

**WORKERS OF THE WORLD,  
UNITE!**

# TRUTH

Organ of the Trotskyist Organization/USA, Section (Sympathizing) of the Fourth International

**Carter and Reagan are  
already the big losers:**

**Insure a Victory  
for the Working Class  
in November:**

# WORKERS CANDIDATE OF THE UNIONS on a Program of WORKERS DEMOCRACY!

## ***DROP THE CHARGES!***

On the night of September 30th, two militants of the Trotskyist Organization/USA, Kevin FitzPatrick and Rich Tetrault, were arrested while selling TRUTH, the newspaper of the TO/USA, at Wayne County Community College in Detroit.

These arrests are another example of the nature of BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY. Everyone has "free speech," except that when you are fighting to organize for the power of the working class, you are guilty of "trespassing," "selling without a license" or, in this particular case, "disorderly conduct."

A fight TO DROP THE CHARGES against the worker militants is a fight for WORKERS

DEMOCRACY against the terrorist state. This is particularly important for students at WCCC, whose rights to inform themselves about the perspective of the working class in this country, to make their own decisions about what to believe, is directly at stake. Don't let your rights be taken away by a gang of dictators in "liberal" disguise.

Contribute to the defense fund for the worker militants! Defend Workers Democracy! Demand the charges against FitzPatrick and Tetrault be dropped!

October 1, 1980

Secretariat of the Trotskyist Organization/USA



Polish workers

- For an International Conference of Trade Unions
- For Independent Unions in Eastern Europe and the USSR!
- For a Workers Boycott of the Madrid Conference of the Bosses of the World!

# TRUTH



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# “There is no better time than NOW to fight for a Workers Candidate”

Interview with Fred Vitale, UAW member Local 174  
Presidential Candidate of the Trotskyist Organization/USA

Q. Virtually all the media say that the elections boil down to a race between Carter and Reagan. The majority of workers find this completely unacceptable and have been supportive of the fight of the Trotskyist Organization/USA for a Workers Candidate in the elections during the past year. In relaunching its fight, the Trotskyist Organization/USA has nominated you, a member of UAW Local 174, presidential candidate.

The elections are now six weeks away. Do you think it's too late for the workers to win a significant victory in these elections?

A. Absolutely not. The main reason that the working classes of the Americas, North and South, can win a decisive victory is because the Trotskyist Organization/USA and its candidate are willing, are PREPARED, to lead the powerful working class movement - its movement of rejection of the Democratic Party, its active opposition to the Holy Alliance of imperialism and Stalinism - to its victorious conclusion - a Workers Party.

We've focused on winning the UAW to nominate a candidate of the unions. With such a fight, millions of workers can be mobilized for a Workers Candidate in the 1980 elections.

Q. What actions have been taken by the campaign's supporters towards this goal?

A. The International Young Guard/USA, U.S. section (sympathizing) of the Revolutionary Youth International, took up this fight at a regional "conference" called (for the first time in history) by the UAW bureaucracy to poll its Convention delegates and other bureaucratic riff-raff about the elections. The International Young Guard/USA said plainly that this was a complete farce - the real question for the unions is a workers policy in the elections. No other tendency combatted this farce. Most important though, was the hysterical response of the bureaucrats to the comparatively small contingent of IYG fighters. They were very scared of ANY opposition.

The next weekend the Trotskyist Organization/USA held a meeting with auto-workers from my local and founded the UAW Committee for a Workers Candidate. We decided to send a delegation to the next union meeting of the local to make this fight.

I put forward our motion for an Emergency National Convention of the UAW to 1) reject the endorsement of Carter by the UAW bureaucracy and 2) nominate a Workers Candidate. Secondly, we demanded an immediate assembly of the entire local for the workers to decide to take this action. The only response from the bureaucrats was that the whole UAW bureaucracy had supported Carter, not just them (the motion was defeated).

But not one word about the "friend of labor," the Democratic Party, or about Carter's "great" record. No. Because the bureaucrats are completely on the defensive. With their endorsement of Carter, they have been forced to separate themselves openly from the ranks of the UAW as never before. The movement of the working class rejecting the Democratic Party, as part of the world revolution, is causing the unprecedented crisis of imperialism and the pro-imperialist leadership of the UAW.

Our party's fight has begun to resolve this crisis IN THE WORKERS' FAVOR. There has never been a better time than now to join with the Trotskyist Organization/USA and the International Young Guard and fight for a Workers Candidate!

Q. There are other parties with different policies and candidates in these elections. What's different about the fight of the TO/USA?

A. There is a real link between these "different" policies and the fact that for all these groups, "it's too late to win." Several groups have no policy at all - abstention - "the candidates are all no good, so forget it." This is hardly serious. They completely tail the abstentionist mood that does exist, leaving politics in the hands of the workers enemies.

The Communist Party/USA and the Socialist Workers Party are running candidates. But these candidates, Hall/Davis and Pulley/Zimmerman, do not base themselves on the mobilization of the workers in the unions; they both live in the shadow of Carter's "human rights" campaign.

These policies are all linked together. These groups all have FOUND A PLACE IN THIS IMPERIALIST DEMOCRACY. That's why they say it's too late to win in these elections.

In the face of the fact that U.S. imperialist democracy is the most democratic on the planet, they accept the framework of democracy. But this fact proves more than anything else the NEED for Workers Democracy. All the rights the workers have won, pushing the capitalist system and its democracy to its limits, have not been enough to prevent the attack on their lives, their livelihood, their future, to prevent the preparation of the counterrevolution around the world.

Workers Democracy means, as the Polish workers said, that "we want to be the real masters of the factories," that is, to be masters of our future.

The Stalinists and centrist groups I mentioned hope to push this democracy further "left." But the workers have already pushed it as far as it can go. The fight for Workers Democracy that our party wages from the U.S. to the USSR is the road forward.

Q. What are the plans for the campaign in the coming weeks?

A. We are utilizing the legal framework of the UAW Constitution which allows for a Special Convention (Article 8, Section 4). We are concentrating on two key Detroit locals as the first stage of this mobilization (Ford Rouge Local 600 and Local 174). We seek to win them to demand an Emergency National Convention of the UAW to reject the endorsement of Carter and nominate a Workers Candidate for the elections.

Over the next weeks we will be collecting signatures for an immediate assembly of these locals to take up this fight. As soon as we have a majority or by the next month's meeting, we will present these signatures and demand the immediate convocation of the local assembly.

As well, we are fighting to organize factory meetings to discuss the elections and what workers should do for election day, November 4th.

We want to bring this campaign to every workers mobilization in Detroit, every strike, every demonstration.

We call on every worker and youth, especially from Locals 600 and 174, to join us. September 28, 1980

## UAW WORKERS COMMITTEE FOR A WORKERS CANDIDATE!

You Can Find Us At:

**RYI Headquarters**  
Rm. 536, David Whitney Bldg.  
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# For a Working Class Alternative in 1980!

## Declaration of the Secretariat of the Trotskyist Organization/USA on the fight for a Workers Candidate.

The Trotskyist Organization/USA, together with the growing movement of U.S. workers and youth who are looking for an alternative to the two-party system, has proposed to all unions and workers organizations a common slate for a Workers Candidate in the 1980 elections as a step toward the construction of the WORKERS PARTY.

Every tendency in the workers movement will define itself by its response to the powerful sentiment in the American working class for a break with the bourgeois parties. Every militant, every worker will question the shameful failure of any organization that claims to represent the interests of the working class and the oppressed, but refuses to organize in the strongest fashion a working class alternative to Carter and Reagan in the 1980 elections.

1. For our part, and we believe for the part of any honest worker or militant, there is only one condition for a common fight in the 1980 elections — an open struggle for the independence of the working class and for WORKERS DEMOCRACY.

In other words, a fight to build a movement to REJECT CARTER AND THE "NEW ACCORD" OF THE BOSSES AND BUREAUCRATS. For this "new accord" is born of the crisis of U.S. imperialism and the offensive of workers and youth, and is designed to hide the successive capitulations of the American trade union bureaucracy before the numerous movements — from Youngstown to Detroit — for an independent working class perspective.

WORKING CLASS and representing the oppressed and unemployed, and INDEPENDENT from the democracy of the BOSSES which grows more repressive every day.

A movement based on WORKERS DEMOCRACY, which signifies a revolutionary renewal of the political leadership of the proletariat through forging NEW ALLIANCES with the revolutionary mobilization of the oppressed peoples of the world and with the working classes under imperialism and Stalinism. And through reckoning with OLD ENEMIES: the corrupt and cowardly leaders of the trade unions, the petty bourgeois liberals and the hangmen of the Kremlin. A movement that separates the youth and the workers from the wretched maneuvers of the bourgeois candidates and their attacks on WORKERS RIGHTS and on the future of the working class, the militant youth.

2. This fight for the class independence of American workers from their exploiters and oppressors is concentrated in regaining the unions for the workers revolution, separating them from the reactionary rearmament of the imperialist candidates, whether Carter or Reagan, and the convocation, based on delegates of the ranks of autoworkers, of an EMERGENCY NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE UAW to nominate a WORKERS CANDIDATE and launch the fight for a WORKERS PARTY.

The autoworkers, a powerful sector of the American working class, have never accepted either the Carter government or Fraser who is supporting it once again. In fact, despite all the attempts of the bosses and bureaucrats to regain their stability, from the "Save Dodge Main" movement, which prepared the betrayal of the 1979 auto contract, to the Kennedy campaign of political demoralization, THE 1980 ELECTIONS APPROACH WITH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND THE ENTIRE AMERICAN BOURGEOISIE, indeed the entire world order of imperialism and the Kremlin, in the deepest crisis they have ever experienced.

The farce of Fraser's "democratic, open referendum" of hand-picked delegates and hacks, shows the extent of the gulf between the ranks and the leadership of the unions. The dictatorial methods of the Fraser clique in organizing the UAW referendum, including putting the Fremont GM plant into receivership, illustrate the law that every step of collaboration with the bosses' democracy, as seen in Miami and Greensboro, is in reality an attack on WORKERS DEMOCRACY.

We are at a turning point in the class struggle, the time for the working class to take the initiative, from which all things are possible — including the construction of a WORKERS PARTY in 1980.

3. No other tendency in the workers movement has made a fight in the 1980 elections for a working class alternative. The opportunists, counterposing themselves to the movement of the American working class for its class independence, are shallow copies of the parliamentary electoralism of the bourgeois candidates. And the crisis of these organizations, reflected in the course of the elections, parallels the crisis of imperialism and Stalinism on a world scale.

The Communist Party/USA, campaigning to put its "worker" in the White House, the Moscow hack Gus Hall, slanders in the same breath the mobilization of Polish workers as acts of CIA agents. The centrist Socialist Workers Party orients itself toward the defense of the Stalinist apparatus and the glorification of Castro in the Americas — in the midst of the exodus of 100,000 Cubans from Castro's "paradise." And the maneuvers of the opportunists with the union bosses for a "discussion" of a "labor party" has fallen into silence behind the last ditch support of the bureaucrats to Carter.

Thus, in their own way, all the failed leaderships participate in the attack on WORKERS DEMOCRACY.

One thing is certainly clear to the American working class and the youth, which is illustrated by the incredible lack of support for the election campaigns of the opportunists — these bankrupt leaderships have no independent policy for the U.S. working class, no perspective for the international working class and no attraction for the youth.

The fight of the Trotskyist Organization/USA for a WORKERS CANDIDATE has not gone as far as it aimed, it has not yet succeeded in regrouping a significant sector of the unions to REJECT CARTER and mobilize for a candidate of the unions.

But the fight of our party and our candidate is the only independent orientation for workers and youth in the 1980 elections. Our fight for a WORKERS CANDIDATE and a WORKERS PARTY has separated a section of the working class and the youth from the traitorous parliamentarism of the Stalinist and centrist parties — and we state that the fight for a WORKERS PARTY and the struggle of workers and youth for THEIR DEMOCRACY is as valid after the elections as it is today!

4. In face of the failure of the opportunists and bureaucrats to offer any perspective for the unions against the campaigns of demoralization of Carter and Reagan, we call on workers and youth to write in the name of our candidate, Fred Vitale, member of Local 174 of the UAW even more we call on you to reject abstention. For it is precisely abstention by the most militant workers and youth that the campaigns of Carter and Reagan, and behind them of the pseudo-revolutionaries, are aimed at.

Even if these failed and corrupt bourgeois politicians and their shadows have succeeded in alienating masses of workers and youth, they cannot hide the lessons of the class struggle, above all, THE LESSONS OF THE ELECTIONS THEMSELVES. The U.S. working class refused to accept the liberal-labor-black alliance of 1976; the failure of the Kennedy campaign proved this much. The "cold war" policy of Carter and the reactionary anti-Iran campaign has failed to isolate the American working class from their comrades in the oppressed countries and from their brothers fighting in Poland and the USSR for independent trade unions.

And no; it is not too late to take up the mobilization to REJECT THESE ELECTIONS AND THE REACTIONARY FRAMEWORK OF DEMOCRACY THAT IS PREACHED BY CARTER AND REAGAN. Not too late, because if the elections were held today the essential tasks of the working class and the vanguard would remain the same. The risk for the workers movement is not Carter or Reagan, but rather to allow the lessons which have been learned, the experiences that have been acquired, to pass by. The task is the construction, in the heart of imperialism, of a party of the international workers revolution, the WORKERS PARTY.

DOWN WITH CARTER AND REAGAN!  
DOWN WITH THE "NEW ACCORD" OF THE BOSSES AND BUREAUCRATS!

MOBILIZE ON ELECTION DAY TO BRING DOWN THE CURTAIN ON THIS FARCE OF DEMOCRACY!

BUILD A WORKERS PARTY!

September 28, 1980

# Defend the Iranian Revolution!

## Statement of the Secretariat of the Trotskyist Organization/USA

The war between Iran and Iraq is not some minor "border dispute," some petty squabble between two little countries. This war is the latest step in the attempt to preserve the world order of imperialism through the terrorist rearmament of the Holy Alliance between imperialism and Stalinism, a rearmament whose culmination is intended to be the Madrid "Security" Conference.

The friends of "human rights" greeted the military dictatorship in Turkey with a shrug of the shoulders and warm support to the fight against "terrorism." In the same way, beneath its phony "neutrality," imperialism can hardly conceal its glee at this war WHICH IS A DIRECT ATTACK ON THE IRANIAN REVOLUTION.

"Abadan is burning," gloats the imperialist press. That is, the Iraqi regime is conducting a direct physical attack on the vanguard of the Iranian proletariat. It was the oil workers of Abadan, of Ahwaz, of Khurramshahr, who waged the massive general strike that spelled the doom of the Shah.

Politically, the objective of this war is to impel the Iranian masses into "national unity" with their bourgeois leadership, a more subtle way to attack the independent mobilization of the laboring masses, the real and only guarantee of the Iranian Revolution.

Likewise, this war is an attempt to pressure the Iranian leadership into subordinating itself even more to imperialism. "Release the hostages," that is, crush the revolution, "and we can give you aid."

Likewise, this war is an attempt to find a rationale for the "Carter Doctrine," for the reintroduction of imperialist military forces into the Persian Gulf. Thus, Carter, who only a few months ago was threatening to MINE the Strait of Hormuz, now announces his "peace-loving" intention to keep it open — with the U.S. Navy!

This war is the culmination of the growing rapprochement with imperialism of the Iraqi regime which, while calling itself "socialist," desperately fears the extension of the revolution in the Middle East. It was a similar "Arab Socialist" regime that wiped out the Iraqi Communist Party, with the full support of the Kremlin. It was the current regime which slaughtered the Palestinian resistance inside Iraq, again with no complaints from Moscow. It abandoned its "territorial" claims in 1975 in order to crush the Kurdish rebellion with the aid of the Shah. It has sheltered and supported all the refuse of the Shah's regime and today threatens to hurl it against Iran.

NO U.S. INTERVENTION IN THE PERSIAN GULF!

No trust in the Khomeini leadership, with its empty bluff about the "army of 20 million."

The right of self-determination for the Arabs of Iran, in order to attain unity of the revolution.

The arming of the Iranian masses with the goal of spreading the revolution throughout the Middle East.

CLASS INDEPENDENCE on the world scale! BOYCOTT the Madrid Security Conference and defeat the Holy Alliance and its schemes!

September 28, 1980

# Workers Democracy vs. the Philistines

By JON COHEN

The dictionary defines a "philistine" as: "a person who is lacking in or smugly indifferent to culture; or is contented by commonplace ideas and tastes."

The revolutionary movement has always had its own definition of a "philistine" - those in the workers movement thoroughly under the influence of the corrupt ideology of the bourgeois ruling class, hostile to working class theory and methods. They are the corrupters, the reactionaries in our midst. The Trotskyist Organization/USA is presenting its own candidate in the Presidential elections, the only candidate fighting for a Workers Party based on the unions and armed with a program of Workers Democracy, as a means to rearm the working class in the methods of Marxism, in a fight to Return to Lenin. Thus we are leading a confrontation with the philistines who are running candidates in order to serve the dying social system they are dedicated to saving.

This is most obvious with the Stalinist American Communist Party of Hall and Davis. Their very identification with Stalinism smacks of corruption. It is perhaps less obvious with the Socialist Workers Party of Pulley and Zimmerman, less obvious because these philistines have stolen the banner of the Fourth International, the only unstained banner in the workers movement, in order to do their dirty work.

But this is all the more reason to expose these anti-Leninists. "Democracy is a revolutionary idea" says Pulley. In his own version of Carter's "four more years," Pulley declares that the only problem in the United States is that there is "little implementation" of it.

The real problem that confronts the working class in these elections is that there is TOO MUCH democracy in the U.S. and that democracy is TOO WELL IMPLEMENTED. BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY, the "freedom" of the bourgeoisie to exploit and ruin the masses of workers and oppressed. The "freedom" Pulley thinks is so revolutionary.

For Marxists there is no such thing as "democracy" in general, no such thing as "ideas" in general. These abstractions only exist in the heads of bourgeois apologists like Pulley. There are only classes and an unceasing class struggle. As Lenin in the First Congress of the Third International declared:

To thus pose the problem, outside the question of classes, by pretending to consider the entire nation, is to mock the fundamental doctrine of socialism, namely the doctrine of the class struggle, accepted in words, but forgotten in fact by the socialists passed into the camp of the bourgeoisie. For in no civilized country, in no capitalist country does there exist democracy in general: There is only bourgeois democracy...The most democratic of the bourgeois republics is nothing but a machine for oppressing the working class to the mercy of the bourgeoisie, to the mercy of a handful of capitalists.

This is what Pulley and the SWP want "more OF HERE. Like that of Carter and Reagan, his program boils down to "four more years."

Pulley's remark is not a slip of the tongue; it summarizes the politics of the SWP since 1963, which has led it into the camp of "human rights" along with all its other fellow "democrats" - Carter, Castro, Doug Fraser.

This attempt to bury the distinction between workers democracy and bourgeois democracy in order to support the latter, is "theoretized" in a book by longtime SWP leader George Novack - DEMOCRACY AND REVOLUTION. Its central thrust can be summed up in its statement: "Democracy is a good thing. More democracy is still better" (p.10). Laughing at Marxism and the revolutionary traditions of the proletariat, Novack goes on to describe democracy as one classless continuum in which the hangmen and the condemned join hands together: "That is where the Marxists clasp hands with Jefferson and Lincoln. Although these earlier Americans promoted capitalism and the Marxists fight for socialism, all three stood together in recognizing the organic link between democracy and revolution. Jefferson and Lincoln belong among the revolutionary democrats of the 18th and 19th centuries. The Marxists are the genuine revolutionary democrats of the 20th century" (p.189).

The SWP finds its continuity in the founders of the Democratic and Republican parties. Fitting enough. We find ours in the party of Lenin and in the revolution, not of 1776, but of 1917.

One point. Lincoln and Jefferson were indeed revolutionaries. But Novack consciously hides what was revolutionary about them. Marx wrote about the "revolutionary" bourgeoisie. In the COMMUNIST MANIFESTO it is written: "The bourgeoisie, historically, has played a most revolutionary part."

But THIS is what was revolutionary about the bourgeoisie which destroyed feudalism: "It has resolved personal worth into exchange value... has set up that SINGLE UNCONSCIONABLE FREEDOM (our emphasis) - FREE TRADE. In one word for exploitation, veiled by religious and political illusions it has substituted naked, shameless, direct, brutal exploitation."

Direct, brutal exploitation. This is what was "revolutionary" about the bourgeoisie. This is the "freedom" the bourgeoisie stands for, what Jefferson, Lincoln and the BEST bourgeois democrats stand for. This is the freedom that has been TOO WELL IMPLEMENTED in the U.S.

With their dreams of a classless democracy, Pulley and the SWP reveal themselves as reactionaries because they join hands with the oppressors of the workers and youth in order to "implement it a little more." More importantly, they oppose in practice the real historical objective of the working class: "The first step in the revolution by the working class is to raise the proletariat to the position of the ruling class, to win the battle for democracy." (COMMUNIST MANIFESTO).

Yes, democracy is a BATTLE. A battle to raise the working class to the position of ruling class, for the dictatorship of the proletariat, for WORKERS DEMOCRACY.

And a BATTLE within this very system of bourgeois democracy. By joining hands with Jefferson and Lincoln, the SWP is telling a terrible lie to workers of this country. The rights that do exist in this country, workers rights such as trade unions, political parties, freedom of assembly, however limited they are, were not "gifts" from the heads of Jefferson and Lincoln, were not "gifts" of the U.S. Constitution. They were WON by the working class and the oppressed in long and bitter battles.

They exist today only to the degree that the working class continues to fight for and defend them.

Thus, the United States is the most democratic country in the world, the highest expression of bourgeois democracy, yet at the same time is the country whose ruling class is the MOST VIOLENT opponent of workers rights in the world.

It is precisely in the most democratic republics where the terror and dictatorship of the bourgeoisie reigns, in reality, a terror and dictatorship which openly appear each time it seems to the U.S. ruling class that the power of capital is beginning to shake. U.S. democracy is bourgeois democracy at its BEST - naked exploitation.

The difference between the political system in the United States today and the political system of fascism lies not in our continuity with the "revolutionary ideas" of Jefferson and Lincoln. It lies in the constant combat of the international and U.S. working class for WORKERS RIGHTS, for class independence, a combat totally and irreconcilably opposed to the bourgeois democracy the SWP supports.

None of this is a mere theoretical dispute. The consequences of "joining hands" with the founders of the Democratic and Republican parties become very real in practice. Philistine in words, the SWP has become the servant of bourgeois democracy in practice. It is in practice that we can see very clearly that there is no such thing as "democracy" in general, nor "revolutionary ideas" in general. In practice there is the fight between workers democracy and bourgeois democracy, between the revolution and the counterrevolution. The SWP long ago chose its camp.

Thus, in the 1976 Presidential elections it could propose a "Bill of Rights for Working people," as if the program of the revolution could be made an amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The founder of our movement, James P. Cannon had these words to say about a similar proposal: "He came to the National Committee of our party with a proposal that our

whole program should be an amendment to the Constitution; that our revolutionary program should be whittled down to one parliamentary project. It was a terribly capitulatory, a philistine program of the crudest kind" (THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN TROTSKYISM).

But this philistine program got the SWP what it wanted - an invitation to the "human rights" camp of Jimmy Carter. It has been there ever since.

Throughout the past four years it has joined the battle of "human rights" AGAINST workers democracy. In Peru, it and its comrades counterposed the bourgeois farce of a "Constituent Assembly" to the soviets established by the Peruvian working class. In Bolivia, it counterposed bourgeois democracy to a workers candidate of the COB, thus helping to disarm the workers in face of the coup. In Iran, it joined hands with Khomeini's reactionary committees in dissolving the soviets set up in the oilfields. In Eastern Europe, it supported the reformers tied to bourgeois democracy, while turning its back on the fighters for independent trade unions, and now tries to equate the struggle in Poland with the stinking corpse of bourgeois democracy.

In the United States, the SWP has played the role of policeman of the left. Finding its revolutionary tradition in the parties of Jefferson and Lincoln, the parties of Nixon, Reagan, Carter and Doug Fraser today, the SWP found it perfectly natural to denounce youth who shouted down Hubert Humphrey at a March for Jobs rally in 1975 as "un-democratic." It found it perfectly natural to denounce miners who burned their contract in 1974 as "ultraleft," and found it perfectly natural to join the Miller bureaucracy in starving out the miners in 1978.

The list goes on and on. To its proposal for a "labor party" - not to fight for power for the working class - but to "stand up and fight in Congress" - that glorious bastion of democracy, democracy for the rich. Behind all the rhetoric this is the democracy that Pulley and the SWP stand for.

In contrast, the Trotskyist Organization/USA, fighting to Return to Lenin and the traditions of Trotskyism in the U.S., is fighting in these elections to make a COMPLETE BREAK with the parties of Jefferson and Lincoln, to organize the working class and its unions into a WORKERS PARTY based on WORKERS DEMOCRACY.

This democracy has already existed for 204 years. The philistines want four more years. To the millions of unemployed, to the millions of oppressed who have had ENOUGH, not too little of this democracy, we say: JOIN US - JOIN THE FIGHT FOR WORKERS DEMOCRACY!

September 29, 1980



# "Agents" and Workers Democracy

Ed Heisler, a longtime member and leader of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP), has confessed to having been a paid agent of the FBI.

The response of the leadership of the pseudo-Trotskyist SWP to this revelation tells us a lot about its attitude to Workers Democracy.

First, it has concealed the truth from the working class, even in the smallest points. Thus, Heisler himself notified the SWP leadership in June of his role. But the SWP presents this as "agent exposed," while at the same time not making this information public to the workers movement until September!

More, it has concealed the MEANING of this "Heisler Affair" from the working class. It tries to present Heisler's spy work in the SWP as being confined to trying to get members to smoke dope. Really, even the SWP admits there are 46 VOLUMES, in Chicago alone, of Heisler's reports to the FBI. And all this is supposed to be about his success in leading the youth astray?!

Likewise, the SWP proposes absolutely no mobilization to DRIVE HEISLER OUT OF THE WORKERS MOVEMENT, to protect the integrity of the workers movement from these attacks by an alien class. For years, Heisler was active in unions and other workers organizations. How did he carry out the FBI's work there, how can the workers organizations free themselves from such influences? The SWP is silent.

Nor can we trust Heisler's repentance. The experience of the anti-war movement with such agents as "Tommy the Traveler," who would be "exposed" in one area only to move on to another, shows the danger of simply passing off Heisler as used-up, etc., someone whom it is no longer necessary to be concerned with.

All these aspects of the SWP's violations of workers democracy, of the rights of the workers to know the truth, of the rights of the workers to control their own organizations without agents of an enemy class, are really subordinate to a more fundamental question.

**HOW CAN THE WORKING CLASS ACHIEVE ITS DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS?**

The "exposure" of Heisler is used by the SWP to strengthen its dependence on BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY, on the terrorist state. It is trying to use this "exposure" to revive its bankrupt suit against the FBI, a suit which has been mired in the state machine of the courts for seven long years.

It is trying to convince the workers movement that BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY will guarantee the workers their rights, that imperialism is not a system of organized repression that has to be crushed, but a system that can be compelled to give "justice."

On this basis, it hides the real meaning of democracy for the workers, the means to organize their CLASS INDEPENDENCE and to win democracy through the revolutionary seizure of power.

September 28, 1980  
K.F.

# Our Organization -- Our Candidate

The Trotskyist Organization/USA was founded in February 1975 as the American "sympathizing" section of the International League Rebuilding the Fourth International, the world center which continued the work of the International Committee of the FI toward the rebuilding of the Fourth International of Leon Trotsky as a world center of the workers revolution. Formerly the TRUTH group organized around a newspaper, its members and founders were active in the student movement of the sixties, the GI movement, and in the unions and workers movement. Its ranks include former members of SDS, the International Socialists, the Revolutionary Socialist League, the Class Struggle League and the Socialist Workers Party, as well as youth and workers won to the party after its foundation in 1975. The TO/USA actively fought for the rebuilding of the Fourth International and the foundation of the Revolutionary Youth International in Berlin, Germany, in December of 1975. It has participated in every World Congress and major international conference since including the recent Conference for the Rebuilding of the Sections of the Fourth International in the Two Americas, and the Seventh World Congress of the Fourth International.

Despite the fact that the TO/USA is still a relatively small organization in relation to the party required for the workers revolution in the United States, it has nevertheless taken an important place in the struggle of American workers, in particular in Detroit among autoworkers. International Young Guard/USA, formerly the Revolutionary Worker Youth, was founded

as the U.S. "sympathizing" section of the RYI based on the recruitment of young autoworkers from the Ford River Rouge plant in Detroit. It participated and took a leading role in the auto strike of 1976 and later led a fight to put forward revolutionary candidates in the UAW for union delegates and posts in locals 600 (River Rouge - Detroit) and 551 (Ford Torrence - Chicago). The TO/USA, often called the "TRUTH group" by autoworkers, quickly became known as an organization of no compromise with the union bureaucrats, as well as an honest and dedicated revolutionary leadership. It is the only organization which consistently warned autoworkers of the purpose of the "Save Chrysler" movement - the restructuring of auto and mass layoffs in auto. It is the only organization to appear in front of the auto plants during the 1979 auto contract round - all others had become integrated into the "Save Chrysler" movement openly or by their silence. Lastly, there is not one other organization of American workers, of any shade or type, that has raised the call for a WORKERS CANDIDATE in the 1980 Presidential elections, despite the fact that the hatred of American workers and youth for the Democratic and Republican parties has never been greater.

Fred Vitale, the candidate of the TO/USA, born in Buffalo, New York, raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin is 29 years old. He became active in the anti-war movement in 1968 and joined the Students for a Democratic Society and worked with the Black Panther Defense Committee. He has worked in a steel mill as a member of the International Association of

Machinists and has been a member of Local 551 of the UAW - the Ford Torrence Chicago Assembly plant - where he ran for president of the local. He is a former member of the International Socialists and Revolutionary Socialist League and was a founding member of the Trotskyist Organization/USA. Currently he is a member of UAW Local 174, the Fisher Body Plant in Livonia, Michigan, where he worked as an assembler until, like 300,000 of his brothers and sisters in auto, he was laid-off.

Several months ago, long before the Polish workers general strike for independent trade unions, he was a part of a delegation to the UAW International to urge that the union support the fight for free trade unions in Poland and the USSR and to free Klebanov, a leader of independent unions in the Soviet Union who is now imprisoned in a special "psychiatric hospital" for political prisoners. He has also actively led a fight for the UAW to take up the organization of an active boycott of the Latin American dictatorships, in particular in Bolivia.

TRUTH  
September 2, 1980

The Voorhis Act prohibits the affiliation of the Trotskyist Organization/USA to the Fourth International.

# Platform of the Trotskyist Organization/USA

## FOR WORKERS DEMOCRACY!

### FOR A WORKERS PARTY!

- Break all support to the Democratic Party.
- An all-trade union conference to launch a Workers Party based on a Workers Program.
- Build a leadership for the workers revolution.

### WIN BACK OUR UNIONS!

- Oust the bureaucrats, unions under the control of the ranks.
- Full trade union democracy, strike down the "red clause."
- Unions to champion the cause of the whole working class and the oppressed.

### FOR TRADE UNIONS INDEPENDENT OF THE STATE - INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY!

- Defend free trade unions of workers of Poland, the USSR.

- Active boycott of the military dictatorships in Latin America.
- Strike down Taft-Hartley.

### DEFEND WORKERS RIGHTS!

- Down with the Voorhis Act which prevents the legalization of the Fourth International in the U.S.
- Down with the proposed revision of the federal criminal code, S-1722, an attack on workers rights to organization, assembly, free speech and international association.
- Defend the rights of immigrants, Iranians, Latin Americans.
- Unions organize the defense of the rights of blacks and minorities against terrorist "justice."
- The right to a job, a living wage, an education.

### UNITY OF OUR STRUGGLES!

- United front of the unions against "austerity" plans.
- Open the books of the capitalists for workers inspection.
- For a sliding scale of working hours and wages, jobs for all!
- Unity of trade unions and strikes through independent organization of strike committees, central strike committees, uniting all unions, masspicketing.

### A FUTURE FOR THE WORKING CLASS YOUTH!

- For a program of education and public works for the youth under workers control.
- Down with the draft, No! to the imperialist army of intervention.
- For a workers army, workers defense guards against the fascist and racist provocations.

FOR A COMMON WORKERS CANDIDATE OF THE UNIONS IN THE 1980 ELECTIONS!

# Poland: The Independence of the Working Class Passes Through the Boycott of the Conference of the Bosses of the World

## Declaration of the International Secretariat of the Fourth International

For the first time, the working class of a country under Kremlin domination has won, through its tenacious determination to be the master of its conquests, the right to organize its unions independent of the state apparatus and the Stalinist party. This victory shows the road forward to the working class of the USSR, of East Germany and of the other Eastern European countries, which will not fail to base itself upon it in the coming struggles. It has likewise inspired the struggle of the Italian workers at Fiat.

Thus, the success of the Polish workers immediately poses the question, in deeds and in the hopes of the most advanced workers, of a working class alternative to the order existing in Europe. This order, the order of capitalists and bureaucrats, which they seek to preserve through their "Security" Conference in Madrid, the Conference of the rearmament of their Holy Alliance against the workers, is incompatible with the mobilization of the Polish workers.

The fall of Gierek symbolizes this. He was the principal link between the Kremlin and imperialism in the preparation of the Madrid Conference. All the forces of the capitalist order in Europe have been compelled to reconsider the significance of this Conference, inevitably in the direction of an even more cynical collaboration between the capitalists and bureaucrats against the workers.

The more and more obvious threats of the Kremlin against the Polish workers are fully integrated into the Holy Alliance with imperialism as a complement to the efforts of imperialism, the Catholic Church and the phony "liberals" in the Polish Stalinist party to weaken the movement of the Polish workers, to disarm it before destroying it with repression.

In this attempt, the agreements reached in Gdansk and in Szczecin are the chief tool of the bureaucracy. Already, the illusions that they created about a possible coexistence between the free trade unions and the bureaucracy are beginning to crumble. New strikes are developing.

In the struggle for their future that has begun, the workers must reject the Gdansk agreements in order to prepare the movement of the whole working class into the councils as a power counterposed to that of the bureaucracy, a true workers state that will make possible the destruction of the bureaucracy and the taking in hand of the business of the country by its real owner, the working class.

The independent trade unions are a powerful lever in such a struggle; they have no future in the collaboration with the bureaucracy which the Catholic Church, the more or less moderate oppositionists and the present leadership of the movement itself (Walesa) have in mind for them.

They must federate themselves into a single union federation through the preparation of a Free Trade Union Congress which will found the new federation on the basis of a platform of united struggle: workers control over production, over distribution, over the bureaucracy's foreign contracts; in short, over the whole management of the product of the workers' labor.

This platform excludes coexistence with the official union federation, the demand for whose dissolution, which was present from the beginning in the platform of the Gdansk workers, the workers must maintain. They must recover all the property paid for by the workers dues, instead of vegetating in little apartments.

In contrast, the Gdansk agreements try to make the working class accept the principle of

supervision by the bureaucracy over the new free trade unions, through the procedure of registration by the very same courts that sentenced Edmund Zdrozinski - militant of the free trade unions - to three years in prison, as well as the principle of political domination, with the bureaucracy continuing to arrogate itself the right to declare any activity going beyond the Gdansk agreements as "anti-socialist."

The workers cannot really build unions that will defend their interests without calling into question the management of the country by the bureaucracy, its submission to the imperialist powers and their banks. They cannot make use of them without freedom of the press and of assembly, which are incompatible with the police regime of the bureaucracy.

Free expression for all political currents is as necessary for the new organization of the working class as air is for breathing; both within the unions and in the whole life of the country.

In particular, the platform of the new union federation can be worked out only through workers democracy, in which every opinion is freely expressed and in which tendencies can organize themselves so as to defend their point of view. Without this, it will be the Gdansk agreements - that is, the "recognition of the leading role of the party" (the Stalinist party) - which will become the platform of the new organization; the platform not of its construction, but of its destruction.

The Fourth International and its Polish section, the Revolutionary Workers League of Poland, are fighting for the building of a new party, the revolutionary party of the Fourth International, in Poland.

This means the assimilation of the program of the political revolution as an integral part of the international revolution, under the slogan of the Return to Lenin, the only weapon of the working class in the showdown with the Kremlin which cannot be postponed.

That is why the Fourth International calls on the workers to broaden their struggle for all democratic rights, for the rights of expression, rights of the youth to organize in a politically independent organization, freedom of organization for political parties.

The major concern of the bureaucracy, completely shared by imperialism, is to isolate the Polish workers in a national framework, to prevent their movement from taking its rightful place in the struggle for an international working class alternative to the Holy Alliance of the bosses of the world. This is one of the major points of the Gdansk agreements.

The Fourth International fights for the new free trade unions to become active organizers of the Counter-Conference of Boycott of the Conference of the bosses of the world in Madrid.

It is in this framework that we call on the workers movement of all countries to mobilize against the danger of an armed intervention by the Kremlin; in the unity of the workers of Eastern Europe and of the capitalist countries, in liaison with the mobilization against the Kremlin's attempt to crush the opposition in the USSR, Czechoslovakia and Rumania.

It is in the framework of the struggle to boycott the Madrid Conference on European Security of the bosses of the world that the new free trade unions in Poland can find their natural allies - the workers of the USSR and the workers of the capitalist countries.

The free trade unions cannot remain isolated on the international level. They have no place in the Stalinist World Trade Union Confedera-

tion headquartered in Prague, nor in the Social Democratic or Christian international labor federations which are subsidiaries of imperialism and, therefore, are profoundly interested in collaboration with the Kremlin.

Prepare an INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF TRADE UNIONS AND TRADE UNION BRANCHES to organize assistance from the international working class to the efforts of militants in the USSR (the free trade union, SMOT) and in Rumania (SLOMR).

In the first place, the international working class can no longer tolerate the detention of the Soviet miner Vladimir Klebanov, founder of the first free trade union in the USSR, in a "special psychiatric hospital" for the last two and a half years, where he is now undergoing a "cure" of torture with mind-distorting drugs in order to force him to renounce his convictions.

Confronted with this struggle everyone has to reveal his position.

The leaders of the French CGT, great friends of the Polish trade union bureaucrats; the leaders of the American AFL-CIO, tied to imperialism, who wanted to organize a "boycott" of Poland.

The leaders of the British TUC, whose convention was incapable of taking a position on the movement of the Polish workers and whose visit to the Polish bureaucrats was canceled by the hosts!

The leaders of the unions in Spain and Italy, whose policy of Sacred Union with their own capitalists has been slapped in the face by the

Polish workers' fight for their independence.

FORWARD TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF TRADE UNIONS AND TRADE UNION BRANCHES!

FREE VLADIMIR KLEBANOV!

HANDS OFF THE POLISH WORKERS!

BOYCOTT THE MADRID CONFERENCE OF THE BOSSES OF THE WORLD!

September 21, 1980

## Support Fainberg Proposal

RESOLUTION MADE AT MEETING OF UAW LOCAL 174, SEPTEMBER 29, 1980:

A representative of the Soviet free trade union (SMOT), Victor Fainberg, has called for the formation of an INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF TRADE UNIONS AND TRADE UNION BRANCHES to defend the free trade unions in Eastern Europe and the USSR.

This question deserves the immediate attention of all unions in the Western capitalist countries. We move that Local 174 support Fainberg's proposal by appointing a representative to this Commission, by sending a letter to Fainberg notifying him of this decision and by calling on the rest of the Western trade unions to do the same.

## Read, Distribute!

*Proletariusze wszystkich krajów, łączcie się!*

# walka klas



organ Rewolucyjnej Ligi Robotniczej Polski  
sekcji Czwartej Międzynarodówki

pismo na **Partii Rewolucji Politycznej**  
ręcz

wrzesień 1980 nr. 18 cena 5zt

## Robotnikom potrzebna jest własna partia

Po raz czwarty od 35 lat klasa robotnicza Polski weszła na drogę otwartego starcia z aparatem władzy. Platforma żądań, wypracowana przez MKS Gdańska, jest dziś przykładem dla wszystkich robotników Europy Wschodniej.

Klasa robotnicza Polski i innych krajów Europy Wschodniej weszła na nowy etap walki. Zmuszając rząd do podjęcia rokowań z MKS-em proletariat odniósł pierwsze, wymowne zwycięstwo: uznanie niezależnych od władzy organów klasy robotniczej. Strajk spowodował wielką panikę w aparacie. Wewnętrzny kryzys biurokracji tj. niemożliwość przeciwstawienia się w jakikolwiek sposób woli robotników, zmusił stalinizm do ustępstwa. Teraz stoi pytanie: co dalej robimy?

Wszyscy zdają sobie doskonale sprawę z tego, że nie może być mowy o zaufaniu do tego, co mówił Gierek w swoich przemówieniach. Wiemy, że biurokracja usiłuje zażegnać dzisiejszy konflikt za pomocą manewrów, gróźb i obietnic. Aparat idzie na pewne ustępstwa, by móc odetchnąć i lepiej zaatakować.

Tak więc podstawowym problemem, przed którym stoi ruch klasy robotniczej jest, jak działać aby zagwarantować stałe, niezależne od rządzącej biurokracji, struktury klasowe mające za zadanie bronić klasę robotniczą, oraz przygotować ją również do obalenia uzurpujacej władzę robotniczą biurokracji.

Rewolucyjna Liga Robotnicza Polski walczy o podstawowe prawa klasy robotniczej; programem jej jest walka ze stalinizmem i z imperializmem, o władzę Rad Robotniczych. Dlatego też, proponuje rozwinąć mobilizację o Wolny Zjazd Związków Zawodowych zorganizowany

# Fourth International and RYI in Poland

At the decisive turning point of the struggle of the Polish workers, a delegation of Spanish militants of the Fourth International and the Revolutionary Youth International entered directly into their struggle.

The carried to the Polish workers the struggle for the building of the party of the political revolution, for the boycott of the Madrid "Security" Conference.

In Warsaw, the Trotskyist militants contacted a number of oppositional figures.

Among them were Leszek Moczulski, leader of the KPN (Confederation for an Independent Poland). He declared himself in agreement with the proposal made by Fainberg and Borisov (the leaders of the Soviet free trade union, SMOT) for a Conference of Trade Unions to Defend the Free Trade Unions, in connection with the struggle against the Madrid Conference.

Our militants were prevented by the police from receiving a call for support to the free trade unions and their jailed members.

In addition, we contacted Antoni Macierewick, a leader of the "dissident" KSS-KOR and editor of the newspaper, GOS ("The Voice"). He committed himself to getting a response to our proposals from his group, but it was impossible to maintain contact with him because of the wave of arrests of oppositionists unleashed at that moment by the Gierek regime.

There were two key advances in our intervention in Warsaw. We were able to reach agreement with the old Trotskyist militant, Comrade Z., and with the group he represents, on the fundamental questions.

This group agreed on the boycott of the Madrid Conference and on the conference of trade unions to defend the free trade unions. Most importantly, it is for participation in the Conference of Eastern European Militants for the Return to Lenin, which is being organized by the Fourth International as a means to rebuild its sections in the countries of the socialist conquests.

At the same time, we succeeded in forming the first nucleus of revolutionary reporters for INTERNATIONAL YOUNG GUARD (organ of the RYI) among the youth. This is not merely an organizational question, but is a first victory in the necessary political struggle to win the youth, to give a revolutionary response to the questions they have.

These questions are not unique to Poland, but are fundamentally the same as those of youth around the world: can the revolution win, how can it be preserved from bureaucratic degeneration? Only the Fourth International offers the perspective to answer these questions in action.

Next, the Trotskyist militants went to Gdansk itself, directly inside the Lenin Shipyard.

Here we distributed a hundred copies of INTERNATIONAL YOUNG GUARD and WALKA KLAS ("Class Struggle"), organ of the Polish section of the Fourth International.

Our militants were embraced by the strikers, who expressed their support for the unity of the Polish and Spanish workers, for the unity of the workers of the East and the West.

One of the first fighters for the free trade unions, the editor of ROBOTNIK WYBRZEZA ("Coastal Worker"), stated his agreement with the call for a trade union conference to defend the free trade unions and took 20 copies of WALKA KLAS to distribute among his comrades.

At this point we were approached by a member of the Presidium of the strike committee, that is, a supporter of the Walesa leadership, and were "asked" to leave the shipyard. In his words: "The workers are not talking of revolution, what we are doing is striking; it is trade unionism, no more, and therefore we ask that you no longer enter the factory and that you

now leave."

Despite our arguments for workers democracy, for the right of the workers to hear our proposals, and despite all kinds of polite apologies on his part, he insisted on our leaving.

Following this, a delegation of Swedish militants of the FI and RYI came to Gdansk with a new issue of WALKA KLAS and an appeal for support to the strikers and for the Fainberg proposal that was supported by an assembly of 200 printing workers in Stockholm.

Why did the official leadership of the strike ask the revolutionaries to leave the site of the strike?

Much light can be shed on this by looking at an interview we had conducted previously in Warsaw with Jan Litynski, a member of the KSS-KOR and editor of its newspaper, ROBOTNIK ("Worker").

The KSS-KOR, whose best-known leaders are Jacek Kuron and Adam Michnik, holds out the perspective of the "reform" of the bureaucracy, of somehow coming to terms with it. It has strongly influenced the Walesa leadership.

The interview with Litynski, held under the constant threat of police disruption, dealt with the fundamental questions that we had come to Poland to fight for.

The difference in our perspectives was sharp and clear. Litynski opposed the fight for the boycott of Madrid, insisting that it was possible to "make use of" the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in order to get assistance for the Polish workers.

While not actually opposing the idea of a conference of trade unions, he stated that the KSS-KOR people were "realists," and that nothing could be expected to actually occur. Hence, again, support to the Madrid Conference.

This discussion took on concrete and immediate shape when it was posed that the best defense of the Polish workers from Kremlin intervention was the mobilization of the international working class, especially the mobilization of the Russian workers.

Litynski at one and the same time defended the idea that Russian tanks threatened the workers and that, therefore, the KSS-KOR was against "going too far," and that it would be "simplistic" to speak of an "alliance between imperialism and the bureaucracy against the working class."

The KSS-KOR therefore above all seeks to come to terms with the imperialist order, of which the Kremlin is a critical part, in order to get the Kremlin to be reasonable. But this imperialist order is precisely what has imposed the Stalinist dictatorship over the Polish workers in the first place, the dictatorship which they are trying to free themselves from.

The alternatives are clear: reform or revolution. In Poland, as around the world, those who side with reform, with the preservation of the imperialist order in a more "democratic" form, have to try to prevent the revolutionaries from posing to the workers the political solution that they need.

We were escorted out of the Lenin Shipyard to prevent the building of the party of the political revolution in Poland. Despite all their best intentions, the current political leadership of the free trade unions is acting in defense of the order on which the rule of the bureaucracy rests.

CONFERENCE OF UNIONS AND TRADE UNION BRANCHES TO DEFEND THE FREE TRADE UNIONS!

BOYCOTT THE MADRID CONFERENCE!

BUILD THE CONFERENCE OF EASTERN EUROPEAN MILITANTS FOR THE RETURN TO LENIN!

BUILD THE PARTY OF THE POLITICAL REVOLUTION IN POLAND!  
September 30, 1980



Polish workers

## How to Fight for the Truth

In the last issue of TRUTH, we raised the political significance of the murder of a young militant, Rosanne Goustin. We posed it as a question of the defense of the gains of the workers movement, fundamentally of the defense of Workers Democracy.

Concretely, we posed the question of the formation of a Workers Commission of Inquiry. This is not some desirable but unrealizable objective. No big names or "respectable" organizations are required. This Commission is open to youth, to workers, to honest militants of the workers movement from any organization who want to fight for the truth.

Fighting for the truth is not an academic exercise. As we posed in our working hypothesis, the question at stake is exposing and expelling police agents (in particular, agents of the FBI) of the terrorist bourgeois state from the workers movement.

By taking up a fight for the truth in the case of Rosanne Goustin, the Fourth International is posing to the whole workers movement the opening up of a total struggle to drive the terrorist state out of our organizations, to deprive it of any influence over the working class.

Every worker hates a "snitch." Every revolutionary movement has to instill a hatred of spies into its very being. That is why the former president of Ireland, Eamonn De Valera, could recall seeing, as a boy in his village, peasants who would not stand in the shadow of a descendant of someone who was a British "informer" in the year 1798!

But today there are far too many who willingly stand in the shadow of the terrorist state. They talk about "human rights" and about "democracy," and all the while the terrorist state uses this idle chatter to strengthen its apparatus.

Today, after the experience of the working class with Watergate, with the revelations about the role of the CIA, the terrorist state is using these lies of "human rights" to attempt to once again gain legitimacy for its work against the proletariat.

Thus, the American Civil Liberties Union, defenders of "human rights" par excellence, are making agreements with the FBI that this

gang of thugs has "reformed," that it is now carrying out work only on "national defense," "foreign intelligence" . . . and the Communist Party. That is, it is going to attack the working class and its International with a clean bill of health from the liberals.

This is what the Socialist Workers Party is also trying to give it with its pitch to "legalize" IT - and nobody else.

The Trotskyist Organization/USA proposes a battle against the FBI, against the terrorist state, beginning with an investigation of the murder of Rosanne Goustin and ending only with the complete defeat of the secret police agencies of American imperialism.

September 30, 1980  
K.F.

## THE NEW TRUTH

As you can see, this issue of TRUTH has been typeset. We consider this a great step forward for our newspaper, making TRUTH easier to read and more accessible to the working class and youth.

At a time when other so-called workers organizations are becoming more and more subservient to imperialism and Stalinism and more and more crisis-ridden, we have found the means to advance and to take another step forward toward building the revolutionary party of the working class.

But the new typeset TRUTH and our goal of resuming the 12-page edition requires the urgent support of the workers and youth. It is more important than ever for you to buy a subscription to TRUTH and to read and distribute the paper. We need 5,000 dollars for the improvement of TRUTH. The press is our weapon!  
Subscribe today!

# TRUTH

## WORKERS DEMOCRACY IN THE TWO AMERICAS!

By MARGARET GUTTSALL

Four years ago, Carter rose to power promising to defend "human rights" around the world, in particular in Latin America. He began to rebuild the Holy Alliance with the Kremlin and opened up a "dialogue" with Castro, supposedly to achieve this goal.

Thousands of workers thought this would mean a real change in the nature of the U.S. government and its relations with the peoples of the world. This is not surprising, since all the leaderships which claim to represent the working class, except the Fourth International - the trade union officials, the Socialist Parties, the Communist Parties, the various pseudo-Trotskyist parties - said it would.

Four years have proven otherwise. Carter's open opposition to the Popular Assembly in Peru. His threat to send troops to crush the insurrection against Somoza in Nicaragua. His opposition to the general strike against the fascist coup in Bolivia last fall. The close collaboration with the Kremlin.

And today he is campaigning for re-election under the theme of preparing for military confrontations with other peoples. With the full support of Castro! Reagan's open defense of U.S. imperialism's rights in Panama and his open ties with the fascist dictators in Guatemala is just a more extreme version of the same policy - rearm this Holy Alliance of imperialism and the Kremlin against the workers and oppressed peoples of the world.

This policy has inspired the fascist generals in Latin America and their open attacks on the working class, in particular in El Salvador and most recently in Bolivia.

The U.S. working class is opposed to this campaign. Thousands of people abstained from the primaries. Youth have refused to register for the draft. They would like the U.S. "to keep its nose out of other people's business," not because they are "isolationists" but because they are for national independence.

But the unions the workers' only organizations, are not for this. While they have formally denounced the coup in Bolivia, they have endorsed and pledged closer cooperation between the government and the unions in the next four years.

Thus, the only way to carry forward the struggle against this Holy Alliance and its rearmament is to make a fight in the unions. The working class cannot abstain from this fight in the unions. If it does, Carter and Co. will use the unions to carry out their offensive against the oppressed peoples of Latin America.

This fight in the unions must be one to establish the independence of the working class and its unions, one to build their own political power.

This is the purpose of the struggle that the Fourth International is waging for a Workers Candidate to fight for Workers Democracy in the Two Americas; for a boycott of all the dictatorships. This is the purpose of its struggle for a World Workers Counter-Conference Boycotting the Security Conference of the Bosses of the World.

The working class is the only class in the Two Americas capable of insuring the rights of the oppressed masses. Because the working class works for a living, it has no stake in the exploitation of others, thus no reason to suppress their right to struggle against it.

The liberal wing of American democracy, led by the Democratic Party, is as parasitical as its conservative counterpart. The liberals live off the labor of the workers and peasants of the Two Americas. Thus, they have just as much of a stake in preserving the existing order. They are bound by their class position to suppress the rights of those who struggle against it. The same is true of the Kremlin bureaucracy and its agent, Castro.

Workers Democracy is the perspective that

can unify the workers and peasants of the Two Americas against this Holy Alliance. It means, in Lenin's words, that "every cook must govern."

All attempts to pressure the unions into pressuring the government to change its policy toward Latin America will only divide and disarm the working class and give this Holy Alliance more time to rearm itself and suppress the workers, as the fascists are trying to do in Bolivia.

But unifying all the forces of the working class ready to fight for their independence and for Workers Democracy against the Holy Alliance in the World Workers Counter-Conference will lay the basis for a great leap forward of the class struggle in every country.

This means an active struggle against the candidacies of the Communist Party and the Socialist Workers Party. While these parties have formally denounced Carter's policy in Latin America and the unions' support for him, they are content to leave the unions as they are. They have not even asked the unions to endorse their own candidate, much less put forward a candidate of the workers, as this would bring them into conflict with the bureaucrats.

Their platform is a "labor party" to "stand up in Congress," i.e., to pressure the present government to change. These are the same policies that held back the working class four years ago. It is time to reject them.

The Fourth International, through its U.S. Section, the Trotskyist Organization/USA, and its candidate Fred Vitale, is the party of the working class that is leading this fight. Join us. **A WORKERS CANDIDATE! WORKERS DEMOCRACY! BOYCOTT THE LATIN AMERICAN DICTATORSHIPS! ON TO THE WORLD WORKERS COUNTER-CONFERENCE BOYCOTTING THE SECURITY CONFERENCE OF THE BOSSES OF THE WORLD!**

## Boycott the Bolivian Junta!

Leaders of the American Postal Workers Union, the International Longshore and Warehousemen's Union and the UAW have responded to the Revolutionary Youth International's call to boycott the Bolivian junta and all dictatorships in Latin America. Bro. Tillman of the Detroit APWU and Danny Beagle of the ILWU both said that they personally favored such a boycott, but couldn't take a position without consulting others in their union and other unions, which they planned to do. Bard Young of the UAW said he would bring it up at the next Executive Board Meeting.

However, leaders of the Communication Workers of America said they could not participate, since their Bolivian affiliates hadn't called for such a boycott. The AFL-CIO refused to participate. So did the leadership of the Socialist Workers Party.

It is necessary to deepen the political struggle to place the unions and all workers organizations on the side of the boycott. Latin American solidarity organizations can play a key role in this struggle.

Send your statements of support and your representatives to: Committee Boycotting the Latin American Dictatorships; Room 536, David Whitney Building; 1553 Woodward; Detroit, MI 48226. September 29, 1980  
M.G.

## Declaration of the Committees of the Bolivian Section of the FI

Free Lechin, COB and CONADE militants, and all prisoners now!  
Soldiers unite with workers and peasants!  
Down with the military government!  
For a worker and peasant government!

To all youth, workers and poor peasants:  
Comrades: The Network of Miners' Broadcasts (found on shortwave at 3.2 megahertz) reports resolutions adopted at the miners' centers (Siglio XX, Catavi, Huanuni, Corq-Coro, Vilco, Consejo Central Sud...) ratifying the call of the COB and CONADE to maintain the general strike TO THE END. It also reports that the peasant communities in the miners' zones are blocking the trucks and are disposed to confront together with the workers the fascist coup.

In Canadon Antequera, 9,000 workers and peasants are ready for the struggle. The housewives are also forming part of the cordones which defend the miners' zones and the radio broadcasts. Every house is an entrenchment. At every change of guard in every mine there are more men, adding up to more than the number who have signed communications adhering to the coup.

Once again, the mining workers take their place as the backbone of the struggle of the exploited and oppressed masses. But, if they remain isolated, the miners will in the end be beaten. This morning a plane bombed the Vanguardia De Colquiri radio station, damaging it and leaving one dead and many gravely wounded. **EVERY YOUTH, WORKER AND PEASANT MUST TAKE HIS PLACE IN**

### THIS STRUGGLE!

The first task is to win the immediate liberation of Lechin, of the militants of the COB and the CONADE and of all prisoners. The leaders of the coup have attempted with these detentions to leave the workers and the masses without leadership and thus to paralyze us. It is necessary to turn these detentions against the leaders of the coup, by demanding the liberation of Lechin and all prisoners and mobilizing ourselves until we impose this.

The military coup is trying to impose the counter-revolution. But if it's blocked, pushed back and beaten, the revolution will be on the order of the day because the army will be broken and the army is the keystone of the bourgeois order. This is the danger that American imperialism wants to avoid by opposing the military coup in the name of "human rights." (Some human rights! So anti-working class that now even Garcia Meza claims to be for them.)

And the most important thing for blocking, pushing back and finally beating the military coup is **WINNING THE SOLDIERS AGAINST THE GENERALS.**

It is necessary to initiate an offensive for workers and peasants to make links to the soldiers who are nothing but their sons in uniform. It is necessary to fill the cities and countryside with signs which, along with demanding freedom for Lechin and the rest of the prisoners, call on the soldiers to come over to the side of their class families and class brothers: **"SOLDIERS, UNITE WITH THE WORKERS AND PEASANTS"; "SOLDIER: DON'T SHOOT**

**YOUR BROTHERS"; "SOLDIER: DISOBEY YOUR CHIEFS"; "SOLDIER, DEFEND YOUR OWN!"**

Probably in the coming days there is going to be a lack of food. Cutting off supplies to the miners' zones, poor neighborhoods and rebel peasant regions...forms part of the coup in order to stop them from nourishing the resistance. And, in contrast, the generals have accumulated food supplies in order to stop marketing from being a fountain of counterfraternization between the people and the soldiers. It is necessary to explain: **THE BARRACKS ARE FULL OF FOOD**, as a form of preparing the counter-attack against the army.

But in order to carry forward this struggle it is necessary to organize ourselves above the existing divisions between one or another party or front, between the partisans of consolidating democracy and the partisans of initiating the revolution. And now more than ever, since the leaders of the organizations which claim to lead the struggle are in jail, it is necessary to organize ourselves from the ranks, taking strength in the masses. Beginning from delegates from each house, each court...if it is possible, it is necessary to elect an assembly in each neighborhood, community, factory, school...**STRIKE AND BLOCKADE COMMITTEES** which concretely organize the struggle and which are responsible before their assemblies or delegates of unity for the decisions taken. These strike and blockade committees, together with the defense committees, neighborhood juntas... must unite in Popular

Assemblies which group together all the working and popular masses.

Comrades: The so-called Government of National Reconstruction isn't going to solve a single problem for the masses. It has already said what its program is: "strengthening private property," "augmenting production and productivity," and "finishing with extremism and international communism." That is to say, using working class language: increasing the exploitation of the workers and peasants, and more repression against the masses. Therefore, **DOWN WITH THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT.**

But neither will the government of the UDP satisfy the needs of the masses, since, as its program makes very clear, it also remains within the capitalist framework and respects the peaceful coexistence of the enemies of the world proletariat, imperialism and Stalinism. For this reason, from now on, we must orient our struggle against the military government toward building our own government, a worker-peasant government elected from centralized Popular Assemblies. The workers must be ready to struggle shoulder to shoulder with the UDP and any democrat against the military coup. They must also call on the UDP to struggle to truly materialize its electoral victory. But it must combat all illusions that the UDP will form "a government of workers," since it will be a bourgeois government. It must struggle to establish Popular Assemblies as a form of preparing the installation of the worker and peasant government.