

# Bulletin

HOOVER  
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INSTITUTION

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

VOLUME TEN NUMBER EIGHTY ONE 417

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1974

TWENTY CENTS

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# THE SLUMP IS ON

## Rockefeller Owes Million

BY DAVID NORTH

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Rockefeller revealed in a letter to the Senate Rules Committee and the House Judiciary Committee that he must pay \$820,718 owed in federal income taxes and an additional \$83,000 in gift taxes, a total of \$903,718.

Upon making the evidence available, Rockefeller attempted to minimize the extent of his criminal delinquency by comparing the amount owed to the total amount he has paid in taxes over the last 10 years.

But, in fact, the delinquency was accumulated over the last five years, and represents at least 20 percent of the amount Rockefeller actually paid to the IRS.

Supporters of Rockefeller in the Congress are admitting for the first time that he might not be confirmed.

Senator Jacob Javits, an old Rockefeller crony who recently received a campaign gift of \$15,000 from him, stated: "I would not think it is a fatal blow, but this is a cumulative thing...the taxes plus other

things might sink him."

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He told reporters aboard the presidential aircraft that there is an important difference between the scandals surrounding Rockefeller and those which forced Nixon's resignation:

"Watergate was a coverup. Everything that's come out about Nelson Rockefeller has been open."

The Rockefeller revelations are an enormous blow to the Ford regime, which had nominated the former governor in order to invest this administration with some stability. Instead, Ford now must defend not only the pardon of Nixon, but also the nomination of Rockefeller.

These scandals reveal the advanced degree of decomposition of the capitalist two party system.

The trade union bureaucracy is conspicuously silent on the Rockefeller nomination.

Throughout his political career, Rockefeller enjoyed the warmest relations with the AFL-CIO bureaucracy and regularly received its endorsements for his campaigns.

The AFL-CIO refuses to take advantage of the crisis of the Ford regime to strike a powerful blow in defense of the living standards of the working class by breaking with these despised and discredited politicians and launching an independent labor party.

BY JEFF SEBASTIAN  
Commerce Department figures provide unmistakable proof that a major recession is underway in the American economy.

The slump is spreading to every sector of production. According to the latest figures released on the third quarter of 1974, Gross National Product (GNP) fell at an annual rate of 2.9 percent. This was combined with a new leap in inflation back up to double digit levels of 11.5 percent.

This marks the third consecutive quarter in which the GNP has fallen. In the first quarter, the GNP declined at a rate of 7 percent, while inflation rose at 12.3 percent. In the second quarter, the fall was 1.6 percent with a 9.3 percent inflation.

The first quarter figures were taken at the height of the impact of the oil embargo. The new figures prove that the recession was beginning, independently of the oil crisis.

The seriousness of the situation was exposed by the attempts of Commerce Secretary Dent to distort the meaning of the figures. He declared that it was entirely due to declines in

oil exports, residential construction, and inventory accumulation. He declared that it represented a "spasm" or "side-ways waffling."

The only waffling here is Mr. Dent's. The reality is that every indicator on production is down. These include government spending on goods and services, nonresidential construction, and vitally important business investment in machinery and equipment.

### HOUSING

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And they aim to make it worse. Unemployment figures released for September show 5.3 million workers officially looking for jobs.

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tary action to eat less, drive less, and consume less only conceal the administration's real perspective: the slump will force these proposals on millions of unemployed workers on an involuntary basis.

The figures released on the GNP conceal the real depth of the crisis. This can be seen in the conditions in the automobile industry.

This is the key sector of the American economy, and slump developing here must spread in ever-broadening waves to virtually every area of the economy. It is estimated that one in every seven jobs is dependent on this industry.

The inflation-ridden auto industry has hiked prices on new models, reflected in a tremendous decline in sales.

### SALES

In August, sales were at an annual rate of 9.5 million. In September, this fell to a rate of 8.4 million. In early October, this had declined further to an incredible annual rate of less than 7 million.

The industry now has well over 80,000 workers on indefinite lay-off. The giant General Motors Corporation lists fully 10 percent of its work force as indefinitely laid off.

New announcements by Ford

(Continued On Page 11)



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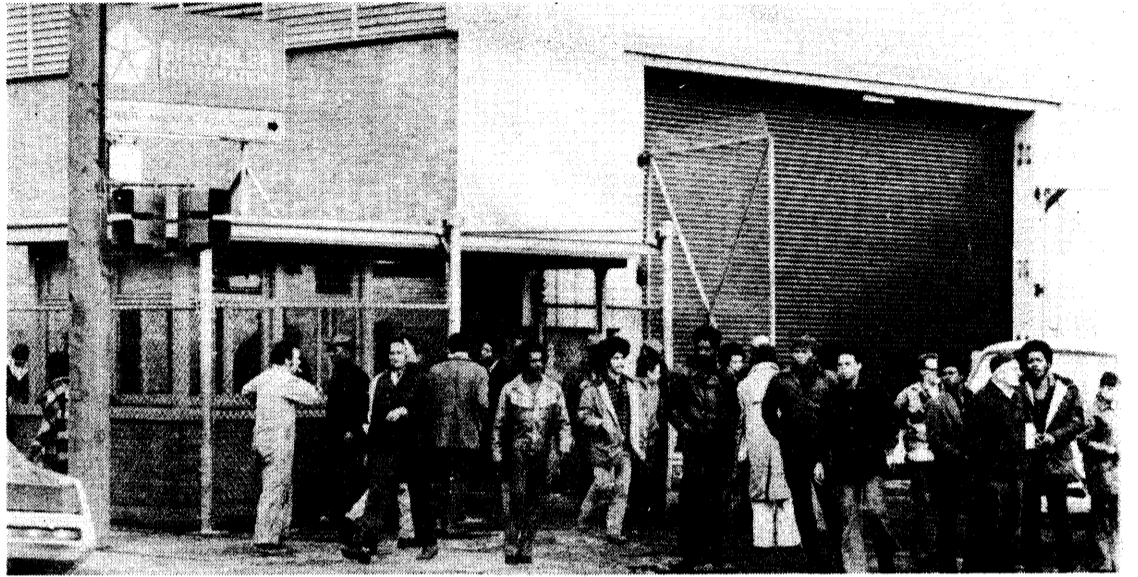
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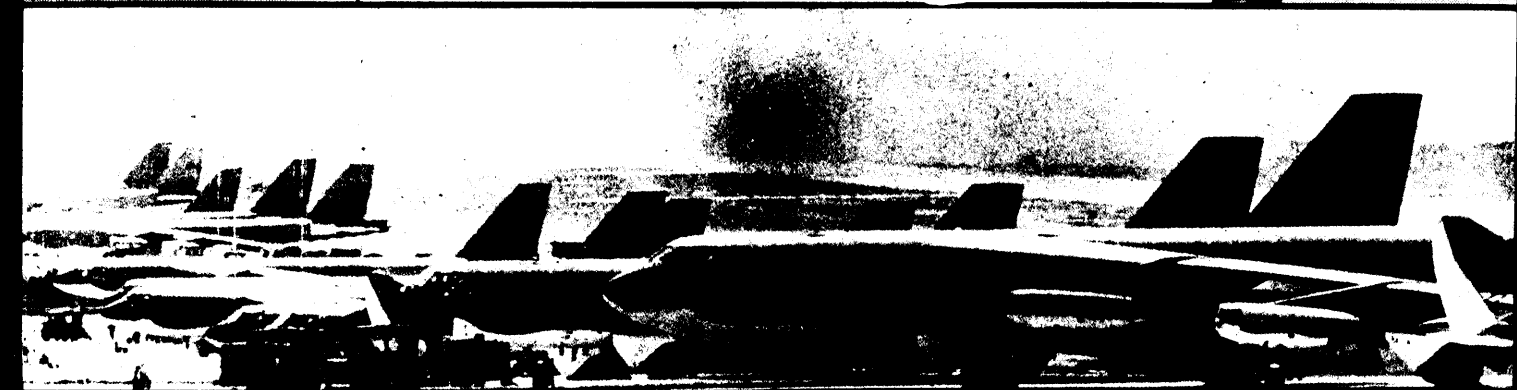
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(Continued On Page 11)



# FORD/KISSINGER

## PLOT OIL TAKEOVER



**BY DAVID NORTH**  
**On September 23, 1974, Gerald Ford and Henry Kissinger let fly a double-barrelled salvo of threats against the oil-producing countries of the Middle East.**

Speaking before the World Energy Conference in Detroit, the President berated OPEC (organization of major oil-exporting nations) for raising the price of crude oil, and then gave a rather pointed description of imperialism:

"Throughout history, nations have gone to war over natural advantages such as water, food, or convenient passages on land and sea."

Dr. Kissinger was still more explicit as he addressed the United Nations:

"Nuclear catastrophe looms more plausible—whether through design or miscalculation, accident, theft or blackmail."

He then warned the OPEC nations about the possible consequences of the rise in oil prices:

"What has gone up by political decision can be reduced by political decision."

Kissinger's statement immediately prompted questions about where those political decisions will be made, in Saudi Arabia or in Washington, DC.

### SIGNIFICANCE

There should be no minimizing the significance of these threats. Behind their statements stands the enormous crisis of American capitalism which drives the ruling class down the road to war.

Discussions of American war aims should be taken as seriously as those of Germany in the 1930s. There can be no doubt but that the possibilities of military intervention in the Middle East are being considered.

Tad Szulc, the well-known journalist who had obtained advance information on the Bay of Pigs and Cambodian invasions (but never published by The New York Times), stated when asked if the US might invade the Middle East:

"It would be a terribly foolish thing to do, open a can of worms—but having said that, there is always someone who is foolish enough to do something like this."

He continued: "Look, there's a contingency planning for anything you want to mention, because there are an awful lot of colonels and generals who do nothing but plan contingencies, you know."

"And I think every government has got a contingency plan for invading the moon, with conventional forces. But I just don't see anybody at this stage making such a decision. Now, what happens six months from now... Obviously there is no policy here."

The attitude toward a new war within the military was put forward by an anonymous officer quoted by New York Magazine.

### UPHEAVALS

"If things really get bad in this country, the potential social upheavals will force the government to look outside. And if the government wants to preserve itself, or if the system wants to preserve itself, it will naturally have to take into consideration what the hell are six million people in Saudi Arabia or three million people in Libya or one million people in the Trucial States—what the hell right to they have, as it would be put, to put us out of business, in effect? And when people get desperate, they can find plenty of rationalizations. 'We found the oil, we invested in it, we had contracts for it...' You can make thousands of arguments."

Even more chilling is an interview with a government official conducted by Newsweek on the possibility of war. He said: "If the oil-producing nations drive the world into depression in their greed, the west might be forced into a desperate military adventure."

"But it would be a nightmare—trying to pump oil for decades in the midst of what would amount to guerrilla war and probably worldwide terror."

Newsweek commented: "To be meaningful, a military intervention would have to be directed against Saudi Arabia, the largest oil producer, and it would



need to be both quick and massive.

"In addition to seizing the major oil fields, troops would have to secure the loading facilities at Ras Tanura 125 miles away on the Persian Gulf and control the narrow Strait of Hormuz through which tankers would have to pass."

### AIRPOWER

"The US would need to mass enough airpower to repel a counterattack by Arab air forces and perhaps even land in neighboring sheikhdoms to block them from reinforcing the Saudis. It would have to be done with enough speed to take the oil fields before they could be blown up."

"Only the imminent breakdown of western society could spur Washington to launch such an attack."

Yet when Ford spoke in Detroit, he warned of the danger

of the type of collapse that Newsweek maintains might provoke a war. Ford declared that "exorbitant (oil) prices can only distort the world economy, run the risk of a worldwide depression, and threaten the breakdown of world order and security."

Military intervention would not solve the economic crisis. Newsweek points out: "The oil-field could be so badly damaged that the West would have even less oil than it does now."

"The Soviet Union could react with some military action of its own—on the side of the Arabs. And that could draw the two superpowers into a head-on confrontation that could turn into a nuclear showdown."

This scenario draws its realistic character from the threat to the economy posed by the rise in the price of oil. The Arabs have not raised the price arbitrarily, as Ford and Kissinger would like

to maintain. The rise in the price of oil is a product of the world inflationary crisis brought on by the severing of the dollar from gold on August 15, 1971.

For the US to criticize the Arabs for raising the price of oil is like a check bouncer criticizing a bank for denying him credit.

The price of oil has enormously deepened the economic crisis for the US and all the major industrial countries which import oil. The US has already piled up a \$2.1 billion balance of trade deficit during the first eight months of 1974.

### IMPORTED

The amount paid for imported oil and oil products in August totaled \$2.5 billion, an increase of more than \$100 million from July and more than three times the \$758 million spent on such imports in August, 1973.

For all the major capitalist countries, the indebtedness to the oil-producing nations—according to figures supplied by the Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation—will total \$60 billion this year.

This debt cannot be repaid without either inflating currency on such a scale as to make it utterly valueless or by dropping into a massive slump.

For American imperialism, the fundamental concern is grabbing control of oil. If it were to achieve its old stranglehold, the US would hardly consent to lower prices for its European competitors.

There is more than one scenario for a US takeover of the Arab countries.

The US has at least two clients in the Middle East whose military power has been built up exclusively to protect imperialist interests: Iran and Israel.

The Shah of Iran has, with American help, built up an immensely powerful arsenal. He has on hand or on order, according to conservative estimates, two destroyers from Litton Industries, several aircraft carriers he is trying to lease, 850 Chieftain tanks from Britain, 600 helicopters, about 110 Phantoms, and 80 F-14s.

### SHAH

More than one year ago, the Shah stated that he would receive from the US 50 more C-130 troop transports, laser-guided "smart" bombs, and "everything nonatomic that the US has."

The Shah is not an independent political figure. He is the foremost anticommunist tool of American imperialism. He has been given the military hardware and he will put it to use.

The crisis of American capitalism now confirms the projections made by Trotsky in 1934 in the document War and the Fourth International:

"US capitalism is up against the same problems that pushed Germany in 1914 on the path of war. The world is divided? It must be redivided."

"For Germany it was a question of 'organizing Europe'. The United States must 'organize' the world. History is bringing humanity face to face with the volcanic eruption of American imperialism."

Only the struggle for power by the working class internationally and in the United States will prove capable of preventing a third imperialist world war.

Ford's speech last Tuesday on inflation was part of the continuing propaganda campaign to spread the lie that the working class has as much responsibility for inflation as big business.

Ford's WIN program (Whip Inflation Now) to involve the "average citizen" in the battle against inflation is a fraud aimed at duping the working class about the real cause of inflation. It's purpose is to build up the theme of "national sacrifice" that will be used to force down the living standards of the working class.

Ford's proposals include:

- Save more. Walk to work instead of using transportation.
- Insist on productivity improvements to offset pay increases.
- Getting sick is wasteful.
- Plant vegetable gardens.

Ford added that if these measures did not work, he would be forced to advocate stronger measures.

This is the language of Hooverism. Herbert Hoover took office at the start of the depression in 1929 and declared that if the working class "tightened the belt" to boost corporate profits, it would eventually benefit.

Ford and his big business backers know that the WIN proposals will have no effect on inflation. Their aim is to create the atmosphere for imposing wage controls by pitting the middle class against the working class and blaming the unions for inflation.

The Labor-Management Committee and the summit meetings on inflation were organized to give the impression of a "national dialogue" to mask the behind the

scenes preparations for a confrontation with the trade unions and attacks on the right to strike.

The editorial in the Wall Street Journal "Profits and the Common Man" is a warning that the capitalist class is gearing for war against the working class to restore the rate of profit to industry.

"Profits are vital to the primary engine of the US economy—the corporation. They are translated quickly into jobs and productivity improvements through new equipment and technology and thus bring about real economic growth..."

"In other words, profits are not a luxury of the rich. They are fundamental to the economy and thus to everyone. The best interests of the common man will be served best by business leaders and politicians who aren't afraid to defend business profits."

Inflation is the product of the decay of the capitalist

tion has become completely out of control. Inflation is now turned into its opposite—a weapon to slash living standards, as it creates conditions for the collapse of industries and the banks.

It is a lie that wage increases create inflation and that the crisis can be prevented if the working class accepts wage cuts and unemployment.

The big bankers and the commodity speculators constantly push up inflation. This is why inflation is near 12 percent annually and is still soaring, while in the past five years, real wages have fallen.

The solution of the capitalists to inflation is to halt credit, liquidating whole sections of capital. They thus allow industries to go bankrupt and millions to be thrown out of work—in short, a depression.

This means that the fight for wages today leads directly to a political struggle against the government. If

## Who Is Responsible For Inflation?

system of production for private profit. The inflation was created by the deliberate decision of the capitalist class after World War Two to print huge sums of paper dollars to cover over the crisis and artificially expand the economy.

In that period, inflation was used to avoid a head-on battle with the working class which was able to raise living standards because the employers made up for wage increases by raising prices.

Today, they can no longer do this. Since Nixon's August 15, 1971 decision to sever the dollar from gold, infla-

the employers threaten to go bankrupt because wage increases threaten profits, the trade unions must answer with the call for nationalizing industry under workers control.

The crisis cannot be avoided. The working class can only defend itself and prepare for a struggle for power by fighting now for the building of an independent labor party to carry out a socialist policy of nationalization of the banks, real estate, and construction companies, and all basic industry.

## Ford Tells Congress He Covered For Nixon

BY CYNTHIA BLAKE

**"There was no deal, period, under no circumstances," snapped Gerald Ford October 17, in his reply to Congressmen about his pardon of Richard Nixon.**

It is the complete disarray of the Ford administration, less than three months old, that forced Ford to become the first president to testify before a Congressional Committee.

Brought in to crack the whip on the American working class, Ford now faces a wholesale rebellion by the working class to the slump policies demanded by the banking interests. He faces near-collapse of his campaign to bring in Nelson Rockefeller as vice-president.

Democratic and Republican Representatives alike gave Ford the fullest cooperation, refusing even to consider binding him to an oath of honesty. Ford responded by withholding evidence on every key question related to his "full, free, and absolute" pardon of Richard Nixon.

### MYTH

Throughout his testimony, Ford maintained the myth that he played no role in Nixon's resignation. While he revealed no new information, he did confirm that Nixon's Chief of Staff, General Alexander Haig, ran the White House in the final months of the Nixon administration. Haig was sent to inform Ford on August 1 that he should stand "prepared to assume the presidency within a very short period of time."

Ford claimed that this news "shocked and stunned him." He said that Haig's information on the damaging evidence in the June 23, 1973 tape was an "unbelievable revelation" because "these new revelations, or disclosures, ran completely counter to the position that I had taken for months in that I believed the president was not guilty of any impeachable offense."

Ford and Haig then discussed the options being debated among the White House gang. They debated riding out impeachment, and various ways of handling the resignation question:

1. Having Nixon temporarily yield his office to Ford under the 25th Amendment.
2. Delaying the resignation until a later state of the impeachment process (this was two days after the House Judiciary Committee had filed three articles of impeachment).
3. Attempting to win a vote of censure rather than an impeachment vote and trial.

Haig and Ford then went on to discuss the possibilities of Nixon pardoning all the Watergate conspirators, of Ford pardoning Nixon after he assumed office, and even the possibility of Nixon pardoning himself before resigning office.

### LEGAL

Never once did Ford testify that he and Haig discussed the option of Nixon resigning and facing whatever legal actions came up.

Ford left on a campaign swing through the Deep South, continuing to state publicly that Nixon was not guilty, while in reality he was preparing to move into the White House.

Ford brushed aside virtually every question on the actual pardon, ignoring committee members who asked why he made the decision without consulting the Attorney General or Special Watergate Prosecutor Jaworski.

He denied that the pardon was contingent in any way on the simultaneous agreement to grant Nixon full custody of the tapes, and he denied discussing the pardon with Nixon.

### CONGRESS

It is clear that Ford has nothing to fear from the assortment of courteous co-conspirators in the Congress. Not a murmur of criticism was made when Ford admitted that he knew the net result of the pardon was, in fact, to "terminate the investigation by the Special Prosecutor's office..."

It is up to the American working class to uncover every conspiracy of this government, which is bent on destroying the basic rights of the working class.

Workers must demand that the trade unions launch an independent inquiry into Watergate, and fight for a labor party in opposition to the Ford-Rockefeller government and the Democratic Party which protects it.

## PLO Stabs Palestinian Revolution

BY MELODY FARROW

The entry of the Palestinian Liberation Organization of Yassir Arafat into the United Nations is an enormous betrayal of the over 25 years of heroic struggle of the Palestinian people for their national rights.

On October 14, the UN General Assembly voted 105 to 4 (with Israel, the US, Bolivia, and the Dominican Republic against) to recognize the PLO as "representatives of the Palestinian people" and to invite them to the UN debate next month.

The UN decision to recognize the PLO rather than King Hussein of Jordan as the Palestinian representative is no victory. It is, in fact, a tribute to the total capitulation of the PLO leadership to US imperialism and the Zionist rulers of Israel.

Nabil Shaath, head of the PLO delegation in New York said that they will not reject proposals to make a Palestinian state out of the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza strip.

### IMMEDIATE

Shaath declared the PLO did not seek "radical or immediate solutions" and pledged to prevent airline hijackings or terrorist acts against "third parties."

In 1948, the UN voted to establish the state of Israel as a bulwark of imperialist interests in the Middle East, a decision



Yassir Arafat, PLO chief and imperialist stooge.

which meant that the Palestinian people were driven off the land.

If this same UN now welcomes the PLO, it is because its leadership accepts the Zionist state as permanent.

To confine the Palestinian people to the small enclaves on the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza strip would trap them between the reactionary regimes of Israel and Jordan and deny their national rights.

This agreement will be maintained against the Palestinian masses themselves and through war against leftist guerrilla groups, such as George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The PFLP recently withdrew from the PLO executive stating that it would not be responsible for "the historic deviation of the movement's leadership" and accused Arafat of having secret contacts with the US.

The Front said Arafat and other PLO leaders had become

"lackeys of the capitulationist reactionary regimes" and that Arafat, with Saudia Arabian officials acting as go-betweens, had sought talks with Kissinger to be assured a place in future Middle East talks.

### GENEVA

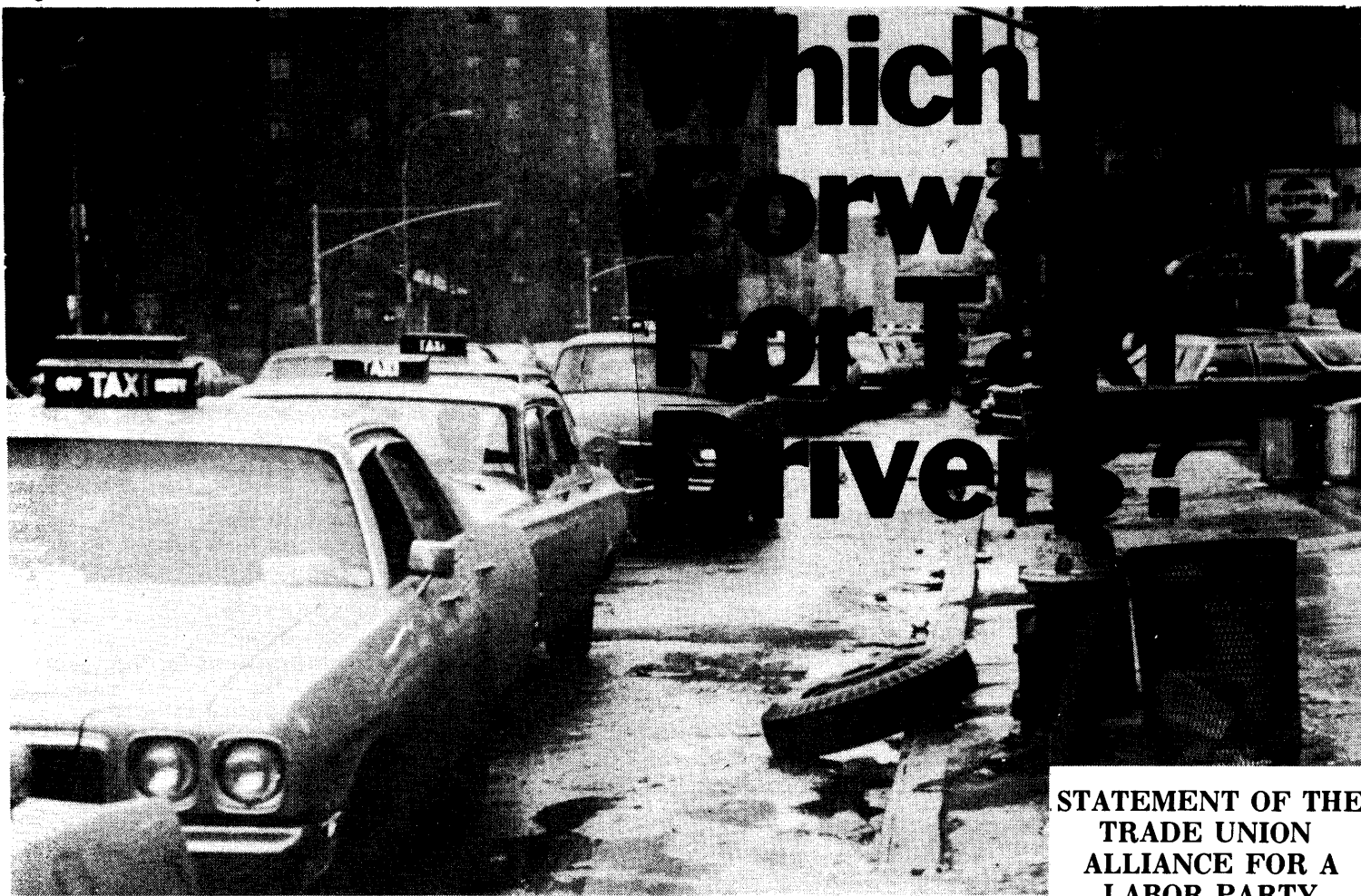
The Front opposed the PLO executive decision to attend the Geneva peace talks.

Arafat, in collusion with the Stalinists of the Soviet Union, is working hand in hand with imperialism to strangle the Palestinian revolution at the very time when Ford and Kissinger are threatening war in the Middle East over oil.

There is no way forward for the Palestinian masses through the nationalist Arab leaderships. The PLO capitulation now poses sharply the need to create a revolutionary leadership to unite the struggle for national rights with the struggle to unite Arab and Jewish workers for a socialist Middle East.

**Workers League Meeting**  
**10 YEARS OF THE BULLETIN**  
**● Labor must call its own congress!**  
**● Build a labor party!**  
 Friday October 25, 8pm  
 Debs Hall 310 West 43 St. NYC  
 \$2.50; \$1.50 youth & unemployed  
 call 924-0852





**STATEMENT OF THE  
TRADE UNION  
ALLIANCE FOR A  
LABOR PARTY**

Cabs lined up for gas during last winter's oil crisis.

The election scheduled for the last week in October for a new slate of officers of Local 3036 New York City Taxi Drivers Union poses basic political questions to the 30,000 members of the union.

The election follows the September 4 ratification of a new three-year contract forced through by the Van Arsdale bureaucracy.

Every taxi driver knows that this contract, which ties an increase in wages to a fare increase still to be approved by the Taxi Commission, will actually diminish fares and tips.

It will leave drivers at the mercy of a runaway inflation which has already reduced the buying power of the average worker in this country to 1965 levels and has slashed real wages by 5.3 percent in the last year alone.

The soaring inflation, huge increases in auto, gasoline and maintenance costs and the rapidly developing recession are creating a massive crisis in the taxi industry for the fleets and the owner drivers as well.

The Ford administration is determined to bring in policies of recession and mass unemployment and to collaborate with the labor bureaucracy in smashing the independence and strength of the unions.

The attacks on cab drivers are part of this general offensive against the entire labor movement which can only be answered by developing a leadership in the unions committed to a policy of fighting for power through the construction of a labor party based on the strength of the unions.

This political and economic crisis is tearing apart the Van Arsdale bureaucracy. Exposed before the ranks for its inability to negotiate a single gain through the old methods of compromise and maneuver with the city administration and Democratic Party machine, the Van Arsdale clique is splitting.

Union Secretary Thomas Iandoli, who a few weeks ago led the leadership's campaign to ram through the contract, has now announced his opposition to Van Arsdale and declared himself a

candidate for president. With the ranks looking for a real alternative, the conditions are more than ripe for the development of a leadership which can defend the union, wages and conditions of the drivers, and inside workers.

**REACTIONARY**

In this situation, the most reactionary and pernicious role is being played by a rag bag assortment of radicals, women's libbers, hippies, and new left types who call themselves the Taxi Rank and File Coalition.

This so-called rank and file group which claims to stand for militancy and union democracy, and even lists socialism as one of its "long range goals," puts forward a whole series of criticisms of the corruption and gangsterism of the present officers and demands a union run by the rank and file.

But the real content of this rank and fileism reveals that this coalition is in reality a cover for the most blatant contempt for the ranks, a pandering to the most backward ideas in the union, an agreement with the basic policies of the Van Arsdale leadership, and most dangerous of all, and invitation to the capitalist state to interfere in the affairs of the union.

A leadership must have policies to defeat the bureaucracy. It must be able to explain how government attacks on the unions are to be answered. It must have a program for fighting the city-run Taxi Commission which functions as the police arm of the employers. It must have a perspective for preparing workers to fight for political power.

The Rank and File Coalition has none of this. It calls for militancy, that is, trade union activity such as garage strikes, workers committees, and election campaigns totally divorced from any fight for political power.

**MILITANCY**

The Taxi Union itself was formed in a massive outburst of rank and file militancy in 1965. Van Arsdale, as head of the Central Labor Council, was able to assume leadership of the strike in collaboration with the city precisely because the strikers had no perspective beyond such militant activity.

The 1965 movement involved thousands of workers. The present Rank and File Coalition is a

degenerated survival of this original movement.

Its real policies were revealed in the recent contract negotiations. The Coalition refused to fight for a strike. In the October issue of their paper *The Hot Seat* they declare that the alternative was "a lousy contract for three years or going into a strike/lock-out with no preparation..."

As for the membership meeting that ratified the contract, "...none of the speeches mattered, that most (members) had decided before they got there."

**ALTERNATIVE**

Such an outlook left the membership with no alternative to Van Arsdale. With its perspective that the membership would not fight, the Coalition actually encouraged acceptance of the contract.

And if the ranks are not prepared to defend themselves, how will union democracy be established? Here is where the Coalition plays its most dangerous role.

They say in the same issue of *The Hot Seat* that Van Arsdale was forced to hold recent committee elections "only because of a suit brought in federal court by the Rank and File."

They describe the contract ratification meeting, the same one at which according to them "none of the speeches mattered" as "the most democratic meeting Local 3036 has ever had—which isn't saying much. Of course, the union only had the meeting because of the suit brought by the Rank and File."

"The suit also forced the union to make a fair count of the vote and to allow equal amounts of discussion for and against the contract from the floor."

**COURTS**

So here it is. According to the Coalition, democratic rights and fair votes can only be established with the assistance of the capitalist courts. The total contempt of this group for the fighting capacity of the drivers is expressed in this action of bringing in the courts and the police.

The capitalist state is preparing an all-out political offensive against the unions. Ford is determined to enlist the labor bureaucracy in a fight to police the ranks by incorporating the unions into the state structure. Faced with this corporatism, the Rank and File Coalition steps forward to offer its services.

Through the court activities of

this wretched group, court observers are now supervising taxi meetings, preparing agendas, and looking minutely into the affairs of the unions.

They do this not out of any concern for democracy, but as part of a plan to strangle the independence of the union and cut off the development of an alternative leadership.

**POLITICS**

The greatest weakness in the American working class is its avoidance of politics, its resistance to constructing its own independent political party. Precisely this political weakness, the Coalition seeks to deepen by spreading illusions about the courts and the capitalist state. This is the real class nature of their so-called rank and fileism.

There is not the slightest doubt about the capacity of the taxi ranks to deal with Van Arsdale and his ilk, given a principled political lead and policies on which to fight. Union democracy can only be established through such a political fight.

Such a leadership can only be built in the Taxi Union in a political break with this poisonous Rank and File group.

Drivers and Mechanics for a Decent Contract as part of the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party has been formed to take forward this fight.

We say the ranks must use the election to oppose the policies of both Van Arsdale and the Rank and File Coalition.

We urge union members to cast their votes for the Iandoli slate as a protest against Van Arsdale and the Coalition.

**IANDOLI**

We do not have the slightest confidence in Iandoli. He has no program to lead the union. His break with Van Arsdale is a purely opportunist attempt to camouflage his own agreement with the Van Arsdale policies.

A vote for him does not indicate any political support or illusions about his leadership. We advocate such a vote only as a means of opposing Van Arsdale and condemning the antiunion activities of the Coalition slate. By calling in the courts the Coalition reveals that they are a thousand times more dangerous than Iandoli.

The fight is to construct an alternative leadership committed to a political program.

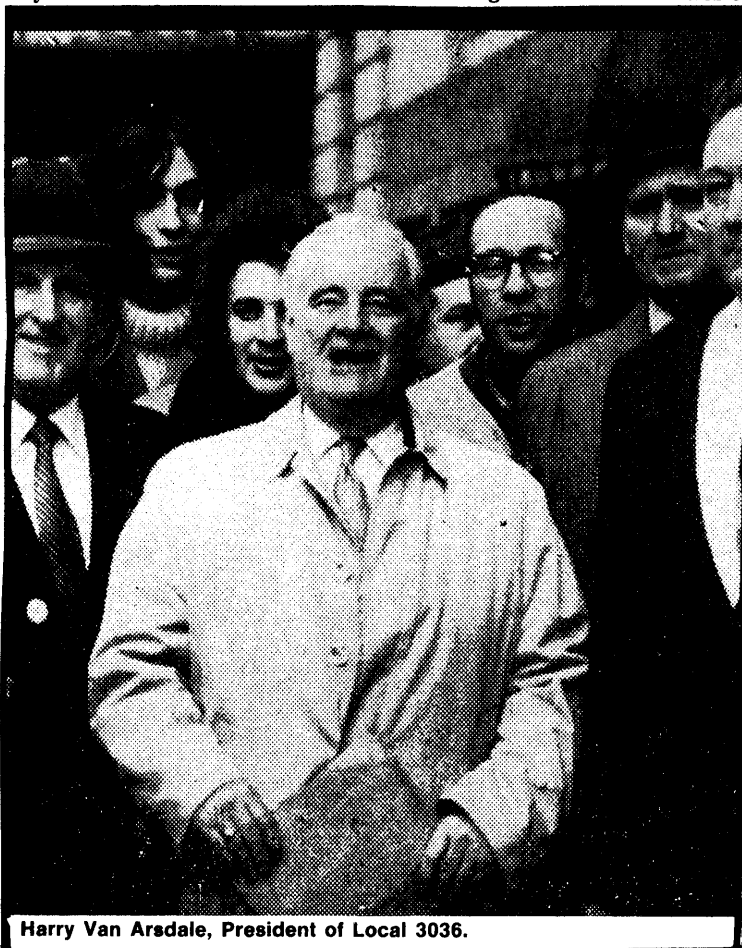
Drivers and Mechanics for a Decent Contract demands that the contract be reopened and that the union prepare a strike to win:

- \$160 a week or 60 percent of the meter whichever is higher.
- \$160 a week for inside men.
- A full cost of living escalator.
- \$400 a month pension after 20 years.
- An end to separate commission rates for old and new drivers.
- No fare increase.
- No horse hiring or selling out to mini-fleets. An eight hour day and union conditions.

Any fleets unable to meet these demands must be taken over by the city without compensation to the owners and run with these conditions met.

This requires an immediate battle for the construction of a labor party. The Taxi Union must fight in the labor movement for the calling of a Congress of Labor to launch such a party.

We urge support in the coming elections for the only candidates who stand for this policy, Workers Party candidates Helen Halyard and Terry Delgado running in the 14th and 12th Congressional Districts for Congress.



Harry Van Arsdale, President of Local 3036.



# S. African Workers Upset 'Tar Baby' Operation

BY CYNTHIA BLAKE

The revolutionary struggle of the working class which brought down the fascist regime in Portugal and ended her 400 years of colonial rule in Africa has thrown the racist regimes of Southern Africa into political chaos.

The plans developed by the American ruling class to defend imperialist interests in the area have been shattered.

National Security Memorandum 39, drawn up by the Interdepartmental Group for Africa under Henry Kissinger in August of 1969 and recently released to the press, reveals the strategic plans made for the area were based on the following fundamental assumption:

"The whites are here to stay and the only way that constructive change can come about is through them. There is no hope for the blacks to gain the political rights they seek through violence..."

"Our tangible interests form a basis for our contacts in the region and these can be maintained at an acceptable political cost."

## EMBARGO

Kissinger proposed that Nixon revise the Kennedy-Johnson policy of foreign aid for the emerging black nations and a pretense of adhering to the United Nations embargo on South Africa.

The memo's options ranged from 1) "Closer association with the white regimes to protect and enhance our economic, strategic, and scientific interests," to (5) "Disassociation from both black and white states."

Early in 1970, Nixon approved Option 2, whose "General Post-



South African police attack demonstrator.

ure" was outlined as: "We would maintain public opposition to racial repression, but relax political isolation and economic restrictions on the white states."

Option 2 was developed as secret policy, under the code name "Tar Baby."

While the State Department today denies what they call a "tilt" in US policies toward South Africa, "Tar Baby" was not only implemented, but Kissinger consistently pushed its compromise policies toward even more open support of John Vorster's white supremacist Nationalist Party.

## ASSETS

In spite of vocal support of the United Nations embargo on South Africa, America has increased its "tangible assets" by:

- Continuing direct private investment in South Africa mining and industry to a present total of over \$700 million.

- An Air Force missile tracking station and space tracking station.

- Overflight and aircraft landing rights.

- Income from sales of helicopters, Lear jets, herbicides, and defoliants.

- Agreement on CIA activity similar to those in effect in NATO member nations.

- Vital access to shipping routes on the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf (the only viable oil tanker route as long as the Suez Canal remains closed).

Kissinger also worked out top secret contingency planning with the military over the last year. Connie P. Multer, South Afri-

ca's Information Minister, spent five days here last January, meeting with Ford, Kissinger, and Vice-Admiral Ray Peet, Pentagon planner for the Indian Ocean area.

Since the April 25 coup that unseated fascist dictator Caetano in Portugal, US imperialism can no longer count on Angola, Mozambique, and Guinea to provide a buffer zone between Southern Africa and black-governed African states.

In May, Kissinger overruled his own African Bureau's recommendation to block the visa application submitted by the Chief of South Africa's Defense Forces. He not only entered the country, but met with the Acting Secretary of the Navy and 17 admirals.

The next month, the NATO Ministerial Council issued a statement extending its area of interest beyond the areas outlined in the original 1949 agreement between America and Europe. From its founding, NATO's territory has included Europe, North America, the North Atlantic, the North Sea, and the Mediterranean.

Article 11 of the 1974 Ottawa Declaration states: "The allies are finally resolved to keep each other fully informed and to strengthen the practice of frank and timely consultations by all means which may be appropriate on matters relating to their common interests as members of that alliance, bearing in mind that these interests can be affected by events in other areas of the world." (emphasis added, CB)

The South African working



Angolan guerrilla.

class is preparing its own blow to these reactionary plans. Despite enormous repression, thousands have joined demonstrations and strikes in the past few months.

Almost 100,000 black workers have walked off their jobs during the last two years in 222 separate strikes, all illegal.

Workers in textile mills average \$12 a month; factory workers average \$18. In the gold and diamond mines, workers often receive even less. Some 3500 workers struck the textile mills in King Williams Town and were attacked with police dogs and tear gas.

## MURDERED

Three gold miners were murdered and 23 more wounded when police attacked a picket line during the summer. As is customary for the Nationalist Party government, the press reported that troops were used to settle "tribal clashes" at the mine.

The victories of the guerillas in Mozambique, in Guinea-Bissau, and Angola brought thousands into open confrontation with the Vorster government.

On September 25, black and student groups were able to mobilize both black and white workers for victory rallies. As many as 700 demonstrated in Durban, while other rallies were held at a black university in the northern Transvaal region, in Germiston, Kikstad, and King Williams Town.

There is every basis for joint struggles between black and white workers, since the reactionary apartheid system has also served to hold down the white and "coloured" (mixed) workers' wages and living con-

ditions. White factory workers average \$100 a month, while textile workers take home an average of \$120.

## WAR

"We are already at war," Vorster's Chief of Staff stated in justifying a 40 percent increase in military spending.

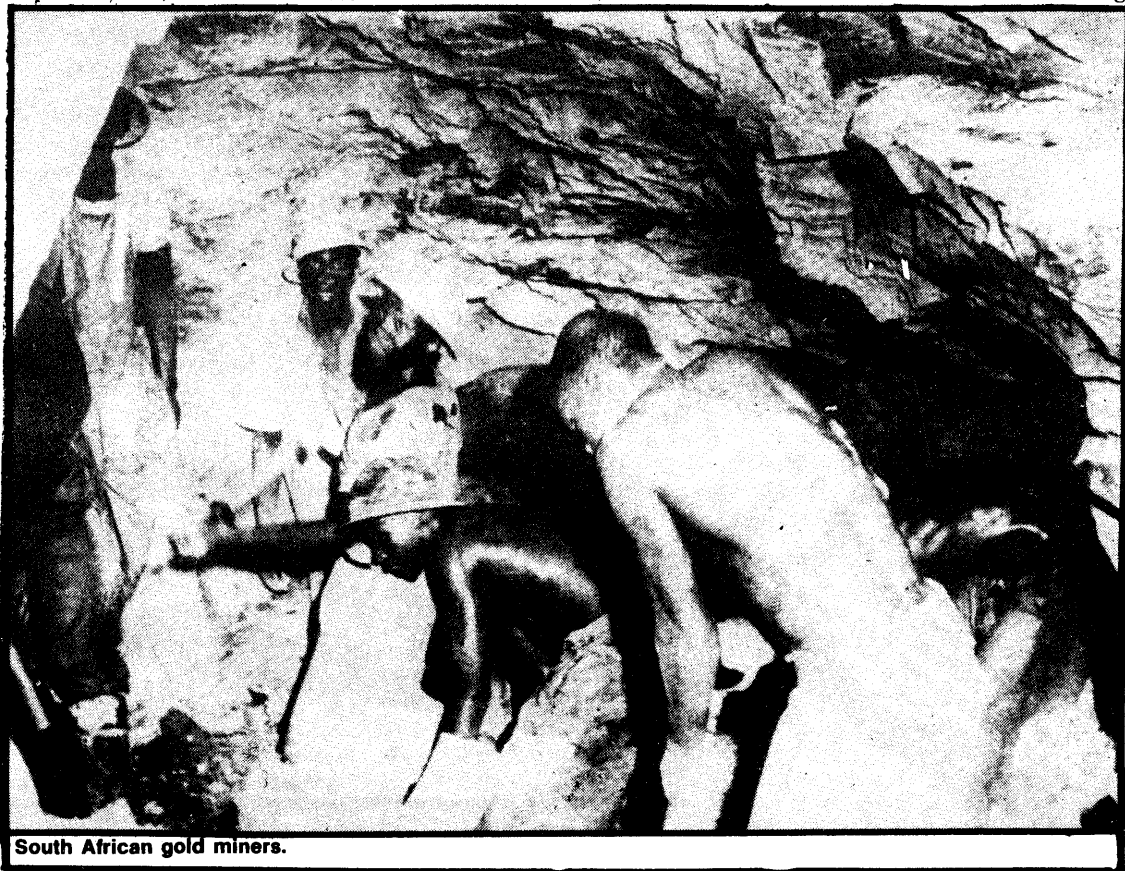
Army troops have been on permanent alert since August and criticism of the military is now punishable by 10 years in jail. All army units and police forces are receiving special training in counter-insurgency.

The Stalinists in Africa through their influence on the leadership of the liberation movements play the role of subordinating the working class to the needs of the national and foreign capitalists.

Immediately after betraying the 13-year war for independence by signing an agreement to rule jointly with the Portuguese military, FRELIMO leaders attempted to block workers fighting a revolt of right-wing white settlers. Now they have turned against the workers at the Cabora Bassa dam site, which will play a crucial role in propping up South Africa's ruling class.

A military leader of FRELIMO told 3000 African dam workers who threatened to strike: "I have not fought a war for 10 years to hear complaints about a 12,000 escudos salary (about \$425 a month). The dam must be finished on time."

The most urgent task is the construction of a Trotskyist leadership to unite the working class, the building of a section of the International Committee of the Fourth International.



South African gold miners.



# The Witch-hunt

Observe how Kennedy jumps suddenly from the singular to the plural.

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Soon the call to resist extremism was part and parcel of the company propaganda barrage. In his letter to the strikers on April 5, which threatened the sack, plant manager John Symonds warned, for example: "...reject extremism and disruption and demand that you are allowed to continue at work OR ...drift into further anarchy and insecurity."

Both Kennedy and Symonds were linking "extremism" with the fight to stop the company breaking agreements. The smokescreen was provided by the IMG. But of course when the company acted against "extremism" it was not the IMG they victimized but Alan Thornett—who has issued no "unauthorized leaflets," held no "unauthorized meetings" and had kept strictly within the Cowley procedure.

By their provocative and anti-trade union behavior the IMG gave substance to the right-wing propaganda and helped the company to obscure the basic issue of the Marina strike and the subsequent victimization of Alan Thornett.

The witch-hunt was at its climax between April 12 and May 1. The first date is significant because it was the day a Cowley housewife called Carol Miller saw the "Oxford Journal." This give-away advertising publication led with the story "Leyland Fiasco? Can it go on much longer?"

The "Journal" quoted two un-named workers who advanced the extremist conspiracy explanation for the Cowley shut-down. Said one "worker": "The whole trouble is caused by a small group of people who are trying to run the show. Their whole aim is to ruin the company." The next week the "Journal" came out with the headline "No let-up in Leyland Lunacy." Its letter page was given over to right-wingers criticizing the T&GWU and the Cowley shop stewards.

The same paper published a letter from the "Oxford Organizer" of the National Front I.H.M. Anderson of Pembroke College, on the same theme—"Members of the National Front both nationally and in Oxfordshire will not be intimidated by the childish threats of militant extremists," he declared.

Miller rang up the "Journal" on Friday April 19 and expressed her desire to get the men back to work. The "Journal" in turn saw their chance for tremendous local publicity. They put Miller in contact with Radio Oxford and by Saturday she was broadcasting non-stop propaganda calling on the Cowley workers to scab on the transport section. Details of her "demonstration" outside the plant on Monday were beamed into every home and a phone-in program became the focus for every fascist, Tory and anti-working class fanatic in the Oxford area.

(Mrs. Miller's only other foray into the limelight was as the principle police witness against the Cowley Workers Social Club which successfully fought off a threat to have its license removed. This would have meant closure for the club, built 45 years ago by the founders of the trade union movement in Oxford. Mrs. Miller is not banned from the club but to rejoin she will have to explain her behavior to the committee.)

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Mrs. Miller was quoted at length: "We want the militants to be sacked so all the men who want to do an honest day's work can go back." (Daily Mirror, April 22).

"...I'm determined...These militants are threatening everything I care about—my family, my home, my husband, our entire life..."

"What really hurts is the fact that I am sure most of the men would rather be working. It is just a small group of militants. Communists hoping to force the government to take over so they can move in." ("Daily Express," April 22).

But the "Daily Mail," (the paper responsible for starting the red-scare based on the forged Zinoviev telegram which led to the defeat of the 1924 Labor government—a deception that the "Mail" has never acknowledged) was well ahead in the stakes. Their "color" writer John Edwards wrote about "the great protest":

"Sometimes the language was straight from the fish market and there were tears too but at the end of the day the whole of Oxford knew why all these women were shouting and getting down the Cowley Road.

"Some bird-brained Trotsky loyalties by 150 transport drivers had shut down the operation again and 12,000 uninvolved employees were working out the survival sums..."

"At the head of the line Carol Miller... with her blonde hair flying she really whipped them up.

"What do we want?" she asked.

"Commies out. Commies out," they boomed...Thornett did well to stay out of the way. "If that sod shows his ugly gob round here I'll tear every hair out of his bloody body," said Daisey Shepherd stamping out her third cigarette of the demo."

Miller was given the VIP treatment. At the plant she was ushered in by security to see John Symonds who declared his 100 percent support but regretted that the victimization could not be extended at this stage.

The Tory Party quickly acknowledged her services. James Prior, Tory leader of the House, wrote to her:

"Great victory for commonsense. The lead and example that you and your fellow women have given to the men of Cowley is an inspiration to the whole country. More power to your elbow. All of us can be grateful to you for showing the way."

Even Lord Stokes sent a little note. "May I express my personal thanks for all you and your colleagues are doing to return a measure of sanity to Cowley," he wrote.

One interesting innovation of this witch-hunt was the use by the capitalist Press of the ideas of so-called women's liberation.

In the early days of the Miller campaign another right-wing organization called the National Housewives Association had intervened. They contacted Miller through the good offices of Oxford Radio and soon the NHA were attempting to reinterpret the basic class issues involved at Cowley as a conflict between men and women.

The Derby-based NHA is led by June Wall and Sandra Brookes, two middle-class housewives. Wall's husband runs a carpet business, and Brookes ("some people in Yorkshire have called me a right-wing Tory"), an ex-advertising manager of a slimming club, is the wife of a retired industrial engineer who lives in a "snooty" part of the city.

Wall gave some advice to Miller in language reminiscent of the extreme-right: "There is only one way to beat a Bolshie man," she told The Sun. "Take away all that he holds dear—sex, drink and food, in that order." This was an ignorant and vicious slander on the transport drivers, who were certainly not enjoying the strike—many had spent their savings to defend the principles at issue.

The Press eagerly seized the "women's lib" angle. Soon we were reading about the "angry wives of Cowley" and the "Cowley wives revolt."

"Victimization at Cowley" was recently published as revolutionary Party of England.

The struggle against the victimization of shop stewardment of British-Leyland in Cowley tested in practice movement, and demonstrated on the very battlefield those forces trained as Marxists inside the trade union Workers Revolutionary Party and the All Trades Unions class in defense of its organizations and basic rights.

## Part Seven

The Daily Telegraph—that well-known hater of the working class, declared its support in its editorial of April 24:

"Trade unionism as it is practiced in this country denies to an ever growing extent, one of the elementary needs of all wives—regular housekeeping money.

"Even now, they and their children pay a heavy price for this institutionalized expression of masculine gregariousness, arrogance and aggression. The wives of Cowley deserve (and may have got) success."

It was, of course, employers (male and female) who sent women and children down the mines, not male miners. And the unions fought successfully to emancipate them from this oppression.

On an even lower level the Oxford Journal claimed that Alan Thornett's political activities had broken up his home and led to his neglecting his daughter. These contemptuous lies were fully rebutted in a Press statement, which received minimal publicity, from his wife Esme Thornett.

The way the capitalist Press were able to use the man-against-woman issue is an example of how reformist and middle-class political ideas, that subordinate the basic class division in society to other social



Samples of the British capitalist press during the witchhunt against Thornett.



Alan Thornett

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# VICTIMIZATION AT COWLEY

## by stephen johns

published as a pamphlet by the Workers Re-

of shop steward Alan Thornett by the manage-  
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ery battlefield of the class struggle that only  
e trade unions—represented in Britain by the  
Trades Unions Alliance—can lead the working  
basic rights.



Alan Thornett, victimized shop steward at British Leyland and Workers Revolutionary Party member, addressing a conference of the All Trades Union Alliance, industrial arm of the WRP.

antagonism, can be used for the most reactionary purposes. Feminism, racism (from the point of view of black power, black unions etc.), are all weapons that can be taken up by the ruling class to confuse and split the working class.

Members of the women's liberation movement, who muttered angrily about the "arrogance" of the Cowley shop stewards and revisionist groups like the IMG, who fell into despair at the failure to "win support of workers' families" (Red Weekly, April 25), were playing the employers' game. (For the IMG and Miller see chapter six.)

The wives who marched with Miller were confused individuals who were scabbing for the Tories. There are women scabs and men scabs and no trade unionist can give an inch to their rantings. This was the position of Thornett, the Cowley shop stewards and the transport drivers, and their stand was completely vindicated by subsequent events.

Outside the pages of the capitalist Press the Miller campaign got little visible support. Her first demo attracted no more than 100 demonstrators according to workers who witnessed the hysteria outside the plant—and this was despite the most massive media coverage of, perhaps, any issue in the history of Cowley and Oxford.

A day later, on Tuesday, a second march attracted only 40 and there were even less at her public meeting in Oxford Town Hall

the same night. The Oxford Mail admitted, "support dwindled daily from 250 the first day to less than a fifth by the time the workers resumed at the British Leyland plant (two days later)."

But it was the Telegraph who unwittingly gave the game away when they reported on April 25: "The women's campaign, led by Mrs. Miller (32), is dwindling and only 30 women and children took part in the march, but their influence in focusing opinion on Cowley's troubles remains considerable." But it was not Miller doing the focusing but the entire capitalist media, in order to smash the fight at Cowley and see Thornett victimized.

There was no "focus," for example, when Mrs. Miller and her immediate supporters changed their attitudes and wrote the following letter to the Oxford Mail after the trade union inquiry cleared Thornett of the company's charges:

"I would like to know why the management of British Leyland will not accept the outcome of the inquiry against Alan Thornett. Also why they will not recognize Alan Thornett for six months when he has been cleared by the inquiry. My reason for asking is that the aim of our association is to see justice served."

The Oxford Mail tucked this away in their letter column on May 30. They wrote no story on this apparently remarkable change of heart. The national Press, television and Oxford Radio were absolutely

silent. Why? People would be interested in the about-turn of the leader of the "Cowley wives"—it was news. But not news which suited the requirements of the capitalist media. There was another deliberate blackout on April 30, when Mrs. Miller and her supporters were forced to abandon a meeting because she was hopelessly outnumbered by her critics, mainly women trade unionists from the Cowley trim shop who supported Thornett and the transport drivers. This event was treated to a few paragraphs down page in most papers.

This is not to suggest there were not splits at all in the Cowley working class.

The company chose their time deliberately. The victimization came after the three-day-week and after the defeated strike in the QT section. The witch-hunt fed on the illusions created by the new Labor government—particularly the misconception that the Wilson administration was capable of defending living standards and basic rights and that the crisis had receded.

The developments at Cowley were sharply contradictory—there was a contradiction between content and form. The backward sections of the working class are always prey to the lies of capitalism. But their intense frustration is a reflection of the crisis of capitalism, declining living standards and the fear of redundancy. This can express itself in retreats and actions in favor of the ruling class. But even the

backward sections cannot avoid the crisis.

Changes in material reality also affect them, and Leyland's decision to run down production and place 1,000 workers in the unemployed "pool" at the plant after the return to work was out of tune with the prejudices and shibboleths of the witch-hunters. It was the women around Mrs. Miller who approached Thornett over their fears of unemployment in the Cowley plant—contact that eventually led to the demand for British Leyland to reinstate Thornett as a steward.

At the same time there were other workers for whom the witch-hunt and the political issues raised were a source of new knowledge and a development of consciousness. The company were saying that the crisis and the defense of its interests involved not only strikebreaking, but the destruction of leadership in the factory.

This in turn raised the issue of what kind of leadership do the working class require—a revolutionary leadership that starts from the strength of the working class and the necessity of that class to take the power to prevent the catastrophe posed by the capitalist crisis, or a leadership that bases itself on the strength of the ruling class, the right-wing and the need to capitulate to the offensive.

**TO BE CONTINUED**



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"Even now, they and their children pay a heavy price for this institutionalized expression of masculine gregariousness, arrogance and aggression. The wives of Cowley deserve (and may have got) success."

It was, of course, employers (male and female) who sent women and children down the mines, not male miners. And the unions fought successfully to emancipate them from this oppression.

On an even lower level the Oxford Journal claimed that Alan Thornett's political activities had broken up his home and led to his neglecting his daughter. These contemptuous lies were fully rebutted in a Press statement, which received minimal publicity, from his wife Esme Thornett.

The way the capitalist Press were able to use the man-against-woman issue is an example of how reformist and middle-class political ideas, that subordinate the basic class division in society to other social



Alan Thornett, victimized shop steward at British Leyland and Workers Revolutionary Party member, addressing a conference of the All Trades Union Alliance, industrial arm of the WRP.



Samples of the British capitalist press during the witchhunt against Thornett.

antagonism, can be used for the most reactionary purposes. Feminism, racism (from the point of view of black power, black unions etc.), are all weapons that can be taken up by the ruling class to confuse and split the working class.

Members of the women's liberation movement, who muttered angrily about the "arrogance" of the Cowley shop stewards and revisionist groups like the IMG, who fell into despair at the failure to "win support of workers' families" (Red Weekly, April 25), were playing the employers' game. (For the IMG and Miller see chapter six.)

The wives who marched with Miller were confused individuals who were scabbing for the Tories. There are women scabs and men scabs and no trade unionist can give an inch to their rantings. This was the position of Thornett, the Cowley shop stewards and the transport drivers, and their stand was completely vindicated by subsequent events.

Outside the pages of the capitalist Press the Miller campaign got little visible support. Her first demo attracted no more than 100 demonstrators according to workers who witnessed the hysteria outside the plant—and this was despite the most massive media coverage of, perhaps, any issue in the history of Cowley and Oxford.

A day later, on Tuesday, a second march attracted only 40 and there were even less at her public meeting in Oxford Town Hall

the same night. The Oxford Mail admitted, "support dwindled daily from 250 the first day to less than a fifth by the time the workers resumed at the British Leyland plant (two days later)."

But it was the Telegraph who unwittingly gave the game away when they reported on April 25: "The women's campaign, led by Mrs. Miller (32), is dwindling and only 30 women and children took part in the march, but their influence in focusing opinion on Cowley's troubles remains considerable." But it was not Miller doing the focusing but the entire capitalist media, in order to smash the fight at Cowley and see Thornett victimized.

There was no "focus," for example, when Mrs. Miller and her immediate supporters changed their attitudes and wrote the following letter to the Oxford Mail after the trade union inquiry cleared Thornett of the company's charges:

"I would like to know why the management of British Leyland will not accept the outcome of the inquiry against Alan Thornett. Also why they will not recognize Alan Thornett for six months when he has been cleared by the inquiry. My reason for asking is that the aim of our association is to see justice served."

The Oxford Mail tucked this away in their letter column on May 30. They wrote no story on this apparently remarkable change of heart. The national Press, television and Oxford Radio were absolutely

silent. Why? People would be interested in the about-turn of the leader of the "Cowley wives"—it was news. But not news which suited the requirements of the capitalist media. There was another deliberate blackout on April 30, when Mrs. Miller and her supporters were forced to abandon a meeting because she was hopelessly outnumbered by her critics, mainly women trade unionists from the Cowley trim shop who supported Thornett and the transport drivers. This event was treated to a few paragraphs down page in most papers.

This is not to suggest there were not splits at all in the Cowley working class. The company chose their time deliberately. The victimization came after the three-day-week and after the defeated strike in the QT section. The witch-hunt fed on the illusions created by the new Labor government—particularly the misconception that the Wilson administration was capable of defending living standards and basic rights and that the crisis had receded.

The developments at Cowley were sharply contradictory—there was a contradiction between content and form. The backward sections of the working class are always prey to the lies of capitalism. But their intense frustration is a reflection of the crisis of capitalism, declining living standards and the fear of redundancy. This can express itself in retreats and actions in favor of the ruling class. But even the

backward sections cannot avoid the crisis.

Changes in material reality also affect them, and Leyland's decision to run down production and place 1,000 workers in the unemployed "pool" at the plant after the return to work was out of tune with the prejudices and shibboleths of the witch-hunters. It was the women around Mrs. Miller who approached Thornett over their fears of unemployment in the Cowley plant—contact that eventually led to the demand for British Leyland to reinstate Thornett as a steward.

At the same time there were other workers for whom the witch-hunt and the political issues raised were a source of new knowledge and a development of consciousness. The company were saying that the crisis and the defense of its interests involved not only strikebreaking, but the destruction of leadership in the factory.

This in turn raised the issue of what kind of leadership do the working class require—a revolutionary leadership that starts from the strength of the working class and the necessity of that class to take the power to prevent the catastrophe posed by the capitalist crisis, or a leadership that bases itself on the strength of the ruling class, the right-wing and the need to capitulate to the offensive.

**TO BE CONTINUED**



# In Social Services: City Imposes Shift Work

BY AN SSEU-371  
MEMBER

**NEW YORK, NY—**  
The city is trying to force its shift work scheme onto thousands of social service and clerical staff workers, members of AFSCME Locals 371 and 1549 and CWA Local 1190.

A target date of October 28 has been established for the new 8 am-6 pm and Saturday shifts. Last week, after workers were informed that shift work would be introduced on a strictly voluntary basis, the city suddenly issued recruitment fliers indicating that in the absence of volunteers, workers would be drafted involuntarily.

In the wake of this, District Council 37 leader Victor Gotbaum met with the local presidents and pledged action against reprisals if the "position of the locals" are violated.

Just what the positions of the locals are, however, is increasingly in doubt. In fact, it now appears that the union leaders

were lying all along to the ranks about the voluntary character of the shift scheme.

In any case, their policy now is one of increasing retreat. Local 1549 leaders have ordered their members to complete the recruitment flyers and agreed that new promotees and new hires will work the shifts involuntarily.

While 371 is holding back its agreement to the plan, pending token hiring by the city, it still agrees to shifts in principle.

The main impediment delaying implementation of the new shifts is the massive opposition in the ranks. The SSEU Committee for a New Leadership supporters have initiated joint meetings of clericals and case workers from all three locals in several work locations and passed overwhelming votes against the plan.

The CNL is warning that the essence of the plan is speedup and the loss of control by the union over working hours.

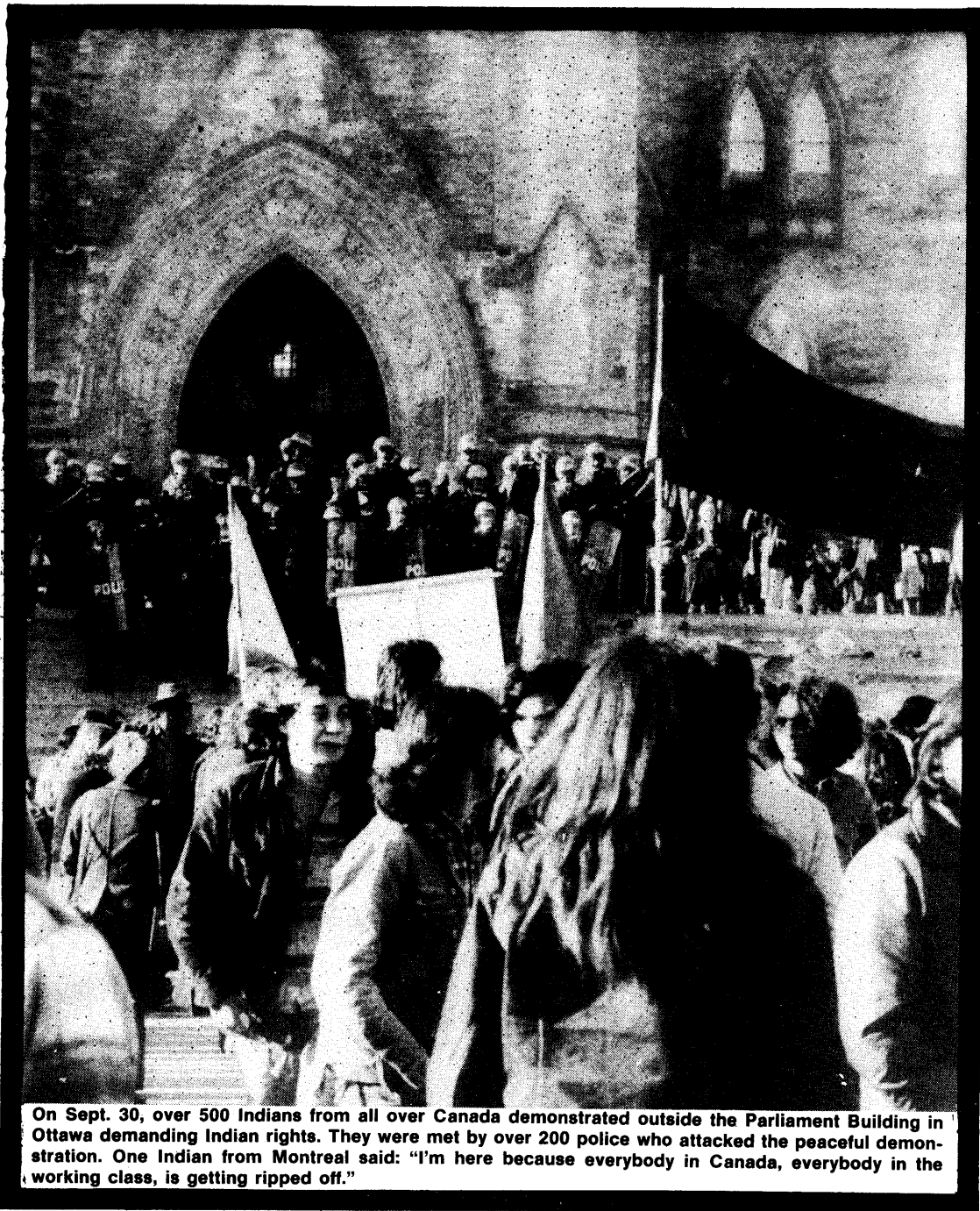
## PRESSURE

The only purpose in keeping centers open additional hours when in fact no additional man-hours will be worked is to tremendously increase the pressure on workers, who will be working under conditions of extreme understaffing in the centers at all times.

A decisive showdown on this issue is due to take place at the October 23 SSEU-371 Delegates Assembly meeting and the October 24 Local 1549 Chapter Meeting. The CNL will fight for the official adoption of its policy of no shift work.

The CNL will also present a motion to endorse Workers Party candidates Terry Delgado and Helen Halyard in the Congressional races in Brooklyn. This campaign poses the urgent task of breaking the labor movement from the Democratic and Republican parties through the construction of a labor party.

Gotbaum's support for Beame's corporatist productivity deal flows from his political support to the Democratic Party, whose candidates were endorsed by the DC 37 bureaucracy behind the backs of the ranks.



On Sept. 30, over 500 Indians from all over Canada demonstrated outside the Parliament Building in Ottawa demanding Indian rights. They were met by over 200 police who attacked the peaceful demonstration. One Indian from Montreal said: "I'm here because everybody in Canada, everybody in the working class, is getting ripped off."

## Thompson Loses Vote

Arnold Thompson, president of Local 801 of the International Electrical Workers in Dayton, Ohio has been defeated in a bid for reelection.

Frigidaire workers expressed their hatred for Thompson by voting 2575 for Hubert Sexton, who was backed by the IUE International; Bill Walters, another opposition candidate, got 2036 votes. Thompson came in third with only 1853 votes.

Thompson had been completely discredited in the local by his support for a wage cut, his failure to defend jobs, and by his goon squad attacks on anyone who opposed him.

A full report on the election will appear in the next issue of the Bulletin.

# Delegates Support Gershon

**NEW YORK, NY—**Hospital workers and delegates from Kingsbrook Medical Center in Brooklyn are circulating a petition demanding that full union rights be restored to Guild delegate Nathan Gershon. The petition says:

The following members and delegates of 1199 condemn the undemocratic actions taken by Pres. Davis against delegate Nathan Gershon and many other delegates at the Oct. 10 Guild Delegates meeting.

Not only was Nathan Gershon, along with others, denied the right to speak or even challenge the chair's ruling. But he was furthermore suspended from the next 3 delegate meetings in a totally undemocratic vote after he insisted on his rights.

Although he has been told to come to the next meeting for open discussion of the incident, we feel the seriousness of the matter warrants the following:

1. We demand that the suspension of Nathan Gershon be immediately rescinded.
2. We demand that the whole pattern towards undemocratic ruling at meetings, of which the Oct. 10 meeting was the sharpest example, be immediately stopped.

Gershon was prevented from speaking when he attempted to present a motion supporting Workers Party candidates Terry Delgado and Helen Halyard. Gershon was suspended at the end of the meeting after more than half the delegates had left.

Because of widespread opposition to Gershon's suspension at the meeting and since, 1199 officials have now requested that he

## After 46 Years In The Mills:

# You Sit Home And Starve

BY RONNIE ROY

**"I've had to struggle all my life. When I retired on my pension, I wanted to take it easy and just live.**

**"But it's tough. Sugar is up from 89¢ to \$2.39 since last year. You just can't live like that."**

Jerry, a retired steelworker, expressed the catastrophic conditions that inflation forces upon elderly and retired workers.

Workers who have spent their lives in the mills to increase the

profits of the steel corporations receive meager pensions, forcing some to work into old age to meet living expenses.

As in Chrysler, where only 1200 out of 7000 eligible workers opted for retirement, Robert, a 65-year-old employee of US Steel, described what he faced: "I've worked at Republic 8 years, Steel Tank for 10 years, and have been working for the last 24 years at Ohio Works (US Steel).

"I'm not leaving soon because my pension would only give me peanuts compared with inflation.

"I should be getting \$15,000 a year for what I've given, but I'll get less than half of that. I may even sell the house I've had for 23 years."

Food prices during the month of September alone rose 4.5 percent in Ohio, creating a further squeeze on pensioners. "I don't get enough money to live like I did 20 years ago," Ruth Jones, a retired widow, explained.

"If you don't have a special status for your pension, you are out of luck. I got five dollars more a month since last year from Social Security and I never knew it.

"I'd hate to see another depression. No one will stand for it. If you see a truck coming down the road you just don't stand there and let it hit you."

Ralph Williams, who just retired six months ago, told the Bulletin: "We're just existing. I'm awful close to going under. We have to buy this home and keep payments up.

"The phone bill's going up 33 percent; the gas and electricity, 25 percent. I haven't been able to buy any clothing in I don't know how long.

staff and \$200,000 dollars in expenses.

"I paid into Social Security since 1933. Now I get only \$110 a month."

A Rumanian worker retired from Republic Steel echoed this predicament: "Abel has given us nothing to get by. With my pension, what can you do, sit at home and starve? I have worked for 46 years and I may freeze this year."

Many older workers are forced to take part-time jobs, unable to live on pensions or find full-time work.

Ella White, who works as a crosswalk guard explained: "Most of the guards are on Social Security and aren't allowed to earn more than \$2400 a year. The mayor even told the local newspaper that we couldn't really depend on this job for our living. They use this to hold down everybody's wages.

"We don't get workman's compensation, even if we're hit by a car. The city workers (SEIU) never bothered to organize us because we were considered part-time."

Ford has already declared a policy to wipe out millions of dollars in benefits given to pensioners and the elderly. The only possible provision for a decent life is through the mobilization of the labor movement to construct a labor party, with a program of nationalization of industry, housing, and health care under workers' control.

Ella White told the Bulletin: "I heard about a labor party when I was a girl. We should have had one back then. We sure need it now.

"What's going on now looks like a rich man's takeover of everything we ever got. We have to put a stop to it now."





Workers demonstrate in Lisbon on May 1, 1974.



Portuguese Rail Workers' Union.

# Portugal: Tanks And Guns Against Workers

Reprinted from Workers Press.

FROM STEPHEN JOHNS IN LISBON

Portuguese marine cadets are being trained in urban guerrilla warfare as part of preparations in the armed forces for civil war.

The course started in secret after September 28, the day the fascist counter-coup was halted by workers and soldiers in Lisbon.

The cadets have been told that the training is for action against "reaction" in Portugal. In fact, the military chiefs are building an elite force for intervention against the working class.

"The director got us all together and said that we were preparing to prevent struggles in the cities, particularly in Lisbon, because we had some problems with the right wing," one cadet told me.

"We are being trained to shoot precisely, to fight with grenades, to climb high buildings with the use of a rope mortar."

Psychological preparations are also under way. The cadets—who will become officers in the marines—are subject to mental and physical brutality and harassment to build up their resistance to the provocations of a riot situation.

The weapons they use are the German Walther pistol, the G3 machine gun from NATO and the MG, one of the most powerful rapidfire weapons in the world.

"We were told that the best of us would become members of the Copcon," said the cadet.

Copcon is the special elite force of the army commanded by Brigadier Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho. It is designed to intervene in civilian situations.

Officially this corps is the guardian of democracy. But its origins throw a different light on its function.

Copcon was formed after two officers of the regular army refused to take their units into action against striking postal workers.

This week it was announced the Copcon would be responsible for all political jailings and will prevent attacks on private property.

Since the fall of fascism on April 25 the Portuguese ruling class has been disturbed by the spectacle of regular army units and workers making arrests and entering property owned by fascists or fascist supporters.

From now on these actions

will be illegal without the written permission of Copcon or the military governors of the regions outside the capital.

The cadet—one of 30 at the Vale do Zebero-Barreiro school in Lisbon was disturbed by these developments. He said his director had warned of civil war.

"He told us that civil war would break out, but it would be between the right and the left of the army. It would be too rapid and too sophisticated for the people to be involved.

"He said the right are the paras and the left are we marines," the cadet told me.

## DIVISIONS

These divisions do exist in the armed forces.

But they are secondary. The growing concern of many officers of the Armed Forces Movement—the power behind the April 25 coup—is that there will be more fraternization between the ranks and the working class.

They want to harness the army in Portugal to a well-ordered efficient capitalist system.

The more they realize this is not possible, the faster they are preparing for civil war.

"They don't want us to talk to the soldiers we will command," the cadet said.

## ATTACK

"When we move around the barracks it is always in groups to stop us making contacts.

"I think they are preparing to attack the working class.

"They told us that the movement on the 28th came from the armed forces helped by the workers.

"But what really happened was that the people took control against the manifestation of the reaction and the army only came in to help and take guns off the fascists.

"It is difficult to see the officers taking steps towards socialism, they are so deformed by the discipline of the armed forces."

The article below is reprinted from Vanguardia, organ of the Portuguese Trotskyist movement, the League for the Construction of the Revolutionary Party.

The struggles at the TAP airline and the Jornal do Comercio were a turning point in army intervention against workers in struggle.

The months of August and September have seen a great intensification of workers' struggles.

TAP workers found that their administrative committee, consisting of elected members and government appointees, did not meet their requirements. Among other things these administrators had awarded themselves a salary of \$52,000 each.

Meeting on July 31 the maintenance and engineering workers decided to organize themselves independently and draw up a program of demands.

This program was completed on August 19, and eight days were given for the government to comply with it. Negotiations had been started immediately after April 25.

The administrative committee and the government had the interests of the workers so much at heart that they met their representatives only half an hour before the deadline was due to expire.

Having failed to obtain any satisfaction, the workers went ahead with their strike plans, demanding that the TAP management be removed and brought to justice for the police shootings of July 12, 1973; that wage stoppages be reduced; that there should be no sackings without due cause, and that they should

be paid the wage increases won on April 25 but already undermined by the abrupt rise in the cost of living.

Clearly no set of demands could be better justified. But every one of them came under attack from the capitalist economy or the agencies of repression. At two in the morning the Copcon intervened with tanks and machine guns against unarmed workers. The appearance of this arsenal created the bitterest feelings of repulsion among the workers, who were forced to disperse their assembly as they had been a year previously under the fascist regime.

The strike kept going in the face of attacks from Copcon, the Ministry of Labor, the government and the Portuguese Communist Party (PCP). At 1:30 p.m. on August 29 the TAP workers were placed under military occupation and threatened with military tribunals in reprisal for their struggle. Meetings were forbidden. By 6 p.m. the strike was over.

The strike drew clear dividing lines with TAP between the working class and the bourgeoisie and their agents. The workers demonstrated their vanguard role in drawing the hesitant petty bourgeois sectors along behind them in TAP. And they drew down on them the fire of the PCP, which has already stood out against the working class so many times.

This Party took the same attitude in the case of the Jornal do Comercio. The workers on this journal struck on August 23 demanding their editor, Carlos Machado, be sacked.

The issue may at first sight appear trivial, but it is a basic question. To keep an editor like him meant retaining the whole repressive fascist structure within the Jornal do Comercio and his resignation would be an enormous gain for the workers in the fight for control of the paper, as the Borges group well knew. The weight of a single man, as the defender of the interests of his bosses, the Borges group, was decisive. The paper was ruled by internal censorship, with articles subject to the most stringent control.

Here too, Copcon surrounded

the newspaper offices to stop a special strike edition coming out.

On September 4 the print workers called a one-day general strike in solidarity with their comrades on the Jornal do Comercio. The Stalinists used their leading positions on the paper Seculo to direct the workers there on a path of strike-breaking, making it the only paper to come out: it was withheld from sale only by the decisive intervention of workers from other papers. Once again, Copcon offered its services, abstaining from intervention in the end only to avoid complicating the situation still further.

It was the workers themselves who came forward and expressed their contempt for these actions. The statement issued by the workers on the Diario de Noticias said:

"The workers of Diario de Noticias accuse the political forces which opposed the general strike in solidarity with our comrades of the Jornal do Comercio of trying to slander it and distort its meaning, and of using every means of public opinion, prevent it from achieving its aims, minimize the effect of the action, and isolate the trade unions from the working masses; in other words actions which could destroy the unity of the working class and contribute objectively to its defeat and to the victory of reaction."

In this political situation, with the PCP acting as a blind force delivering the working class into the hands of reaction, sabotaging its every move, inflicting the greatest possible repression, slandering and lying left, right and center about workers' struggles, the basic question for workers is undoubtedly the building of the revolutionary party.

This situation cannot be resolved through isolated struggles, but only through a general mobilization against this crisis-ridden economy, against the politics of repression, against the present capitalist government: through a mobilization for socialism. Only by these means can the airlines and newspapers be taken over and both industries placed under workers' control.



# Joiners Strike To Stop Drive For Piecework

BY JAMES BREWER  
SAN JOSE, Calif.—

The main issue in the statewide strike of sheetrock joiners is piecework.

Piecework has been used traditionally by contractors as a weapon to undermine hourly wages of construction workers. The collapse of the construction industry now drives each of these companies to implement back-breaking speedup just to stay in business. For the employers, the piecework struggle is a battle for survival.

At the October 14 meeting of Carpenters and Joiners Union Local 316, the membership overwhelmingly voted against piecework 200-6.

In the face of this strength, the statewide union leadership is preparing a betrayal. The new proposed contract has piecework written into it more strongly than the last one and the leaders are doing everything possible to ram this agreement through.

Before the vote, the leadership limited the picketing to the contractors' shops, where construction is dispatched. Because of the tremendous opposition of the men, they were forced to order the shutdown of the job sites.

The strike, which immediately affects some 5000 drywall workers in California, sharply poses the question of who should run the construction

industry. The present leadership clearly accepts the conditions of the contractors—anything goes to protect profits.

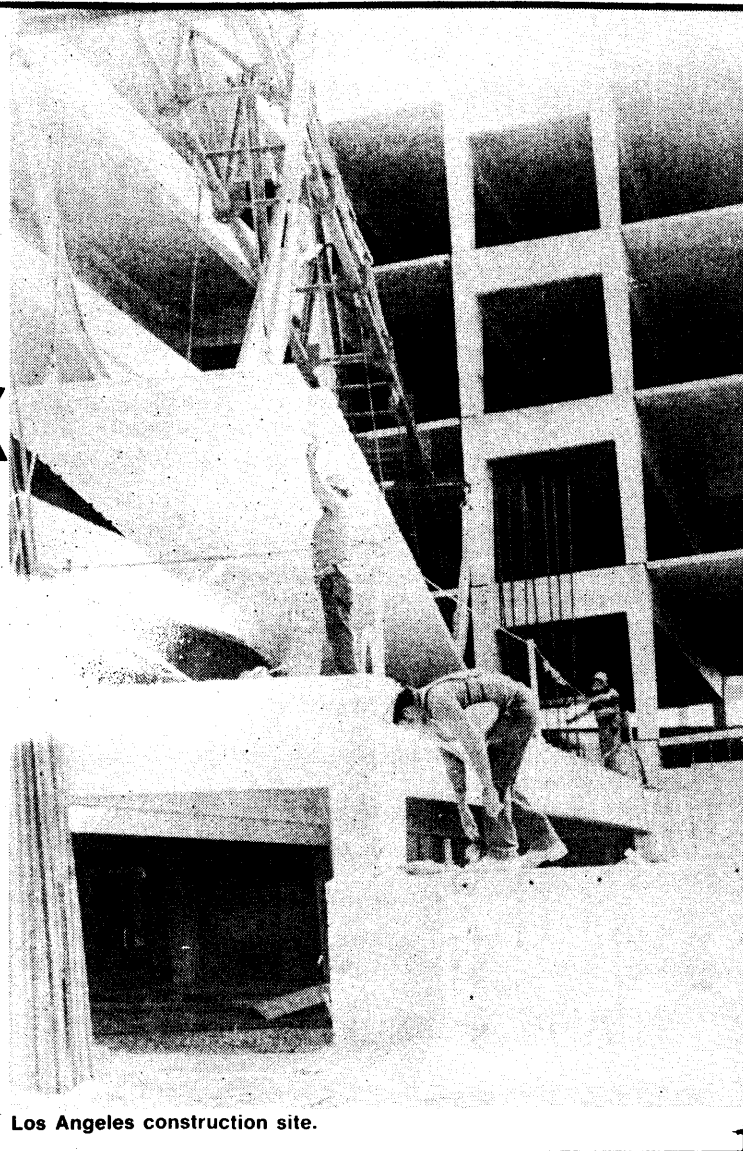
For construction workers to defend their wages and working conditions, the industry must be nationalized under workers control, to provide work and homes for workers.

•Shut down all construction—all trades!

•No piecework! Reject the proposed agreement!

•Wage increase to \$12 per hour!

All out for the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party meeting October 26 to build a new leadership in the unions to fight for a labor party and a program of nationalization of basic industries, a shorter work week, and a sliding scale of wages.



Los Angeles construction site.

# Falstaff Closes Brewery

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—Falstaff announced today that its brewery here would be closed down and sold to General Brewing, maker of Lucky beer.

The jobs of 35 or 40 workers are threatened. According to General Brewing, operations at the Falstaff plant will be shut down within several weeks.

One woman office worker said: "Most of us are pretty bitter. Most people here have worked for Falstaff a long time, and this is unbelievable."

"General Brewing doesn't even have a union for office workers; there are no jobs in the industry for office workers. They'll probably keep some of the brewers and bottlers—they'll have to if they're going to produce our beer."

Falstaff is in crisis. Falstaff was selling only 1.1 percent of the beer in the California market, and Lucky only 3.5 percent.

Falstaff purchased the Tenth Street plant three years ago after the former owner, Burgomeister, went bankrupt. Money was poured into the plant with a lot of talk about hundreds of new jobs, but workers said the plant was never brought up to full-scale production.

John Pinzatto, a fork lift driver who has worked in the industry for twenty-seven years, said: "This is the second time this has happened to us. First, Meisterbrau closed down and we were out of work. Now Falstaff is doing the same thing."

Because of plant closings and bankruptcies, he has worked for six companies in the last few years—Meisterbrau, Schlitz, Burgomeister, Hamms, Lucky, and Falstaff.

Teamsters union leader Rudy Tham has put forward no policy to defend the jobs of the brewers, bottlers, and office workers at Falstaff, other than referring to the impending layoffs as "a shame."

# Crisis In The Arts: A Ballet Goes Begging

BY MARTY MORAN  
SAN FRANCISCO—The San Francisco Ballet is facing a financial crisis which threatens to destroy it.

The ballet company has taken to the streets to raise enough money to stay in business.

The San Francisco Ballet Association is the oldest classical ballet company in the United States and the only one resident on the West Coast.

For years, the San Francisco Ballet has been subsidized by a handful of wealthy patrons of the arts, but now they are bailing out.

According to the ballet's public relations director, these wealthy "art lovers" gave close to 600,000 dollars every year to keep the ballet running. Now however, because of the "general state of the economy and the stock market," this money has been abruptly cut off, leaving the ballet faced with possible financial bankruptcy.

Fred Haskins, Ballet Association public relations director, described how the ballet's campaign for funds has been received: "Incredible, just incredible response. Probably as a result of the coverage by CBS and NBC, we've gotten money from as far away as Chattanooga, Tennessee, Little Rock, Arkansas, New York, Boston, everywhere. We received over 7000 small donations so far, and that's a rough estimate."

The ballet performed a show during half-time at a football game, as well as on a crowded downtown street and in a department store window.

They also raised money through two street parties and a free outdoor chamber music concert.

The campaign culminated in an extravaganza held at Marine

World-Africa USA on the Peninsula south of the city. Dancers staged a special showing of Beauty and the Beast with live animals from the amusement park. Over 7500 people attended.

The dancers union is the American Guild of Musical Artists, and the musicians are members of the musicians union. All their time and effort in the fundraising campaign were donated, even though these artists are not highly paid. The range of their earnings is between \$9500 and \$14,000 a year.

This crisis for the ballet company shows that this system cannot develop culture, but destroys it.

Although successful, the campaign has only provided a stop gap for the Association's financial crisis.

In other cities, including Dallas and Washington DC, once flourishing ballet companies have already been liquidated.

The Toronto Ballet recently staved off bankruptcy with a benefit rock concert which raised \$70,000.

The working class is the only force which can defend art and culture. The labor movement must put forward its own program to defend the cultural gains of our society, as well as the jobs and livelihoods of the artists involved.

# It's All Or None In Helm Strike

DETROIT, Mich.—Strikers at Helm, Inc. have voted down a company offer that would mean disciplinary layoffs and arbitration on the firings of four members of Graphic Arts International Union Local 20-B.

"We can't accept any firings or any arbitration," one man stated.

"Either we all go back or none of us do."

Helm's real purpose in provoking this strike is to get rid of the union. He has repeatedly told the negotiation committee that he cannot remain competitive when other companies use non-union labor to do the same kind of work.

"Some people here don't understand the world situation. That it's going to be a tough time. We do know that we need our jobs and nobody wants to go back without a union," said Lorraine who sits on the negotiating committee.

The intensity with which Helm is proceeding with his strike-breaking by hiring scabs and bribing union members points out that workers at Helm must fight to retain the union inside the plant and reject any firings.



The San Francisco Ballet.



# How The LA Bus Strike Was Sold Out

BY SHEILA BREHM  
LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Rapid Transit Division (RTD) bus drivers reluctantly returned to work after a 10 week strike.

The vote to accept the contract, 1709 to 1001, reveals the enormous hatred for the agreement that was rammed down their throats by the leadership of the United Transportation Union.

Although the entire two-year agreement is similar to the one ratified by the bus mechanics last week with little opposition, the main difference is in the cost of living clause. Unlike the mechanics, drivers will not receive cost of living pay until next year.

The wage increase for the first year is 12.5 percent and only 3.5 the second year. Before the strike, LA drivers ranked thirty-fourth nationally in hourly pay. They had originally wanted a 46 percent pay hike to combat the enormous jump in the cost of living and to gain back the negotiated pay raises denied during Nixon's wage freeze.

Knowing full well that the contract was far from adequate, the union negotiating team refused to recommend either acceptance or rejection. This so-called neutral stand was the outcome of talks between union leaders, LA Mayor Tom Bradley, and Governor Ronald

Reagan, in order to insure ratification.

No membership meeting was called, and voting took place by secret ballot at the various bus divisions throughout the city.

## REJECTION

A.C. Fouroux, a driver, told the *Bulletin*: "I'm convinced that if the leadership had recommended rejection, this would not have passed.

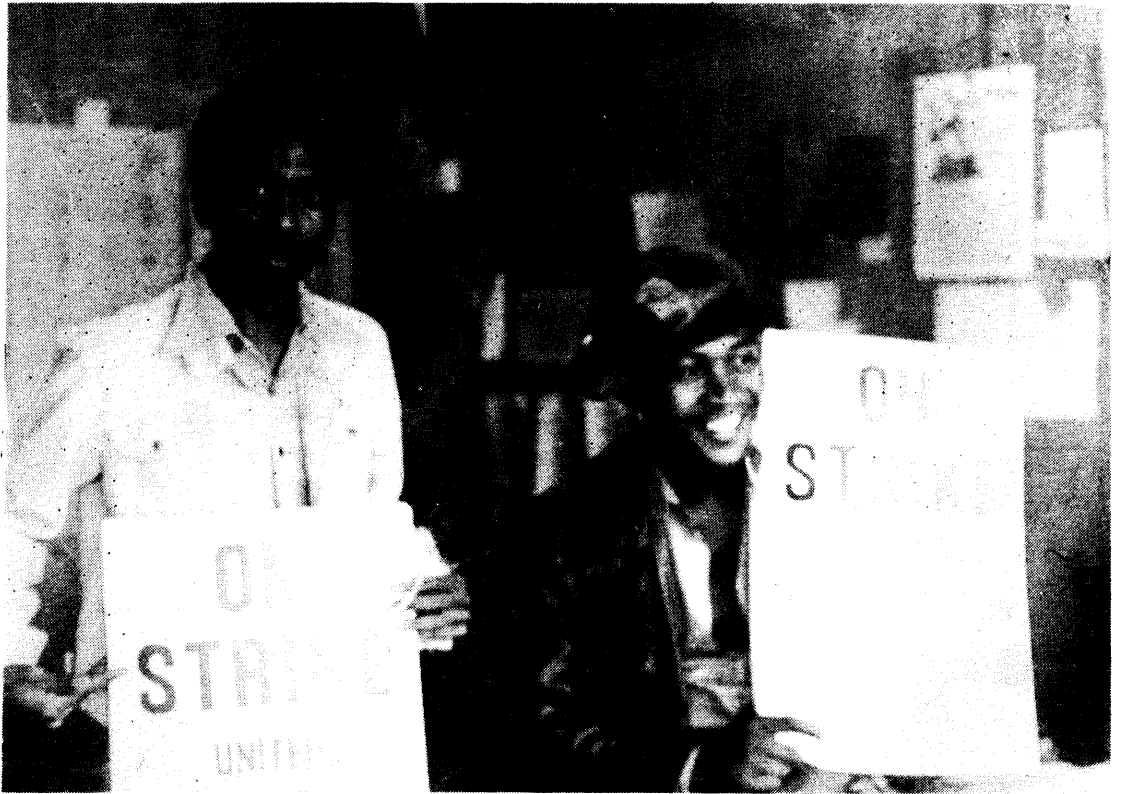
"There was a lot of discussion at the polls, and no driver was really happy. In fact, they purposely kept the voting separate and did not call a meeting to keep any opposition to this contract from being heard. All I can say is that we're going back to work with a lousy contract.

"I don't think this leadership has much chance of lasting now. They will be finished next month when the elections come up."

Last May, the UTU was nearly ousted by drivers in a big struggle to bring in another union, because of the leadership's inaction on grievances. The UTU was retained by only 200 votes.

According to one driver, "That's the only reason they fought at all. We put them on notice. But they weren't willing to carry it through. They sold us out."

The turning point in the bus strike occurred when Bradley backed down from calling in the National Guard. He said such an action would bring about a general strike and that "blood would flow in the streets."



Los Angeles bus drivers on strike.

It was at this crucial point when the bus drivers and mechanics were clearly on the offensive and UTU and ATU (Amalgamated Transit Union, mechanics) leaders refused to mobilize the labor movement in citywide action to win the demands of the strike. That the liberal democrat Bradley considered the use of troops was a warning to every trade unionist in the city that the fight for wages is a political fight against both Democrats and Republicans.

## CLARKE

Instead, UTU President Earl Clarke peddled the illusion that Bradley's retreat put him back in labor's camp.

In spite of the fact that 3500 mechanics and drivers booed Bradley when he tried to impose compulsory arbitration a few weeks before his speech on the National Guard, the union leaders sought to depict Bradley as a friend of labor.

From that point on, the leadership of both unions worked

with Bradley, Reagan, and the state legislators to split the strength of the two unions. This would not have been possible without the collaboration of the union officials.

The trap was set when the mechanics broke a previous pledge and were allowed to vote on a tentative agreement before the drivers had one as well. This was immediately used as a bludgeon against the lower paid and more militant drivers union to force a similar settlement on them.

In a full page article on the bus strike in *The Militant*, the weekly newspaper of the Socialist Workers Party, there is no mention of Bradley's speech on the National Guard or even that such a course was being considered.

## COMPLACENCY

Like the union leadership, the SWP seeks to sow complacency and covers for the liberals. Like the union leadership, the revisionists of the SWP try to prevent the bus strikers from

realizing their own power. Above all, they cover over the fact that the fight to defend wages, and against inflation as this strike has proven, requires the construction of a labor party to drive out the Democrats and Republicans.

At a meeting organized during the strike by the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party, one driver said:

"One thing I've learned is that while it is true there is a big opposition to Clarke, that unless the drivers who challenge him in the elections have policies to defend our jobs, wages, and fight inflation, we'll be no better off. It takes more than some militant talkers."

The lessons of this strike are vital to all trade unionists. Bus drivers and mechanics have not finished fighting by any means.

What is urgently needed is to organize a section of the Trade Union Alliance for a Labor Party and around the struggle for a Congress of Labor to defend wages and conditions, construct a new leadership in the union.

# Students Stop KKK Speaker

BY BOB GEHRIG  
SAN JOSE, Calif.—Mass protests by students at Santa Clara University forced the cancellation of an appearance of Ku Klux Klan chief David Duke.

During the past week, there were threats, intimidations, and harassment toward minority students. Lamont Allen, a black senior, told the *Bulletin*: "I heard that the student body officers decided that it was in the best interests of the campus community to cancel him after an incident in a dorm, where the word 'kinky' was written on some of the freshmen's doors.

"The other day, I saw a guy running down the street, wearing a white sheet, who was hollering out 'KKK is coming, KKK is going to get you'.

"I don't believe there is an organization right now. I think it is individuals going around pulling things off."

Before the planned appearance, KKK supporters were distributing expensive and colorful posters and leaflets.

Student body Vice-President Jose Lopez defended his invitation to the KKK's leader: "This man is one who is in the headlines, and represents a different point of view than we are used to

hearing at Santa Clara.

"He is a rather articulate, intelligent speaker. I felt he could raise some legitimate questions for the students and make them confront something blatantly racist which incites violence."

The school administration, while trying to appear neutral, encouraged the KKK to come on the campus and stir up racism to divide the students.

The right-wing, wealthy businessmen who stand behind the university are building up people like William Shockley who says blacks are genetically inferior along with other racist and fascist forces.

The united mass protests of both black and white students were decisive in causing the cancellation of Duke's speech. Lamont said: "All the minority groups put in a letter denouncing the fact that he was coming. But a lot of whites didn't want him to come, either.

"I don't know too much about Boston, but it did happen like that here, to a certain extent.

"I think that in Boston they should get all the agitators, if you don't live in Boston, get all the agitators and fascists out of there.

"Then, the next step is to fix up the schools."

# SLUMP...

(Continued From Page 1)

and Chrysler for cutbacks reveal that these auto giants are well aware that there will be no reversal of the slump and are carefully laying out their plans for plant closures, production cuts, and massive permanent unemployment in the industry.

Chrysler announced last week that it had embarked on a "stringent and intensive" cost cutting program. While refusing to give details, it revealed that its Newark, Delaware assembly plants would be shut for three weeks in November and December.

Its other plans include broad white collar layoffs, elimination of staff jobs, cuts in capital spending, and possible permanent closure of one of its six assembly plants.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported on Monday that a Ford layoff of 545 tool and die workers at a Dearborn plant was an indication of big cutbacks to come because these workers produce the hardware necessary for future models.

## REDUCTIONS

Henry Ford II recently disclosed that he expected 1975 to be almost as bad as 1974 and was planning further reductions in capital investments.

There must be no illusions about recent announcements of interest rate reductions. The slight easing of credit reflects the desperate fear of the Fed-

eral Reserve Board that thousands of companies desperate for cash to meet immediate payments are in danger of going under. It is also an attempt right before the elections to convince the working class that something is being done about recession.

The reality is that such a policy, while perhaps raising the stock market a few points temporarily, only feeds the inflationary fires and thus intensifies the crisis.

The deepening American recession has worldwide ramifications. The European capitalists, already swamped by oil bills they cannot meet, will be cut off from sales to the US market.

Ford's trade representative William Eberle has been touring European capitals, making it clear that the US has no intention of pulling back from its recessionary policies. He is spelling out policies for the bankrupting of European capitalism. Bank failures and industrial clashes in Europe must intensify the slump here.

The warning is more than clear. The Ford administration is hell-bent on policies that mean a head-on clash with millions of workers in an attempt to salvage profits through wage cutting, mass unemployment, and the destruction of the trade unions.

## BUREAUCRACY

It is only able to contemplate carrying out these attacks by re-

lying on the cooperation of the labor bureaucracy which refuses to lift a finger to fight back.

The confrontation with Ford is now on. The mine workers are the first section of the working class headed for a clash with this government. Their wage demands if won can deliver a shattering blow to Ford's plans.

But this requires a political fight against this government that can only be carried forward in a fight for political power through the construction of a labor party.

Mineworkers leader Arnold Miller is trying to head off this confrontation by calling on Ford to arbitrate the negotiations. He stands together with the Meanys, Abels, and Woodcocks who seek to prop up this government by sitting on Ford's labor management committee.

Every trade unionist must take the fight into his union by demanding an immediate break from the Ford administration. The labor leaders must be told to get off the board. The full support of the labor movement must be given to the miners struggle.

The unions must call a Congress of Labor to prepare the fight against Ford's slump. This means launching a labor party committed to full employment, wage increases to meet inflation, and the nationalization of industry and banking under workers control without compensation.



# **lucha Obrera**

## **PSP Acepta Apoyo Demócrata**

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El liderazgo del PSP acepta el apoyo de los demócratas precisamente en momentos en que la clase obrera debe de romper con este partido de la burguesía. Fue el alcalde demócrata Gibson el que ordenó la represión policial en Newark contra la comunidad hispana. Y es hoy el alcalde Demócrata White que ha traído a la Guardia Nacional a Boston.

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Arafat no solo ha puesto en peligro la lucha de las masas palestinas pero ha hecho claro que intenta abandonar cualquier lucha en contra del imperialismo norteamericano y los zionistas. Este tratado es reconocer al estado de Israel como permanente. Estos estados reaccionarios tratarán de aniquilar cualquier oposición de las masas palestinas.

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Este líder nacionalista, que ha sido ensalzado por todos los grupos nacionalistas en este país como el Partido Socialista Puertorriqueño, está jugando un papel traidor en la revolución palestina.



# **¡UNÁMONOS CONTRA EL RACISMO!**

## **POR CESAR UCO BOSTON—450 Guardias Nacionales han sido movilizados al área de Boston con el propósito de intensificar los ataques policiales contra la clase obrera.**

La tensión racial continua aumentando en esta ciudad solo porque el gobierno, tanto demócratas como republicanos, están usando a la policía para estimular las confrontaciones entre blancos y negros.

La orden de "busing" fue diseñada precisamente para iniciar esta explosión, desviando así el creciente descontento de los trabajadores blancos por los colegios mal equipados y sobrepoblados al separarlo de una lucha contra el gobierno que es el responsable de la situación escolar.

Desde el inicio del año escolar han habido varias demostraciones raciales, muchas de las cuales se convirtieron en peleas.

La prensa capitalista trata de exagerar por todos los medios posibles estos incidentes, tratando de hacer creer al público que toda la población blanca de South Boston está en contra de busing. Esto no es cierto. En realidad son una minoría que en su última demostración no pudo concentrar a más de 1500 personas.

Sin embargo, en cada incidente la policía se abstuvo de intervenir hasta que las peleas explotaron. Y luego intervino para golpear a estudiantes blancos y negros para aumentar la tensión aún más.

Las fuerzas de la Patrulla Táctica atacó a estudiantes negros en English High School. Las mismas fuerzas atacaron a jóvenes y trabajadores blancos

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Los capitalistas usan la policía para estimular el racismo porque temen más que nunca el poder de la clase obrera. Ellos saben que sus medidas recesionarias no pueden ser implementadas pacíficamente y que requieren de una confrontación armada con la clase obrera para imponerlas.

La situación económica que enfrentan los trabajadores y jóvenes blancos en South Boston es de las peores en el país. El aumento del costo de vida de la ciudad es el más alto del país, hay un alto desempleo y las condiciones de vivienda son desastrosas.

El racismo es usado en Boston para debilitar a la clase obrera, dividiéndola en el preciso momento que entra en grandes luchas para defender todos los derechos básicos y condiciones económicas ganadas en el pasado. El racismo es el arma de los grandes capitalistas para destruir las uniones.

Los revisionistas del SWP (Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores) han expresado estar en completo acuerdo con estas medidas al telegrafiar al Presidente Ford y al Senador Edward Kennedy demandando la intervención de la Guardia Nacional.

Ellos dijeron que "todas las fuerzas necesarias deben de usarse para destruir la ofensiva racista y garantizar la seguridad y los derechos constitucionales de la población negra."

De esta manera, el SWP acepta y busca mantener las divisiones raciales de la clase obrera.

¿Es que el SWP piensa que la Guardia Nacional va a detener el racismo cuando fue precisamente la policía la que provocó las confrontaciones raciales?

La Guardia Nacional es usada en Boston como un ensayo para una represión general contra toda la clase obrera.

Al llamar a la Guardia Nacional, el SWP da la espalda a la tremenda fortaleza del movimiento obrero porque, al igual que los capitalistas, ellos temen a la clase obrera.

La clase obrera debe de usar su fortaleza movilizándose contra el gobierno.

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La campaña del "Workers Party" en los Distritos Congresionales 12 y 14 de Brooklyn se centra en demandar que las uniones rompan con Ford y llamar a un Congreso de Trabajadores para construir un Partido Obrero.

Debido a que hubo una gran oposición a la suspensión de Gershon en el último mitin, los oficiales de la 1199 ahora piden que se presente al siguiente mitin para discutir más a fondo el tema.

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Esto es parte de los ataques de la administración de Beame de destruir los programas bilingües en la comunidad mayoritariamente puertorriqueña.



# **lucha obrera**

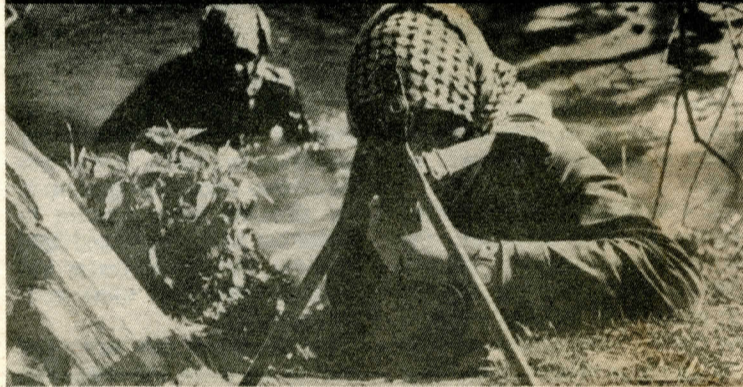
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