



U.S. atomic-armed FB-111s warm-up.

Mark Meyer

Crazy Carter Runs Amok

Stop Anti-Soviet War Drive

The "born again" failure in the White House has got people scared. When news broke of Carter's raid on Iran a real fear was expressed in workplaces across North America that the crazed U. S. president was driving to a third world war. Unable to impose full economic sanctions against Iran and not even able to lead an effective boycott of the Moscow Olympics, the intensely frustrated Carter administration is off its nut--with its finger on the nuclear button. Faced with the loss of global hegemony the American bourgeoisie now seems to be exhibiting strong impulses to want to bring the whole world down with them.

The panicky raid to "free the hostages" could

have come straight out of a Mel Brooks film entitled "Blazing Helicopters." What the American capitalist press called a "bold mission" was a cowardly attempt that left equipment, secret documents and above all the bodies of the dead, abandoned on the sands of Kavir. The attempted military intervention into Iran indicated a lot about the degenerate state of the post-Vietnam U. S. military.

We cannot resist a comparison with the Russian intervention in Afghanistan. Whereas the Americans apparently couldn't land a few aircraft without getting sand up their turbines and gyroscopes, the Russians landed a plane every couple of minutes in

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Stop Olympic Boycott!



Kabul 1980

AP

War Drive...

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Kabul, took their tanks right in and put down the reactionary Jihad of Islamic fundamentalists in Afghanistan with speed and efficiency. No wonder everyone recognizes that the Russian presence on the Afghan border of Iran is one of the few stabilizing features in a dangerously unstable situation.

Carter's escapade was rightly denounced by the Soviet news agency Tass as an "unprecedented act of adventurism." Iran is not some Latin American "banana republic" where Washington can pull this kind of stunt without risking world war. It is a strategically important country on the southern border of the Soviet Union. Carter must not be allowed to run his imperialist gangsters around the world like some kind of international nightriders. In a military confrontation between Iran, even under the leadership of the reactionary mullahs, and U. S. imperialism, workers must demand: Hands Off Iran!

Not only does the U. S. back the defenders of the bride price, the veil, usury and serfdom in Afghanistan, but Carter wants to forge an alliance with Iran's rabidly anti-Soviet mullahs to fill the breach in the military encirclement of the USSR created by the fall of the butcher shah. The abortive "raid" was designed to remove the obstacle of the hostages--either by freeing them or by having them perish in the attempt.

When the Soviet Union came to the aid of its allies

in Kabul, Washington suddenly tried to produce visions of Russian "empire builders" swarming down to Karachi, the Persian Gulf, Aden, Suez, . . . The Americans started talking like they were about to start World War III. It's positively demented. But Carter's anti-Soviet crusade is not new. As the Trotskyist League pointed out in a statement distributed to a Communist Party "Canada Out of Nato" rally on May 10 and to a meeting sponsored by the Canada-USSR Association commemorating the end of World War II:

"The crazed Carter administration in the U. S. has been on a rampage against the Soviet Union for a long time now. First it was the so-called Human Rights campaign with which the U. S. government extended a hand of co-operation to pro-imperialist "dissidents" like Andrei Sakharov. Then came the collusion of the U. S. with China in the invasion of Vietnam. And with that the U. S. turned to more overt provocation against the USSR: the kidnapping of the Soviet ballerina at Kennedy Airport last summer and then the ridiculous furor over Cuba where Carter discovered the great 'menace' of a Red Army unit which had been there for 15 years. So when the Soviet Union intervened . . . in Afghanistan, Carter used it as a pretext to launch a new Cold War."

Bit by bit the U. S. bourgeoisie has seen chips of what it once thought was its world fall out of its grasp--Cuba, Vietnam, Angola, Iran. Meanwhile, the Cubans run unhindered around Africa and the Soviets move "unpunished" into Afghanistan. It's clear that the U. S. imperialists are getting fed up with always ending up the loser. But just as the bourgeoisie as a whole will never accept that it is doomed as a class, so Carter refuses to accept the U. S. 's historic defeat in Vietnam and what it meant for U. S. imperialism.

The U. S. may be heating up "Cold War II," but we're not back in the "good old days" when the undisputed, top-dog imperialist American superpower could tell subservient Bonn and Tokyo politicians where to get off. Today the "allies" are dragging their feet. The British are only too happy to pay the U. S. back (in whatever small way) for screwing them out of control of Iran's oil in 1951. The West Germans know that Carter's war will be fought on their soil, and insist that "Bonn is more important than Kabul." The Japanese need oil to survive, and so they apply "sanctions" against Iran while Mitsui continues to negotiate a multi-billion-dollar deal for an Iranian oil refinery! Even Canada,

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PQ Referendum**Federalists Gloat - Levesque Loses**

"Vive le Canada," "Quebec votes for Canada": the English-language press had a field day when René Lévesque's Parti Québécois (PQ) went down to defeat in Quebec's May 20 referendum. By a margin of three to two Quebec voters rejected a "mandate to negotiate sovereignty-association" in favor of a "renewed federalism." Anglophones celebrated in the streets of Montreal (drinking champagne in a 1926 Rolls Royce for the TV cameras) while Lévesque, practically sobbing, conceded defeat to 6,000 "oui" partisans at Paul Sauvé arena.



PQ supporters hear news of defeat, May 20.

Boris Spremo/Toronto Star

English Canada breathed a sigh of relief at Lévesque's loss (while worrying that half of Quebec's Francophones voted "yes"). A victory for the PQ could have initiated a process which might have led to the disintegration of the Canadian federal state. A few members of provincial parliaments in the West are already calling for amalgamation with the U.S., while the leaders of oil-glutted Alberta threaten to let Ontario "freeze in the dark" if they don't get what they want from Ottawa.

There are two nations in North America, but the U.S./Canada border splits the English-speaking nation while locking the oppressed Québécois into "Confederation." While the U.S. parades as the number one imperialist power, its Canadian junior partner plays the role of jackal: the Yankees rape, bomb and pillage, while their Maple Leaf lackeys follow behind, picking the carcasses clean. "See, no blood on our hands" is the favorite refrain of spokesmen for the Canadian bourgeoisie. But from the suppression of the Riel Rebellion in 1885 to the occupation of Quebec in 1970, the Canadian ruling class has always been willing to spill blood in the interests of "Canadian unity."

Why Revolutionaries Boycotted the PQ Referendum

For almost four years the Parti Québécois played politics with its referendum, defining and redefining "sovereignty-association," shadow boxing with Liberal Prime Minister Trudeau at federal-provincial conferences, searching for the least offensive, least meaningful wording for the

question. Despite the claims of Bay Street's media that the referendum was just another step on Quebec's road to independence, Lévesque was really only demanding a vote of confidence in his ability to wrest a few legislative powers and some more tax revenue from Ottawa. Even Trudeau had to admit that the referendum was not on separation.

The PQ refused to hold a straight vote for or against independence because it was evident that it would lose. Despite the growth of nationalist sentiment in Quebec in the last two decades, supporters of separation remain a definite minority--according to the polls, little more than a quarter of the French-speaking population.

Deliberately attempting to stifle any independent political intervention in the referendum campaign, the PQ required that all participants in the debate join one of two umbrella committees (headed either by the PQ or Claude Ryan's provincial Liberals). The combative Quebec workers movement was thus denied the possibility of taking a stand independent of the bourgeois parties under the PQ's rules. As we noted in Spartacist Canada last December:

"... the PQ's referendum laws are an abrogation of even bourgeois democracy. Revolutionaries must denounce this fraudulent referendum campaign. The only choice for Quebec workers is to boycott Lévesque's referendum."

The bourgeois-nationalist PQ has proven in more than three years of power that it is no "friend of

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RWL Splits

RMG Remnants Limp Out of RWL

After a series of hectic transcontinental phone calls in late April a few dozen people walked into various branch meetings of the fake-Trotskyist Revolutionary Workers League (RWL), handed in a statement--and left. With no definable politics, no newspaper, and to date not even a name, such a group would not seem to merit much attention. But this event is not without political significance, for the leaders of this outfit are Bret Smiley, Joe Flexer, Bob Mills and Jackie Larkin--all former honchos in the defunct centrist Revolutionary Marxist Group (RMG). Three years ago these same individuals led some 90-odd RMGers into the "fast fusion" with the reformist League for Socialist Action (LSA) which created the RWL--and now they have led a third of that number back out the door.

At the time of the ill-fated marriage of convenience between the foundering RMG and the craven NDP-loyalists of the LSA Socialist Voice hailed the event as a "big advance for socialist unity" (26 September 1977). According to the RWL almost 500 people attended its founding convention--but it has all been downhill since then.

Today the RWL's membership is not much over 100 and those members who remain find pushing the NDP in the factories (a result of the group's most recent "turn") to be exhausting and depoliticizing. The organization hardly exists publicly. In Toronto the group has held only one public meeting in the past three months; in Winnipeg the last forum drew only seven people.

The departure of the former RMGers marks the end of the unstable "fusion." Only a dozen or so

former RMGers remain in the RWL which, in English Canada, has been controlled by the former LSA faction since last summer. In Quebec, the Ligue Ouvrière Révolutionnaire (LOR) is only a fraction of the size it was at the time of the fusion. Unlike the RWL a majority of the LOR (including almost all the francophones in the group) are lined up behind the ex-Groupe Marxiste Révolutionnaire (GMR) and it is widely rumored that they too will soon be parting company with the NDP-boosters of the LSA.

After the RWL convention last March where they could only muster about one third of the votes, the ex-RMGers had three alternatives. They could "stay and fight" the former LSAers in English Canada with virtually no chance of ever gaining a majority; dissolve their faction and watch their remaining supporters dribble out of politics through demoralization; or try to cut their losses by pulling what they could out of the RWL to face once again the task they botched before--building an independent organization. They chose the third option and, using the RWL's liquidation of its dissident Edmonton branch as a pretext, made their exit. To date the main activity of the group has consisted of holding a series of parties to try to hang on to their members, sign up some of the dozens who had already quit and tussle with the RWL over a few of the ex-RMGers who stayed behind.

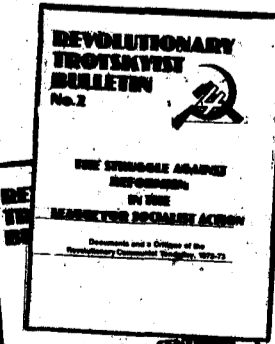
RMG Bankrupt Centrism

The RMG had its origins in the Revolutionary Communist Tendency (RCT), a large left-wing faction which developed in the LSA in 1972 in opposition to the reformist majority which was aligned with the ex-Trotskyist American Socialist Workers Party (SWP) within the United Secretariat (USec). After a factional struggle which lasted almost a year the RCT, with Smiley and Mills among its leaders, split from the LSA in 1973 and linked up with elements of the disintegrating New Left, including Larkin and Flexer from the NDP's Waffle Caucus, to form the RMG. At its founding convention in 1973 the RMG leadership projected continued rapid growth for the group and proclaimed that all that was left of the LSA was an empty shell.

In the course of the factional struggle in the LSA the RCT signed up with Ernest Mandel's centrist International Majority Tendency (IMT) then in the midst of a bitter factional wrangle with the SWP. At the time of the split with the LSA the RCT believed that the IMT was on the brink of a complete break with the SWP. The RMG leadership understood that "the SWP and the LSA/LSO have already been lost to Trotskyism politically" and was therefore disturbed to see that "the majority has shown

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REVOLUTIONARY TROTSKYIST BULLETINS



No. 1: Trotskyism vs. Centrism--The Struggle of the Bolshevik-Leninist Tendency in the Revolutionary Marxist Group. In two parts: part i. \$2.00; part ii. \$1.75

No. 2: The Struggle Against Reformism in the League for Socialist Action--Documents and a Critique of the Revolutionary Communist Tendency, 1972-73. \$1.75

Make check out/mail to: Spartacist Canada Publishing Association, Box 6867, Station A, Toronto

GST/OCI: Stalinophobia, Class Collaboration, Gangsterism

Perhaps hoping to pick up some of the fallout from the continuing disintegration of the Revolutionary Workers League, the Groupe Socialiste des Travailleurs (GST) has recently announced public meetings in Toronto and Vancouver. Centred in Quebec the GST is virtually unknown to the English-speaking left in North America. Internationally it is aligned with Pierre Lambert's French Organisation

Communiste Internationaliste (OCI), which is currently in a bloc of convenience with Latin American followers of the charlatan and adventurer Nahuel Moreno. Lambert hands out franchises with considerably less discretion than Colonel Sanders but so far he has had few takers in North America outside of Quebec. For years the standard-bearer of OCI politics in English Canada has been one Robert Sherwood, leader of a motley handful of NDP loyalists who sometimes style themselves the Socialist Workers Group.

Sherwood, who practices "entrism" in the NDP like a dung-beetle in a cow pie, has made his political program unswerving loyalty to Canada's right-wing social democracy. When Ross Dowson's Forward Grouping split to the right from the reformist League for Socialist Action (a forerunner of the RWL) to dissolve into the NDP in 1974, Sherwood welcomed Dowson to the camp of those who "support the NDP without conditions." But Dowson chose not to be associated with the OCI, with or without conditions.

It would appear that the GST has recently decided to undertake more public work in English Canada. But although Sherwood's Socialist Workers Group will no doubt attempt to present itself as a fresh new face on the left the Lambertists internationally have a well-established reputation as a group of Stalinophobic reformists. Despite the orthodox Trotskyist pose which Lambert and Co. struck in their criticisms of the United Secretariat's abject capitulation to the Sandinistas in Nicaragua (including the USec's alleged complicity in the expulsion of its own "comrades" in Moreno's Simón Bolívar Brigade), politically the OCI stands somewhere to the right of Willy Brandt. In France the Lambert-



Julienne-Sygnia

GST/OCI backed rightist mob attack on CP offices, Portugal, 1975. (Right) CP member's car being demolished. ists have repeatedly cast their votes for candidates of the bourgeois popular-front Union of the Left, thus betraying the first principle of revolutionary politics --the independence of the working class from the bourgeoisie.

The OCI is notorious on the French left for its ready recourse to the Stalinist methods of slander and physical violence against political opponents. In Portugal in 1975 the OCI backed the Socialist Party of Mario Soares when it was receiving CIA funds and in league with the fascists burning down CP offices. In Germany the OCI calls for a "national constituent assembly" and for "unconditional reunification"--i. e., for the liquidation of the social/economic gains of the East German deformed workers state through a capitalist reunification. Trotskyists support the reunification of Germany--but only through a social revolution in West Germany which overturns capitalist property relations.

The OCI shamelessly whitewashes anti-Marxist Soviet "dissidents" like Sakharov and blurs the class line between those oppositionists who are the dupes or sycophants of imperialism and those who are the future cadres of the political revolution. Meanwhile in Afghanistan the OCI calls for military support to the reactionary Islamic rebels against the Red Army. When thousands of Cuban gusanos fled to Miami this spring the GST wrote: "it is the bureaucracy and it alone which bears full responsibility for the current developments" (Tribune Ouvrière, 19 May)! But as Fidel Castro observed in 1965, "Any other Latin-American country to which [the U. S.] made such an offer [of unlimited

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Workers Must Take Power in Nicaragua!

TL Confronts Sandinista

The defection of "Cottonseed Oil King" Alfonso Robelo and Violeta Chamorro, leader of Nicaragua's wealthiest landlord dynasty, from the Sandinista-led "Government of National Reconstruction" renewed Washington's fears that Nicaragua could become another Cuba. Of course, the fake-Trotskyists of the Revolutionary Workers League (RWL) who had claimed that the workers and peasants ruled in Nicaragua even before the resignations were overjoyed and *Socialist Voice* (5 May) quickly cranked out a piece headlined "Capitalists leave Nicaragua gov't." In the article the RWL hailed the fact that "the Nicaraguan government is now composed solely of representatives of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and organizations that sympathize with the FSLN." But not for long.

Robelo and Chamorro were replaced on May 18 by Conservative party member Rafael Córdova Rivas and Arturo Cruz, president of the Central Bank. Not that this matters a bit to the RWL. These cheerleaders for *Sandinismo* mustered their dwindling forces in Toronto on May 15 to greet the FSLN's Secretary for Municipal Affairs, Rogelio Ramirez. Various RWLers, posing as know-nothing liberals stepped up to the mikes during the question period to pose innocuous queries on the literacy campaign, urban development, the "respected speaker's personal work," *ad nauseam*. Gushing and bubbling one RWLer even praised the Nicaraguan Council of State as "the most democratic body" she had ever heard about!

The first questioner, though, was a TL supporter, who posed the real political issue:

"The destruction of the bloody Somoza dictatorship opened up the possibility to put an end once and for all to all forms of exploitation in Nicaragua. The October 1917 Russian Revolution proved positively that only permanent revolution, the dictatorship of the proletariat--not class-collaborationist 'national unity' but a workers government--could solve even the most basic democratic tasks...."

"You say you are for the working people. Why then do you slap leftists in jail and denounce strikes?..."

Through his interpreter Ramirez readily admitted imprisoning leftists, adding that these "Trotskyists and Maoists" had "caches of arms--this the revolution will not permit." Like every other petty-bourgeois bonapartist formation the FSLN puts a high priority on disarming the left and the working class. The hard-line FSLN supporters vigorously applauded this brazen defense of repression directed at leftist opponents of the FSLN coalition government.

A second TL supporter took up the challenge:

"While groups like the RWL... say that the Nicaragua government is a workers and peasants government, the speaker tonight has proven that the FSLN puts unity with the capitalists above the interests of the workers and peasants. Why don't you nationalize all the land and give it to the peasants--that is what a real workers and peasants government would do."

Angered by the pointed criticism, Ramirez charged that Nicaragua's "objective conditions... cannot be understood by some foreign political groups." The peasants seizing estates in Nicaragua obviously don't understand the "objective conditions" either.

By this time the RWL was getting very nervous. Barb Stewart rushed to defend her dashing Sandinista heroes: "I am a Trotskyist. But I want to make a distinction between me and the two people who spoke before me. I, unlike them, am 100 percent behind the efforts of the FSLN." Ramirez loved it: "I respect that there are a lot of companeros who are also Trotskyists. We have not thrown anyone in jail because they are Trotskyists. We will only jail those groups who plot against the revolution."

There are Trotskyists and then there are "Trotskyists." But those who defend the policy of coalition with the bourgeoisie will have the blood of the workers and peasants on their hands. ■

GST...

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immigration] would empty out overnight."

So Stalinophobic is the OCI that it sees "Eurocommunism" as a plot hatched in Moscow; the class character of the Kremlin bureaucracy is defined simply as "bourgeois," even though it rests on the property forms established by the October Revolution; and internationally the USSR is supposed to be in an unbreakable "Holy Alliance contracted by the bureaucracy with imperialism," established at Potsdam and Yalta and unaffected by such vicissitudes as even the Cold War.

In Quebec the GST has faithfully carried out the social-democratic politics of its mentors in the OCI. In the 1976 Quebec provincial election the GST attempted to breathe some life into the moribund Quebec wing of the English-chauvinist NDP through an electoral coalition with the GST's trade-union front group -- on the NDP's program. The GST counterposed bourgeois Canadian nationalism to bourgeois Quebec nationalism with the demand for a constituent assembly to establish a new all-Canadian constitution independent of the British Crown! After the fiasco of its electoral gambit with the NDP the GST made an abrupt turn to Quebec nationalism and adopted as its own

RWL Alibis Mullahs' Terror Against Iranian Left

During April dozens of leftist students were murdered and hundreds were injured as Ayatollah Khomeini sent his "Islamic revolution" on to the Iranian campuses to "purge" them of "Marxist" influence. Khomeini is determined to completely annihilate such groups as the populist Fedayeen Khalq, the radical Islamic Mujahedeen and the pro-Moscow Stalinist Tudeh.

The Revolutionary Workers League and its equivalent in Iran, the HKE (the Canadian and Iranian satellites of the reformist ex-Trotskyist American Socialist Workers Party) have carried their criminal policy of support to Khomeini's "Islamic revolution" to its logical conclusion by defending the massacre of the leftists. In the article "Why Carter Fears 'Unraveling Authority' in Iran" (Intercontinental Press, 5 May; adapted in Socialist Voice, 19 May) they quote the HKE's appeal to "every anti-imperialist militant to support the action of the ISOs [Islamic Student Organizations]." The ISOs were the first to mobilize around Khomeini's demand for "Islamification" of the universities.

But Socialist Voice conveniently omits the HKE's disgusting attack on those who try to defend their organizations and their very lives from the Shi'ite clergy's stormtroopers:

"The Tudeh Party, Mujahedeen, Fedayeen, Paykor and other so-called Marxist organizations, which always start from their own narrow, sectarian interests, have essentially opposed this brave action. These forces, under the pretext of defending the 'barriade of freedom' (these organizations think that reaction has taken over the country and that the campuses are the last bastion) have mobilized against the action of the ISOs."

By this act the HKE is traitor to every principle the labor and socialist movement stands for. Even their English partners in the International Marxist Group felt compelled to criticize the latest wave of repression against the



Kazemi/Stern

Khomeini called for purge of Marxists in universities. Leftists aid injured comrade.

left and national minorities:

"Islamic nationalism clearly was not satisfied with the confrontation with 'the great Satan, American imperialism'. It had also declared war on the left and the national minorities."

--Socialist Challenge, 1 May

As if to compound their crime by showing the spoils as well as the dead bodies, Socialist Voice carries a large photo caption showing the last of the imprisoned HKE members leaving jail and stating that "in Iran, deepening revolutionary ferment has created atmosphere open to debate of different viewpoints." Tell that to the Fedayeen who lost 20 comrades at Teheran University. With the RWL's full approval, the HKE has offered up the lives of Iranian leftists to Islamic reaction to save their own skin. The 1965 Indonesian coup demonstrated on a massive and catastrophic scale that for those even remotely connected to the left, opportunism saved nobody's skin--including their own.

the Parti Québécois' demand for a "Free Republic of Quebec."

The struggle against the Pabloist revisionism that organizationally destroyed the Fourth International began in 1951 with the French section, the organizational progenitors of the OCI, the Parti Communiste Internationaliste. But the OCI has long since renounced the struggle for genuine Trotskyism. The OCI's Stalinophobic apologetics for the reactionary role of the CIA-backed social democracy in Portugal in 1975 revealed that the international tendency headed by Lambert has qualitatively degenerated from anti-Pabloist orthodoxy to social-democratic reformism. ■



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Not Détente but Workers Revolution!

May 1945: Red Army Smashes Nazis

On May 11 in Toronto Spartacist Canada editorial board member Oliver Stephens gave a forum on the anniversary of the Red Army's military victory over the Nazis in 1945. Reprinted below are excerpts from the presentation, edited to preserve its original character.

.....

Last Friday night I had the opportunity to go to the Canada-USSR Association's meeting celebrating the end of World War II. Just about all of us here were not yet born in 1939, and we have only the barest glimmer of the atrocities and the horror of that war which blighted mankind's existence for close-on six years. If there was anything noticeable about that meeting, it was the very deep and fundamental desire for peace, for an end to war and to never again go through such wanton and massive slaughter.

It was fitting that one of the main speakers was a representative of the USSR's war veterans' organization--the Soviet Union lost 20 million people, 20 million out of the 50 million who died. And it was almost exactly 35 years ago that the Red Army moved into Berlin and put an end finally to what remained of the Third Reich. In the USSR it was called the "Great Patriotic War," for the members of the Communist Parties (CPs) around the world it was Stalin's greatest triumph. And indeed, the world's first workers state, the land of the 1917 October Revolution, the first revolution to smash capitalism, emerged victorious and intact. But the question is: What price was paid for that military victory, to see the Soviet Army raise the Red Flag over the Reichstag in Berlin?

At Friday's meeting the speakers stressed time and again that the road to peace was through the struggle of what they called "all progressive people," that peace could be ensured if only we fought for détente, for "peaceful coexistence." I want to look at the results of the policy of "peaceful coexistence" and ask: is the world further away from war today, or do the Soviet bureaucracy's actions and policies fundamentally endanger the very exis-



Hoisting the Soviet flag over Hitler's Reichstag.

Sovfoto

tence of the USSR and the other workers states?...

Well, in June 1941, Hitler invaded the Soviet Union. And yet Communist Parties around the world will tell you that the Hitler-Stalin Pact was a brilliant maneuver on Stalin's part, a way of buying time, a masterstroke of diplomacy to aid in the defense of the USSR. Those who hold that position have to answer some very difficult questions, because we almost lost Leningrad and Moscow,

and we did lose Stalingrad for a period. The awful truth is that the Soviet bureaucracy literally believed that through this piece of paper with one of the imperialist powers engaged in the war, Hitler wouldn't invade. And so the Soviet people were psychologically and militarily unprepared to respond in June 1941.

Alexander Werth, who's rather sympathetic to the USSR, relates a story from the early hours of June 21/22, 1941:

"Then came another 'phone call from [Marshal] Timoshenko, who said: 'Comrade Boldin, remember that no action is to be taken against the Germans without our knowledge. Will you please tell [General] Pavlov that Comrade Stalin has forbidden to open artillery fire against the Germans.'

"'But how is this possible?' I yelled into the receiver. 'Our troops are in full retreat. Whole towns are in flames, people are being killed all over the place....'

"'No,' said Timoshenko, 'there is to be no air reconnaissance more than thirty-five miles beyond the frontier.'

"I argued that since the Nazis had knocked out practically all our front-line air force, this was impossible anyway, and insisted that we throw in the full weight of our infantry, artillery and armour, and especially our anti-aircraft guns. But Timoshenko still said No;--only reconnaissance of not more than thirty-five miles inside enemy territory....

"It was not till some time later that Moscow ordered us to put into action the 'Red Packet,' i. e., the plan for covering the State frontier. But this order came too late.... The Germans had already engaged in full-scale military operations, and had, in several places, penetrated deep into our territory."

--General I. V. Boldin, quoted in Russia at War, 1941-1945 (1964)

Peaceful coexistence was first tried with Britain and France. That didn't seem to work too well and Stalin simply transferred the object of his desires to peacefully coexisting in a state of harmonious détente with the German imperialist state. And the cost was absolutely terrific. In the first few days over 1,200 of the Red Army's air force planes were wiped out on the ground. Thousands of tanks and hundreds of thousands of prisoners were captured.

So after the invasion the USSR began to fight and changed its line--once again it was a war of "democracy against fascism," and once again the class struggle became a bar to the "struggle against fascism." The Communist Parties became some of the most jingoist, most chauvinist, most patriotic organizations that existed. They called the war a "just war," a "people's war of national freedom and liberation." In France the leading resistance organization, the FTP (dominated by the CP), had a slogan, "Let every man kill a Hun," and the Communist Party of Canada was running headlines like "Canada in Mortal Danger."

If Goebbels had his phrase "Total War" for his side, the CPs were echoing it on the side of "democracy." In the U. S. the CPers were fervent supporters of Roosevelt, and in fact on Friday night one of the speakers said that Franklin D. Roosevelt was one of the greatest men who ever lived, one of the most beneficent and kind and progressive people that there could ever be. But Roosevelt was instrumental in breaking strike after

Let the Soviet Admiral In!

(The Trotskyist League sent the following telegram on May 12:)

Dept of External Affairs
125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ont.

Outraged by denial of visa to Soviet Admiral S. Y. Zaharov scheduled to appear at Toronto meeting sponsored by Canada-USSR Association May 9. While Canadian athletes are ordered not to go to Moscow Olympics, Admiral Zaharov is refused entry to Canada. With this action Canadian government, junior partner of U. S. imperialism, continues to play role in U. S. president Jimmy Carter's anti-Soviet war drive. Protest exclusion of Admiral Zaharov. Let Canadian athletes go to Moscow Olympics. Down with war drive against the USSR.

Trotskyist League

strike--during wartime there's tremendous speed-up, inflation is bursting out and wages are held down, a tremendous militarization of labor. And Roosevelt was maneuvering to send in troops against the striking mine workers in 1943. The Communist Party was saying, "Right on, Roosevelt! Go in there and crush that strike. These people are fifth columnists, saboteurs, agents of the Hitlerite fascists doing their dirty work in this country." But it was just the militant miners with a long tradition of not giving in. They had had enough and they were going to fight back.

But everything had to be subordinated for the Communist Parties to secure alliances with the various imperialist powers against Hitler. The CP was the most fervent supporter of the no-strike pledge; the Canadian Communist Party devoted page after page of its newspaper to attacking and condemning the CCF, the forerunner of the NDP, because the CCF would not sign the no-strike pledge! And of course the struggle of any oppressed groups and peoples throughout the world were completely subordinated. So the Canadian CP essentially said to hell with the Québécois, and the CPUSA said that "now is not the time" to be fighting for even the basic democratic rights of blacks. They would not fight segregation in the armed forces because this might be divisive to the struggle against the "Hitlerite danger."

Stalin's policy was to call upon the [Allied] imperialist powers to get the USSR out of the jam they

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Red Army . . .

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were in militarily, that Stalin was in large part responsible for. Stalin's line was to welcome with open arms the coming of the American troops, the power that was destined to become the leading and hegemonic imperialist state.

In order to get this Stalin had to give up something, and it was really a relatively straightforward deal at one point. The Communist International was simply collapsed and folded up and its members sent on their way to rejoin their various "People's Front" organizations as a gesture of "good will."

World War II--An Inter-Imperialist Conflict

Now, Trotskyists didn't have a great deal of trouble understanding the nature of the Second World War. We did not have the problem of trying to follow the twists and turns as Stalin attempted to use the Communist Parties as mere extensions of Soviet foreign policy. Just after the United States entered the war James P. Cannon, the leader at the time of the then-revolutionary Trotskyist Socialist Workers Party, spoke at the fifth convention of the SWP:

"The war, this terrible paroxysm of an out-lived social system in its death agony, dominates everything in the world today. Upon the outcome of this war depends the future of humanity. But we must understand that this war is not an abnormal phenomenon. It is not an accidental catastrophe; not an interlude to be followed, in the course of events, by a long period of peace and normal functioning of capitalist society. On the contrary, this war is the most characteristic expression of bankrupt capitalism. The war is the very image of capitalism, as it is now, and as it will be until the workers and the oppressed peoples rise in revolution and make an end of it. . . .

"We maintained all the time--it was stated already in 1934 in the theses 'War and the Fourth International'--that regardless of how the Soviet Union may be allied in the beginning of the war, the war in the course of its development must inevitably lead to an attack upon the Soviet Union by one of the imperialist camps, whether allied with it in the beginning or not, or by all of them united. We held that the Soviet Union, standing even as the product of a strangled and betrayed revolution is in the most principled opposition to the imperialist states, and that war between them couldn't be prevented. We were prepared for this eventuality, and we now only have to restate what we declared before, that we defend the Soviet Union for reasons that we have explained many times. . . .

"The Soviet Union remains the greatest conquest of the proletariat in all its history. In spite of everything, it still stands. The Soviet workers know this. They still give the world a demonstration of heroism, of capacity for sacrifice, such

as they could not even dream of in those countries where the workers do not feel that they have anything to fight for.

"When we see what is done by those Soviet workers today, after all these years of strangulation by the bureaucracy, after all these years of bureaucratic degeneration, we get a glimpse of the boundless power of the proletarian revolution. . . . What could the state of the world be today if there had been just a little more energy and capacity in the vanguard of the proletariat to lead Germany to a successful proletarian revolution! All the objective conditions for the victory were present; only the leadership was lacking. Imagine the union of Soviet Russia and Soviet Germany as an economic and military power, with all the irresistible moral force that would be generated by such a union."

--The Socialist Workers Party in World War II

Today we're back in a situation--it's not the fifties, but it's a little more normal in terms of what the imperialists do and what they're all about. And the question is: are we going to have to go through it all again? Are we going to have to go through another inter-imperialist world war of massive, massive destruction and perhaps even complete annihilation? We've seen "collective security," that hasn't worked; the "strengthening of peace forces" hasn't worked. The "people's front against fascism" doesn't do it. Détente, peaceful coexistence--all of them are not the answer of how to fight for a true peace and to put an end to war. The truth is that as long as capitalism exists, as long as imperialism reigns in the advanced industrial countries, war is inevitable.

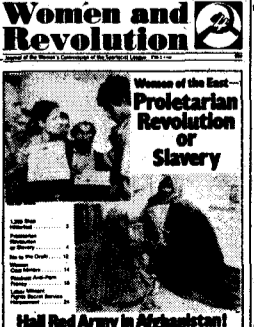
Graham Greene caught something in one of his novels, *The Human Factor*, where at the end it turns out that one of the main characters is a Soviet intelligence agent. And he's asked, "Why'd you do this? Why did you go through all these incredible things?" And he said in effect that "My country's been at war since 1917." We want to win that war to defend the gains of the October Revolution and to extend those gains throughout the world. And there is only one way, and that is the road of class struggle, of socialist revolution in the capitalist countries and workers political revolution in the deformed and degenerated workers states to oust the Stalinist bureaucracies that try and tell us that peace is attainable through détente and peaceful coexistence, not through socialist revolution. ■

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San Francisco: 1200 Rally to Stop Nazis



Workers Vanguard

On April 19, 1,200 demonstrators in San Francisco responded to the call of the April 19 Committee Against Nazis (ANCAN) to "Stop the Nazis from Celebrating Hitler's Birthday." Running scared in the face of the snowballing support for the ANCAN rally the Nazis cancelled their race-hate march.

Initiated by militant unionists and heavily built by the Spartacist League/U.S., the demonstration was endorsed by some 35 union officials and nine Bay Area unions--graphically underlining that only labor-centered action can effectively counter the fascist scum.

War Drive...

(continued from page 2)

which Washington loudly praised as America's most faithful ally after news broke of the rescue of U. S. diplomats by the Canadian embassy in Teheran, was slow to jump on the Olympic boycott bandwagon.

The U. S., however, is still the strongest of the imperialist powers and has started placing hundreds of nuclear missiles in Western Europe aimed at the major cities of the Soviet degenerated workers state. Brezhnev captured the central feature of this dangerous escalation: "There are now 30 minutes between the American missiles and our own. We cannot accept that this delay be reduced to 6 minutes by new American missiles in Germany."

Despite the Soviet bureaucracy's appetites to conciliate imperialism, the capitalists can never stop their attempt to reconquer the states where the bourgeoisie has been overthrown. The Kremlin's cries for détente and appeals to European capitalism

not to "appease" America will literally go up in smoke unless the working class saves civilization from impending historic catastrophe. When Engels said that ultimately the choices for humanity would be between socialism and barbarism, he did not have in mind the possibility of nuclear war. But contemporary humanity is presented with just such a choice. Never has world revolution looked more like the only road to peace and progress. ■

MARXIST LITERATURE

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Referendum...

(continued from page 3)

labor." Last fall it revoked provincial employees' right to strike and imposed the worst contract in a decade. PQ finance minister Jacques Parizeau has repeatedly voiced his determination to hold down wages and cut social services to demonstrate his government's fiscal "responsibility" to Wall Street and Bay Street. Yet the bureaucrats running both the Confederation of National Trade Unions (CSN) and the Quebec Federation of Labour (FTQ) (the two largest trade-union centrals in Quebec) advocated a "critical yes" vote in the referendum, arguing that a victory for the anti-labor PQ was a lesser evil than a victory for the anti-labor federalists.

This position was echoed by a variety of "leftist" organizations including the pro-Moscow Communist Party (CP). The CP explicitly stated that, while it had initially supported neither side, it "reconsidered" when the labor tops came out for a "yes" (*Pacific Tribune*, 2 May). Ross Dawson's tiny Forward group in the NDP, the super-Stalinist, crackpot Bolshevik Union and the pro-Albanian Canadian Party of Labour also called for a vote of confidence in Lévesque. The only ostensible socialists to back Trudeau/Ryan were the Canadian nationalists of Hardial Bains' Communist Party of Canada (Marxist-Leninist), official Canadian holders of the Albanian franchise.

Defend Quebec's Right to Self-Determination!

During the campaign the federalist forces generally hid the stick in favor of the carrot. While Ottawa and the provincial premiers repeatedly declared that sovereignty-association was "non-negotiable," Trudeau promised to talk if only the Québécois voted "no." While boxloads of pro-federalist "People-to-People" petitions from English Canada were dumped in Montreal's Place Ville Marie, groups of English-Canadian businessmen rented airplanes to fly over the city with streamers proclaiming "love" for the people of Quebec and inviting them to vote "no."

Claude Ryan, leader of the "no" forces, was less circumspect than many of his backers, accusing the PQ of using "fascist" tactics and "warning" about the possibility of violence from Cuban-

trained terrorists! Lévesque responded with charges that "no" supporters had threatened to rape or kill various prominent PQ boosters. The real threat of violence comes from the federalist side, for behind the cynical appeals to friendship and reason is Trudeau's threat to use "the sword" (as he did in 1970) to prevent Quebec from exercising its legitimate right to secede and form an independent state.

In the closing weeks of the campaign the federal House of Commons put on a rare display of unanimity as all three parties asked Britain to give Canada its own constitution, endorsed Trudeau's attempts to make "O, Canada" the official national anthem and tried to rename the July 1 national holiday. This flag-waving patriotism must have turned the stomachs of many Québécois for they have experienced national oppression and blatant discrimination since Wolfe defeated Montcalm on the Plains of Abraham in 1759. The left, the labor movement and all partisans of democratic rights must oppose any attempts to militarily subjugate Quebec. Defend Quebec's right to self-determination!

Quebec Nationalism and the Class Struggle

The Canadian ruling class has historically kept Quebec a reservoir of low-wage labor concentrated in textiles, lumber and mining. The combination of national oppression and rapid industrialization since World War II created a militancy that led to a near-insurrectionary province-wide general strike in 1972. But the syndicalist labor bureaucracy, combining "anti-imperialist" nationalist rhetoric with political support to the bourgeois-nationalist PQ, has shackled the combative Quebec working class. Pseudo-Trotskyist organizations like the Groupe Socialiste des Travailleurs (GST) and the Ligue Ouvrière Révolutionnaire (LOR), instead of fighting to oust the traitorous labor misleaders, want to prod the nationalist bureaucrats into building their own independent social-democratic labor party. But the creation of a Quebec-nationalist version of the English-chauvinist NDP is a dead end for Quebec workers.

The opportunists of the GST/LOR consciously ignore the class line which separates the bourgeois independentists from the struggle of the proletariat for social liberation. Ex-boxer Reggie Chartrand's ultra-nationalist thugs in the "Chevaliers de l'Indépendance" have no trouble understanding this point. Chartrand's goons reportedly attacked leftists distributing literature at several public meetings during the campaign and confronted leftist contingents in the Montreal May Day march with chants of "Long Live the Independence of Quebec" and "Death to Communism"!

As Leninists we adamantly defend the right of the Québécois to self-determination--including their right to form a separate state. But we are not nationalists, and we do not advocate such a move unless national antagonisms have grown to such a

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Forward to a Trotskyist Party in Britain

Leninist Faction, SL/B Fuse

On April 19 at a joint national conference, the Spartacist League/Britain (SL/B) fused with the Leninist Faction (LF), a left-wing opposition expelled from the right-centrist Workers Socialist League (WSL) three months ago. After months of factional struggle by the LF (and its predecessor, the Left Tendency) against the WSL's enthusing over Islamic "revolution" in Iran, unprincipled maneuvers with revisionist fake-Internationals and shameless support to scabbing, the WSL leadership had only one "political" reply to these comrades--bureaucratic expulsion. The WSL's loss was Trotskyism's gain. The LF expulsion was the most important split from the WSL since early 1978, when the Trotskyist Faction (TF) left to fuse with the London Spartacist Group and form the SL/B.

Two years ago most of these cadres were active fighters against the Trotskyist Faction. At the conference Mark Hyde recalled his fight against the TF and the SL/B: "I remember being in this room about two years ago screaming during the first SL public meeting... about how the SL would never build anything in this country."

The little-Englanders who people the cesspool of the British left slander the SL's polemical orientation as "sectarian." But the present fusion and the fusions of the future constitute the most graphic vindication of the SL/B's insistence that the struggle for the authentic Trotskyist program

among already organized far left elements is a crucial tactic in assembling the cadres for the nucleus of an authentic Trotskyist party of the British proletariat.

Forward to the International Trotskyist League!
For the Rebirth of the Fourth International! ■

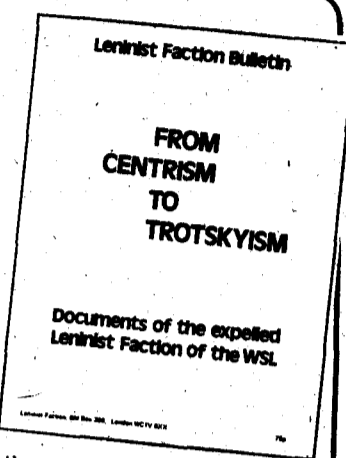
(Adapted from *Spartacist Britain*, May 1980)

Documents of the expelled Leninist Faction of the WSL

"The members of the LT had come into opposition on a path that was to lead them to agreement with political positions of the international Spartacist tendency (iSt) which they had hitherto not only rejected but fought bitterly."

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point that the possibility of unity between English- and French-speaking workers is decisively blocked. The militant Québécois working class can and does play a leading role in united class struggles across the country, notably the 1976 one-day general strike and the bitter 1978 CUPW battle. Therefore at this time the Trotskyist League does not advocate the independence of Quebec. In a clearly worded, democratic referendum, we would today vote "no."

Our position has nothing in common with the mealy-mouthed, paper defense of Quebec's right to self-determination voted by the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC). The CLC's despicable betrayal of the CUPW strike weakened the entire labor movement and threatened to sabotage solidarity between workers of the two nations in the Canadian state. The labor movement desperately needs a leadership committed to both the active defense of Quebec's right to self-determination and to militant class struggle against the bosses and their government.

In order to unleash the tremendous militancy of the Quebec proletariat--which could play a strategic role in spearheading a North American revolu-

tionary upsurge--it is necessary to destroy the nationalist illusions pushed by the labor tops and their "left" hangers-on. That can be accomplished only by a revolutionary workers party which defends Quebec's right to self-determination in the context of fighting to uproot the entire system of capitalist wage slavery through the expropriation of the bourgeoisie and the establishment of a workers government. ■

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RWL...

(continued from page 4)

a nonserious attitude towards the development of pro-IMT tendencies inside the North American sections" ("The Struggle in the Fourth International," adopted by the joint leaderships of the IMT groups in North America, 19 July 1973). But the RMG leadership failed to draw the conclusion that the IMT itself was a centrist roadblock to the formation of a revolutionary international.

Caught between the reformism of the LSA and the revolutionary program of the international Spartacist tendency (which had regrouped a small group of supporters in Toronto in the spring of 1974) the RMG spent much of its first year looking for an easy way out. This took the form of a fruitless series of gimmicks designed to attract the ephemeral "New Mass Vanguard." In their increasingly desperate search for a shortcut to the big time the RMG leadership began to adapt more and more to the reformism which they supposedly left behind.

But this political backsliding did not go unchallenged. In August 1974 the Bolshevik-Leninist Tendency (B-LT), which included several former RCTers, launched a struggle in the RMG against the IMT's adaptation to guerrillaism, feminism, Stalinism (specifically in Vietnam and China) and the popular front. The B-LT also attacked the RMG's economist trade-union work and its continued, if "critical," tailing of the NDP.

Unable to politically answer the B-LT's developing fight for Trotskyism within the organization and alarmed at the fact that it had the support of some 10 percent of the membership, the centrist RMG leadership moved to bureaucratically expel their revolutionary critics. The B-LT's "crime" was that it held the position that the USec was not the Fourth International. (How many members of the Smiley-Mills-Flexer-Larkin lash-up today have come to hold that same position?) The B-LT went on to fuse with the iSt's Canadian supporters to found the Trotskyist League of Canada in the summer of 1975, while the RMG, having divested itself of its left wing, continued on its rightward trajectory.

After another year or so of organizational stagnation the RMG leadership started to talk about "reunifying" with the LSA. A year later, under pressure from the IMT leadership, which had entered into a period of détente with the SWP, the RMG and the GMR fused with the LSA/LSO to found the RWL. Of course the mutual forgiving of sins and meeting of minds had to be accompanied by a suitable rationale. Claiming that the November 1976 election of René Lévesque's PQ and the CLC's impotent "Day of Protest" the month before marked "the onset of a new period... which changes some of the groundrules of the former political differences between our two organizations" ("RMG-LSA Relations," March 1977) the RMG made its way back to the reformist LSA.

At the founding convention of the RWL Bob Mills gave the report on the NDP for the RMG's Politi-

cal Committee. Mills argued that the socialist revolution is unthinkable until the working class has become "completely disillusioned" with the NDP. Therefore, concluded Mills, the central demand of revolutionaries must be for an NDP government. A far cry from the RCT's harsh left criticisms of the LSA's NDP loyalism.

Crime Doesn't Pay

At the time of the "fusion" we predicted that:

"Given time, the RWL will come to possess a clear and consistent political line--that of the ex-LSA/LSO. But in its early period, before the heterogeneous ranks of the RMG and GMR have been sorted out, the new organization promises to be rather spectacularly unstable and subject to internal rebellion...."

"The one-time centrists and New Leftists of the RMG and GMR will either be swallowed by the more experienced and effective reformists from the LSA/LSO, or they will (in one way or another) find themselves exited from the RWL."

--Spartacist Canada No. 19, September 1977

Just as we anticipated the RWL spent most of its first three years paralysed by the swamp of permanent factions, tendencies and cliques which the "fusion" had created. Although both of the main wings (and several combinations of them) managed to grab the helm at various times, in the end the ex-LSAers came out on top. Seizing on the SWP's "proletarianization" drive, the ex-LSA sent the RWLers into industry--in the process driving out a lot of the Quebec nationalists and gay, feminist and other sectoralists who had historically made up the ex-RMG's base.

But for the ex-LSA it was a Pyrrhic victory. While they have finally succeeded in taking over the RWL (in the process picking up a few former RMGers), the long, bitter, demoralizing fight cost the ex-LSA a portion of their cadre. And while they are now free once more to pursue their groveling chase after the trade-union bureaucracy and the "Left Caucus" of the NDP, the RWL today is no bigger than the pre-fusion LSA and its influence is substantially less. Despite this the RWL is still planning to have its irregular biweekly, Socialist Voice, go weekly this fall--Forward to the daily!

The prospects of the Smiley/Mills grouping are bleak indeed. The last time this gang led their adherents out of the LSA they could at least claim to be a new phenomenon on the left and they had high hopes of early success. When they crawled back to the LSA four years later, they proclaimed that it was also a gigantic "step forward." This time, however, somewhat older and a whole lot more jaded they are prudently keeping their morbid pre-sentiments to themselves. Regardless of their ultimate political destination we will remember the ex-RMG leaders as the people who cynically destroyed a whole layer of militants who, only a few short years ago, honestly wanted to fight for proletarian revolution.■

For a Class-Struggle Opposition in the UAW!

As United Auto Workers locals across North America voted on April 24 for delegates to the upcoming international convention, a newly formed Militant Slate made a good showing winning 17 percent of the vote at Ford's giant River Rouge complex in Dearborn, Michigan. The Rouge Militant candidates are well known throughout Local 600 as the leaders of last October's campaign against KKK-hooded foremen in the plant and as organizers of the November 10 labor/black demonstration in Detroit's Kennedy Square in the wake of the massacre of five anti-Klan militants in Greensboro, North Carolina. The Rouge Militant Slate fought the reactionary smokescreen of anti-Japanese protectionism and collusion with the auto bosses that had been advocated by both Local 600 president Mike Rinaldi and UAW president Fraser's Solidarity House. As their campaign leaflet pointed out: "Trade wars lead to shooting wars." In contrast, the Rouge Militants called for a shorter workweek with no loss in pay and a campaign of sitdowns backed up by labor solidarity when the companies close plants or ax entire shifts.

Summing up the election, Rouge Militant candidate Charles Dubois told Workers Van-



guard that the slate members intend to form an ongoing caucus in Local 600:

"We intend to live up to our responsibility and wage a fight, not by ourselves, but with a class-struggle opposition caucus. We will be a caucus that speaks the plain political truth about the crises that we face. We will not accept mass layoffs and plant closings as a way of life for the '80s. We want to build labor and black defense guards to whip the fascists and beat back racist attacks. We stand for a break with the Democrats, to build a workers party to fight for a workers government."

Fight Layoffs...

(continued from page 16)

and there are more announcements every day. First it was Chrysler down the tubes. Now Ford claims to be losing a billion a year despite the \$68 million government gift. And they want us to pay for it. They want us to pay because they've been raking off billions in profits without updating the plants or designing the smaller, more economical cars everyone is buying. Open the books! Let's see where all the money went.

We don't have to take this lying down! Times were rough in the thirties, but the UAW was built through militant struggle and the sitdown strike. A plant occupation is very effective against layoffs because it hits the bosses where they live--their private property which they claim gives them the "right" to throw us out of work. The International should be organizing such militant actions in the scores of plants being hit by mass layoffs and closings, fighting for our jobs and demanding unlimited unemployment benefits for laid off workers, full recall rights and government/corporation financing of the bankrupt SUB funds. A determined battle could create jobs by winning a shorter workweek with no loss in pay.

Bob White's toothless appeals to Ottawa and Queen's Park for extended unemployment benefits won't get any results unless they are backed up with militant actions. But we can't expect that from the leaders who sold us this rotten contract.

Both White and the NDP join the Canadian parts manufacturers in demanding the renegotiation of the Auto Pact. These nationalist protectionism schemes would only put U.S., German and Japanese auto workers out of work, give more profit to union-busting parts manufacturers like Fleck and Butcher and jack up the price of cars to working people.

The answer of the bosses' parties to the economic ruin is more military spending--build F-18s instead of LTDs. The NDP is dancing to Jimmy Carter's new Cold War tune. We need a workers party to fight for a workers government to put an end to this rotten profit system and the unemployment, inflation and war that it creates.

Now is not the time to start squabbling over who gets laid off first or trying to save the local's money by not sending delegates to the UAW and CLC conventions. We must send delegates to these conventions who will fight to win the entire UAW International and the labor movement to a strategy of plant occupations and an industry-wide mobilization to stop the layoffs and plant closings. For sitdown strikes against the layoffs! ■

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Auto Workers Face Disaster

Fight Layoffs with Sitdowns!

Ford management recently announced the elimination of an entire shift at its Oakville Assembly Plant (OAP) near Toronto. The result: 1,400 workers added to the more than 15,000 victims of Ford, GM and Chrysler layoffs. In Windsor, Canada's auto center, unemployment levels are close to 20 percent, double the national average. Near-bankrupt Chrysler just got a \$200 million handout from the Canadian government (on top of \$1.5 billion from the U.S.), and promptly killed 400 jobs by scrapping a new engine plant.

Depression times have hit the auto industry.

Several hundred United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 707 members turned out April 20 to a union meeting, hoping to find some strategy for fighting the Oakville layoff. Instead they heard Jim Bridgwood, a prominent supporter of the Communist Party (CP), put forward a motion demanding an "all-Canadian" auto industry. Supporters of the Stalinist Canadian Party of Labour (CPL), who once prided themselves on rejection of such nationalist crap, fell into line and eagerly seconded and voted for Bridgwood's motion.

The CP and CPL supporters were simply echoing the pro-capitalist UAW tops and their NDP counterparts who are waging a campaign to renegotiate the Auto Pact--a protectionist deal between the U.S. and Canada--to "save Canadian jobs" at the expense of auto workers in other countries. Of course the labor fakers refuse to fight for Canada/U.S. wage parity. With Ottawa's version of the dollar at 85 cents U.S., Canadian auto workers are getting 15 percent less pay than their U.S. brothers and sisters!

The CPL supporters handed out a leaflet at the April meeting calling for sitdown strikes against the layoffs but inside the union hall they proposed no more than a demonstration at Queen's Park. But two Local 707 militants did attempt to initiate a struggle against the layoffs. They put forward a



Chrysler truck workers get layoff notices, May 13, Fenton, Missouri.

UPI

motion on May 25 (which was ruled "out of order" by the local bureaucrats) demanding "that the International organize industry-wide strike action coupled with plant occupations where mass layoffs are threatened..." and proposing "that in order to publicize our demands and spark union-wide actions against the layoffs, the Local organize a one-day sitdown demonstration inside the plants to protest the mass layoffs." In the following leaflet, distributed at the April 20 meeting, these militants advocated a class-struggle program to fight the layoffs in auto.

We Don't Have to Take It Lying Down!

Ford wants to lay off 1,400 members of this local in August and close down the engine plant in Windsor. Thousands more auto workers are being thrown out on the streets in the U.S. The Ford plant at Mahwah, N.J., is up for sale! Rumors are flying that the truck plant will go to one shift in the fall and maybe OAP will be closed completely. Unemployment in Windsor is 20 percent and to top it all the Ford SUB fund is running out (Chrysler's was emptied months ago). How the hell can anyone feed a family and pay off an 18 percent mortgage on \$169.00 a week UIC?

Almost 200,000 UAW members are laid off now
(continued on page 15)