

Aims of New Civil Liberties Group Told to 'Militant'

By George Lavan

PRINCETON, Oct. 15 — The aims of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee were outlined for *The Militant* in interviews granted here and in Lawrenceville, N. J., by the officers of the newly formed group, Prof. Paul Lehman, acting chairman, and James Imbric, acting secretary.

The impression they made was of people seriously concerned by the current attacks on civil liberties in politics, education and the professions; determined to help mobilize public opinion, nationally and regionally, in support of traditional American liberties; and pledged to follow a non-partisan policy in rendering whatever aid they could to victims of the witch hunt, regardless of politics, race, color or creed.

Both Prof. Lehman and Mr. Imbric, interviewed separately, stressed the point that the new group does not intend to compete with existing organizations.

SEEK TO AROUSE PUBLIC

"We felt that there was a deep need for some civil liberties organization that could move with immediacy in the situations that come up, and that would not be confined to the purely legal defense of civil liberties," explained Imbric, who is a retired investment banker now living in Lawrenceville, a small town between Princeton and Trenton.

"Our organization should not be construed as a competitor of the American Civil Liberties Union, which for years has done a good job, as have several of the organizations of university professors in the field of academic freedom," he continued. "The need we see is to supplement their work. In this particular juncture I don't know if the country has ever seen such abridgements of constitutional rights."

A similar view was taken by Prof. Lehman, who is Stephen Colwell Professor of Applied Christianity at Princeton Theological Seminary and an ordained

minister in the Presbyterian Church. Formerly active in the ACLU and a member of the Princeton Committee for the Trenton Six, he expressed "full sympathy for the slow, steady work the ACLU does" but said he had agreed to help form the new group because he saw a need for an organization "which could arouse public attention and enlist public concern. This committee might be instrumental in drawing various volunteer groups together for cooperation."

THREE CONCERNS

Prof. Lehman said the initiators of the committee had three concerns in mind:

- "1. To dig in with our responsibility as citizens at what could hardly be ignored any longer in the present crisis of civil liberties."
- "2. To provide an avenue of expression and action for the frustration of the average citizen where such a person could take hold and discharge his responsibility."
- "3. To try to make plain that the concern for and defense of civil liberties is emphatically not the exclusive concern of the Communist movement."

ORGANIZATION FORM

The organizational setup of the committee has not yet been decided. Various proposals are being considered. Both Imbric and Lehman felt there was a need to guard against the committee being taken over and dominated by any one political group. The organizational form will be determined at a future meeting.

"I conceive of the committee as a task force," said Imbric. "Hard-hitting, equipped to move quickly without fear or favor in any

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Policy Guide of Emergency Civil Liberties Committee

PRINCETON — The following is the text of the policy guide of the new Emergency Civil Liberties Committee:

WE BELIEVE:

1. That fundamental freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution to all Americans are denied by prosecutions for teaching and advocating ideas, under the Smith Act or similar legislation.
2. That the Smith Act is unwise legislation in a democracy and that its restrictions on freedom of speech and press are unconstitutional for the reasons outlined by Justices Black and Douglas in the case of the eleven Communists.
3. That there should be a rehearing of the case by the Supreme Court seeking a reversal of the majority decision and that the Smith Act should be repealed.
4. That in view of the doubts and qualifications expressed in the majority, concurring and dissenting opinions of the Court, prosecutions and arrests under the Smith Act should be suspended.
5. That all defendants in civil liberties cases are entitled to legal counsel of their own choice. The legal profession has a responsibility to see that adequate legal counsel is made available.
6. That the constitutional guarantee against excessive bail should be afforded to every defendant.

LEFT WING FIGHTS FOR BRITISH LABOR VICTORY

The reasons why British revolutionary socialists are fighting for a Labor Party victory in the Oct. 25 election are cogently expressed in a statement by the editors of *Socialist Outlook*, the paper of left wing forces in the Labor Party. Their statement, printed in the October issue of the paper, follows:

The Tories are cock-a-hoop at the prospect of returning to full power once more. Big Business is rubbing its hands in anticipation of even greater profits, and the mad scramble on the Stock Exchange which followed the announcement of a general election shows clearly enough what private enterprise expects from a Tory government. Meanwhile, all their little lieutenants in the factories — are eagerly looking forward to the protection of a Tory government in settling accounts with militant trade unionists. Let's wipe the grin off their faces! Let's work with all our strength for the return of every Labor candidate. That is the only job for Socialists from now on until Oct. 25.

The Socialist Outlook didn't want this election. We campaigned against it and our slogan — Stay in Power but Change the Policy! — found, we think, an echo throughout the Labor move-

ment. We considered that Labor's majority — small though it was — should have been used to hold the pass against the Tories while the Party worked out a program to transform this country from capitalism to socialism.

THE MAIN ENEMY

Our differences with the leaders of the Labor movement are serious and fundamental but they do not prevent us from recognizing the Tory Party as the main enemy.

The Tories are the party of the rich and the reactionary, the employer and the landlord. We can neither change their ways nor alter their policies. Either we shall exterminate them by abolishing the system which gives them life or they will exterminate us as an organized working class.

The whole history of the Tory Party — personified in the person of the old buzzard who leads them — is a history of violence against the workers. It will surely do no harm if, during this pre-election period, we remind ourselves of some of the highlights of Tory history.

In 1911 they — and their miserable little Liberal allies — shot down the miners of Tonypandy. They batoned, prosecuted and jailed thousands of trade unionists who fought them for a living

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Workers of the World, Unite!

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US Ultimatum Blocks Korea Cease-Fire

GI Casualties Rise In 'Operation Killer'

By Harry Frankel

As negotiations resume in Korea, an ultimatum issued by General Ridgeway on Oct. 15 to the Korean and Chinese negotiators makes it doubtful that a cease-fire will be reached unless he changes his attitude. Ridgeway insists in his latest statement that the U.S. will agree to a truce line only if it is at or near the existing battle line. This stand has previously been interpreted by the Pentagon to mean that Chinese and Korean forces will have to retreat and surrender a lot of ground in order to give the invading armies of U.S. imperialism "defensible" positions. It is the very issue which deadlocked previous negotiations.

In addition, at the very moment that he is supposedly seeking peace in Korea, Ridgeway has stepped up the pace of warfare, until at this time, the war is back to the bitter fever-pitch of the pre-negotiation style. American casualties in Korea, which are far higher for the 15 months of this "police action" than they were in the first 15 months of World War II, are almost up to the casualty rate of last spring.

U.S. VIOLATIONS

The first action of U.S. negotiators as talks resumed illustrates the primary pre-occupation of the top brass in Korea. They insisted that the neutral area be reduced to a tiny patch of ground, in an obvious effort to keep the talks from interfering with the stepped-up U.S. offensive. They proposed to reduce the neutral ground to a bare 25 square miles. The Chinese and Korean proposal is for a neutral zone of 175 square miles. While this area would be a better safeguard for the negotiations, it would place a restraint upon U.S. forces intent upon renewed attacks, and Ridgeway opposed it for that reason.

Repeated violations of the neutral zone by American planes also show that Ridgeway is subordinating the cease-fire to the needs of the stepped-up war. Such provocations could be avoided only if the U.S. brass-hats were willing to exercise caution and restraint in their air war in order to make the cease-fire talks succeed. Apparently they are not.

APPROACH TO MOSCOW

However, concessions by the Pentagon show that whatever the final plans of U.S. imperialism as to a cease-fire, it still wants to keep the negotiations going. Ridgeway admitted last week that U.S. air attacks were responsible for the death of one Korean child and the wounding of another in the neutral conference area. After this, U.S. negotiators indicated that they would agree to a conference area slightly larger than the exceedingly confined space which they had proposed earlier. Finally, Moscow made public an overture from Washington through Ambassador Alan G. Kirk on Oct. 5, in which Kirk tried a direct approach to the Soviet Union on the truce talks.

Clearly, U.S. imperialism may be compelled to warm up still further to the idea of ending the war in Korea by the new crises that are breaking all over the world. The Iran-Egypt Middle East blaze is forcing Washington to go slow. The fact that there are more fires breaking out than can be extinguished by imperialist armed forces at the present time may cause Washington to go slower in Korea too.

WITHDRAW U.S. TROOPS!

Whatever the end result of the cease-fire talks, there cannot possibly be a real peace in Korea until all imperialist armies are withdrawn. Even if a temporary agreement were arrived at, it could only bring an uneasy, armed interval between wars.

The Militant has repeatedly demanded: Bring the troops back home! That is what the American soldiers themselves want, and that is what the American people want. End the war once and for all by getting out of Korea!

Egyptian People Demand British Troops Get Out

Security - For Whom?



U.S. Backs London in Attack To Retain Sudan, Suez Area

Seizing the Egyptian city of Ismailia, 75 miles from the country's capital city of Cairo, the British imperialists on Oct. 16 turned machine guns at pointblank range upon

thousands of demonstrating workers and students who had gathered in the center of Ismailia, the site of British military headquarters, to demand that these foreign occupiers get out of their country. The number of dead is not known; 100 are reported wounded.

The news of this massacre touched off mass demonstrations at Port Said, at the head of the Suez canal, and in Alexandria. In Cairo, where the Egyptian police had earlier declared a "state of emergency" and banned all demonstrations, thousands roamed the streets at night, chanting anti-British slogans and shouting "Nahas, give us arms!" Mustapha el Nahas, is the Egyptian Premier.

Premier Nahas went on the radio to express "deep regret" and to tell the aroused Egyptian people that "they had shown their sentiments sufficiently and should cease all demonstrations." The Egyptian authorities have proclaimed a three day "state of emergency."

BRITISH RUSH TROOPS

The British General Sir George Erskine — who ordered the massacre and who had previously declared "I shall take charge myself" — then imposed martial law, a curfew, and sent British tanks to patrol the streets of Ismailia.

The British who already have some 60,000 troops stationed in the Suez area, are rushing more troops, planes and battleships to the area. This application of brute force in Egypt has been backed by the Truman administration and had previously received the approval of France and Turkey.

EGYPT AND IRAN

Egypt's struggle against the British imperialists differs only in details from that of Iran. Whereas the British in Iran exploited the oil wealth of the country and kept the people impoverished in the process, in Egypt they exploited the native soil and population for the production of cotton (in the territory of Sudan). In addition, the British have maintained their stranglehold on the Suez Canal and the whole

No French Soldiers For Korea Battalion

The French press reports that the survivors of the French battalion in Korea will be withdrawn beginning with December 1st, after one year of service. The French government has not been able to raise enough volunteers to form a second battalion to relieve the one under General Montclair now in action. Declarations of those repatriated also show they have no intention of re-enlisting for Korea.

surrounding area, where they have by "treaty" kept troops stationed.

As in Iran, the demand that the British get out and stay out of the country has the support of the overwhelming majority of the population. Even prior to the mass demonstrations and the Ismailia killings, Egyptian pilots had refused to take British military supply ships through the canal, and the workers on the railway servicing the canal area have refused to load or run the trains supplying the British.

NO COMPROMISE!

In Egypt, as in Iran, there is no question whatever of "compromise" or of intervention by the Kremlin. In the case of Iran the imperialist propagandists tried vainly to seize upon the "threat" that the strongest party in the country is the outlawed "communist-dominated" Tudeh Party. In Egypt even this flimsy pretext is lacking. The strongest political force there is the nationalist Wafd Party.

In Egypt, as in Iran, the British have for decades promoted corruption in the government and dictated the selection of cabinets. In the Egyptian parliament, they have many paid hirelings. They have worked hand in glove with the most reactionary elements in the population. But not a voice was raised in the Cairo parliament in favor of the British stay-

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Referendum on Korea Proposed by Bartell

By George Lavan

NEW YORK, Oct. 18 — Cutting through the trivialities and personalities which the capitalist parties raise in city elections, Michael Bartell, Socialist Workers candidate for President of the City Council, on television, radio and in forums, has raised the demand that the GIs be brought home from Korea at once. Bartell's whole program, including support of the city employees' fight for the 40-hour week, is evoking enthusiastic response.

On an October 12 television program at which all five candidates were present, Bartell stated that if elected, he would take steps for holding a referendum of the people of New York on immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Korea; that such referendums would then spread throughout the country giving the people a chance to demonstrate their opposition to the war. Bartell then asked Rudolph Halley, the "reform" candidate of the Liberal Party, where he stood on the proposition. Halley, who has confined his campaign to promises of gang-busting, was forced to reveal his full support of the Korean War.

BARTELL FOR STRIKERS

On this same program a surprise was sprung on all the candidates when Stanley B. Krasowski, president of the AFL Sanitation workers, was permitted briefly to state the case of his union which is trying to force the 40-hour week from the city administration by staging a slowdown. Over 300 union militants have been suspended to date by the Sanitation Commissioner.

Next Week

An interview with Ramon Martin, delegate from Latin America to the Third World Congress of the Fourth International, on the anti-imperialist and workers' struggles in South America.

Why American Capitalism Cannot Live Without War, an analysis of current economic trends, by John G. Wright. Revolution in the Philippines, a report on the latest developments in the Huk-led agrarian revolt against Washington's puppets, by John Black.

Each candidate was asked how he would deal with the situation.

Bartell was the first to answer. He stated the SWP's complete support of the union and said the situation could be solved in one day: "Give the men the 40-hour week immediately, reinstate the suspended workers, and fire Commissioner Mulrain for his attempted union-busting." The Republican, Democratic and Liberal candidates all hemmed and hawed. Each declared for the 40-hour week in theory, but stated the streets had to be kept clean and that therefore the men should stop the slowdown. None mentioned the suspended men or the anti-labor commissioner.

TWO PARTY FRAUD

In an October 15 television program, Bartell was asked if

"splinter" parties such as his did not "confuse the voters" and interfere with the two party system. Bartell replied: "I don't know the purpose of the question but its effect is to prejudice voters against minority opinion and pressure them to conform to the major parties. I deny that the Republican and Democratic parties are political parties at all. They are rival electoral machines representing Big Business, which itself is a tiny, privileged splinter of the population. There are no real differences between these parties. Both dragged us into the Korean slaughter. . . Both are turning the country into an armed camp and police state. "Yes, I prefer to be in a minority, sir. What this country needs are not conformists but

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Independent Policy for American Labor

An Editorial

When the labor leaders walked out on the Wage Stabilization Board last February they vowed they would never return unless the government took "affirmative action to meet their basic position that equality of sacrifice must be the guiding and indispensable principle in the defense program."

They charged that price control was a fiction, while "wages and salaries of all Americans are now bound under the most rigid controls in the history of our country."

They would refuse, they said, to act as window dressing "to cover the back-room activities of the leaders of industry who staff the Office of Defense Mobilization."

This action of the labor leaders; this uncommon display of spirit; this unwonted show of fight, gave rise to a wave of enthusiasm in the ranks of labor.

Instead of taking heart at this magnificent response, the lily-livered labor skates, appalled at the storm they had raised and fearful lest it sweep them into an irreparable break with the capitalist government, crawled back, before the first blow had hardly been struck.

In the ensuing eight months, price control has become a tragic farce while wages have been tightly bound under rigid controls by the wage-freezing WSB.

The hoodie boys still run the show in Washington while the labor leaders provide the window dressing (a little shabby and moth-eaten to be sure) "to cover the back-room activities" of the Wall Street plunderbund.

And as for "equality of sacrifice," we have at the one pole, record profits, the accumulation of fabulous wealth, the concentration of enormous aggregates of capital, the mushroom growth of monopoly, and at the other, frozen wages, bounding prices and punitive taxes slashing at the living standards of working men and women.

DRESSING FROM THE ROTTEN, CANCEROUS GANG OF UNION-HATERS, WITCH-HUNTERS AND WARMONGERS WHO ARE COINING GOLD OUT OF THE BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE!

When the AFL leaders blew up the United Labor Policy Committee they dashed the hope of labor's rank and file that the welding together for united action of 16 million organized workers would stem the tide of reaction and provide a more adequate defense of labor's rights and living standards. The argument over organic versus functional unity is nothing but a hoax. The two are neither contradictory nor mutually exclusive.

With the approach of the 1952 elections the AFL mossbacks were prepared to seize upon any pretext to free their hands for bargaining deals with the candidates of both capitalist parties. The CIO, they complained, was too firmly wedded to the Democratic Party and thereby constricted their freedom to shop around on the open market.

This policy was enunciated amid great fanfare at the recent AFL convention and has since been hailed as a "new" and revolutionary departure in the field of political action by AFL president William Green and secretary George Meany. A microscopic examination of the "new" policy fails to distinguish it, in any particular, from the discredited old Gompers policy of rewarding friends and punishing enemies. It's as hoary and moss-covered as the crusty AFL top leaders themselves.

And if they fail to find a genuine "labor friend" among the Republican and Democratic candidates, then a half or quarter friend will do. This comedy is repeated by both the AFL and CIO leaders in every election. Each succeeding Congress is dubbed worse than the one before. And we can be sure that with this policy the next will be worst of all.

An end to company unionism on the political field. The only "friend" upon whom labor can count is the organized strength of its many-millioned numbers.

BUILD AN INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY! ELECT LABOR REPRESENTATIVES TO PUBLIC OFFICE! FIGHT FOR AN AMERICAN WORKERS AND FARMERS GOVERNMENT!

