

# Bulletin

NOW  
TWICE A  
WEEK!

Twice-Weekly Organ of the Central Committee of the Workers League

VOLUME TEN NUMBER FIFTY ONE 387

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 1974

FIFTEEN CENTS



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## Steel Up 15%

## Consumer Goods Up 13.2%

# NEW PRICE

# EXPLOSION

## Army Hushes Up Landing Of Missile Loaded Copter

BY  
A REPORTER

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The helicopter was forced down because of engine trouble while en route from the Nike-Hercules missile site in East Farmingdale, Long Island to McGuire Air Force base in New Jersey.

As soon as the aircraft landed, it was immediately surrounded by military police and army trucks and the entire area was cordoned off.

While army officials refused comment on the reports, a Suffolk County official said he had been told that the copter

carried radioactive material. The Daily News reported that a soldier at the East Farmingdale site said he had loaded nuclear warheads aboard the helicopter before it took off.

If these warheads had exploded it would have totally wiped out the population for hundreds of miles around.

The Defense Department is closing two missile sites, both on Long Island and is transferring all the equipment. The army claims the "classified cargo" was being taken into storage.

However, the panic of army officials and the immediate blackout of all information reveals that far more is involved than the simple transfer of routine military cargo.

Moreover, this takes place in the middle of a tremendous military buildup by the Pentagon and an escalation and reorganization of the entire nuclear weapons program.

Far from storing away nuclear

weapons, the army and Pentagon are extending the striking power of the United States, particularly against the Soviet Union and China, and are producing more and more sophisticated weaponry.

The nuclear buildup is part of the preparation of the American capitalists for war against other countries and for war against the working class here.

### Workers League Election Fund

We are launching a Summer Election Fund to raise \$2500 to finance the first stage of the campaigns of Terry Delgado for Congress in the 12th District and Helen Halyard for Congress in the 14th District, both in Brooklyn.

It is extremely important that these funds be raised so that the working class can have a real

BY DAVID NORTH  
The steel industry again boosted its prices this week, making inevitable an explosive chain reaction of increases that will mean a devastating attack on the living standards of every working class family during the summer.

As of July 1, US Steel will raise the prices on mill products as high as 15 percent. The price of plate will be upped 14 percent. Rail will be raised 15 percent. The cost

of structural shapes will be increased 9.8 percent.

Bethlehem Steel, the second largest producer, announced price increases on rolled-steel products ranging from 5 to 15 percent.

These price increases will have an avalanche effect on the cost of almost all durable consumer commodities, because these steel products are used in the making of most basic appliances.

Even without the impact of the hike in steel prices yet being felt, the consumer price index rose in May at an annual rate of 13.2 percent. Nonfood items were up by 15.6 percent.

The price orgy of the big busi-  
(Continued On Page 12)

In the Midweek  
Edition

•"Revisionist Confusion in Ulster" by Royston Bull. The role of British revisionists in supporting the right-wing strike in North Ireland.



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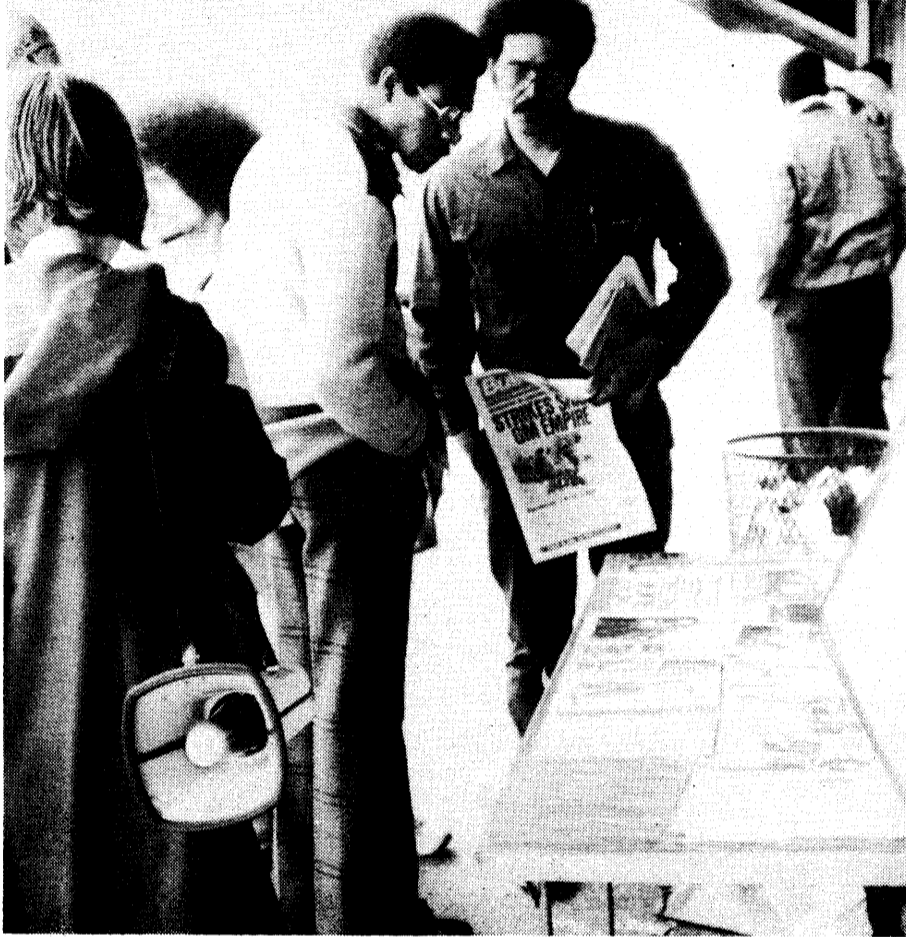
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voice in this fall's election. This campaign will be an important step in rallying support for the need of the trade union movement to break with the Democrats and Republicans and construct a labor party dedicated to socialist policies.

We urge all our readers to make a contribution now! Already \$263.35 has been collected in Brooklyn.

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## Wage Offensive Deepens Capitalist Crisis

A powerful strike wave is growing in intensity throughout the country as hundreds of thousands of workers fight to defend their living standards against soaring inflation.

This strike movement involves not only major unions such as teamsters, construction and auto but sections of the working class who have never been on strike before such as the California nurses and the New York publishing workers.

In the key auto plants of Chrysler, General Motors and Ford, strikes are breaking out against the backbreaking speedup of the assembly line, the layoffs and the destruction of rights and working conditions.

### What We Think

The skyrocketing inflation, which is completely out of control in every country, is the sharpest expression of the insoluble economic crisis of capitalism. This inflation now unites millions of workers here and internationally in common struggle.

This strike movement has proven more powerful than the desperate attempts by the labor bureaucracy to contain it within government approved guidelines. Since wages and price controls were lifted May 1, many unions have won sizeable increases as well as cost of living clauses.

The struggle for wages today is not just a bread and butter issue but has revolutionary implications, because it takes place in a period when the capitalist system faces bankruptcy and collapse.

Every strike, every wage increase deals a shattering blow to the attempts of the ruling class to restore sta-

bility to their system. This in turn has a devastating impact on the whole world economy.

To the extent that there is any strength left in capitalism at all it is only in the relative strength of the American economy in relation to Europe, where Italy and Britain are on the brink of total financial and monetary collapse.

Now the wage offensive of the American working class not only breaks up every effort by the government to maintain this position but hastens the decline and collapse of US capitalism.

The working class will not agree to pay for this crisis by accepting huge slashes in its income, by being pushed onto unemployment lines or being forced to produce more under slave labor conditions in the plants.

This is the meaning of the strike wave that has broken out in Britain against the employers refusal to honor cost of living agreements only days after the stock market went through the worst decline in 12 years. These strikes will provoke a new outbreak of the crisis.

In 1970, an upsurge of strikes by teamsters, postal and auto workers broke the back of the 1944 Bretton Woods agreement which the capitalist nations hoped would restore stability of the dollar.

While the inflation and continuous drain of gold out of the US undermined Bretton Woods, it was the strike movement in 1970 that was decisive in finally breaking Bretton Woods apart—forcing Nixon to announce the end of convertibility of dollars into gold on August 15, 1971.

Today, the capitalists have no partial remedy or patch-up solutions to the crisis. The August 15, 1971 decisions marked the end of all barriers to wild inflation which now creates conditions for wholesale industrial collapse and depression.

The only "solution" the capitalists can turn to is a direct confrontation with masses of workers, by using all the power of their state, the police and the army in open repression against the working people and youth.

This crisis makes it impossible for the working class to defend its living standards within the framework of the capitalist system. Whatever wage increases are won will be immediately wiped out by a constantly spiralling inflation. Unemployment and the closure of factories cannot be halted simply by strikes.

The trade unionist who strikes today confronts not just an individual company but the decay of an entire economic system that can only survive by dragging the working class into impoverishment and fascist dictatorship.

Decent wages and working conditions cannot be defended with strikes alone but these strikes must be combined with the political fight against the government. In the fight for wage increases, the working class must be prepared to answer the crisis of the system with the struggle for workers control, for a socialist system based on the abolition of private profit.

The closure of plants must be answered with the occupation of these plants by the working class which has produced everything in them. This immediately poses the need for workers to control not just the factories but the entire government.

What will be decisive in this fight is the building of revolutionary leadership now in the plants and in the communities to unite the tremendous strength of the working class in a political campaign to force Nixon from office and for a labor party based on socialist policies.

We urge all trade unionists to join the Workers League and its industrial arm the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party, to carry this fight forward.

## British Workers Strike Over Cost Of Living Pay

BY MELODY FARROW

Thousands of British workers have gone on strike in a battle over cost of living increases which is shaping up as the most crucial struggle since the miners strike brought down the Tory government.

A strike by SOGAT, the major printing union, on June 21 shut down all the major Fleet Street newspapers, as well as magazine publishers and 60 provincial newspapers.

Workers at the British-Leyland auto complex went out after management declared it could not afford to pay the "threshold" increases provided for by the state pay laws.

Miners are putting in another wage claim and the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians is asking for an 87.5 percent wage increase.

### STRIKE WAVE

This strike wave deals a powerful blow to the tottering British economy which is close to total bankruptcy. The balance of payments continues to soar, and last week the stock market, reflecting investors lack of confidence in industry or the government's ability to halt the inflation, fell to its lowest point in twelve years.

At the same time as the strikes began, it was revealed that Britain had conducted its first nuclear test in nine years in the Nevada desert, outside Las Vegas.

This will deepen the growing political crisis in which the Tory Party has already defeated the Labor government on two policy issues in Parliament.

The British employers are out to provoke a showdown over the threshold pay in order to tear up all past and present wage agreements and prepare for lock outs.

The state Pay Code provides

that when the Retail Price Index reaches seven percent above the level it stood at in October 1973, workers are eligible for a maximum of 40 cents for every one percent rise in the index above seven percent.

The Price Index for April reached 9.8 percent. Now the CBI wants to abolish the agreement and return to flat increases once every 12 months.

The enormous crisis facing British capitalism is starkly seen in the position of British-Leyland.

British-Leyland has a drastic cash shortage while sales have declined 40 percent. It is deeply in debt to the banks, with no guarantee the banks will continue to grant loans to cover its deficits.

The new wave of strikes represents the refusal of the entire British working class to pay for the crisis by taking wage cuts and accepting unemployment.

These strikes are in direct defiance of the leadership of the Trades Union Congress (British AFL-CIO) which has drawn up a "social contract" to collaborate with the government. The document states:

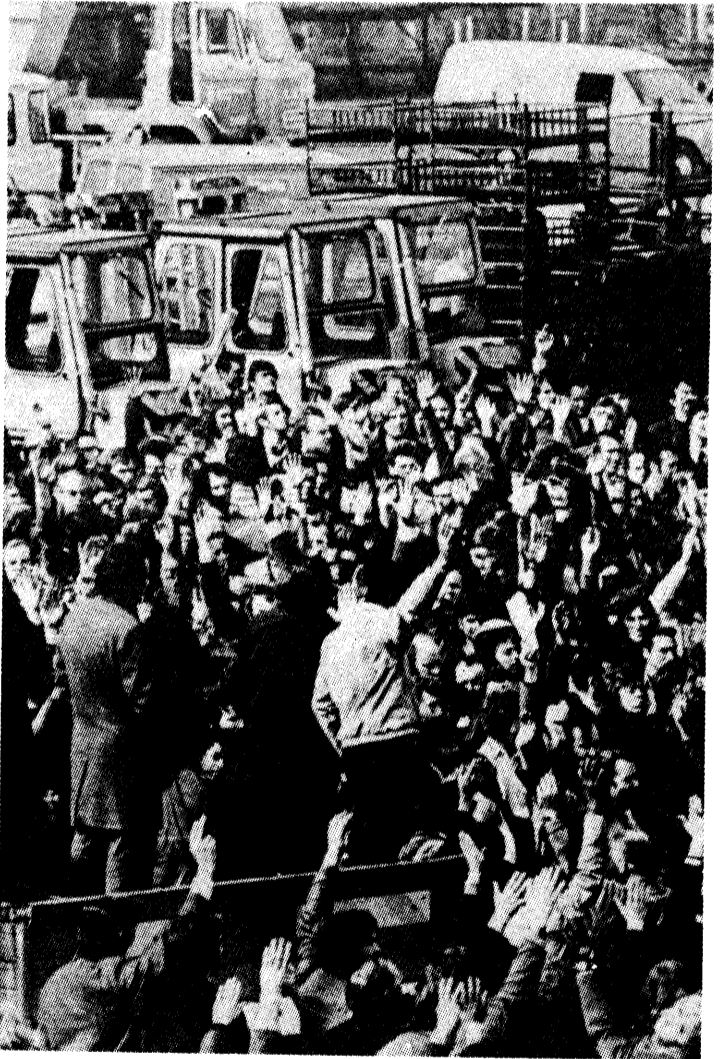
"There cannot in general be a significant improvement in living standards...there should be no general reopening of principle stage three settlements..."

The Wilson government acts as a Trojan Horse for the Tories, refusing to implement socialist policies and instead carrying out all the reactionary anti-working class programs of the Tories.

Meanwhile, the growth of a fascist movement in Northern Ireland and behind the scenes preparations by the military for a coup poses an immediate threat to the British working class.

The testing of nuclear weapons by Britain, following similar tests by France and India, reveals the growing threat of world war which is created by the economic crisis.

The Workers Revolutionary Party, British section of the International Committee of the Fourth International is campaigning for a new General Election now to defeat the Tory conspiracy in order to continuously build the mass revolutionary party as the leadership in the working class.



Mass meeting of British-Leyland car workers at Cowley, Oxford.

## Italy Bankers Demand Mass Layoffs

BY DAVID NORTH

The Italian Socialist Party, after lengthy consultations, has accepted a series of economic cuts put forward by the Christian Democrats that brutally slash the living standards of the working class.

The new package imposes an additional three trillion lire (\$1.3 billion) in direct and indirect taxes of workers. The aim of these taxes is to take money away from workers before they spend it in order to curb the inflationary crisis of the capitalist economy.

Treasury Minister Emilio Colombo and Governor Guido Carli of Banca d'Italia have stated that they want to tighten credit in order to lower the rate of inflation.

However, Colombo has admitted that there is no chance that these measures will stop inflation this year. He raised his earlier prediction of a 15 percent inflation during 1974-1975 to the figure of 20 percent.

He also estimated that the trade deficit will reach the astronomical figure of seven trillion lire (\$10 billion).

Credit restrictions will mean disaster for sections of Italian industry which are short of funds. An economist predicted that the new financial package will create a hopeless situation for 200,000 young workers just

entering the labor force and lead to the firing of another 200,000.

"We have no choice," stated one minister. "Either we have a limited recession to hold down price increases or we have a runaway inflation, a deep depression and no funds to import the raw materials that will keep our factories going."

### RESISTANCE

These economic measures will meet massive resistance from the working class. The Socialist Party is now looking to the Communist Party to help police the factories.

The Stalinists have given every indication that they will support the austerity measures demanded by Premier Rumor.

"We realize the very serious situation of the Italian

economy," declared Luciano Lama, head of the Stalinist-led CGIL, the largest trade union organization. "We realize the workers must sacrifice and we have told them so. But we want those sacrifices to be distributed equally."

Lama stated that the new taxes have "some good features," and that the position of the CP "wasn't totally negative."

Above all, they oppose the mobilization of the working class to crush the extremely well financed fascist movement. Lama stated that the CP would oppose the fascists by linking up with progressive capitalist forces. In effect, the Stalinists are trying to set up a popular front in order to disarm the working class.

# IRS Drops Charge On Nixon Friend

BY CYNTHIA BLAKE

SAN DIEGO, Calif.—In a decision "prompted by the Justice Department," the Internal Revenue Service has dropped criminal tax evasion charges against Nixon's millionaire backer C. Arnholt Smith.

Their assessment of \$22.8 million dollars in personal property taxes for 1969 was the largest tax lien ever levied against one person in a single year.

One by one, Nixon's men are coming before the courts and the ruling class is taking care of its own. Mitchell and Stans have been cleared while the swindler Vesco remains protected out of the country; the ITT investigation has been dropped; Kleindienst and the Watergate plotters were barely sentenced at all, and now it has been announced that charges concerning Ehrlichman's role in the Ellsberg breakin will be dropped.

## INVESTIGATION

Smith's \$1.5 billion empire has been under investigation for three years by virtually every government office. Embezzlement, conspiracy and fraud are just the beginning of the possible charges.

Now the IRS has effectively ended the case, because it will pull all the testimony and documentary evidence it has submitted to the Grand Jury over the course of a year of hearings.

Regional IRS officials explained that such decisions are made in Washington. A former IRS agent who is now Smith's tax attorney says pressure to quash the criminal action has been applied "at every opportunity at the regional level and in Washington."

C. Arnholt Smith helped to found the ultra-right Lincoln Club, which he has used to funnel over two million dollars into Nixon's career since the early 1950s. Nixon refers to Smith as "one of my closest and most loyal supporters."

In return, Nixon has used the apparatus of the government to

protect Smith, whose fraudulent dealings threatened the life savings of 344,000 depositors when the United States National Bank in San Diego collapsed in October, 1973.

Smith, who was the major stockholder at US National, had made off the record loans of over \$160 million to the Westgate California Corporation. This 39 company conglomerate of airlines, real estate, insurance and tuna canning operations is controlled by—C. Arnholt Smith!

## SWINDLES

When the easy credit that formed the base of conglomerates like Westgate collapsed in the international monetary crisis, the swindles at their heart could no longer be covered over. The collapse of US National followed close on the heels of the collapse of Equity Funding, another financial empire built on fraud covered by credit.

Nixon has covered for Smith since the first hint of exposure. The US Attorney in San Diego, Harry Steward, prevented Smith's prosecution for illegal donations of thousands of dollars to Nixon's 1968 campaign, which were disguised as "business expenses" for an advertising company he owns.

In 1970, Steward again blocked an investigation by refusing to issue a subpoena against Frank Thornton, a Smith associate with knowledge of the bribery of San Diego city officials.

## CONNECTIONS

Steward has openly said that he was counting on Smith's connections with Nixon to win him a Federal judgeship. When IRS agents complained to their Washington office about his "stonewalling" of the Smith investigation, Steward was defended by Richard Kleindienst, then Attorney General.

Members of the Watergate gang of White House officials then attempted to strong-arm IRS agent David Stutz into meeting with them secretly to reveal the IRS case against Smith so a cover-up could be prepared.

## Franklin Bank Reveals Loss Of \$60 Million

NEW YORK—Franklin National Bank revealed Thursday that its losses for the first five months of 1974 total more than \$60 million. In the first quarter, it lost \$39.9 million which contrasts sharply with the earnings of \$582,000 originally reported by the bank.

Since the first quarter, foreign exchange trading has resulted in additional losses of \$19.1 million.

In a statement prepared by Franklin National, the bank's \$39.9 million net loss figure included foreign exchange losses of \$26.7 million. Broken down, \$9.3 million of the losses can be attributed to setbacks on unrecorded transactions and \$17.4 million to falsified valuations on recorded contracts.

The Federal Reserve has poured in at least one billion dollars to keep Franklin National going, and the bank's officers are still trying to hide the magnitude of the collapse.

Harold Gleason, who resigned last week as Franklin's chairman, stated on Thursday that there was no reason to doubt

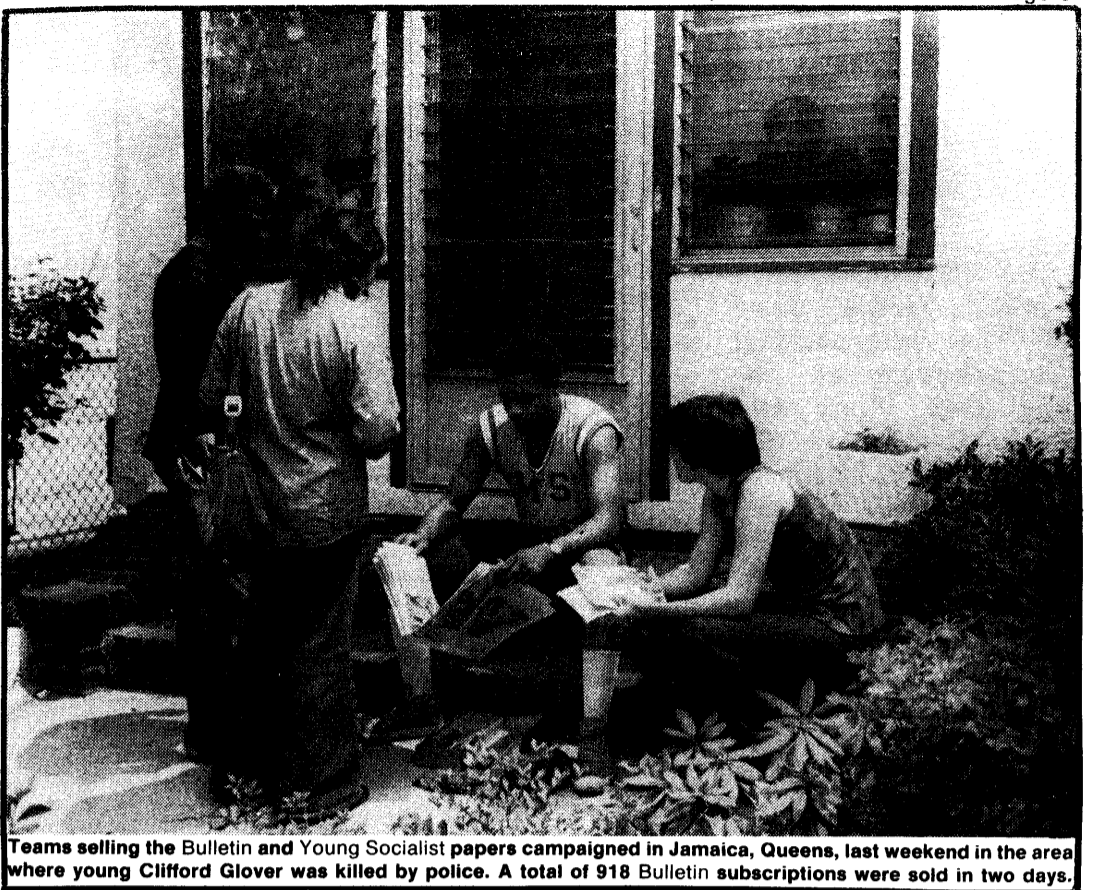


Joseph W. Barr, left, replaces Harold V. Gleason, right, as chairman of Franklin National Bank.

the bank's solvency. The truth of the matter is that the position of the bank is extremely precarious. Franklin National owes \$30 million to Manufacturers Hanover. This is owed in 7.3 percent notes on which Manufacturers could legally demand repayment.

At least one major bank has threatened to stop doing business with Franklin unless it stops investing in the foreign currency market.

While efforts are being made to keep Franklin going, it is very probable that the bank will soon be forced to merge with another



Teams selling the Bulletin and Young Socialist papers campaigned in Jamaica, Queens, last weekend in the area where young Clifford Glover was killed by police. A total of 918 Bulletin subscriptions were sold in two days.

## Fitzsimmons Donates To Rightist Nixon Fund

George Meany and Frank Fitzsimmons, who together represent some 30 million American trade unionists, are joining hands with the most right-wing, anti-union representatives of big business to keep Richard Nixon in office.

Fitzsimmons, head of the Teamsters, handed \$25,000 over from the union treasury to the "National Citizen's Committee for Fairness to the Presidency." According to the Committee's president, Rabbi Baruch Korff, this is the largest single donation they have received to date.

Fitzsimmons told the Los Angeles Times that the Committee "is a good cause. It is not political. We did support the President and I still support him personally—I do everything I can to support him."

At the same time, George Meany, head of the AFL-CIO, was one of the guests at a dinner-dance given by Nelson Rockefeller in honor of Henry Kissinger. The dance was an elite affair for the top industrialists, bankers, and Nixon officials. It was held at Pocantico Hills, the Rockefellers' 300 acre estate in New York.

Meany wined and dined with the very capitalists who are attempting to bring slave labor conditions into plants all over the country—men such as the Rockefellers, J.K. Jamieson, Chairman of Exxon, and Roger Blough, head of United States Steel. Meany, who claims to be for Nixon's impeachment, rubbed shoulders with General Alexander Haig who is at the center of the White House

bugging and spying conspiracies.

It is no wonder Meany has completely abandoned the AFL-CIO campaign for Nixon's resignation. He, together with Fitzsimmons and the entire labor bureaucracy, have decided that since Congress will not impeach Nixon, they are going to work with him.

These bloated bureaucrats know that the explosive wage offensive of the working class poses a threat to their own bureaucratic rule and their privileged position in the labor movement.

American workers will settle their accounts with traitors like Meany and Fitzsimmons in these battles and in the construction of an alternative revolutionary leadership to throw them out.

## Spinola Troops Mutiny

BY BARRY GREY

The crisis of the military government of General Spínola in Portugal continues to deepen.

The revolutionary upsurge of the Portuguese workers is beginning to spread to the countryside. Agricultural workers are raising demands for the breakup of the large estates and the distribution of the land to the workers.

At the same time, the Portuguese army in the colonies is in revolt. The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) has reported a number of mutinies by Portuguese troops. According to the MPLA, 150 officers and men of the 4519th battalion, stationed in Tchivovo, refused to obey orders to engage forces of the MPLA.

Their spokesman, Captain Fernando Faria de Castro, read a manifesto which said their orders were not compatible with the aims of the anti-fascist movement of the armed forces. The manifesto said the MPLA was the only body competent to negotiate with Portugal on the question of independence. It further called on all Portuguese soldiers to abandon the war and demanded the immediate recognition of the right of the colonies to independence.

At the same time, in Portuguese Guinea, the Portuguese troops are freely fraternizing

with the rebels despite the fact that cease-fire talks between the rebels and Spínola have broken off.

Last week Nixon met with Spínola in the Azores and gave his full backing to the military regime. The support of world imperialism for Spínola coincided with the vicious attack launched by the Portuguese Communist Party against the postal workers' strike. The Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party released a statement pledging its full support to the generals:

"The party," the Central Committee said, "with all democratic and patriotic forces, is concentrating its energies toward realizing the high objectives of bringing about free elections for a constituent assembly and of constructing, according to the express will of the Portuguese people, a democratic, peaceful and independent Portugal."

Spínola has no intention of restoring democracy and free elections. He has broken his promises to halt the colonial wars, sent troops against striking workers, imposed a wage freeze and placed governmental control over radio and TV.

The Stalinists are nothing but Spínola and Nixon's henchmen against the revolutionary movement of the Portuguese working class.



# Dock Deal Opens Bitter GAI Battle

**BY TOM GORDON**  
**NEW YORK, June 21—The International Longshoremen's Association Wage and Scale Committee and the Council of North Atlantic Shipping Associations have reached agreement on a master contract covering 35,000 dock workers from Boston to Hampton Roads.**

This agreement covering wages, hours, rules for LASH and container handling, and shippers' pension and welfare fund contributions, was reached behind the backs of the ILA membership, who have been told nothing of the negotiations.

The proposed contract does nothing to resolve the Guaranteed Annual Income provisions which must now be negotiated separately in the various ports.

Dock workers are being offered a wage increase from the present \$6.10 per hour, to \$8 per hour at the end of three years, which will not keep up with the rising cost of living. In return, the ILA bureaucrats are allowing vicious cuts in the Guaranteed Annual Income.

The New York Shipping Association and the ILA will meet Monday, July 1, to begin negotiating for the Port of New York. NYSA officials are preparing to destroy the GAI by requiring that any docker must work 700 hours each year to maintain his eligibility for the GAI. Over 1400 dockers are now on the GAI in the port, with no work available to them.

"Some of these guys have not worked in years, and they are really crying," a Brooklyn docker stated. These men are already being sent throughout the port, with no regard to their traditional gang or pier assignments, to strip and stuff containers.

## DEAL

The NYSA is openly stating that it will not accept a deal over the GAI, but intends to take back as much as possible of what was won in earlier contracts.

They have cut the Port of New York work force from 25,000 to 15,000 and must reduce it much further to continue profitable operations.

"Nothing has been settled," a Manhattan longshoreman told the Bulletin. "Now these guys are going to fight."

The huge growth of container traffic over the past five years, paid for by the worsening conditions of longshore and seafaring

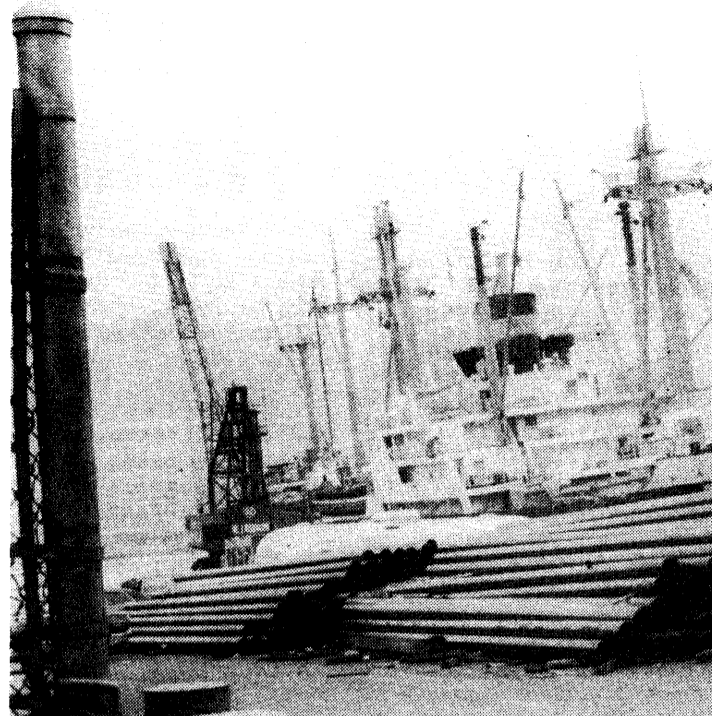
workers, has now peaked. Some ports such as Chicago are already losing container traffic.

Cargo is being moved across the piers at a frantic rate in order to squeeze every penny of profit out of dock workers and in preparation for mass shutdowns of operations in the near future. Many shipping companies are on the brink of bankruptcy. Seatrain is surviving only by selling off its assets. Sea-Land has not been able to match its earlier profits despite its building eight SL-7s, the biggest and fastest containerships afloat.

The bankruptcy of whole nations such as Italy and Britain, along with Nixon's drive for "self-sufficiency" for the United States, is rapidly escalating into trade war and the collapse of trade.

The proposed contract must be rejected decisively by the ILA membership. Only winning Guaranteed Annual Income paid to all men without work, along with a cost of living escalator clause and a high pension, will protect the ILA. Enforced overtime and the breakup of traditional gangs and pier assignments must be stopped.

At the same time, the fight must be taken up in the ILA for a labor party to nationalize the piers and shipping companies under workers control.



ILA contract provides no job guarantee. Above, the Brooklyn docks.

## Subcontracting Deal Wipes Out Diario Jobs

**BY CYNTHIA BLAKE**  
**NEW YORK, NY—Printing trades unions representing some 80 workers at El Diario-La Prensa have agreed to let the paper subcontract printing operations, after a two-year battle.**

Starting Sunday, June 29, El Diario, the nation's largest Spanish-language daily, will be printed on automated equipment at the News Publishing Company job shop in Stratford, Connecticut.

A severance settlement of about four million dollars will be paid to the stereotypers, typographers, pressmen and mailers. Some of them have worked at the paper for over 25 years and will now lose their jobs.

About 120 workers will remain at the New York offices, including reporters and clerical staff organized by the Newspaper Guild and some 10 or 12 typographers who are members of ITU Local 6.

Millionaire owner O. Roy Chalk won huge concessions from the printing unions last year, after the El Diario workers struck and forced him

to back down on plans to move.

Chalk's claim of impending bankruptcy is now backed up by the union leaders, following an audit by union-appointed accountants. "They owe everybody," Mailers Union Local 6 official George McDonald told the Bulletin.

"They would have put a padlock on the door June 30 and every job would have been lost." A spokesman for the newspaper management said that the staggering rise in the cost of newsprint and other supplies had forced the company to move.

Automation will cut costs, he said, but the primary consideration is that El Diario will be billed on an hourly or job basis, rather than having to support shift workers. "Our run takes about four hours," he said, "and we have had to support seven hour shifts."

This move is part of a brutal drive by the publishing industry to break the powerful printing unions in the New York area. Chalk is relying on the lower pay scales of workers outside New York to boost his profits.

There must be an immediate fight, beginning with the Book and Job contracts now under negotiation, to win coordinated contracts within each area, moving toward national contracts for the printing trades as an important part of the fight against runaway shops.

## Four Black Muslims Face Life In Jail

**BY CYNTHIA BLAKE**  
**BROOKLYN, NY—Four members of the Sunni Muslims face thousands of years in combined jail sentences after their conviction last week on 41 charges stemming from a sporting goods store robbery in January, 1973.**

Shulab Abdur Raheem, Dawd A. Rahman, Yusef Abdallah Almussadig, and Salih Ali Abdullah entered John & Al's Sporting Goods in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn and then barricaded themselves inside. Hundreds of police, sharpshooters, and armored vehicles surrounded the store. The 4 helped the 12 employees and customers they took as hostages to find shelter from the wild gunfire.

During the six-week trial, Raheem said they decided to steal guns and ammunition in response to the brutal assassination of Sunni Muslims in Washington, DC the day before.

Raheem denied that they had fired any shots at the police, testifying that they aimed only at the armored cars or over the heads of the police.

"There was no question of denying the events; everyone saw those," Defense lawyer Conrad J. Lynn told the Bulletin. "The whole nation watched that on TV for 48 hours.

Each of the four defendants was charged with a total of 45 counts, and convicted on 41. Lynn explained that the DA had placed each gun that was stolen before the court as a separate count, with each count carrying up to a 15-year sentence.

There were also four separate charges relating to the death of the policeman shot during the seige. All defendants were found not guilty of first-degree murder, but convicted of second-degree manslaughter, murder while committing robbery, and "depraved indifference to human life that resulted in murder."

Each of the 11 hostages was also treated as a separate case, and duplicate kidnapping charges filed. Convictions were on simple kidnapping, and kidnapping an individual to influence the action of a third person—the police.

A presentence hearing will be held August 5, when the defense will move to have the duplicate convictions removed. "You can't serve two life sentences for the same crime," Lynn said.

"The jury was out for so long because of what we call 'overindicting', something Brooklyn is noted for. They throw in everything but the kitchen sink to make sure of a conviction."

However, events since the

shootout at John & Al's indicate that the vicious multiple-charging was deliberate—part of a campaign where attacks on the Muslims have been used to prepare mass terror against the whole working class.

Men said to be Muslims were arrested for the so-called "Zebra murders" after police state dragnets were set up against all the youth and workers in the Fillmore District of San Francisco.

Most recently, three Sunni Muslims were the target when 300 cops and an armored car invaded a quiet working class street for a midnight shootout in East Cleveland, Ohio.

These youth will not be defended by the "straightening out" of the DA's scheme to railroad them to jail without hope of parole, but only by the action of the entire labor movement.

## A&P Workers Win \$28 Increase

**BY A REPORTER**  
**NEW HAVEN, Conn.—Nine hundred members of Local 10, Amalgamated Meatcutters and Butcher Workmen of America voted to end their two week strike against A&P supermarkets June 22.**

Clerks and butchers in the stores throughout the New England area won major wage increases, although they lost their fight to limit the contract to one year.

Butchers will get \$52 a week more over the two-year contract; clerks will get \$28 a week additional and parttime employees won 60 cents an hour

over the contract.

There was considerable dissent at the ratification meeting, when the union leadership cut off the discussion. One grocery clerk charged that the contract package was the same they had originally rejected two weeks before.

"We voted the exact same thing in, only the full time clerks will get \$3.00 a week less. The benefits are fine, but we were out of work for two weeks and we all lost two weeks pay," one clerk explained.

### \$40 A WEEK

A butcher explained that his pay would still be almost \$40 a week behind that of butchers at the Stop & Shop stores. "We work just as hard as they do, and in six months, a new labor board may come into effect," he said.

Local 10 had originally demanded \$65 over one year for butchers, \$45 for grocery clerks and \$1.00 an hour for part-time workers.

### MONEY PROBLEM

Robert Petranella, AMBWA vice president for New England, defended the contract as the best A&P could afford. He said that the union had learned from confidential information about a "money problem" at A&P.

At a stockholder's meeting June 19, however, A&P officials reported earnings up fourfold from the same quarter last year. A Nebraska cattleman has filed a \$1.5 billion antitrust suit against A&P and Safeway stores, charging that the two giant chains conspired to fix prices at both the wholesale and retail levels.



**Perspectives For The American Revolution: Revised Resolution of the Workers League. \$50.** Approved by the Central Committee of the Workers League in January 1974, this is an essential statement for the construction of the revolutionary party. The resolution assesses the economic and political crisis and the tasks before the working class.

Order from Labor Publications: 135 W. 14 St., NY, NY 10011



# WATERGATE: The Cover-Up Goes On

BY DAVID NORTH

On March 22, 1973, the day after he had spoken to John Dean about the payment of hush money to Watergate spy Howard Hunt, Richard Nixon told former Attorney General John Mitchell:

"I don't give a shit what happens. I want you to (unintelligible) stonewall it, plead the Fifth Amendment...even up to this point the whole theory has been containment, as you know, John...That's the thing I was concerned with—we're going to protect our people if we can."

This statement utterly refutes Nixon's claim that when he first learned of the coverup on March 21, 1973, he launched a full investigation into the Watergate break-in.

But this statement has still greater significance, because it was deleted—like many others—from the official transcripts of the Watergate tapes which Nixon turned over to the House Judiciary Committee two months ago. The fact that Nixon doctored the transcripts makes it very clear that he not only masterminded the Watergate coverup, but also that this conspiracy has not ended to this day.

As the committee members sift through the mountains of evidence at a snail's pace and allow Nixon to remain in office, Nixon continues the coverup. He has doctored the tapes, he has refused to answer the subpoenas for 64 more recorded conversations, and now is refusing to guarantee that he will obey a Supreme Court order to obey the subpoenas.

The new version of the tapes, prepared by a Committee aide, shows that Nixon very carefully edited out of the official transcripts the most damaging sections where he gave direct orders for the coverup.

In some places, whole sections of conversations were simply cut out. At other times, Nixon inserted question marks to make it appear he was making inquiries into the coverup rather than giving explicit instructions.

For example, Nixon claims that he had told Dean to write a full report on Watergate. The Nixon transcripts are very unclear on this point. But an accurate transcription of the tapes leaves no doubt that Nixon lied about the Dean report.

In a memo by committee aide William P. Dixon, it is stated: "The president never asked Dean to write a report for the purpose of giving him additional facts, but merely so it could be relied on as an excuse in the event things came 'unstuck' and the president needed justification for his inaction."

Dixon's conclusion backs up what Dean told the Senate Watergate Committee last year.

When he spoke to Dean on March 21 about the payment of hush money, Nixon gave firm orders. He told Dean:

"In other words, it would be...one of the uh, defendants, particularly Hunt, of course, who is the most vulnerable in my opinion, might, uh, blow the whistle, and he, he—and his price is pretty high, but at least we should buy time on that on that, as I, as I pointed out to John."

In the Nixon version, the phrase "we should buy time" is replaced with the more neutral "we can buy time."

At another point, when Haldeman, Dean, and Nixon were discussing how to answer Grand Jury questions, Nixon forcefully ordered:

"Just be damn sure you say I don't remember; I can't recall, I can't give any honest, an answer to that that I can recall."

These new transcripts alone reveal that Nixon was intimately involved in the coverup. However, the farcical impeachment proceedings limp along with no end in sight.

The amount of evidence on Nixon's criminal activities is staggering.

There is the matter of his taxes. It has been revealed that the Internal Revenue Service wanted to charge Nixon with criminal fraud on his returns. But just as Watergate prosecutor Leon Jaworski intervened to stop a grand jury from indicting Nixon in the coverup, the IRS was persuaded to simply charge Nixon with negligence.

## AVOIDING

However, far from being negligent about his taxes, three memos written by Ehrlichman reveal that Nixon was interested in all the angles of avoiding taxes. White House aides were ordered to examine the tax returns of past presidents—its own illegal act—because, according to the memos, Nixon "wants to be sure that his business deductions include all allowable items."

Former White House staff member Peter Kinsey has stated that he prepared, at Ehrlichman's request, a memo showing how real estate transactions involving Nixon and his daughter Tricia could be used for tax purposes.

When he completed a memo with general observations, Nixon was dissatisfied. Ehrlichman notified Kinsey that Nixon wanted exact information on deductions in dollars and cents.

In addition to this new information, the committee already has evidence that Nixon deducted \$5000 in business expenses for a masked ball given in Tricia's honor. Nixon, who has personal experience as a lawyer in tax cases, failed to report \$92,000 in government improvements on his San Clemente and Key Biscayne properties as taxable income. He also failed to reimburse the government for the cost of his personal travel arrangements.

New evidence of Nixon's role in the Ellsberg breakin has come to light as a result of former aide Charles Colson's plea bargaining. Colson has stated that Nixon personally instructed him to slander Daniel Ellsberg.

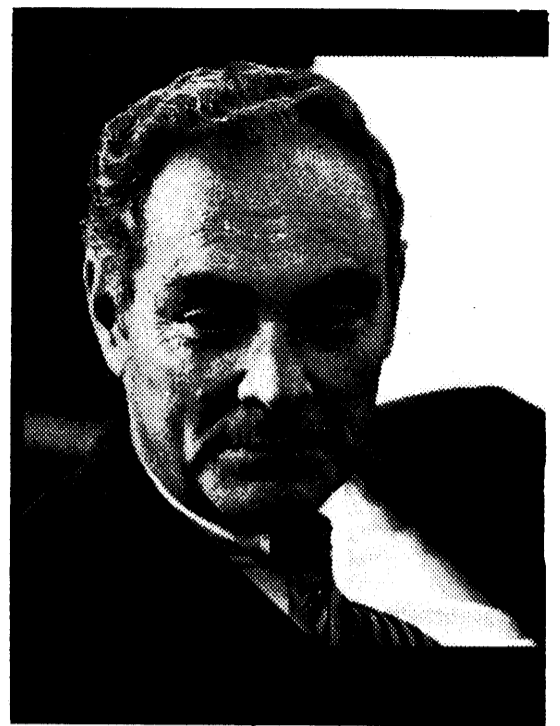
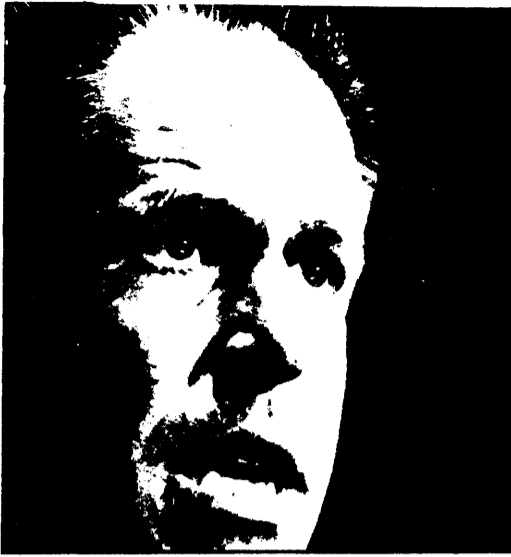
Noting that Nixon was in a "very great anger" over the release of the Pentagon Papers, Colson said Nixon instructed him to "disseminate damaging information about Ellsberg."

## DAMAGING

It is obvious that Nixon ordered the burglarizing of the offices of Ellsberg's psychiatrist in the hopes of obtaining this type of "damaging information."

Nixon's lawyer, Leonard Garment, has stated that there is nothing illegal about slandering Ellsberg.

Revealing the real criminal face of capitalist politics, Garment said "many things that take place in Washington" are



The conspirators: top left, H.R. Haldeman, right, General Alexander Haig; bottom left, Richard Nixon; right, John Ehrlichman.

contrary to what people think is proper, but that the "circumstances under which presidents act are quite different from the circumstances under which we conduct our own business."

Colson's statements have also revealed that both Kissinger and Gen. Alexander Haig played a very important role in the coverup in order to hide the extent to which both the CIA and Pentagon were involved in Watergate and the Ellsberg breakin.

According to Colson, Kissinger and Haig told Nixon he could under no circumstances say or do anything that would implicate the CIA and military in Watergate.

While obviously seeking to minimize Nixon's and his own role in the coverup, Colson's remarks show that the military and the CIA are able to act independently of Nixon, and to a large extent issue instructions to Nixon as his own position crumbles.

The very appointment of Haig as Nixon's principal adviser on the heels of Haldeman's and Ehrlichman's resignation last year was a concession to the military which through Haig assumed a major role in continuing the coverup conspiracy.

## CONSPIRACY

Kissinger also plays a central role in this conspiracy. In his arrogant Salzburg press conference, Kissinger denied that he ever ordered any wiretapping. However, FBI memos show that he and Haig demanded taps in 1973 to check security leaks.

Shortly before his death, J. Edgar Hoover wrote a memo in which he reported that Kissinger stated that he would "destroy whoever is leaking if we can find him, no matter who he is."

As the evidence of the details of the Watergate coverup accumulates, the facts related to the many other criminal activities of Nixon and his as-

sociates are being revealed.

A major breakthrough has just been made in the case of Nixon's decision to raise government price support levels for the dairy industry.

Jake Jacobsen, once a lawyer for Associated Milk Producers, has agreed to plead guilty to a reduced charge of bribery in exchange for evidence against former Treasury Secretary John Connally.

Connally accepted \$10,000 provided by the industry to raise price support levels.

Jacobsen agreed to make this plea after AMPI lobbyist Bob Lilly said in court that "Jacobson made it clear that Connally had delivered for us and now wanted his money."

The first \$5000 was given to Connally in his Treasury Department office. The rest was paid in Texas.

## APPROVAL

Connally obtained the approval of Nixon for the raising of price support levels. Nixon was well aware of the enormous funds being paid by the milk industry into the 1972 campaign chest and took the occasion to thank the leading executives.

On top of all the other crimes, a new scandal is breaking wide open over Nixon's approval of a Civil Aeronautics Board decision to allow Howard Hughes, the billionaire, to acquire Air West.

The decision is apparently what stood behind the \$100,000 paid by Hughes's aide Richard Danner to Bebe Rebozo, Nixon's closest companion.

Rebozo has denied that he ever met with Danner to discuss Air West. However, a log of Danner's activities contains the following notation:

"To Miami, Fla., and Nassau, G.B...Contact with C.G. Rebozo re TWA suit, Air West matters. Meals and entertainment, \$125.00."

In yet another scandal, it is reported that John Mitchell en-

couraged the effort of Howard Hughes to buy the Dunes Hotel in Las Vegas and by-passed the Antitrust Division of the Justice Department.

Flooded with evidence of the continuous coverup and the innumerable crimes of the Nixon administration, the House Judiciary Committee's proceedings drag on with no action being taken against Nixon.

## EVIDENCE

Held behind closed doors, the proceedings are themselves a conspiracy to keep as much evidence as possible hidden from working people.

It is the AFL-CIO bureaucracy which seeks to lend credence to these farcical proceedings by refusing to mobilize the working class independently of the Democrats to throw Nixon out.

It will not go beyond its call for impeachment which was made nearly one year ago.

The treacherous role of the labor bureaucracy is revealed by the presence of George Meany last weekend at a dinner thrown by Nelson Rockefeller in honor of Henry Kissinger.

The trade unions must act now to force Nixon out by constructing a labor party pledged to socialist policies. The AFL-CIO must call a Congress of Labor to take this action now.

But the working class cannot wait for the bureaucrats to act. We must now build a movement in the working class that will lead the fight to throw Nixon out and build the labor party by constructing the Workers League and the Young Socialists.

The election campaigns of Helen Halyard and Terry Delgado in Brooklyn will rally workers for this fight.

We call on all workers and youth to take a lead in this fight by joining the Workers League and the Young Socialists.



In the first three months of 1974 the fascist regime of Marcello Caetano received a number of reaffirmations of complete support.

The National Assembly held a special session to give a unanimous vote of confidence to Caetano's premiership. The heads of the armed forces mounted a deputation to Caetano to pledge their fullest backing for his policies at home and abroad. The secret police, the DGS, acknowledged its confidence in the regime by rounding up a fresh group of anti-fascist activists and submitting them to horrible tortures. The leading Bank of Portugal published an economic survey stating that although inflation was serious, the outlook for investment was buoyant due to the political and industrial stability.

One month later, on April 25, the half-century old dictatorship fell. Caetano was rescued from the vengeful arms of the crowd in the belly of a tank and deported to the island of Madeira, while other ministers fled to neighboring fascist Spain. The secret police was disbanded and the junta in charge implemented a list of reforms allowing the formation of legal trade unions, the freedom of the Press, speech and political parties.

To study this sharp historical turn is to grasp the depth of the world inflationary crisis and the strength of the working class to resist. To those individuals who examine historical processes in terms of personalities, maneuvers and schemes, the Portuguese events have come as a complete shock. At this time of writing, four weeks after the coup, there are journalists, academics and Iberian specialists still thrashing around looking for an explanation of what took place and what is still taking place.

It will be the task of this series of articles to explain the circumstances which led to the April 25 coup and their relevance for the working class in all other capitalist countries where the ravages of inflation and recession are being felt. As against all other tendencies, the International Committee of the Fourth International has fought consistently for a theoretical understanding of the depth of the world capitalist crisis from a Marxist standpoint. It is our perspectives that have been our guide to action to build revolutionary parties in all countries where we have sections and to build new sections where we do not at present have them.

April 25 marked the collapse of the decaying fascist regime and the release of new historical processes. The Popular Front government hand-picked by the military junta of General Antonio Spínola cannot be a permanent feature of the Portuguese political situation, but a transition to something else. Because it is a government of extraordinary crisis, it must give way to developments towards the socialist revolution or create the conditions for the re-imposition of a fascist dictatorship of greater brutality than even Salazar's. There is no middle way.

In joining Spínola's Popular Front government of ex-fascists, military men and capitalists, the Portuguese Communist Party signifies new dimensions to the treachery of Stalinism on a world scale. Whereas the Stalinists in Chile invited the generals and admirals into the Popular Front, in Portugal it is the other way around. But the result is the same. The Stalinists consciously create illusions in the working class that the armed forces are on the side of "the people."

If the Stalinists' line is to be believed, one of the most reactionary armies in western Europe which has fought a barbaric war of oppression in the African colonies for 13 years, has suddenly become the upholder of peace and freedom. And Spínola, a lifelong fascist who fought with the Nazi armies on the Eastern Front, has overnight turned into a champion of democracy. No, the Portuguese ruling class has not changed its spots, it remains as reactionary as ever. Unable to enforce its dictatorship over the resurgent movement of the working class in Portugal and defeat the liberation movements in the colonies, the ruling class has been forced to enter a temporary Popular Front arrangement. It has created a bonapartist regime resting on Spínola's military junta and the Stalinist and Socialist Party leaders, whose job is to police the working class and keep them in check.

Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party, has come



Mario Soares, leader of the Socialist Party (on left) and Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Communist Party, have accepted Cabinet posts in the new Portuguese government.

back from political exile in the Soviet Union to be welcomed by the junta and given the second-most important ministerial post in the Popular Front.

He has been given an official car, a chauffeur, a bodyguard and the Stalinist party has come out of illegality to take over a five-storey building in Lisbon kindly provided by the junta. Every Stalinist communique pays tribute to Spínola and the armed forces for allegedly getting rid of fascism and establishing democracy. Above all, the Stalinists must attribute the new bourgeois freedoms to the ruling class and not to the working class who are the real fighters who have brought the downfall of the fascist regime. And now that the working class has forced the collapse of the old dictatorship and entered into mass struggles against capitalism, it is the Stalinists who appear on the scene as the most ardent defenders of the bourgeoisie by linking arms with the military junta.

This enormous act of treachery must be the greatest warning to the Portuguese working class and the Africans who are fighting for their independence from the yoke of colonial barbarism. Already the Stalinists are using their influence in the Mozambique liberation movement, FRELIMO, the Angolan movement, MPLA, and Guinea-Bissau, PAIGC, to sabotage the demand for complete independence. The Stalinists want a negotiated settlement parti-

# HOW CAETANO WAS

cularly in the oil and mineral rich colonies of Mozambique and Angola to simply alter one form of imperialist exploitation and oppression for another. Neither must the recent events of Portugal be lost in Spain. The task of building a revolutionary party in uncompromising hostility to Stalinism is the only way to prepare the working class for the struggles that must erupt there as a consequence of the overthrow of Caetano.

The International salutes the workers of Portugal who have fought so courageously to end the 50-year-old dictatorship and the liberation movements in Portugal's three African colonies who have bravely withstood massacres, napalm and torture to advance their struggle for independence. But there is no cause for complacency. The generals' textbook is Chile and behind the newly-formed Popular Front they are preparing the counter-coup. The independent mobilization of the working class under revolutionary leadership becomes the most decisive question for workers not only Portugal and its colonies but in every capitalist country. Capitalism is a worldwide system of exploitation in insoluble crisis. What the working class in Portugal has achieved will give powerful impetus to workers throughout western Europe.

To delay the construction of revolutionary parties in all capitalist countries only extends the malignant life of this decaying system and allows the main agency of

counterrevolution, the Stalinists, to intercede and prepare fresh defeats for the working class. After the upsurge of the working class in Ethiopia and the fall of governments in Australia, Canada, Israel, Britain, West Germany and Italy. Portugal tells us that hesitation is out of the question. It amounts to a betrayal of the historic requirements of the working class to take the power.

The revolutionary upsurge has commenced. It is ours to build revolutionary leadership based on the principles of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky to lead it to power.

## How the Coup Occurred

At 10:50 p.m. on April 4, 1974, listeners to Lisbon commercial radio heard "E Depois do Azeite," Portugal's entry in the Eurovision Song Contest. The chirpy tune must have bored stiff thousands of pop fans who have listened to it repeatedly over the past few months. But to a group of army officers in barracks all over Portugal and the warships on the River Tagus, the playing of the song had an electrifying effect. It meant that the coup to overthrow the fascist dictatorship of Caetano was underway. The Euro-

division song signal became known: there

At 30 minutes Renascença played the song, "Grandes Mares" for the first time to start moving the marines to colonize "Grandola, su

Town of brother Where the people A friend on every Equality on every Disc jockey that he had played from an army with in the couple two years before what the song "It is for a democratic Portugal," nervous, but I

In the barracks moved soldiers contacted the NCOs officers who were them that a command asked for the single recording to take place in the barracks, manding officers timatum—Ar



# WAS OVERTHROWN

By Alex Mitchell



# IN REVOLT

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division song was chosen as the alert signal because it was universally known: there would be no mix up.

At 30 minutes past midnight Radio Renascença played Zeca Afonso's protest song, "Grandola, Vola Morena," the password for the tanks and armoured vehicles to start moving and for the troops and marines to come onto the streets.

"Grandola, sunburned  
Town of brothers  
Where the people take first place  
A friend on every corner,  
Equality on every face."

Disc jockey Joao Paulo Guerra said later that he had played the song on instructions from an army captain whom he had served with in the colonial war in Guinea-Bissau two years before. He asked the captain what the song was for. The officer replied: "It is for a democratic regime, a democratic Portugal," Guerra said: "I was a bit nervous, but I decided to go along with it."

In the barracks the middle-ranking officers moved swiftly. They first of all contacted the NCOs and then spoke to the soldiers who were already in bed. They told them that a coup was to be executed and asked for their support. There is not a single recorded example of soldiers refusing to take part. Backed by the strength of the barracks, the officers went to the commanding officers and laid down a clear ultimatum—Are you with us or against us? If

the colonels or generals hesitated they were removed from their positions on the spot and placed in detention.

The cold efficiency of the Movement of the Armed Forces will be discussed in subsequent articles. Suffice it to say at this stage, the plans had been laid carefully and well. There may have been some isolated incidents of bungling, but it did not interfere with the military operations. The radio stations were taken, the television, the airports, the telecommunications, the main access roads and the railway stations. By 4 a.m. Lisbon, Oporto and the other major cities were encircled for the final thrust.

Prime Minister Marcello Caetano and some of his closest advisers were holed up in the Quartel do Carmo, headquarters of the loyal republican guard, the GNR, in the old quarter of Lisbon. Only a wall of junta troops and armoured vehicles kept the angry demonstrators from storming the building and killing the "assassin" and "murderer" Caetano. As the hours went by and the swarming demonstrators became more unruly, even the soldiers grew impatient. Intoxicated by the mood of the crowd and not a little by the free wine being handed around, soldiers sprayed the front of the palace with machine gun fire.

## EUPHORIA

One of the leaders of the telephonists' union drove from his home on the outskirts of Lisbon to see Caetano's last stand, "it

was a mixture of euphoria and hatred," he said. "People were packed into the square calling for the fascist to be placed in their hands. A tank appeared and drove through the crowd, knocked down a main entrance and disappeared into the palace courtyard. A short time later it emerged and we were told that he was inside. The people wouldn't accept it. They attacked the tank demanding that the soldiers produce him. People banged on the tank with their fists until it hurt. Some officers of the junta announced that he was definitely inside and he would be dealt with.

"Only then were we satisfied. I got into my car and drove home. I went inside to my wife and said, 'They've caught the bastard. He's been arrested.' Then I started to cry."

The narrow cobbled street outside the headquarters of the hated DGS, the secret police, was submerged in a sea of bitterly angry demonstrators. From the upper windows of their building in Rua Antonio Maria Cardoso, the DGS opened fire killing two people, one a woman. The siege went on for 12 hours with the marines of the Portuguese navy holding everyone at bay. Only when the old regime had capitulated and the junta had taken over, did the heads of the DGS appeal for a truce. Egged on by the roars of the crowd, the heavily-armed marines went in. There have been unconfirmed reports that some DGS agents,

fearing that they would fall into the hands of the crowd, leapt from the top floor to their death. One DGS man was shot and killed when he tried to produce a gun. Inside the building about 40 DGS staff were arrested. What had happened to the 300-odd agents and administrative staff normally working there?

They used the catacombs in the basement to escape to nearby sanctuaries. According to local legend the DGS building was formerly occupied by monks who had tunnelled to convents where they could indulge their pleasures away from the eyes of the believers. All over Portugal anti-fascists carried out citizens' arrests of DGS agents and handed them over to the armed forces.

Shortly after the April 25 events I met some Spanish trade unionists who had slipped over the border to inspect the new regime. What did they think of the ending of the fascist regime? "I understand that when they took the secret police headquarters, one agent was killed."

"Yes, that is right."

"In Spain we will kill the lot."

Alentejo is a tiny farming community 100 miles out of Lisbon. The farm workers are virtual feudal slaves to the bid of land-owning families. They are employed casually and get pittance wages for 14 hours' work a day. When the first radio reports of the coup reached them, the reaction was cautious. There had been attempted coups in the past and even assassination attempts on the dictator Salazar. But they had come to nothing. In Alentejo, prudence on such occasions is a matter of life and death. Even when the radio reported at 6 p.m. on April 25 that Caetano and several fascist ministers had been despatched to exile in Madeira, the population remained remarkably unmoved. One elderly laborer told me that he left his small stone cottage about 7 p.m. to have a drink with his friends. They met there every night to talk solemnly, often in whispers, about local events.

"As we were standing there a group of people drove in from Lisbon to tell us that the streets were filled with people. There was dancing and singing. The fascist buildings were in the hands of the people. I couldn't believe my ears. The young people said, 'Let's go up and take the fascist administration' (an ornate building situated in the center of Alentejo from which the fascists ruled the province). I was too old for that. I went home and told my wife about the coup. She cried and went to bed. I got out some brandy, some very old brandy, and got very drunk."

With the radio and television confirmation that Caetano's regime had fallen and the last resistance overcome, Lisbon went mad. "I went to my window and saw a line of cars driving down the avenue. Gradually it filled up with cars until they couldn't move. Every horn was blaring, with people sitting on the bonnets and on the roof. They waved placards, sang songs and chanted the slogans of ending the war and celebrating democracy. Shopkeepers gave away drinks and food. I had some flowers in a pot and I threw them to the outstretched hands."

The prostitutes of Lisbon, a very case-hardened bunch indeed, were swept into the euphoria offering their wares free of charge to men in the armed forces.

Out came tins of paint to daub slogans on walls and fascist monuments. "Long live the people," "Power to the people," "End the war," "Victory to the proletarian revolution"—were among the most popular. One simply said: "We want everything."

Before departing for Madeira, Caetano and the head of the junta, General Spínola, had an extraordinary meeting. It was organized by Caetano's faithful lieutenant, Dr. Pedro Feytor Pinto, director of Information Services, who is now chief spokesman for the junta. Pinto told reporters: "It was a meeting of two gentlemen, of two friends who respect each other, and who share a great sense of honor and responsibility."

He addressed Caetano as "Prime Minister." With the crowd chanting outside "Fascist," "Murderer," Caetano said, "General, I surrender to you the government. You must take care, because you must keep control. I am frightened by the idea of the power loose in the streets." They shook hands and departed.

This series is reprinted from Workers Press, daily Trotskyist newspaper of the British Workers Revolutionary Party.

TO BE CONTINUED



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He has been given an official car, a chauffeur, a bodyguard and the Stalinist party has come out of illegality to take over a five-storey building in Lisbon kindly provided by the junta. Every Stalinist commune pays tribute to Spínola and the armed forces for allegedly getting rid of fascism and establishing democracy. Above all, the Stalinists must attribute the new bourgeois freedoms to the ruling class and not to the working class who are the real fighters who have brought the downfall of the fascist regime. And now that the working class has forced the collapse of the old dictatorship and entered into mass struggles against capitalism, it is the Stalinists who appear on the scene as the most ardent defenders of the bourgeoisie by linking arms with the military junta.

This enormous act of treachery must be the greatest warning to the Portuguese working class and the Africans who are fighting for their independence from the yoke of colonial barbarism. Already the Stalinists are using their influence in the Mozambique liberation movement, FRELIMO, the Angolan movement, MPLA, and Guinea-Bissau, PAIGC, to sabotage the demand for complete independence. The Stalinists want a negotiated settlement parti-

# HOW CAETANO WAS OVERTHROWN

Bulletin

By Alex Mitchell



Marco Soares, leader of the Socialist Party (on left) and Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Communist Party, have accepted Cabinet posts in the new Portuguese government of General Spínola.

cularly in the oil and mineral rich colonies of Mozambique and Angola to simply alter one form of imperialist exploitation and oppression for another. Neither must the recent events of Portugal be lost in Spain. The task of building a revolutionary party in uncompromising hostility to Stalinism is the only way to prepare the working class for the struggles that must erupt there as a consequence of the overthrow of Caetano.

The International salutes the workers of Portugal who have fought so courageously to end the 50-year-old dictatorship and the liberation movements in Portugal's three African colonies who have bravely withstood massacres, napalm and torture to advance their struggle for independence. But there is no cause for complacency. The generals' textbook is Chile and behind the newly-formed Popular Front they are preparing the counter-coup. The independent mobilization of the working class under revolutionary leadership becomes the most decisive question for workers not only Portugal and its colonies but in every capitalist country. Capitalism is a worldwide system of exploitation in insoluble crisis. What the working class in Portugal has achieved will give powerful impetus to workers throughout western Europe.

To delay the construction of revolutionary parties in all capitalist countries only extends the malignant life of this decaying system and allows the main agency of

counter-revolution, the Stalinists, to intercede and prepare fresh defeats for the working class. After the upsurge of the working class in Ethiopia and the fall of governments in Australia, Canada, Israel, Britain, West Germany and Italy, Portugal tells us that hesitation is out of the question. It amounts to a betrayal of the historic requirements of the working class to take the power.

The revolutionary upsurge has commenced. It is ours to build revolutionary leadership based on the principles of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky to lead it to power.

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Disc jockey Joao Paulo Guerra said later that he had played the song on instructions from an army captain whom he had served with in the colonial war in Guinea-Bissau two years before. He asked the captain what the song was for. The officer replied: "It is for a democratic regime, a democratic Portugal." Guerra said: "I was a bit nervous, but I decided to go along with it."

In the barracks the middle-ranking officers moved swiftly. They first of all contacted the NCOs and then spoke to the soldiers who were already in bed. They told them that a coup was to be executed and asked for their support. There is not a single recorded example of soldiers refusing to take part. Backed by the strength of the barracks, the officers went to the commanding officers and laid down a clear ultimatum—Are you with us or against us? If

the colonels or generals hesitated they were removed from their positions on the spot and placed in detention.

The cold efficiency of the Movement of the Armed Forces will be discussed in subsequent articles. Suffice it to say at this stage, the plans had been laid carefully and well. There may have been some isolated incidents of bungling, but it did not interfere with the military operations. The radio stations were taken, the television, the airports, the telecommunications, the main access roads and the railway stations. By 4 a.m. Lisbon, Oporto and the other major cities were encircled for the final thrust.

Prime Minister Marcello Caetano and some of his closest advisers were holed up in the Quartel do Carmo, headquarters of the loyal republican guard, the GNR, in the old quarter of Lisbon. Only a wall of junta troops and armoured vehicles kept the angry demonstrators from storming the building and killing the "assassin" and "murderer" Caetano. As the hours went by and the swarming demonstrators became more unruly, even the soldiers grew impatient. Intoxicated by the mood of the crowd and not a little by the free wine being handed around, soldiers sprayed the front of the palace with machine gun fire.

## EUPHORIA

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was a mixture of euphoria and hatred," he said. "People were packed into the square calling for the fascist to be placed in their hands. A tank appeared and drove through the crowd, knocked down a main entrance and disappeared into the palace courtyard. A short time later it emerged and we were told that he was inside. The people wouldn't accept it. They attacked the tank demanding that the soldiers produce him. People banged on the tank with their fists until it hurt. Some officers of the junta announced that he was definitely inside and he would be dealt with.

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fearing that they would fall into the hands of the crowd, leapt from the top floor to their death. One DGS man was shot and killed when he tried to produce a gun. Inside the building about 40 DGS staff were arrested. What had happened to the 300-odd agents and administrative staff normally working there?

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Shortly after the April 25 events I met some Spanish trade unionists who had slipped over the border to inspect the new regime. What did they think of the ending of the fascist regime? "I understand that when they took the secret police headquarters, one agent was killed."

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"As we were standing there a group of people drove in from Lisbon to tell us that the streets were filled with people. There was dancing and singing. The fascist buildings were in the hands of the people. I couldn't believe my ears. The young people said, 'Let's go up and take the fascist administration' (an ornate building situated in the center of Alentejo from which the fascists ruled the province). I was too old for that. I went home and told my wife about the coup. She cried and went to bed. I got out some brandy, some very old brandy, and got very drunk."

With the radio and television confirmation that Caetano's regime had fallen and the last resistance overcome, Lisbon went mad. "I went to my window and saw a line of cars driving down the avenue. Gradually it filled up with cars until they couldn't move. Every horn was blaring, with people sitting on the bonnets and on the roof. They waved placards, sang songs and chanted the slogans of ending the war and celebrating democracy. Shopkeepers gave away drinks and food. I had some flowers in a pot and I threw them to the outstretched hands."

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Out came tins of paint to daub slogans on walls and fascist monuments. "Long live the people," "Power to the people," "End the war," "Victory to the proletarian revolution"—were among the most popular. One simply said: "We want everything."

Before departing for Madeira, Caetano and the head of the junta, General Spínola, had an extraordinary meeting. It was organized by Caetano's faithful lieutenant, Dr. Pedro Feytor Pinto, director of Information Services, who is now chief spokesman for the junta. Pinto told reporters: "It was a meeting of two gentlemen, of two friends who respect each other, and who share a great sense of honor and responsibility."

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TO BE CONTINUED



In the first three months of 1974 the fascist regime of Marcello Caetano received a number of reaffirmations of complete support.

The National Assembly held a special session to give a unanimous vote of confidence to Caetano's premiership. The heads of the armed forces mounted a deputation to Caetano to pledge their fullest backing for his policies at home and abroad. The secret police, the DGS, acknowledged its confidence in the regime by rounding up a fresh group of anti-fascist activists and submitting them to horrible tortures. The leading Bank of Portugal published an economic survey stating that although inflation was serious, the outlook for investment was buoyant due to the political and industrial stability.

One month later, on April 25, the half-century old dictatorship fell. Caetano was rescued from the vengeful arms of the crowd in the belly of a tank and deported to the island of Madeira, while other ministers fled to neighboring fascist Spain. The secret police was disbanded and the junta in charge implemented a list of reforms allowing the formation of legal trade unions, the freedom of the Press, speech and political parties.

To study this sharp historical turn is to grasp the depth of the world inflationary crisis and the strength of the working class to resist. To those individuals who examine historical processes in terms of personalities, maneuvers and schemes, the Portuguese events have come as a complete shock. At this time of writing, four weeks after the coup, there are journalists, academics and Iberian specialists still thrashing around looking for an explanation of what took place and what is still taking place.

It will be the task of this series of articles to explain the circumstances which led to the April 25 coup and their relevance for the working class in all other capitalist countries where the ravages of inflation and recession are being felt. As against all other tendencies, the International Committee of the Fourth International has fought consistently for a theoretical understanding of the depth of the world capitalist crisis from a Marxist standpoint. It is our perspectives that have been our guide to action to build revolutionary parties in all countries where we have sections and to build new sections where we do not at present have them.

April 25 marked the collapse of the decaying fascist regime and the release of new historical processes. The Popular Front government hand-picked by the military junta of General Antonio Spínola cannot be a permanent feature of the Portuguese political situation, but a transition to something else. Because it is a government of extraordinary crisis, it must give way to developments towards the socialist revolution or create the conditions for the re-imposition of a fascist dictatorship of greater brutality than even Salazar's. There is no middle way.

In joining Spínola's Popular Front government of ex-fascists, military men and capitalists, the Portuguese Communist Party signifies new dimensions to the treachery of Stalinism on a world scale. Whereas the Stalinists in Chile invited the generals and admirals into the Popular Front, in Portugal it is the other way around. But the result is the same. The Stalinists consciously create illusions in the working class that the armed forces are on the side of "the people."

If the Stalinists' line is to be believed, one of the most reactionary armies in western Europe which has fought a barbaric war of oppression in the African colonies for 13 years, has suddenly become the upholder of peace and freedom. And Spínola, a lifelong fascist who fought with the Nazi armies on the Eastern Front, has overnight turned into a champion of democracy. No, the Portuguese ruling class has not changed its spots, it remains as reactionary as ever. Unable to enforce its dictatorship over the resurgent movement of the working class in Portugal and defeat the liberation movements in the colonies, the ruling class has been forced to enter a temporary Popular Front arrangement. It has created a bonapartist regime resting on Spínola's military junta and the Stalinist and Socialist Party leaders, whose job is to police the working class and keep them in check.

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# PORTUGAL IN REVOLT



# LABOR TODAY

## New Stage In The Auto Struggle

At the National Auto Conference held in Dayton on March 31, a leading member of the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party declared:

"The working class itself is far more powerful than the bureaucracy. Under the conditions of the sharp attacks they face today, they will fight back.

"This creates the conditions for our intervention, to raise the political questions and to direct the fight to the building of a labor party."

This perspective has been utterly vindicated within the space of 10 weeks. All the tensions which underlay the bitter exchanges among delegates at the UAW Convention last month in Los Angeles have exploded on the surface with a powerful strike movement among auto workers.

In every major auto plant throughout the country, workers are experiencing the most brutal speedup since World War Two.

GM, Ford, and Chrysler are seeking to maintain—and in some cases increase—production at levels set during periods of relatively full employment. Management is establishing an iron dictatorship within the plants, firing and disciplining workers when they fight back.

Safety conditions are rapidly deteriorating. A cutback in the work force, particularly janitorial service, combined with the speedup is making the auto plant as dangerous as a coal mine.

These conditions are going to get worse because the economic crisis is deepening the slump in the auto industry that will mean more layoffs and even greater levels of speedup.

This can be seen in two related statistics. Sales of small cars are falling off badly. Dealers are now reporting that they cannot get rid of their small cars which they overordered during the energy crisis. This accounted for a major portion of the 24.1 percent decline in car sales during the June 1-10 period, compared to the same period in 1973.

The corporations have already committed themselves to a new mix of 70 percent small and 30 percent large. The Southgate plant has been closed for reconversion for small car production. The Ford Mahwah plant is being retooled for small cars.

However, because the fall in big car sales was not caused by the price of gasoline, but by the inflation which has slashed living standards while pushing up car prices, small cars are falling back as well.

Driven by the need to preserve their profits in a shrinking market, the corporations must step up their attacks on the working class. They seek to hold back wages below the skyrocketing level of inflation while speeding up workers beyond the level of human endurance. At the same time, they prepare mass unemployment.

The corporations know that these attacks will meet the resistance of the working class. Therefore, they prepare to meet this resistance with repression. These preparations are revealed in their early stages by the use of the courts to order the arrests of striking Dodge workers in Warren and in the use of police against Borax workers in California.

The use of a tank in East Cleveland against workers shows that the corporations are prepared to use violence to impose unpopular policies upon masses of people. The continuing coverup of the Watergate conspiracy reveals the extent to which the capitalists now break with all democratic traditions and prepare for dictatorship.

When workers strike today, they must see that they must fight against the repression organized by the employers and the government. At the same time, workers are faced with economic conditions which affect not just auto but all industry and which cannot be solved by strike action alone. A strike by itself cannot stop mass unemployment.

Therefore, as workers fight for national strike action, they must fight politically for their own solution to the crisis. They must demand full employment policies based on a socialist program of the nationalization of industry under the control of workers.

This fight requires that we construct our alternative to Nixon and the politicians of big business, a labor party pledged to socialist policies, to replace the government of capitalists with a government of workers.

The fight for these policies requires the building of a new leadership in the UAW against Woodcock, who will not fight Nixon and the conditions auto workers face and who opposes a national strike and the building of a labor party. We call on auto workers to join the Workers League and to help build its industrial arm, the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party.

by David North

Over 100 trade unionists and youth attended the Workers League and Young Socialists outing in Rustic Hills Park outside St. Louis, Missouri on June 22.

Contingents came from St. Louis, Chicago, and Minneapolis.

Tim Wohlforth, National Secretary of the Workers League, said that Italy is seeking to borrow money on a month to month basis, hoping to postpone bankruptcy, but to get loans, Italy must destroy the living standards of the working class.

"We must see in this America's future. Either the workers must pay for the capitalist crisis or they must themselves take control and reorganize production.

"Just as Spain was Hitler's dress rehearsal for World War Two, the recent police attacks in Los Angeles, East Cleveland, and in Queens, New York are a dress rehearsal for the civil war in this country. This means we must train now, must build our movement now, must prepare for the battles ahead."

Willy Jean, from Chicago, began the discussion by asking what those attending the camp had to do to construct this movement. A youth from North Minneapolis, asked what neighborhoods the League was concentrating on, and whether the Bulletin was taken into the suburbs.

Wohlforth replied that we reach workers in two ways. First

## N. Central Branches Hold First Outing



we go into the neighborhoods, in the main cities where the crisis affects workers the hardest, and then into the working class suburbs as well. We fight to get the Bulletin read on every block and in every house. The Bulletin is also taken directly to the factories and sold at the factory gates.

Another important group of questions centered on trade union problems and the urgency of constructing a new lead-

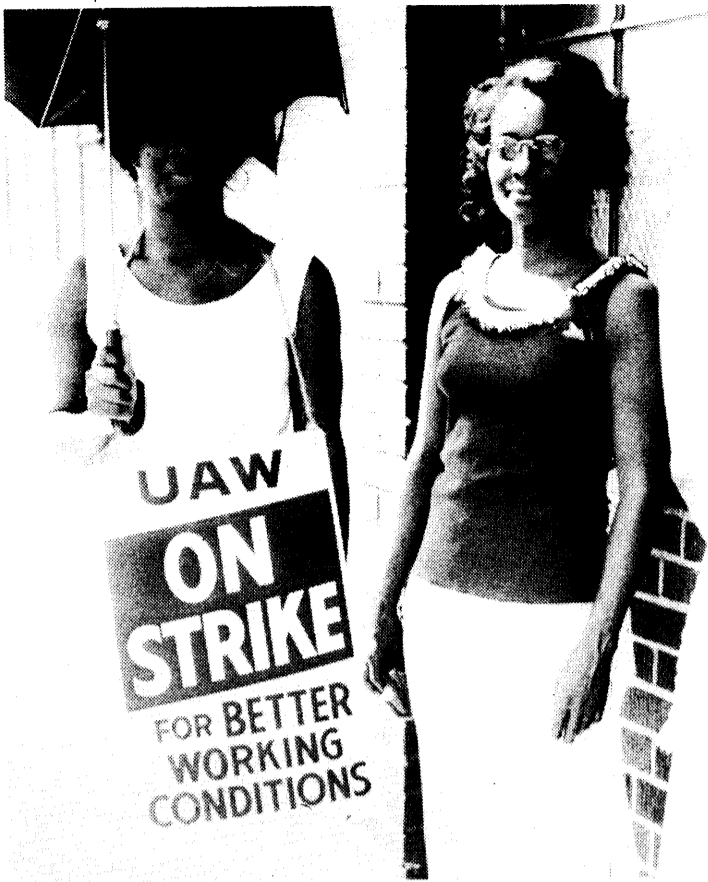
ership. George, from United Auto Workers Local 25, the St. Louis GMAD plant, reported that 14,000 grievances were piled up in his plant and a strike over these grievances is imminent.

The Chicago YS softball team won the day's competition. First, it defeated St. Louis, then nosed out Minneapolis in a hard-fought game, 15-14. The day ended at a lively social, where the Chicago YS won the dance contest.





**midwest news**



Members of United Auto Workers Local 25 in St. Louis are in the second week of a strike against Carter Carburetor's measly 15 cent offer.

# St. Louis GM Workers Set Strike On Grievances

BY JOHN DUNN  
ST. LOUIS—Members of UAW Local 25 are predicting a shut-down of the GMAD plant here this Friday as workers at Carter Carburetor enter the second week of their strike for higher wages.

Working conditions is the central issue in the fight at the GMAD plant, where there has not been a local contract since 1971.

An auto worker on the truck line told the Bulletin: "The grievances are piling up and nothing is being done about them. The Corvette line was speeded up and many people got Disciplinary Layoffs (DLOs) and others were forced out on sick leave.

"If a man has had a previous bad record, like missing a day without a doctor's excuse or something like that, and then he missed a car or two because of the line speed, he'd get fired.

"They don't honor a man's seniority. They lay off a lot of people and put them wherever they feel like when they get called back.

"People that transferred from the car production line when they laid off the second shift to the truck line lose about 10 to 15 cents an hour and do three times the work."

It is estimated that at least 450 workers have been given DLO's or have taken sick leave because of the working conditions that prevail in the plant.

**OPPOSITION**

Strikes are occurring in auto plants across the country against the working conditions and there

is massive opposition to the sellout 1973 contract. A fight must be taken up by Local 25 to reopen the national contract and fight for an immediate 20 percent wage increase, the recall of all laid off workers, and to resolve all local grievances. Specific line speeds must be established to combat the speedups that General Motors is forcing on the workers.

While Local 25 prepares for a strike, the strike at Carter Carburetor is into its second week. The company has refused to talk until today with the 2800 members of Local 819. Carter has refused to offer more than 15 cents an hour for the first year of the contract and less for the second and third years. They also want to limit the cost of living with a 16 cent cap.

"This is totally unacceptable," said one man on the picket line.

Carter has refused to offer anything more on pension benefits and they are even trying to take away some holidays. Many of the older workers at the plant are fighting for a decent pension and the "30 and out."

"We need the thirty and out and enough money to live on," said a woman worker.

The bargaining committee is asking for a "substantial wage increase."

"I don't know what a substantial wage increase is, but it better be enough," another worker said.

Another added: "We need a lot more money. I read about Italy. They're broke because of inflation. That's what we face here."

# Flooding Threatens Delco Men

BY A LOCAL 696 MEMBER

DAYTON, Ohio—Workers who assemble brake shoes in Department 19 at the Delco-Moraine plant here have been forced to work under the most dangerous and inhuman conditions as GM pursues its brutal drive for profit. GM is aided by the cowardly, do nothing policies of the Local 696 United Auto Workers leadership.

The refusal of management to repair an outdated drainage system, threatens the life of every worker in 19 departments. Local 696 members report that every time it rains, water backs up through the drains and floods a large section of the department, but that men and women are

forced to continue working.

One worker, Dave M., said: "We could all be electrocuted because the water sometimes covers the electrical lines that lead into the floor."

Members of the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party have demanded that union representatives stop production when water is on the floor. Thus far, local bureaucrats have refused to act. The paragraph 78 grievances have piled up in 19 departments, as workers try to defend themselves against the attacks launched by management. But because of the social contract railroaded through by Woodcock, foremen laugh at workers and say file all the "78s" you want, we have the right to set production standards.

Another worker, Dave M., hurt his back. He is the third worker in six months to be injured on a job classified as shoe-loading. After the injury, Dave's doctor and the company doctor coded Dave so he was not supposed to do any lifting, bending or twisting.

But on his return to work, he was put back on the same job. When Dave refused to do the job, his foreman threatened to fire him.

Robert Crum is a 35 year old worker, who has arsenic poisoning in his system. Doctors have concluded that he contacted the poisoning through the pores in his skin or by inhalation. The local bureaucrats say Crum may have contacted the poisoning at the plant, and that a thorough check is being conducted now.

The executive board has put out a leaflet asking all local members to contribute money to Crum because the rotten contract they supported does not provide for therapeutical splits

which he will need for his recovery.

The executive board leaflet is an insult to every 696 worker. Local 696 TUALP caucus has stated that the executive board does not care about Crum or anyone else because if they did, the following steps would have already been taken:

- to close down the Delco-Moraine plant until the source of arsenic poisoning is found and eliminated;
- to demand the national contract be reopened to include a medical program that will cover all medical expenses incurred from illness or accident;
- to demand a full national health and safety plan for all workers in this country.

# Duke Power Fires Miners

SPECIAL TO THE BULLETIN

HARLAN, Ky.—Miners in the eleventh month of their strike against the Eastover Mining Company, a subsidiary of Duke Power, suspect that the company will attempt to reopen the mines with scabs within a few weeks.

They are on the alert following last week's firing of 19 miners who were arrested several months ago while defying an anti-strike injunction, issued by hated judge from Letcher County, Byrd Hogg.

Norman Yarborough, the manager of the Eastover Mines, also issued eviction notices to eight miners living in company houses. The miners and their families are ordered to vacate the houses within 30 days.

Miners have received reports that Yarborough managed to get roof bolts into the mines, another indication that plans to crush the strike are being put into effect.

Duke Power can expect legal sanction for violence against the miners because the NLRB election which certified the UMWA as the bargaining agent for the Eastover miners was held one year ago.

As of July 16, the election results are voided and Yarborough can fire all miners who are not working and rehire scabs.

# Taxi Mechanics Vote No

BY A BULLETIN REPORTER

CHICAGO—Drivers and mechanics of Seafarers International Union met June 18 to vote to accept a new three year contract with Yellow and Checker Cab companies. Mechanics and inside help for the companies rejected the contract while the drivers voted to accept it.

One driver said: "The union here is pathetically weak. All the mechanics and inside men are voting no. I might as well vote no too. This contract offers nothing. The increase amounts to two to three percent overall while the cost of living is 11 percent. You start at 42 percent of the meter then 46 percent after 225 shifts, and to get 50 percent after 2225 shifts. There has to be a commission increase."

The bankrupt union leadership tied increases in this contract to the companies request for a 14 percent fare increase from the Chicago City council. If this

increase doesn't come through by September, then wages can be renegotiated. There is no cost of living increase, and mechanics say increases average only yearly and are way behind those of journeymen mechanics.

Both sections of workers were bitter over the blatant corruption in the leadership. Many said the vote was being rigged and this morning it was announced that the drivers' contract was narrowly accepted by a vote of 157-149.

Ted Watkins told the Bulletin, "That's not a contract. It's an ultimatum. Right now I have no position because I could get no report on the contract. The leadership is so corrupt. They'll jack up union dues and give themselves \$100. They offered me \$100 a month a few years ago to back off."

An additional problem completely ignored by the union is the increasing police harassment. Vice squads try to set drivers up for information to bust them, and drivers are hassled even when they go inside for coffee.

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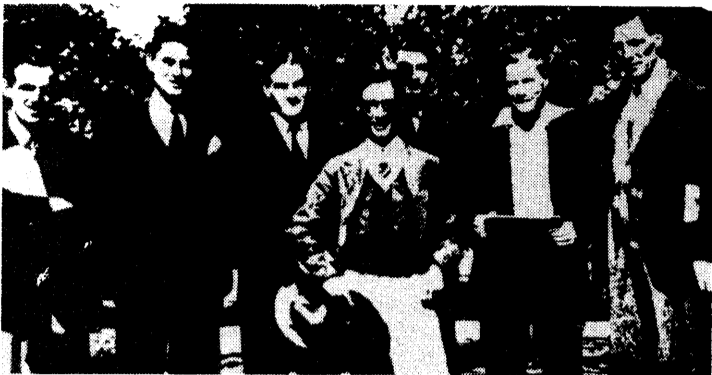


## books

## How British Trotskyism Began

by Jack Gale

## Part 1



The Balham group. Left to right: Bill Rowlands, Cyril Whiting, Frank Chalcraft, Temple, Reg Groves (at back), Hugo Dewar and Henry Sara.

Reprinted from Workers Press, daily Trotskyist newspaper of the British Workers Revolutionary Party.

The Balham Group: How British Trotskyism Began. by Reg Groves. Pluto Press. \$4.32 hardback. \$1.80 paperback. 111 pages.

This book can only be described as politically repugnant to Trotskyists. It is an attempt to reinterpret the founding of the first Trotskyist organization in Britain from the standpoint of the present-day anticommunist perspectives of the International Socialism group.

In May 1932, the British section of the Left Opposition issued its first bulletin. Most of it was given over to Leon Trotsky's vital pamphlet *Germany, the Key to the International Situation*.

Reg Groves was one of the dozen or so people who formed the section and who were to be witch-hunted out of the Communist Party for doing so.

The significance of that historic step far outweighed the numerical size of the group. They had, in fact, begun the tendency that will lead the proletarian revolution in this country.

And the international Left Opposition was to become the Fourth International, historically committed to continue the worldwide struggle of the Communist International in its Leninist first five years and to be the embodiment and development of Marxism in the fight against Stalinism.

But the IS State Capitalists, the reactionary worshippers of bureaucracy, have to write off Trotskyism as they write off Bolshevism and the Russian Revolution.

So Groves—who acknowledges the help given him by Duncan Hallas—now says that the struggle taken up in the British Communist Party in support of Trotsky's position was "a confused and hopeless protest, it happened a long time ago and is now no more than a footnote on the pages of our left socialist histories."

And he goes even further. There is "a segment of truth," he writes, in the view that the break was "an outbreak of Left sectarianism."

To the State Capitalists, and all renegades, the principled stand of Trotskyism, its refusal to compromise on fundamental questions, had always been sneered at as "Left sectarianism." Let Groves speak for himself and his anticommunist collaborators of the International Socialism Group.

The Balham Group, in fact, fought the British Stalinist leaders on principled grounds. They refused to accept the Stalinist denigration of Trotsky. They supported Trotsky's call for a united front between the German Communist Party and

Social Democrats to defeat Hitler. They rejected "Third Period" ultra-leftism both in Germany, where it split the working class and opened the door for fascism, and in the unions.

Later in 1935, after the seventh and last congress of the Third Communist International (CI) they fought against the swing to the Popular Front during which the Stalinists subordinated Communist opposition to war to bourgeois pacifism.

The actual incident for which the first members of the Group were expelled from the Communist Party was when they mandated a delegate to the World Congress for Peace to explain that workers should fight for the defeat of their own ruling class in any war waged by the capitalists—and that the world revolution was essential to the defense of the Soviet Union.

This shows the principled attitude of Trotskyism towards war, in contrast to the position of the reformists and Stalinists at the time.

Even if the Balham group had done nothing else than defend that position, their contribution would have been a valuable one.

In fact, this book contains in the appendices a number of documents that are of real interest to genuine Trotskyists and historians.

These include the letter to "Our comrades in the Communist Party from the 'liquidated' Balham Group"; An Open Letter to Harry Pollitt; An Appeal to CP Congress Delegates from the Balham Group and a letter to the delegates at the 1932 Party congress from the British Group of the Left Opposition; and the policy statements "Germany! To all Communist and Militant Workers" and "Unite! To all working class men and women in SW London."

But what is of particular interest is the hesitant way in which the Balham Group came to join the Left Opposition in a proper organized form.

Trotsky wrote from Turkey urging that "the British Left Opposition must begin systematic work. You must establish a staff center, though a small one. You must build your own publications, even on a modest scale."

"It is necessary to have a steady, uninterrupted activity, analysis, criticism, and propaganda. It is necessary to educate our cadres, although in the first stages few."

Groves and his comrades still hesitated, despite being visited by emissaries from the Left Opposition in the United States.

He describes himself as "a reluctant delegate" to an enlarged meeting of the Left Opposition's International Secretariat in Paris in February 1933.

TO BE CONTINUED

## Strike Wave Sweeps Northwest Area

BY DENNIS FULLER

"You know, you can't drive through the northwest area of Portland without seeing pickets. These strikes are going to cover this country like a blanket," said Arnie Hotland on strike at the Carnation Pet Foods plant in Hillsboro, Oregon.

The wave of strikes in the Pacific Northwest, against big and small companies, continues to spread, bringing workers into struggle who have never been on strike before.

The deepening power of the strike wave is expressed by these strikers, many of whom have worked at the same company for more than 20 years.

Workers whose wages under two and three year contracts were held to 5.5 percent annual increases or less under federal pay controls now refuse to accept 10 and 15 percent wage in-

Food Employers group.

The Seattle daily newspapers have carried full page ads by Allied Employers, Inc. asserting that the grocery clerks have turned down immediate wage increases of over 10 percent.

"The union is still demanding that we pay substantially more than what we have offered in wages and other benefits," the ad states. The employer group claims to be "holding the line against inflation" and asks readers to "shop our stores now." The stores are attempting to remain open during the strike.

Eighty-five machinists and electricians have gone out on strike against a Nabisco Co. in Portland demanding an immediate 67 cent wage hike plus cost of living increase. Six hundred other employees at the bakery have refused to cross the picket line. The company is offering a 50 cent wage increase with no cost of living.

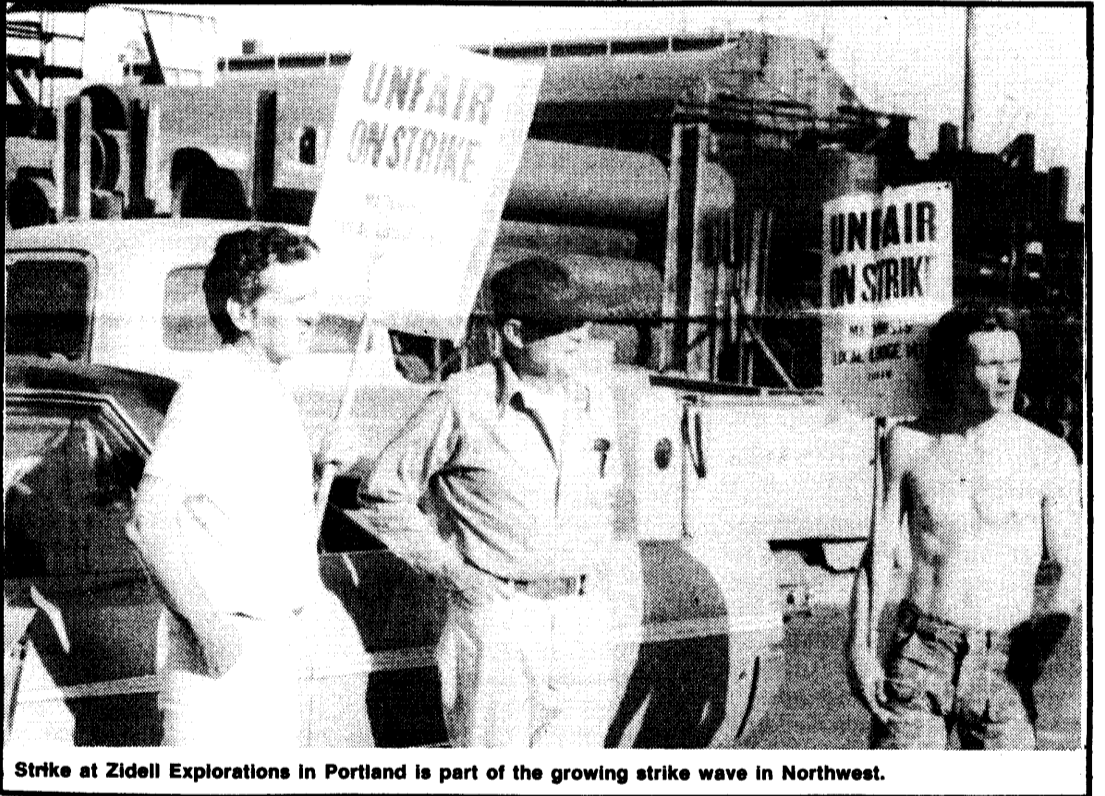
"The last time, we signed a three-year contract and they said that if anything drastic happens to the economy, they would talk about wages," one

mediation service into the negotiations. According to one picket, Hyster is not now working on any defense contract.

The first strike in the 50-year history of the Brailey and Grand Jewelry Theatre company in Beaverton, Oregon, involving 28 members of machinists Local 1005 is demanding a \$1 an hour wage increase.

"They're trying to cut your throat," said a striking member of Teamster Local 206 about the attempt by the Continental Can Company in Portland to put a cap on the cost of living clause in the contract. Four hundred workers are involved in that shutdown.

A bitter strike by 250 machinists against Zidell Explorations in Portland is continuing into its third week. Zidell is attempting to reclassify half of the employees from skilled journeymen machinists to unskilled laborers, cutting wages by almost one-third. A firm affiliated with Zidell, Tube Forgings of America, is being picketed during the strike and is now suing machinists Local 1432 in US District Court, charging



Strike at Zidell Explorations in Portland is part of the growing strike wave in Northwest.

creases without cost of living guaranteed.

The strike by 54 members of Teamsters Local 305 at the Carnation Pet Foods plant is in its third week. The union is demanding a 70 cents wage increase across the board and cost of living increases over one year. Carnation is offering up to 53 cents an hour added to the present wage rate of \$4.21, but argues that it is impossible to have cost of living increases in a one year contract.

"We would accept the 53 cents if we got the cost of living," said one picket. "That's worth a lot more."

Following the recent settlement of lengthy strikes in Washington and Oregon involving 7000 metal trades workers and 1700 pulp and paper workers, 6000 grocery clerks have struck markets in Seattle and Tacoma. Two thousand more clerks also may walk out or be locked out by employer associations.

At the same time in the Portland area, 4000 grocery and bakery workers, members of Retail Clerks Union Local 1092, have voted "unanimous" strike authorization to its negotiating committee in dealings with the

Nabisco striker told the Bulletin. "Well, it did, and we sat down with them and they said, 'Well, we talked about wages, like the contract said, now let's go home.' We were left with our mouths open."

The first-ever strike by 600 members of the United Shop and Service Employees Union has closed down the headquarters plant of the Hyster Co. in Portland. The strike against the forklift manufacturer is in its third week.

The USSE was formed by company representatives several years ago and still maintains its office on company property. It is sharing another office off the Hyster property during the strike.

A picket outside the plant told the Bulletin that the workers twice voted down the company offers. The union is demanding a three year contract with annual wage increases of 15, 10 and 10 percent plus a cost of living adjustment in the third year.

After the strike began, the US Defense Dept. declared Hyster "an essential defense industry," thus forcing the federal

the union with violating the contract and a National Labor Relations law. Tube Forgings is seeking \$397,000 in the suit and \$28,000 each day picketing continues.

A strike by 650 members of Cement Masons Local 555 has shut construction sites in Oregon and southwest Washington, involving several thousand construction workers. The strike began when the cement masons rank and file rejected a 75 cent wage and fringe benefits increase offered by the Associated General Contractors that four other construction unions had accepted.

Other Pacific Northwest strikes settled in recent days include one by 500 Teamsters against dairy companies in Seattle; a 2-month strike by 400 members of the Glass Bottle Blowers Association Local 112 against the Owens-Illinois plant in Portland; an 11 week strike by three roofing locals in the Seattle area, a strike against the Washton Natural Gas Co. in Seattle; and a 7-week strike by 500 members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers against the Wash-ton Water Power Co. in Spokane.



# Cops Mace Strikers At Borax Plant

BY SHANNON JONES  
BORON, Calif.—  
Members of International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, Local 30, on strike against US Borax for a 25 percent wage increase and full cost of living and medical benefits, are being met by a determined company strategy to break the union.

Police are continuing a deliberate campaign of harassment and terror against striking union members. On Sunday four strikers were maced and another thrown in jail by police, bringing to 10 the number the police have arrested since the strike began on June 14.

The same day another worker was beaten by police after he rescued a policeman who had fallen under the train he was guarding. The police accused him of kidnapping.

The company has rented helicopters which fly low over the town where the workers live and over the picket line. Workers claim that the helicopters have been used to rain nails on pickets and for other acts of harassment.

Mr. Bogushin, a member of Local 30, told the Bulletin: "This is the same crew they had up

against Chavez. They just moved them over about 80 miles." He was referring to the Kern County Sheriffs deputies now patrolling the town and the plant.

Bogushin estimates that almost 100 police are now in Boron. One worker told the Bulletin: "Before the strike you couldn't find them when you needed them but now they're all over town."

In addition to the police, the company has hired large numbers of "rent-a-thugs" and guards to police the plant. The plant is still in partial operation with supervisory personnel being used. Workers claim that many of the guards the company is hiring, some for as much as \$250 a week, are being used as scabs.

The strike began when the company broke off negotiations 36 hours before the contract deadline after workers voted overwhelmingly to reject the company's offer of a flat 10 percent with no benefits or escalator clause. In recent negotiations the company has refused to move an inch.

The Bulletin interviewed Stan Hurley, who has worked at Borax for 23 years and was recently fired because of disabilities he had received on the job, including the loss of an eye. He was left to support himself without any compensation whatsoever by the company.

About his firing Hurley said, "If a man can't sell his labor he isn't worth nothing." Hurley feels that the company is out to break the union. He told the



Borax workers have been maced, jailed, and bombarded with nails from police helicopters.

Bulletin that the company hired a new personnel manager who said before he came, "I'll go to Boron and I'll break that union."

Many workers are already feeling the financial strain of the strike and are planning to move

out or have moved out looking for jobs to feed their families. The local has no strike fund and the ILWU has yet to contribute any money or call out its other locals in support of the strike.

Despite the hardships,

workers here are determined to "stay out until we starve." One worker told the Bulletin:

"It's all part of Nixon's plan to keep the working man down, because if the working man gets up, they'd all be down the road."

## Teamsters Council Votes To Support Nurses Strike

BY MARTY MORAN  
SAN FRANCISCO—Top federal mediator W.J. Ussery has imposed a news blackout in the Bay Area nurses strike, which is now reaching the end of its third week.

The blackout covers the hospital associations and the California Nurses Association.

The nurses received powerful support last weekend when the Joint Council of Teamsters voted to sanction the strike. All deliveries are being turned away except certain vital life-support supplies such as oxygen.

Cindy, a nurse at Mt. Zion Hospital, told the Bulletin: "They put unqualified nurses in the Intensive Care nursery. It puts greater strain on the staff nurses."

"Especially when you've got some critical kids you're looking after. It's really a strain when you're not sure the other person knows what they're doing."

Mary Jo said: "This clause was in the 1971 contract which expired in December 1973. It just wasn't being enforced."

"Now management wants to take it out. They make it sound like it's something new."

The newspapers and hospitals have kept up a continuous barrage of publicity, implying the nurses are violating professional ethics by striking and are endangering the lives of patients. This was stepped up when the CNA escalated the strike last week by withdrawing all nurses from critical and intensive care units, where they had been permitted to work despite the strike.

### MORAL

One nurse said: "I would rather be back inside with my patients. I feel I have to be out because it means more than what happens the next day, but what happens next month and next year."

"It's a moral question. It's not something you can compromise. Somebody has to win and somebody has to lose."

Another nurse said: "Their thinking is on the line of running a business. We're thinking along the line of our patients."

We're not trying to threaten anybody. We're asking for something that should be."

AFL-CIO hospital workers Local 250 has taken no action in support of the nurses and all AFL-CIO trades are being ordered to cross the nurses picket lines.

The CNA leadership has not even formally requested Labor Council strike sanction, claim-

ing they did not want to be obligated to honor AFL-CIO picket lines in return.

Mary Jo said about the AFL-CIO workers at Mt. Zion: "They've been pretty supportive, as much as the administration will let them be. They wish the union had sanctioned the strike so they could go out. If they came out, we'd all be back in pretty soon."

## SF Holds Up \$45 Pay Hike

BY TED BAKER

SAN FRANCISCO—The city controller is refusing to release money for a raise won by city workers here.

After a 9 day strike in March, city workers won a \$45 a month raise and a dental plan. The city controller is holding both until a Chamber of Commerce backed suit against the settlement is decided in court.

The suit demands annulment of the entire city ordinance embodying the strike settlement on the grounds that it is illegal under both the city charter and the state constitution. Yesterday, the State Supreme Court refused to hear the case returning it to the Appellate courts where it could take years to even come to trial.

This leaves the city controller in the legal position to annul any settlement agreed to between the city and the unions. If the court finds the settlement is illegal, then all future strikes by city workers will be illegal under the same ruling, as well as all negotiations by the board of supervisors.

What is at stake in this case is the very life of the unions and the basic democratic rights of thousands of workers.

Dorothy, a worker at Laguna Honda, a giant convalescent hospital, told the Bulletin: "The trouble with our union is that it knuckles under to the board of supervisors every time before we even get to vote on it. They sold us out last time and they sold us out in 1970 too."

"The board of supervisors give themselves fat raises and

they're making 37,000 or 40,000 dollars, but they haven't even paid us our raise from April 1970.

"If we strike again, we have to get every worker in San Francisco, not just city and county employees, but the Emporium, Penny's, everyone, out with us, and we can't go back until we have the money in our hands."

"If they take it away again, then we have to go out again."

Union leaders are desperately trying to avoid another strike. During the last strike, Governor Reagan threatened to bring in national guardsmen against the union, and every section of the labor movement rallied in defense of the city workers.

The only action they have taken has been to file a court suit demanding the increases be paid.

Bill Bradley, Local 400 staff representative, said: "We're pursuing it through the legal channels and we're quite optimistic we'll win it. If we don't, that would mean all future strikes are invalid for the same reason."

City workers must fight for strike action July first, the date the increases are supposed to go into effect. To carry this fight through, a new leadership must be built in the city workers unions pledged to build a labor party. City workers must demand that the San Francisco Labor Council, the ILWU, and the Teamsters, be prepared to back the city workers with general strike action.

## Ford Trainees Get No Chance To Join Union

BY JOHN ARMAND

MILPITAS, Calif.—The shutdown of the Ford Milpitas plant is over. Work resumed after the end of the Chicago strike which crippled the production of parts.

The workers come back to work facing many of the same conditions which drove Chicago workers to strike. While other plants have been subjected to mass layoffs, the Milpitas plant has hired nearly 1000 new workers since February, for the production of Pintos and the Mustang II. Many of the new workers are young. Ford has no intention of keeping the large number of trainees but is pushing productivity and keeping the "cream of the crop."

J.W., who has worked on the line since January said, "Six out of seven men in training in my section have been fired. The company is firing them before they get into the union. My foreman once boasted to me that he has fired five out of six new men."

"When I started, the line speed was 50 cars per hour, now it's officially at 56, but the relief man clocked it at 58."

John, who works in the paint shop, said: "I agree with the Chicago strike, we face the same conditions here. Where I work it's hotter than hell."

"The line is going a lot faster. I am having to do new guys' jobs who are inexperienced and the line keeps moving faster. The equipment keeps breaking down."

"We've been working eight and a half hours a day. They told me that we would be working nine and a half tomorrow, for

just one day, but I don't trust them."

The strike of the Chicago auto workers demonstrates the power that the UAW has to fight these conditions and overturn the 1973 contract through a national auto strike.

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La labor de esta columna es la construcción de un nuevo liderazgo en la clase obrera. Es por ello que necesitamos el apoyo de todos los obreros hispanos en desarrollar esta columna. Favor de dirigir su correspondencia a: Lucía Rivera, c/o Labor Publications, 135 West 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011

# lucha obrera

lucía rivera



## Plataforma Electoral Del Partido Obrero Parte 3

LA LIGA OBRERA (Workers League) ha iniciado su primera campaña electoral en los distritos congresionales 12 y 14, que cubren la sección de Bedford-Stuyvesant en Brooklyn, bajo la cédula electoral del Partido Obrero. Los candidatos de la Liga Obrera, están corriendo con el objetivo de dirigir la lucha de la clase obrera por construir su propio partido independiente.

### LA CRISIS ECONOMICA

Cada uno de estos ataques a los trabajadores es llevado a cabo para preservar las ganancias de las grandes corporaciones. Estos ataques provienen del sistema capitalista que hoy está en la mayor crisis de su historia. La decisión de Nixon del 15 de agosto de 1971 de suprimir el respaldo de oro al dólar está llevando rápidamente a un colapso económico mundial de proporciones enormes. La tremenda inflación del papel moneda que ha aumentado los precios astronómicamente ya ha llevado al sistema capitalista del valor a un punto de no retorno.

Lo que esto significa es que la inflación incontrolable está hoy dirigida hacia una tremenda baja en la producción y un colapso del comercio mundial. Los capitalistas no pueden producir sus mercancías si sus ganancias son consumidas por la inflación y los países no pueden intercambiar mercancías si el valor de sus monedas varía de día a día. El aumento masivo de los precios de las materias primas y demás mercancías ha creado déficits en las balanzas de pago que amenaza a países enteros—no solo corporaciones—con una bancarrota total. Por ejemplo, Italia está duplicando a los banqueros mundiales para que le presten un billón de dólares para cubrir sus deudas más urgentes. Pero lo que Italia, Francia e Inglaterra confrontan hoy, explotará en los Estados Unidos mañana.

Nixon se está moviendo contra los trabajadores americanos debido a esta crisis, que él está decidido en hacernos pagar. Este es el significado de la declaración del representante principal de los bancos, Arthur Burns, que "no creo que exagero en decir que las consecuencias últimas de la inflación pueden muy bien ser una reducción significativa de la libertad política y económica del pueblo americano."

### NECESITAMOS NUESTRO PROPIO PARTIDO

No hay solución a la crisis fuera de una solución política luchada por la clase obrera. Nada cambiará en este país para bien hasta que los trabajadores americanos construyan su propio partido político, un partido de los trabajadores basado en las uniones, para luchar por un programa socialista.

Debemos de construir la alternativa a este gobierno mientras que Watergate revela cómo este gobierno es administrado y los peligros que ahora enfrentamos. Las transcripciones secretas de la Casa Blanca no solo muestran la innegable culpa de Nixon en un número incontable de crímenes, sino que también muestra las preparaciones de las grandes corporaciones para la dictadura bajo la cobertura de las formas de democracia. Con una red privada de agentes secretos y policías a su disposición, Nixon desafió la Constitución y continúa haciéndolo hoy. Hace esto no por fortaleza pero porque la crisis económica crea hoy las condiciones para el colapso de la democracia. O la clase obrera construye su propio partido como el primer gran paso para establecer el socialismo, o nos dirigiremos hacia la dictadura y el fascismo, cualquiera que sea el nombre del dictador.

Los liberales del Partido Demócrata apoyan el programa de Nixon. Políticos como Shirley Chisholm no tienen nada que ofrecer a la clase obrera más que promesas rotas. Ella no ha hecho nada para detener la deterioración de las condiciones de Bedford-Stuyvesant. ¿Dónde está toda la industria que Chisholm prometió traer al área? ¿Qué es lo que ha hecho para mejorar las viviendas miserables dentro del distrito? Más de un tercio de los trabajadores de Bedford-Stuyvesant ganan menos de \$ 3000 al año después de pagar sus impuestos.

Continuará

# Norwood To Vote Again

BY

**DOROTHY WRIGHT**  
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### MINISTRIKE

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### WOODCOCK

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Another worker said: "It's all messed up. We should come right back out here on the streets and stay until it is settled. We were out seven months last time and we should have stayed out then."

## PRICES...

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### DEFICIT

The United States was hit with a near record balance of trade deficit of \$776.9 million in May as the economic crisis has reduced demand for American goods abroad, while inflation has sent the cost of imported raw materials skyrocketing.

The dimensions of this inflation can be gauged by the increase in the cost of oil imports. Last month, the US paid \$2.2 billion for importing 187.7 million barrels of fuel. One year ago, the US imported 194.8 million barrels at a cost of \$572.4 million.

With a multibillion dollar trade deficit now likely for 1974, there will be a rapid deterioration in the standing of the dollar. This must lead to a further rise in the price of gold as the value of all paper currencies quickly breaks down.

Already, the inflation has been a major factor in the slump of the auto industry as masses of working class and middle class people cannot afford to buy cars.

Auto sales for June 11-20 were down 17 percent over the same period in 1973. American Motors, which specializes in small cars, was hit by a 13.6 percent decline.

The decision of the Chase Manhattan Bank to raise its prime lending rate to 11.75 percent will aggravate the tendencies toward slump. There is absolutely no doubt that the interest rate will soon reach an unprecedented 12 percent, making it impossible for corporations to meet their credit needs.

### HARBINGERS

These statistics are the harbingers of an economic collapse which cannot be denied any longer by even capitalist economists.

Specialists at an international monetary forum held on Tuesday in Milan, Italy, said that the decision of Nixon on August 15, 1971 to remove gold backing from the dollar was largely responsible for the 300 percent

increase in the amount of international monetary reserves consisting largely of worthless paper dollars.

"If the world monetary system is not reformed to put a lid on the expansion of liquidity," said economist Robert A. Mundell, "we will see the breakdown of western European and North American civilization."

The capitalists who created this crisis are now seeking to place the full weight of it upon the backs of the working class.

However, the strike wave which has already begun as workers move into action to defend their living standards will mean a tremendous deepening of the crisis, just as the strike wave of 1969-1970 drove Nixon to the desperate measures of August 15.

The unending round of price increases must be answered by strike action by the unions to defend living standards. Such action cannot be postponed when the real spendable earnings of factory workers was down 4.6 percent in May compared to one year before.

Auto workers and steel workers in particular must fight for national strike action to reopen their contracts for immediate 20 percent wage hikes plus 100 percent full cost of living escalators.

### STRANGLER

United Auto Workers and United Steel Workers of America members are being strangled by three year contracts whose raises over the entire period do not equal the annual rate of inflation.

And while workers are saddled with these increases, the steel barons and auto bosses do not hesitate to raise prices whenever they want to.

Bethlehem Steel has raised its prices no less than three times in as many months. The auto industry has ordered several price hikes since the official expiration of controls.

Where a fight has been taken up on wages, workers have been able to defend their living standards to a certain extent. Plumbers in San Francisco have just won a one year contract with a wage increase of 19 percent.

Carpenters in California have won a \$1.25 an hour increase in a one year contract after a strike shut down virtually all construction sites in the northern part of the state.

Amalgamated Meat Cutters received a \$25 weekly raise in New England, following a two week strike.

However, as workers fight for strike action, the labor movement must confront the political tasks posed by the economic crisis.

Workers cannot keep up with inflation or prevent mass unemployment through strike action alone because both are rooted in the economic crisis. It forces the capitalists to deepen their attacks on living standards and working conditions as the government prepares repression to carry out the brutal policies demanded by the employers.

The capitalist system can survive today only through the destruction of living standards, the imposition of fascist dictatorship and the launching of world war.

The working class must meet these attacks by fighting politically for its solution to the crisis—for socialist policies based on the nationalization of all industry under workers control, to guarantee full employment and decent living conditions.

This fight must be taken up by the convening of a Congress of Labor to construct a labor party pledged to fight for socialist policies while mobilizing millions of workers to throw Nixon out.

The bankruptcy of the entire labor bureaucracy makes it clear that it falls to the Workers League and Young Socialists to construct the revolutionary leadership of the working class that will carry these policies out.

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Considering the wonderful support by readers of our recently concluded spring drive for the daily paper, we are sure, with your help, we will be able to meet this goal while we raise the special funds needed for the Brooklyn election campaign.



La labor de esta columna es la construcción de un nuevo liderazgo en la clase obrera. Es por ello que necesitamos el apoyo de todos los obreros hispanos en desarrollar esta columna. Favor de dirigir su correspondencia a: Lucía Rivera, c/o Labor Publications, 135 West 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011

# lucha obrera

lucía rivera



## Plataforma Electoral Del Partido Obrero Parte 3

LA LIGA OBRERA (Workers League) ha iniciado su primera campaña electoral en los distritos congresionales 12 y 14, que cubren la sección de Bedford-Stuyvesant en Brooklyn, bajo la cédula electoral del Partido Obrero. Los candidatos de la Liga Obrera, están corriendo con el objetivo de dirigir la lucha de la clase obrera por construir su propio partido independiente.

### LA CRISIS ECONOMICA

Cada uno de estos ataques a los trabajadores es llevado a cabo para preservar las ganancias de las grandes corporaciones. Estos ataques provienen del sistema capitalista que hoy está en la mayor crisis de su historia. La decisión de Nixon del 15 de agosto de 1971 de suprimir el respaldo de oro al dólar está llevando rápidamente a un colapso económico mundial de proporciones enormes. La tremenda inflación del papel moneda que ha aumentado los precios astronómicamente ya ha llevado al sistema capitalista del valor a un punto de no retorno.

Lo que esto significa es que la inflación incontrolable está hoy dirigida hacia una tremenda baja en la producción y un colapso del comercio mundial. Los capitalistas no pueden producir sus mercancías si sus ganancias son consumidas por la inflación y los países no pueden intercambiar mercancías si el valor de sus monedas varía de día a día. El aumento masivo de los precios de las materias primas y demás mercancías ha creado déficits en las balanzas de pago que amenaza a países enteros—no solo corporaciones—con una bancarrota total. Por ejemplo, Italia está suplicando a los banqueros mundiales para que le presten un billón de dólares para cubrir sus deudas más urgentes. Pero lo que Italia, Francia e Inglaterra confrontan hoy, explotará en los Estados Unidos mañana.

Nixon se está moviendo contra los trabajadores americanos debido a esta crisis, que él está decidido en hacernos pagar. Este es el significado de la declaración del representante principal de los bancos, Arthur Burns, que "no creo que exagero en decir que las consecuencias últimas de la inflación pueden muy bien ser una reducción significativa de la libertad política y económica del pueblo americano."

### NECESITAMOS NUESTRO PROPIO PARTIDO

No hay solución a la crisis fuera de una solución política luchada por la clase obrera. Nada cambiará en este país para bien hasta que los trabajadores americanos construyan su propio partido político, un partido de los trabajadores basado en las uniones, para luchar por un programa socialista.

Debemos de construir la alternativa a este gobierno mientras que Watergate revela cómo este gobierno es administrado y los peligros que ahora enfrentamos. Las transcripciones secretas de la Casa Blanca no solo muestran la innegable culpa de Nixon en un número incontable de crímenes, sino que también muestra las preparaciones de las grandes corporaciones para la dictadura bajo la cobertura de las formas de democracia. Con una red privada de agentes secretos y policías a su disposición, Nixon desafió la Constitución y continúa haciéndolo hoy. Hace esto no por fortaleza pero porque la crisis económica crea hoy las condiciones para el colapso de la democracia. O la clase obrera construye su propio partido como el primer gran paso para establecer el socialismo, o nos dirigiremos hacia la dictadura y el fascismo, cualquiera que sea el nombre del dictador.

Los liberales del Partido Demócrata apoyan el programa de Nixon. Políticos como Shirley Chisholm no tienen nada que ofrecer a la clase obrera más que promesas rotas. Ella no ha hecho nada para detener la deterioración de las condiciones de Bedford-Stuyvesant. ¿Dónde está toda la industria que Chisholm prometió traer al área? ¿Qué es lo que ha hecho para mejorar las viviendas miserables dentro del distrito? Más de un tercio de los trabajadores de Bedford-Stuyvesant ganan menos de \$ 3000 al año después de pagar sus impuestos.

Continuará

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