking the town of Saqqez last month, one of the peasant associations in the area came under siege, losing several people and running out of ammunition. The people of a nearby town found out about this critical situation, put out a call for all to come out and help, and began to walk towards Saqqez, which was several hours away. Everyone joined in, bringing guns and anything else they could find, and marched to the besieged town to help take it back. Instead of putting an end to the people's struggle, the government's continuing brutality has only resulted in the formation of new battalions of Kurdish revolutionary fighters, preparing for the decisive battles ahead.



Demonstration of 50,000 in Guatemala City.
Guatemala

Over 50,000 people marched in Guatemala City, the capital of Guatemala, on October 20, protesting against the government of General Romero Lucas Garcia and U.S. political and economic domination of that country. They were joined by another 100,000 marching in the major provincial cities Quetzal Tenango, Escuintla, Huehuetenango. The marchers demanded freedom for political prisoners, higher wages, and land for the peasants. Banners read, "Imperialism Squeezes the Worker Dry," while they chanted "Death to the Gorilla," and "The Revolution to Power."

Under the Lucas regime, political repression in Guatemala has totaled almost 3,000 dead in the last year—an average of eight per day. On March 22 of this year, 150 Kelchi Indians in the town of Panzos were machine-gunned from an army helicopter while fighting to take back land that had been stolen from them.

The repression in Guatemala is designed to protect the interests of the U.S. corporations and banks. As a high official of FIASA (a development bank operated by the U.S. government's Agency for International Development) has said, "Our board of directors rules Guatemalan industry. They own most of it." The results of U.S. rule for the Guatemalan people are an average daily wage of \$1, an average life expectancy of 38 years, 66% illiteracy rate, and vicious oppression of the native Indian people who make up 60% of Guatemala's population.

The struggle of the Guatemalan people is another in the chain of "dominoes" that threaten U.S. domination in all of Central America. Future issues of the RW will have more coverage of the developing situation in Guatemala.

Palacios

Continued from page 6

reactionary plans, oppose fascism. But to join with them in a single front, arguing that they bring together many sections of the people, is to allow them to continue to deceive these sections. It means preventing those sections from seeing a clear anti-fascist alternative with a revolutionary outlook. It means, at best, returning to the old systems of bourgeois democracy, behind which stand the Pinochets with their repressive instruments still intact to establish fascism again as soon as they find it necessary. It means, at most, changing the mask of the dictatorship with a government which could not affect the reactionary interests of those who promoted the coup. It means creating favorable ground for opportunists of all types to once again deceive the people and halt their struggles, by threatening them with the specter of fascism's return. Not only does the possibility of uprooting fascism from our country and eliminating its repressive instruments depend on this unity of the revolutionary sectors and forces, but so also does the future of our country, its socialist future.

Our Party, in creating the anti-fascist People's Front in the first months following the coup d'etat, intended only to show an example of what a genuine front against the dictatorship should be and to put forward a minimum program for those who want to overthrow the junta. Since then, as important sections of the ex-Popular Unity and those outside of it have been moving forward and drawing lessons from the past, and have developed re-

volutionary positions, moving towards a Marxist interpretation of what happened and also of the future, we have tightened our political ties with them and have carried out combined work at various levels and various places inside and outside of Chile. We feel that as this political unity becomes stronger, we must together draw up an anti-fascist program and a program for the government which will replace the junta when it is overthrown. We must together forge a large anti-fascist front which Frente del Pueblo (People's Front) can become a part of, without creating problems as to its own status or name, and putting principles above all. At the same time, facing the possibility that Pinochet might be replaced, as the struggle to overthrow him intensifies, we must come to an agreement to oppose the opportunists' efforts to sabotage the struggle, as they certainly would in such an event.

Due to this urgent and necessary unity of the consistent anti-fascist forces, we must place what unites them above all, and fraternally discuss the differences which exist with regard to the future of the revolution in our country.

As I pointed out before, the major obstacle today in overthrowing Pinochet is not so much his repression, which is beginning to be openly challenged, but rather, the still strong influence of the opportunists. The first task of genuine revolutionaries is to defeat that influence, in order to open the way for a massive armed struggle to overthrow Pinochet and crush his armed apparatus. As Lenin pointed out, without combatting opportunism, it is impossible to carry out a genuine revolutionary and anti-imperialist struggle. ■

This is the final article in a series by Bob Saibel, a revolutionary activist and writer who has recently returned from a two-and-a-half month stay in Iran. He was a first-hand witness to the work and ideas of the Iranian Left and was in the thick of the developing revolutionary struggle of the people from Tehran to Kurdistan. He is now writing a book on his trip, which will be published in a few months.

This being my last article of this series, I felt it was appropriate to end by writing about the lasting impressions that the Iranian communists who were my hosts during my stay in the country made on me. Their determination to advance their revolutionary cause and their internationalist stand with revolution and revolutionaries all over the world were firm. This determination and stand were characteristic of the advanced forces of the revolutionary Left who are in the forefront, pushing the Iranian revolution forward. My story begins from the moment I arrived in Iran.

It was 2:30 a.m. when I got into Tehran. I had missed a connecting flight earlier, so my hosts were not on hand to meet me when I arrived, this past June. I called one of them up and got my first taste of the political scene in Iran. He couldn't come and meet me. Armed members of the Khomeini-Bazargan government's Islamic Revolutionary Committees (komitehs) were in the streets at night and if he and I were stopped together it could be bad for both of us. He was a communist, and would be thrown in jail as an "agent of foreign imperialism." I could be thrown out of the country for being in contact with him.

When I finally did get to his home the next day after a night in a hotel, it turned out I could only stay there one night. The neighborhood komiteh had its headquarters down the street, and they were very interested in his household.

The next day I was taken to where I would be staying more permanently; the apartment of a young couple living in central Tehran. They were revolutionary leftists also, but not well-known. The first 48 hours in Iran had sharpened many questions in my mind. I wondered how revolutionaries here were advancing their work, in a situa-

tionaries to take such a direct interest in what was happening there, and more importantly, to build support for their struggle among the American people. A. had been a student for a short time in the U.S., and had fond memories of battles against the Shah and U.S. imperialism and the solidarity of the American people. "Once the Iranian Student Association (ISA) walked 50 miles from Urbana, Illinois to Chicago, to demand freedom for political prisoners in Iran; many stopped and asked us what it was all about. I remember some RCP comrades coming and talking to us when we arrived to show their support." Later he mentioned, "I heard Comrade Bob Avakian speak to us at an ISA convention; I tried hard to hear everything he said, I wished I could hear it all. How is his trial going?"

Many times during my stay in Iran people asked of revolutionary comrades in the U.S. they had fought side by side with. They were particularly concerned about RCP Chairman Bob Avakian and the arrests that took place in Washington, D.C. Later I learned that the Union of Iranian Communists' weekly newspaper *Haghighat* (Truth) No. 35, carried a front-page article about the indictments that came down in the Mao Tsetung Defendants case this summer.

I told them I wanted to write a book on the insurrection that overthrew the Shah, and the sharp battles taking place in its wake; not by staying in a hotel and clipping newspapers but by being out among the people, and learning of their struggles, experiences, and political outlook. Although he had never met me A. didn't hesitate to dive into the task. "I have an uncle who works in the oil industry, and my brother is a manager in a foreign-owned factory. My sister lives in Khuzestan, and I also have



During the February insurrection a commandeered car filled with revolutionaries races through the streets of Tehran.

tion marked by more and more repression directed at them. Many revolutionaries had just returned to Iran from years abroad—how were they adapting to the new conditions?

We went to a second-floor apartment and I was introduced to A. and H., both staunch revolutionaries. While a bit reserved, they were both warm from the first. A. was of medium height with short hair and naturally a moustache. "The Left wears only moustaches," he explained, "A beard is a sign of a Moslem."

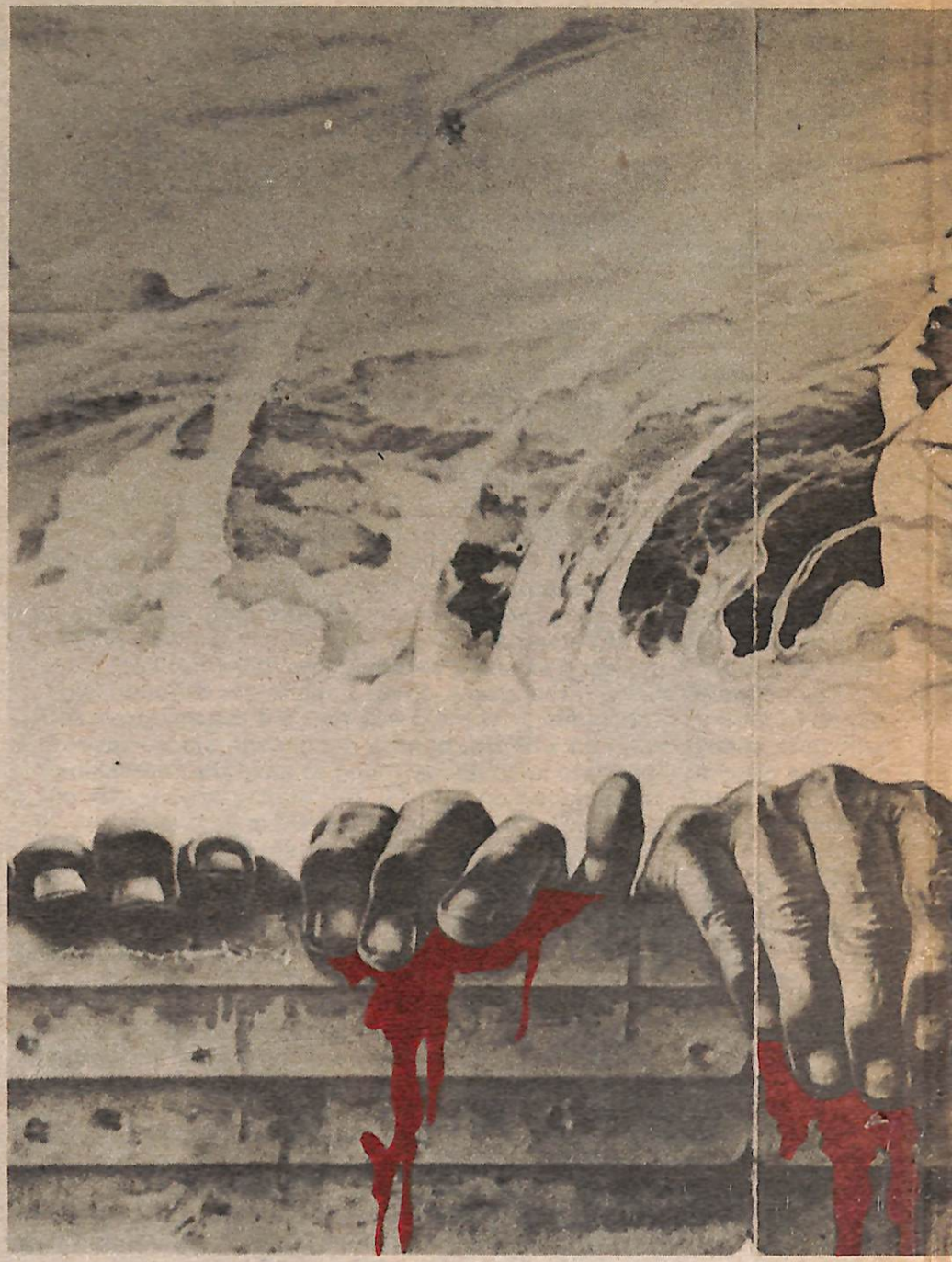
They were both very glad that I had come to Iran and felt it was true international solidarity for American revolu-

friends from the working class and the air force that live in South Tehran."

"Would it be possible for me to talk with them?" I asked. "Why not," he laughed, "it would be very good for you to meet them." This was an exchange I would have often during my months in Iran.

"A Hundred Tasks to Be Done"

"I have so much work to do," A. said as he folded and stuffed the latest issue of *Haghighat*. "It's great, we're getting more of the newsstands to sell our paper, and its circulation has increased to 30,000 a week." In Iran, people buy fresh bread every day and



Close Call Iranian Co

usually wrap it in old newspapers if it's hot out of the oven. Perhaps old issues of *Haghighat* could be brought to the bakery so people would have more use for the papers than simply cooling off their bread.

He also worked and taught a class for high school students trying to pass their university entrance exams. It was held in a Moslem area of South Tehran, where masses of workers and urban poor live, an important area for the Left to penetrate. "We began to talk about literature and math and such things," he told me. But soon the conversation got around to "what is the true way to free our country from imperialism? We talked about that the rest of the time." He was very excited. "After the class many of the students wanted to talk to me. I've got their names, I must go see them and tell them more."

His wife, H., was also deeply involved in the revolutionary movement, trying to get a teaching job in southern Iran as well as being active in the League of Fighting Women. Every night it seemed they had to plan out what they were going to do the next day, and when they would be home next. They were often both busy until late at night with "a hundred tasks to be done." "Lenin only slept 3 hours a night, didn't he?" they would tell me. In times like this it would have been easy for them to plead lack of time to help me; but it was a testament to their internationalist stand that they did.

A. was usually an enthusiastic bundle of energy. Sometimes, though, his enthusiasm outran the time he had. Invariably he would say yes to whatever

we wanted to do, but I learned to check on the day before it was actually supposed to happen to make sure he hadn't scheduled one or two other things at the same time. And, of course, there were the meetings and demonstrations that are part of the daily life of revolutionaries in Iran.

Marxism and Islam

This was a country in which I didn't know my way around, didn't know much of their language, and in which Americans weren't exactly the people's favorite visitors—since pretty much all they had had contact with, or expected to be in Iran, were military advisors and business executives—who when not busy plundering the country were whoring or drinking. The new government also didn't take kindly to revolutionaries from the U.S. going around and asking people what they thought about the present regime, the revolutionary Left, and the continuing revolutionary struggle.

So A.'s help was no icing on the cake but absolutely necessary to learning about the struggle in Iran. I remember one time it came in especially handy. We had gone to a small store and I noticed that the storekeeper was eyeing me dubiously. He and A. began to talk. When we left I asked what the conversation had been about. "Oh, he just asked who you were, and then said weren't we supposed to cut the bloody hands of U.S. imperialism off Iran?" A. chuckled, "Don't worry, I told him you weren't an imperialist."

"My point of view is different from the so-called mullahs and akhunds (religious leaders). Do you want my



Cover for a tape recording of revolutionary music, distributed in Iran before the Shah's overthrow. The hands on the wall represent the revolutionary martyrs killed by the Shah, while in the background the fist rising from the masses symbolizes the power that will smash the bloody wall.

s with an ommunist

the U.S.; others had been arrested and threatened with death for possessing revolutionary leaflets; a comrade from the Heydar Amouhli Group was executed in Abadan, and dozens of revolutionaries were being gunned down in Kurdistan. A sense of panic was gripping many in the middle class, as they lined up at the passport offices to try and escape. Even many left-wing political groups were confused about the way forward, and were discouraged by how quickly the new government became reactionary. They were disoriented by the temporary hold that Khomeini and other reactionary religious leaders had on a large section of the masses. There was a powerful pull on them to compromise with reaction.

"We have to do the work of two years in six months," one revolutionary summed up. "Things are changing very fast. In another couple of months the government will try to drive us underground like before." The overthrow of the Shah gave the Left tremendous freedom. But if the revolution was to continue to victory, they had to rapidly step up their work: to widely integrate with the masses, especially the workers and peasants, and to unite their own ranks through ideological and practical struggle and form a genuine communist party. Much of the increased repression of the new Islamic regime is now directed against the Left to keep them from accomplishing these tasks.

The tempering that thousands of Marxist-Leninists like A. received during the revolution was invaluable. They were able to keep their bearings in the face of this reaction. It was a clear and correct political orientation that helped them maintain a revolutionary stand and outlook amid the storms rocking Iran. The revolutionary Marxist-Leninist groups recognize the big advances of the revolution, and the possibilities for further advances. They clearly understand that the Khomeini-Bazargan regime can't solve the contradictions facing the country—that it can't break the continuing grip of imperialism and feudalism on the Iranian masses—thus giving rise to a new revolutionary crisis. "The government just can't meet the needs of the people," one revolutionary summed up to me. It is these people, like A., who have dived into the struggle to continue the revolution to final victory since the Shah's downfall.

"We carried on struggle for years as students," A. told me, "We would put scraps of paper in books telling everyone to come to the cafeteria. When there were several hundred students there, someone would drop a glass, then everyone would chant, 'Unity, struggle, victory,' and disperse before the police attacked."

"During the revolution, every day I would leave home, telling my mother I would be back that afternoon, but I never knew if I was coming back. One day at Tehran University people on each side of me were killed by soldiers. I didn't know what to do, I just fell down

and didn't move, it seemed like forever. I got back to shelter, my heart was pounding like a chicken's, and I closed my eyes and sat down to think. A girl was sitting nearby crying, and I asked her what was the matter. 'I don't know,' she said. 'Come on, get up. You must be strong. We may die tomorrow but in the meantime we have a lot to do.'"

Why did he take this stand, I asked him. "If everyone hesitated and was afraid, then no one would come out and all would be lost. The movement would stop. Many workers felt they had nothing to lose. 'If I die, someone can take care of my family, if not we will all be better off,' they would say." The students and the workers and the poor were the main ones demonstrating. "A well-off friend of mine would never come out. He was scared. The only time he ever demonstrated was when Khomeini came back to Iran and they cut off the TV coverage. Even then he knew he wouldn't get hurt."

The revolution had forced people to choose: either rise to its needs or slink into a corner, a corner that meant only living hell for the masses. The Shah could testify as to which road the Iranian masses took. They changed themselves in the process of overthrowing the fascist dictatorship. I could feel these changes in A. in many instances today. Life and death situations were demystified, they were something you had to learn to deal with. Once we were taking pictures of the burned-out office of the left-wing "Fighting Student's Organization" at Tehran University. We were noticed by a group of reactionary Falangists, who started to follow us. "Let's split," I said to him. "Ok, ok, it does no good to get nervous." For him, this was nothing new. "Remember," he said, "if we get caught it could also lead to our friends."

During the demonstration in August against the Islamic government's new press law (see the first article of this series—RW, No. 17), with the right-wing Falangists and the revolutionary Left battling it out, he seemed to be in his element; eyes wide open, happy that he had an opportunity to strike at the enemy. In the middle of the demonstration A. and his cousin, whom I was with, decided to stop for a soda. We ended up getting caught in a wave of Falangists and had to do some fast talking to get away.

Throughout my stay we had many such close calls. The very morning I left Iran we were dodging the komitah, getting some last pictures of their occupation of the Fedayeen headquarters and the human barricade formed in front of the Mojahadeen headquarters to protect it from right-wing attack.

When I think of my Iranian friends, I have no doubt that today they are rising to the new challenges that the revolutionary struggle is posing. In the two and a half months I spent in Iran, I learned a lot from these comrades and the revolutionary masses of Iran—lessons I will never forget. ■

point of view?" "Naturally," I told him. His attitude on religion was clear. Every time someone left the bathroom door in his apartment open he would tell them to close the door to Feyzeih (the main religious school in Qum). While opposed to religious ideology, A. was clear that it was not the main target of the struggle today. "Revolutionary moslems agree programatically with the Left," he said. "We are both fighting imperialism and feudalism."

"And how did you come to have your point of view?" I asked. "Well, I'm a follower of Marxism-Leninism and the Thought of Mao Tsetung. I hated the Shah's regime since childhood. My father believed Mossedegh (the nationalist prime minister of Iran in the early 1950s who was overthrown by the 1953 CIA-backed coup that put the Shah back in power—RW). When I went to college I wanted to study philosophy and find out why things were as they were. My brother was older and he gave me Marxist works to read. I remember he once gave me *The Mother* by Gorky. Getting caught with that book could have meant SAVAK's jail for me. So he told me to read it and give it back in 24 hours. I stayed up all night in my room drinking cup after cup of coffee, to finish it. Whenever someone came to the door, I hid the book under the bed. In those days we had whole books—like the *Communist Manifesto*—written on one piece of paper. We often went into the bathroom to read them with a magnifying glass."

ian revolutionary literature. He was particularly proud of the simplified, illustrated version of Marx's *Capital* and Lenin's works for workers' use. Often he and his wife pored over a thick volume of Lenin trying to grapple with the questions that constantly pop up in the day's struggle.

Whether it was in the interviews I did or in the work he carried out, A. was always up for having contact with the basic masses, especially the workers. "We must talk to Mr. T.. one of the true proletarians of Iran." "People have a deep hatred for fascism; after years of experience with it they can feel it in their blood. They pay attention to different political positions and compare them with the Shah."

When we did the interviews, in which A. often served as a translator, he seemed as enthusiastic about hearing what the masses had to say as I was. His translations often captured the feelings of those we were interviewing, adding emphasis and often questions of his own. At any pause he would quickly add, "And don't you have some more questions?" Often, when we left an interview, and proceeded from working class neighborhoods in South Tehran to his apartment in middle-class central Tehran, he would complain, "I must move from this apartment I have, I want to move to South Tehran, maybe a neighborhood like Mr. T's."

Revolutionaries Tempered in the Heat of Battle

As my visit to Iran progressed, the Left came under increasing attack. Some comrades in southern Iran had been arrested for telephoning news to



Peasants of Kurdistan who have risen in rebellion—first against the Shah, and now continuing their fight against feudal and national oppression.

A. hadn't lost his taste for study; he enthusiastically showed me a wall of books—both Marxist classics and Iranian

Palestinian Stands with Mao Defendants

The following statement of support for Bob Avakian and the Mao Tsetung Defendants and donation pledge for the battle to free them was made at a send-off party for the "picked troops" going to Washington, D.C. from Chicago. It was made by a relative of Ziad Abu Ein, a Palestinian whose fight against extradition by the U.S. government to Israel, where he faces torture and death, has received national attention (see RW No. 22).

I am the brother-in-law of Ziad Abu Ein, who is facing extradition to the so-called state of Israel. I feel that a defeat for imperialism in one part of the world is a victory for people all over the world. We Palestinians, we have to struggle hand in hand with people all over the world. Here is Bob and Mao's supporters, part of a political demonstration, facing a trial and years in prison. At the same time here is a

Palestinian, Ziad, who is charged with placing a bomb in Tiberias in Israel, who is facing extradition. They are considered the criminals. Look at Ted Kennedy, he killed his mistress, he dumped her in the river. No one can touch him. They are trying to make him the next president. But who is really the criminal? The frameup against Bob and Mao's supporters is a frameup against revolutionaries all over the world in the same way the frameup they have against Ziad is part of the frameup by Zionism and imperialism. I am donating \$20 for myself to the demonstration. I will donate \$20 more for my wife and I'm donating \$20 for my two little girls who are looking to live in a free America. And I'm donating \$20 for Ziad, who is held in the Metropolitan Correctional Center right now. I won't accept anything less than to die as a free Palestinian. ■

How Long?

"How long will this suffering go on? How long? This is a question that has been prayed about, sung about, asked about. How long? Only as long as we put up with it! Only until we go up and overthrow this system that's the basis for it!"

There was applause and intense looks of agreement when Chairman Avakian said that the whole country ought to be renamed "Justifiable Homicide" because of the history of the oppression of the Black people, Chicanos, Indians and other oppressed nationalities, as well as of the whole working class.

"Look what they did to the African people, dragging them here in chains, stealing the land of the Mexican people as this system raced to expand and their capitalists pushed their factories and their profit system from the North to the West, when they stole the land from the Indians, when they brought the Irish and Chinese here and laid the tracks right over the bodies of these workers when they dropped dead. And they should also call it 'Justifiable Homicide' for the way the regular grinding of the machinery crushes and murders the masses of people."

He made it clear in no uncertain terms that we will never be able to beg, pray, talk or vote away this misery. "Now I don't believe in the bible but there's a part in there where it says that when I was a child I thought as a child, but now that I'm a man I have to think like a man. I learned that I had to cast away all this foolishness and lies about how in this system everybody was equal whether they were Black or white, that everybody could get ahead whether they were rich or poor, and that somehow this society was made to benefit everybody."

Role of the Newspaper

The Chairman talked about how important it was to spread the *Revolutionary Worker* into every nook and cranny throughout this country. "Our

"To All Those Who Refuse To Live and To Die On Your Knees!"

Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party will be speaking throughout the country in the next several months. Bob Avakian is facing charges adding up to 241 years in jail.



This is your chance to hear the leader of the only organization in this country seriously working for revolution, the organization the government is viciously attacking and declares to be the most dangerous revolutionary organization in this country.

When you hear Bob Avakian speak you will know why those who rule this country are desperate to put him away and to stop the RCP. And why those who hate this whole criminal system and government are rallying more and more to the RCP!

Don't Miss The Chance To Hear Bob Avakian Speak & To Get Down With The RCP! It Will Change Your Whole Life!

For more information, contact the RCP in your local area, or write to: PO Box 3486, Chicago, IL 60654.

Chester

Continued from page 5

out here helping people understand what we have to do and what is necessary. Here is Bob Avakian, the Chairman of the Revolutionary Communist Party."

Chairman's Speech

The church was quiet, even tense. "You know, some people said I shouldn't come down here. That I already have enough trouble with the ruling class trying to put me behind bars for several lifetimes and even trying to kill me one way or another. But that's exactly the point. All of us have already got too much trouble living under this system, and that's not going to change until we unite our ranks and rise up to get rid of it."

The tension was broken, and the people loved it, as Bob made it clear that he was there to express once again the firm support of the RCP for this struggle. Why had the Chairman come to this meeting? He made it clear: "Our Party is not a party of social workers, it's not a party of do-gooders; it's not a party of bleeding hearts. It is not a party of Black people; it's not a party of white people; it is not a party of Chicanos, Puerto Ricans, Asians, Hawaiians, Native Americans and what-not. It's the Party of the working class and the oppressed of all those nationalities, dedicated to rising up, overthrowing and putting an end to this oppressing class once and for all.

Overwhelmingly, the people gathered in the church loved it even more as he got down on the "bastards" who rule this country and keep the masses of people in constant misery and degradation. He pointed out how the oppression of Black people, of which this lynching is just a continuation and a concentration, is rooted in the whole history of this country and the capitalist system.

Shine the Light of Revolution Behind the Prison Walls

Contribute to the Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund

The Revolutionary Communist Party receives many letters and requests for literature from prisoners in the hell-hole torture chambers from Attica to San Quentin. There are thousands more brothers and sisters behind bars who have refused to be beaten down and corrupted in the dungeons of the capitalist class and who thirst for and

need the *Revolutionary Worker* and other revolutionary literature. To help make possible getting the Voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party as well as other Party literature and books on Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought behind the prison walls, the *Revolutionary Worker* is establishing a special fund. Contributions should be sent to:

Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund
Box 3486, Merchandise Mart
Chicago, IL 60654

newspaper, the *Revolutionary Worker*, put the question of Mickey McClinton Poag's lynching into a larger social context. And it's being taken out to all corners of this country. People are reading about you and this struggle in Chester and you are reading about the whole world. That way we're learning to think along the same lines." He talked about how important it was to get the paper out and unite people around that common line.

At the end of his speech, Bob Avakian returned to the question of the lynching, national oppression, and all the other evils of capitalism: "How

long will this go on? Not much longer! Because we are learning to unite our ranks and we are preparing. We will go up against it and overthrow it."

It was an incredible meeting. The revolutionary line and outlook had been planted firmly in the middle of the struggle from the beginning through the *Revolutionary Worker*, but now it was out there in an even bolder and stronger way. The response was overwhelmingly enthusiastic, and the healthy controversy that is sure to be generated about this meeting is bound to be a good thing, as people more and more struggle over and discuss the way forward. ■

UCLA Prof Backs Mao Defendants

Sept. 1, 1979

To: THE REVOLUTIONARY WORKER

I sympathize with the cause that the R.C.P. and its leader, Bob Avakian, are fighting for, which is to free the people of this country from economic, political and cultural oppression. I stand by the R.C.P. and its leader in their efforts to thwart the capitalistic ruling oligarchy's plans to drag this country in a Third World War that would unavoidably be a nuclear holocaust. I share the R.C.P.'s and its leader's view on the necessary solidarity between the masses' struggle here at home and the Arab Liberation Struggle, spearheaded by the Palestinian Revolution, against the imperialist-zionist alliance. The political establishment is engaged in a vicious repressive campaign aimed at neutralizing the R.C.P. and its leader before they can mobilize the masses in an irresistible drive towards deep social and political changes. All those who care for justice and true democracy must denounce that campaign and help the R.C.P. and its leader to face it victoriously.

Hassan El Nouty
Professor
University of California at Los Angeles

Eula Love Murder Haunts L.A.P.D.

Los Angeles. "We are not racists! We are not murderers! We are not members of an occupation army!" Looking haggard, the L.A. Chief of Police gave this video-taped pep talk to the entire police force. The more emphatic his denials, the more it brought to mind the saying, "A stuck pig squeals."

Although Chief Darryl Gates' speech was in response to the police commission's mildly critical ruling on the murder of Eula Love by the LAPD, it was certainly not the commission that was blasting the police as racist murderers. It is the mass outcry over this killing that has not only the chief but the commission, the mayor and the ruling class squirming. Nine months ago, Eula Love, a young Black mother, was gunned down by the police in front of her three kids in a dispute over a \$22 gas bill. Since then it has become the most controversial police murder in the past decade in this city. Every move the ruling class has made to defuse the situation has backfired. The most recent, the police commission wrist slap, not only failed to cool things out, but set off a furor inside the police department. These pigs feel betrayed by their masters.

As the ruling class has learned, killing Eula Love was simple; burying her is not so easy. The starkness of the murder ignited among Black people the deep simmering hatred for the police who have committed a long string of cold-blooded murders. Black people jammed the city council chambers demanding justice in the weeks following the murders. What they got was the D.A.'s ruling that this was "justifiable homicide." Then, a short time later, in stepped the U.S. Civil Rights Commission which concluded that the cops did not violate Mrs. Love's civil rights.

These whitewashes only added fuel to the fire. There were marches of hundreds in Watts; Black women dressed in Black held a picketline downtown. Throughout the city Eula Love's name is becoming a household word—and to millions the LAPD is synonymous with

racist murders.

With the situation getting progressively hotter, the police commission was resurrected after nearly a hundred years of hibernation. The commission meekly suggested that the murder of Eula Love "was not in accordance with department policy." Then hastily added that "it would be grossly unfair" to discipline the officers.

Mild as this ruling was, all hell broke loose at every pigsty in the city. More than 4,000 cops signed a petition expressing no confidence in the commission. The Police Protective League spent \$24,000 for full-page ads in the *L.A. Times* and other local papers that asked "why the double standard?" In it they bemoan the fact that the whole city is up in arms over the murder of Eula Love, while nobody weeps for the two cops killed in recent weeks.

As if the ruling class didn't have enough trouble on their hands from the Black community, now their thick-skulled thugs were squealing all over the place. Back to the video tape—this time with the president of the police commission speaking to the officers. He declared, "The commission's ruling is in the best interests of the department." At which point the cops began booing and hooting. "We wanted to say to the public that our policies are good and that this is simply an isolated incident," he continued. This did not go over. Snorted one 11-year veteran, "If (this speech) was meant to improve morale, it didn't help at all." The leader of the Police Protective League stated, "They didn't even address the issue of self-defense—the key issue in this case."

Yet it is exactly the issue of "self-defense" (read: license to kill) that the ruling class is using the commission to strengthen. As L.A.'s Black mayor and former member of the LAPD, Tom Bradley put it, "To say the Eula Love case should be put behind us is not an accurate reflection of what ought to be done. We need to put the controversy behind us." In other words, do what it takes to end this uproar so the police can get back to business.

As part of preparing for the future Eula Loves, the D.A. just got a grant from the Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration for \$255,000 for Operation Roll-out. Under Operation Roll-out, teams of investigators will immediately roll out to the scene of every police shooting so the cover-up can begin right away.

With the storm inside the police department getting out of control, Mayor Bradley intervened, meeting privately with both the police chief and the president of the police commission. Bradley made an extra effort to win the chief over to backing the police commission. They emerged smiling from

the meeting with Gates now praising the commission and announcing an end to public disagreement. Bradley added, "These differences are much like differences within a family, between husband and wife... it's normal and I see nothing dangerous in it." The danger that worries Uncle Tom is the irreconcilable differences between his "family" and the masses of Black people. It is this contradiction that no number of private meetings and "family" reconciliations can resolve. The specter of Eula Love—and millions wanting to avenge her murder—continues to haunt them. ■

U.S. Hangman

Continued from page 1

parently doubled as Park's closest personal advisor. The *New York Times* has gone to some length to paint Cha as the Rasputin-like villain of the piece, even running a special article, "Park's bodyguard was hated by Korean officials," and painting Kim in a favorable light, stating that Mr. Kim and others feared that the chief bodyguard was slowly pushing Park down a dangerous path for South Korea, destabilizing society by harsh repression.

U.S. Objectives

With Park out of the way, U.S. objectives in South Korea will be to insure that whatever new regime eventually emerges cleans up its act a little, including perhaps within its ranks some forces from the opposition party and some limited reforms, while continuing to violently suppress revolutionary struggle that threatens the vast U.S. strategic and financial interests in South Korea, and keeps the country split in two.

The U.S. military was swift to react to the new situation. (Oddly, the head of the U.S. army command in Korea flew home to the U.S. for "consultation" the day before Park got it—and returned the day after with his new orders.) The U.S. called this an "internal affair" of Korea and the U.S. wouldn't do anything like *interfere*—heaven forbid. So the 38,000 U.S. troops in Korea (but not, of course, interfering in internal affairs!) were put on alert; American aircraft carrier and radar aircraft were ordered into the area "to deter North Korea from taking military advantage" of the vacuum in leadership. The U.S. issued an immediate statement threatening that "the U.S. will react strongly in accordance with its treaty obligations to any external attempt to exploit the situation."

Of course the fears of a "North Korean invasion" are mostly a pretense on the part of the U.S. But its concern for the safety of this vital strategic outpost in Asia is very real.

Carter months ago dropped his announced promises to withdraw U.S. troops. The assassination of Park represents a decisive move on the United States' part to "tighten up" this strategic outpost, and to insure that their empire is as united and secure as possible heading into the impending world crisis. Coming on the heels of a similarly motivated U.S.-engineered coup in El Salvador, and a flurry of similar activity elsewhere, it is obvious that CIA diplomacy is not only alive and well, but is entering a new period of intensity. Though in a strategic sense these moves are clearly connected to overall war preparations against the Soviets, the U.S. is well aware they must also fend off danger to their imperialist interests coming from within—from the spectre of revolution.

Korea—U.S. Goldmine

South Korea has long been heralded as an "economic miracle"—for the various Western capitalists who exploit it. Today, South Korea is a large exporter of textiles, steel, ships and cars worth tens of billions of dollars. The 37 million people of South Korea are "at the service" of U.S., Japanese and European imperialists. The billions pro-

duced by this imperialist-dominated economy, of course, are never seen by the workers. In fact, while South Korea has become heavily industrialized in the past 15 years and now has a large working class, the gap between the handful of rich and the poverty-stricken masses has grown.

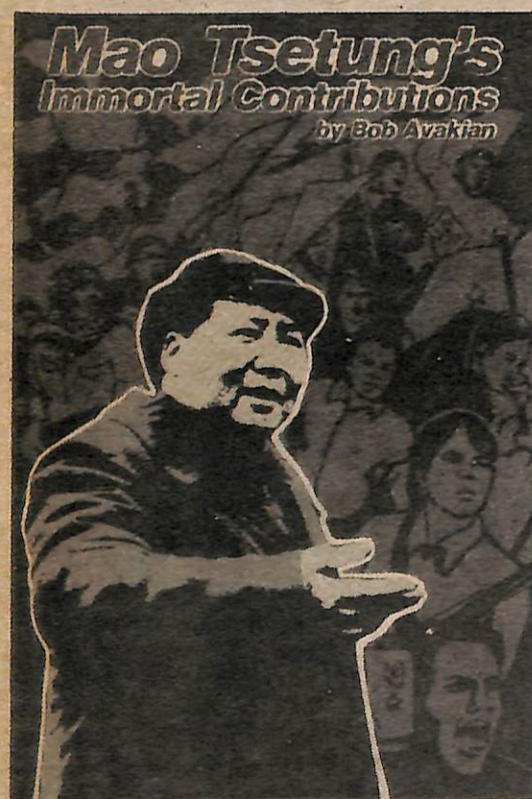
Under the rule of President Park the capital city of Seoul has more than tripled in size, to over 8 million people—the vast majority of them openly hostile to the fascist government and U.S. imperialist domination. Despite an all-encompassing reign of terror, in which the factories and campuses swarm with KCIA agents, attempts to form trade unions are punishable by long prison terms, and any sign of protest is violently suppressed, the masses have never passively accepted this tyranny. The latest demonstrations, which involve both radical students and workers, mark a new high point in mass resistance, but more importantly, they may mark the beginning of a new period of revolutionary upsurge. Rapidly worsening economic conditions, including skyrocketing unemployment and inflation are adding fuel to the fire. Park attempted to smother each fresh outburst with ever more repressive measures. It has become obvious that his methods are failing; and it is also obvious that the U.S. has begun to panic as a consequence.

Stunning as were the setbacks in Iran and Nicaragua, the U.S. was able to adopt a policy of cutting its losses and biding its time for a more favorable opportunity to reboard the ship in the future. In South Korea, should a revolutionary situation develop, no such strategy could be contemplated. The 38,000 U.S. troops on South Korean soil would be immediately involved in the inferno, and then war with North Korea, at the very least, would follow.

It should be clear that Carter's "concern for human rights" in South Korea is nothing more than a deep fear of the anger and hatred which is burning and which could possibly engulf imperialism again in defeat. The U.S. hopes that a brushed up regime with a few modest democratic reforms can head off the impending upsurge, or at least unite a broader group within Korea to insure a more stable base for continued U.S. domination. That things had reached a point where it was felt necessary to bump off a long-time U.S. lackey to clear the road for these reforms shows clearly the increasingly desperate nature of U.S. attempts to patch together its crumbling empire. ■

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It shows his contempt of bureaucrats, and all who say that revolution has gone far enough as soon as they are in a position to feather their own nests.

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Cambodia

Continued from page 3

that had ravaged the countryside of Kampuchea: In October of 1971, the U.S. General Accounting Office reported that the U.S. ambassador had stated that it was the policy of the U.S. "not to become involved with the problem of civilian war victims in Cambodia (Kampuchea). . . Cambodian government officials realize that the U.S. is a source for necessary military assistance and desire that any assistance from the U.S. be channeled towards the advancement of the war."

With the final defeat of the United States in 1975, the new revolutionary government led by Pol Pot moved quickly and decisively to fend off further starvation and restore agricultural production. The first clear and urgent necessity was to evacuate Phnom Penh and restore the population to the countryside, where crops could be grown and the people could be assured a livelihood.

Immediately, the U.S. political leaders and commentators began to snarl in rage. "The bloodbath has begun!" headlines blared. "One can only imagine the suffering and degradation," spoke that noted humanitarian publication, the *Wall Street Journal*. "Clearly the new rulers of Cambodia have invented a new brand of cruelty." Columnist Jack Anderson called the evacuation the greatest atrocity since the Nazis herded the Jews into the gas chambers. Pol Pot was described as a monster motivated by "doctrinaire revolutionary dogma," and in addition to charges that "a massive bloodbath" was imminent or in progress, dire predictions of mass starvation filled the bourgeois press.

Food Surplus Under Pol Pot

And yet, within two years after the end of the war, Kampuchea was able once again to export rice, and the consumption of meat was on the rise in addition to the staple diet of fish and rice. Western reporters touring Kampuchea in 1978, including Elizabeth Becker of the *Washington Post* and Richard Dudman of the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* concluded that "it is clear there is no starvation in Cambodia." The avalanche of lies about mass murder and the depiction of liberated Kampuchea as the "new Auschwitz" were similarly debunked.

When the Vietnamese revisionists, with the approval and instigation of the Soviet Union, embarked on their plan to swallow up Kampuchea in early 1979, they picked up ready-made the propaganda themes already worn thin by the U.S. They charged that Pol Pot had "massacred millions," had "killed every doctor and nurse" and had "reduced Kampuchea to a graveyard"—as they sent in thousands of troops and instituted a policy of pillage and scorched earth, stealing the

harvests and then destroying the land, themselves reintroducing the scene of bloodbath and starvation they were piously pretending to bring to an end.

It should be remarked, regarding the charges that Pol Pot murdered millions of Kampuchians: where is the evidence of these atrocities? Have the Vietnamese released a single documentary photograph of massive graves, filled with tens of thousands of corpses? If Pol Pot indeed has committed crimes "worse than Hitler," why have the Vietnamese occupiers not rushed to reveal proof of this to the world, in order to lend some justification to their occupation of the country "in the interests of the Kampuchean people"?

Why is it only now—not before, under Pol Pot—that photographs of starving Kampuchians fill the pages of the press? The Vietnamese hope such pictures will somehow spread discredit on the government of Pol Pot; the U.S. joins in on this Big Lie, while also blaming the Vietnamese. But a moment's thought should clear this fog—only under imperialist aggression (first by the U.S., now by the Vietnamese/Soviets) have such starvation scenes been present. Only under "enlightened, humanitarian" imperialism have real genocidal policies been pursued.

A War of Liberation

Now, once again, the Kampuchean people are waging a liberation struggle under very difficult conditions. Before, the main occupier was the U.S. Now it is the Vietnamese, on behalf of the Soviets. The actual situation in Kampuchea is difficult to determine, but it is clear that death and famine are widespread as a result of the Vietnamese aggression. It is also clear that, although the revolutionary forces are fighting under conditions of extreme hardship and deprivation, the Pol Pot government still controls considerable territory and is effectively continuing to wage people's war. The pro-Vietnamese puppet Heng Samrin group of traitors is by no means able to control the country, something that becomes embarrassingly clear everytime the question of distributing "humanitarian relief aid" is raised with them.

Since 1975, the international situation has grown increasingly complex and new alignments have taken place. Revolutionary rule has been overthrown in China, which had been the genuine ally of the Kampuchean people. China and the U.S. have become military allies (for the time being, at least) against the imperialist bloc headed by the Soviet Union. Meanwhile, Vietnam has become an outright satellite of the Soviets. While the Chinese revisionists were unhappy with the revolutionary leaders in Kampuchea, largely because they refused to become pawns of Chinese great-power chauvinist policy in Southeast Asia, they have so far continued to support

Pol Pot against Vietnam, because it has become a Soviet battalion in Southeast Asia.

The U.S., while delighted at the overthrow of the revolutionary government in Kampuchea, is opposed to the consolidation of the Vietnamese occupation which represents a major expansion of the influence of the Soviet Union, their deadly imperialist rival. For this reason the U.S. has formally continued to vote in the United Nations against the recognition of the Heng Samrin clique. In the meantime, both the U.S. and China have been casting about for some "third force" to prop up as a compromise in Kampuchea—including toying with the possibility of building up Prince Sihanouk, who ruled the country prior to the 1970 U.S.-Lon Nol coup, and who has been trying to group around himself various exiled Cambodian politicians to serve as a possible alternative to either Pol Pot or Heng Samrin.

The Politics of Aid

It is in this complex political situation that the current moaning and squabbling over "humanitarian aid" to the victims of the war in Kampuchea is taking place. The question of who gets what aid and where it goes is totally bound up with the political objectives of the various forces offering such "aid." To give the aid directly to the Heng Samrin clique would be a form of de facto recognition of the legitimacy of that government; something the U.S. does not want to do unless it can by doing so wring very substantial concessions or somehow regain a foothold. The Heng Samrin government itself is wary of even accepting any aid—for fear large portions of it would fall into the hands of the Pol Pot forces, who apparently conduct guerrilla activity freely along many of the main highways throughout Kampuchea.

The recent proposal of three U.S. senators that truck routes from Thailand be opened up for the transport of supplies was summarily rejected by Heng Samrin, because the liberation forces are particularly strong along the Thai border. The reluctance of the Heng Samrin group to accept aid is also based in large part on the fact that they themselves have little interest in preserving the lives of the Kampuchean people; they are carrying out the Vietnamese/Soviet genocidal policy just as the U.S. imperialists did in their stay in that country. At present there are more than 20 Vietnamese divisions in Kampuchea. They are currently engaged in an all-out "dry season offensive" designed to wipe out the still substantial armed resistance to their occupation.

The current U.S. assessment of the military situation in Kampuchea is that the Pol Pot forces may not hold out much longer. It appears that China is also moving toward this assessment:

though they still voice support for the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, they are now beginning to talk about "mistakes" made by that government "in the field of human rights"—an echo of U.S. imperialist slanders and a first step towards cutting Pol Pot loose altogether. It is possible that the U.S. and China will try to force Vietnam to compromise—perhaps with Prince Sihanouk and other pro-western and "neutralist" politicians in a new government. It is also possible broader war, once again involving China and Vietnam, will break out.

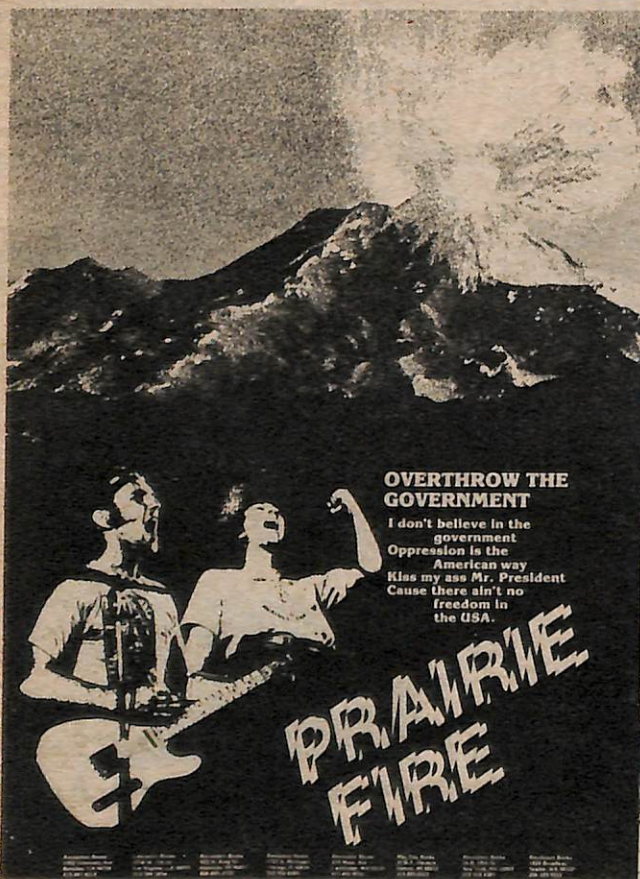
The recent visit of three U.S. senators to Phnom Penh to discuss the aid situation with the Heng Samrin government, while it was emphasized that it was a "purely humanitarian" mission which did not constitute "any measure of recognition" of that regime, could be a step in the direction of exploring "compromise." In addition, the U.S. has sent teams to Phnom Penh to supervise the distribution of aid to the Heng Samrin authorities. But despite the rhetoric of "insuring that the aid went directly to the suffering population," etc., which U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and others indulge in, the fact of the matter is that the Vietnamese occupiers are using famine and starvation as a chief weapon in their war against the Kampuchean people—as a means of starving out the resistance.

Even if aid were distributed to the masses in areas under their brutal occupation, rather than going to their troops or being shipped back to Vietnam (a real possibility, since the food problem in Vietnam itself is acute) this would simply be employed as a political weapon to weaken the revolutionary base areas.

True Solution

These steps toward "de facto" recognition of this gang of real mass murderers in Phnom Penh only delays the single solution to the famine and ruin that has gripped Kampuchea: the immediate withdrawal of the Vietnamese occupation troops and the restoration of the independence and the liberation which the people of Kampuchea won at such a high price during their bloody struggle against the U.S. imperialists.

While the imperialist bartering and the cold-eyed maneuvering of the imperialist powers and their proxies continues, while the U.S. seeks to regain a foothold in Southeast Asia, while the Soviet Union and its Vietnamese sidekicks concentrate on digesting a new piece of meat, suffering and dying indeed continue in Kampuchea. Many of the liberation fighters are fighting on empty stomachs and the masses face incredible deprivation and sacrifice. They have hardly anything to eat, but they have a bellyful of the "humanitarianism" that has been lavished on them from both imperialist camps. ■



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