

## U.S. Plots Vietnam Escalation

by K. Uhle

Amidst reports of mounting U.S. casualty figures, Arthur Goldberg, L.B.J.'s U.N. parrot, continues in his hypocritical "peace" stance -- now eagerly awaiting "with great interest" a positive reply from North Vietnam to his latest fraudulent proposals

North Vietnam still stands by its policy of demanding that the imperialist invaders stop killing men, women, children AND GET OUT before Ho sits down to have lunch with the striped hats.

No doubt Goldberg will soon announce (with a pained expression) that "the struggle for freedom must go on," and will blame North Vietnamese "inflexibility" for the whole bloody mess. Perhaps he will "study" more vague whisperings until after the November elections and then "reluctantly" announce that the U.S. has "no choice" but to increase "its commitment". The prospect of this "increase" has put the whole world on edge.

At home in the United



NLF TROOPS MOVE THROUGH JUNGLE TO FIGHT INVADER.

States, the whole thing has become a stench in the nostrils of the public. The "subtleties" of Goldberg may still escape many people, but these same people

are getting weary of the long, long war.

The more conscious anti-war sentiments are expressing themselves in hard-core opposition to the draft,

in black power advocates expressing the thought that this is the slave-masters war, etc.

Through all of this, the (Continued on page 4)

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OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM

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Vol. 3, No. 4 - 46

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Ten Cents

ive leadership sells out on grievances

## Workers Battle GE Despite 'Settlement'

by Irv Hacker

As we go to press some 34,000 GE workers are out on strike despite a so-called "settlement" worked out by the IUE leadership and GE management after extensive pressure from the Johnson Administration. Only the threat of the Taft-Hartley injunction by this "friend" of labor forced the settlement. Even so 116 delegates representing some 11,600 workers voted against the settlement.

That the settlement contains an escalator clause at all is a victory for the union and a tribute to the tactic of combining 11 unions against the giant anti-labor GE as well as to the militancy of the workers displayed in local strikes. But this escalator appears to be a largely hollow victory as: (1) workers will receive no benefit from it until October, 1967, and (2) this benefit will be half or less of the actual percentage rise in prices.

Most disturbing of all, the IUE leadership was willing to settle the strike without any provision for arbitration of grievances--the accepted practice today in most industries. Without this provision union locals have to strike over each and every unsettled grievance or let them slide (as usually happens.) Thus GE maintains its tyrannical control over the working conditions of its employees and sweats out of the hides of the workers whatever it is forced to concede at the bargaining table on wages.

### jailbirds

By dumping "local grievances" into the laps of the locals but providing for no mechanism for the solution of these grievances in the contract, the IUE leadership has simply sold out the

real interests of the rank and file membership.

IUE members can expect Johnson now to put the pressure on them in their local strikes, once again demanding "sacrifices" because of the Vietnam war.

General Electric is, of course, the same corporation that had three executives sent to jail and itself paid fines of close to a million dollars, for wholesale price fixing. It is in behalf of this bunch of jailbirds that Johnson recently intervened to obtain a two week strike stay.

### sacrifices

The mammoth electrical corporations are amassing fantastic profits precisely because of the impetus the Vietnam War gives to them. These corporations have no intention of "sacrificing" anything for this war. In fact what is really happening is that the Vietnamese people and the sons of American workers are sacrificing their lives in a war which benefits only the bosses of America's giant corporations.

The electrical workers must refuse to bow to such hypocrisy. If there is to be sacrifice, let it be GE which "sacrifices" some of their

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OVER 1,200 BRITISH WORKERS MARCH FOR SOCIALIST POLICIES. SEE PAGE 4.

## Why San Francisco's Black Ghettos Rose Up Against the Police Force

by Earl Owens

No tourists come to Hunters Point. In the row after row of block houses owned by the San Francisco Housing Authority live 7,000 people, nearly all of them Negroes.

The Housing Authority has other projects but somehow only Negroes are sent to Hunters Point. There is not a single movie theatre, swimming pool, or evening

school for adults in the area. When the War On Poverty called for elections for the poor in Hunters Point 323 people voted.

"When I apply for a job they put my application in file #13 ... the waste basket," a Negro told me. "The kids steal cars but not to sell them. They intend to return them. But when the cops start chasing these kids, they run and then they smash up the cars and are shot down."

### riots

On Sept. 27th the riots started. A white policeman shot in the back a 16 year old Negro boy who had stolen a car. On one side it was mostly stones and a few 22 rifles, on the other it was automatic rifles and even several cannon - not used but held ready.

The police used the "shooting gallery" method. They made no attempt to aim, but instead would fire several hundred rounds in the gener-

al direction of where the rock came from. The police did the shooting and the Negroes threw the stones and got shot.

Dr. Carleton Goodlett, wealthy Negro peace candidate in the Democratic primary who was supported by many radicals, showed up at the riots. For the T.V. cameramen, he was the officially approved Negro spokesman. But his position was to put all the blame on the Negro kids for starting the riots but not a word vs. the cops.

### elsewhere

Progressive Labor called a demonstration during the riots in front of the National Guard Armory. The Armory however, is nowhere near where the riots were. Moreover there were almost no soldiers inside the Armory and the demonstration was almost all-white. Several PL leaders made speeches (Continued on page 4)

## BRITAIN NOW; U.S. NEXT

On October 5th the British Chancellor of the Exchequer James Callaghan spoke at the Labor Party Conference supporting mandatory wage controls and even suggesting such controls would be a permanent feature of British capitalism. On October 6th Gardner Ackley, chairman of President Johnson's Council of Economic Advisers, called once again for wage and price "self-restraint".

Britain today, where workers can be fined over \$1000 and jailed for going out on strike for a wage increase, can be the United States tomorrow unless American workers learn from the British experience and prepare to struggle as British workers are now beginning to struggle.

(Continued on page 2)



# LABOR SCOPE

## by Dan Fried BREAK FROM CORRAL

Current signs on the industrial front continue to confirm the estimate made repeatedly in the BULLETIN--the new mood of worker militancy expressed in the New York Transit strike and even more sharply in the recent airline strike, far from being episodic, is gaining in momentum. At the moment, one can detect an uneasy jitteriness expressed by leading figures of the federal government, labor bureaucracy and capitalist press. The immediate fear of these guardians of the establishment is that Johnson's rapidly improvised truce in the electrical industry will be followed by a strike on the order of the airlines strike, a strike with the goal of acquiring a "full-fledged" escalator clause.

Should the government and big business weather the crisis in the electrical industry, they will still have to face possible explosions when contracts expire in the next year in such industries as auto, rubber, trucking, and construction, among others. What the bosses fear is that the labor bureaucrats will face open and wide-scale rank and file defiance in these industries as they did in the airline strike. The handwriting is already on the wall, or, as syndicated labor columnist Victor Riesel puts it: "The militants are beginning to break from the corral. Wildcats have defied the teamsters leadership, as well as the officials of the shipbuilding and auto unions."

Obviously, the workers are not waiting for the expiration of contracts. They are increasingly, in the words of Mr. Riesel, strike-happy. Events of the last week expressed the readiness of workers to take action to try to keep pace with the cost of living when telephone installers employed by Western Electric, represented by the Communication Workers of America voted to reject a 4.8% settlement which their union leadership (one of the most conservative in the AFL-CIO) hoped would set a pattern for the entire Bell system.

### UNREST IN AUTO

This same "strike-happiness" (really, Mr. Riesel, it's just that more and more workers are getting fed-up with worsening conditions and rising prices) was expressed just as clearly and perhaps even more significantly when the Big Three in the auto industry were hit by a series of local strikes, raising the possibility that wildcats may continue to break out in the auto industry as a result of the companies refusal to reopen the contracts a year early on the question of higher wages for

the industry's 125,000 skilled workers.

The most important (and unsettling for the company) of the "quickie" auto strikes took place at the Twinsburg, Ohio stamping plant of Chrysler when Local 122 walked out over 14 unsettled grievances. This involved some 4,300 workers but very rapidly led to the shutdown of most of Chrysler's production, and the laying off of almost 40,000 more workers. In this walkout, the issues were over such questions as food in the cafeteria and safety provisions. The men returned to work after six days, pending ratification of a local agreement.

Meanwhile, Ford workers at the plant in Oakville, Ontario went out on strike in protest against assembly line speedup and the introduction of United States supervisors. These workers were then joined by a total of 5,800 UAW members.

A similar issue--a grievance which stated that the workers were overloaded with work--was the basis for the walkout which was occurring simultaneously at the General Motors Fisher Body plant in St. Louis. This involved 4,000 production workers.

### STEEL CONVENTION

Underlying the apparent optimism and show of unity displayed by the leadership of the United Steel Workers at their recent convention was a restiveness and feeling that time was running out for resolution of a vast accumulation of still unsettled local grievances in the steel industry. USW president I. W. Abel successfully defeated David McDonald last year largely on the basis of promises that he would achieve settlement of these local working-condition grievances. A related issue of Abel's campaign was his promise to bring the rank and file into the operation of the union, to expand union democracy which had been virtually non-existent under the rule of McDonald.

In an attempt to deliver on his campaign promises, or at least to placate sections of the rank and file who may also be catching the "strike-happy" bug, a revamping of the mechanisms by which the union accepts or rejects contracts was made. For the first time, basic steel workers will have the opportunity to elect a conference representing workers in steel. Similar conferences would be elected in aluminum and other sections covered by the USW. The conferences will discuss and presumably call for a strike vote which the workers in the union would then vote on. Formerly, the job of ratifying or rejecting contracts was held by the 163 member Wage Policy Committee which is composed of

local and district leaders and quite distant from the rank and file.

### UNIONS AND POLITICS

The leaderships of a number of New York State local unions and statewide councils have jumped aboard what looks like a Rockefeller bandwagon. (Yes, the famous multi-millionaire grandson of a famous multi-millionaire 'robber baron' is running for re-election.) It should surprise no one that the Governor has received the endorsement of such conservative sections of the labor movement as the New York State Building Trades Council. Those readers who make an automatic identification of the 'progressive' labor bureaucrats with the Democratic or New York Liberal parties may however be surprised that the latest recruit to the Rockefeller camp is Hospital Workers Local 1199 of the RWDSWU. Davis' motivation for this step is that Rockefeller sponsored a bill which legalized the organization of the hospital workers. In other words, this is the "repayment of a political debt" philosophy in action -- today's version of Sam Gompers "reward your friends and punish your enemies" approach.

Support for such an open friend of Big Business as Rockefeller in no way demonstrates the 'independence' of Davis & Co. On the contrary it espouses a policy of bankrupt opportunism held in common with all the other labor bureaucrats which maintains the dependence of the unions on the capitalist political structure, whether through the Democratic, Republican or Liberal parties.

In contrast with the despicable action of 1199, the District 65, RWDSU refused to endorse any of the capitalist gubernatorial candidates. At the last District Council where the question was acted on, a number of delegates in fact made a strong pitch for a labor party to oppose the capitalist candidates. While 65 President Livingston has by no means broken with the conception of capitalist politics, the situation in 65 is very favorable for a rank and file movement in the union to be built around the demand for the formation of a labor party.

This brings us back to Mr. Riesel. He reports: "Morse and Javits are leading a bloc of 16 of their colleagues in an effort to force new emergency strike laws through the Congress." There you have it -- a leading liberal Democrat and a leading liberal Republican united to take away the worker's right to strike. With such "friends" we darn well do need our own party!

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## BRITAIN NOW; U.S. NEXT

(Continued from page 1)

Let there be no doubt about it--the Wilson Government has completely sold out to the banks and big business interests and is seeking to maintain capitalist rule in England at the expense of the workers, and the workers alone. "Although the Government program called for a freeze now on both wages and prices, and restraint later," The New York Times reports, "in fact it is only wages that are really being affected in a massive way." And so it will be in the United States.

### Johnson's real program

Let us take a look at the real economic program of Johnson and the big business interests he serves. Ackley, Johnson chief economic advisor, told his businessmen audience: "Future wage increases in the industrial sectors should reflect as little as possible and surely not all of the increase in living costs due to higher food and service prices." There it is plain for all to see who read the financial section of the paper. Workers' wages are to rise "as little as possible" to keep up with the rising cost of living. Johnson's policy is a policy for the reduction of the living standards of American workers and we had better understand that.

The talk of price restraint is not to be taken seriously. Any attempts in this direction will elicit screams from big business about an "unfavorable climate for investment"--that is unfavorable opportunities for exploiting people--the stock market will tremble, the federal officials will tremble even more, and price restraint will go by the boards. It is wage restraint the government is serious about.

Right now wage restraint is supposed to be voluntary. But already Johnson is throwing around the weight of the federal government every time the workers seek to protect their gains of the past period through collective bargaining. The most recent example of this was Johnson's intervention to forestall a strike against General Electric. During the recent airlines strike Congress almost passed special anti-strike legislation.

It will not be long before Johnson will follow Wilson's steps with mandatory anti-strike legislation. He is just waiting to see if Wilson gets away with it. It is up to the British workers to see that he doesn't. It is up to the American workers to support the British workers in a struggle they, too, will soon face.

### 10 per cent tax hike

As if the rising prices were not enough, Johnson is also planning to take away the workers' money through increased taxation. Robert Diezsch of the World-Journal-Tribune reports the Administration is considering raising \$10 billion by a 10% tax increase. Most of this \$10 billion will come out of the pockets of the workers through a hike in personal income taxes. The money will be used primarily to finance "the rising cost of Vietnam." Since this is Johnson's war let him pay for it. Not one penny from the working class for wars of oppression in other lands!

Every trade union militant must be on guard against this policy of Johnson's. The unions must fight tooth and nail for cost of living escalator clauses. We must not allow high prices to take away our wage gains. Unionists must not allow high prices to take away our wage gains. Unionists must recognize that Johnson, his administration and his party, are not "friends of labor" but our enemies.

It is the Johnson Administration which urges workers to hold their wage gains below price rises. It is the Johnson Administration which intervenes to prevent workers from striking for just demands. It is the Johnson Administration which is sending the sons of the workers to Vietnam to fight an endless, bloody war against the Vietnamese people themselves. It is the Johnson Administration which is planning to raise our taxes to finance this foreign plunder.

Trade unionists must fight within their unions for:

- \*IMMEDIATE WAGE HIKES TO MEET HIGHER PRICES!
- \*COST OF LIVING ESCALATOR CLAUSES IN ALL CONTRACTS!
- \*NOT ONE PENNY FOR JOHNSON'S VIETNAM WAR!
- \*NO SUPPORT FOR THE ANTI-LABOR JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION!
- \*A NEW PARTY IN THE UNITED STATES BASED ON THE TRADE UNIONS!



## a scoundrel named aptheker

# Hungarian Revolution Ten Years After: Lessons for Today

by Tim Wohlforth

Ten years ago, on October 23, 1956, a mass demonstration of Hungarian students and workers took place in front of the parliament building in Budapest. Inspired by the actions of the workers and students in Poland which brought Golmulka into power, the masses were demanding a return of Nagy, an ending of the oppression of the secret police, a real accounting for the terror of the past period. The demonstrators were unarmed.

What happened next is described by an eyewitness Luigi Fossati, correspondent for the Italian left socialist paper *Avanti*: "A large column of demonstrators leaves the square and goes toward the Radio Broadcasting building on Chamdor Brodj Street. They wish to send a group into the building in order to have the radio station employees broadcast the slogans of the demonstration in answer to the speech of Gero. The security police then intervene and open fire. It is here that the first victims fall: two dead and ten wounded."

Thus started the Hungarian Revolution. Soon the masses rose up all over the country. They were armed primarily by the Hungarian troops who either went over to the revolution with their arms or handed the guns over to the revolutionists. All sections of the population participated. Only the hated secret police, the AVH men remained. It was on them that the people let loose their wrath.

Everywhere the working class came forward as the leadership of the struggle. It was the workers who organized, it was the workers who led the armed struggle, it was the workers who gave political leadership to the revolution; it was the workers who continued to fight well after other sections of the population gave up.

### workers councils

The form the working class leadership took was the workers council. Once again the workers in the course of their struggle threw up forms like the Paris Commune in 1871 and the Russian Soviets of 1917.

What did these councils look like? How did they function? Peter Fryer, who went to Hungary as the correspondent for the British Communist Party's *Daily Worker* describes the Gyor Workers Council: "There were deputations arriving here, delegations there, There was noise and bustle and, outside on the balcony during most of the day, constant speech-making. At first glance one might have seen only flags, armbands, rifles slung over shoulders, a jostling throng of people in room after room; or heard only uproar and argument and jangling telephone bells. But each room has its point of rest, one or two calm, patient figures engaged in turning near-chaos into something like order, sorting things out, soothing the hasty tempers of men who badly needed to sleep, organizing, advising, building an apparatus, to prevent above all, hunger and demoralization. These were the leaders--some of them Communists who had at last found the revolution of their dreams, some of them Socialists, many of them indifferent to political distinctions, since all of Hungary was now united around two simple demands that even the children of six were shouting. Here was a revolution, to be studied not in the pages of Marx, Engels and Lenin, valuable though these pages may be, but happening here in real life before the eyes of the world. A flesh and blood revolution with all its shortcomings and contradictions and problems of life itself. As they took me to see the president and vice-president of this committee not yet forty-eight hours old I caught sight of a portrait of Lenin on the wall, and I could almost fancy his shrewd eyes twinkling approvingly."

### socialist aims

The revolution was made up of many elements, yes, including a small number of reactionaries. But the workers predominated and communist workers, socialist workers, played prominent roles. "We have had enough of the autocracy of certain leaders," reads a resolution of the Workers Council of Miskolc and Borsod County, Hungary. "We too want socialism but according to our own special conditions, which reflect the interests of the Hungarian working class and the Hungarian nation, and our most sacred national sentiments."

"We have very little to say to the Soviet masters," states a broadcast by Free Radio Rajk, Hungary. "They have convinced not only the



whole world, but also all Communists, that they do not care for Communism, that they simply prostituted Communism...."

Basil Davidson, a British socialist journalist, interviewed Pal Maleter, Minister of Defense in the shortlived Nagy Government, during the height of the revolution. "He still wore his little star of a partisan of 1944 (and another Red Star won in the digging of coal by his regiment at Tatabanya) at a moment when all the officers were tearing off their Soviet-type epaulettes", Davidson reports. "'If we get rid of the Russians,' he told me 'don't think we will go backward, to the past days. And if there are people who are thinking about going backward, then we will see,'" and he put his hand on his revolver holster."

### russian tanks

Maleter did not get a chance to see. Into Budapest rolled the Russian tanks. Facing stiff resistance they retreated temporarily only to return again November 4th. This time they had set up a rump government headed by Janos Kadar and the tanks and troops stayed for good. They are still there.

The workers fought back with all their strength. The Budapest Workers Council called a general strike. The workers of the factory district of Csepel held out for almost two months completely surrounded by Russian tanks and troops until starvation finally broke their strike. A year later Imre Nagy, Pal Maleter and other participants in the Nagy government were summarily executed following a secret trial.

As the tanks rolled on the town of Dunapentele the workers' council issued the following appeal to the Russian soldiers:

"Your state was created at the cost of bloody fighting so that you could have freedom. Today is the thirty-ninth anniversary of that revolution... the Hungarian people are fighting desperately for the same rights you fought for in 1917.

"Why do you want to crush our liberty? You can see that it is not factory proprietors, not landowners, and not the bourgeoisie who have taken up arms against you, but the Hungarian people, who are fighting desperately for the same rights you fought for in 1917."

### the slanderers

We must remember not only the heroic struggles of the Hungarian workers ten years ago but also the colossal slanders heaped upon those workers by the apologists for the ruling bureaucracy of the USSR. Foremost among them was the present leadership of the American Communist Party. This leadership was formed, molded, consolidated in the process of defending the Russian tanks as they shot down the Hungarian workers. The American workers can never forget this or it will cost them dear.

The one man among the present leadership of the Communist Party who stands out most clearly in this regard is "citizen, soldier, scholar" Herbert Aptheker. It was Dr. Aptheker who came running to the rescue of the American CP leadership and threw himself wholeheartedly into the none too easy task of defending the indefensible. The product was a book called "The Truth About Hungary".

By this book alone Aptheker earns a reputation as a dishonest hack who twists and turns, assembles and reassembles "facts" in order to produce an already arrived at conclusion.

Aptheker's thesis was simple enough: the Hungarian Revolution was actually a fascist counter-revolution and Soviet intervention was necessary to prevent capitalist restoration, imperialist domination, anti-Semitic pogroms, etc.

In order to assemble some sort of proof for this thesis, Aptheker combed the press of the world, in particular the rightest press, seeking for any, any mention at all of fascist, reactionary, anti-Semitic activity during the Hungarian Revolution. Each incident thus found is listed in detail and scholarly footnotes abound.

### aptheker's reliability

Some picture of Aptheker's reliability and scholarship can be gotten from the following example. On page 228 he quotes the Austrian paper "Oesterreichische Volksstimme" affirming "the existence of 'regular headquarters' at border areas where reactionary and Horthy agents 'have recently crossed the border together with Hungarian refugees in order, as they say, to join insurgents'". What Aptheker leaves out is: 1) "Volksstimme" is the paper of the Austrian Communist Party; 2) the story was not confirmed by any independent source in Austria; 3) as Austria was a neutral country whose status was supervised by the four powers including the USSR, it would have been the duty of the USSR to protest such a happening, but it never did; 4) the Austrian government did repudiate it and the Russians never denied Austria's statement.

There are many, many other examples of the basic dishonesty of this "scholar". But even if each and every quote and clipping of Aptheker's represented the gospel truth it would only prove that fascists existed and were active at the time of the revolution. It would not prove that they were dominant nor could it explain why it was that the working class played such a leading role in every phase of the struggle.

### counter-revolution

The truth of the matter is that it is not we Trotskyists, who defended the Hungarian workers against both the Stalinist bureaucrats and the imperialists, who have furthered counter-revolution over the past ten years. It is in fact Aptheker, Aptheker's party and his allies, the bureaucracies of Eastern Europe and the USSR, who have been playing this role.

Kadar, far from saving Hungary from counter-revolution, has actually heightened that danger. Capitalist penetration of Eastern Europe has increased many fold over the last ten years with a resultant inflation and eating away at the socialist foundations of these countries. This inflation has led to considerable worker unrest within Hungary. The Hungarian regime responds with its old methods by jailing veterans of the Hungarian Revolution.

Here in this country Aptheker and the rest of the Communist Party leadership fight against the breaking of the mass movement from the Democratic Party.

The Hungarian Revolution was a struggle to complete the socialist revolution by removing the bureaucratic excrescence which had usurped control of the workers state. Today our struggle must combine this task with the struggle to overthrow capitalism wherever it exists. It is a combined struggle; it cannot be otherwise. The struggle against the gang of liars, slanderers and opportunists who make up the American Communist Party is a central part of the preparation for the overthrow of the American ruling class.

direct report from brighton

# Wilson Imposes Wage Freeze on Workers



SOME OF THE AUTO WORKERS ON YOUNG SOCIALIST DEMONSTRATION.

by Sylvia Pick

**BRIGHTON, ENGLAND--** The Labour Party, meeting in Annual Conference at Brighton just six months after the British working-class voted them back into office with an impressive majority, endorsed Prime Minister Harold Wilson's policies of solving the country's economic crisis at the expense of those same workers.

They backed the compulsory wage freeze, including the iniquitous Part Four, which gives the Government legal powers to enforce the Prices and Incomes Act. Under this, workers who resist can be fined or imprisoned.

At a time when tens of thousands of auto workers are being thrown on the scrap-heap of unemployment, first the Trades Union Congress and then the Labour Party have surrendered without a fight the hard-won rights of trade unions to defend and improve the living standards of their members.

Frank Cousins, leader of the giant Transport and General Workers' Union, Britain's largest trade union, wrested a minor victory by winning a narrow majority for a resolution deploring the growth of unemployment

and calling for shorter work weeks instead of layoffs.

Yet Cousins, the hero of the so-called "Left" of the Labour Party, was in Wilson's Cabinet for nearly two years while the present attack on the working-class was being prepared. He was in the Cabinet last May at the time of the strike called by the National Union of Seamen, when the Government conducted a political battle against the seamen from the very first day of the struggle.

Cousins says that he and the T&GWU will fight the laws. The question now is, does he really intend to wage a political struggle against the Government? Or are his militant speeches merely a cover for the fact that when the chips are down he will be no more prepared to break from Wilson than the right-wing union leaders?

## 1200 strong

The most important political lead given to the working-class during Conference week was the demonstration by the Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists. This march, 1,200 strong, was joined by auto workers from the industrial Midlands, Oxford, Liverpool, Scotland and Wales,

by dockers, seamen, building workers, teachers, shop assistants and workers from almost every union. They carried banners and posters with such slogans as "NO SACKINGS! NATIONALIZE MOTORS NOW!" Outside the plush hotel where Wilson and other Labour Party leaders were staying they roared out their demands -- socialist solutions for the capitalist crisis and an end to Wilson's betrayals.

At a massive meeting which followed, Gerry Healy, national secretary of the SLL, said the Government was establishing the fascist principle by making the state the arbiter of wages and conditions. Only the strength of the working-class was left to fight any government which did this.

The following day hundreds of car workers from Birmingham, Coventry and other industrial centres gave Wilson the most hostile reception any Labour Party leader has had from workers for many a decade. As he came down the steps of his hotel he was greeted by a swelling roar of booing and shouts of "Traitor, traitor, TRAITOR!"

This demonstration was under Stalinist leadership, who had instructed the car

workers to take no action likely to "embarrass" the Labour Government. The Stalinist leaders were obliged to admit, after a decorous meeting with the Prime Minister in his hotel, that he had "made no commitment to them at all."

## coolness

Even the Annual Conference the next day gave him a cool reception compared with the ovation which is the Party's traditional greeting for their leader.

This coolness was a reflection, which goes right through constituency parties in all parts of Britain, of the doubts and uncertainties of even the most stalwart Labour supporters. They are being asked to turn their backs on the basic principles for which their Party has stood for sixty years. They do not know what is coming after the wage-freeze. They have been told that it is all in the "national interest", but in Britain there is a bitter class memory of unemployment way back in the 1930's. They would not vote against their Party leaders, but even the most unthinking loyalists were too unsure of the future to stand and cheer Wilson.

He sought to reassure them by speaking of the Labour Government's "rejection... of the proposition that the burdens of retrenchment should be placed on those least able to bear them." But no glib word-spinning could make them forget that those least able to bear such burdens - the wage-earners, the low-paid workers, the old-age pensioners - were in fact still required to do so, while rich industrialists, dividend holders, judges, Members of Parliament and senior civil servants continued to increase their profits and fat salaries.

## slap

The whole purpose of a long economic statement by Chancellor of the Exchequer

James Callaghan was to induce the Conference to endorse the compulsory Part Four of the Prices and Incomes Act. But had they rejected it, Wilson the previous day gave them a flat warning that their views would be ignored. He declared that it was his task to govern for the nation; the viewpoint of Conference was therefore "secondary".

This was a humiliating slap for a party gathering which by tradition has been regarded as the paramount policy-making body of the Labour Party.

Callaghan made it clear that when the prices and incomes legislation is due to lapse next August, the government would not cease to interfere with the rights of trade unions to free collective bargaining. This made ironic nonsense of his claim "I hope that no one is going to suggest that he is more concerned than anyone up here on the platform... to maintain the freedom of the trade union movement."

## vietnam

The Government's policy towards the war in Vietnam was the other issue on which the Conference showed fight. Here the voting was confused and reflected a deep split in the Labour Party.

It is safe to say that a large majority within it detest Johnson's war and feel a profound sense of guilt that a Labour Government should be going along with it. But Wilson had reminded them in veiled terms that they must support U.S. imperialist policies in return for the support given to the pound.

While, therefore, the Conference gave a massive vote to the policy statement of Foreign Secretary George Brown, they flouted his advice by carrying two resolutions - one calling for a withdrawal "East of Suez", and the other demanding British pressure to stop U.S. bombing in Vietnam.

## SAN FRANCISCO NEGROES

(Continued from page 1) practically asking the soldiers on guard to shoot them, which the soldiers refused to do. A Pler was finally wounded in the hand

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and this made the papers.

S.D.S. called a demonstration the next day which was of more importance. A large group of students marched into the Fillmore area, where the riots had also erupted, and systematically broke the curfew.

While the police were shooting Negroes in Hunters Point, in the Civic Center the San Francisco Arts Festival opened. Exhibited were abstract paintings, landscapes, jewelry and sandals. And next to the fountain the municipal band played Sousa. The National Guard have left and Hunters Point is back to normal. The parents are waiting for their welfare checks, the boys are waiting on streetcorners trying to hustle a buck and their girls are getting pregnant and going on welfare. But things are not what they were before.

## ELECTRICAL WORKERS

(Continued from page 1) profits. Electrical workers must also learn from this struggle the true character of the Johnson administration which stands for the side of the corporations, not the workers, when the chips are down.

The disunity and weakness of the electrical workers,

## VIETNAM ESCALATION

(Continued from page 1)

N. L. F. fights on, despite napalm, defoliations and whatever else L. B. J. and his clique of military gangsters can throw at them.

We can do no less for the brave Vietnamese fighters, whom we fully support, than wage the class struggle here against American capitalism -- the common enemy -- with everything we've got.

Meanwhile, "The Work-

which is basically the product of the original split which created the IUE in the postwar period. The IUE was organized on the basis of a hysterical witch-hunt within the CIO against unions suspected of being "Communist dominated." Let workers remember that

this witchhunt was organized by the government -- the same government which today intervenes in behalf of the corporations -- precisely for the purpose of dividing and weakening the labor movement.

We must also remember that the UE leadership has a responsibility for the present situation as well. It is well known that in many places the UE signed "sweet-heart contracts" with the bosses in order to get their cooperation in holding on to its shrinking membership.

Despite the weakness of the IUE and UE leaderships the current struggle brings up sharply the absolute necessity of rank and file members of both unions to fight for fusion. The real task is to fuse the two major industrial unions in the field -- IUE and UE