

WORKERS VIEWPOINT

End the Criminal Rule
of the U.S. Monopoly Capitalist Class,
Fight for Socialism!

The Proletariat and Oppressed People
and Nations of the World, Unite!

POLITICAL ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST WORKERS PARTY, U.S.A.

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POLITICIANS BEWARE!

GREENSBORO, N.C.—March 25, 1980, District Attorney Mike Schlosser, in his desperate attempt to indict the members and supporters of the Communist Workers Party, forgot to wear his white sheet as he rushed to testify in support of the Klan/Nazi murderers of the CWP 5. Earlier, the Klan/Nazis defendants had brought a motion to dismiss all charges stemming from the murders of the CWP 5 on Nov. 3. The notorious motion was based on the theory of "selective prosecution" which charged that prosecutor Schlosser was unconstitutionally discriminating against the Klan/Nazis since no indictment had been brought against CWP members and friends.

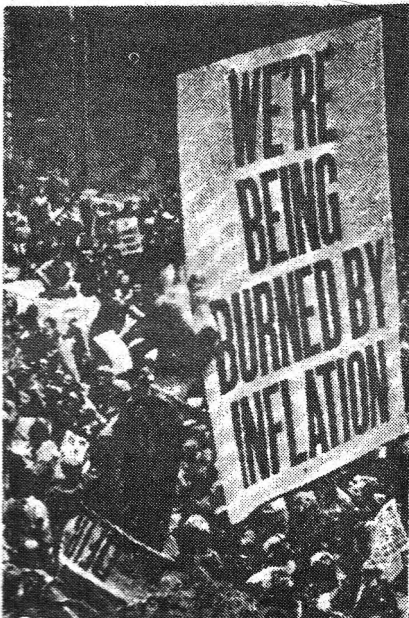
As Schlosser suddenly snaked to the witness stand, the dozen or so reporters were stunned by this highly unusual happening. As one reporter put it, "in 20 years of coming to the courts, I have never heard of a prosecutor voluntarily testifying in a hearing of a defendant's motion." True to the nature of this Klan supporter, Schlosser stated that he has "found reason to seek indictment on some Communist members but was awaiting the return of evidence from the Federal Bureau of Investigation." (*New York Times*, March 26, 1980).

From the very beginning, Schlosser has made clear through his statements and actions that he plans to indict Nelson and other anti-Klan demonstrators, blaming them for the murders of their own comrades. On Dec. 9, he was quoted in the *Greensboro Daily News* as saying that although many Greensboro residents were "embarrassed" that the killings happened in Greensboro, "perhaps an even larger part of the community finds



THE GREENSBORO 3 WILL BE FREE!

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Right On NYC Transit Workers!

The Whole Country's Watching You!

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Bring WORKERS VIEWPOINT Into Every Living Room

Dear Readers:

Since the vicious assassination of our five comrades in Greensboro, N.C. by the FBI and the KKK/Nazis, and the success of the Communist Workers Party and friends in beating back the bourgeoisie's news blackout and redbaiting (through the Nov. 11 CWP Funeral March, Feb. 2 Anti-Klan demonstration, and the current effort to Free Nelson Johnson and the Greensboro 3), the Communist Workers Party has become a household word. Our newspaper, the *Workers Viewpoint*, is in higher demand than ever before. New subscriptions are rolling in from all parts of the country, from students, workers, progressive people, and brothers and sisters behind prison walls. Almost with one voice, they asked for the truth from the *Workers Viewpoint*, for more information about the Party, and the prospects of making socialist revolution in the U.S.

We want our readers to help us push out subscriptions for the *WV* in an even bigger way, to broaden out and expand the network of Party friends and supporters to reach the majority of the American people. Subscription is the most regular way the Party's views and political analysis can reach the broad masses of people. This regularity is very important. Just as workers turn to the 6 and 10 o'clock news for whatever pitiful information the bourgeoisie pumps through the tube every night, they should be looking for a copy of the *WV* in the mail every week and eventually, every day. The paper has to become part of people's daily lives. With a penetrating analysis from the perspective of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung thought on every question, every issue, everything people talk and whisper about — this coupled with the Party's work will convince the majority of American people that socialism is the only solution.

From now on, when we sell an issue of the *WV* to our friends, why not ask them to take advantage of the \$1 trial subscription for eight issues? Or give a subscription to friends, to our family and relatives. The *WV* will be the best gift you can give to your friends and loved ones.

Let us hear from you.

MAIL TO:
COMMUNIST WORKERS PARTY, U.S.A.
GPO Box 2256
New York, N.Y. 10001

NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

Enclosed is my payment for:

- \$1.00 for 8 issues
- \$4.00 for 6 months

Breaking the Chains of Wage Slavery

PHONE WORKERS CHALLENGE WAGE GUIDELINES AND COLA

The Communications Workers of America representing 525,000 workers, are going to ask for 9.5% to 18% from the Bell System when their contract expires Aug. 9. The union president said the demanded increase would include revising the formula for cost of living adjustments above the current 80% of the rise of inflation. He went on to say, "If there's anything that will cause a strike on Aug. 9," it will be management, "trying to do away" with the cost of living adjustment. Other unions involved in the contract talks are Telecommunications International Union representing 60,000 and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers representing 62,000 at the phone companies and 54,000 at Western Electric.

OSHA TAKES A SLIP

Senator Schweiker of Penn. has introduced the S. 2153 Bill which would change the 1970 Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Act. The bill, among other things, exempts 90% of all workplaces from OSHA inspection, takes away the agency's right to demand an inspection in response to a formal complaint, says most workplaces could only be inspected after one or more workers have been killed or seriously injured and drops or reduces most penalties against guilty companies, a weapon of safety committees.

Workers have picketed Schweiker's home and called other so-called "liberal" supporters of the bill like Senator Alan Cranston (Ca.) and Senator Harrison Williams (N.J.) traitors to labor.

YEAR-LONG STRIKE HITS BLACK BELT SOUTH TOWN

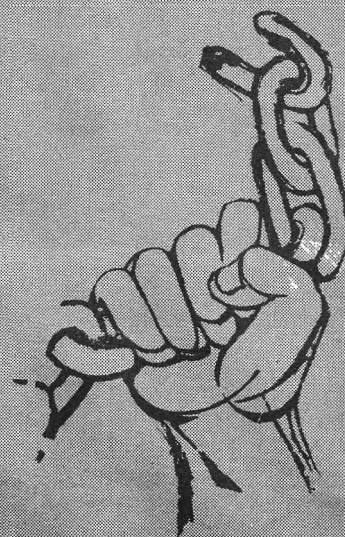
LAUREL, Mi.—The strike by 200 mostly Afro-American women against Sanderson Farms, a chicken processor, has become a matter of dignity. On strike since Feb. 27, 1979, the members of International Chemical Workers Union Local

882 forced Sanderson to put up automated chain fences and employ guards. Although represented by the union since 1973, workers are only earning five cents over the minimum wage. Massa Joe, the boss man, offered them a measley 50 cents over three years, which would keep them at just 5 cents above the minimum. Workers are also fighting restrictions allowing only three trips to the bathroom a week and sexual harassment by the bosses.

CONOCO BOGART'S WAY BACK INTO ASSOCIATION

Consolidation Coal Co., a Conoco Inc. unit, rejoined the Bituminous Coal Operators Association on Mar. 20. When Consolidated left the BCOA in 1978, the Association was in danger of collapse. Faced with strikes and wildcats over health and safety, the smaller companies had difficulty appeasing the miners. But when U.S. Steel

proposed that Consolidation be readmitted, it was on Big Coal's terms. The nine biggest coal companies took charge in negotiations with the United Mine Workers and removed the small producers' seat on the negotiating team. The smaller companies griped but eventually backed down.



STRIKING FIREMEN OUT OF JAIL

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Ken McFarland, one of the 71 jailed firemen released March 23, being greeted by his wife, Joyce and daughter Stacey. After a six day strike, which sparked the firing of the whole first shift and jailing of many, firefighters returned to their jobs. They won the rehiring of 42 firemen, who lost their jobs in a December job action, and also got a 15% salary increase over two years.

The COMMUNIST WORKERS PARTY Stands For:



The Communist Workers Party U.S.A. (CWP) is the political party of the U.S. multinational working class. The CWP, formerly the Workers Viewpoint Organization, is a fighting organization, nationwide in scope. Our members come from all backgrounds and nationalities. Our immediate goal is to lead the U.S. proletariat (the working class) and oppressed nationalities to overthrow this rotten capitalist system by violent force and establish a socialist system—the dictatorship of the proletariat. Under socialism, we workers will be our own masters and will rule over the monopoly capitalists in the interests of the vast majority of people. Our ultimate aim is communism, a society where there are no longer any classes or class differences and no longer any exploitation of man by man.

The CWP fights for the emancipation of all humanity. Our main contribution is to make socialist revolution here in the U.S. We support the struggles of all oppressed people and nations and fight together with them against both imperialist superpowers, the U.S. and Soviet Union, and against colonialism, neo-colonialism, Zionism, racism and all reaction. We oppose world war and fascism and work for proletarian revolution throughout the world.

Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse Tung Thought is the theoretical basis guiding our thinking. It is the science of revolution — the historical lessons of thousands of years of class struggle summed up into general principles by the great communist revolutionaries, Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Tsetung.

We oppose the sellout traitors of today's revisionist Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Communist Party of China. They've become bourgeois (capitalist class) parties. They have revised Marxism to serve their own selfish interests. To ensure that our party always serves the interests of the broad masses, and does not betray the working class, the CWP conscientiously studies Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and criticizes revisionism. We submit ourselves to close supervision by the masses, boldly do criticism and self-criticism of errors, constantly recruit fresh forces, and cleanse our ranks of those who have gone stale.

Today's economic crisis is bringing untold suffering to the American people. Millions of our youth are unemployed, strung out on drugs, and turning to crime. Divorce rates are soaring and families are being torn apart like never before. The root cause of all this is capitalism. Capitalism is a system where a small gang of greedy vultures like the Rockefellers and Morgans own all the factories, mines and land, and make all their profit off our sweat and blood. This class of monopoly capitalists, the bourgeoisie, uses its state (the police, courts, prisons, armed forces, and all levels of government) to maintain their dictatorship over us. That's why we must overthrow the bourgeoisie and seize state power.

The CWP fights for jobs for all; for better wages and work-

ing conditions; for decent housing, education, and childcare; for equal rights for all oppressed nationalities and undocumented workers; for the right of self-determination for oppressed nations in the U.S.; and against police brutality, the KKK/Nazis, and discrimination of women and the elderly. But the only way to end all social evils is for all workers and oppressed to unite, smash every attempt by the bourgeoisie to divert the blame for the crisis onto scapegoats, and to destroy the whole capitalist system. Only then can we continue the revolution under socialism until the classless society, material abundance, and spiritual height of communism are realized.

We do political education daily and in the course of taking up day-to-day struggles to help the masses learn who are our friends and who are our enemies. Today, our first priority is to awaken the proletariat to build up its party, by winning over to communism wave upon wave of advanced elements and training them how to make revolution. We strive to make every factory our fortress, every community and school our base, to kick the hacks out of the trade unions and make them into fighting organizations. Thus we are now building our army in preparation for seizing state power.

We call on all workers and revolutionary-minded people to join with the Communist Workers Party in the struggle against this bloodsucking system and build up the Party as your own to prepare for the dictatorship of the proletariat.

"Their selfless struggle..."

March 17, 1980

Communist Workers Party:

This is the first occasion I have had to write you. Up until this time I had not received a central address. Please accept my deepest heartfelt condolence on the loss of your brave comrades in Greensboro, N.C. on Nov. 3, 1979. Their selfless struggle against the racist-fascist scum heartens all of us.

Fraternally,
R.L.
Salt Lake City, Utah

March 25, 1980

Dear R.L.:

We thank you for your warm letter. Progressive people like yourself have written us from all over the country, and your support in the whole struggle to fight for justice in the Greensboro massacre will be instrumental to avenge the deaths of our beloved comrades.

The capitalist media has been trying to promote the fascist scum the KKK and the Nazis all over the country: the New York Times ran two "human interest" articles about Klansmen; CBS did an interview with the Grand Wizard; Harper's and Esquire gave undue coverage to the Klan, etc. These and many more subtle attempts to build up the murderers have been done simultaneously with

efforts to blame the victims for the crime—that the CWP provoked their own deaths, that the anti-Klan demonstrators were inciting to riot. We have enclosed some back issues of the Workers Viewpoint with this letter for your reference.

It is very urgent for all progressive people to help beat back the fascist terror in light of the capitalists' attempts to impose fascism to prepare for war. One of the easiest ways is to spread the truth behind the Greensboro massacre, and the resistance that is mounting every day through the Workers Viewpoint paper. Please write and let us know if you can distribute the WV among your friends or in your community. We will send you additional copies for that purpose. You can also help us set up speaking engagements and slide show viewings for the widows; benefits for the Greensboro Justice Fund, etc.

Regarding your questions concerning the CWP, we would like to suggest that we set up meetings with you, either via our Colorado or West Coast comrades, or directly from New York. Our phone number is (212) 233-0988. We also enclosed a list of CWP publications.

Again, thank you for your interest and concern.

In struggle,
CWP

FROM THE MASSES TO THE MASSES

Our Readers Speak Out!

"I am interested in obtaining information on membership in the CWP."

Dear,
Revolutionary Youth League,
I am subscribing \$3.00 per year for Revolutionary Youth.
Yours truly,
K.H.
Brooklyn, New York

March 10, 1980

Dear Brother K.:

Thank you for your interest in the Revolutionary Youth. At the present time, the RY is not coming out. We are sending you some back issues of the Workers Viewpoint, the newspaper of the Communist Workers Party. We are starting a regular youth column, so why don't you send us your ideas, sketches, poems, songs, articles and other suggestions?

If you want to get in touch with the Revolutionary Youth League in the New York area, you can call (212) 233-0988.

Also, we are offering a trial subscription of the Workers Viewpoint—8 issues for a dollar! Get one and tell your friends too. Hope to hear from you soon.

In struggle,
CWP

March 21, 1980

Greetings—

Would you please send me a price list or a catalog of materials that you have available?

I have read much in the papers about you since the Klan murders but I would prefer to see the original sources from you.

Thanks in advance.

F.G.
Medway, MA.

Comrades:

Enclosed is \$1.00 in cash, for 8 issues of "Workers Viewpoint."

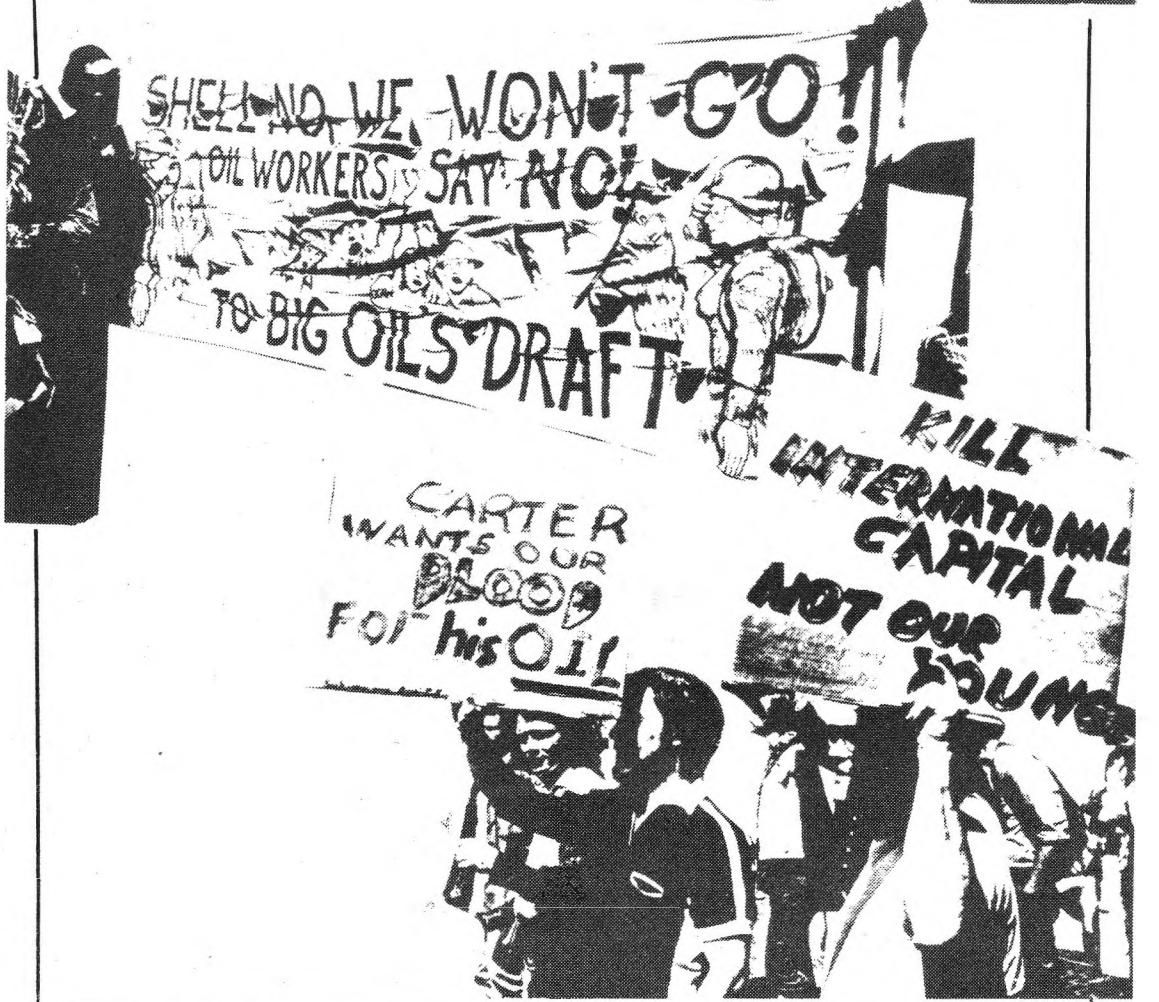
I am also interested in "obtaining" information on membership in the COMMUNIST WORKERS PARTY. The struggle against fascism which the CWP is now engaged, places the "Communist Workers Party" among the "shock-troops" of the Vanguard Proletariat in the Socialist Revolution against imperialism.

Behind the Red-Banner,
Comrade D.R.G.
Nokomis, Illinois

**YOUNGBLOOD RISE UP!
FIGHT THE DRAFT**



SAN FRANCISCO, Ca., March 23,
Over 3,000 marched and rallied in front of San Francisco City Hall to protest against the draft and Carter administration's war preparations. Speakers ranged from old anti-Vietnam war forces like Daniel Ellsberg, to anti-nuke activists and environmentalists, to the Revolutionary Youth League. Some, like the Trots, who got up to try to defend the Soviet revisionists' invasion of Afghanistan, were roundly booed from the stage. While most people were clear that both the U.S. and the Soviet Union are preparing for war, the majority could not explain why war is the inevitable result of capitalism, or why socialist revolution is the only solution. □



Revolutionary Youth League Forum: "The Rising Danger of World War and Fascism," Berkeley High School, Berkeley, California, Thursday, April 10, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. (for more information call 932 9662)

WOMEN HOLD UP HALF THE SKY

Fighting Chance Against Forced Sterilization

"CWP'S leadership made the difference"

Dear CWP,

In 1978 your paper covered a story on women chemical workers fighting forced sterilization. Two years later, the fight is still on. Five women were sterilized just to keep their jobs in the American Cyanamid plant in West Virginia. Other chemical companies are following with policies that force women to choose between getting sterilized or losing their jobs. I wanted you to know because your leadership may mean the difference between victory and defeat.

American Cyanamid, right up there in *Fortune* magazine's top 500 companies, began hiring women to work in production in 1974. By 1976, when I was hired, there were around 20 or so women production workers in the New Jersey plant of 500. Cyanamid hired women in three other plants, Willow Island, West Virginia; Pearl River, New York; and Wallingford, Connecticut.

One day in October 1977, without warning, Cyanamid gave the women workers an ultimatum: get sterilized or lose your job.

They said there was not enough testing on some of the chemicals we worked with everyday. So they wouldn't know if those chemicals could harm unborn babies. Just to be sure, "for your sake," no women "of child bearing age" were allowed to work in some departments of the plant. The catch is, if there were not enough jobs in the "safe" departments, our next transfer would be out the gate. All women under 50 had six months to bring in proof from the doctor that they were sterilized. Cyanamid said this policy applied to all women production workers in all their plants.

Getting down to fight was hard. Sure we were all damn mad. "I'm looking forward to this fight," one of my friends said. We all turned to the union president, "What should we do?" He promised us then that "the International will look into it."

As the months flew by, the deadline neared. Still the union president said, "the International will look into it." Then some of the women started talking about unemployment, still others who already couldn't have kids brought in their doctor's slips. More talked about looking for another job.

But with friends in the Communist Workers Party (then the Workers Viewpoint Organization), I knew there was a fighting chance—if we were organized.

With the help of the CWP, a meeting was called. Out of that meeting, came two leaflets, and a petition that forced the union to call a special meeting. At that meeting, the usual 15 members attending swelled to over 60. Finally, we did what many thought we couldn't do—we won the support of a lot of men.

We tried to get more help from outside the plant. We asked the Women's Project of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) to help file a suit for discrimination against Cyanamid. We hoped having the case in court would at least delay the policy's deadline. Lawyers at the Women's Project said they were too busy working on abortion rights. We never got our day in court, ACLU refused our case.

Back at the plant, things started to get rough. In those heated months, the plant seemed to break into two camps: those who thought "women shouldn't be here in the first place" and those who were sure "if it hurts the women, it hurts the men too." Fellows I never knew came up to say how they were behind us. Fellows who I thought were friends stopped talking to me. There were no neutrals.

We tried to contact women in the other plants. But they were in different unions and the company wasn't about to help. We never reached them. We didn't know then that our not getting in touch with them would change the course of five lives.

After two delays of the deadline, the company called another meeting. The policy was postponed—*indefinitely*. We Won! Nobody sterilized and we kept our jobs. We thought the victory went for all women in Cyanamid. Though we won our jobs, the fight for cleaner working conditions is still to break. Then we saw the story in the papers. Five women sterilized in Cyanamid's Willow Island, West Virginia plant. Seventeen women from that plant have filed for a discrimination suit with the ACLU. Yes, the same ones that turned us away two years ago. The case could help challenge the whole trend of forced sterilization. But the suit may take years to settle. Meanwhile the policy stays intact in the three Cyanamid plants that have women production workers. Our plant was the *only one* that beat back this policy.

So I asked, why ours and not theirs. All the plants started hiring women in '74, all had about two dozen in plants of 500 workers. What was the difference? It has to be the Party's leadership helping us to fight. I keep thinking, if only the women in West Virginia knew of the Party, it would mean the difference between getting sterilized or not.

One more thing, those five women were sterilized in order to keep their jobs in the pigment department. One year after the policy, the pigment department shut down. Those women were thrown into jobs that didn't require sterilization along with a pay cut.

Cyanamid had said, "your interest at heart," it's more like their interest and our heart.

So you see, the stakes are high. We must beat this back before more women are bulldozed into choosing between a family or a job.

R.M.

Dear R.M.,

Thank you for your letter. We would like to add further explanation to the points you raise.

The union's position to "rely on the International" would clearly have ended up with the sterilization policy being passed through. If you and the other Linden plant workers had followed the union's line, women may have ended up forcibly sterilized.

In the CWP's recent organizing in San Francisco's Hotel, Restaurant Workers and Bartenders Union Local 2, we organized the rank and file to defend progressive union representatives and call for kicking out the old hacks. In Los Angeles last year, CWP led Mexicano shoeworkers to strike for justice and a decent wage over the union bureaucrats' attempts to bust the strike. This is the only way to strengthen the workers' basic organization, the unions, and stop them from being busted up. This consistent practice is relying on the masses' fight rather than pinning our hopes on waiting for lawsuits or government agencies to give a little help (although these tactics can be part of the overall fight). The CWP's leadership which made the difference between women workers being sterilized or not comes from integrating our theoretical basis Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought with our practice in organizing the masses to fight the bourgeoisie. MLMTT holds that the masses of people are the masters of history; they are the decisive force which carries society forward. Not only are the masses of the people the creators of the material and spiritual wealth of the world, but it is their revolutionary struggles which are the motive forces moving society forward. The slaves are the makers of history; this is a fundamental historical materialist viewpoint. This must be consistently fought for in our struggle for socialist revolution and the continuing class struggle under socialism: "living, creative socialism is the product of the masses themselves." (Lenin)

CWP

GENETIC SCREENING: DOW CHEMICAL'S COVERUP FOR CRIME

When Harry took his physical exam to work at Dow Chemical Company, the nurse drew extra blood to perform a special test on his genes. During her job interview, Mary was asked if she had been sterilized. Later, both found out that the other workers went through similar experiences.

What is Dow up to? With factories full of toxic substances and chemical fumes floating around, Dow is notorious for working conditions unfit for even a graveyard. No wonder cancer victims and deformed babies have become its number one product. However, Dow is adding insult to injury by suggesting that the problem is the victims themselves and not intolerable working conditions. The blame, Dow claims, lies in certain genes which the victims have that make them especially susceptible to cancer and other genetic illnesses.

To back this up, Dow started a program of genetic screening over a decade ago. It is now a regular prac-

tice of petrochemical companies, particularly Dow and Dupont. Companies doing this are not limited to chemical; they include steel and auto batteries.

Although companies practicing genetic screening say their purpose is not to exclude workers from jobs, there is documented evidence that this has happened. Initially, screening focused on genetic differences involving sex and race. Dupont, the 13th largest company in the U.S., employing over 100,000, tests every black worker for traits that may lead to sickle cell anemia. Presently, there are 40 cases before the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission charging discrimination based on "hypersusceptibility." Almost all these complaints involve women.

Many actions of these companies are outright criminal coverups. For example, in June 1977, a doctor at Dow found an alarming rate of chromosome damage among 52 workers who work-

ed around benzene, a carcinogen. Although he recommended steps be taken to protect these workers, Dow suppressed the report. At the same time, when doctors found that vinyl chloride had no bad effects, Dow went out of its way to publicize this.

Instead, the public found out about genetic illnesses through horror stories like Love Canal where an entire community got cancer and deformed babies from industrial poisons. In the bourgeoisie's ruthless drive for profit, over 35,000 uncontrolled substances have been introduced in the past 30 years. Their effects are just beginning to be felt. "Workers are going to find out that because of their labor, the children they worked for and hoped would have a better life, will instead have abnormalities. There has never been an era like the 80's will be. People will see the damage that has been done," said Anthony Mazzilli of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union. "There is little doubt

in my mind that the 1980's will be an era of genetic confrontation."

The capitalists will never clean up their industrial poisons. Desperate just to stay alive with broken down, ancient factories, you know they are not worrying about instituting an expensive clean-up program. The bourgeoisie wants to clean up by "purifying" the population with selective breeding. The idea of a master race which was a pillar of Nazi fascism also fascinates the bourgeoisie in "democratic" America. In the past, the U.S. bourgeoisie experimented with mind control with drugs like thiazine and LSD. Next came population control with germ warfare and neutron bombs. Now, we have genetic control. Under capitalism, where their only motive is profit, the bourgeoisie will use genetic screening to find more and more hideous forms of exploitation. □

Right On NYC Transit Workers!

The Whole Country's Watching You!

John Lawe, don't you sell us out,
John Lawe, don't you sell us out. . .

NEW YORK CITY—"Goons! Goons! Goons!" At the Sheraton Center Hotel in Manhattan where contract negotiations between the Transit Workers Union and the Metropolitan Transit Authority were past the March 31 midnight strike deadline, transit workers crowded around the union officials who finally came out of the negotiations room. Shouting in their nervous faces, under the glaring press spotlights, the transit workers jammed the union hacks and their goons trying to get to the elevators to go to another bargaining session. A line of cops moved in to escort the hacks. Suspicious, frustrated and angry workers yelled "Don't Sell Us Out, John Lawe" (TWU president). They knew another union sellout would kill their chance to fight for a decent life against inflation. The negotiators arrogantly refused to answer the rank and file's questions, and several fistfights broke out before the elevator doors closed.

At 6 p.m. that evening almost 1,000 transit workers had demonstrated outside the hotel in the pouring rain. Then a contingent of rank and file started a midnight vigil inside the hotel to make sure union president John Lawe wouldn't sell them out. Lawe had sold them out in the 1978 contract, accepting 4½% wage increase for each of two years. Since negotiations started, Lawe whittled down his demands from "30% immediately" to "15% and 15%" and now "15% and 10%". "If there is a strike, it will be the rank and file leading and John Lawe following," said one dissident union member. In the 1979 union election many dissidents like Henry Lewis and Arnold Cherry, backed up by black, Latin and white workers organizing for their slates, almost ousted Lawe from leadership. Lawe got re-elected by the skin of his teeth with 43% of the votes. The only reason he remained was the votes against him were split into three opposition slates. On Monday night, the rank and file were positive Lawe would never again get re-elected.

As negotiations dragged on, transit workers sang verse after verse of "John Lawe, don't you sell us out," shouting "STRIKE" and "NO MORE SELL-OUTS!" One worker went around the room turning people's "30%" buttons upside-down, saying, "30% is dead—have respect for the dead." At 2:05 a.m. the elevator doors opened and the strike was on. The workers shouted, cheered and hugged each other and brought their fight against inflation and defending their union into the streets. The MTA's outrageous proposal of 6% and 6% plus 11 givebacks (including no paid lunch breaks and lower pay for new hires) was dumped into the garbage can.

For the first time, a major union in a basic industry in NYC is fighting back against the criminal robbery of the city and state crises being dumped on the backs of the workers. In NYC where 5.25 million people ride the buses and subways everyday, the city most reliant on public transportation in the country, a transit strike has an immediate and powerful impact. City Hall will definitely get the transit workers' message, delivered in a way only organized workers in the basic industries running this country can.

Strike Against Inflation

In the last contract, transit workers got a 4½% so-called wage increase. But since inflation has shot up 60% nationally since 1975, this 4½% was a deep cut in wages.

Now they are demanding 30% But this is just catch-up, not an increase that

will give their families some security in the next three years. 80% or 100% (take it from the banks' and corporations' profits!) is totally justified from exploited workers whose labor makes this country run. The 20% inflation slashed living standards by 20% in one year alone. "Strike!" The MTA said, "Take 6% a year." "Strike, Strike, Strike!" "No More!"

Subway conductors, bus drivers, token booth clerks have vowed that 1980 is THE YEAR, the year that all the crap has got to stop. "I cannot live on what I make." This is an average transit workers' weekly paycheck: Gross pay—\$469.42, net pay—\$299.25. This includes two days overtime and four exemptions. (regular pay is \$281.00). In order to make the \$40,000/year Rockefeller's media is saying transit workers make, they would have to work seven days a week, 18 hours a day. Today, a starting conductor makes \$6.01 (approx. 1 dollar behind older workers) and because of givebacks of the '78 contract, they will never achieve parity with older workers. Plus they need about 41 years to retire under the 3-tier pension policy. No wonder 75 new conductors quit in disgust.

One transit worker explained why there would have to be a strike this contract. "The last contract the TA employees knew the city was in a bind. This contract the people don't care where the money comes from. Last contract overtime wasn't such a hot item. This year with the inflation, you can't hack it without overtime. And with Carter's control on credit, the guys with bills are buried. Today most TA employees have to beg for overtime. This time the people themselves are different."

Workers Pay While Banks Bleed Cities Dry

Transit workers, New York municipal workers and communities are forced to pay and pay for the government's budget crisis. Since the NYC budget crisis in 1975, tens of thousands of workers have had their jobs cut. Hospitals, family clinics, public daycare centers and fire stations have been closed. Libraries have shut down or reduced their hours, and some schools now open only four days a week. The free tuition, SEEK and open admission programs in the City University system have been cut, and welfare and aid to the elderly are slashed millions of dollars. In addition, it was the people's tax money that was risked to bail the city out when the Federal government gave the city loan guarantees. Workers' pension funds were also endangered when the municipal unions were forced to buy city bonds in exchange for Federal help.

While the people pay, the finance capitalists of Chase Manhattan, Citibank, Morgan Guaranty Trust and other big banks reap billions of dollars in profit from the interest they charge on loans to the city and other government agencies like the Transit Authority. In 1978, for example, the city paid \$4 billion in interest alone to these banks.

Finance capitalists like Rockefeller are directly responsible for driving government to the brink of bankruptcy. When Nelson Rockefeller was governor of New York, he started the policy of deficit financing. This means that government services are paid for through selling bonds and borrowing from the bank giants. For the banks this creates a money market where they can charge high interest rates, some tax free, with relatively little risk since the borrower is the government.

Finance Capitalist's Parasitism Is Feature of Imperialism



On April 1 at 2:05 a.m. the strike was on. Workers shouted, cheered, and hugged each other outside the negotiations room.

Today, U.S. society is dominated by the big monopoly capitalist banks. Deficit financing is an inherent part of all levels of government, city, state and Federal.

This situation, where more profit is gained by clipping interest coupons and through speculation on currency, gold, silver and so on, rather than through investing in long-term productive industries like railroads or steel, is called parasitism. While reaping the benefits of workers' production of needed goods and services, these parasites don't in any way further production through investment.

It's no wonder the Transit Authority debt this year alone is a record \$250 million. Rather than getting more money by taxing the profiteering banks and corporations, the TA too gets sunk into high-interest loans from big banks. And New

York City, as of its debt in 1978, has to pay billions in interest to the banks and keep on paying for the next 75 years. The finance capitalists have not only forced the present generation into hock, but also the future generations of New Yorkers.

Transit Workers—First in N.Y. to Say No More!

The banks bleed cities dry while the workers pay. Now transit workers are saying no more. Their strike is the first major challenge to this trend in New York City. They refuse to take the brunt of the crisis through givebacks and measly wage hikes that are actually cuts because of inflation. Because of this they are a beacon to guide all unions and workers hit by the capitalist economic crisis. □

NYC Workers Finally Humble King Koch

NEW YORK CITY—Strengthened by the striking transit workers' stand and strong organization, other unions followed their lead to demand decent wages. At 1 a.m. four private Queens bus companies went on strike. At 6 a.m., the seven operating unions of the Long Island Railroad (the only public transportation for commuters to and from Long Island), with an outstanding contract since Dec. 1979, went back out on strike for a just wage increase. The tunnel and bridge operators, another union in the same situation, threatened a slowdown at 6 a.m. By strictly adhering to the rulebook, like checking weights of all trucks paying tolls, this would really snarl traffic for hours.

Tow truck drivers promised to refuse picking up stranded cars stuck on streets, bridges and tunnels. Workers for the PATH, the only train connecting NY and NJ, are threatening to go out on April 13 over their contract. In addition, taxi cab drivers and Nassau bus drivers, who serve 95,000 riders in that NYC suburb, gained increases they normally would have been unable to because they linked up their negotiations to the threat of a transit strike.

All these unions and workers are the allies in the transit workers' strike. They aid the transit workers' fight; at the same time it is a good situation to press for their own demands.

One transit worker said, "The issue is much more than money. They are trying

to break unions now. What it comes down to is unionism—unions or no unions." I see the future of the country in the next 4-5 years depends on what happens at 12:01. If there is a strike, we have something to look forward to." This is the growing spontaneous consciousness of workers who have reached the breaking point, fed up with the politicians' sweet talk and "nice" solutions like wage-price controls and union hacks' sellouts. Their solutions have led to nothing but more suffering for workers. This historic lever of economic crisis which made their lives unbearable is also acting to stimulate them to fight as never before. "I am a union man. We strove for 40 years to get what we have. If we lose, I'd rather lose it in the streets. I am willing to do anything, including going to jail."

This year, the transit workers enjoy public support as never before. Nobody will say, as many did in '78, that transit workers don't deserve a raise. Rather a decent raise is the only just thing. Using a trick from past contracts, the city is trying to drive a wedge between the transit workers and riders, saying a transit worker's wage increase means a \$.25 fare increase, from \$.50 to \$.75 One subway rider said, "I have to get to work. I have a wife and kids to feed too. I'll pay the \$.25 fare raise—why not?" With inflation invading everyone's way of life, people understand the transit workers' need to strike more now.

Continue on p. 8

POLITICIAN BEWARE!...

Continued from front page

the communist got what one recent letter to the editor called "about what they deserved." In the same article the D.A. referred to his military service in Viet Nam 10 years ago, "and you know who my adversaries were then."

His recent testimony also shows clearly that the dozen or so agents sent by Carter supposedly to investigate the Klan/Nazis, were in actuality there to investigate the Communist Workers Party. The collaboration of the state and FBI with the Klan/Nazis has been down the line—from the assassination plot of the CWP 5 to the arrest and trial of the Greensboro 3.

So far, the capitalists, state and FBI have not been able to indict the Greensboro 3 only because it's blatantly obvious to millions who watched the massacre on TV that no crimes were committed by CWP members and friends. Even Schlosser was forced to say in the same *New York Times* article that "evidence shows that the first shot in the shoot-out that left five communist activists dead came from groups of Ku Klux Klansmen and Nazis." Due to the lack of evidence, the judge finally denied the Klan/Nazis motion to drop all charges. But the fact that he refused to state it clearly that CWP is innocent as the basis of the decision still leaves room for future prosecution of the CWP members and supporters. Also, the state, FBI, Klan, and Nazis are still trying to make the victims the blame through building a campaign to create sympathy for the Klan/Nazi murderers and discourages resistance. In the very same week, the *Greensboro Record* (March 26, 1980), promoted these assassins by carrying a full-page story on one of the murderers, who can be seen in the Nov. 3 videotape smoking a cigarette as he carefully aimed his shotgun. Complete with a color portrait, ex-Klan, present Nazi member, Rolan Wood was presented as a confused church-going family man whose main concern on Nov. 3 was to defend the black children there. Big lie! The history of the murders, rapes and lynching of black and Jewish children by Klan/Nazis speaks for itself.

The message of the rulers of this country in prosecuting the Greensboro 3 and other anti-Klan fighters in Decatur, Birmingham, Oceanside and other cities is—don't stand up against oppression, don't defend yourself against attack and don't fight back.

Gripped with an unprecedented political and economic crisis, and caught in a bind in war preparations with the Soviet Union, the capitalists class must use all means to keep people in line. And in order to do so, they must impose fascism and create conditions for it. The murder of the CWP 5 and the arrest of the Greensboro 3—all leaders of the working class and oppressed people—is the biggest step to unleash this fascist attack on

the people. The capitalists are trying to use the incident as an example to tell the American people what would happen if you do dare to fight back, or speak out against their rule.

While this is going on, the capitalists are also trying to promote illusions in the workability of this so-called democratic system. By promoting the presidential election through all the media hype, politicians' debate over solutions for different problems. Leading all the way to the fanfare in the 1980 Democratic Convention, they are trying to create an image that electing the "right" person will make a difference. The capitalists want people to vote out their impoverishment, vote out their joblessness and all oppressions. But inflation, recession and other economic ills are the accumulated result of the capitalist economic illness of the last 30 years and more. It is inherent in the capitalist system. The U.S. imperialist economy is now at its advanced stage of decay and stagnation. No politicians, independent of desire or personality can affect any fundamental change in the situation. Independent of personality, when they are elected, they have to implement the bourgeois program of budget cuts, closing hospitals, schools, and stepping up police brutality and other violence against people's resistance. That's why no presidential candidate or any big-time politician has spoken up against the murder of the CWP 5 nor the arrest of the Greensboro 3. Despite their rhetoric about concern for the people, they all have to impose fascism to maintain their rule. To do that, they all have to attack the leadership of the American people. That's why the struggle to free the Greensboro 3 is very significant to beat back this attack.

The masses are awakening everywhere. Just like the truth about the CWP 5 cannot be hidden, the crimes the capitalist class heaps onto the working class will be unearthed. The past week on March 22, at an anti-draft demonstration in Washington, D.C., thousands poured into the streets telling peanut Carter—No draft! No world war III! No fascist U.S.A.! The May 3 demonstrations in Washington D.C., and simultaneously right in the heart of Greensboro and the May 5 rally in front of the court house in support of the Greensboro 3 will be a trial of strength between justice loving people and the upside down justice of the U.S. bourgeoisie. WE will take this case even further. We will take the struggle all the way to the 1980 Democratic Convention in New York City, serve notice to the politicians who claim to be friends of the oppressed and the underdogs. We will expose the hypocrisy to the country and to the people of the world. And we will expose their sinister plan to unleash world war III and turn the U.S. into a fascist country. Through organizing to beat back these attacks, the capitalists will have to pay their debt long owed to the masses of American people. □



SERVE NO FREE T

THE GREENSBORO 3 and NOVEMBER 3 MASSACRE

GREENSBORO, N.C.—District Attorney Michael Schlosser, the state and FBI have been in a frenzy, trying to cover up the assassinations of the Communist Workers Party by the Klan/Nazis and FBI. They have been hunting hard to indict the CWP members and friends. Why? Because to them, Nelson Johnson is dangerous. The CWP 5—Jim Waller, Cesar Cauce, Sandy Smith, Mike Nathan and Bill Sampson were dangerous. The two friends, Willena Cannon and Rand Manzella arrested with Nelson, are dangerous. They all had one goal in mind—to organize the masses against this wretched system of capitalism—and that threatens the capitalist class' rule. All were organizers—Nelson started back in 1968, when he was a student at A & T in North Carolina, and never stopped fighting against working class and national oppression. Willena organized in the community and Rand fought staunchly against the attacks from the company bosses in the mills. Nelson and two friends Willena and Rand, will be facing the upside-down, topsy-turvy trial on May 5. Their crimes? Nelson—he has been charged with "inciting to riot" at the Greensboro anti-Klan demonstration on Nov. 3. His real crime—defending five comrades of the CWP from the KKK/Nazis that day. Willena—she is charged with "interference with an officer" because she was trying to protect Nelson from the cops. Rand—a shop steward at Cone's White Oak plant, is charged with "being armed to the terror of the people". He had in hand on that day a small revolver Bill Sampson (one of the CWP 5) was using to defend the anti-Klan demonstrators against the automatic weapons of the KKK/Nazi assassins. He was holding it at the side of Cesar's body when the police drove up.

But what are the bare facts? It is a fact that:

—Eight of the nine cars in the Nazi and Klan caravan which attacked the rally in the Morningside community were never pursued by the Greensboro police. Many of those Klansmen and Nazis actually seen on TV videotape during the incident have never been apprehended. Conspiracy to commit murder charges against all 14 Klansmen and Nazis who were charged with the murders have now been dropped.

—Raeford Caudle, an avowed Klansman who himself brought many of the weapons to the rally, has been cleared of all charges against him. Caudle was present at the meeting where the caravan was planned.

—Greensboro District Attorney Michael Schlosser, who has responsibility for prosecuting the Klan and Nazis, has publicly made prejudicial statements against the murdered demonstrators. He continues to oppose and has denied the widows' appeal for a private prosecutor against the Klan/Nazis. —Three anti-Klan demonstrators Nelson Johnson, Rand Manzella and Willena Cannon face years in jail for a variety of trumped-up charges. □

CONTRIBUTE NOW!

THE PARTY HAS BEGUN ITS LEGAL FIGHT TO AVENGE THE CWP 5. THE DEFENSE OF OUR ARRESTED COMRADES AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS SUIT AGAINST THE KLAN, NAZIS AND GREENSBORO POLICE WILL COST A MINIMUM OF \$250,000 FOR THE FIRST YEAR.

Greensboro Justice Fund

P.O. BOX 2861, GRAND CENTRAL STATION
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017
(212) 233 0988

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RALLY

PLACE: San Francisco Civic

DEMANDS:

1. No Nazis in San Fran
2. Drop all charges again
3. Bring the Klan and N
4. Unite the working cla

SPEAKERS:

Rev. William Turner, Pro
Walter Johnson, Pres. L
Clarissa Ward, Pres. S.F.
Eduardo Sandoval, Nati
Maria Amaral, Bay Area
Charles Lamb, Pres. Hot
Rev. Lloyd K. Wake, GL
Keith Eickm, Pres. Ware
Seymore Kramer, Pres. I
Stuart Kwoh, Lawyer fo

LABOR COMMU

SERVE NOTICE TO THE PO FREE THE GREENS

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RESOLUTION AGAINST SCA

2/15/80

WHEREAS, There is presently a serious economic crisis in this country, which has led to massive layoffs, shutdown of industry and plants, and cutbacks in services;

WHEREAS, In such times of economic crisis, the government and industry single out particular groups to attack as scapegoats in order to direct attention away from the economic ills of the country;

WHEREAS, Such attacks during this period will be directed at active trade unionists, communists, women, minorities, and undocumented workers;

WHEREAS, Such attacks are often conducted through racist and fascist groups like the Ku Klux Klan and Nazis, who are promoted by the media;

WHEREAS, The Nov. 3, 1979 Klan and Nazi murders in Greensboro, North Carolina of the 5 members of the Communist Workers Party, James Waller, Bill Sampson, Sandy Smith, Cesar Cauce and Michael Nathan—four of whom were active trade unionists organizing the non-union

This resolution was passed at the District 31 Women’s Caucus meeting of the

SANTA CLARA CLC CALLS FOR PROSECUTION

The Central Labor Council of Santa Clara County last week passed without dissent a strong resolution calling for the “vigorous prosecution of the murderers” responsible for the death of four anti-Ku Klux Klan demonstrators in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The resolution noted that the deaths occurred on November 3 when “professed members of the Ku Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party” are alleged to have opened gunfire on the marchers.

“This is but the latest in a resurgence of activity of such groups in the South and Southwest in recent years, from the textile towns of North Carolina to the agricultural fields of California,” the Santa Clara council declared.

The resolution continued, “The threat from these groups inhibit not only the free exercise of the civil rights of minority persons, but also union organizing in these areas.”

The council directed its resolution to President Carter, North Carolina Governor James B. Hunt, the U.S. Justice Department, the Mayor and Police Chief of Greensboro.

November 16, 1979

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RALLY Saturday April 5

PLACE: San Francisco Civic Center

TIME: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

DEMANDS:

1. No Nazis in San Francisco
2. Drop all charges against the Greensboro 3
3. Bring the Klan and Nazis murderers to justice
4. Unite the working class to fight racism and fascism

SPEAKERS:

Rev. William Turner, Pres. S.F. Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance
 Walter Johnson, Pres. Local 1100 Retail Clerks Union AFL-CIO
 Clarissa Ward, Pres. S.F. Legislative Forum of Older Americans
 Eduardo Sandoval, National Pres. Mexican-American Political Association M.A.P.A.
 Maria Amaral, Bay Area Pres. M.A.P.A.
 Charles Lamb, Pres. Hotel, Restaurant Employees & Bartenders Union Local 2
 Rev. Lloyd K. Wake, Glide Memorial United Methodist Church
 Keith Eickm, Pres. Warehouse Union Local 6, I.L.W.U.
 Seymore Kramer, Pres. Local 1741 United Transportation Union
 Stuart Kwoh, Lawyer for Greensboro Justice Fund

LABOR COMMUNITY ALERT AGAINST FASCISM

TICE TO THE POLITICIANS THE GREENSBORO 3

RESOLUTION AGAINST SCAPEGOAT POLITICS

2/15/80

HEREAS, There is presently a serious economic crisis in this country, which has led to massive layoffs, shutdown of industry and plants, and cutbacks in services;

HEREAS, In such times of economic crisis, the government and industry single out particular groups to attack as scapegoats in order to direct attention away from the economic ills of the country;

HEREAS, Such attacks during this period will be directed at active trade unionists, communists, women, minorities, and undocumented workers;

HEREAS, Such attacks are often conducted through racist and fascist groups like the Ku Klux Klan and Nazis, who are promoted by the media;

HEREAS, The Nov. 3, 1979 Klan and Nazi murders in Greensboro, North Carolina of the 5 members of the Communist Workers Party, James Waller, Bill Sampson, Sandy Smith, Cesar Cauce and Michael Nathan—four of whom were active trade unionists organizing the non-union

workers in the textile mills of the south and one of whom was a local union president—is one clear example of these attacks;

WHEREAS, Such attacks will also take the form of union busting tactics, such as passage of right to work laws, breaking strikes, pitting white workers against minority workers, and men against women;

WHEREAS, The present anti-communist clause in the union by-laws of the USWA and other unions can be used to bust the union by permitting the expulsion of any trade unionist whom anyone brands a "communist";

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this District 31 Women's Conference, 1980:

1. Condemn and oppose all scapegoating activities by the government and industry, and will expose all such efforts;
2. Condemn and oppose all Klan and Nazi activities;
3. Oppose all union busting efforts;
4. Call for the repeal of the anti-communist cause in all union by-laws, and in particular, in the by-laws of the USWA.

This resolution was passed at the District 31 Women's Caucus meeting of the United Steel Workers of America in Chicago, Illinois.

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The council directed its resolution to President Carter, North Carolina Governor James B. Hunt, the U.S. Justice Department, the Mayor and Police Chief of Greensboro.

November 16, 1979

ANTI-NAZI RALLY-APRIL 19

SAN FRANCISCO, Ca.—Come out to San Francisco's City Hall to oppose the fascist attacks by the Klu Klux Klan on April 19. The Klan is organizing a nationwide celebration that day for Hitler's birthday—to commemorate his fascist attacks on the Jews and to continue promoting scapegoat politics. In Greensboro, they murdered the Communist Workers Party 5. And now, they've gone so far as to obtain a security license of the KBI (Klan Bureau of Investigation) for 13 licensed murderers to terrorize, harass and intimidate undocumented migrant workers on the California-Mexico border. They are even trying to run David Duke, Klan leader, for Presidency! But the Ad-Hoc Anti-Klan/Nazi Coalition is planning educational events, press conferences, and demonstrations to rally thousands of Bay Area trade unionists and members of community groups to put a stop to Hitler's birthday celebration.

Anti-Nazi Rally—April 19, Sat. 10a.m. Meet at Dolores Park. March to Civic Center and rally. For more information, call (415) 536-2200 or write to the Coalition c/o 3270 East 14th St., Oakland, Ca.

Rallying Transit Workers Say, Don't Sell Us Out!

Demonstrator and his daughter at transit workers' rally Mar. 27 are a message to Mayor Koch they will not be burnt by inflation anymore.



NYC Workers...

Continued from p. 5

But paying \$.75 for a subway ride won't resolve the problem. Inflation will continue to rise, driving up fuel costs and maintenance, while reinvestment for major improvements is already impossible. Everyone's living standards will still go down. Twenty-five cents won't solve the problem for the transit workers or the riders.

The ones making big profit off the subway system should pay. Tax the banks and corporations. They are the ones who hold New York City hostage, and they should pay for the costs of the transit system. Keep the \$.50 fare!

Workers' Might Humbles Koch

At first, Mayor Koch spread rumors of calling in the National Guard to deal with the strike. But the transit workers said, "They can only protect the subway, they can't run it." And they went ahead anyway with their strike preparations.

On the Saturday before the contract ran out Koch had to say he would send no scabs to run the subways. His usual hard-line approach would only inflame the militant workers more, and support for the strike was snowballing from every transportation worker in the city. This

was from the man who told the striking milk truck drivers to just go back home. He told city workers, "I am going to cut you. I dare you to do something about it." He put on an Afro-wig and did a skit at a banquet, elevating his notorious racism to government entertainment. But this time, Koch has not been able to take his usual racist, arrogant offensive. For the first time, the transit workers' strike power has humbled him. On Tuesday, he was reduced to being a traffic director. The only thing he could say was, "Be sure to have reflectors on your bikes if you ride at night."

After giving in on the scabs, Koch said he had nothing to do with the strike because the MTA was controlled by the state. Then Governor Carey said he was "hands off" because he had nothing to do with the city. Koch told the workers to look to Governor Carey for state legislation for new taxes to raise money for the subways. This way he tried to say he had nothing to do with the strike that would set the pace for 215,000 city workers' contracts this summer.

As the last hours ticked away, Koch was forced to come into the negotiations, finally humbled by NYC's most militant, organized, powerful union. □

NEW YORK CITY—People trying to get to City Hall on March 27 were blocked by 10,000 demonstrators calling for a transit workers' strike. As the noontime rally started, three MTA (Metropolitan Transit Authority) buses rammed into each other. The traffic jammed up behind them and the bus drivers got out cheering. Other transit workers ran into the street and covered the buses with their picket signs. Cops had blocked off the nearby Brooklyn Bridge as rumors flew that the workers were going to take the bridge.

The biggest and most militant labor demonstration in New York City in years, the Transport Workers Union's pre-strike rally was significant as it will help to pace not only the 33,000 transit workers' contract fight, but the July contracts of the 215,000 municipal workers.

"New York City workers are tired of being the underdog!" (Since the 1975 NYC budget crisis, municipal workers have had virtually frozen wages and "austerity contracts," forced to work hundreds of hours of overtime, the only way to get more than the base pay.) "What do I think about wage-price freeze? Inflation's totally out of control. It's too late to talk about that now." "I have a 4-year old daughter, I saw on TV last night I will have to pay \$32,000 to send her through college," said Melvin Spruill, motorman. "That's why it's justified to strike."

"STRIKE! STRIKE! STRIKE!" and "30%!" boomed through the streets of downtown Manhattan. The battle lines were drawn when union president John Lawe said they are "going to hold out for 30%—all the way!" On top of this the TWU has vowed to defy the Taylor Law prohibiting public workers in New York State from striking. In an act of hostility to the workers' battle against inflation, the Metropolitan Transit Authority Chairman, Richard Ravitch went to the courts to invoke the Taylor Law that afternoon.

Transit Workers Maintain Independence and Initiative

Over 7,000 workers from all unions came out in response to the NYC Central Labor Council's call for complete trade union support for the transit workers. But the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association was not there to encourage the transit workers' "illegal" strike. PBA president Charles Peterson, arrogantly dominating the stage said, "We want more than what they're (transit workers) getting. We deserve more." The PBA, other uniformed services union and labor aris-

toocrats like Local 3 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers refused to unite behind the transit workers whose strike is the immediate issue. These highly skilled and much better paid workers, whose unions have the most chauvinist, scab actions, deliberately separated themselves to put forth their own contract demand.

Transit workers got sick of all this, turned around and went to the next street. There they had their own rally, much more militant and calling for the action the workers really wanted. This was a good thing because while welcoming any support for their fight, transit workers must also have independence and initiative, especially from scab unions like the PBA. The transit workers, who are 47% black and Latin, have no love for the cops anyway. Some remember how 500 cops cornered and beat 200 striking milk truck drivers last year.

Don't Sell Us Out!

TWU president John Lawe, who was almost overturned in a recent union election, is being watched very carefully by the TWU rank and file. Already, he has quietly shifted the original call for "30% immediately to catch up with a cost of living gap of 29%" to "30% over the length of the contract"—about two and half years. And when a contract fight is centered on money, it is more easily sold out by bickering over pennies and making the workers decide if 50 cents or 75 cents is fair, instead of sustaining the fight by uniting the workers around a larger cause.

So when president Lawe gave his speech at the rally, there was applause, and then the rank and file began to chant, "Don't Sell Us Out!, Don't Sell Us Out!" louder and louder they chanted, and that's how the rally ended.

To make sure the TWU leadership doesn't sell them out, rank and file workers are gathering at the Sheraton Hotel on Monday night where last minute negotiations will be taking place. Last contract when it expired, the leadership "stopped the clock," extending the contract and actually making the rank and file work without one. The workers say this time they want to be there "to see the magic," how the leadership stops time. They will carry out the principle, "No Contract, No Work" even if they have to wildcat on their own. □

COMMITTEE TO AVENGE THE GREENSBORO-CWP 5
P.O. Box 4201, Berkeley, CA 94704
(415) 982-9662

\$.50 each or 12 for \$5.00

All profits from this card will go to the Greensboro Justice Fund (non-profit, tax deductible contributions) established for the families of the slain demonstrators; for the legal defense of anti-Klan demonstrators; and to hire an independent, private prosecutor of the KKK, Nazi, Police and FBI officials involved in these assassinations.

They Died Fighting Rather Than Live As Slaves



GREENSBORO, Nov. 3, 1979

Election Focus Shifts to Economy

Backlash Whips Carter in N.Y./Conn. Primaries

NEW YORK—Days before the March 25 New York and Connecticut primaries, *Newsweek*, the Gallup and Harris polls, and practically every bourgeois expert were ready to “project” the winners—Reagan and Carter—and nail the coffin bearing the political chances of Kennedy, Bush and Anderson. In this year of rapidly shifting, volatile public opinion, however, the obituaries were premature. Rather than proving them sharp analysts, the final tallies proved the bourgeois experts damned fools. They forgot that we are in the 1980s.

When the vote was counted, Kennedy had whipped Carter’s ass, outpolling him 59% to 41% in New York and 47% in Connecticut. Republican front-runner Reagan, while taking New York, lost to Bush in an upset in Connecticut, 39% to 34%. Anderson, not competing in New York, got 22% of the vote in Connecticut. And Lydon Larouche, “Marxist” head of the fascist U.S. Labor Party, running as a conservative Democrat, outpolling Jerry Brown, getting 5% of the Conn. vote (some 6,481 votes) to Brown’s 3%.

Kennedy’s Electoral Fortunes Rise With Inflation

Even though every pollster was declaring Carter the winner and behind them politicians like New York’s Mayor Koch were lining up to kiss his, um, feet, Carter’s lackeys should have seen it coming. It’s not every day that the stock market plunges a near-record amount after a presidential speech like Carter’s inflation speech. And more to the point, people aren’t going to praise his leadership qualities when inflation hits 20% a year.

The stunning electoral defeat of Carter in the New York and Connecticut primaries was one indication of what we have called the “lever of economic crisis” working its effects on the people of this country. In a *New York Times* poll of voters coming out of the voting booths, 60% of those supporting Kennedy cited inflation as an important issue motivating their vote. About 7 of 10 of these voters were angered by the fact that the President’s drive to balance the 1981 budget had produced Congressional moves to cut Federal aid to the city in several programs.

Ironically, *Newsweek* had called Kennedy “Chicken Little ready waiting for the sky to fall” for his hitting on the issue of galloping inflation and the stagnating economy. What the primary result in the East show is that the lever of economic crisis is cracking huge chunks of the sky and hurling them to the ground. It shows that even among those who still turn out for the gimmicks of bourgeois democracy like voting, even among the most backward strata of workers and petty bourgeoisie, the crunch of economic crisis is hitting home. And in this protest vote, as Carter’s campaign manager Robert Strauss called it, people are angry and yelling.

And right there ready to ride that protest is Kennedy. In fact, through his demagoguery, he feeds off it, at the same time channels it into sterile and bankrupt electoral politics. A lot of people

see this. As Charles Prior, one of Carter’s telephone canvassers said, “What I got was, ‘It’s a choice between the devil and the deep blue sea—there is no choice, it’s the worst of two evils, so what’s the difference?’ ” Showing the increasing desperation at the same time the deepening distrust of all politicians, Arthur Cohen, another Carter worker said, “A lot of people are looking for a political messiah to pull us out of this mess, but there’s just no confidence that this race can do that.”

Public Opinion Shifts Rapidly, Polarizes Strongly

The primary races are taking on the character of a bingo game—or Russian roulette, as far as front-runners are concerned. In any case, the American people today are disoriented politically as never before and being polarized on issue after issue as never before. When the Iran crisis first hit, it was a plus for Carter, giving him a chance to show “strong leadership” (remember his Crisis of Confidence?) in foreign policy and pushing to the background the sick economy and the gas crisis. But after Afghanistan, when the draft registration issue was raised, those same students in the chauvinist anti-Iran demonstrations started turning out in droves against Carter’s strong leadership on preparing the country for war. And now the New York and Connecticut primaries show that those voters into chauvinism are turning against Carter for not resolving the Iran and Afghanistan crisis. And the economy, of course, is now the number one issue. It shows people are angry, and are definitely taking it out even in the voting booth. In New York, Carter also lost heavily among the large Zionist vote for his “mistake” on voting against colonization of Arab lands by the Israelis.

But though New York might not be typical of the country as a whole, Connecticut is more so. And in that state, especially in the industrial cities of Bridgeport and Danbury, Kennedy beat Carter, primarily on the issue of inflation and the economy.

On the Republican side, Bush beat Reagan in the petty bourgeois, commuter cities like Darien, West Hartford and Greenwich where “his kind of people” live. Reagan won in Bush’s home state in the more industrial cities of Bridgeport and Danbury. Anderson swept New Haven, where Yale University is located, largely based on student campaigners from the Ivy League school.

For us as communists, we welcome the economy coming to the fore as an issue. For we know this lever—powerful as it is—will drive people to revolutionary conclusions. And with our day-to-day, in-depth, Marxist explanations of the crisis and all other issues affecting the country, and through our revolutionary leadership, we will win over the majority of workers and progressive people to our cause—the cause of socialism and the dictatorship of the proletariat. This is the only solution to the mess that the politicians and the monopolies have created and the only real alternative to choosing the lesser of two evils every four years from the parties of war and crisis. □



Communist Workers Party organized picket in front of Wilson Bros. Coal Co.

East Durham Shooting

Don't Buy A Killer's Coal

DURHAM, N.C.—The tracks past Wilson Coal Company in Durham are well traveled. Many people in the East Durham neighborhood walk the tracks as a short cut home. On Feb. 12, two Afro-Americans, Mary Lee Hope 57, and her 11-year old granddaughter Carol Smith were using the short cut to hurry home. It was 8:00 and the sun had long since gone down.

As Mrs. Hope and her granddaughter walked past Wilson Coal, Gram Wilson, the owner ran out of his office a gun in his hand. Approaching Mrs. Hope, he looked her square in the face took aim and shot both her and Carol. Carol ran home with a bullet in her side. Mrs. Hope was thrown off her feet from the force of the bullet. She laid on a pile of coal bleeding from a bullet wound in the stomach. Wilson came up and took aim preparing to finish her off. She begged and pleaded for her life. Maybe that made him feel important. Or maybe it had been a good day for selling ripped off coal which made him feel good. For whatever reason Wilson left Mrs. Hope there and went back into his office.

When the police arrived shortly after, Wilson told them he knew nothing of any shooting. The police put Mrs. Hope in their car and began interrogating her about stealing coal. She asked them to call an ambulance. They finally let her go but refused to call an ambulance. They later claimed that they looked but saw no evidence of a gun wound. Mrs. Hope walked home two blocks where she collapsed. A daughter rushed her to the hospital where she underwent a five hour operation. She has had a second operation and was in intensive care for days. The 11-year old Carol was treated for a chest wound and is still under the care of a doctor. This injury will follow this little child as long as she lives.

It was over two hours later that Wilson was arrested and then only at the insistence of the family. He was booked and charged with assault with a deadly weapon. *The fact is Wilson shot both Mrs. Hope and Carol Smith with the intent to murder them.* He is now out on bond free to shoot at anyone else who walks down the tracks near his coal.

The people of Durham have responded to this attack with outrage. And the Communist Workers Party has taken up the fight to see that justice is done—that murderer Wilson pays for his crime. On March 8, the North Carolina Trade Union Educational League held a state-wide meeting and resolved that Wilson must pay. The CWP has organized picket lines two Saturdays in a row in front of the company and a third is planned for this coming Saturday. Hundreds of newspapers have been sold as car after car has turned around after being told about Wilson. Very few people have crossed the line to buy coal. Almost everyone has been supportive and sympathetic both black and white. We’ve received responses like “That’s right, close him down.” and “We should burn the place to the ground.”

The people are ready to fight Wilson. He is long known in the community for his greed. Often he sells coal filled with rocks and delivers half loads for the full price. He once took a load of coal to a woman who lacked just \$5 of her total bill. He loaded every piece of coal back on his truck and left the woman to freeze.

People have struck out at Wilson Coal because they know its likely Wilson will never see a day in jail for his crime. The government encourages these attacks by their upside down justice, hoping to keep the people down. Mrs. Hope’s daughter put out a statement to the press following the attempted murder condemning our government’s idea of “justice.” “If Wilson was the one who was shot, we would have seen something totally different. The police would have searched and terrorized the entire community looking for who did it. But in this case when the criminal Wilson was on the scene when the police arrived, they did not even arrest him.” The family of Mrs. Hope has called on the whole community of Durham to stop buying coal from Wilson to close him down and fight to see that he is prosecuted and found guilty for his crime. Wilson’s trial is set for April 1. □

Murder of Progressive Archbishop Fuels Fight Against Junta

On Mar. 24, Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador was assassinated while he was saying mass. In sermon after sermon this year, the Archbishop had pointed the finger at the military junta as responsible for killing over 600 people this year, most of whom were peasants. He also sent a personal letter to President Carter, denouncing the renewal of U.S. military aid to the fascist junta.

The Central American countries of El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Costa Rica—the “Throat of Latin America”—have long been the exclusive domain of U.S. imperialist-backed military juntas and their iron-fisted rule. The Archbishop had warned recently that unless drastic economic, political and social changes were made, in particular the equal distribution of wealth, El Salvador will face a full scale civil war. For speaking the truth, he was shot by the military junta with the assistance of the U.S. Hours after the Archbishop's murder, over 30 bombs rocked the country as banks and stores were blown up in protest of his assassination. The flames of revolution are sweeping Central America with El Salvador one of the hottest for the U.S. imperialists today.

Last year the people of Nicaragua united behind the Sandinistas to overthrow Somoza. This year, after kicking out the fascist Gen. Romero in October, the people of El Salvador are moving to get rid of the “liberal” Military Youth Movement and the Christian Democratic Party that is in power now. With the recently formed united front of the five popular organizations, this latest fascist regime is already on its deathbed.

People of El Salvador Have A Long History of Struggle

The history of El Salvador is filled with examples of mass uprisings against oppression. In 1821 Spain was forced by the Salvadorean people to grant independence. In the early 1930's, following the international crisis of 1929, thousands of Salvadoreans, led by the Communist Party and its leader, Farabundo Martí, took to the streets to protest the layoffs of thousands of peasants and workers. Faced with the prospect of revolution, the military took over and attacked peasants and workers throughout the country. More than 30,000 people, who heroically fought back, were

massacred.

Since then, mass uprisings have forced the end of at least three other governments, in 1944, 1960, and again in 1979. Faced with an aroused population, the military, backed by the U.S., has tried to put off the revolutionary tide by putting on a “liberal” face. But the people in El Salvador are in no way fooled.

Conditions in El Salvador Cause For Revolution

The conditions in El Salvador sparking the uprisings demand a revolutionary solution. El Salvador is the most densely populated country in Central America. An estimated 73% of the children under five suffer from malnutrition and one out of two children die before their first birthday. The worldwide economic crisis has hit the three-crop economy (coffee, sugar and cotton) of El Salvador hard, and as a result, unemployment and inflation are rising rapidly.

In 1977 the government of President Romero took power and stepped up the repression of the people to higher levels. Paramilitary organizations like the “ORDEN” and the White Warriors were responsible for the torture and murder of progressive leaders throughout the country. Not only were peasants and workers killed, but even church leaders disappeared and were found murdered by these right-wing thugs. The people of El Salvador in turn stepped up their own demonstrations and strikes, and by mid-1979 were at the point of forcing Romero out of office.

Military and U.S. Imperialism Change Their Tactics

It was at this point that the Military Youth Movement, backed by U.S. imperialism, moved in and overthrew Romero. The new government came in under a liberal cover, promising land reform, the release of political prisoners and a host of other changes. The experience of Nicaragua, where the U.S. gambled with Somoza and lost everything when the Sandinistas fought their way to power, convinced the U.S. that the repressive tactics of Romero would lose them El Salvador also. With this in mind, the U.S. has pumped aid to the Military Youth Movement and made a big deal of “human rights,” but at the same time the basic conditions in El Salvador remain the same.



Popular Organizations Lead Struggle Against the Military

By January of this year it became clear to the entire population that the military junta was not about to make the changes it had promised. In fact, it was becoming more fascist, and even members of the junta were resigning in disgust.

On Jan. 22 the National Revolutionary Coordinating Council, a coalition formed from the five popular organizations (Popular Revolutionary Bloc [BPR], Popular Movement for Liberation [MLP], Popular Leagues [LP-28], Popular Unity Action Front [FAPU] and National Democratic Union [UDN]) staged their first joint action, a march commemorating the 1932 insurrection and massacre. 500,000 demonstrators turned out, and at 10 A.M. the military fired on the crowd, killing 20 people and

wounding over 100. But each and every desperate act like this only hastens the end of the junta's and the U.S.'s stranglehold over the Salvadorean people.

March 6 Reforms: Too Little Too Late

The situation in El Salvador is rapidly reaching a head. On Mar. 6 the military finally proposed some land reform measures, but at the same time declared a state of siege and used this martial law to step up their repression. Less than two weeks later, on Mar. 17, the military further attacked peasant and worker organizations throughout the country, while putting out the lie that the left forces were starting a civil war. But with the overwhelming support of the masses, the National Revolutionary Coordinating Council is turning these attacks around. It is the “throat” of U.S. imperialism that is being squeezed. □

Afghan Neutrality—Empty Promises

On February 29, Britain proposed to the Soviet Union a plan for the neutrality of Afghanistan. The proposal called for both superpowers (the U.S. and the Soviet Union), as well as countries neighboring Afghanistan, to “guarantee” Afghanistan's neutrality (like the Allied and Axis powers agreed on Switzerland's neutrality during World War 2). Britain hopes that the Soviets will agree to talk about the plan either at a meeting of the UN General Assembly or at a special conference on Afghanistan.

Can Afghans Trust The Superpowers' Word?

Britain's proposal is a step backward from the UN resolution which called for the total withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, and which was passed by a majority of third world countries. The Afghan people want an independent Afghanistan, free from the domination of both superpowers, not a “neutral” country where both the U.S. and the Soviets would be free to interfere and subvert. An independent Afghanistan can and should be insured only by the Afghan people themselves, and not hinge on the word of the superpowers. When the British plan came out, the Chinese government condemned it, saying it was “an empty promise to fool the world public and a trick to make the Soviet Union appear legitimate and evade the blame for the invasion” (New York Times, March 3).

The neutrality plan was approved by the nine member countries of the European Common Market, showing their illusions about the aggressive nature of the Soviet social-imperialists (socialism

in words, imperialism in deeds). Speculating on the reason why the Soviets invaded Afghanistan, one European diplomat said, “We're no more certain than anyone else why the Soviet Union did or whether it regrets doing so.” This characterizes the the Western European countries' weak-kneed response to the Soviet invasion. Pressured by the Soviets politically, economically and militarily, they are looking for a way to justify Soviet aggression. But instead of persuading the Soviet Union to back off, the proposal will only feed its imperialist appetite.

Superpowers Welcome Proposal

The Soviet Union welcomed the British plan. They are getting their ass kicked in Afghanistan. The U.S.S.R. has had to sink in more and more troops (now up to 75,000) just to keep the puppet regime going. Muslim guerrillas have seized the fourth largest city in the country and continuously knock off Soviet soldiers. The recent week-long strike in Kabul (Afghanistan's capital) demonstrated that the days of Soviet occupation of the country is numbered. A neutral Afghanistan offers the U.S.S.R. a way out.

The U.S. also welcomed the neutrality plan since it would give it the chance to get a foothold in the country. Carter said the U.S. would join in “guaranteeing” Afghanistan's neutrality if Soviet troops left. This shows that all the moral outcries against the Soviet invasion wasn't meant to support the Afghan people's fight for independence, but instead it was to weaken the Soviets and to get the U.S. in. □

Northeast Conference Against the Draft

WHICH WAY FORWARD FOR THE ANTI-DRAFT MOVEMENT?

APRIL 12-13, 1980

SAT. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

SUN. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WORKSHOPS:

1. International situation
2. Economic crisis
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PLACE: City College of New York, Steinman Hall

140th Street and Convent Avenue
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REGISTRATION: \$3.00

Housing will be provided on Friday and Saturday evening. Bring sleeping bags and be prepared to sleep on the floor.

For more information, call (212) 638-7320 between 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

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CWP FORUMS ON THE DRAFT:

Coming soon to an area near you. Contact the nearest chapter of the Committee to Avenge the CWP 5 or the Revolutionary Youth League's national office at 1 East Broadway, 2nd floor, New York, NY 10002 (212) 233-0988

ALL AFRICA IS STANDING UP!**DWIGHT HOPKINS**NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, AFRICAN LIBERATION SUPPORT
COMMITTEE AND MEMBER, COMMUNIST WORKERS PARTY**ZANU Victory Weakens Superpower
Plans for South Africa**

ALL AFRICA IS STANDING UP! will be a regular column in the *Workers Viewpoint*, appearing every 1st and 3rd issues of the month.

The success of 14 years of armed struggle and the recent election victory of ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) in Zimbabwe have significantly challenged the balance of forces in southern Africa.

The Zimbabwean developments have greatly lessened the superpower conniving in that area. ZANU's position is "We are our own liberators!" For the social-imperialists of the Soviet Union, their plan to re-enact Angola (by pitting the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union against ZANU) and control a pro-Russian government in Zimbabwe to challenge South Africa has so far failed. For U.S. imperialism and apartheid South Africa, their sinister scheme of a "constellation of southern African states" controlled by South Africa has failed miserably.

**U.S. and South Africa
On the Defensive**

With the full backing of the U.S.

ruling class, Prime Minister P.W. Botha of South Africa unsuccessfully covered over his racist apartheid government with his claim of a "new era" for South Africa. In August 1979 he stated he would end "total permanent separation [of blacks and whites] built on artificially maintained white supremacy" in South Africa, and whites "must have adaptations; otherwise we will die." Internally his sham reforms included an end to "unnecessary and offensive" racist laws. The key was the development of a "constellation of southern African states" under South Africa's domination. Botha and U.S. imperialism hoped to defuse the sweltering time bomb of African resistance in South Africa. By "cleaning up" the fascist image, the U.S. wanted this to legitimize its continued support for apartheid and get other countries to recognize South Africa.

A major part of the "constellation of states" strategy was the Zimbabwean elections. The U.S. and Britain wanted to install puppet Bishop Muzorewa as head of a "free and independent" Zimbabwean government. One, this would allow them, they hoped, to eliminate the Patriotic

Front (of ZANU and ZAPU). And two, a Zimbabwe under Muzorewa would then become a pilot state in the constellation plan under the dominance of South Africa.

The "constellation plan" has failed. The ZANU victory has taught the Azanian people: beware of imperialist "internal settlement" plans, rely on the armed struggle of the people, be your own liberators and oppose reliance on either of the two superpowers.

**U.S. and Soviet Union
Imperialists Eye South Africa**

The U.S. has over 350 companies in South Africa with \$2 billion invested. U.S. banks have \$2.5 billion in loans and credits there. The Soviet imperialists try to control the Azanian national liberation struggle through its fifth column—the revisionist "Communist" Party of South Africa. They try to split the liberation movement by calling the Pan Africanist Congress (of Azania) "reactionary" and the African National Congress "the more revolutionary." As their war preparations step up, both superpowers will intensify their fight for South Africa.

South Africa is the strategic gateway to the Indian Ocean. 75% of the oil supply to Western Europe from the Persian Gulf must travel from the Indian Ocean around the Cape of Good Hope (of South Africa). It is a very strategic outpost. For example, the U.S. has two tracking stations—one in Smithtown and one on the Island of Make. From them, the U.S. can monitor all air-marine communications from the South Pole to northern Africa, from South America to Bangladesh. The Indian Ocean is the only spot in the world from which Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe can be hit with nuclear weapons. South Africa is the world's largest producer of diamonds, has the world's largest reserves of gold and is one of the world's largest producers of chrome and uranium.

The success of a genuinely independent Zimbabwe will block both superpowers' attempts to use Zimbabwe to consolidate their maneuvering in South Africa. It will aid the national liberation struggle in Azania. Both the U.S. and the Soviet Union will now increase ten-fold their grab for the strategic prize of South Africa. □

**Rotting Shah
Flees Panama**

Unable to counter Iran's extradition request, the ex-Shah fled Panama and scurried off to Egypt on March 23. The next day, Iran went ahead anyway and finished filing the 450-page extradition papers. They document the Shah's crimes, from embezzling millions in public funds to torture, mutilation, assassinations and genocide. These papers prevent the Shah from ever stepping foot on Panamanian soil without being arrested on the spot.

The government of Panama had said days before that the extradition request would be carefully studied. The Shah, scared of the justice that awaits him in Iran, hired 21 lawyers to block the extradition effort at the recommendation of his old partner in crime, David Rockefeller, Chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank (and the Shah's personal financial advisor). White House chief of staff Hamilton Jordan and Carter's lawyer Lloyd Cutler flew down to Panama especially to help the Shah. Not caring a damn about the hostages, National Security Advisor Brzezinski even said that the Shah could come back to the U.S. if he wanted to. Brzezinski hoped that by continuing to mock the just demands of the Iranian people, he can whip up even more chauvinism among the U.S. people. After putting the Shah on a CIA jet winging to Egypt, the U.S. De-

partment did an abrupt about face. Throwing up their hands like they were powerless to stop the Shah, Brzezinski had the nerve to say that "we have no obligations or commitments to him".

Once in Egypt, the Shah was warmly welcomed by President Sadat, the only one who could accept the stench of this mass murderer. Sadat's own overpowering stench in selling out the Arab and Palestinian people by signing the Camp David treaty with Zionist Israel makes him and Shah perfect bedfellows. He stressed that the Shah could stay in Egypt "permanently" which means only until Sadat himself gets kicked out.

Sadat is not only isolated in the Arab world but he is facing growing opposition at home. Groups from the Nationalist Progressive Union Party to the Moslem Brotherhood, the powerful Islamic fundamentalist group in Egypt, all oppose the Shah. They point out that the Shah supported Israel in the slaughter of thousands of Arab people and demand that the government should support the new Iran and Khomeini instead. The Kuwait newspaper Al Watan summed up the sentiment of the people by saying, "No one will be surprised if one day Sadat becomes like his Iranian tyrant friend, searching for sanctuary -- if he is given the chance to get that far." □

**HOSTAGES' KIN THREATEN
CARTER'S IRAN SCHEME**

Sensing more and more that they are being used as political pawns by Carter, 47 families of the U.S. hostages in Iran delivered a letter of warning to the State Department on Mar. 16. "In case Carter decides to let the Shah back in the U.S., we're gonna jump down his throat," warned Virgil Sickmann, father of one hostage. This is the most recent demand from the hostages' families since Bonnie Graves (wife of hostage John Earl Graves) went on television Mar. 4 and stated: "We have to stop meddling in other people's affairs. We (the Graves family) are now urging people to pressure their Congressmen for a total re-examination of our foreign policy. We can't continue in our neo-colonialist approach." (WV, 3/15/80)

All 47 families pledged to publicly break with Carter if the ex-Shah of Iran is readmitted to the U.S. Their joint letter represents a major switch. In the early months after the embassy takeover, the families gave at least quiet support of the U.S. government's handling of the situation. Now for the first time the overwhelming majority of the families have united as one. They have threatened to

publicly denounce Carter's maneuverings over Iran if he sacrifices their families for the Shah, the billionaire butcher, to "recuperate" in the U.S. Mary Lopez, mother of a U.S. Marine sergeant held hostage, said the letter made clear, "we didn't want the U.S. to have anything to do with him [the Shah], either here or anywhere else."

Since the Nov. 4 takeover, Carter has pitted the U.S. people's hatred for the criminal Shah against their genuine concern for the resolution of the hostage situation. But Carter has never given a damn about the families of the American hostages. By stalling, he thought he could obscure the U.S. role—the CIA-backed coup that put the Shah in power in 1953, the decades of arming the Shah to torture the Iranian people, years of filling the Shah's personal savings with millions of U.S. tax dollars. Carter thought the longer he provoked the embassy takeover by not returning the Shah to Iran, the longer he could whip up American patriotism and war chauvinism in the U.S. But his use of the hostages as sacrificial lambs for U.S. imperialism is beginning to backfire. □

BALSA Convention— New Direction for Black Progress

NEW YORK, N.Y.—From March 26 thru March 30, the Black American Law Students Association (BALSA) held their 12th annual national convention at New York University Law School. The theme of the convention was "Ujamaa (familyhood): New Directions For Black Progress." The convention was dedicated to the memories of the Communist Workers Party 5, who were assassinated in Greensboro, North Carolina on November 1979.

The main content of the convention was the struggle against national oppression. Ruth Gordon, the convention co-ordinator, said in her message to the audience, "We must realize that our freedom will not be won in the courtroom, for the legal system is based on injustice and inequality, with its purpose being to support and preserve the ruling class." "The widespread attacks against blacks and other groups on all fronts makes it painfully obvious that despite 'affirmative action', none of us are truly free, and will not be so within the confines of this system. Hence, the struggle not only continues, but takes on added dimensions." Essentially, she made a call for more unity, not only among black people but also of other people's struggles which are similar.

The workshops reflected the struggle of black people against social injustice. They ranged from "The State of the Black Community" to "Community Organizing" to "Blacks in Rural America". These, along with the various legal workshops, made up the bulk of the convention. There was also a "National Commission of Inquiry into Racism at American Law Schools" which aimed at the racist practice of some of the nation's law schools. The "Moot Court" competition centered around divestments. This is of particular importance since many of the schools have millions of dollars worth of stock invested in the apartheid regime in South Africa. This expanded the convention's scope into international politics and strengthened the trend of unity with the liberation struggle worldwide.

"Government Blames The Victims For The Crimes

There was also a workshop on the Greensboro Massacre where Phil Thompson, Central Committee member of the Communist Workers Party spoke. Having spoken earlier at the workshop on community organizing, he repeated the need to unite the broad masses of people around the exploitative and oppressive

Masses Reply to Gov't. Census: Count Me Out

Throughout the land the U.S. government is begging people to count themselves in the upcoming census. Commercials in English, Spanish, Greek and Italian appear on both radio and television. On the bus or train to work, signs scream out at you to "stand up and be counted." The government has spent over one billion dollars in its quest to know everything about everybody. If you can remember the 1960 or 1970 census, it was nothing like this. So why all of a sudden do they want everyone to fill out the census?

Government's Lies About the Census

To listen to the government is to listen to a pack of lies. They're saying that it would mean more money for our schools, hospitals and more jobs. This comes on the heels of a 16 billion-dollar budget cut recently announced by President Carter. Money that is desperately needed for our poor working-class neighborhoods.

Another lie is that by being counted you would get more representation in the government. There has always been misrepresentation in the government. It has been a stronghold for the mouthpieces of big business. Historically, the use of gerrymandering has been widespread. Gerrymandering is when they (the politicians) cut up an area that would normally have minority representation so that it becomes attached or part of another district other than their own.

The government has never really wanted an accurate census because it would expose the discrimination in the government. National minorities make up a sizable portion of U.S. society, yet

there are few minorities in the Senate and in the House of Representatives. There is only the Black Congressional Caucus. All told, this represents about 5% of the people who may make up from 30-40% of the country.

The government is willing to chance this exposure to prepare for future battles with the working class. The U.S. economic system (capitalism) has developed to a higher stage—monopoly capitalism. This is the stage where everything productive is owned or controlled by a few individuals, like the Rockefellers and Morgans. They control everything from the food we eat to most of the newspapers we read. What we hear on the radio and what we see on television, they control.

Census Information Makes Repression Easier

Now, it's no secret that they're in deep economic crisis and they're trying to make us pay for it by squeezing us more than ever before. Of course the more they squeeze the more we resist. To squash this resistance, it is necessary for them to know where everyone is at any given time. It would be much easier for them to come down on progressive folks, Communists, "illegal aliens," or national minorities. Instead of crude tattooing as Hitler did the Jews in Nazi Germany, the ruling class here is a bit more sophisticated—it uses the census. It is clear that they would have no qualms about using the census to make their scapegoat politics come off easier.

An Afro-American woman summed up the feelings of many people when asked why she wouldn't answer the census—"It's none of their DAMN business!!" □



Phil Thompson (right), Central Committee member of the Communist Workers Party, discusses community organizing with Carol Doneghy and Adhimu Changa.

nature of the capitalist system. Many students came forward to do legal work for the defense of the Greensboro 3—Nelson Johnson, Willena Cannon and Rand Manzella—whose trial is set for May 5. "What the government is trying to do, is to blame the victims for the murders of the CWP 5. The question is 'Will there be justice?'" said comrade Thompson. A national resolution condemning the murders of the CWP 5 was put forth by Michael Spearman, president of N.Y.U. BALSA and sponsored by the Rutgers University BALSA. It was passed unanimously.

At the awards banquet on Saturday, the keynote speaker was the Reverend Ben Chavis of the Wilmington 10. He called "for the destruction of the monopoly capitalist, imperialist system. Some people say that if you say that, then you're a Marxist-Leninist. I don't care what you call it, but it is the truth." He said that black leadership must be accountable to the people and called for BALSA to organize and act against the growing attacks on black people. The entertainment for the evening was provided by the May Day Singers, organized by the Communist Workers Party.

1980's Brings New Challenges To BALSA

The 1980's brings new challenges to BALSA to continue its commitment to the liberation of black people. When Rev. Ben Chavis dedicated his speech at the February 2 Anti-Klan demonstration in Greensboro to the Communist Workers Party 5—Jim Waller, Sandy Smith, Bill

Sampson, Cesar Cauce and Mike Nathan—he said, "they have given their lives to everyone in the building, to everyone in Greensboro and to everyone in the world." The CWP 5 were murdered because they dared to organize against the Klan and the capitalist system which breeds these scum. They were among the best fighters born out of the mass movements of the 60's. They, as representatives of the Communist Workers Party, were the leaders for the 80's who would channel the American people's resistance to smash the danger of fascism and world war and carry out a socialist revolution. This is why the bourgeoisie had them assassinated.

For this same reason, the government is now trying to blame the victims of the Nov. 3 massacre for its crime. That's why CWP member Nelson Johnson (a fighter who Rev. Chavis paid tribute to on Feb. 2 by saying, "Greensboro has a leader here. And anytime he calls for help, I'm going to come." Nelson Johnson was arrested on Nov. 3 while the KKK/Nazi and FBI killers were allowed to escape, and while Rand Manzella and Willena Cannon, Party supporters, were also busted.

To be true to its commitment for liberation for Afro-Americans as well as all the oppressed, BALSA must support the fight against these government attacks on the legal, political and financial fronts. The resolutions that were passed must be turned into concrete action, so that BALSA can be part of that growing trend to beat back the new wave of attacks on the American people. □

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