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SUPERPOWERS SQUARE OFF OVER AFGHANISTAN

In a major media blitz, the U.S. ruling class has officially proclaimed the death of "detente." Thousands of words of print detailing the Soviet invasion filled the columns of every major newspaper in the country. They recalled their ambassador to the Soviet Union and tabled discussion of SALT II. The message from our rulers was far from subtle: "It is starting and the Soviets are starting it." But the lightning political and military reaction of the U.S. to its superpower rival exposed the U.S. as far from an "innocent lamb," but as an equally vicious wolf in the moves toward world war.

Clearly, events now focused around

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(Clockwise from Map of Afghanistan)

- Soviet equipment and troops in Afghanistan
- USSR representative vetoing UN Security Council Resolution
- Afghan rebels
- U.S. Lance Missile
- Carter shortly before his Friday night televised speech on Afghanistan
- Empty floor of the Kansas City Board of Trade shut down for 2 days after the U.S.-USSR trade contracts were cancelled
- Soviet missiles

Afghan Independence—

U.S. Style Years of U.S. Domination

On Friday, Jan. 4, born again Jimmy Carter was born yet another time—this time as supposed friend and protector of oppressed Moslem nations. Speaking on national TV, Carter roundly denounced the recent Soviet invasion of Afghanistan as the "deliberate effort of a powerful atheistic government to subjugate an independent Islamic people." He then quickly slipped in his most recent bid for biggest lie ever by stating that, "the United States wants all nations in the region to be free and independent." The speech concluded with Carter sternly outlining the retaliatory steps the U.S. would take against Russia and pledging that the U.S. would increase military and economic aid to Pakistan and any other country in the area that would accept U.S.

assistance to "defend its independence and national security."

Perhaps it was lack of time that kept Carter from expanding on his offer of U.S. protection by pointing to the U.S.'s proud history of defending "freedom and independence" in neighboring Iran under the Shah, who invited in 40,000 U.S. advisors and U.S. oil company plunder. But it really wasn't necessary because there is already ample proof in Afghanistan itself to show the world what a great friend of the Afghan people U.S. imperialism has been.

The U.S. government began to seriously bestow its "friendship" on Afghanistan in the mid 1960s. The main focus of this concern was to help the reactionary feudal monarchy of Zahir

Shah crush a massive uprising of students, workers and peasants that swept the country from 1965 to 1969. When the King's West German-trained riot police were unsuccessful in suppressing the masses' struggle, the U.S. spearheaded the formation of the Moslem Brothers Party. This vicious band of U.S. and British agents, Royal Secret police, and reactionary landlords and clergy unleashed a campaign of terror on the Afghan people that culminated in the murder of Zaedal Sokhandar, widely respected revolutionary leader. Meanwhile, the CIA was busy trying to recruit new agents from the ranks of Afghan students studying in the U.S. Kermit Roosevelt, famous for his role in the CIA coup that put the Shah back in power in 1953, headed up this effort

to purchase Afghan lackeys to do U.S. imperialism's dirty work. Spies were put on the payroll at \$10,000 a year.

But try as the U.S. would to "befriend" the Afghan people, they would have no part of it. By 1973, mass resistance had grown so great and Zahir's regime had become so isolated that the King was forced to flee to a villa in Italy. His cousin, Mohammed Daoud, instigated a truly cosmetic coup to try and keep hold of the family rule. But a new challenge to the U.S. had also emerged on the Afghan scene—its arch rival in "protecting the people of the world", the Soviet Union. With capitalism firmly restored in Russia, the Soviet social imperialists were making their move to push south towards the

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RW Networks Begin in the Streets

On Nov. 23 the Revolutionary Worker issued a call to double distribution now and called on people to become co-conspirators in building networks far and wide to get the newspaper into the hands of tens of thousands of people. Who will come forward to join this conspiracy?—this has been a real question in carrying out the call to multiply distribution of the RW. More concretely the question has come up: do people have to unite with the full program of the RCP, do they have to be revolutionaries or communists, to boldly go out with the RW in their plant, their community and among their friends? The experience of a selling team in Chicago last week shows that just the opposite is true: far short of total unity with the Party, people will take up the RW and, for different reasons, grasp the urgency of getting this paper into the hands of many more.

Our multinational team had been selling the RW for several months at a busy corner in the heart of Chicago's West Side ghetto. Today we were agitating about the "Send the Shah Back/Hands Off Iran" delegation which had gone to Iran to support the

Iranian people and to break through all the patriotic hysteria that was being whipped up by the U.S. ruling class.

It happened to be an all-white selling team that day, as some Black people who sell there too were doing something else. We'd already sold about 10 papers in the 15 minutes we'd been out—it was clear that the people in this all-Black neighborhood where unemployment runs about 80% had no love for the U.S. government, and they sure as hell didn't want any part of the reactionary fools and pea-brained nazis running around with American flags that the ruling class tries to portray as the "American people."

All of a sudden a young dude who was getting on a bus started shouting at one of the sellers: "You get off this goddamn corner. We don't need any white people coming out here with this shit." People stopped in their tracks. There was a crowd of about 30 people waiting to get on the bus. You could feel the tension, as everybody waited to see what would happen next.

The seller responded loud enough for everybody to hear, drawing links between what was going down in Iran and the capitalists' oppression here at

home, including the oppression of Black people. Other people were checking this out—a few were nodding their heads. But the dude was pissed. He jumped down off the bus and elbowed his way through the crowd, shouting: "You want to talk this shit, but it's you white people that are causing all the problems."

The seller replied it wasn't a question of white people but of capitalists and their whole system. The dude was shaking his head. He hadn't cooled out, but he was listening. You could tell he still didn't like having white people selling

the paper and agitating in the community.

He and a friend of his moved off a ways and just stood there, watching us sell the paper, listening to what we were saying about Iran. After a while he came up and bought a paper, and he and his friend looked it over.

A few minutes later they came up to another agitator. This time the dude wasn't shouting. He said, "You know, what this paper is saying about Iran is important. The people need to know about this. But you people ain't never gonna sell many papers on this corner. Why don't you let us sell some?" With that, he took a handful of papers and walked off. We could hear him going up to people who were coming out of the store: "Brother, you've got to wake up and find out what's going down..."

He sold a half dozen papers right away. And before he left we talked to him about setting up networks so that people in the community could get the paper out to hundreds more. "Yeah," he said, giving us his name, "that's what we've got to do." ■

Letter from Terrence Johnson

We received this letter from Terrence Johnson—a Black youth who became a nationwide symbol of resistance to police repression after killing two cops in self-defense. Terrence is serving 25 years in a Maryland prison. He recently added his name to the protest of the appeal currently being circulated by the Committee to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants.

Greetings Comrades,

I'm more than gracious for the material you provided. Thank you very much! Let's just hope that the material will not only benefit me, but someone else also. I will be very useful to the brothers in here, as long as they utilize my usefulness within the boundaries of "our people"... when I look deeply into the history books, research materials, modernized, etc. I see the same things still occurring today as did years ago—which is how viciously the government attacks powerful influential leaders in opposition to their bloodsucking nature. Bob Avakian's predicament is just another of the CIA's death forces which is promoted and enforced by the higher vampires in office. You and I both know what freedom and leadership mean, therefore with what Chairman Bob exhibits we know how desperately our struggle needs him.

Unto you I say—keep my man Chairman Bob free and the Mao Tsetung defendants, forever... Power..

In love and solidarity,
Terrence



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If you want to understand what's going on in Iran, to rip through the barrage of lies appearing daily on TV, in the capitalist newspapers and the White House Press Room; if you want to know what's going on in the world—from the politics involved in the Pope's travels to what's behind the Ku Klux Klan to our rulers' plans for World War 3—and you want to change it—then join with thousands of others, Black, white, Latino in the revolutionary movement.

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Imperial Envoy Gets Anti-Imperialist

Welcome In Iran

When Kurt Waldheim stepped out of the helicopter at Behesht Zahra cemetery in Tehran, the honorable UN Secretary General was confronted by a frightening scene. Charging over the ground where many of their slain comrades—victims of the Shah's butchery—are buried, hundreds of revolutionary veterans gave this urbane representative of imperialist diplomacy a greeting he will never forget. Grimly showing their crutches and artificial limbs, the veterans of last February's insurrection began chanting, "Neither compromise nor surrender. Deliver the Shah!" As Waldheim hurriedly climbed into a bullet-proof limousine, a middle-aged man broke through the cordon of revolutionary guards escorting Waldheim. "I am the father of four martyrs. You, Mr. Waldheim, Carter's representative, look around and see the blood spilled by the Shah." As the crowd closed in on his car, Waldheim shouted "Go, go!" to his driver and raced back to the helicopter, with the look of a bourgeois who has just seen the revolution close up written all over his face.

From the moment he landed, the Iranian people showed that they knew all about Mr. Waldheim and his visit. Iranians greeted him on Tehran's street with mementos: pictures of him shaking hands with the Shah and kissing the hand of the butcher's twin sister, Princess Ashraf. Khomeini refused to meet with him, saying, "I do not trust the man." "What humiliating abuse!" cried American newsmen, who thought that the Iranians ought to be kissing this U.S. messenger boy's hand. But even Waldheim knew better by the end of his visit that he cut short. He had gone there to deliver a message from the U.S. and the Security Council that the hostages better be released or sanctions would immediately follow. Instead the Iranians gave him the message—they weren't going to be intimidated, and they weren't falling for Mr. Secretary General's offer to "work out a package deal" to solve the U.S. and Iran's "mutual grievances."

And so the January 7 ultimatum that the U.S.-sponsored UN resolution had set for releasing the hostages came and went without economic sanctions being set in motion. The UN, being occupied with Afghanistan, could not take it up. Not that the U.S. was especially upset, because a big part of their call for sanctions all along has been its propaganda value, to show that the U.S. is exhausting all "legal recourses." While Carter has continued to publicly call for the sanctions, he has also as much as admitted that the sanctions wouldn't force the hostages' release. The reason why, according to Carter, is that the fate of the hostages isn't controlled by Khomeini, but by the "international terrorists" holding the embassy, who have become "the most powerful political entity" in Iran. While this is a rare instance of the bourgeoisie blurting out the truth—that the students and masses are calling the shots on the embassy—they are doing so only to try still another foul tactic against Iran. They are aiming to taunt Khomeini into proving that he does have the power by ordering the students to release the embassy. This tactic goes hand in hand with the U.S.'s efforts to turn the adversity of their rivals, the Soviets, who have invaded Afghanistan, into opportunity for the U.S., by convincing Khomeini that the main danger comes from "the wolf at the back door." As ABC's senior shill Frank Reynolds put it, "The students are holding the wrong embassy... the Soviets are a far greater threat to Iran than America." But while the capitalist forces in Iran's govern-



Top: Iranian demonstrator holds up a picture of Waldheim slobbering over the hand of the ex-Shah's twin sister, Princess Ashraf, to expose just who this imperialist representative has been kissing up to.

Middle: UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim grimacing shortly after he was cornered by demonstrators at a cemetery in Tehran.

Bottom: Victims of SAVAK torture and Imperial Army bullets waited to confront Waldheim, but he failed to appear. Here, a woman crippled by gunfire from the Shah's troops holds up a photo of her four children who were also wounded.

ment may buy that as a further argument for ending the embassy takeover and letting the U.S. off the hook, the Iranian people don't. The thousands of Iranian workers who marched on the U.S. embassy last week were shouting, "Down with American and Soviet imperialism!"

Bob Avakian and Mao Defendants Gov't Moves to Expedite D.C. Railroad

Combining all possible care to "get their man" with an effort to step up the pace, the government made yet another move last week in their appeal of the dismissal of the case against Bob Avakian and the 16 other Mao Tsetung Defendants. They filed a "Motion to Expedite Appeals" at the end of December, hot on the heels of their appeal brief itself.

The motion calls for the appellees (defense) to file their brief by "late January or early February" and for the case to be argued out during February.

This is a very fast clip, given the need of the defense to prepare a reply against the outrageously political appeal brief of the prosecution. This motion states that, "Such an appeal, by statutory command, must be 'expedited.'" This

means that the prosecution is taking every precaution to make sure that this case, which they are dead serious about, is not dismissed on a technicality. The technicality involved here is the risk their appeal might run into trouble over the defense "right to a speedy trial." So here it is. Bourgeois justice in all its glory—the "right" of the defense to get

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Message from the Reorganization Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)

The following message was received recently from the Reorganization Committee of the Communist Party of India (ML), which was formed by the Kerala State Committee of the CPI(ML) and the Andhra Pradesh State Reorganizing Committee of the CPI(ML) in November, 1979.

To The Central Committee
The Revolutionary Communist Party USA.

Dear Comrades,

We congratulate you for the victory won in the heroic struggle for defending Comrade Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the RCP, USA and the sixteen other Mao Tse-Tung Defendants who were charged with felony and numerous other charges by the U.S. imperialist government. The battle has only started. We whole-

heartedly pledge our support to the continuing struggle to keep Comrade Bob Avakian and the Mao Tse-Tung Defendants free.

At a time when the genuine Marxist-Leninists all over the world were intensifying their ideological struggle to expose and isolate the new revisionists who have usurped power in China after Mao Tse-Tung's death, the RCP, USA demonstrated their solidarity with the Marxist-Leninists all over the world by heroically demonstrating against Teng Hsiao-ping, the arch-revisionist who was behind all the counter-revolutionary conspiracies which took place in China recently. Your demonstration against him during his visit to the USA highlighted the struggle going on against revisionism at the global level.

By framing felony charges against these militant demonstrators, the U.S.

imperialists have fully come out in support of the revisionists in China who have opened the doors of that great country for imperialist plunder. The U.S. imperialists are today congratulating themselves for destroying the great reliable base area of the world proletariat, in company with Teng Hsiao-ping, Hua Kuo-feng and such other renegades. The victory won by you in the first round battle to defend the seventeen comrades and the defensive position to which these reactionaries and revisionists are pushed back, once again prove that in front of the revolutionary conscious people they are nothing but clay-footed monsters.

Along with the Marxist-Leninists all over the world, we in India are waging a crucial battle to expose and defeat the revisionist manoeuvres of the Teng-Hua clique in China, the Enver Hoxha clique in Albania, and their henchmen

in different countries. We are confident that the revolutionaries who upheld the great red banner of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse-Tung Thought will score signal victories in this great struggle. Revisionism and opportunism of all hues will be defeated at the global level. The world proletariat and the oppressed people all over the world will win great victories in overthrowing world imperialism headed by the two superpowers, U.S. imperialism and Soviet Social imperialism and in smashing the conspiracies hatched by the revisionists. The revolutionary people of India solidly support the great battle waged by the RCP, USA under the leadership of its Central Committee to storm the bastions of the U.S. imperialists and to wipe out the conspirators who are peddling revisionism under different guises.

Once again we express our solidarity with the struggle to keep Comrade Bob Avakian and the Mao Tse-Tung Defendants free. Let this struggle develop into a mighty storm that will shake the very foundations of U.S. imperialism, rallying millions and millions of people on the side of revolution.

Communist Greetings,
Reorganization Committee,
Communist Party of India
(Marxist-Leninist)

LENIN ON: Who shot first and Who cares?

"Russian aggression! Russian enslavement of nations!" Headlines like these scream from the papers these days around Afghanistan, while the U.S. is all of a sudden an innocent "defender of peace, justice and the rights of nations"! The Vietnam War? "Well... that was long ago, a mistake perhaps, and besides we're putting the post-Vietnam syndrome behind us now," says every "learned" article in the daily papers.

True enough, the USSR is a reactionary, in fact capitalist, power, but the U.S. is every bit as reactionary as the Soviet Union and hasn't changed a bit since Vietnam, except to get even more desperate and warlike. Even if it's the USSR that's firing the first shots today, that doesn't make the U.S. bullets any less imperialist. That is the stand revolutionaries take today, and the stand that genuine revolutionaries have taken historically when faced with imperialist war. Fighting tooth and nail for this understanding during World War I, the great Russian revolutionary leader Lenin was able to lead the Bolsheviks of his time in being able to seize the occasion of a war and an emerging revolutionary crisis to break the vicious circle of capitalist enslavement and war and make revolution in Russia. Here we reprint some of his words of the time, words that have every bit as much meaning for us today, as two blocs of capitalist gangsters, headed by the U.S. and the USSR, square off for war.

"The character of the war (whether it is reactionary or revolutionary) does not depend on who the attacker was, or in whose country the "enemy" is stationed; it depends on what class is waging the war, and of what politics this war is a continuation...."

"Neither group of belligerents is inferior to the other in plundering, atrocities and the boundless brutality of war; however, to hoodwink the proletariat and distract its attention from the only genuine war of liberation, namely, a civil war against the bourgeoisie both of its "own" and of "foreign" countries... the bourgeoisie of each country is trying, with the help of false phrases about patriotism, to extol the significance of its "own" national war, asserting that it is out to defeat the enemy, not for plunder and the seizure of territory, but for the "liberation" of all other peoples except its own...."

"The war cannot be justified on the slightest pretext of its being in the interest of the people; it is being prepared for the sake of the capitalists' profits and the ambitions of dynasties. It would be a crime for the workers to shoot each other down...."

"War is the continuation of politics by other (i.e. violent) means"... Apply this view to the present war. You will see that for decades, for almost half a century, the governments and the ruling classes of England, and France, and Germany, and Italy, and Austria, and Russia, pursued a policy of plundering colonies, of oppressing other nations, of suppressing the working-class movement. It is this, and only this, policy that is being continued in the present war. In particular, the policy of both Austria and Russia, in peace-time as well as in war-time, is a policy of enslaving and not of liberating nations...."

"This war is in a treble sense a war between slaveowners to fortify slavery. This is a war firstly, to fortify the enslavement of the colonies by means of a "fairer" distribution and subsequent more "concerted" exploitation of them, secondly, to fortify the oppression of other nations within the "great" powers, for both Austria and Russia (Russia more and much worse than Austria) maintain their rule only

by such oppression, intensifying it by means of war, and thirdly, to fortify and prolong wage slavery, for the proletariat is split up and suppressed, while the capitalists gain, making fortunes out of the war, aggravating national prejudices and intensifying reaction, which has raised its head in all countries, even in the freest and most republican...."

The Outcome of War

"Convert this war between slave-owners for the division of their loot into a war of the slaves of all nations against the slave-owners of all nations...."

"A revolutionary class cannot but wish for the defeat of its government in a reactionary war, cannot fail to see that its military reverses facilitate its overthrow. Only a bourgeois who believes that a war started by the governments must necessarily end as a war between governments and wants it to end as such, can regard as "ridiculous" and "absurd" the idea that the Socialists of all the belligerent countries should wish for the defeat of

all "their" governments and express this wish. On the contrary, it is precisely a statement of this kind that would conform to the cherished thoughts of every class-conscious worker, and would be in line with our activities towards converting the imperialist war into civil war...."

Finally, there is a statement by the great Chinese revolutionary Mao Tse-tung that sums up all this:

"War, this monster of mutual slaughter among men, will be finally eliminated by the progress of human society, and in the not too distant future too. But there is only one way to eliminate it and that is to oppose war with war, to oppose counter-revolutionary war with revolutionary war, to oppose national counter-revolutionary war with national revolutionary war, and to oppose counter-revolutionary class war with revolutionary class war.... When human society advances to the point where classes and states are eliminated, there will be no more wars, counterrevolutionary or revolutionary, unjust or just; that will be the era of perpetual peace for mankind. Our study of the laws of revolutionary war springs from the desire to eliminate all wars; herein lies the distinction between us Communists and all the exploiting classes." ■

New Issue of Revolution

Including:

Kennedy: Knight of the Living Dead

How three generations of Kennedys have served the dead hand of capital, and what Teddy's role is today.

There Will be Revolution—But Wishing Won't Make It So: Voluntarism, Metaphysics and the Communist Workers Party

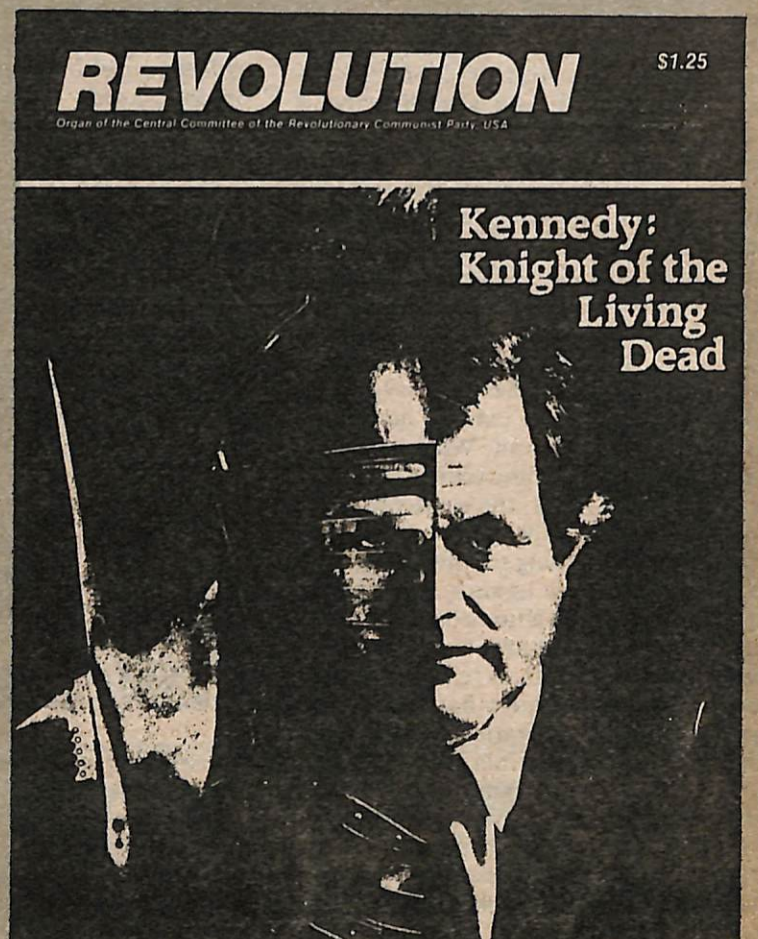
In-depth analysis of recent developments in the line of the CWP (formerly Workers Viewpoint Organization) and the philosophical basis for its opportunism.

Evaluation of the Work of Mao Tsetung by the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile

Detailed reply to recent attacks on Mao. This is one in a series of documents from Marxist-Leninist parties and organizations around the world, upholding and defending the contributions of Mao Tsetung, which are being reproduced in *Revolution*.

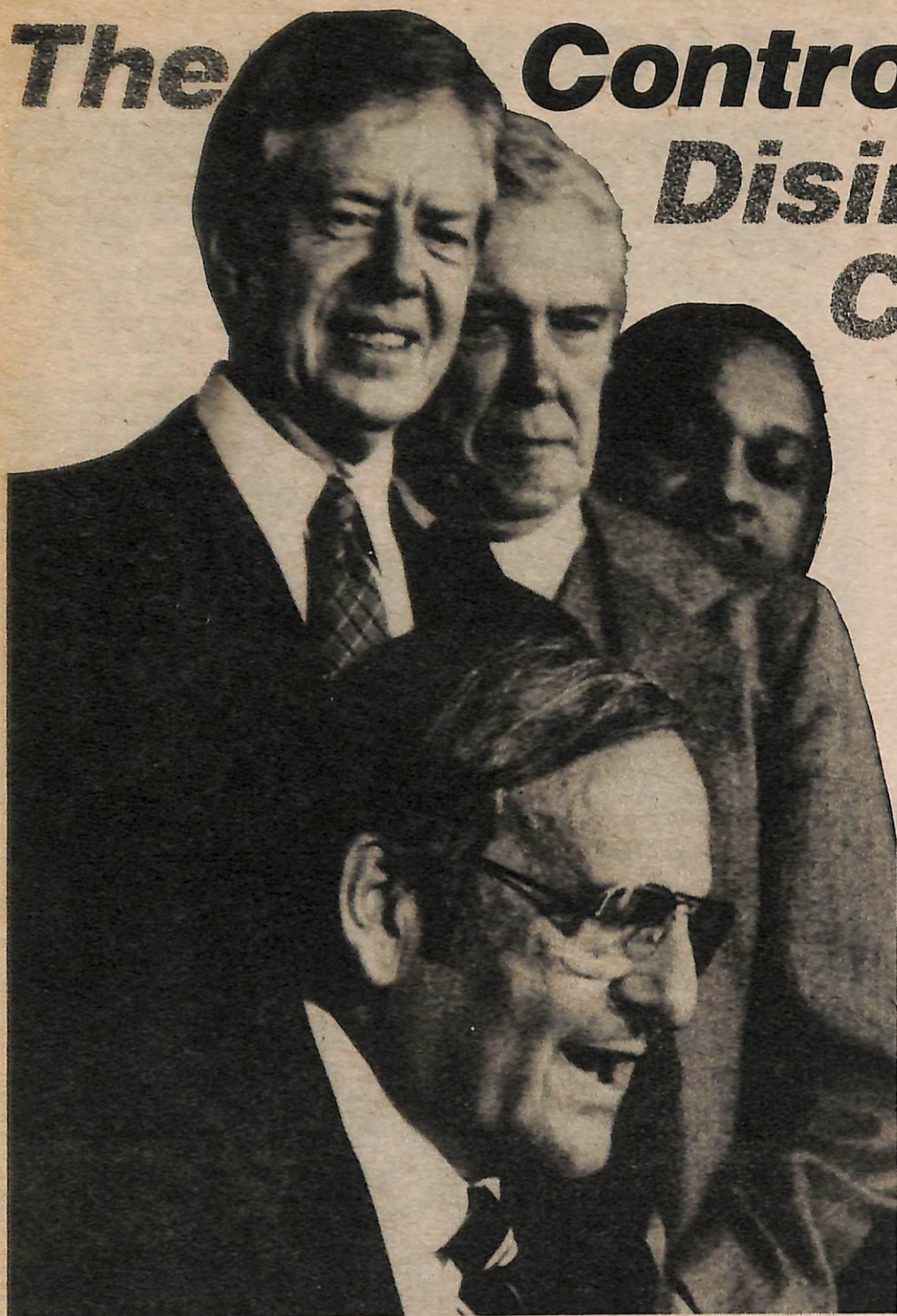
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The Controlled Disintegration of Chrysler



Chrysler Corp. Chairman Lee Iacocca tries out the President's chair following the signing of loan legislation as fellow board director, UAW President Doug Fraser, looks on.

On January 8th, President Carter signed into law the \$1.5 billion bailout of Chrysler Corporation after months of hot debate over the action. The picture on the cover of *The Detroit Free Press* of that day looks like one of those disaster movies where the world is "saved at the end"—a prayerful faced President gazing over the gratefully bowed head of Chrysler Chairman Lee Iacocca

as UAW President Doug Fraser gives a, "brave" clenched fist.

Aside from the usual rhetorical statements of hope that the rapidly crumbling company can be saved, most everyone has expressed considerable doubt that even the unprecedented \$1.5 billion will save Chrysler from collapsing. A recent *New York Times Magazine* article voiced the widespread

doubt about whether the company would survive, "Even with loan guarantees, experts like Alan Greenspan, former chief economic advisor to President Ford, have given Chrysler only a one-in-four chance of survival." The article goes on to say, "No matter how well Chrysler functions—the outcome of the struggle will be determined to an important degree by the overall strength of the economy and other factors beyond the company's control and the prospects are not attractive for Chrysler or for the rest of the automotive industry." Lee Iacocca is quoted as saying, "Sure if the economy goes really sour we probably won't make it." *Business Week* called the bailout just a question of "postponing the inevitable."

In light of all this pessimism about Chrysler's future, why has the bourgeoisie come to an agreement to shell out such a huge aid package? Have they simply made a colossal blunder needlessly throwing good money down the tubes on a losing proposition? Or have they suddenly been struck with a deep and overriding concern for the jobs and lives of the Chrysler workers? No. The move to shore up Chrysler was a very conscious political decision made by the bourgeoisie after considerable struggle in its own ranks about what to do about the problem in light of a deteriorating situation of their economic set-up as a whole. They are well aware that there is actually little chance that Chrysler will survive at least in its present form. In fact they are increasingly becoming acutely aware that there is little they can do about solving their deep economic problems period, short of winning a showdown on a world scale with the Soviet Union. This increasingly apparent fact plays a central role in the decisions the imperialists make on major economic matters.

The thing they are most afraid of now is sharp jolts and shocks to their very fragile and cracking economic system. The sudden collapse of a cor-

poration the size of Chrysler (one of the largest corporations in the world) could have profound effects. It could conceivably trigger a much greater and much more widespread collapse in the U.S. economy and the greatly destabilized international monetary system. With the U.S. dollar already sinking like a lead balloon on the international money markets and confidence in the U.S. financial system very shaky, a Chrysler collapse could be a significant factor in triggering a massive selling-off of the dollar. And this could trigger a subsequent collapse of the monetary system altogether as other countries and financial institutions freak out and move to dump their dollars rather than get stuck holding worthless paper. At the very least the already tremendous downward pressures on the U.S. dollar would be increased.

At the same time a Chrysler collapse could cause the chain of bad debts that currently links together the whole international network of bank and financial institutions to snap. The company is \$4.8 billion in debt. Defaulting on these loans would indeed be a shock to the enterprises that have lent Chrysler money who themselves are strung out in debt and so on and so on.

Factors such as these are intertwined with and have a profound effect on the political situation within the U.S. bloc, in particular the relations between the U.S. and the western European imperialists and Japan. The U.S. imperialists are being very careful not to cause a major falling out among these allies.

In the light of this unstable situation it is no wonder that Jimmy Carter described the question of bailing out Chrysler as a question of "national security" and that Lee Iacocca warned, "I don't want to be prophetic in a dark sort of way but the world is in turmoil and even small problems get exacerbated to where they become big problems."

All this is to say nothing of the effect a Chrysler collapse would have on a U.S. economy already entering a new

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Ford Pinto Wrist-Slap Murder Trial

Winamac, Indiana, Jan. 7—"Do you believe that a corporation has the right to make profits? Do you believe that a corporation has the right to make profits and sacrifice safety?" These were two of the questions put to prospective jurors by the prosecuting attorney during jury selection that began in the murder trial of Ford Motor Company. Ford was indicted by an Elkhart County grand jury following the fiery deaths of 3 teenage girls in 1978. They were burned to death when their Ford Pinto burst into flames after being struck in the rear.

As each person answered "yes" to the prosecutor's first question, and "no" to the second, the prosecutor just wanted to make it clear that the profit system itself was not on trial here, only the "excesses" of Ford that resulted in these deaths. For its part, Ford is rumored to have spent over \$1,000,000 to defend itself in this case, hiring attorney James F. Neal, who prosecuted the major cases resulting from the Watergate scandal, and 20 other attorneys, public relations men and other Ford officials.

To Ford, \$1,000,000 is a small price to pay to strike down an Indiana law that allows corporations to be prosecuted on criminal charges, and to save millions of dollars in damages that they would have to pay out in pending settlements against them for crash victims and next of kin. "They face a potential penalty of only \$30,000 in fines" for the crime itself, according to *Newsweek*, in an article mainly devoted to attacking the people of the town of Winamac as country bumpkins with no

more interest in this case than all the money it will bring to local business.

Before the Pinto ever went into production, Ford knew it was a death trap. Every crash test Ford did at speeds over 25 mph ruptured the fuel tank, located a mere 6 inches in front of the rear bumper. So why did they go ahead with it?

The answer was revealed 8 years ago in an internal memorandum written by Ford entitled, "Fatalities Associated with Crash-Induced Fuel Leakage and Fires." The following summation of costs and "benefits" is from that report:

Benefits

Savings: 180 burn deaths, 180 serious burn injuries, 2100 burned vehicles.
Unit Cost: \$200,000 per death, \$67,000 per injury, \$700 per vehicle.
Total Benefit: (180 x \$200,000) + (180 x \$67,000) + (2100 x \$700) = \$49.5 million.

Costs

Sales: 11 million cars, 1.5 million light trucks
Unit Cost: \$11 per car, \$11 per truck.
Total Cost: (11,000,000 x \$11) + (1,500,000 x \$11) = \$137 million.

This cold, calculated study shows just how much these murdering scum think the people's lives are worth. They figured it was cheaper for them to pay out \$49.5 million to burned and scarred crash survivors and next of kin than to install an \$11 rupture-resistant fuel tank in each car. So three Indiana teenagers



The Ford Pinto in which 3 Indiana teenagers were burned to death.

and an estimated 500 others were brutally put to death by fire, and at least another 5000 were seriously burned, all to appease the insatiable God of Profit.

Because Indiana law allows jurors to judge according to their own conscience, and not just by the judge's interpretation of the law, the defense is taking great pains to try to weed out anyone who might think there's something wrong with a multimillion

dollar corporation making money at the cost of human lives. According to Michael Cosentino, prosecuting attorney, to prove their charge of reckless homicide they must prove that Ford "recklessly killed a human being." "We are not required to prove a motive," he told prospective jurors. But it is *exactly* the motive, profit above all else, that resulted in the Pinto deaths, and it is this revelation that Ford fears and will try to cover up. ■

OLYMPIC JAILHOUSE

Lake Placid. Nestled in the rustic Adirondacks of upstate New York, this world-famous ski resort will soon host the 1980 Winter Olympics. There has been a genuine religious revival among local entrepreneurs and Olympic organizers, who are feverishly praying for snow—a key element in winter sports. There have been less than a dozen inches since the beginning of December, and most of that has either melted away or turned into a dangerous layer of ice.

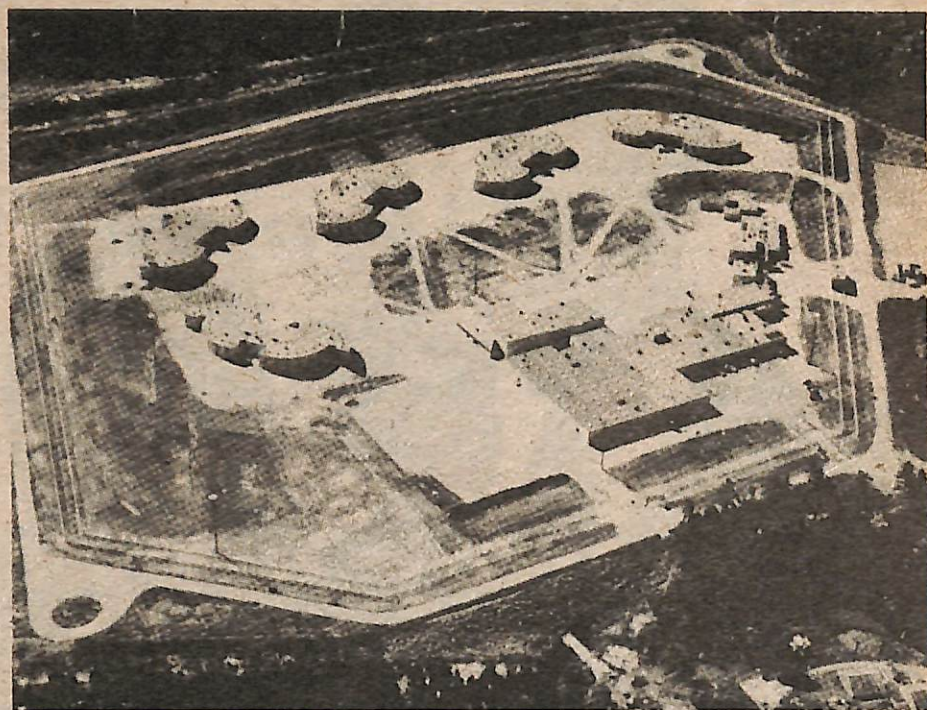
The snow that falls down from the sky is free of charge and therefore much preferred by the money men for whom the Olympics is a multi-million dollar gravy train. Man-made snow (which they will use if necessary) costs more per square yard than a lot of your fancier carpeting. But even if they have to fork over a few beans for some giant snow-cone machines, they have more than made up for it by cutting costs in other areas, thanks to the beneficent hand of the U.S. imperialists who, after all, sponsor the Olympics to further their political ends in the international arena—their superpower rivalry with the Soviet Union in particular.

More than a quarter of a million dollars worth of labor went into preparing Mt. Van Hoevenberg and Whiteface Mountain for the upcoming games, and much of it was done in temperatures of 20 to 25 degrees below zero. "That's weather you couldn't hire people to work in," said Sgt. Edward Brady, the officer in charge of prison work crews at nearby Camp Adirondack, a minimum security federal "correctional facility." More to the point is the fact that the people who held the purse strings couldn't see paying what it would take to get a workforce up there in subzero weather, especially when the feds were offering them a prison full of indentured servants for next to nothing. Inmates from Camp Adirondack did all the work at the state prison "wage" scale of between 75 cents and \$1.25 per day.

"They volunteered for the duty," Sgt. Brady said. One of the prisoners explained his own reason, shared by many, for "volunteering": It's only

temporary, but I get a feeling of freedom every time I go up there." A *New York Times* pundit summed up from this that the prisoners "are realists who appreciate the value of a good illusion."

While most of the prisoners working on the slopes certainly did not appreciate breaking their backs and freezing their asses off for a few cents an hour and really had no illusions about being free as the steel bars slammed shut every night when they returned to their cells, the bourgeoisie certainly "ap-



Olympic Village:
A prison
built by prisoners.

preciates the value of a good illusion." In fact, they are finding it necessary to promote more than a few in order to avoid possible dissension at the Olympic Games themselves.

Controversy has already erupted over the \$28 million "Olympic Village," paid for entirely by the federal government. Some of the athletes from around the world who will be housed in this complex may begin to get a strange cooped-up feeling and start to wonder if they are being held hostage in the little cubicles called "rooms" they are sleeping in. Such feelings are quite

understandable since the government only agreed to pay for the project on the condition that the "Olympic Village" could be put to a useful purpose after the games—serving as a new federal prison!! Who knows, maybe some of the same prisoners who worked on the slopes will end up living in the Olympic Village!

Actually, the idea of a combination Olympic Village/federal prison is quite fitting. Symbolically, it represents a sort of microcosm of the world, viewed through the eyes of the U.S. imperialists. The athletes representing all

the nations and peoples of the world will be corralled each night into tiny cells minus only the bars. At no time will they escape the watchful eye of "security guards" and when they are not competing they will for the most part be confined to the Village for the duration of their stay. The U.S., of course, will be the keeper of the prison's key and, who knows, maybe if the Soviet Union or Cuba takes too many gold medals the steel bars that are destined for the athletes' cubicles will be slapped into place early?

At the same time the prison/Village concept could give rise to a whole new category of Olympic winter sports. Like ice-covered wall scaling; or perhaps cross-country getaway, with guards from the U.S. team hunting down their fleeing opponents. The cutthroat competition that is the lifeblood of the Olympic scene today could move to a whole new level!

Opposition to the government's planned use of the facility has been growing, and a coalition has been formed called Stop The Olympic Prison (STOP). One White House spokesman complained that the prison's opponents were failing to take into account how "modern" and "comfortable" the new prison will be. At the same time, officials have been worrying about how the Olympic athletes will respond to the prison-like atmosphere of their surroundings. The fact that they will be skiing down slopes made by prisoners and then going home to a "village" made for prisoners is more than a little ironic, and both Olympic's officials and government spokesmen are concerned that it may be "misinterpreted."

Given the foregoing circumstances surrounding this year's Winter Olympics, it comes as no surprise that there is one final outrage to round things out. It seems that the federal government signed two treaties, one in 1784 and the other in 1794, granting the Native Americans of the Mohawk Nation title to lands that include what is now Lake Placid and the site of the new federal prison/village. The ruling class never honored its treaties, and is now setting out to hold Olympic Games and run a federal prison on stolen land! The Mohawk Nation is working to unite with prison opponents, and plans to demonstrate at the Winter Olympics, asserting their legitimate right to the land.

January is not a good month for standing naked in upstate New York, but the imperialists seem unable to avoid exposing themselves nonetheless. ■

Salvadoran Junta Shrinks

An atmosphere of high tension is in the air in El Salvador as this article is being written. For the first time in a long while, the streets of San Salvador are quiet. But it's like the calm before a storm. The made-in-USA "revolutionary" junta government is falling apart. The resignation of junta members Guillermo Ungo and Ramon Mayorga, and thirty other high-level government officials, have touched off a crisis in the Salvadoran government.

Long-standing liberal credentials had gotten Ungo, Mayorga and others their government posts as part of the U.S. imperialists' strategy of attempting to win over the Salvadoran middle forces with reform promises and smashing the revolutionary people's movement. The wholesale resignations reflect the fact that instead, the imperialists' strategy has been smashed by the struggle of the Salvadoran people.

Ungo, Mayorga and the rest had to resign because their political constituency wasn't listening to their reform promises anymore. The month of December had seen large numbers of middle-class forces stepping forward to join the growing ranks of workers and peasants who were denouncing the junta. The official governing body of the National University, the Consejo Superior, bought a two-page ad in *El Diario de Hoy* newspaper, detailing U.S. imperialist plunder of El Salvador and denouncing the junta as a tool of the U.S. The coalition of political parties and labor unions that Ungo represented, Foro Popular, became increasingly critical of the government, even sponsoring a march to the Labor Ministry to demand an end to factory

shutdowns and unemployment.

Upon resigning, Ungo and Mayorga complained that the government was being prevented by the landlords and the U.S. multinational corporations from carrying out any of the land, wage, or other reforms promised during the coup of October 15. But this is not surprising, because the coup had in no way broken up the semifeudal, semi-colonial structure built up over a hundred years of U.S. domination of El Salvador. Any serious enforcement of the junta's promises (which no one in the junta had any intention of making good on) would have threatened the entrenched interests of the landlord class which the U.S. has propped up for so long, as well as the U.S. electronics and textile corporations which have reaped fortunes from paying low wages and maintaining the inhuman conditions the Salvadoran working class live under.

The three-man commission appointed to investigate the whereabouts of disappeared political prisoners also resigned, saying that they had received none of the necessary cooperation from military officials on any level. This was no surprise either, since any thorough investigation was bound to uncover evidence against high-level officials still in the government and military.

The government resignations came in the midst of increasingly strong calls from right-wing forces for another coup to smash the revolutionary movement once and for all. The Right has been able to mobilize large numbers in demonstrations calling for a coup. But these demonstrations consisted of large numbers of landlords and businessmen and their wives, who had their servants carrying their flags and banners, so they

wouldn't blister their hands or crack their fingernails.

The argument has even been made by some in El Salvador that the much talked about right-wing coup has already happened, since there are no longer any civilians on the civilian-military junta (Phelps-Dodge executive Mario Andino resigned two days after Ungo and Mayorga). But the young "progressive" army colonels who carried out the October 15 coup and are responsible for the murder of over 300 people in their reign of less than three months, are still holding on to their "democratic opening" mask, pretending that the resignations result from a "misunderstanding," and casting around for some other civilians to join the junta.

However, a good indication of the bankruptcy of the junta and the strength of the people's movement is the fact that even the Salvadoran Communist Party, which has traditionally dragged at the rear of the movement and whose strategy has been based on obtaining positions within the neocolonialist government, has joined in the resignations and has stated, at least publicly, that it will not go back into the government. As one resigned official said, when he was asked if he would accept another position, "Not even a crazy man would accept a job like that."

The junta may be able to find some civilian volunteers though, not in the insane ward, but in the Christian Democratic Party. Speculation in the Salvadoran press is that two Christian Democratic leaders, Antonio Morales Ehrlich and Hector Dada Hirezi,

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Seattle T.V. Play Attacks Party

On Sunday, January 6 at 10 p.m., Seattle TV viewers were assaulted by a vicious little play whose closing scene went like this:

Chicago. The setting is the living room of a rundown tenement. A young Black man, Cellar George, explains to a white "communist" Phillip about how his father died at the mill and he made it look like an accident to collect the insurance money.

Cellar George: "I told you how it went down, man."

Phillip: "So you did and I sort of believe you but, well, fat chance that the police will. But don't worry, I won't tell. Of course I do need some of that, uh, cooperation."

Cellar George: "That's blackmail, you know."

Phillip: "Well, I prefer to say we're scratching each other's back."

Cellar George: "Have some coffee."

Phillip: "Don't mind if I do. Oh, you see, George, my major concern is making sure that we get most of the workers behind unity. Oh, you'd be surprised at how much I have tied up in this. Awfully frustrating. You know how it is." (Cellar George pulls a gun on him.)

"No! Wait!" (Cellar George fires twice, killing him. His two older brothers come clamoring in. Ed, the "Kid," explains how actually Phillip killed their father by poisoning him.)

Ed: "He" (pointing to the dead Phillip) "probably wanted an issue to rally around. He just didn't figure on Cellar."

Ned: "Who would. He still went and shot him."

ED: "Now Cellar, go next door and call the police."

Cellar George: "Police? Wait..."

Ed: "That's why I want you to call. It will make it look better. You ain't done nothing but get excited and kill your Daddy's murderer after you found he killed your Daddy. You got it?"

Cellar George: "Got it. Kid, what about the insurance money? Will we still get it?"

Ed: "You bet. He was killed while working and that policy do be including death by all causes other than natural. Now go call. Cel, you won't!"

The play, "Cellar George," may remind you of a 1950s "Red menace" flick but it was written in the spring of 1979. Channel 9, public broadcasting system in the Seattle area, produced and aired this play to celebrate "25 years of T.V. worth turning to." Chan-

nel 9's management hopes to sell it to the networks. A co-producer told the *RW* how glad the station was to have the opportunity to air a local artist, especially a Black artist in an ethnic play. (Now right there, any progressive Black artist struggling to get their work produced could smell a rat!—*RW*)

Who is this local "artist"? His name: Aki Llorens. A self-described Black intellectual, he used to work for the Community Relations Services of the Federal Justice Department and it was through this position that he accumulated most of his material for "Cellar George." Aki Llorens is very proud to have been able to trace his family tree back far enough to find that his great-great-grandparents were cousins to the only Black slave-owning family in the New Orleans area.

The play is supposedly based on Llorens' experiences around the murder of John Rodney, a Black man who was murdered by Seattle police in the summer of 1978, but Llorens has twisted the truth into a monstrous lie, portraying the "communists" in the play as the murderers of a Black worker in a grain mill. There is method to this madness. The play is a conscious attack on the Revolutionary Communist Party which took up the fight against Rodney's murder in the Seattle area, and which Llorens has had more than one occasion to spy on.

As a legal intern for Community Relations Services, Llorens told the *RW* in an interview, "I had been assigned to study the use of deadly force, excessive force, the legal ramifications of it, etc. on minorities and therefore when that (the pig murder of John Rodney) took place right here within our region I was assigned to observe, to observe and report... it was no less, no more." He visited the Rodney family on numerous occasions but he never had the guts to tell them he worked for the god-damned feds they were fighting. A member of the Rodney family exclaimed to the *RW*, "You mean to tell me we had a snitch sitting with us at the inquest and coming to our house?"

RW: "Do you think the portrayal of revolutionaries in "Cellar George" is accurate?"

Llorens: "I think, that in many cases, yes."

RW: "Including John Rodney?"

Llorens: "Oh, ultimately." He went on to say that those with communist leanings don't allow Black people to "define themselves" and likewise "exploit them." "You see I

understood some of the personal problems the family was having and I was very close to the family in that way... because my work at that time required me to do so."

"The rich man, the one who wrote "Cellar George," is trying to brainwash us to believe that the workers (around the RCP) are dogs who are just out to use the people. They are wrong. The movie has no truth in it at all. To be for real, the movie of a pig killing a Black man would be appropriate," a member of the Rodney family told the *RW*.

"As a writer," Llorens declares, "I try to stay away from ideology, only in the sense that I look at what is, what I see happening to people," (arrogantly proving that people who see the world through pig eyes often are the first to scream "no politics here.") Llorens is fond of saying that Black people must be left alone to "define themselves." But he has no trouble defining the characters in his play. Ned, the oldest, is an Army officer blindly serving the bourgeoisie. Ed, the "Kid," who Llorens says represents the "60s mentality" because he "won't hitch no mule," is a pimp. Cellar George represents the 80s, the young Black man who defines himself. And how does he define himself through the pen of Llorens? By murdering a "revolutionary" and relying on the bourgeoisie to clear him. But Llorens says he doesn't have to deal with the ruling class. Black people haven't for most of the past 200 years, according to him.

"... in history I do not think you'll find an allegiance to a country that is as strong as the Black commitment to this country, the United States up to the 60s." He spelled it out, "Black people are sold, s-o-l-d on capitalism." He outright denies the rich history of the struggle of Black people in this country starting on the very slave ships which brought them here.

A Black D.C., volunteer summed it up like this, "He says 'Black people have to define themselves. Black people have defined what they won't do but have not been equipped to do much more.' What the hell does that mean? Is he saying that we are stupid, mindless fools? Is he saying that the struggles of our Black brothers and sisters that put revolution on the map in this country in the 60s meant nothing? The RCP came out of those struggles."

While Llorens refuses to name names, the attack on the RCP is conscious and pathetically obvious. RCP pamphlets grace the radical office in the play just for show. A camera operator at the station was asked for a copy of the *Revolutionary Worker* to pattern their radical newspaper after. She refused.

In early February 1979 RCP members and supporters occupied the Community Relations Services offices demanding the release of Bob Avakian and all those arrested at the January 29th demonstration. Aki Llorens just happened to walk into his office at that

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ELDRIDGE CLEAVER . . . COMING!



ELDRIDGE CLEAVER, The former Black Panther leader who is now working in full-time Christian service will be one of the many speakers at Jesus Fair '79, June 21-23 at the Western Washington Fairgrounds in Puyallup. Tickets available at the TACOMA BON AND THE SEATTLE BON OR CALL 473-0590.

Eldridge Cleaver, ex-Black Panther, now a reborn Christian hustling everything from men's hot pants to the Moonies, kept his ass out of prison last week. On January 3, the judge let him off on five years probation despite three charges of attempted murder of police. (These charges stemmed from a 1968 police assault on the Panthers that killed 17-year-old Bobby Hutton and wounded Cleaver.)

Cleaver started his belly crawl five years ago when he supposedly saw "Jesus plastered across the face of the moon" and became a reborn Christian. After his return to the U.S. in 1975, he wrote a series of articles denouncing revolution and socialism, appeared on "Meet the Press" and starred in "The Cleaver Story," a Gospel Film Production. He also wrote *Soul on Fire*, bragging of his new-found buddies like U.S. Senators, a former Alabama Ku Klux Klan leader, and Watergate Plumber Charles Colson. Cleaver says, "Nixon is on my prayer list, and Chuck Colson is my friend."

Cleaver, a big fan of Rev. Sun Myung Moon, can be heard speaking before Moonie audiences, extolling the U.S. "as the freest and most democratic government in the world." Cleaver reportedly got \$60,000 in 1978 from his "Cleaver Crusade for Christ" bankrolled by a Pennsylvania industrialist.

His backers include the president of the right-wing National Liberty Corporation of Valley Forge who has put up his \$100,000 bail.

Cleaver once said that "there are much worse fates than a prison cell," such as "growing an extra set of lips so you can kiss more asses of those who fuck with us daily." It looks like Eldridge grew that extra set of lips. Cleaver told the press, "I am one person who used to think there was nothing good a policeman could do. I don't think that anymore." This, when James Bell had just been murdered by the Oakland pigs—their ninth Black victim in the past year. The Black community was outraged. But on January 8 Cleaver called a press conference at the site of the 1968 shootout, praised the cops and called on Black people to do the same.

When Cleaver went before the judge, his honor was noted to have remarked that a sentence of anything besides probation would be "vindictive." Why, after all, should the authorities seek revenge against someone this eager to denounce his former "crimes"? Cleaver once said, "A slave who dies of natural causes will not balance two dead flies in a scale of eternity."

But Eldridge, you're not even worth one dead fly.

Revisionists Bring Back China's Khrushchev

Liu Shao-chi, the Number 1 capitalist roader in China until he was yanked down from his throne during the great storms of the Cultural Revolution. "China's Khrushchev." Saboteur of socialist revolution and socialist construction. Mortal enemy of Chairman Mao Tsetung and everything he stood for and fought for. When Liu's political associate, Teng Hsiao-ping, seized power in China after Mao's death, it was inevitable that Liu, whose name had become a profanity in China, would one day be restored to a position of "honor." The only question was—when?

It is now 99.9% official. Liu Shao-chi is being officially and fondly referred to as "Comrade" Liu. The December 1979 issue of *Red Flag*, the Chinese Communist Party's theoretical journal, quotes from a speech by the revisionist novelist Ding Ling, another target of the Cultural Revolution, at the recent national art and literature conference. Ding Ling says that "His (Comrade Liu's) words were etched in my memory," and that they gave her "great encouragement" while she was under attack by the revolutionaries. This published reference to Liu as "comrade" represents official approval. Earlier, Liu's picture, as well as a drawing depicting him standing alongside Mao, appeared in the November issue of China's magazine, *Chinese Youth*—the first in an official publication since Liu was knocked from power. And Liu was prominently featured in an official photo exhibition of the party's history (see *RW*, Oct. 6).

It was inevitable that Liu's "honor" would be restored sooner or later (although he has since died). After all, the capitalist policies Liu pushed as President of the People's Republic (a

post later abolished during the Cultural Revolution) have all been revived with a vengeance by the revisionist rulers Hua and Teng. Universities are once again ivory towers. Workers and peasants who fought in their millions against attempts by traitors like Liu to restore capitalism are now told to slave for the "four modernizations." And the only regret Teng and Co. have is that their sacred "four modernizations" have not allowed them to perfect a technique to physically resurrect their departed "comrade."

This Liu revival is really taking off. Mao's Red Book, now banned, is being replaced by a new book soon to be published, called "Basic Knowledge of the Party," which reportedly includes many passages from Liu's infamous work, "How to Be a Good Communist." Liu's book glorified Confucianism and contained scathing attacks on revolutionaries as well as thinly disguised shots aimed at Mao. While the Red Book was wielded by hundreds of millions as a weapon to spread Mao's line against the capitalist roaders, and against Liu in particular, the new book of revisionist "wisdom" will serve the opposite purpose.

All this goes hand in hand with the continuing attacks on Mao's line, including personal attacks on Mao himself. While "China's Khrushchev" is now "Comrade Liu," Chairman Mao is downgraded to simply *Comrade Mao*. Officially reviving Liu is essential to the revisionists in creating public opinion for the upcoming trial of the Four (Mao's genuine revolutionary comrades)—which is actually a trial of Mao Tsetung and his revolutionary political line.

The revisionist rulers cannot bring back Liu himself. But thousands of



In 1927, thousands upon thousands of workers and peasants were shot, beheaded, and viciously tortured by Chiang Kai-shek's forces as he betrayed the first alliance with the Chinese Communists. The massacres centered in Shanghai and Wuhan. Here an older Wuhan worker describes how, after the Shanghai massacre had already occurred, Liu Shao-chi had the workers and peasants turn in their weapons; a little later the Shanghai slaughter was repeated in Wuhan.

lesser Lius, many knocked down during the Cultural Revolution, have already been returned to positions of power, while many revolutionaries have been jailed or killed. No matter how much political make-up the revisionists put on

Liu, he's a "comrade" only to the revisionist butchers themselves. For the people and for genuine revolutionaries around the world, the verdict on Liu Shao-chi remains as stated in 1966—"hidden traitor and scab." ■

ANGER OF BLACK COMMUNITY EXPLODES IN OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Oakland, January 8—Two thousand people packed the Oakland Auditorium Wednesday night as the city council had a special meeting to discuss their plan for a police review board. The council hoped to provide people with a vent for their rage and then eventually smother it under a blanket of boring pronouncements by "respectable members of the community." What they got was a big dose of the problem that they've got in front of them—a community outraged by nine police murders of Blacks in the last year, people who were being thrown into action, who were refusing to live at the mercy of the racist dogs who patrol the streets.

Coming on the heels of the latest coldblooded murder this past Sunday, the council was unable to even make its proposal to the crowd. Councilman Sutter began the report with, "We have a fine police force..." and for Councilman Sutter it was all downhill from there. After five minutes of jeers and catcalls the meeting had to be recessed and the floor turned over to the audience.

It was clear from the outset that the council was resigned to the fact that they couldn't run the show, so rather than trying to strong-arm people to attention, they hoped to control the mike with a parade of reactionaries and poverty pimps. The plan was to keep discussion focused on the "citizen review board" with the white reactionaries alternating with NAACP types, so that the only alternative to the racist garbage would be the "respectable, accessible" reforms like the review board or more Black cops.

What actually happened was that the

raw anger that many thousands of people in Oakland feel poured out and along with it a lot of different ideas on what was the cause and what was the solution. Virtually everyone who stood against the murdering pigs was applauded, no matter how limited their proposals were. The sentiments were so strong that even Oakland's Black mayor, Lionel Wilson, felt compelled to accuse one reactionary speaker of being a well known KKK supporter. (Although he apologized shortly after.)

Dozens of pigs in street clothes simmered in their seats, while the council gritted their teeth and referred to the many "complex" aspects of the problem, pointing out that they had read volumes of material, even "doctoral theses," in an effort to come up with a solution.

To most people there, however, the problem wasn't so goddamn complex: nine Black men murdered in one year, constant harassment and brutalizing at the hands of the racist pigs. Did it take a Ph.D. to understand a racist murder? The council and its loyal servants tried to present the review board like it was the answer, while at the same time one man ran around the hall with a bottle of vaseline to symbolize "what we're going to get" as he put it.

Another man put it this way: "I don't care whether this review board passes or not, all I know is that if the police come after me, I'm not going to turn the other cheek!" One TV news station, referring to an RCP banner, reported, "One banner said, 'Nine Black Men Dead, Pigs Go Free, That's What the Rich Call Democracy'—this seemed to sum up the feelings of people

in Oakland tonight...."


While the idea of the review board as well as dozens of other schemes are not fully exposed to a lot of people, a good section of the crowd came for action. The shit had to stop, period. They were not concerned with following "proper procedures." One guy burst into the meeting from outside and demanded to know why there were 50 tac squad members out there. Two young Blacks took a pig's head from an RCP supporter and paraded it around the auditorium, agitating to the crowd.

This wasn't a "reasonable dialog" among "responsible citizens." This was a little taste of the masses in action, with a lot more to come, a feeling that was beautifully put when one of the two waved the pig's head and shouted, "I'm an Iranian student." The determination and daring of people like them was summed up by the RCP speaker during the meeting: "This murdering system has already been reviewed, the time for execution is long overdue!"

The evening was a good look at what's happening in Oakland. As the anger and frustration of the Black community grows, everyone is looking for the solution. Over 100 *RW*'s were sold outside the meeting. The ruling class hopes that "open forums" will buy them a little time, while they increasingly have to use naked force. This only forces them to scramble more desperately to keep a lid on things. Tonight was another sign that the pressure cooker is getting ready to explode. ■

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U.S. Imperialist Grain War

Turning Plowshares into Swords

As part of the U.S. imperialists' retaliation moves for the Soviet social-imperialists' invasion of Afghanistan, Jimmy Carter announced an embargo on U.S. grain sales to the Soviets. Two large grain-producing countries which are tightly tied into the U.S. war bloc, Canada and Australia, also agreed to embargo grain to the USSR.

Grain sales to the Soviet Union have been a hot political topic in this country since they were begun in the early 1970s, and it is clear that Carter's move was designed as a sharp and sweeping political gesture that would demonstrate a clear intention to retaliate against the Soviet invasion. The U.S. imperialists would also like to economically hurt their Soviet counterparts as much as possible, but it is unclear at this time whether the U.S. will be able to inflict much actual damage against its rival with this embargo. Farmers and grain elevator operators are claiming that the USSR will be able to get grain through other channels, and this may be true. Grain sold to a third party, for instance, might end up in the Soviet Union. But

for the moment, the embargo has the clear political purpose of announcing that the U.S. is going to use "food as a weapon"—despite Carter's denial of this on the basis that the grain was intended for Soviet cows, not people! (Actually the U.S. imperialists have used agricultural products this way for a long time—see "How to Use Food as a Weapon," *RW*, Aug. 10, 1979.)

Three days after the embargo announcement, Carter also announced a program whereby the government will buy all the grain and soybeans now under contract to be sold to the Soviet Union, at a cost of close to \$3 billion. This is essentially a move to help the big grain monopolies which hold these contracts. They will simply sell their grain to the government and thus take no loss. The same cannot be said for farmers, who *are* taking losses from this action. Many farmers have been storing grain on their farms, planning to sell it during January to pay off notes that come due now. They will still have to sell to meet their payments, but at prices which have plummeted due to the oversupply caused by the loss of the

Soviet market. The same fall in prices means that farmers who must now make contracts to sell what they will produce in the future are not going to get good terms on these contracts.

The amount of grain affected by this is very great. Of the wheat produced in the U.S., 66% is exported, and one-sixth of this would have gone to the USSR. For corn, 33% is exported, of which one-third would normally go to the Soviet Union. Over the past several years, grain exports to the USSR have averaged 15 million metric tons, and this year a much larger amount, over 20 million tons, had been contracted for. Of this, the U.S. government will be buying almost 15 million tons.

The grain embargo indicates both the seriousness of the developments towards world war represented by events in Afghanistan as well as the clear intentions of the U.S. to politically counter their Soviet rivals. Economically, the embargo will hurt the U.S. The export of grain has been one of the few strong points of the U.S. economy and has acted against the U.S. balance of trade deficit. Further,

government purchase of the grain will be inflationary. Even so, for the U.S., political considerations outweigh immediate economic considerations. The willingness of the U.S. imperialists to risk further turmoil in their already shaky economy with this particular use of "food as a weapon" shows that it is hell bent on the future use of weapons other than food.

Seattle T.V. Play

Continued from page 7

time. As "Cellar George" was about to go into production, Channel 9 had the opportunity to interview Bob Avakian in Seattle as part of his nationwide speaking tour. At the time there was talk of airing the interview to coincide with "Cellar George."

While a local Seattle critic theater columnist criticized the "hokey trumped-up story" calling the portrayal of the revolutionaries "unconvincing," he praised the production and the scandalous portrayal of the Black family—obviously the T.V. station went to some effort to slick up a story which was too good for the bourgeoisie to pass up. The reviewer says, "Cellar George," which is definitely worth seeing for the performances, just isn't all that one could hope for, even though there is enough promise in the script to make one anticipate Llorens' next play." In other words, as far as the bourgeoisie is concerned, this guy Llorens shows promise. He has certainly rendered them service on this one. As they maneuver to crush the revolutionary leadership of the masses, Bob Avakian, and declare open season on communists with their Greensboro massacre, "Cellar George" has provided them with yet another knife to throw—this one aimed to spread poison about the RCP, right at the heart of the Black masses. Still, it's not all that they hoped for! They complain that he should have done a better job on the communists. This will undoubtedly be difficult for Llorens since his portrayal of the "communists" in "Cellar George" reflects his own warped view of the world—it is the portrayal of a cynical opportunist, using the struggle of Black people for his own gain. And while this has absolutely nothing in common with genuine communists, it is a very accurate portrait of the author himself. Indeed, Mr. Llorens, perhaps you really do portray what you see—but just one question, do you do all your writing in front of the mirror? ■

Junta Shrinks

Continued from page 6

may be considering taking Ungo's and Mayorga's places. Scarcely a day after their resignations, Christian Democratic leader José Napoleón Duarte expressed his party's willingness to join a "broad alliance...including the military and the popular sector." It is only logical that even in the most difficult of times, the junta would find recruits in this party, which historically is the bastard child of the CIA and the Catholic church hierarchy, and whose namesakes have faithfully served U.S. interests wherever they exist, from Western Europe to Chile.

The jockeying now going on in the Salvadoran government is a reflection of the severely weakened position of the U.S. and its puppet regime. The debate is not so much over who will control the country, as it is over how they can stop the revolutionary struggle that threatens to end the whole ball game. The junta was supposed to be the answer to that question, but recent events make clear that the imperialists are still looking for one.

U.S. Style

Continued from page 1

oil-rich Persian Gulf, as well as a shot at a seaport on the Arabian Sea. With 1.3 billion dollars in aid in one hand and their puppet Afghan "communists" from the Khalq and Parcham party factions in the other, the Soviets bid to buy Daoud and thereby bring Afghanistan into their clutches. Since Daoud was

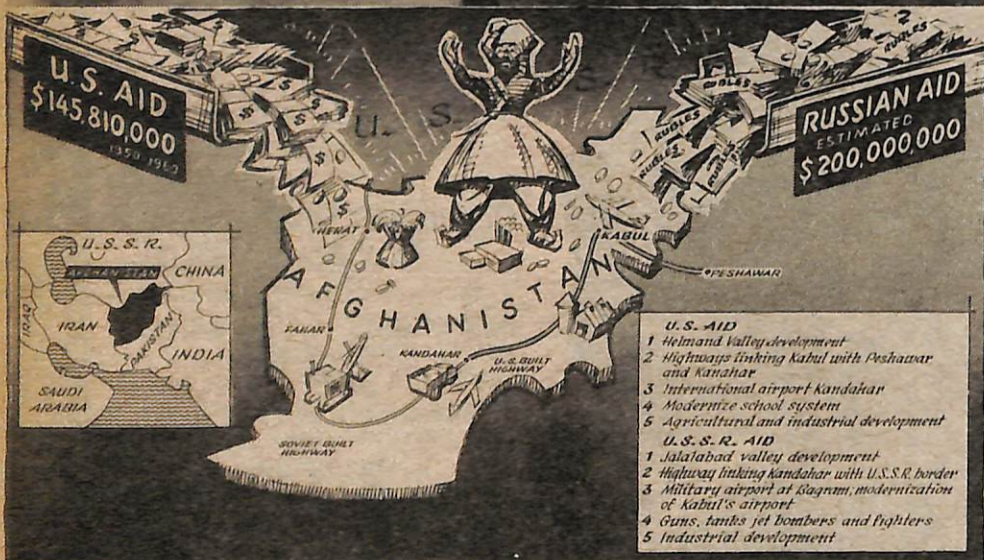
trying to raise his own price on the market by playing the two superpowers off against each other, he initially bit on the Soviet offer. Clearly more U.S. "friendship" was called for. The CIA told Daoud straight out that this kind of flirtation with the Russians would earn him some concrete boots. Within months all Daoud's top pro-Soviet ministers were dumped and the number of Soviet advisors were cut from 1,000 to 200 by 1976.

The Nixon Doctrine, which made the Shah of Iran the U.S.'s regional thug, brought new ambassadors of American goodwill to Afghanistan—in the form of SAVAK, the Shah's secret police. The U.S. increasingly relied on Iran to force Daoud into its orbit. The Shah extracted an agreement from Daoud to join a U.S.-backed Asian Common Market plan and to also shut off his border to Baluchistan guerrillas who were crossing to attack the Shah's forces in Iran. In return, Iran promised 2 billion dollar grants to build a railroad from Kabul (Afghanistan's capital) to the sea, through Iran, that would allow the U.S. to dominate Afghan commerce. In addition, the U.S. upped its own foreign aid along with enough loans from the World Bank to firmly enmesh Afghanistan in the web of western imperialist finance.

While all this U.S. "friendship" lined Daoud's pockets with gold, it only intensified the misery of the Afghan masses. Time soon showed the total bankruptcy of Daoud's phony promises of reform, and the Kabul regime became the focus of intensifying popular hatred. This gave the Soviets their chance in 1978 when SAVAK murdered a well-known KGB agent and a member of the Parcham faction. Introducing their equally imperialist brand of protection, the Russians had the royal palace bombed, Daoud killed, and a coup instigated that put their own puppet in power—Nur Mohammed Taraki, head of the also pro-Soviet Khalq faction.

The Soviet-backed coup was a sharp setback and slap in the face of U.S. imperialism's plan in Afghanistan. But at that moment the U.S. was being battered by the revolutionary storm shaking the Shah's regime in neighboring Iran and spreading throughout the Middle East. The U.S. ability to move in this region was hampered. The U.S. State Department confined itself to a lot of whining about the inability of the Afghan insurgents to get together (under their thumb, that is), while also regrouping its own bootlickers under the banner of the Afghanistan National Liberation Front which is nothing but the old Moslem Brothers Party resurrected.

So, today, the ante has been raised and the U.S. imperialists have been thrown into a frenzy as their Russian rivals across the table prove just as capable of dealing from the bottom of the deck as they. The cheaters yell "unfair," the aggressors yell "aggression." And the facts cast more than a shade of doubt on Carter's recent conversion to a warrior against the subjugation of an "independent Islamic people." ■



Imperialist superpower contention over Afghanistan goes back a long way, as can be seen from this chart comparing U.S. and Soviet "aid" from 1960—long before the sharp escalation of U.S. "friendship" in 1965. Above are the two former U.S. puppets there—on the left, King Zahir in Italy after being deposed in 1973, and right, his cousin Daoud, who overthrew him when he became too exposed to suit the interests of U.S. imperialism.

Chicago School Crisis: City Bails Out Into Deeper Waters

On January 5, Illinois Governor Thompson emerged from a three-day "emergency summit conference" at his mansion in the state capital of Springfield to work out a plan to bail out a Chicago public school system that is tottering on the verge of financial collapse. He flashed the "thumbs up" sign to waiting newsmen who dutifully plastered the happy news all over the place—Chicago schools had been saved by "decisive action" from a "working coalition" of government, business and labor hacks. But among the teachers who had not been paid for two weeks until this "rescue package" was announced, and among others who knew the real deal, there was little rejoicing. In fact, an uneasy air pervaded the whole scene, and anger burned in many.

The current school crisis, coming right on the heels of the city's first

strike against the debt-ridden Chicago Transit Authority, dramatically points to the deep and thoroughgoing financial crisis facing "the city that works." And the so-called "rescue plan" is nothing but a quick fix to keep the school system from totally collapsing for the immediate period at the expense of severe cutbacks in the school budget, while the underlying crisis only gets worse (the school system already has a debt liability amounting to 3/4 of its \$14 billion annual budget). This "life-saving package" provides for short-term loans to be advanced by various banks and lending institutions with the guarantee that repayment in full by the city to these loan sharks is assured. To accomplish this, \$60 million from the school budget will have to be slashed now, and another \$106 million next fall. 35 to 45 schools will be permanently shut down, and thousands of

teachers and other school employees will be laid off.

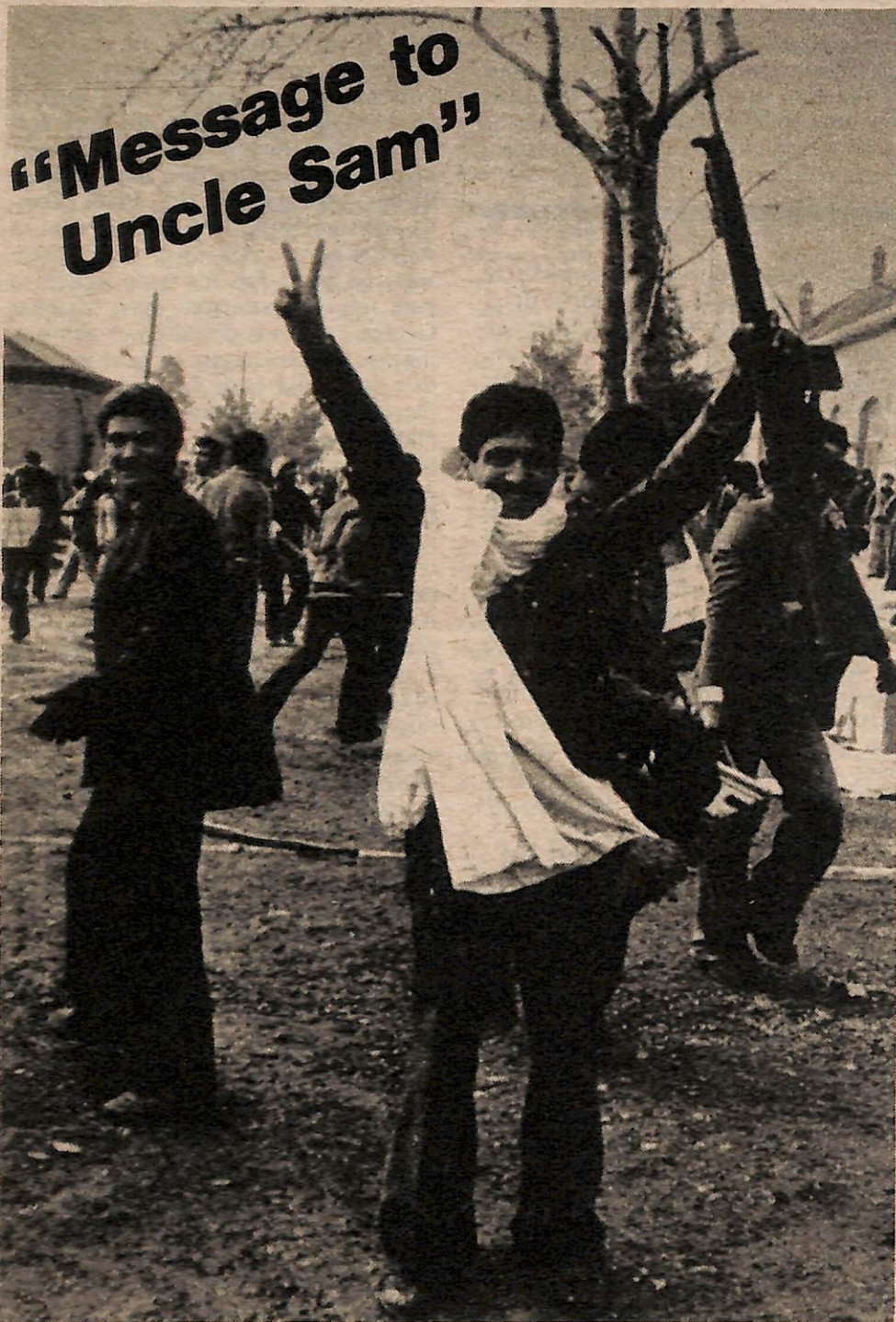
With Chicago—the second largest city in the country with its reputation as "the city that works"—joining the list of embattled cities headed by New York and Cleveland, it has never been clearer just how deep a crisis the U.S. imperialist economy as a whole is facing. It is indeed telling that the best news they were able to report in Chicago in the first week in January was that the schools would be open, at least for a week!

As in the New York and Cleveland city crises, the bourgeoisie has spared no effort in viciously attacking the masses of people to prevent total financial collapse in the city. All the bourgeoisie's calls for the people to pitch in and sacrifice as "everybody must do their part" are daggers aimed at getting people to go along with the

rulers' efforts to rip them apart. To be sure, the first place city money goes is to pay off the banks that the city is in debt to. No sacrifice of this essential condition for a "healthy city" is possible—the parasites must have flesh to feed on. Thus, schools must be closed, teachers fired, and taxes increased for the masses of people. And it is the people who pay most of the taxes. The banks and corporations pay pitifully little to the city. In fact, the Chicago school district is not even demanding payment of \$300 million in back taxes owed by corporations to date, while drastic cutbacks are being instituted.

The viciousness with which they are lashing out, trying to cut education and other social services to the bone, is a sure reflection of just how serious a mess their economic set-up is in. If they had the real option to maintain these

Continued on page 16



In the December 14 issue of the RW we reported on a reactionary country and western song, being widely promoted on AM radio, called "Message to Khomeini." Printed below is a walkin' talkin' blues of a different sort called "Message to Uncle Sam." This song, written by an RW reader who was "inspired" by "Message to Khomeini," rescued the tune from the realm of troglodytic culture and turned it into a people's song which would do well to find its way onto a few street corners around the country.

MESSAGE TO UNCLE SAM*

Hey, Uncle Sam, do you know me? I live here in your "land of free"
I'm what you call a home-grown slave
And you keep me slavin' and bitin' your bit,
You throw me outta work and you say "tough shit"
And then, you gimme your stupid flag to wave.

Iranian people, they know your lies—they ain't so dumb and neither am I
And I'm standin' with the revolution, man.
And you can take your plans for World War 3,
And bleedin' Iran and usin' me,
And you can shove all THAT up your patriotic can.

CHORUS Tough luck for Uncle Sam
But who gives a damn

To help him save his hide from what he's due
We love Iranian rebels
Them freedom-lovin' devils
Kick him once for us, friends,
We'll kick him once for you.

Now the Shah's a low-down butcher-man, he's a REAL nephew to old
Uncle Sam
And he didn't get his millions workin' overtime
Shoulda left his gall stones in his gut
And took and shipped his dirty butt
Right back to where he done his bloody crimes.
(Whats a matter, Uncle Sam, did the students grab your little cockroach
nest?
... caught with your pants down on them MEMOS they found?
... you say you ain't got nothing left but a de-posed Shah?)

CHORUS

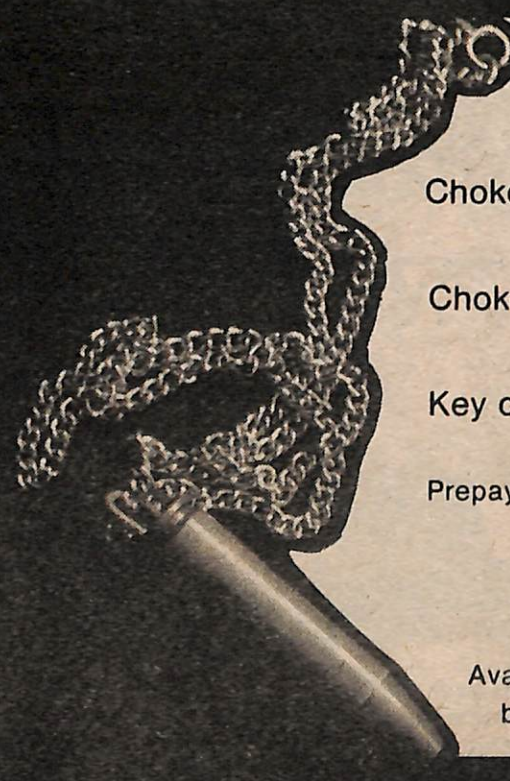
Now Uncle Sam, you think you're bad but when you got 35 million
people mad
It sure did seem to get you in a fret
Iranians got you on the run, and there's plenty more where they
come from
Uncle Sam, you ain't seen nothin' yet!

CHORUS

And HEY, Uncle Sam: You can take your apple pie
And shove it where your Big Macs die,
And that ain't half the size of what you're due...

CHORUS

*Sung to the tune of "Message to Khomeini"



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Red, White & Blue "Communists" on Afghanistan

IS IT TIME? IS IT NEWSWEEK?
NO—IT'S THE CALL!

In past issues of the RW, we have exposed the so-called "Communist" Party Marxist-Leninist (CPML) for its tireless and unswerving social-chauvinism—"socialism in words, chauvinism in deeds"—particularly their nearly naked appeals for the U.S. rulers to toughen up their war preparations and stop "appeasing" their imperialist counterparts in the Soviet Union, who are portrayed as the "main danger" to the people of the world.

Now with the recent Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the CPML has been given another golden opportunity to show their stripes (stars and stripes, we might add) and to once again demonstrate their social-chauvinism in practice. These red, white and blue "communists" have certainly wasted no time in rushing to the defense of the U.S. rulers, parroting their "shock and dismay" at the excesses of their Soviet social-imperialist rivals.

"The invasion of tiny Afghanistan by 50,000 Soviet troops," writes CPML hack David Kline, "raises a profoundly disturbing question: Has World War Three already begun?" Is this an alarmist lead-in to an article for Time magazine, another in Kline's already impressive list of journalistic efforts published in the bourgeois press? (e.g., Chicago Sun Times, Christian Science Monitor, etc.) No, but it might as well be. For his article, featured in the current issue of the CPML's newspaper, The Call, moves rather quickly to absolve the U.S. rulers of any culpability for the developments toward world war represented by the events in Afghanistan.

Under the pretense of discussing superpower contention, we are informed that "If responsible historians can now say that the first shots of World War II were fired as early as the Japanese invasion of Manchuria in 1931—or certainly by the 1936 Italian conquest of Ethiopia—can't we also try to discern tomorrow's world conflicts out of today's developing crises? If so, then last week's Afghanistan events take on added significance."

The implication is already transparently obvious. Don't blame the U.S. in the crime that is shaping up

as the two imperialist giants prepare to slaughter millions to defend and extend their criminal empires! Oh no! It's clearly the nasty, aggressive Russians who are instigating things. Why, they are firing the first shot!

A Marxist analysis of world war? Hardly! In fact, it is the exact opposite of V.I. Lenin's profound statement that the character of imperialist war "does not depend on who the attacker was, or in whose country the 'enemy' is stationed; it depends on what class is waging the war, and of what politics the war is a continuation." But after all, if the successive puppets installed by the Soviet imperialists in Afghanistan can call themselves "marxist", why not—wrapped in the banner of U.S. imperialism—the CPML, too?

Kline warns, "behind Moscow's brutal takeover of its southern neighbor, many observers see a strategic Russian plan for global domination..." This is certainly true enough. But, of course, nowhere in the "analysis" of this Call "observer" do we find any similar warning of the fact that the U.S. rulers, too, have a strategic plan for world domination, and that the principal business of communists in this country is to expose and defeat their own imperialists. In addition, there is no mention of the fact that it is themselves who have been the main meddlers and murderers in Afghanistan for the past decade and that only recently have the Soviets gained the upper hand (see article on p. 1). And it is certainly no coincidence that one of the Afghan "freedom fighters" quoted at length in the Call's article is a representative of the so-called Afghanistan National Liberation Front, a group organized by the CIA as part of the efforts of U.S. imperialism to recoup its former foothold in that country!

Instead the whole tone of the Call article fairly reeks with unbridled concern for the U.S. imperialists' shaky empire in this area of the world. To read the Call, one would think that it is only the Soviets and their proxies who "operate across a huge arc of territory, sometimes called the 'Crescent of Crisis'" (a term appropriately borrowed from Time magazine that reflects the U.S.

rulers' hand-wringing at the upheavals which are threatening their domination of this part of the world).

If we are to believe this and another article in the previous issue of The Call, the Soviets are single-handedly responsible for every bit of turmoil in the Middle East—including the widespread attacks on U.S. installations in Turkey (described complainingly as "part of Moscow's concerted drive to widen the rift between NATO and Turkey"). All this despite the CPML's standard—and brief—disclaimer about how "the people of many of these countries justifiably (indeed!—RW) aim their fire at

U.S. imperialism."

The Soviets "have garnered a string of pressure points," the CPML cries out with alarm. Moscow is "trying to stretch a net" across this whole strategic area! And "if that net should ever close tight," they bemoan, "U.S. leaders could say goodbye to oil; Japan could say goodbye to vital shipping with her Western allies; and everyone could say hello to a Soviet military and economic stranglehold over Europe." Heaven forbid that the U.S. imperialists might lose their traditional stranglehold over the Middle East and Europe! If this happens, according to the CPML's "scenario", the dastardly Russians "will attempt to oust the U.S. imperialists from their dominion over major world markets and resources, and Washington will try to defend its positions against the USSR."

Again it is the poor U.S. imperialists

Continued on page 16



CPML Trip to China Contest
Winner Announced?

Could it be that the winner of The Call's Win-a-Trip-to-China Sweepstakes is already enjoying the fruits of his "luck"? According to rumor, the answer is yes, with the winner being none other than Defense Secretary Harold Brown, shown here surrounded by the cast of the opera "Havoc in Heaven." "After all," one CPML member is rumored to have said, "He's made a great contribution to our cause."



"From the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli"—so goes the "Marine Hymn," boasting about the role of the Marines as armed thugs for U.S. capitalism and imperialism. This role, which has seen over 300 landings on foreign shores, is also commemorated in the Iwo Jima Memorial in Arlington Cemetery near Washington, D.C. Around the base of this statue the list goes on and on, from the invasion of the Philippines in 1898 to take it away from Spain and put it firmly in the U.S. empire, through the invasion of Nicaragua in 1912, to the Dominican Republic where the Marines took over the entire functions of government for five years starting in 1917 (and reinvaded the country again in 1965), all the way to Vietnam. It's no wonder that a retired Major General in the Marines, Smedley Butler, could say in the 1930s, as he began to develop a conscience about what he'd done: "I was a racketeer, a gangster for capitalism."

Of course when their rival imperialists in the USSR invade Afghanistan, the U.S. rulers can hardly find words to express their holy horror. Imagine! The godless Soviets are sending in their troops to try to subjugate another nation!



D.C. "Journalist" Assails Chairman

A SUSPICIOUS
LITTLE ARTICLE

In an article reminiscent of the FBI/COINTELPRO program against the revolutionary movement in the past, the Dec. 1979 issue of the *In Towner*, a small community newspaper in Washington, D.C., contained a column entitled "Notes on People" that began like this: "Who is, or was, Bob Avakian? Is he fish, foul, or a good red herring?" Claiming this the burning question in the community, John J. Schuler, the editor, goes on to make a number of ostensibly whimsical guesses. Around the fourth paragraph, the cat begins to come out of the bag when Schuler states, "Even the editor of the *In Towner* got into the act following a call from the FBI." In the next sentence, citing graffiti that states "Avenge the Communist Workers Party," Schuler links Bob Avakian to the Communist Workers Party—five members of which had been recently killed by the Klan in Greensboro, North Carolina. Moving on to another series of inane guesses as to who Bob Avakian is, Schuler ends his column like this: "As we go to press, *In Towner* has yet to identify him. So Bob Avakian, come out, come out, wherever you are, you naughty boy you!"

Schuler's article was aimed at discrediting Bob Avakian and the RCP. His newspaper is distributed in the Adams-Morgan neighborhood of D.C.—the same area that was one focus of poli-

tical agitation by the 150 volunteers during the battle to Stop the Railroad of Bob Avakian, Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants. The national office of the Committee to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants is located in this area, as is Revolution Books—the RCP's bookstore—which had also been the target of various late night attacks and other types of police harassment.

But more than this, Schuler's main purpose is exposed in his attempt to link Bob Avakian and the RCP with the CWP. The Klan murders and obvious complicity of the Greensboro police was a clear call that it's "open season on revolutionaries" to reactionaries all over the country—including in D.C. And far from accidental is the fact that the appearance of Schuler's article coincided with the beginning of the Secret Service's secret war on Bob Avakian.

But wait— Isn't this getting a little paranoid? After all, the *In Towner* is just a rinky-dink community newspaper, filled with advertisements of local merchants and closely resembling a cheap imitation of the *National Enquirer*—at best. And its editor, John J. Schuler, is just a 70-year-old man producing and distributing this newspaper to flatter his ego, and stating, in his own words in the Nov. 18, 1976 *Washington Post*, "We're non-political, not apolitical. We're not pretentious. We know the limit of our

effectiveness."

As harmless as the *In Towner* and its editor seem, a deeper look will prove worthwhile. Schuler began the *In Towner* a little over 11 years ago. The paper mainly serves as a vehicle for advertisements, but every now and then Schuler steps out and fights for a cause he considers worthwhile. For instance, Schuler feels very strongly about the police. In the *Washington Post* article, he said, "Yes, we're very partial to the police. We feel they're the only instrument between us and Washington becoming a jungle." Schuler has served on the police advisory board and has used his newspaper to push very forcefully for the opening of a police substation in the community, which, incidentally, is located across the street from Revolution Books. In Schuler's words, "I've established a very good working relationship with the police."

But this type of relationship with the police is nothing new for John J. Schuler. Schuler began his career back in the 1930s as a writer for the newspaper of the Textile Workers Union, one of the anti-communist branches of the CIO. He went on to become a war correspondent in World War 2, and then an international representative of the CIO after World War 2. Finally, he capped off his career as an "international labor affairs" writer for the federal government in the 1950s.

One of the more interesting aspects of Schuler's career is his stint as an international representative of the CIO and AFL. Schuler went to the Philippines and China on a CIO and AFL mission (similar trips by other "labor representatives" are widely known to have been sponsored by the CIA). Armed with \$80,000 on this trip, Schuler worked towards the formation of the type of labor union that would best serve the interests of U.S. imperialism. Using State Dept. telegrams marked "restricted" and "confidential", which were sent to and from the American Embassy in Manila, the *RW* was able to put together the purpose of Schuler's visit. When Schuler left the U.S., the State Dept. immediately notified its embassies in Shanghai and Manila. The

following is from a telegram to the State Dept. from Manila, dated Jan. 9, 1947: "Schuler tried to maneuver Communists away from positions of leadership. . . Schuler states his idea is to stabilize labor conditions, to establish strong, responsible, unified leadership. . . the \$80,000 fund is effectively tied up pending developments." In a confidential letter to the Secretary of State, the embassy in Manila stated that Schuler aimed "to stabilize labor conditions. . . to make it possible to maintain peace during the critical period of national rehabilitation and reconstruction." Schuler felt that with a few promises from the government, and his \$80,000 bait, he might be able to "secure from the union a no-strike pledge for a five-year period." This letter also praised Schuler for ". . . seeking to eliminate Communist influence in the Philippine labor movement. . ."

After the Philippines, Schuler headed for China. Ostensibly, he was there to investigate what had happened with the \$5 million the American labor movement had sent to China. A number of State Dept. documents dealing with this trip have been reported missing, but one telegram from Shanghai was available. The telegram hints at proposed dealings between Schuler and Chu Hsueh-fan of the Chinese Association of Labor (CAL). Chu was the president of the CAL, a reactionary pro-imperialist set-up of Chiang Kai-shek's, with compulsory membership for all Chinese workers. It was designed to keep the clamp of the KMT and its U.S. masters on the Chinese working class, particularly during the period of civil war. Given the nature of Schuler's mission to the Philippines, it's not hard to guess what his aims were in China.

There you have it—a few highlights from the career of a harmless old newspaper man. But from Schuler's cozy relationship today with the D.C. police, to his past performance as an agent of the U.S. government, it's clear that the *In Towner* article, as well as its "non-political" author, fit neatly into continuing government plotting against Bob Avakian. ■



These three men were gassed to death along with three others at the Jones and Laughlin Steel Mill in East Chicago, Indiana, when a fan burned out causing carbon monoxide to back up in one of the stoves feeding into the blast furnace. A foreman climbed up, thinking he could manually close a valve before the deadly fumes seeped out. But a chain on the valve came off and he was overcome by gas before he could close the valve.

Then one by one, five others including another foreman, a general foreman, a process engineer and two workers were killed as they attempted to close the valve or rescue those who were unconscious. For 20 minutes the gas continued to escape because no one remaining in the mill knew how to operate the back-up system to close the valve.

It was only two and one-half years ago that a similar tragedy occurred at nearby Wisconsin Steel in Chicago, when in his rush to start up the furnace a foreman turned on the gas, assuming the valves were closed and blinds had been inserted to prevent gas leakage, while two workers were still inside, killing them and two others who jumped in to save them.

In these deaths, the capitalist owners of J and L Steel stand guilty of murder on three counts: first, for preserving antiquated safety systems that require unnecessary risks for the workers; second, for neglecting to repair and replace safety equipment; and finally, for routinely ignoring even the most basic safety procedures.

The lives of six people, even two foremen and two relative bigshots in the plant are worth significantly less than the cost of an automatic shutoff valve or other similar device to the class of profit ghouls that the owners of J and L belong to. While the blast furnace itself is run by an automatic control panel, a guy has to climb up a ladder surrounded by deadly gas, and pull a bicycle chain to close a valve. The workers and foremen are not even informed about what to do in the event some of the company's antiquated safety equipment fails. "Just keep production going and don't worry about anything else" is the motto. Workers are a dime a dozen to these parasitic creatures and "there's plenty more where those killed at J and L came from"—many more people to exploit, suck dry, and throw away.



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Iran Delegate Held Hostage in Tallahassee

On January 4, Carol Downer, one of six Americans who traveled to Iran in December to support the Iranian people, was taken hostage—in Tallahassee, Florida! U.S. Magistrate Robert Dean ordered her locked up in the Leon County Jail, refusing to set bail while her earlier conviction was on appeal. She had been convicted months ago and sentenced to 60 days for “criminal trespass” following an “inspection” of the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital to expose harmful childbirth practices. Dean had been infuriated when the *Tallahassee Reporter* reporters tried to talk with her. This is exactly what the government was trying to prevent—word of what the delegation had seen in Iran getting out to the American people.

In fact, Florida Judge Charles McClure (who tried the original case) had earlier revoked his stay of execution on the sentence pending appeal after it had been “brought to the attention of the court” that she had traveled to Iran to support the Iranian people and had planned a 22-city tour to tell about it.

No doubt it was the same people who “brought it to the attention” of the state of Georgia to add four years to the probation of Rev. Stafford, who was to have been the 7th member of the delegation, and to restrict him from traveling not only out of the U.S., but out of the state of Georgia.

In the Leon County jail, Carol wasn't even allowed to have a pencil for the first day and a half—but that did not stop her from getting word out, exposing the government's attempts to intimidate and harass the delegation. “The restrictions of Rev. Stafford's right to travel, the refusal of U.S. Magistrate Dean to rectify Judge McClure's censorship, the revocation of Philip Agee's passport by the State Department, lifts this situation out of the realm of one judge's prejudice to a concerted effort on the part of the government to keep this information from getting to the American people, a conspiracy to perpetuate the false image of national unity in support of President Carter's actions in harboring the

ex-Shah and in threatening Iran with military and economic reprisals.”

This display of the judicial muzzle backfired. Jailing Carol Downer, founder of the Women's Self Help Movement and the Feminist Women's Health Center in L.A., forced the media to cover what they had so thoroughly blotted out—the existence of both widespread opposition to the U.S. patriotic hysteria and support for the Iranian people. And although the press tried to blame Carol herself for the jailing—“she possibly violated the conditions of the stay of execution”—this outrageous attempt to silence her went out on national news.

To patch up their leaky national unity ship, NBC-TV even dragged out the National Organization of Women to display “women's support” for the American hostages, and the commentator was quick to point out that not all women took Carol Downer's position and that she was “splitting the women's movement.” Downer's response to that type of charge was, “As a woman, my demands for women's rights will ring pretty hollow if those gains are made at the expense of . . . (and) are predicated on the oppression of other people. . . .”

On Monday, January 7, sensing the jailing of Carol was not going to advance their “national unity” campaign, the U.S. Magistrate Dean released Carol Downer on bail. She immediately left to speak at a program in Tallahassee. As she wrote from the Leon County jail, “Whether I am free today or



Carol Downer,

held hostage longer, I will not be silenced.” We know that when the American people know the facts, when they see the secret documents we have brought back from the embassy in Tehran and when they learn the real history of the government's deliberate move to bring the Shah to this country with full advance knowledge of what would happen, they will join us in opposition to the U.S. government's imperialistic policies.” And this is what the State Department fears most, that their campaign to prepare public opinion for war will explode in their face and the American people will stand with those who have so long been victims of oppression. ■

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Railroad

Continued from page 3

railroaded in a great big hurry before, the government hopes, the legal, and most especially political, work can be done to fight them.

The Party summed up from the beginning that the government, even while they had been forced into a retreat represented by the dismissal, was maneuvering at the same time for new attacks. There can be less and less doubt of the enemy's intention to get Bob Avakian. This is clear from this most recent motion, just as it was clear in the content of the appeal itself.

As we pointed out in last week's *RW*, the appeal amounts to an outrageous admission of the straight up political nature of this whole railroad. What it says, in effect, is, “We, the government, are entitled to heap as many charges on you as we want—and at any time. Our whole case is based on the fact that you are guilty of whatever we charge you with no matter whether you did it or not—because just *having* this demonstration makes you all guilty of a conspiracy. We were not especially vindictive when we upped the charges from 100 to 241 years, our whole case is based on political vindictiveness.” And this government motion to expedite just underlines all this and says, “We're not going to let this slip through our fingers, and we're going to get you as soon as we can.”

The government's necessity to get revolutionary leadership off the streets is increasing with every passing day of crisis. Every progressive person's necessity to take action to keep that leadership out there is becoming clearer right at the same time. ■

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FIRST HAND

Conclusion

This is the last part of a first-hand account of the situation in Iran written by Clark Kissinger who headed up the Send the Shah Back/Hands Off Iran delegation which recently returned from a solidarity trip to Iran.

What about Khomeini?

After the hostages, the favorite topic of anti-Iranian propaganda in the U.S. is the personage of Khomeini. Hardly a day goes by without some new anti-Khomeini cartoon, editorial or dart board being publicized in the capitalist media. Khomeini is invariably portrayed as a dark, demonic figure, holding millions of fanatical followers in his sway. According to U.S. propaganda, the goal of Khomeini is to deprive the people of Iran of the fruits of the Shah's "modernization" and cast Iran back into the darkness of the 11th century.

All this is strange talk for a ruling class which so recently paraded through the U.S. a relic of the first century, the Pope. But while the Pope and Khomeini are both advocates of medieval religious superstitions and practices, the role that they play in the real world today is dramatically different. The Pope is an unabashed servant of U.S. imperialism, calling on the slaves in the U.S. sphere of domination to serve their masters and reject earthly well-being while calling on the slaves in the sphere of the Soviet Union to resist colonialism and rise up in rebellion. Khomeini by contrast has consistently given voice to the demands of the Iranian people for the overthrow of the Shah and of late has supported the forceful anti-imperialist sentiments of the Iranian masses. Hence to the U.S. imperialists the Pope is a saintly figure upon whom all gaze for inspiration, while Khomeini is satan himself.

It should not be thought however that the U.S. is against all Ayatollahs. In fact they now have their own favorite Ayatollah in the person of Shariat-Madari. Unlike Khomeini who went into exile and ceaselessly insisted on the removal of the Shah, Shariat-Madari remained in Iran and ceaselessly attempted to form compromises which would retain the Shah in one form or another. Today the U.S. hopes to utilize the rivalries between Shariat-Madari and Khomeini to bring Khomeini down. *Time* magazine is so enamored with Shariat-Madari that they have even proclaimed him a more learned scholar of Islam than Khomeini!

Because Khomeini's class base is one that vacillates between unity with the Iranian capitalists and unity with the revolutionary masses, Khomeini's policies themselves have been contradictory. While firm on the question of the Shah, Khomeini and his revolutionary council quickly began to tilt toward an alliance with the right-wing capitalist forces. And pro-U.S. figures like Barzagan and Dr. Yazdi ("Iranian moderates" they are called in the U.S. media) took charge of the government. Using the smoke screen of religion, a council of so-called "experts" was used to draw up the "Islamic constitution" which was recently pushed through in a referendum. A thoroughly reactionary document, the constitution created a strong bourgeois state which protects private property and denies the participation of the masses. In the months following the February insurrection, Khomeini demanded that the new constitution be adopted. At the same time, he unleashed a bloody attack on the oppressed Kurdish people, closed down newspapers critical of the Islamic republic, and publicly denounced Iran's

Marxist-Leninist groups and other progressive forces as "anti-revolutionaries."

It was the renewed attacks on Iran by the U.S. and the bringing of the Shah to America which again unleashed the revolutionary masses and caused Khomeini to tilt back toward the popular forces. After two days of hesitation he endorsed the seizure of the embassy, and has continued to stand with the masses whenever they are in motion.

Because of his vacillating politics there are also vacillating attitudes toward Khomeini among the Iranian people. He is unquestionably the most popular political figure in Iran. Yet his influence is not absolute. For example, when Khomeini called upon everyone to turn in their guns after the February revolution, the majority prudently kept their guns and did not turn them in. In the vote on the constitution, many voted for it on the strength of Khomeini's appeal alone and saw it as the culmination of the process of kicking out the Shah and the U.S. The majority of the people are still illiterate and just as many people in the U.S. don't read the fine print of their apartment lease, so many in Iran were unfamiliar with the constitution's actual content. Still there was a massive boycott of the referendum in the minority areas, and in Abadan, where the politically conscious oil workers are concentrated, there was a high "no" vote on the new constitution. One evening during our stay in Tehran, we heard an enormous cry go up all over the city. It seems that Khomeini had asked everyone to go up on their roof and cry "Alla-ho Akbar" (Glory to God) for fifteen minutes. Yet the cries were not so easily confined to "Glory to God" and soon there were crowds of young Iranians marching in the streets crying "Death to U.S. Imperialism!" Well, the Imam said to go out and yell...

* * * * *

Women in the Iranian Revolution

Before I left for Iran, I had run into more than one person who put forward the view that the Iranian revolution was not a step forward, and that in fact Khomeini was worse than the Shah. When I asked them why they thought that was true, they invariably brought up the situation of Iranian women. Since the overthrow of the Shah, the ruling class media in this country has been positively overflowing with pious concern for the welfare of women in Iran. And this sudden interest has been one of the most effective tools of imperialism in creating public opinion against Iran, especially among students and the middle class.

Any time Iranian women are pictured in the American press, they are invariably women cloaked in the black *chador*, the traditional Moslem garment designed to conceal women's bodies from the view of men. Thus it was of great interest to our delegation to discover that the majority of women in Tehran do not wear the *chador* and that attempts by religious zealots to force the dress on women have been unsuccessful. And on the other hand a number of women in Iran choose to wear, if not a *chador*, then a headscarf as a symbol of religious belief or of support for the revolution.

The PR men for U.S. imperialism put out reams of press releases over the years on how the Shah's programs of "modernization" were leading the women of Iran out of feudal backwardness and into the enlightenment of the modern era. The actual content of this, however, was that while the lives of millions of peasant and working class women grew more miserable, a very small stratum of wealthy women were



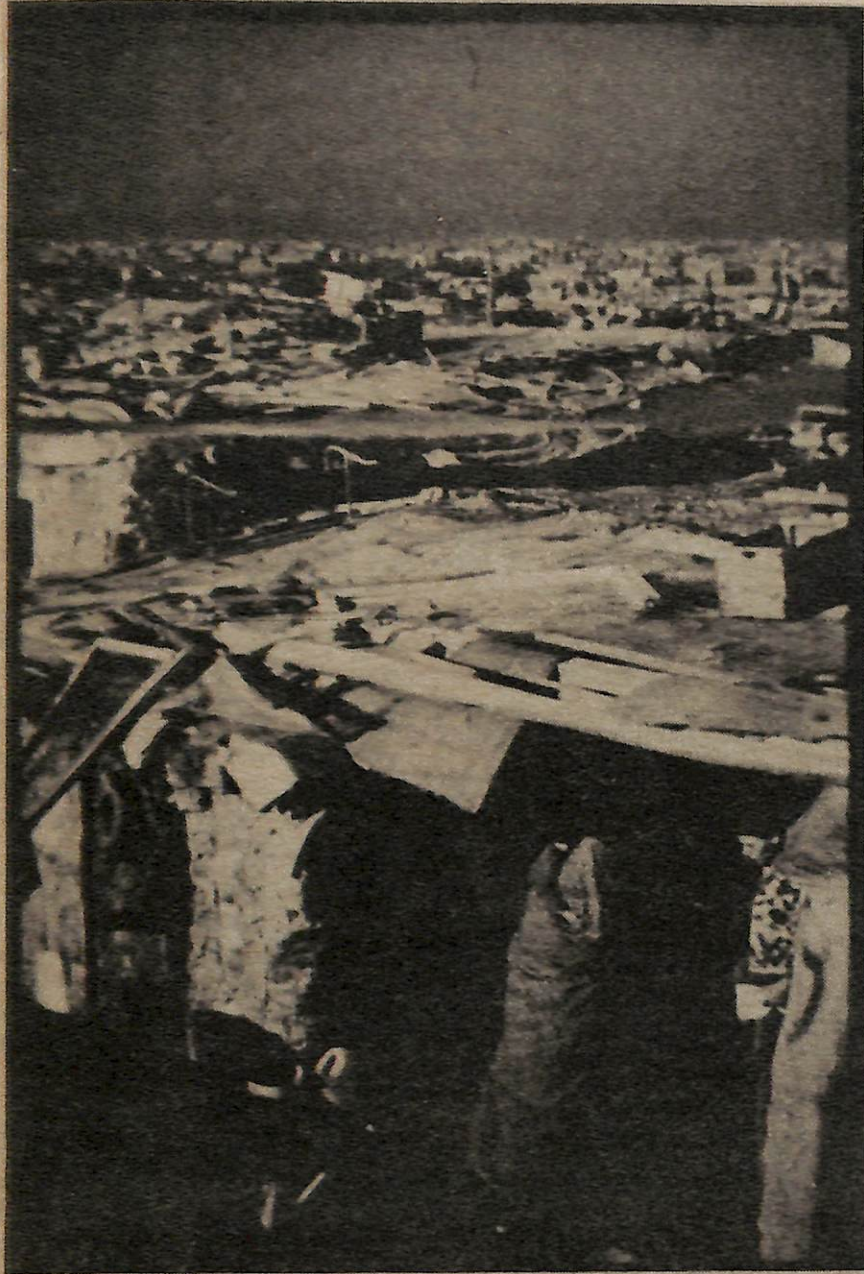
attired in the latest Paris fashions and paraded around like peacocks. Their "liberation" consisted of being transformed from the cloistered chattel property of feudalism into the sex-objects and market commodities of capitalism. And among them there was more than one aspiring Jackie Kennedy.

The February revolution and the months leading up to it burst through this phony "liberation" by drawing literally millions of women from the stultifying confines of home life into the streets and into political life. Even those whose lives had been most con-

stricted by feudal customs were in the streets chanting anti-imperialist slogans with clenched fists held skyward. Hundreds were shot down by the Shah's troops in street battles. The effects of the participation by women in the national liberation movement will never be erased, no matter what adverse political currents may blow in the future.

Because the revolution against U.S. imperialism and the Shah's regime was led by the petty bourgeoisie and took the external form of an "Islamic revival," in the course of the struggle

FROM IRAN



Top left: Fred Hanks, member of the delegation and of VVAW, talks to Iranians near the embassy.

Bottom: Preparing for U.S. attack. Weapons training on Iranian TV.

Top right: "Tin Can City" in south Tehran.

Middle: Woman in "Tin Can City," relocated under the Shah's "modernization" program from one slum to another, tells her story to members of the delegation.

many women took consciously to wearing the traditional Islamic dress as a public symbol of their opposition to the Shah and his phony modernization. Hence for women in Iran today, the question of the *chador* is neither the central issue of women's liberation nor the kind of dividing line issue which some have tried to make it in this country. In fact, in Iran today the dress styles of women are quite varied, ranging from the full *chador* to women who wear a brightly patterned *sari*-like outer garment, to women who wear western clothes but always with a head scarf, to women who wear blue jeans. In the orthodox Moslem demonstrations women march separately and behind the men (but are often more enthusiastic and determined in their chanting), in more leftist demonstrations the women wear western dress and march together with the men. When delegations of the militant Mujahadeen Moslem guerrilla group call on Khomeini, they always make a point of including women in the delegation. And the students occupying the embassy have consistently included a woman among their spokesmen (for example "Mary" in the interview with Cpl. Gallegos).

Doubtless, someday all the remaining vestiges of the cloistering of women will be swept away by the forward march of the Iranian people. But in the meantime, no one should be fooled by the phony concern of the U.S. imperialists over women being "cast back into the dark ages." It is the unleashing of women as a force for revolution in Iran which really has the chauvinist pigs squealing.

While making investigations of the

general social conditions in Iran was not a major focus of our solidarity delegation, we did have several opportunities to meet with women's groups. Part of our delegation spent an evening with the staff of a major women's magazine in Tehran, and we also spent an evening with two representatives of the League of Fighting Women of Iran. This latter organization was formed in the heat of the revolution and as its first public action marched on International Women's Day, last March 8. Led by Marxist-Leninists, the League does 75% of its work among working and peasant women, many of whom left their villages for south Tehran's slums. Their programs consist of bringing women together in small groups around literacy programs, health care, childcare and military training. These militant women are quite frank in explaining their revolutionary goals. They are not reformists, they explain. They do not engage in literacy classes for women as an end in themselves, but rather with the goal of bringing women more fully into political life. They feel that the political consciousness of Iranian women is higher than that of women in Europe, but not yet high enough to carry the revolution through all the way.

Of necessity, much of their work is clandestine. Especially the arms training classes for women in the slums. But they pointed out that the seizure of the U.S. embassy had created the conditions which allowed them to hold public meetings around this issue. The rightists in local *komitehs* were constrained by public opinion from openly attacking such meetings and exposing themselves

as U.S. sympathizers. They told us many inspiring stories of women who walked miles to demonstrations carrying their small children with them. In one humorous incident, a woman showed up at a demonstration with a clumsy, slow-moving stroller. She was immediately and loudly criticized by the other women: "This is a revolutionary demonstration—not a picnic!"

* * * * *

Lunch With the Foreign Minister

Except for getting our visas from the Iranian embassy in Washington, our delegation operated independently of the Iranian government. But a representative of the Press Office of the Foreign Minister attended our press conference in Tehran, and off of that we received an invitation to have lunch with Sadegh Ghotbzadeh, the Foreign Minister of Iran.

Lately foreign ministers have been having a run of bad luck in Iran, falling victim to the wrath of the Iranian people. The foreign minister at the time the Shah was brought to the U.S. was Dr. Yazdi. Yazdi, who reputedly speaks Persian with a Texas accent from his twenty years in the U.S., was one of the most notorious pro-U.S. elements in Iran's Revolutionary Council. Yazdi was notified in advance by the U.S. of the Shah's return, but he like most everybody else in government, was caught flat-footed by the action of the militant Moslem students in seizing the U.S. Embassy. Yazdi's first response was to fly off to Tunisia to get first hand instructions from President Carter's National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brezinski. The people of Iran were so outraged by this (demonstrators started chanting "Yazdi Go Home!"), that Yazdi was dismissed on Khomeini's orders.

Next in line was Bani-Sadr, whose political complexion is also Red, White & Blue. When the Shah first arrived in the U.S. as part of Carter's plan to provoke an anti-American reaction in Iran, the U.S. resisted any suggestion that the United Nations take up the question of the Shah and the Embassy. But after a few days when the pro-U.S. elements in the Iranian government were unable to get the students out of the U.S. Embassy (as had been done when it was seized in February 1979), the U.S. began to realize its plan was back-firing. At home, the anti-Iranian, get-ready-for-war campaign was in full swing. But in Iran and in the Middle East, resistance was hardening, not fading away. The massive out-pouring of support from the people, the round-the-clock vigil of thousands outside the Embassy effectively blocked any attempt by the government to make concessions to the U.S. Thus, when the U.S. found itself on the run all over the Middle East and unable to intervene militarily, Carter suddenly changed his tune and now urged that the matter be taken up by the "impartial" United Nations. Bani-Sadr responded immediately by announcing that Iran would indeed participate in the United Nations deliberations. He was immediately dismissed from office on Khomeini's orders and the insistence of the people.

The current Foreign Minister is Sadegh Ghotbzadeh. While sharing the same inclinations as his predecessors, he has at least learned something from their fate and is careful to cover his politics with anti-imperialist bombast. Our luncheon with Mr. Ghotbzadeh, the new Iranian ambassador to the UN, and several advisors was polite, restrained and generally uninformative. The Foreign Ministry is in the center of the city, a block from the police headquarters and the old SAVAK headquarters. It is guarded by smartly uniformed soldiers of the regular army. Quietly housed in the Foreign Ministry is none other than Bruce Laingen, the U.S.

Charge D'Affairs in Iran, who was not in the Embassy when it was seized. This has become something of a bone of contention in Iran as the students holding the Embassy have demanded that Laingen be turned over to them, and Ghotbzadeh has refused.

Our luncheon, in a formal dining room on the third floor of the Ministry, came just a couple of days after Ghotbzadeh had floated a proposal for an "international tribunal of anti-imperialists to investigate the crimes of U.S. imperialism in Iran." As militant as this may sound, in the context of what was actually going on, this tribunal was being put forward in *opposition* to the trials of U.S. Embassy spies promised by the students if the Shah was not returned. Thus in succeeding days there were a series of conciliatory announcements from the Foreign Minister promptly followed by denials and counter-announcements from the students holding the embassy. All this leading to "profound" questions from the American press, like "who's in charge in Iran anyhow?" The phenomenon of the masses talking back to government officials is very unsettling to the gentlemen of the press.

During our meeting, Mr. Ghotbzadeh told us that any attempt at an economic embargo of Iran would fail and that private companies would continue to do business with Iran under the table no matter what their governments said publicly. This is quite likely, for if American capitalists are prohibited from doing business in Iran, their capitalist rivals in Europe and Japan will be more than willing to step in. Ghotbzadeh also said that the crisis had not been as bad as they anticipated. That Iran had expected and was prepared for a military invasion by the U.S. (I wondered whether in fact some people in government might not have even been looking forward to it!)

Ghotbzadeh also said that, "After you decide how much you are willing to sacrifice, everything else falls into line." But in the real world everything doesn't just fall into line, and the intense class struggle in Iran is still raging. On my last night in Tehran, it was raining and the crowd outside the embassy was small. The government quickly seized the opportunity to open the street in front of the embassy to traffic for the first time since the embassy seizure. Yet a few days later, following the assassination of an important aide of Khomeini by unknown gunmen, hundreds of thousands carried his body past the U.S. embassy and the masses seized the street back. Or take the recent visit of UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to Iran. The students had said in advance that they would not meet with him. Tehran papers printed pictures of Waldheim kissing the hand of Princess Ashraf, the Shah's sister. The masses chased him out of the cemetery of the revolutionary martyrs, pointing out that his presence there was an insult to those who had died in the struggle. He was confronted with a crowd of people who had been maimed by SAVAK, the

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To arrange for a member of the Send the Shah Back/Hands Off Iran Delegation to speak in your community, contact the Ad Hoc Committee to Support the Delegation c/o Feminist Women's Health Center, 6411 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, Ca. 90028 or call (213) 936-6293.

The Call

Continued from page 11

who are pictured as being forced into the position of “defending themselves” against the bully-boy tactics of the Soviets. And once again it is a travesty of Lenin’s remarks on inter-imperialist war in a similiar situation—WWI: “Both groups of belligerent nations were systematically preparing the very kind of war such as the present. The question of which group dealt the first military blow or first declared war is immaterial in any determination of the tactics of socialists. Both sides’ phrases on the defense of the fatherland, resistance to enemy invasion, a war of defense, etc. are nothing but a deception of the people.”

But beyond this cynical portrayal of U.S. imperialism as the helpless lamb about to be devoured by the Russian

bear, it is clear that the CPML has more in mind than just “defense, defense!” In contrast to the Soviet moves in Afghanistan, they complain that “the response from Washington has been relatively mild, all things considered.” Then Kline proceeds to quote another bourgeois reporter, a CBS news correspondent no less, who in the CPML’s words “aptly described the essence of Washington’s approach as one of ‘deciding which Soviet wrist to slap.’”

The CPML is, of course, not alone in levelling criticism at Washington over the administration’s handling of the Afghanistan situation. Other politicians, like Barry Goldwater, have raised the same point!

Be that as it may, the response of the U.S. imperialists has been anything but mild. They are yelling about a “return to the cold war” and that detente has been “indefinitely frozen,” while the news media is filled with a chorus of shrill war cries about how the two superpowers

“are squaring off against each other.” But despite the rattling of U.S. sabres being pulled from their scabbards and the shrieking propaganda of the U.S. rulers to prepare the American people for new and bigger confrontations that are looming, in the eyes of the CPML “little concretely has been done to stay the Kremlin’s aggression.”

What more concrete actions, we may ask, might these “communists” suggest? A full-scale U.S. imperialist invasion of Afghanistan to “liberate” the Afghan people from the clutches of Soviet tyranny? Or perhaps a flurry of U.S. nuclear missiles raining down on Moscow to dispense with the Soviet “main danger” once and for all? Instead of dismissing the aggressive U.S. moves to counter their Soviet rivals (such as the resumption of arms shipments to Pakistan, the possible stationing of troops in other countries in the region, etc.) one would think that the immediate concern of U.S. com-

munists would be to expose and *concretely oppose* such blatant war preparations by their own imperialists.

But the real question is what has the CPML *ever* concretely done to stay the bloody hand of the U.S. imperialist ruling class? The answer, of course, is *nothing*—and worse. They have tried to cloak their open, patriotic warmongering on behalf of U.S. imperialism in the thinnest guise of “Marxism-Leninism”—hypocrisy in the extreme.

If Lenin—who once said that “A revolutionary class cannot but wish for the defeat of its government in a reactionary war, cannot fail to see that its military reverses facilitate its overthrow”—had the opportunity to read the *Call*, he would turn over in his grave. One can almost hear him hurling a stream of stinging epithets at these reactionary fools who are following in the traitorous footsteps of the social-chauvinists of his time. ■

Chicago

Continued from page 10

services and even throw a few crumbs to the people, as was possible when their empire was in its heyday, they would. It is politically very costly for them to increasingly be unable to supply even the most basic services that people have come to expect. The educational system in particular is something they have pointed to as one of the great achievements of capitalism.

But with the economy as a whole on very shaky ground, they are increasingly unable to maintain social services since money put into them does not directly create desperately needed profit for the capitalist class as a whole (an individual bank or other investor may make a profit off school bonds, however). A quick look at the situation in Chicago clearly illustrates this point.

The Chicago public school system like other public services is funded by tax money and loans from banks and other investors. To finance building of schools and to obtain operating cash for the year (since taxes are collected at the end of the year) school bonds must be floated and loans must be taken out. These bonds and loans require regular interest payments. Tax revenue was never enough to cover all these loans and in order to pay off old debts and obtain new funds as the school system expanded and costs went up, new and larger loans had to be taken out.

Throughout the 1960’s the school board’s debts piled up. These growing debts could be tolerated and absorbed by a U.S. economy that was overall on the upswing, swollen with huge super profits made from the imperialist plunder of the world. Chicago was the hub of the Midwest economy—“steel city” and Illinois was the leading export state in the country. Chicago had a AAA bond rating from the banks. They could borrow to their heart’s content. The banks were not only able to absorb the debt and allow Chicago almost unlimited access to loans, but each new loan was fresh blood fattening up these leeches.

But by the mid-’70s the contradiction in the schools that more was going out than coming in was even more acute. Inflation (which reached 12.2% in 1973) continued to skyrocket costs. Meanwhile, the city’s tax base was be-

ing steadily eroded by runaway industry and middle-class flight to the suburbs. Millions of dollars in uncollected taxes from industry (like U.S. Steel’s mammoth Southworks which pays *no* property taxes) reduced revenues, but still whole industries like meatpacking and printing fled overseas and to other states. 320,000 jobs in manufacturing have been lost in Chicago in the last 10 years. Today, half of the public school children are from families that live below the official poverty line, 80% are Black and Latino.

In the wake of the recession of ’73-’74 when a wave of industrial and commercial defaults hit Chicago as hundreds of businesses were driven under, the banks were no longer able to absorb the school board’s ballooning debt. A once-lucrative source of profits was becoming a risky proposition for these usurers whose every move is dictated by the drive to maximize profit. The banks themselves began to have their own debt problems and were not willing to risk granting loans that might not be paid back. In 1976, when the schools ran out of money before the end of the term, the investment analysts decided it would not be “financially sound” to loan money to the cash-starved schools. The schools’ credit rating was dropped, and the notes they issued did not attract a single bidder. The schools were forced to close 16 days early for lack of funds.

The following year eight schools were closed and the cost-cutting measures that had already caused severe overcrowding were stepped up. But austerity measures—though sharply felt—hardly made a dent in the budget which continued to mushroom not only because of inflation but because the banks were extorting even higher interest rates in exchange for their loans.

By 1979, when credit-financing throughout the country had pushed inflation back into the double-digits and the cost of borrowing had risen to an all-time high of 13.5%, the crisis in the schools emerged full-blown. Only three months into the school year they ran out of money—and when they ran to the loan-sharks the door was slammed in their face.

The school board scrambled to pay off \$84 million in notes that were due immediately. They dipped into every operating fund, tapping money set aside for salaries and maintenance,

stopped payment for education for the handicapped and for bread and milk deliveries, and even went so far as to steal the teacher’s withholding tax and credit union deduction funds as well as their entire pension fund. Everything they could find was thrown into the fire to pay off the pin-striped predators in the financial institutions in Chicago’s La Salle Street. Only advances in state aid payments made it possible to pay the 48,600 school employees for the last week in November and the first week in December.

By December 21, it was decided that more drastic action would have to be taken and the state refused to continue to advance the money necessary to continue paying the teachers. This was done in order to bring the issue to a head so the state and the city could get over with the massive cutbacks that constitute the “rescue package” announced on Jan. 5. While angry teachers vowed not to work past Jan. 4 if they did not receive the two weeks’ pay they were owed, the hatchet job was being worked out (the leaders of their union would, of course, loyally aid the financiers and politicians in doing their dirty work).

The banks *must* now collect on their debts! This is what the bailout of the Chicago schools is all about. The money that these capitalists have lent and will lend to the school district (at sky-high interest rates) will be first on the list to get paid back out of the school district’s operating income, state aid, and tax revenue. A “control committee” of finance jackals set up at the Springfield summit will even allow the money men to more directly exercise their ownership rights over the schools, with the power to levy taxes and divert school board funds into their own coffers. They are desperately gobbling up everything in sight.

There has been all kinds of bull spread by the bourgeoisie and their mouthpieces about why the school system and the city of Chicago as a whole is on the verge of disaster, especially ridiculous nonsense like “this wouldn’t be happening if Da Mayor (Ex-Mayor Daley) were around.” But clearly what is going down in Chicago as in New York and many other cities is part and parcel of the rapid decay of the vulturistic system that Daley and his ilk have so dutifully served. Rapid decay that has only begun to fill the air with its stench.



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Square Off

Continued from page 1

Afghanistan do represent a qualitative leap in the worldwide contention between the U.S. and USSR. While some bourgeois commentators have been calling the latest "get tough" actions of the U.S. government "a new cold war", and drawing parallels to the old cold war period of the 1950s, it's clear that with a different world situation today, the existence of two superpowers, and the weakened position of U.S. imperialism, the kind of war they are gearing up for is very hot indeed.

This fact is particularly sharply indicated by Jimmy Carter's "concern for Moslem nations" speech of Friday, Jan. 4. Under the ridiculously hypocritical veil of "defense" of an "independent Moslem nation," Carter blasted the Soviets for interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

While only days earlier, and for two and one-half months leading up to this point it was hard to turn on the T.V. without witnessing unrestrained, hysterical and disgustingly chauvinistic displays which minute by minute targeted "Moslem fanatics"—meaning the people of Iran—now Jimmy Carter himself had become the foremost defender of an "independent Moslem nation." The hostages? Oh yes, they were mentioned. However, emphasis on this was clearly secondary.

Knocking the continuing Iranian struggle off the front pages, the U.S. made a series of extremely significant moves intended to maneuver against the Soviets and unite its own bloc more firmly in the U.S. war camp, some of which were noted in Carter's speech. One of the key maneuvers in this direction was the highly publicized trip of Defense Secretary Harold Brown to China. While openly slobbering at the size of the Chinese army, Brown and his aides were reported to be moaning and groaning at the lack of "modernization" of the Chinese armed forces, echoing the cries of Teng Hsiao-ping and the other revisionist leaders in China. Brown offered to sell the Chinese a ground station containing highly sophisticated computer technology which could be adapted for military purposes. He also made a point of emphasizing the U.S. would have no objections to NATO countries arming the Chinese, while various western journalists speculated as to how much longer it would be before the U.S. began arming China directly.

The U.S. government also announced a number of other military moves, most of them centering on the strategic Persian Gulf—Indian Ocean region that has been the focus of this latest leap in superpower contention. 85% of the oil from the Middle East flows through the waterways of this area, the jugular vein of the U.S. empire. Both the realization of imperialist superprofits as well as industrial capability of U.S. junior partners in western Europe and Japan are dependent upon control of the sea lanes. The U.S. demanded the use of bases and port facilities in Somalia and Kenya on the east coast of Africa, and in Oman on the Arabian Sea. At the same time, it was reported by the Associated Press that a nuclear powered guided missile cruiser and six amphibious landing ships had left San Diego and were heading across the Pacific, probably to join the 21 U.S. warships already cruising off the entrance to the Persian Gulf. And, as we go to press, six more warships are expected to be leaving for the same area from San Diego on Friday, Jan. 11.

The U.S. also announced that arm shipments to Pakistan would soon be resumed, after having initially been halted due to U.S. opposition to Pakistan's insistence on developing nuclear weapons. Obviously, that is no longer so great a worry to the U.S., as long as it can be sure that the weapons will be used against their chief rivals, the Soviet Union.

Depth of U.S. Crisis

These preparatory military moves of the U.S. followed close on the heels of Jimmy Carter's "concern for Moslem nations" speech, where he obstensibly

announced major retaliatory moves against the Soviet Union, but in reality revealed the depths of the contradictions U.S. imperialism finds itself in. While mentioning a possible boycott of the Olympics (remember past years of U.S. ranting against "political boycotts"?) and the curtailing of cultural exchanges and Soviet fishing privileges, Carter's announced actions revolved around trade embargos on high technology items and grain.

While high technology trade, such as oil field equipment and computers, between the Soviet Union and the U.S. is not at a very high level, the U.S. was obviously hoping that the move would be a signal to its allies—especially Japan, which does have a great deal of such trade with the Soviets—to follow suit. However, it appears that those countries are not willing to go along at this time, fearing the disruption of their economies such moves would likely touch off. Conflicts like this within the U.S. bloc accelerate U.S. moves toward war, because it's only through war moves and war itself that their conflicts can be patched up.

Clearly, the major economic move announced by Carter was the embargo on 17 million metric tons of grain the Soviet Union had ordered for building up its livestock herds, as well 30 to 40 million bushels of soy beans and soy bean products. (See article page 9) In reference to the farmers who will be hit hard by this embargo, State Department spokesman Hodding Carter forecasted what the bourgeoisie has in store for the rest of the people in this country once events now focused around Afghanistan reach their ultimate conclusion. He noted that no section of the people could be considered "exempt from sacrifice" for the national interests.

Soviets Step Up Invasion

Of course, the Soviet Union has also been intensifying its imperialist invasion of Afghanistan. There are now at least five divisions of Soviet combat troops in that country; in fact, there are more Soviet troops in Afghanistan than there are soldiers in the Afghan army. While accurate reports from inside the country are very difficult to obtain, it appears that the Soviets have been able to gain control of the main cities and major roads through massive military occupation of those areas. Reports of continuing fighting between rebel forces and Soviet troops, as well as some mutinies by Afghan army units, have been delivered by Afghan refugees in both Pakistan and Iran, many of whom are training to go back and carry on the national liberation war against the Russians. The U.S. has, of course, been reporting on the resistance to the Soviets by Afghan guerrillas but most of the activity reported in the west is actually fighting by pro-U.S. forces. This, however, is not the principle character of the struggle against the Soviets. It's interesting to note that the widespread resistance to the Soviets in areas like Herat, a city on the Iranian border of Afghanistan and long a leftist stronghold, is rarely ever mentioned.

All of a sudden mutinies within the local puppet army have become "wonderful news" in the U.S. press, when, of course, the same thing happened years ago to the U.S. with the South Vietnamese army—and also with U.S. GIs—and was covered up as "horrible."

As the Soviets' role as an imperialist superpower grows increasingly exposed, naturally the U.S. press has grown quite fond of raising the spectre of a Soviet march across the Middle East. The basis is being laid for an open and unbridled call for a holy war against—not Islam—but godless, Soviet "communism." In this regard the tried and true allies of the U.S. rulers have again come to their aid. Various "labor leaders" represented notably by Thomas Gleason, president of the I.L.A., have answered the call to lead labor right to the front lines.

Claiming to represent the politics of "his" workers, Gleason did Carter one better—he announced a boycott of not only all Soviet ships, but of any ship even bound for the Soviet Union. True to form, the Executive Board of the AFL-CIO immediately praised Gleason's actions, calling it a "sign of the

patriotism of all union members." (This time, incidentally, Gleason may have accidentally added to widespread thinking that far from yielding to the feelings of the Longshore rank and file, his direction comes straight from the State Department. He proposed the idea of an embargo days before Carter did!)

It is actually quite significant that first over Iran and especially now over Afghanistan, the U.S. ruling class has been forced to raise the red-white-and-blue in a manner unknown in years. The depth of the crisis they face is today sharply indicated by their very actions in retaliation to the Soviets, and this situation places unprecedented possibilities before the masses of people of this country and the whole world.

The U.S. bourgeoisie obviously can-

not go to war with the Soviets by itself. For this venture, it must win the allegiance of the people in this country and others—and it must draw people into political life to these ends. A point raised by Bob Avakian in his New Year's article in the *RW* drives straight to the heart of the matter:

"They must drag the masses of people into political life. Of course, they aim to do this under their banner to whip up a reactionary and flag kissing hysteria against their own enemies—whether they are reactionary rivals like the Soviet Union or revolutionary peoples around the world. But once this "genie," the masses of people, and most especially the working class, is roused up, everything can be thrown up for grabs—including just who is going to stuff who into what bottle." ■

HOW CAPITALISM HAS BEEN RESTORED IN THE SOVIET UNION

AND WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE WORLD STRUGGLE

With an intensity forced on them by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the rulers of the U.S.A. have redoubled their efforts to prove to the world that the Soviet Union is a communist country. But actually, the Soviet Union is a capitalist country just like the U.S.

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Written before the 1976 revisionist coup in China, *Red Papers 7* armed thousands in this country and others with an understanding of the process by which a genuine socialist country can revert back to capitalism, the process by which, even in socialist society, a new class of exploiters can grow up, marshal its forces and overthrow the rule of the working class.

Red Papers 7 analyzes the contradictions that existed in Soviet society when it was socialist, under the leadership of first Lenin, then Stalin. It traces the origins of capitalist restoration; the coup which, led by Nikita Khrushchev, overthrew the rule of the working class in the Soviet Union; the dismemberment of the socialist economy and the full establishment of capitalist relations under Brezhnev. The book exposes the mechanisms by which the now imperialist Soviet Union carries out exploitation and oppression around the world, similar to its U.S. counterparts, as well as the particular features of its capitalist economy at home. In the chapter titled, "The Cultural Revolution and the Class Struggle Under Socialism", *Red Papers 7* summarizes the historic achievements of Mao Tsetung in the class struggle to prevent capitalist restoration under socialism. The book concludes by stressing the significance of the emergence of Soviet social-imperialism and by exposing the Soviet role in the developments towards world war.

Much as changed in the world since *Red Papers 7* first appeared six years ago.

But as events in the world have overwhelmingly borne out its analysis, and especially now as events in Afghanistan have made the question of the Soviet Union and its role as an imperialist superpower one that must be understood, *Red Papers 7* stands today as a major theoretical contribution to the worldwide revolutionary movement.

—Red Papers 7, page 125 \$2.50—

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First Hand

Continued from page 15

Shah's secret police, who brandished their artificial limbs at him. After some struggle in the Revolutionary Council it was announced that Khomeini would not meet with him, and Waldheim's visit came to a premature end. It seems that the only person in Iran who would meet with him was Sadegh Ghotbzadeh.

Conclusion

Since my return from Iran, I have visited a number of cities, spoken to diverse audiences, and appeared on a number of radio interviews and talk shows. The impact of the ruling class' campaign to promote patriotism and prepare public opinion for war has, of

course, been obvious. But what has not been so obvious but has been just as real has been a widespread questioning of the government's policies and a lot of downright disgust at the interminable candle burning, flag waving, bell-ringing bullshit on T.V. On more than one program, people have called in saying, "Well, I don't know if I agree with everything you say, but it's certainly refreshing to hear someone really going up against all this stuff and saying what needs to be said."

In this context it has been more disturbing to see so many of those with whom I fought against the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam now utterly paralyzed in the face of this new reactionary onslaught. What a pathetic excuse for inaction to say, "We can't talk about imperialism, because people are only concerned about Americans being held hostage." Are memories really that short? Have we forgotten so soon

the reactionary climate that was whipped up when Americans were being shot and killed by the thousands in Vietnam? But did we capitulate then? Did we allow the ruling class to define the issue and dictate the terms of the debate?

More pathetic yet are those who recognize increasing moves towards war, the patriotism campaign, the expanded weapons expenditures, but then say, "Oh, if only this hadn't happened. If only they hadn't taken the hostages," as if somehow the revolutionary struggles of the Iranian people were responsible for the reactionary nature of imperialism. This is like saying, "If only the slaves wouldn't rise up, the master wouldn't beat us."

Finally I have heard the tired old excuse, "We must speak to people where they are at." Certainly it is true that we must speak to the questions that people have. But speaking to the questions that

people have and speaking to people "where they are at" are two different things. And speaking to people "where they are at," is to consign them to remain there. It is only by taking an advanced stand, by challenging the reactionary ideas, standing up for the truth and struggling with people that we can change the situation. We saw this repeatedly demonstrated during the movement against the Vietnam war.

Right now we are in a large Roman galley rowing toward the impending world war and the captain is calling on us all to "row harder for our ship." As we sit, chained to our oars, the thought is running through more than one mind, "What do you mean *our ship*?" The decision stands before all of us whether to capitulate or whether to break the chains and stand with our fellow galley slaves throughout the world.

Chrysler

Continued from page 5

recession. A U.S. Department of Transportation study predicts that over 300,000 workers would be thrown out of work in the immediate wake of a Chrysler failure, not to mention others affected by the ripple effect throughout the economy. Such layoffs would have ramifications on the U.S. economy and then in turn the international economic scene as well, not to mention the U.S. bourgeoisie's domestic political situation. The U.S. Dept. of Transportation survey points to these concerns: "One needs no strong reminder of previous social unrest in the Detroit area. While social tensions are not as strong today as they were in more troubled times, it takes little imagination to envision the results of such a massive economic reduction in the inner city. It need not be emphasized that the unemployment rate among minority workers is higher now and would soar under Chrysler's shutdown conditions."

For all the above reasons the U.S. government is seeking to let Chrysler down easy to minimize the shock effect its folding will have. They are in fact implementing the kind of strategy that Paul Volcker, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, pointed to over a year ago in a speech in London when he said, "The controlled disintegration of the economy is a legitimate objective for the '80s." The main purpose of this "controlled disintegration" is to put them in the strongest position for what they see as their only real way out of the crisis they are facing—winning WW3. At the same time this slow meltdown provides the opportunity for the various financial groups in the bourgeoisie to fight it out among themselves over who will get what and how much of Chrysler's remains—a vulture's feast on a vulture's corpse.

In fact, the "controlled disintegration" of Chrysler has already begun. The purpose of the \$1.5 billion bailout was to make sure it continues by covering immediate debt obligations that threaten Chrysler with immediate bankruptcy. 35,000 of Chrysler's 140,000 workers are already standing in the long unemployment lines in Detroit and 40,000 more are only working part-time. As Iacocca was calling for the people to have confidence in Chrysler being saved, Dodge Main shut down leaving thousands more out of work.

Along with the bailout plan has come a barrage of publicity designed to get people behind this "Save Chrysler" scheme. They are particularly concentrating on getting the Chrysler workers behind it since the plan calls for massive and outrageous attacks on them which they hope the workers will willingly accept in order to "save jobs." This completely cold and cynical attempt to get

the workers to participate in and cheer their own destruction under the guise of a "Save Chrysler-Save Jobs" campaign is the centerpiece of the bailout package. It demands \$462 million dollars in lost wages and paid holidays and thousands more layoffs to be agreed to by the workers. And, of course, as Chrysler disintegrates, more layoffs will go down.

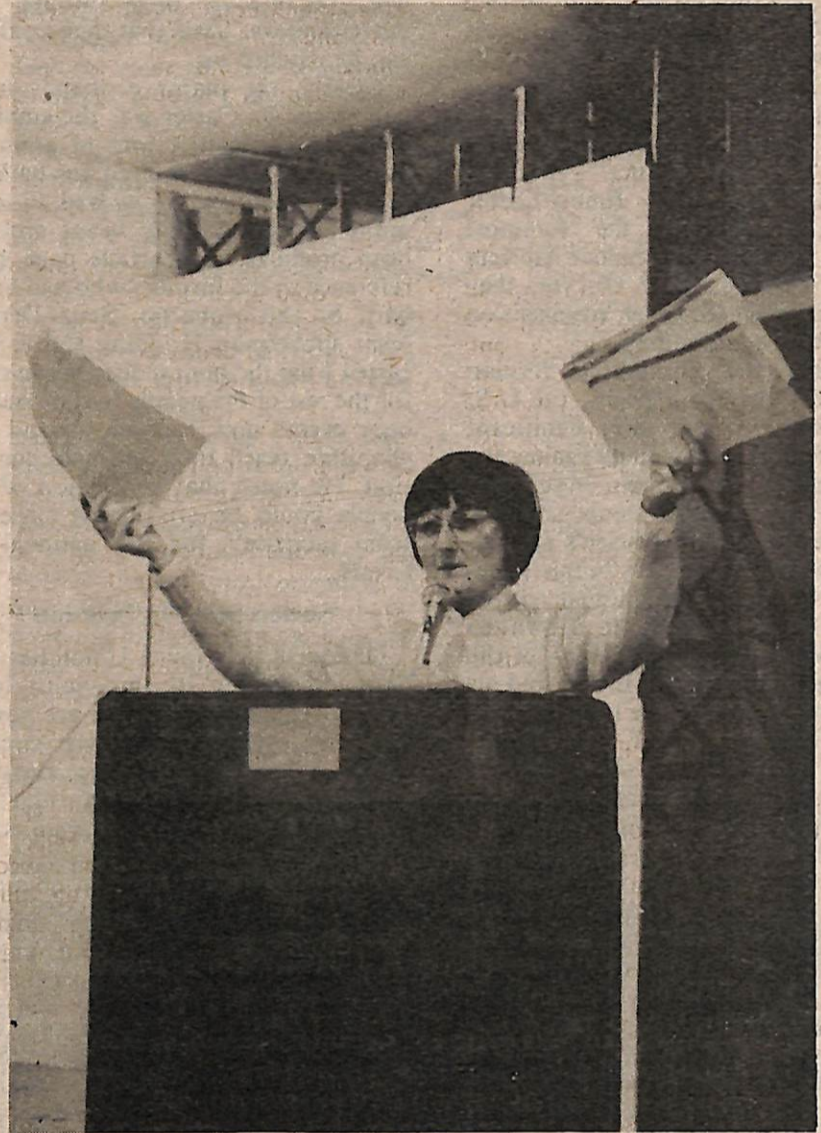
United Auto Workers president Doug Fraser has given his all to push this plan on the workers, trying to cool out the potential anger of the workers by making it seem that the plan is the only practical solution. After all, "a few jobs are better than no jobs." He has played on people's fear for their future and promoted the look out for number one law of the jungle outlook of the imperialists.

Especially in the context of the world situation today, it is not hard to see that the sacrifices to Chrysler that Fraser is promoting now are in reality sacrifices to keep the whole system alive—and soon they will *openly* be called to sacrifice life and limb to defend that system in a war with the Soviets. Fraser has already been moving towards this with his chauvinist anti-OPEC write-in at the height of the last oil "crisis."

The incredible and despicable bullshit Fraser and his cronies are pushing can be seen in their most recent attempts to instigate a backlash movement among American workers opposing the refusal of the Canadian Chrysler workers to accept the bailout package. The UAW leadership condemned the refusal of the Canadian workers rejection of the plan and started snorting about Canadian workers were to blame for American workers having to make further sacrifices. Mark Stepp, UAW vice-president, demanded that Chrysler not invest any of the money that it saved under the plan in Canada and that a useless stock option plan that was supposed to be a return favor to the workers for going along with the company's plan not be extended to the Canadian workers.

All this is being pushed in direct service of the political aims of the bourgeoisie and sharply points to the urgent and crying need for the working class to assert its own political aims around the big questions lurking just ever so slightly beneath the surface of the "Save Chrysler" campaign. The basis for the working class to do just that is shown in the following statement regarding the bailout plan from a young laid off Chrysler worker in a Detroit unemployment office:

"I wouldn't give them a leg. What have they done for me? They're going to just take the money for themselves and we'll be out on the streets anyway. National security? Humbug. They always come around asking us to sacrifice—our jobs then our lives. We're just chess pieces to them." ■



Rebecca Chalker of the delegation speaking at program sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee to Support the Send the Shah Back—Hands Off Iran Delegation. The program drew 250 people to the Feminist Women's Center in Los Angeles. Held aloft are telegrams of support received by the delegation in Tehran.

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