

WORKERS' POWER

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TEAMSTER RANKS GET "READY TO STRIKE"



by Jim Woodward

Thousands of Teamsters joined in demonstrations across the country March 13. Their purpose was to get a message across to their employers and union leaders, who are in the middle of negotiating a new contract for 450,000 freight workers. The message was simple: "We're ready to strike on April 1. No contract—no work."

Virgil Lane of Detroit's Local 299 emphasized this theme, while warning against delaying tactics. "I say strike if they ain't got it by April 1. to hell with them," he said.

"Now the first thing you people's going to hear at the end of this month is you're gonna get a 30-day extension on your old contract. Now how many of you people out there want to work another 30 days when we've had three years to negotiate this damn contract? When that contract expires, no contract—no work!"

The crowd of 400-600 responded with cheers.

The Detroit rally and over a dozen others were organized by Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC) to press their demands on wages, cost-of-living, job protection, the grievance procedure, and a number of other issues.

With the employers talking tough this year and with the union leadership looking silly, it is TDC which is preparing the union for the contract fight. The few days remaining before April 1 are critical. Every minute spent organizing now is worth hours spent over the next three years.

An organized rank and file can stop the employer's offensive in the freight industry—and now is the time to do it. □

[For details of TDC's March 13 rallies, see page 5.]

Hurricane Wins New Trial!

by Byron Gray

Rubin "Hurricane" Carter and John Artis have spent the last nine and one half years in a New Jersey prison. They were serving life sentences for a triple murder that they could not possibly have committed. Carter is a former leading middleweight boxer.

On Wednesday, March 17, Carter and Artis were granted a new trial. The New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that the Prosecution had "concealed evidence."

Well over a year ago the prosecutions' two "witnesses," Alfred Bello and Arthur Bradley, both white, admitted that they had lied in the Carter-Artis trial.

In return they got a reduced sentence on a robbery charge promised them by the Paterson, N.J. police.

The facts show the innocence of the two men as well now as they did in 1966.

Carter and Artis were arrested after two black men fatally shot three persons in a Paterson, New Jersey bar.

Before he died, one of the victims told the police that the two were not the men. They took lie detector tests which also proved



their innocence.

The police found no gun or finger prints they could attribute to Carter or Artis.

GHETTO IN REVOLT

However, in 1966 the Paterson ghetto was in revolt and Carter was speaking out against this brutally racist society we live in. His brothers and sisters were listening.

So, with the help of the Paterson police, the prosecution came up with two star witnesses who

identified Carter and Artis as the men who did the deed.

That was enough for the all-white jury. Carter and Artis were convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

Now the daily press and the TV are saying that Carter's getting a break.

The truth is that every day for nine and one half years Rubin Carter and John Artis have been fighting to prove their innocence. Finally they have drawn enough public support to force the courts to listen.

What we all must realize is that nine and one half years ago everyone in that court room knew that Hurricane was innocent. But this racist society we live in made a conviction easy.

This system is ready to crush anyone who acts against its brutality and repression.

Carter and Artis will eventually go free.

But nothing, barring a complete overthrow of this brutal system, will make up for the nine and a half years in prison. Nine and one half years for being black in America. □

St. Louis Bell Workers Face Manhole Deaths

by David Sandoz

Telephone workers in St. Louis wildcatted to defend manhole safety here last week.

The issue is a clear case of profits vs. people. Bell has been attempting to force splicers to go down into manholes alone.

In the past workers alone in manholes have been injured and laid for hours because no one knew. Sometimes workers have died before anyone knew they were injured.

Early this year, Bell began to try to force workers to work alone in manholes. In January, a brief wildcat strike forced the company to back off. However, the company was determined to force the issue to an all-out confrontation.

On Tuesday, February 9, a splicer was asked to go down into a manhole alone. He refused and was sent home. Bell would provide no alternative work which was safe.

When the same thing happened Wednesday, the splicer, Mike Hurley, filed a grievance which was

discussed at several levels—all without success. By the end of the day, the company took a hard line. Hurley was fired and a confrontation over safety was under way.

200 SUSPENDED

Thursday morning, six garages wildcatted. Over 150 workers walked off the job in defense of Hurley and of safety conditions. Most workers felt the company forced the walkout.

Bell's strategy was to destroy the climate of growing militancy—and seize the right to send workers into whatever jobs it wants, no matter how unsafe.

On Friday, with nine garages and 200 workers out, the company struck back hard. They suspended 200 workers. Workers who called in sick were locked out.

The company used the suspensions as a club. They said, "We have no work for you this week. Come back in a week and see whether we have work for you

then."

In addition, Bell began a rumor campaign. They said that Hurley had worked the job alone before. What they didn't say was that when he worked it alone, a full time supervisor stayed in view at all times.

Through this lie, the company helped undermine support for the garages among other telephone workers.

ENERGY DRAINED

Throughout the walkout, the union talked tough, but tried to channel workers' energies into lobbying for a manhole safety bill.

Even after 200 workers were suspended, the union officials didn't try to spread the strike. Instead they wanted to send all 200 to the state legislature!

Union officials even attacked the rank and file. "Where were you when we needed you?" asked Emmett Mayer, a staff representative for the CWA. Thus he helped

focus energy on lobbying rather than spreading and winning the wildcat.

By the time of a mass meeting of two locals on Sunday, the union had convinced or coerced leading militants into the lobbying program.

One of the initial organizers of the walkout spoke in favor of renting buses to send suspended workers to the state capitol at Jefferson City.

The union leaders knew that they were basically just draining steam and militance off from the walkout. One official openly said, "It'll take a miracle" to pass the manhole safety bill.

Meanwhile, the suspended workers are left unprotected from firings and other reprisals. And workers will soon be forced to go down into manholes alone.

The union leaders, by their spineless, no-action lobbying strategy, have helped the company put hundreds of workers in danger of losing their jobs, or their lives. □

labor notes

by Jim Woodward



UPS workers in Cincinnati report they were called together last week and told that two of the vending machines for employees are no longer available. Management's reason: "One of the machines was broken by the animals who work here." Unfortunately, the workers already knew how the machine was busted. They had seen a manager spend half an hour trying to break into it with a coat-hanger, until he finally destroyed it.

A friend has been kind enough to give us a copy of the confidential salary scales for Ford Motor Co. management. They're a well paid bunch. The salary scale does not even get into top executives, yet it ranges up to \$87,000 for salary grade 16. We'll be glad to send along a copy to any Ford worker who wants to see it.

A bit of good news, for the moment at least. A federal judge in San Francisco has thrown out a rule that says workers on strike illegally can't get food stamps. The judge noted the law says: "no person not working because of a strike or lockout at his place of employment" can be refused aid for that reason. He said Congress did not distinguish between legal and illegal strikes.

Trucking companies are already screaming for a rate increase, even before negotiations on the national Master Freight Agreement are over. On the average, they're asking for a 7% rate boost, effective April 1.

There are some indications that leaders of the United Auto Workers are beginning to feel some heat already, even though the UAW contracts do not expire until September. One popular demand is cost-of-living on pensions. Solidarity House has just issued a slick 16-page pamphlet to counter this demand, claiming the 1973 contract, which contained a 6-year pension agreement, cannot be changed.

Perhaps the most serious issue is the shorter work week. Recently Ken Bannon, UAW Vice President, told a leadership training session at the UAW's luxurious Black Lake resort that the union would fight this year for the "principle" of the shorter work week—not for a shorter work week itself.

This man is a union leader? Victor Gotbaum, head of AFSCME District Council 37, recently spoke to a luncheon meeting of the American Management Association's Annual Personnel Conference. A report of his talk was published by the Bureau of National Affairs (BNA) in its "Bulletin to Management." The BNA's report reads as follows: "Middle management in the public service, he [Gotbaum] asserts, is the 'most exploited group' of employees because they are placed in their jobs without the proper training in methods to increase productivity and improve labor relations. This problem requires a cooperative approach from management and labor, and a putting aside of bargaining table animosity." Gotbaum's got a lot of experience with this approach—it's what has lost so many jobs for city employees in New York.

Workers for the Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. in Lisbon, Portugal have adopted a hard-nosed approach to collective bargaining. To support their demands for a pay raise, the 400 workers held a general meeting and decided to hold the plant manager and the production manager captive in the plant "until they decide to negotiate." This is the third time the production manager has been held as a hostage, but it's only the second time for the plant manager. Maybe something like this could break down management's tough attitude in the rubber negotiations now going on in this country.

What's happening where you work? Send items for this column to: Workers' Power, Labor Notes, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203. Or phone 313-869-5964.

U.S. Trains Chile's Army

The U.S. Army School of the Americas at Fort Amador in the Panama Canal Zone is training Chilean officers and noncommissioned officers. They are learning police practices to assist them in maintaining their control of the country.

Several Congressional prohibitions on such practices are apparently being violated.

Chile has been ruled by a repressive right-wing regime since a CIA-backed military coup ousted President Salvador Allende in 1973.

The regime has outlawed trade unions and political parties. Thousands of Chileans have been killed, tortured, and imprisoned.

HUNDREDS TRAINED

An investigation by Elmer B. Staats, the Comptroller General of the U.S., has revealed that more than 300 officers and enlisted men from the Chilean army were trained in 1975.

Courses included operations of police in internal defense, new equipment and the use of aviation

in urban counterinsurgency, crowd and mob behavior, and application of "force."

Staats found that the Army had also trained a total of 164, 252 and 575 Chilean army personnel in the fiscal years 1973, 1974, and 1975.

He also found that "346 Chilean personnel attended courses at the school after January 1, 1975... subsequent to the enactment of section 25 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1974, which prohibits military assistance to Chile."

The Army's school of the Americas was founded in 1946 at Fort Amador under the Army's program of a "Latin American Training Center."

It "trains Latin American personnel under military assistance programs in skills and concepts designed to increase their capabilities for maintaining internal security in their countries."

Staats found that "in 1974 more than 1,700 students from 16 countries attended 45 different courses of instruction, and 33,147 students from 20 countries have graduated from the school since 1946."

How many thousands of Latin American workers have been killed by these graduates who use their skills to protect U.S. corporate interests in Latin America? □

[The information in this article was provided by Research Associates International, P.O. Box 9662, Marina Del Ray, CA 90291.]



General Pinochet, head of fascist Chile, reviews his troops.

CIA OFF CAMPUS!

BLOOMINGTON, Ind.—"There hasn't been anything like this since the anti-war movement," said one of the approximately 200 chanting, sign-carrying students. They were gathered outside the Indiana University student union building here on March 10. The mobilization, organized by a campus coalition, was against a planned visit by CIA recruiters.

A speaker for the International Socialists pointed out that the real issues go beyond the campus. "Contrary to the liberal press," he said, "the CIA is not 'out of control.' Every ruling class in the world needs secret police at its command, and ours is no exception!"

As a Workers' Power seller in the crowd elaborated, "The CIA serves not 'American interests,' but American capitalists' interests. And it does its job far too well."

'CLASS STRUGGLE

In concluding, the I.S. speaker urged students to look beyond the campus to the rebirth of class struggle in the U.S. in recent years. "Only the fight for workers' power can smash the system which produces the need for CIA's."

Then, after it was reported that the CIA had cancelled its visit to the possible bad publicity, over half the crowd joined a march to an administration building to demand

access to university files relating to CIA campus involvement. □

Steve Langley

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UAW RANKS DEMAND SHORT WORK WEEK IN '76

Don't Settle For Less!

As preparations begin for 1976 contract bargaining, a serious fight over the shorter work week is shaping up.

This time around, the key slogan is: 32 hours work for 40 hours pay, the four-day-week, eight-hour-day.

It is a contract demand that is capturing the imagination of UAW members this year wherever it is raised because it meets workers' needs.

It protects job security, fights unemployment, and takes the edge off the grinding pressure of production jobs.

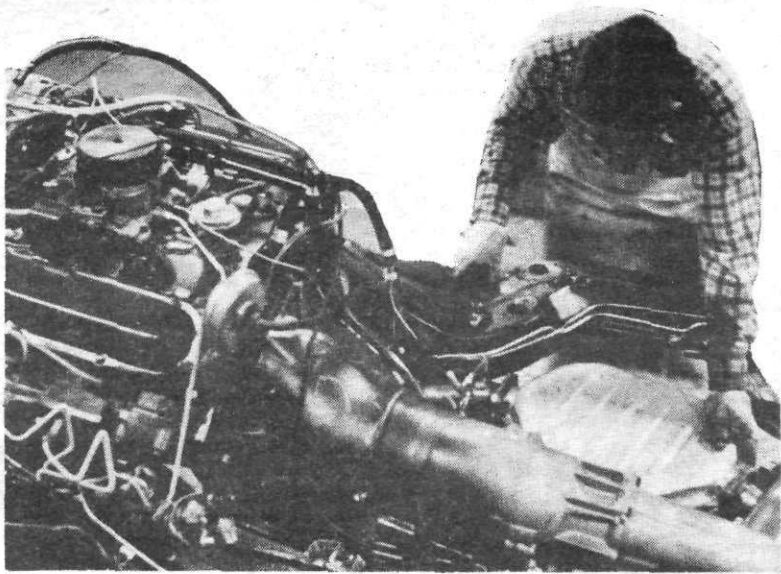
When the SUB fund went broke, UAW members learned that they would have to find a new way to protect job security.

Even after the callbacks, plant population is down. Heavy unemployment means most workers have little money in their pockets.

And on the job, management is speeding up and pushing harder.

Management hopes workers are so fearful of losing their jobs that they are willing to put up with abuse that grows worse daily.

By Jack Weinberg



ANOTHER SLUMP

Most workers expect another economic decline following the elections. SUB will be in bad shape from the beginning.

Auto workers need to shorten the work week in 1976 bargaining as a means of self-defense.

Workers have chosen the 32-hour week at 40 hours pay because it provides three-day weekends.

Production workers in particular feel the need to get away from the noise, the strain, the pressure long enough to calm down both the body and the mind.

The 32-hour week is also a demand for full employment.

The fight will not be easy. When workers came up with the idea of

the eight-hour day, the bosses said it could never happen, it would cost too much.

But workers were not willing to put up with the crazy situation where millions had no work, while the rest had no life but to work themselves to death.

If workers waited for the boss to shorten the work week, we'd still be working 12 hours a day, six days a week.

Once the movement for a short work week proves that it is serious,

it can turn for support to the unemployed—particularly young people, minorities, and women.

GETTING SUPPORT

Workers in other industries will also be likely to support the movement, since if auto gets it, they will too.

The movement for a short work week at full pay can get support because none of the politicians, none of the so-called experts, have come up with any other realistic program for full employment. □

by Karen Kaye

Short work week at full pay is not just an idea whose time has come, it is an idea that auto workers are organizing for now to make it a reality in the 1976 contract. The contract expires in September.

The Coalition for a Good Contract (UAW) is the broad-based group at the center of this effort.

The Coalition was formed in December by members of 20 UAW locals. Their purpose is to build support in the UAW membership for a 1976 contract that will protect and improve job security, income, working conditions and membership rights in ratification.

On short work week, the Coalition program says, "We need a 32 hour work week at 40 hours pay with double time for overtime. The most effective way to protect job security and to create new jobs for the unemployed is to shorten the work week a full pay."

The Coalition has been circulating pledge cards among rank and file UAW members. Those who sign, pledge to vote "no" on any contract that falls short of the goals outlined in the Coalition's program.

[To obtain pledge cards, or to get in touch with the Coalition for a Good Contract, write to: Coalition for a Good Contract, PO Box 38224, Detroit, MI 48238.]

CONVENTION

A milestone on the way to the contract is the UAW bargaining Convention being held March 18-20 at Cobo Hall in Detroit.

The Coalition planned several events to push support for its program at the Convention.

These include a delegate's meeting the night of March 17 to plan effective intervention at the Convention by delegates who support the general goals of the Coalition.

On the morning of March 19, Coalition members will also participate in a demonstration outside the Convention site, which has official support from several Michigan locals.

Demands of the demonstration are Cost of Living Protection on All Pensions and a Shorter Work Week at Full Pay. The Coalition will emphasize the demand for the 32 hour week at full pay.

Finally, on Saturday, March 20 at 12:30 p.m. the Coalition is holding the first meeting of the Coalition for a Good Contract Council.

This meeting will launch a massive movement inside the UAW for a good contract in 1976 and the short work week.

How would the short work week be implemented as part of the contract?

CONTRACT PROPOSAL

One group of rank and file auto workers has a proposal. They are the supporters of Network, the Voice of UAW Militants, a newspaper put out by rank and file auto workers.

Network supports the Coalition for a Good Contract.

The Network proposal says that the 32-hour week should be negotiated over three years. In the first year, auto workers would get 17 Fridays off, and 17 more in each of the next two years.

This means that auto workers would get a three day weekend every third week of the first year, two weeks out of three the second year, and every week the third year.

The cost of the package would be an eight percent rise in labor costs for each of the three years.

A Network organizers' handbook said, "By organizing and fighting to make this the priority demand in 1976 negotiations, we can make real headway toward getting a three day weekend, every week."

"Right now our job is to get the rank and file UAW membership to say with one united voice, loud and clear: 'We won't settle for anything less!'"

[To obtain copies of Network, write: NETWORK, PO Box 39137, Detroit, MI 48237. NETWORK is issued monthly. Bundles of 500 are \$5.] □

'We need a four day, 32-hour week, and we should have it by 1966.'

**—Walter Reuther
Detroit Free Press 3/25/56**

1943-76: Big Talk, No Action

1930

In the depression years of the 1930's, when the United Auto Workers' Union was first organized, the 30-hour work week at full pay was one of its central demands.

But after the earliest years of the union the leadership at the top stopped taking the issue of shorter work week seriously.

During World War II, the union leadership placed members' needs at the workplace secondary to support for the war effort. They even signed a no-strike pledge.

1943

The 30-hour week at full pay was relegated to being a post-war goal in a decision by the union's Executive Board in July, 1943.

This was the start of the leadership's use of an appeal to patriotism to conceal their own growing conservatism.

With the end of the war, the "post-war goal" was put off again.

1953

In 1953, the leadership put a resolution through the convention stating the union would press for a shorter work week "as soon as and whenever the productive capacity of our national economy make it possible to maintain high and satisfactory living standards with fewer hours of work."

The resolution went on to denounce as disloyal unionists those who pressed the short week as an immediate issue.

They charged that it would have an effect of "impairing the national defense effort and undermining the economic and military strength of the free world in the face of totalitarian aggression."

This statement was part of the union leadership's contribution to the witch hunt atmosphere of the Cold War.

1956

In 1956 Walter Reuther stated that there would be a four day, 32-hour week within ten years.

But in 1955, the UAW leadership had already put forward a substitute for the 30-hour week. The concept of the Guaranteed Annual Wage was negotiated into the 1955 Ford contract as Supplemental Unemployment Benefits.

SUB was a bad compromise. It is designed to give temporary income protection to seniority workers.

But in periods of serious unemployment, SUB neither creates nor saves jobs.

In the years since World War II, the number of workers needed to build a car has been cut by more than half. The UAW's failure to make good its commitment to the shorter work week meant a huge loss in jobs.

In the past few years, SUB fund bankruptcies resulted in growing sentiment again in the union for a

shorter work week at full pay.

1970

Even during the 1970 negotiations, Chrysler and the UAW leadership floated the four-day week, ten-hour day as a way of cutting down absences.

Despite enthusiasm for the four-day week, the plan went nowhere.

Workers would not permit the companies to schedule more than eight hours per day without overtime premium.

1973

Then in 1973, Frank Runnels, President of Local 22, Cadillac, Detroit, tried to popularize the demand for a 36-hour work week. His slogan was, "Four days on, three days off, nine hours per day."

This plan sunk too: workers again would not surrender the eight-hour day standard that earli-

er generations fought and died for.

Ken Bannon, UAW Vice President in charge of the Ford Department, had a different proposal in 1973.

This plan exists in the UAW agreement with John Deere, an agricultural implement company.

In return for 16 weeks perfect attendance, the worker at John Deere gets the fat bonus of one full day off with pay!

This plan has gone over like a lead balloon. Some workers call it "absentee control." Others call it "good little boy, good little girl" plan.

But even Bannon's proposal got UAW members thinking shorter work week. Still, up to the big layoffs, few really believed that shorter work week was more than a nice idea.

The mass layoffs of 1974 and 1975 turned the short work week from a nice idea into a fighting demand. □

WHO'S BEHIND THE ATTACK ON ABORTION?

by Doreen Leitz and Karen Kaye

Since the 1973 Supreme Court ruling, abortion has been legal in this country. But "right to life" and "pro-life" groups are organizing to make abortion illegal again. Ellen McCormack is a Long Island, N.Y. housewife, running for the Democratic presidential nomination on a pro-life ticket. She has attracted approximately four percent of the vote in the Massachusetts and New Hampshire primaries.

McCormack doesn't want to be president. She and her supporters want to make sure that the abortion issue is publicized and that none of the major Presidential contenders will be able to avoid it. The anti-abortionists are organizing in every congressional district.

They are dogging state and local politicians, trying to select "pro-life" delegates to both party national conventions. They're pushing for anti-abortion planks in the party platforms.

But the major goal of the anti-abortion movement is a constitutional amendment outlawing abortion and invalidating the Supreme Court decision.

SIDESTEP SHUFFLE

Most politicians and presidential candidates are managing to sidestep the abortion issue. They will tell you they are "personally" opposed to abortion, but against a constitutional amendment to

change the law.

Anti-abortionists and politicians sympathetic to their cause talk about the sanctity of life and the rights of the unborn.

But if they are really worried about protecting human life, why don't they put their money and energy into protecting those of us who are already here?

This society is full of violence and death—on the job, in the streets, and in our homes.

The pro-life heroes include well-known humanitarians such as Senator Buckley of New York. He voted to continue bombing Cambodia while he supported the anti-abortion movement.

Another is former California Governor Ronald Reagan. He was quoted recently as saying that if the unemployed workers in this country weren't happy here, they should pack their bags and start walking.

FLEXIBLE MORALS

The major force behind the "right to life" movement is the Catholic Church. It too has a "flexible" view on the sanctity of life.

During World War II, the church maintained a cozy relationship with Mussolini's fascist regime.

The Pope and his top aides deliberately suppressed their knowledge of the Nazi murders of Jews and other national minorities in Europe.

America's Richard Cardinal

Cushing threw his full political weight and religious blessings behind the U.S. government's murderous bombing of Vietnam.

Of those of us who are alive already, the woman with an unwanted pregnancy is the chief victim of the "right to lifers."

A recent study by Dr. Christopher Tietze, reveals that outlawing abortion would place women in greater danger of death.

Tietze is a statistical expert on birth control.

His study showed that use of the diaphragm or condom, with an early abortion if the woman becomes pregnant, is the safest form of birth control. It presents less possibility of death to the woman than the pill, the IUD, or giving birth.

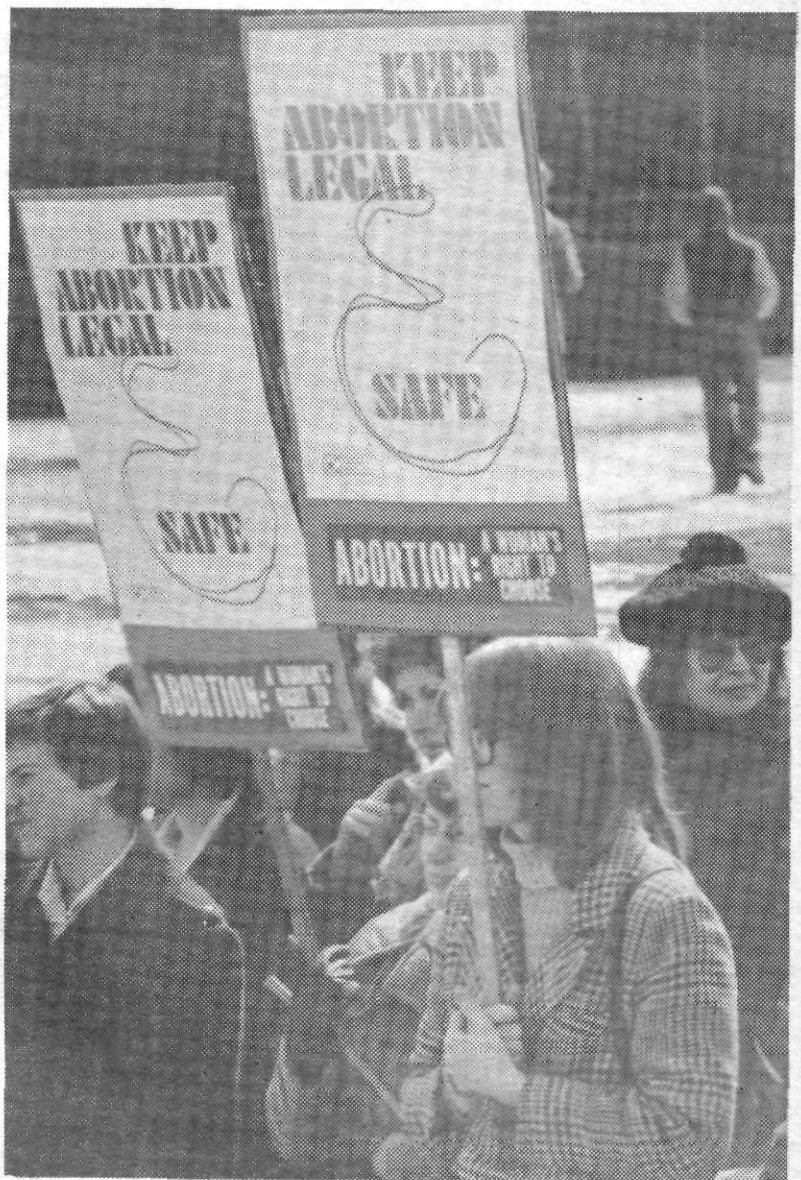
If abortion is made illegal the burden will fall most heavily on working, poor and young women.

Money and social status have always brought well-to-do women safe medical abortions by their private physicians or in foreign countries.

Legal or illegal, abortion will always be available to these women on demand.

When abortion is illegal, women are still forced to get rid of unwanted pregnancies. But illegal abortions are most often performed by quacks and many women are injured or even die.

The anti-abortion groups say they are for the "right to life." But they are not for the right to a



decent life. They are not for the right of women to control their lives.

SLAVERY

They are for tying working class women to the home and wiping out the gains that women have made since the days when they were truly slaves to their biology and totally under the control of men.

Even under the present liberalized laws, many states have intro-

duced restrictive measures. They refuse Medicaid funds for abortions, or insist on the husband's or parent's consent. Above all, they permit hospitals supported by public funds to refuse to perform abortions.

Once again, poor and young women are the victims of these restrictions.

The right of women to control their bodies is part of the struggle for the liberation of women and the freeing of us all. □

News from Lisbon, Wednesday, March 17

A new wave of strikes is sweeping through Portugal. This week, between 20 and 30 strikes are in progress. They include major strikes of bus drivers, nurses and construction workers.

In most of these strikes, the key issue is wages. A wage freeze, imposed by the capitalist government, ended March 1. Many bosses are refusing to negotiate new contracts at higher pay.

Several of the current strikes are national in scope. The nurses' strike, which began last Friday, is 90% effective. Besides higher wages, they are demanding improved health care for the people. They

are receiving widespread popular support, although a vicious campaign to smash their strike is being waged by the press. There is a strong presence of revolutionary leftists among the striking nurses.

The strike breaking against nurses is supported by the Communist Party, which came out against the nurses' struggle. As it has done several times before, the Communist Party is taking a line to support strikes only when it controls and leads them. Otherwise, it calls them "disruptive actions" and labels strikers as agents of reaction.

So far the CP has taken no line on what

may be the most important strike of all, the construction workers' strike scheduled to start Wednesday. The strike is planned to begin at a number of construction sites and expected to spread to a national strike.

Last November, construction workers won 45% wage increases following a militant struggle. During that strike they surrounded the government palace and trapped the Prime Minister inside. After November 25 the wage increase, personally signed by the Prime Minister to end the seige, was cancelled. Now they are demanding it be paid to them. They are also demanding the right to "vertical unionism" meaning unified industrial

union organization to represent all construction workers.

Tuesday night in a strike breaking move, the government sent right wing troops called GNR's to occupy an important site set to be hit by today's strike.

The new strike wave comes at a time when inflation and unemployment are both raising workers' anger against the government, and creating a deeper government crisis. There can be little doubt that it will be the prelude to another confrontation between the power of workers and capitalist exploiters in Portugal.



Portuguese workers find strength in united action.

Strike Waves Spearhead Portugal's Revolution

One strike wave after another has helped Portuguese workers measure their strength, test their ability to win gains, and recover after setbacks.

In summer, 1974, massive strikes for big wage increases forced the resignation of the First Provisional Government, headed by right-wing Prime Minister Palma Carlos.

The following winter, more strikes led to the organizing of the first joint factory committees in the Lisbon industrial belt and the beginning of the movement for revolutionary workers' councils.

Spring and summer 1975 saw a wider wave of strikes, in which the central issue was workers' control and occupations of hundreds of factories. It led to tens of thousands

of workers and soldiers leading mass demonstrations for workers' power.

Then, last October and November, huge national strikes by metal and construction workers helped to bring the crisis of the Sixth Provisional Government close to the breaking point.

STRUGGLE RECOVERS

Last November 25, the Portuguese workers' movement was badly set back. The government was able to organize a coup against left-wing military units and put the whole armed forces under right wing control.

For the last four months, through taking over the press, imposing the wage freeze, and creating a

climate of repression with arrests and searches, right-wing forces and government "moderates" have worked to cut away the gains won by Portuguese workers.

They have taken back some factories, driven farm workers off occupied land, forced left-wing soldiers out of the Army, and generally tried to reverse the whole revolutionary process. They aim to use next month's elections to consolidate their attacks and create a new government of right-wing political parties.

But this new wave of strikes shows the limits of what the current scale of repression can do. Through new economic struggles workers are recovering their confidence, energy, and eagerness to resist right-wing advances. □



Detroit

Four to six hundred people picketed Teamster headquarters in Detroit, March 13 as part of TDC's "Day of Action."

After an hour of picketing, the rally moved inside the Local 299 hall to hear one member declare that Fitzsimmons and the other union leaders are "volunteer workers for the bosses, but are paid by our dues money."

"What's fair is fair. If this crew of incompetents and crooks who have robbed us of our union want to continue their services to the trucking industry, fine. But let them get paid by the trucking industry and get the hell off our payroll!"

Within a few minutes one of those individuals appeared wearing a mustache that was fully a foot long, from end to end. He announced that Local 299 president Dave

Johnson was on his way "to find out what the problem is."

No one quite knew who the man with the mustache was, but one rank and filer jumped up to say, "He's one of the men that told me once I should have been happy I had a job when we had a meeting at the company."

Johnson never did have enough guts to show up, but sent a Local 299 executive board member, Steve Riddle, to speak for him. Amid loud boos and catcalls Riddle said the proper way to act was to attend local union meetings and voice your complaints there.

That brought on another round of booing. One member jumped up and spoke for everyone: "Ask Mr. Johnson what happened to all those meetings he promised us on the 21st of December to keep us informed on the negotiations..."

"He's been down in Florida all

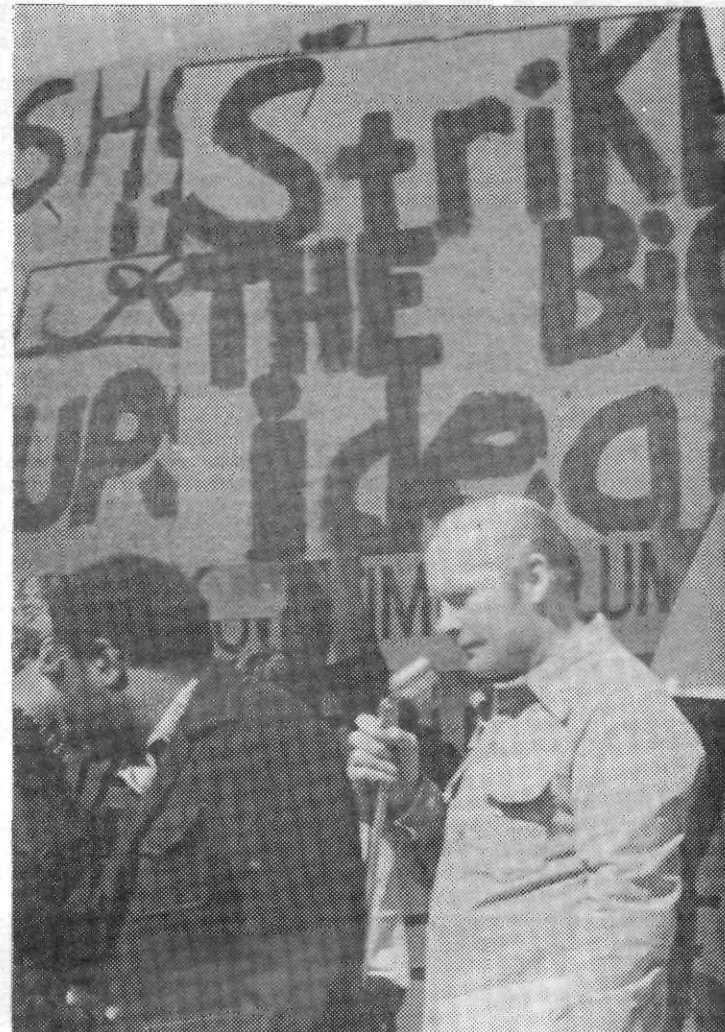
this time, and we haven't had one damn meeting, and we don't know what the hell's going on, and if it wasn't for CONVOY we'd never know!"

CONVOY is the widely read newsletter published by the TDC.

The Detroit TDC rally was an impressive display of the confidence rank and file freight workers have when they're united and ready to act.

A message of solidarity was given to the meeting by Dave McCullough, an auto worker who is active in the Coalition for a Good Contract (UAW). He said, "We've got our contract going to expire in September. What we're trying to do is shamelessly imitate you guys."

"Even though the news media may not say a damn thing about TDC, some people out there in the factories are watching you real close and they want you to win." □



Bay Area

Over 400 freight and UPS workers joined the TDC rally at the Western Conference of Teamsters headquarters in Burlingame, California.

UPS workers were well represented. Anne Mackie, editor of the UPSurge newspaper, was there to speak. She said UPSurge had put so much pressure on the union contract negotiating team in the Central States that "they had to publish a proposal that read like something we had written ourselves."

One of the main concerns of freight workers in the Bay Area is protecting their working conditions, which are better than in most other cities throughout the country.

Conditions are under attack now because the employers have successfully been on the offensive in recent years. They are aiming to institute more flexible starting times, for instance, which means more profits for them but a much rougher job for a freight worker.

A speaker from Local 70 outlined a strategy for dealing with this situation: "The only way we can protect the conditions we have here is to spread them," he said.

Dave Ferrante from Local 85 also spoke on this subject: "Up until eight or nine years ago we had a proud tradition in the Teamsters Union that once we had won a condition, we never backed off that condition."

"We have another proud tradition," Ferrante continued. "It's called the strike, and it's something we're going to have to come up with and stand behind in the next few weeks."

John Larson, a member of Local 70 and editor of the Fifth Wheel, talked about the power workers have and explained why he is a socialist. "I believe that the rank and file can win a decent contract. I believe that we can run this union. I believe that we can run this whole industry. We do the work; why shouldn't we share in the fruits of our labor." □

TDC-UPSurge DAY OF ACTION

March 13, the Day of Action sponsored by Teamsters for a Decent Contract and UPSurge, was a success across the country. It indicated a number of trends.

Already, two and a half weeks before the freight contract expires, there is widespread sentiment for a strike. This feeling will mushroom in the final days before the contract expires.

In those areas where TDC is well organized, Teamsters are confident and willing to enforce the "no contract—no work" principle on April 1.

In other areas, the same militant sentiment is there. But everything depends on how successful rank and filers are in organizing and making preparations before April 1.

Perhaps most important...

everywhere that there is organization, there is unity. Unity between freight and United Parcel workers. Unity between different crafts. Unity regardless of race or sex. And unity against red-baiting attacks from the company or union officials.

The hard organizing work that Teamsters for a Decent Contract and UPSurge have done in the last six months is paying off.



ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Successful rallies were held in a dozen other cities. In Los Angeles, about 300 people turned out, representing 30 locals. In addition to their own speakers, they listened to an auto worker from the GM Southgate plant, where workers have voted to occupy the plant as a way of fighting layoffs.

In Newcastle, Pa., 80 Teamsters braved winds so strong it was difficult to hold up a picket sign.

Two hundred attended the demonstration on the state capitol steps in Harrisburg, Pa.

In Kansas City, 50 TDC supporters assembled at the union hall and gained support from other union members coming to a meeting to vote on a proposed dues increase. Later they sent a delegation to meet with Teamsters International Vice President, Roy Williams.

Williams claimed he didn't know

anything about the progress of the negotiations, even though he is head of the union's bargaining team. He did say, however, that he expects a two week strike when the Central States UPS contract expires May 1.

In Cleveland, 110 persons participated in a TDC motorcade. Other demonstrations were held in Portland; Seattle; Indianapolis; Chicago; Cincinnati; Columbus, Ohio; and Jackson, Michigan.



Pittsburgh

In spite of snowy, windy weather, 200 Teamsters from six locals, with their families, joined the TDC rally in Pittsburgh.

Carrying banners and picket signs, the crowd marched through downtown Pittsburgh to the office of James Hutchinson. Hutchinson is manager of Western Pennsylvania Association of Motor Carriers, and secretary of the Joint Area Grievance Committee.

Enthusiastic chants like "Hit the Bricks in '76" echoed through the streets. Afterwards the demonstrators rallied in

doors.

Don Woodhall, a McLeans employee, proposed that the freight workers present commit themselves to supporting the UPS workers should they go on strike when their contract expires. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim Watson, also from McLeans, emphasized the need for a communications network among rank and filers as the contract deadline approaches.

"Convoy (TDC's newspaper) can be that communications network," Watson stated. □

Change In Southern Africa

SOUTHERN AFRICA has begun a period of rapid change. Half a continent is in transition, from slavery and capitalism toward freedom and revolution.

Years of bitter struggle still lie ahead. But struggle is nothing new for the black masses of South Africa, Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and Namibia. For generations they have waged a constant struggle simply not to die of starvation, while rich white farmers and factory owners grow fat off their labor.

What is new in Southern Africa today is the balance of forces. Before 1974, the power of the white supremacy regime of South Africa seemed secure. South Africa's white rulers were safely protected in power by a series of alliances, buffer zones and international connections.

Angola and Mozambique were colonies of Portugal. Portuguese colonialism was closely allied with South Africa. The colonies provided miners on a "contract labor" (semi-slave) basis for South Africa's mines, which paid a large chunk of the miners' wages back to the Portuguese government.

REIGN OF TERROR

In Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), the organized and well-armed white minority of 200,000 declared independence from Britain in 1965. With full backing from South African police reserves, they established a reign of terror over the black majority of five million.

On top of this, South Africa enjoys close ties with western capitalist powers. The United States has brought South Africa's giant military establishment close to full partnership with NATO. NATO vessels have regularly put in at South Africa's Simonstown naval base.

In secret deals with the government and private industry of West Germany, South Africa has received the technology to produce atomic bombs. Its air force, with forward bases in the illegally occupied territory of Namibia (South West Africa), has the means to drop those bombs anywhere on Black Africa.

With these connections and their economic power, the South African regime beamed with confidence. Not only did they have close allies in Portugal and the white Rhodesians, they also knew that they could dictate terms to the independent black capitalist states like Zambia and Tanzania. They looked forward to turning half of Black Africa into an open market for South Africa's products and machines.

But in 1974, the balance began to shift when Portuguese fascism was overthrown. In November, 1974 Mozambique became independent. Just one year later, Portugal left Angola.

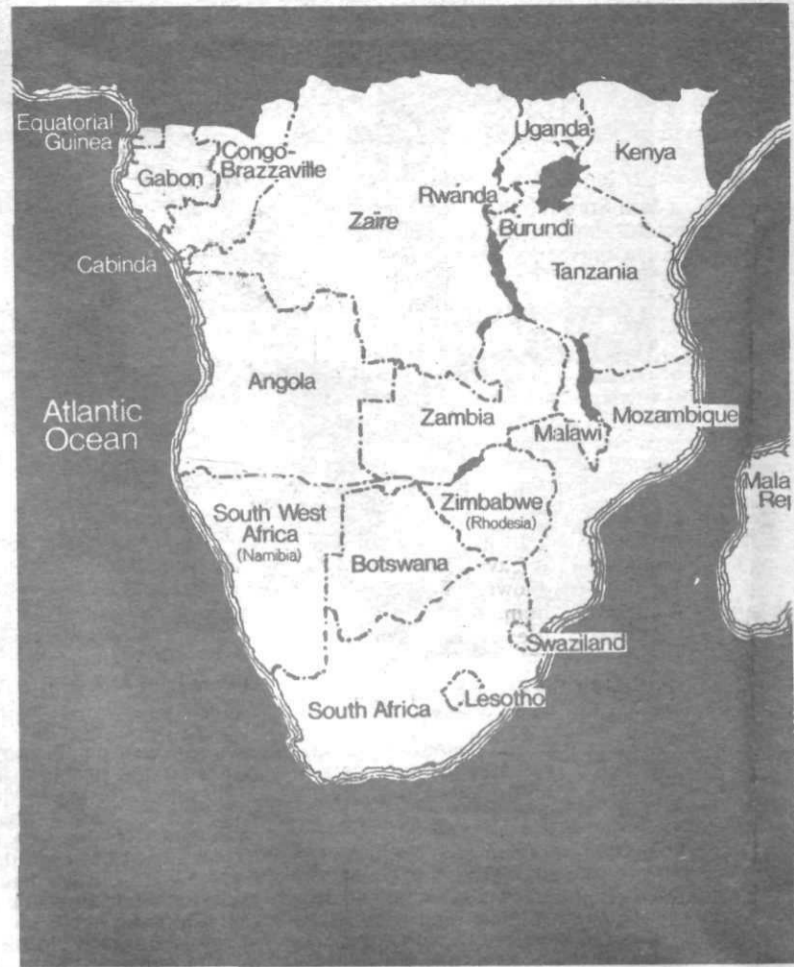
SOUTH AFRICAN INVASION

South Africa stepped in to defend the interests of western colonialism in Angola. Its troops invaded Angola, using the puppet movement UNITA as a cover. But they were defeated.

Angola was liberated by the victory of the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola). This was the first major defeat ever suffered by the white, racist ruling class of South Africa.

Now a new war has begun in Zimbabwe. The white rulers there cannot win it. South Africa cannot save them. The white South African regime is concerned with saving only one thing—**itself.**

But the war in Zimbabwe may also decide the future of South Africa.



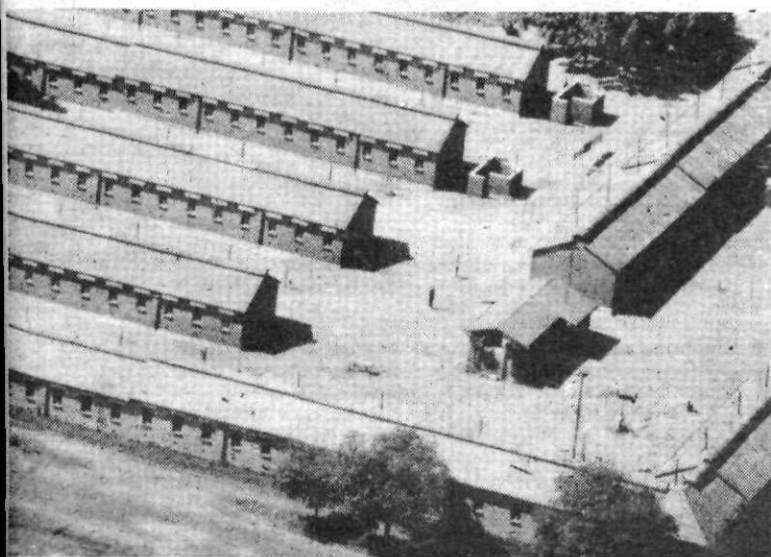
HALF A CONTINENT BREAKS

SOUTH AFRICA THEY CALL IT 'REFORM'



APARTHEID

Above, slum settlements for black workers in Cape Town. Under the South African apartheid regime, these are torn down. The people living in them are forcibly moved to remote "homeland areas," or bantustans. **Since there is no way to make a living there, black workers are then forced to travel long distances back to white-controlled industrial centers to find work. Their families are left behind. When they go to work, for example in gold mines near Johannesburg, they are housed in segregated all-male barracks (pictured below). For strikes or protest, they are shipped back to the bantustans where they and their families are left to starve.**



QUOTE: "Since 1963 the world has changed, mostly not for the better. (But) on this score, to be sure, the Republic of South Africa is a striking exception."

"At the instance of Prime Minister John Vorster, South Africa has made a start toward easing the rigors of apartheid (separation of the races), and in a series of diplomatic moves has sought to improve relations with its black African neighbors."

—From "It's Time Someone Spoke Up for South Africa," an editorial commentary in *Baron's*, the Dow Jones business newspaper, January 12.

Yes, things in South Africa are getting better all the time. Here are a few of the facts about the good life in South Africa today:

- Black South Africans have an average yearly income of \$130. This is in the richest country in Africa, and one of the wealthiest in the world.

- Half the babies born on the "African homeland reserves" die before the age of five. In the Pretoria area, four out of every five black school children are undernourished.

- In the cities, two-thirds of black South Africans live below the official poverty level, which is where disease and starvation set in.

That's why in one year alone (1970), 55,000 blacks died from tuberculosis.

- There is one white doctor for every 400 whites, one Indian doctor for every 900 Indians, one Coloured doctor for every 6200 Coloured people and one black doctor for every 44,000 blacks.

TERROR

But those are just a few of the bare economic and health figures. They don't show the real dimensions of misery and terror in South Africa:

- Every year, about 620,000 Africans are arrested for "pass

laws" crimes (such as illegally leaving their desolate "homeland reserves," or not carrying their required pass book).

- According to official South African government figures, 22 people since 1972 have died while being "detained" (tortured) under the Terrorism Act.

One who survived, 68-year-old Gabriel Mbindi, was "handcuffed to a waterpipe so that his feet barely touched the floor, blindfolded, struck in the face, kicked and threatened with death."

He also spent eight months in jail without ever being charged with anything.

- Thousands of blacks who speak out against the regime are "banished" under the Native Administration Act and government decree. This means that without trial, they are exiled to remote desert areas, often 50 miles or more from the nearest town or shops.

There, they cannot find work, buy food, or even speak the same tribal language as the people in their area.

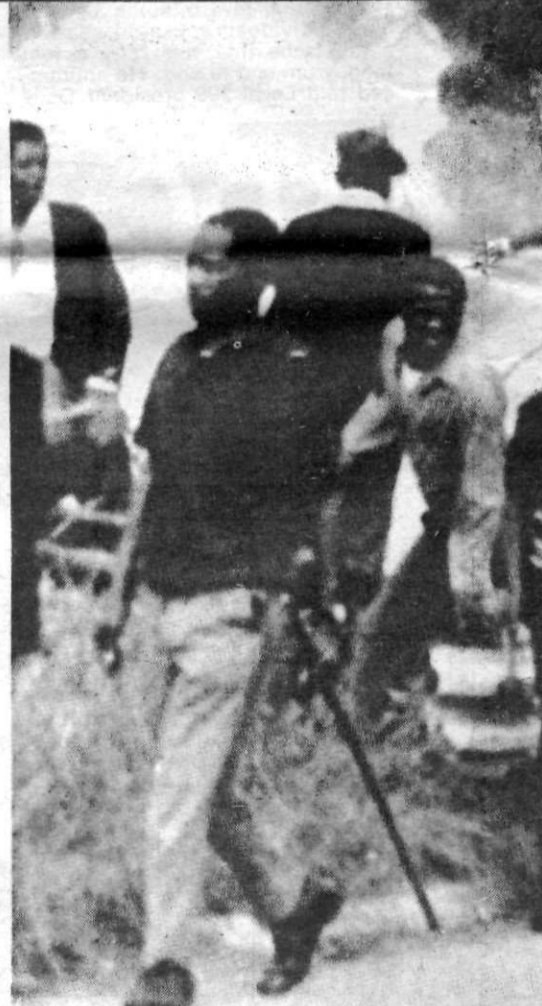
FASCISM

These reports are like those from Nazi Germany. But the major difference between Nazism and South African fascism is that the Nazis ruled Germany for only twelve years.

In South Africa, the total domination of the Nationalist Party, which rules the country today, was consolidated in the years following World War I.

The U.S. business press has already begun a big public relations campaign to show how this regime is "reforming" itself. All of them—from *Business Week* to your hometown paper—say that U.S. economic and political ties to South Africa are needed to ensure "peaceful progress and stability."

That shows which side they will take when South Africa's black millions rise in revolution to take their own country and its wealth for themselves. □



Striking black workers in Durban, South Africa.

What We Think Workers' Power

The liberation struggle in Zimbabwe is a war against minority white rule. It is also a war against South African imperialism. But it is about other issues, too.

Today, open white rule is crumbling fast. On African country after another now has black government, black army officers, black police and even some black ownership of industry.

But behind the scenes, it is still white capitalism that rules Africa. Some countries, like Kenya and Liberia, are run by openly corrupt dictatorships who let the old colonial elites carry on almost exactly as they did before.

Others like Tanzania, Zambia and Mozambique are much more nationalistic. Some of their leaders like Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, are wealthy, while others like Samora Machel of Mozambique live more simple lives.

But it isn't really the degree of nationalism, or the

ZIMBABWE: THE SHOWDOWN

Ian Smith is the leader of the white National Front which rules Zimbabwe (Rhodesia). According to Smith, his government is the only hope for peace, order, and the "Free World" in Africa.

That regime has been built on blood and murder every step of the way since the land was seized by the British South Africa Company, headed by Cecil Rhodes, in the 1890's.

In 1896, the whole African population rose in revolt. The British colonists drove the Shona population to caves in the hills, which were blown up with whole families in them.

White settler rule meant all supervisory positions in industry went to whites, who enjoy one of the highest living standards in the world. Meanwhile, 76% of the Africans live below the poverty line.

It is a society patterned directly on South Africa. Here's how it has kept itself in power:

- July, 1960—police action following strikes in Bulawayo killed 36 Africans.
- December, 1961—In Salisbury

and Umtali, police opened fire on women demonstrating outside police stations. One dead, dozens wounded.

- January, 1972—Police fired on mass demonstrations, killing 31.

- Villagers who refuse to turn in guerrillas face mass deportation (in one case, over 400 miles) or the death penalty.

GUERRILLAS

The first armed guerrilla offensive was launched by ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) in 1972. The white regime used South African troops and helicopters, and methods borrowed from the U.S. in Vietnam.

These include free-fire zones and herding villages into concentration camps called "strategic hamlets."

This offensive followed the collapse of an agreement between Ian Smith and the British government, which would have left Rhodesia under white rule for about the next 70 years.

The overwhelming majority of black Zimbabweans rejected this deal—just as they have rejected

every other attempt to sell them out.

When Mozambique became independent in 1974, the whole eastern border of Zimbabwe, 800 miles long, was exposed to attack by Zimbabwe liberation fighters.

That's when the government of South Africa, the protector of the white Rhodesian regime, decided the war must be "settled."

South Africa withdrew its forces from the fighting and switched its gears, aiming for a political settlement with certain black Zimbabwe politicians.

South Africa's strategy for Zimbabwe is to create the sort of government that exists in Zambia or Kenya.

GOV'T POSITIONS

Black politicians would hold government positions, but white farmers would continue to own most of the land. American, British, and South African based corporations would still control industry.

But no such deal has been possible so far—and probably none

will be. For one thing, Ian Smith can't agree to it. His own power rests on the total white monopoly of all political power.

His support is among the white farm owners, who have hundreds and thousands of black farmhands. He cannot agree to giving blacks even token land reforms or political rights.

Even more important, however, the black Africans of Zimbabwe will not accept a sellout which middle-class leaders like Joshua Nkomo try to force on them.

What they want is very simply their freedom—all of it, right now. That means they want the land. They want the government. They want the power.

Every time the wind of sellout is in the air, black Zimbabweans take to the streets. Tear gas, rifle fire, and police dogs cannot stop them. They have proven they are as violently opposed to Joshua Nkomo as they are to Ian Smith.

After years of negotiations, maneuver and repression, the masses of Zimbabwe are determined to have their say. Thousands of them are crossing the border into

Mozambique to become guerilla fighters.

RESERVE FORCES

Most of the guerilla forces have not yet entered the fighting. They are still in training or reserve in base areas inside Mozambique.

But already, the white Rhodesian Army cannot control the border.

More than 40% of Rhodesia's trade has been disrupted by the Mozambique government's decision to break all economic links.

That decision was forced on Mozambique's government by the mass liberation struggle.

Because the Zimbabwean people refused to be sold out, Mozambique President Samora Machel had no choice but to support them.

President Machel of Mozambique, Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and Nyrere of Tanzania would still like to see a "peaceful settlement" in Zimbabwe.

They would like to see South Africa arrange a deal that would create stable conditions for their own shaky capitalist economies.

But these black leaders realize that the chance for "peaceful change" in Zimbabwe has collapsed. It is too late.

They have climbed on the bandwagon of armed struggle and national liberation for Zimbabwe only because their own masses gave them no choice.

MAKING ITS CHAINS



...rica, attacked by police firing tear gas.

Struggle For Revolution

a war
against
other

private wealth or honesty of particular leaders, that really matters. What counts is that all these countries are still capitalist and ruled by the capitalist world market.

ECONOMICALLY TIED

In the case of Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique, capitalism means they are economically tied to South Africa. Even though Mozambique won independence in 1974, and cut off its border with Zimbabwe this month, it still must send 100,000 men to work in South African mines.

Because of capitalism, Mozambique still relies on the payment of part of these miners' wages by South Africa to the Mozambique government. Zambia needs South African credits to support its copper-based economy. And desperately poor smaller nations like the Central African Republic

often can find no one except South Africa to give them loans.

That's why the black leaders of Africa support compromise between liberation movements and imperialism. They support the armed struggle in Zimbabwe because they feel it may put enough pressure on Ian Smith to force a last-minute face-saving deal. If that deal is struck they will turn their backs on the Zimbabwean guerrillas in a moment.

So the national liberation war in Zimbabwe is not only a war against white rule. In order to succeed it must also be a struggle against neo-colonialism—against white capitalist rule hiding behind a black face.

The liberation struggle in Zimbabwe, in Mozambique and in newly independent Angola will be completed by the socialist revolution that will be led by the black workers of South Africa itself. □

RENZI INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE



THOROUGH
INQUIRY
AND
RESEARCH

RE: MILITARY EMPLOYMENT IN RHODESIA

Rhodesia is a relatively small landlocked nation located in south-central Africa. The land is rich in natural resources and natural beauty. It consists largely of a wooded highland plateau. The population numbers over five million of which less than 300,000 are of European descent, mainly British and Scottish. This minority caucasian group is economically and politically dominant.

Africa's emerging black nations generally despise Rhodesia and leaders like Amin Dada of Uganda and Machel of Mozambique pledge themselves to the destruction of the white nation on the black continent. Any black nationalist group who can put soldiers or terrorists in the field against Rhodesia can count on Chinese and/or Russian weaponry. Currently the black nationalists are fighting amongst themselves in Angola to the north-west. This situation will change as soon as one group becomes dominant. From Mozambique, to the east, infiltration of Rhodesia has begun, without success.

Rhodesia, then is being threatened, and is in danger. In spite of the overwhelming numerical odds against them, the Rhodesians hold some pretty good cards. 1)The determination and will of a whole people pulling together, sacrificing together, and refusing to give up one inch of Rhodesian territory. 2)One of the best light infantry forces in the world. They are well trained, aggressive, and highly mobile. 3)Their enemies, on the other hand, are poorly trained, superstitious, indecisive, and generally lack the spirit to fight an enemy who fights back. In spite of these advantages the overall situation is still grim and Rhodesia needs more troops.

If you are relatively young, fit and strong, an experienced military man or willing to receive training, you would be most welcome in Rhodesia. You should also be tough and smart enough to operate on your own or in small groups. The tour of duty is three years after which you would be welcome to stay on. Good land is inexpensive. The Rhodesians are a friendly and hardy English speaking people.

Your life in Rhodesia will be dangerous. You could be killed or maimed in combat. If captured, you could expect torture, mutilation, and death. Bilharzia, an African parasitical disease, and Malaria can be contracted. A tour of duty in Rhodesia is a serious matter to be gravely considered.

If you wish to apply, you must write a letter to: MAJOR N. LAMPRECHT, ARMY HEADQUARTERS, PRIVATE BAG 7720, CAUSEWAY, SALISBURY, RHODESIA. Your letter will require a 26¢ Air Mail stamp. Tell him about your interest and qualifications and he will contact you. No prior military experience will not disqualify you.

You may want to write the BRITISH SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE, RECRUITER, BOX 8007, CAUSEWAY, SALISBURY, RHODESIA. They will pay \$1600 per month (American) to a man capable of leading long-range patrols against terrorists in rugged terrain. They have already hired several Americans in this capacity. The pay scale of the Rhodesian Army is very low because they are very poor; something like \$3,000 per year.

You will please note that I am not recruiting for Rhodesia, nor do I represent them in any way. I receive no financial assistance from them and I do not recommend that you accept this dangerous employment. I am sending you this letter for your information only.

MERCENARIES IN THE MID-EAST

FRANK RENZI
BOX 4682
LONG BEACH, CA.
90804

If you wish a similar information letter concerning jobs in the Middle East I can send you one for a fee of \$3.00.

How Many More?

Two weeks ago Workers' Power published a letter exposing the recruitment of U.S. ex-servicemen for the war in Angola.

Efforts by the CIA to recruit mercenaries to fight against the liberation struggle in Angola were widely publicized and exposed. But few people realize that the same thing is going on for the war that has started in Zimbabwe.

This letter was received by the same ex-Green Beret who turned over to us the letter recruiting mercenaries for Angola. Only the U.S. military or the CIA (which was heavily involved with the Green Berets, or "Special Forces") could have supplied his name to the agency that sent these letters.

That means that the files of the United States military are the source for the mailing lists compiled by the mercenary recruiters. How many U.S. soldiers are already in the pay of the fascist butchers of Rhodesia? □

"To my knowledge and the knowledge of this International union, there has been no report surfaced about organized crime entering our union. If there was, I'd know about it. And you can rest assured I'd eliminate it."

—Frank Fitzsimmons, President, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, August 13, 1975

So much for the lies - Here's just a part of the story behind

How The Mafia Runs The Teamsters



Frank Matula of Los Angeles, International Trustee from Local 396. In 1950, he admitted to his Local "Sugar Joe" Peskin, main supplier of sugar to Al Capone's bootlegging operations. Matula and Peskin ran juke box and garbage rackets, using the Teamsters union to force companies to join Matula's employers' association! Went to jail for perjury. Was released when Hoffa appointed him International Trustee, to testify on the honesty of the union's books.



Roy Williams of Kansas City, just appointed to head Central States Conference. Charged with embezzlement of union funds, false book-keeping entries. His predecessor as head of Kansas City Teamsters, Floyd Hayes, turned states' evidence and was shot down by masked gunmen. Thefts from the inter-state commerce are particularly high, especially of guns. In Kansas City, mobsters get jobs at trucking companies where they forecast the arrival of freight.



Louis Peick, Chicago Local 705. Just moved up to Vice President. His local forced gas kickbacks to the union. They also had to join the Illinois Gas Retailers Association, run by a former 705 BA. Although 705 was found guilty of "sheer racketeering" for these practices, Peick was appointed by Mayor Daley to the Chicago Police Commission.



Robert Holmes, International Vice President from Detroit Local 337. This local has broken strikes, signed backdoor agreements and engaged in top down organizing. One of its officers, Morris Coleman, owns a juke box machine company. The local bought the estate of Chicago gangster Paul "The Waiter" Ricca for ostensible use as a union training center.



Harold Gibbons, Local 688, St. Louis. An International Vice President only because Frank Fitzsimmons can't strip him of office until the union's next convention. Gibbons is considered the Teamsters liberal and resident intellectual. He too cooperated with gangsters. He had Barney Baker on his staff when he headed the Central Conference. Baker was an associate of John Vitale, head of the St. Louis mob, and had been involved in waterfront racketeering in New York.

By Ken Brown

On November 9, 1975 Frank Fitzsimmons spoke at a \$100 a plate dinner at the Americana Hotel in New York attended by 1,600 people to honor Anthony Provenzano.

Asked if he was going to appoint Provenzano ("Tony Pro") an International Organizer, Fitz said, "I think Tony is a wonderful man, and if I need an organizer, or I need him, I'll appoint him, that's all."

Tony Pro was the head of Union City, New Jersey Local 560 with 10,000 members and the New Jersey Joint Council 73 with 75,000 members. By 1963 his salary was \$93,000 a year, plus a Cadillac and expense account.

Besides his swank home in Hillandale, Florida, Provenzano has another home in Clifton, New Jersey, given him by a Carlstadt trucking company.

Tony Pro is a captain in the Vito Genovese gang. In 1959 shotgun blasts were fired at a garage where anti-Provenzano union members were meeting. In 1961 Anthony Castellito, Tony Pro's last obstacle to control of Local 560 drove away in his Cadillac. He was never seen again.

Later, Walter Glockner, a steward at Dorn Transportation where Tony Pro extorted \$8,600, was shot to death in front of his Hoboken home.

Former IBT President Jimmy Hoffa was scheduled to meet Tony Pro the day he disappeared. Hoffa told Teamster official Daniel Sullivan in May 1974, "Tony Pro threatened to pull my guts out or kidnap my grandchildren if I continued to return to the presidency of the Teamsters."

Frank Fitzsimmons was the main beneficiary of Hoffa's disappearance. No wonder he views Tony Pro as a good friend.

Tony Pro's brother Angelo is vice president of Eastern Freightways. This company has been illegally increasing its 46% holdings in Associated Transport, the 13th biggest trucking company in the country. Associated lost \$16 million in 1975 due to the pillage by Eastern.

Seventy-four former drivers of Associated are suing because Salvatore Provenzano, as head of Joint Council 73 when Tony Pro

was in jail, ruled that they had to go to the bottom of the seniority list instead of being dovetailed.

Tony Provenzano is only one of the Teamsters International Vice Presidents involved in organized crime. Fully half of the top International officers are either directly involved or condone labor racketeering.

ROBBING THE UNION

In February 1973 Frank Fitzsimmons and the mob planned a fabulous scheme to rip off the Central States Welfare Fund. This was done by taking a 10% cut of a \$1 billion a year Health Plan to be run by People's Industrial Consultants of Los Angeles, a Mafia front.

On February 8, Fitzsimmons met with Peter Milano, Sam Sciortino and Joe Lamandri of the Los Angeles Mafia in Palm Springs. On February 12 he met with Lou Rasanova of the Chicago mob, who demanded a cut for the Chicago gang.

A few hours later Fitz boarded Air Force One and flew with Nixon to Washington.

Working Teamsters pay tens of millions every year to support these schemes. The Central States Pension Fund with \$1.4 billion in assets is the big prize that the mob is interested in. It is the largest private fund of its kind in the world.

The mob has been draining the \$2 billion that has gone into it over the last 20 years. In 1972 \$195 million was delinquent. By denying benefits to 1000 members for a year, the fund can make up the loss of \$3.6 million.

A teamster has to prove eligibility and many small companies have gone out of business and left no records. Michael Talatinick worked for Eastern Major Dispatch of Ohio many years ago. He presented his company ID card and a photo of himself driving an Eastern Motor truck to the Central States fund to no avail.

Talatinick was told he had to submit affidavits from fellow workers and supervisors on the number of hours worked per year. One Teamsters local denied he was a member even though he had a membership card and dues receipt.

Of course, the money robbed from Teamsters who work a lifetime for pension benefits does not just disappear. It pays for

Frank Fitzsimmons himself is up to his neck in mob activities. Bally Machine Corp of Chicago is the largest slot machine and vending machine company in the country. Its main owner up to 1965 was mob boss Gerardo Catena. Now syndicate figures from around the country own it, giving them control of a conglomerate, multi-

national corporation. Bally Machine stockholders also include Frank Fitzsimmons, William and Jackie Presser, and Nixon's Attorney General William Saxbe.

So Tony Pro isn't alone in Teamster Union racketeering. He has plenty of pals and partners to go in with him.

activities of people like Tony Provenzano.

Eighty per cent of the freight workers in Tony Pro's Joint Council 73 have contracts which fall below standards of the Master Freight Agreement.

The employers pay well to Provenzano to preserve these conditions. Pitman Trucking Company paid him \$2500 a year to ensure labor peace. Beckins Motor Transport of Woodbridge, New Jersey pays its workers \$3 an hour below scale.

Two Guys market pays \$2 below scale. It also just happens to carry mob-promoted detergent pushed by Local 863 secretary treasurer Joseph Pecora, another of Tony Pro's gangster pals.

PARTNERS IN FRAUD

The defrauding of the Pension Fund goes on with the cooperation of the employer trustees. All trustees get \$400 a day for Fund business.

There is probably more racket-

teering in the 2 million member Teamsters union than any union in America. It works in a dozen ways:

- Gangsters penetrate locals or enlist officials to carry out their schemes. By using the union's power they can demand extortion payments, payoffs for labor peace and collections for normally legitimate activities like yearbooks and union papers.

- The union can be used as an enforcement arm to force employers into a mob-organized cartel in the juke box, garbage or gasoline industry.

- Trucking companies are a convenient place for theft of weapons, alcohol, air freight or even heavy equipment.

- Members can be forced to make payments for jobs as well as employers. And the union can be milked through excessive salaries, phony expenses, and the robbing of pension, health and welfare and pension funds.

Every penny of this money is the sweat and broken health of Teamster members.

We Need The Truth

Workers' Power believes that every member of the Teamsters Union should know the full facts about the extent of gangster involvement in their union. The truth is that the mob is a major power in the Teamsters. It may well actually dominate the International Executive Board and the Central States Conference.

The reason rank and file IBT members need this information is simple. They are the only ones who will ever do anything serious about it. No matter how many reforming Congressmen and crusading prosecutors come along, they will never do anything more than scratch the surface and get cheap publicity.

No one whose power depends on the capitalist system—whether they are gangsters in the union, or chairmen of Congressional committees—want a Teamsters Union that uses its enormous power for the needs and under the control of its own members.

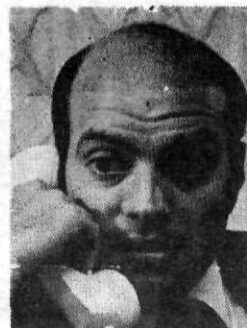
Many IBT locals are run outright by racketeers. Yet there is also another side—many, many locals remain untouched by this blight. The rank and file movement will have to get a firm hold on the healthy part of the union, in order to cut away the cancer inside the union in the future. The point is, very simply, we've got to know the disease in order to cure it.



William Presser, Cleveland, International Vice President. Indicted twice for taking payoffs and embezzlement, pleaded guilty to one charge. Got started in the 1940's when he set up a juke box cartel and used his Teamster local to force restaurants to buy juke boxes from the cartel. His Joint Council 41 man promised labor peace to employers who bought advertising in Ohio Teamster Journal. Today, at the height of his power, he actually runs the International Union and pension fund while Fitz plays golf.



Irwin Kahn, who received \$200 million in Teamster Pension Fund money to develop San Diego real estate. Kahn was then bought out by Morris Shenker, Hoffa's famous lawyer, who received an additional \$90 million loan in Teamster Pensions for San Diego property, has known business dealings with underworld figures, and also—by the way—was appointed chairman of the St. Louis commission on Crime and Law Enforcement.



Allen Glick, 33, has no business history. But he received \$160 million from the Teamster pension fund. The purpose: to finance the mob's interest in Nevada loan sharking, illegal gambling and taking an undeclared percentage of gambling revenue. Glick is a front for bookmaking king Frank Rosenthal, #3 Chicago mobster and juke loan sharker Anthony Spilotro, and top New York gangster Anthony Salerno.

Finally Got The News

Dear Workers' Power,
I used to read the Guardian for news of the movement and for information on revolutionary struggles throughout the world. I now find that Workers' Power is the greatest revolutionary paper in America, the best source of information for the movements I'm interested in.

Perhaps it's because you're involved in making news as well as writing about it. Your coverage of the rank and file movement in the Teamsters is the most exciting, informed reporting that I have seen in years. It gives me the greatest hope that the movement is being reborn again.

The stories are fresh, with all the feeling of people who are involved. It's a hell of a lot different from the stale sectarian-

ism of the rest of the left. Keep up the good work of building the American revolution—but also keep up your defense of the workers of Portugal, and the struggle against imperialism in Angola.

Workers' Power Gets Around

Dear Workers' Power,

I absolutely thrive on getting Workers' Power weekly. It's the greatest paper around and I'm using it with the truck drivers and others here.

Joan McBride
Belfast, Northern Ireland

Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You

What you like about the paper—and what you don't. What you think of the political ideas we present, and your comments on problems facing working people.

But please be brief.

Write to: Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203.

Who Is "Big Nurse"?

Dear Workers' Power,

I enjoyed the review of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" in Workers' Power #150. The movie is certainly worth seeing and points out the dehumanizing nature of capitalistic society.

I strongly feel, however, that the review should also have pointed out the very sexist basis of both the book and the movie.

In choosing to have "Big Nurse" symbolize the agent of repression in the asylum, Kesey's work somehow suggests that it is women who are the agents of oppression in our society rather than an oppressed group.

The inmates are all male, and part of the horror we are supposed to feel for their situation stems from the idea that they are controlled by a woman!

"Big Nurse" is the epitome of the stereotype of the "castrating bitch," designed to strike terror into the heart of any full-blooded American male like McMurphy. After all, we are supposed to have sympathy for McMurphy who is

I'm proud that there is a workers' group in America that fights for working people and socialism throughout the world.

Frank Mikaly
Chicago

Believe It Or Not



"Hello, Money..."

Dear Workers' Power,

Due to the economic situation under capitalism, I was recently forced to take a job as a salesman.

A major part of training was spent talking about how great America was compared to other countries and that we should not complain or fight for better lives.

No mention was made about how the cost of living had risen so high our actual spending power was returned to that of the middle sixties.

My first day actually on the job we sang songs about making money and how wonderful our product was. Below is one sample of the songs (there are 97 of them) and it is sung to the tune of 'HELLO DOLLY.'

Hello Money, well hello Money.
It's so nice to have you just for me to spend.

We love your smell, Money
We can tell, Money;
You're still foldin',
You're still golden,
You're still going strong.

So watch those sales, fellas;
It's gonna be in bales,
fellas.

Money is what I wanna make
Money is what I wanna make,
Money is what I wanna make today.



In conclusion I would like to commend you on your excellent job of presenting news and information the bosses and ruling

class are too paranoid to print.

Yours in struggle,
Berry Bummed

put in prison on a charge of statutory rape—the movie never questions what lies behind his conviction.

If we have any doubts about where Kesey stands politically, his second novel (which followed "Cuckoo's Nest") is entitled

"Sometimes a Great Notion." In that book, he focuses on a logging family which breaks a loggers' strike. He celebrates them as heroes and individuals in the American tradition.

When the Chief throws off his chains in "Cuckoo's Nest," I

cheered, too. But we need to remember that true liberation will involve both men and women, and that freedom will free us from stereotypes as well.

Tom H.
Tiffin, Ohio

Woodcock: You Call This Solidarity?

Dear Workers' Power,

Auto workers might be interested to know that UAW President Leonard Woodcock told last month's UAW skilled trades conference he will visit Spain at the end of May.

He says, "The people there have to see other faces of America, rather than just the CIA."

He says he will go to support the demands of Spanish Chrysler workers that Chrysler negotiate wage increases in defiance of the fascist government's wage controls.

Woodcock will also meet with Spanish government officials to convince them to allow legal political parties. He will be representing the views of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

IMF represents the big U.S. and European capitalists who want the Spanish regime to streamline itself with a few reforms.

There's no doubt that the UAW could give a tremendous amount of help to Spanish auto workers who face firings, beatings and even imprisonment in fighting for basic union rights. But not the



Last summer, the dying Franco regime ordered the execution of five Spanish political prisoners. In Rome and other European cities, mass demonstrations of workers took to the streets against these murders. Leonard Woodcock, President of the UAW in this country, did nothing to organize demonstrations against Franco's fascist butchers.

way Woodcock is doing it.

The UAW could have led a massive movement against the U.S. government's re-negotiation

of air bases and economic ties with the fascist rulers of Spain. It could be fighting for U.S. unions to refuse to handle goods going to

the regime.

It could give its public support to an all-out struggle to free political prisoners, including

mass demonstrations against Spanish consular, tourist and trade offices in this country.

But the UAW leadership has done none of these things.

Instead, Woodcock will meet in carpeted offices with Spanish Chrysler and government officials, telling them ever-so-gently how pleased his capitalist masters back home would be to see a snail's pace political reform in Spain.

All this is totally and deliberately separated from the real power American workers could use to support their Spanish brothers and sisters.

From Spain, Woodcock will go on to visit Portugal. He's not going at the invitation of any workers there, but of Mario Soares, leader of the Portuguese Socialist Party.

Soares directed the attack on workers' control in Portugal and created the conditions for the current right-wing political offensive in Portugal.

There's no doubt that Woodcock and Soares will get on famously. The language of sell-out is the same the world over.

Franklin Richards
Detroit



Where We Stand

WE OPPOSE

• Capitalist Exploitation

We live under the capitalist system. The wealth produced by working people is stolen from us by private employers. They prosper from our labor.

• Capitalist Control

Capitalists use their profits only to make more profits. When they need fewer workers, they create unemployment. When they need more money, they speed up work, downgrade safety conditions and raise prices. The capitalist system spends little on health care, a clean environment, or social services, because these things make no profit.

• Oppression

Capitalism needs inequality—because it needs profits, it can't provide enough for all. So it gives some groups of people worse jobs and lower pay, and labels them inferior. In particular, capitalism locks black people into the bottom of society, and spreads racist ideas to keep them there and justify it. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the workforce when it is not at work, including children, who are too young to work. Women who work for wages have two jobs.

• Capitalist Government

The government serves the capitalist class. Its only purpose is to protect the private profit system. It protects its interests abroad through economic control of other countries, spying, and wars.

• Bureaucratic Communism

Russia, China and the countries with economies like theirs are also oppressive class societies, run by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats. They are not socialist and must be overthrown by the working classes of those countries.

WE SUPPORT

• The Rank and File Movement

The unions protect workers from their employers. But today's unions are run by privileged officials who sell out because they support the capitalist system. They want labor peace not labor power. We support the struggle for rank and file control of the unions.

• Liberation From Oppression

We support the struggles of every oppressed group to end its oppression: the struggle for equality and justice by blacks, women, native Americans, and all oppressed people. Support from the entire working class movement will make both these struggles, and that movement, stronger.

• Socialism

Society should be run by the working class. The wealth produced by those who work should go to fill people's needs, not to private gain.

• Workers' Revolution

But the capitalist class will not give up their rule and profits voluntarily. Socialism can be created only when the working class seizes control of the factories and makes their own government. The working class will rule democratically because it can own society's wealth only together.

• Internationalism

The struggle for socialism is world wide. Nations fighting to throw out foreign rulers must have the support of the international working class as in Angola today. So must every struggle of working people to end their oppression, as in Portugal today, and in Russia and Eastern Europe.

• Revolutionary Party

The most class conscious members of the working class have the responsibility to lead the struggle toward socialist revolution. To do this they must build an organization to put their consciousness into action and make their leadership effective.

• International Socialists

The I.S. is an organization of revolutionary socialist workers. We are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member to achieve them. Join with us to build the I.S. into a revolutionary party, to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.

JOIN US

If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and would like more information, or, would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to: INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.

Name

Address

Union

NY Teachers Union Splits

by David Miller

NEW YORK—The March 4 convention of the 200,000 member New York State Teachers Union (NYSUT) was a disaster.

Besides failing to come up with any answers to the murderous crisis facing teachers in New York City and State, the convention resulted in a split in the union.

Since 1971, NYSUT has been affiliated with both national teachers' unions: the AFL-CIO affiliated American Federation of Teachers, and the independent National Education Association (NEA).

Merger on the national scale between AFT and NEA is badly needed. With 10% of all teachers today unemployed, and the number growing rapidly, a powerful unified teachers' union is needed to win federal aid to save the schools. We also need a fight to win a national collective bargaining bill, with the right to strike, for teachers.

NYSUT's double affiliation was a step toward that merger. But the national AFT and NEA leaderships have been waging a struggle over which of them would dominate the merged organization.

That intensifying struggle brought on the split in New York State. The NYSUT leadership, controlled by AFT President Albert Shanker, pushed through a motion to dissolve the affiliation with NEA.

About 20,000 teachers, some 10% of NYSUT membership, are likely to immediately break away to the NEA or go independent. Jurisdictional warfare between AFT and NEA will step up. The split will block united teacher action and badly set back the teacher union movement statewide and nationally.

STATEWIDE CRISIS

The New York State crisis worsens every month. Following the defeat of the New York City teachers' strike in the fall, school boards are defeating local strikes, breaking contract agreements and demanding wage freezes.

Democratic Governor Hugh Carey proposed \$110 million in school aid cuts. The legislature is consid-

WHAT'S ON

BOSTON—Sunday, March 28. "Socialism and the International Workers' Movement." John Charlton, leading member of British International Socialists. 7 Temple St., Cambridge (off Massachusetts Ave., one block north of Central Square), 7:30 pm. Admission \$1.00.

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Hell

The boxes were coming down the conveyor belt at a rate of two or three per second. Sometimes they would move past me in bunches or disorganized heaps.

My job was to flip them so that the labels were showing. I was also expected to stack together in separate piles those boxes that belonged in the same trucks.

But my main job was pulling off those boxes that belonged in my truck and shoving them down the rollers behind me.

As I flipped the boxes, the towns from where they were coming registered in my mind: Louisville, Kentucky... Uniontown, Pa. ... Portage, Pa. ... Macon, Ga. ... Langleth, Pa. (that's mine)... Laughlinton, Pa. ... Selma, Ala. ...

Suddenly my supervisor started to approach me. He was young—only twenty years old—but he was still the boss.

He said, "Let's go. It's time for our TLA."

QUESTIONNAIRE

He took me upstairs to an office, instructed me to fill out a questionnaire, and then left the room. I looked at the questions and immediately decided that they were not worth answering.

When the supervisor returned and looked at the empty page in front of me he asked, "Aren't you going to fill it out?"

"No, I really don't want to," I replied.

With a startled look on his face he attempted to dispel my fears by saying: "Maybe you don't understand what this is all about."

"This is a TLA, which stands for Talk, Listen, and Act. I'm not going to write up a report so nothing you say can hurt you."

I thought about what he said and responded, "I guess I could believe you when you say nothing will be used against me. It's possible that what you say is the truth, but it's also possible that it is not the truth."

"In any case, that's not why I don't want to answer the questions."

"I just feel that the company doesn't really care about what its employees think so there's no use in making any suggestions."

For some reason he now seemed ill at ease with me and asked, "Why would management spend all this money on these TLAs if it didn't care how its employees felt?"

PACIFY

"It's just to pacify us," I replied. "It's to appease us by making us think they're listening to us when they're really not. It's also good public relations."

"But how did you come to feel this way about the company," he asked.

"Through the experiences I've had and things I've seen happen since I started working here."

"Could you give me an example?"

"Yes I could," I replied. I was actually starting to enjoy my TLA. "I used to work inside the trucks on the Primary and I'd made friends with quite a few unloaders, many of whom had not yet made their 30 days seniority requirement."

"They were all hired around the same time and it was prearranged so that none of them could make seniority before November 1."

"This day is the beginning of your 'moratorium' period during which no one is permitted to make the union and get job security."

"Well it just so happened that a guy named Keith (who used to eat with us during our fifteen minute lunch period) would have made 30 days on Friday, October 29, but he was told not to come in that day. He would have to stay on the hook until January."

On A Conveyor Belt

- WHY?

BILL PAYNE worked until recently for United Parcel Service (UPS) in Pittsburgh. He attended a "Talk, Listen and Act" session sponsored by management, where workers were supposed to answer questions about their job. This inspired him to write a story based on his own experience with "TLA."

When he circulated it among his fellow employees, they said the tale should be published. Workers' Power agreed. No matter where you work, you will recognize in this story the critical difference between the way "supervision" and employees view work.

"But he came in anyway on Friday and a friend advised him to punch his time card, jump in a truck, and pretend he forgot to stay away from work."

HONESTY

"But instead he decided to be honest. He went upstairs to talk reasonably with his supervisor. They told him to go home."

"Naturally, when he came back to work on Monday he was upset and went to talk to the personnel manager. She assured him that he would make seniority in January and told him not to worry about it."

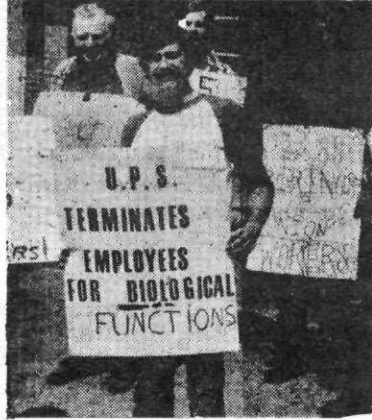
"But a few weeks later Keith disappeared along with almost all of the rest of the workers still on 'probation.'"

"They were all 'terminated' and thrown back into the streets to search for other crummy jobs."

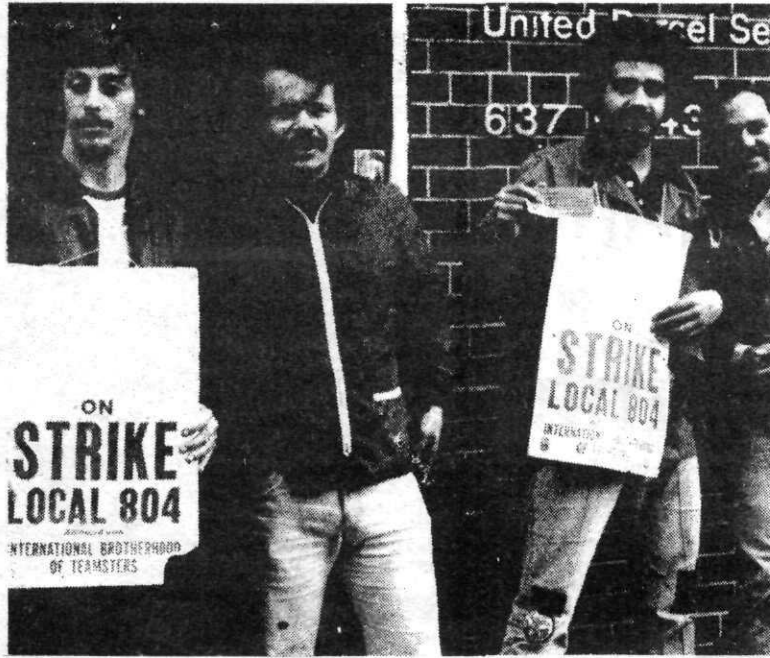
When I finally stopped talking he tried to explain. "Over in personnel they've been developing a 'tighter screening procedure.'"

"In other words," I replied, "after those people had put in hundreds of hours of hard work you decided that they weren't good enough for United Parcel Service."

"Well you must admit: There are a lot of bums in this building," he said. He was using fairly strong



United Parcel Service is well-known for the never-ending harassment of its employees, as this picket in Boston testifies (above). As a result, UPS has some of the angriest and most militant workers around (right).



quote five hours.

"This happens because you can send us home whenever you wish."

"Secondly, if our laziness cuts into the company's profits, why should we care?"

"And finally, why should we care about this company when we have no control whatsoever over what goes on during our working hours?"

comment on a particular question. I said, "Take this last question, for example. The one about safety."

(It is significant that the only question that mentioned safety appeared last on the questionnaire. You have heard the expression "Safety First" from Public Relations offices. Outside of these offices "Safety Last" is closer to reality.)

I continued: "The question reads 'Why is it important that all employees be safety-conscious?' The question places the responsibility and blame for accidents on the workers and not on management."

"Every accident I've heard about has been the company's fault," I said.

"The flow is too fast, boxes pile up and we have to climb all over the piles risking injury."

"As a matter of fact, some guy I know was climbing over a pile just yesterday when he fell and hurt his back. It bothered him the rest of the day, but he continued working."

COLD WINDS

"Another unsafe condition in the building is the space that is left between the truck and the dock."

"When it's five degrees outside the wind rushes in on your back, but since you're wearing your coat the front side of you is sweating."

"Of course it doesn't cost the company anything when someone gets sick as a result of the incoming frigid wind. The bedridden worker finds it impossible to prove that his or her case of pneumonia is job-related."

"The company conveniently avoids paying injury benefits."

"But why am I telling you all this? Nothing will be done about it anyway."

My "supervisor" did not have an answer for me.

After a few seconds of silence he confronted me with another question.

"Do you hold such hard feelings against this company that you have no desire to work your way up into other positions?"

"Are you asking me if I'd ever want to be a supervisor?"

"Not just a supervisor," he said. "I'm talking about being a manager, or even just a full-time worker."

"I would like to get on full time with full wages and benefits, but the company won't let me. It's cheaper for them to hire part-timers."

"The only people associated with UPS who fit this description [of bums] are the stockholders—the people who receive all the profits by doing no work at all."

words.

BUMS?

Calling someone a bum is to imply that he or she is a parasite—one who is idle or loafs and lives off someone else's work.

The only people associated with UPS who fit this description are the stock holders—the people who receive all the profits by doing no work at all.

I controlled my anger and calmly replied, "These people you call bums may have been good workers when they started. But it's very hard not to become disillusioned here at UPS."

"First of all, the faster we work the less money we make. If we rush and finish the day's assignment early, we end up with four hours pay instead of our already inadequate

"We have no influence over company policy: all we're permitted to do is to take orders."

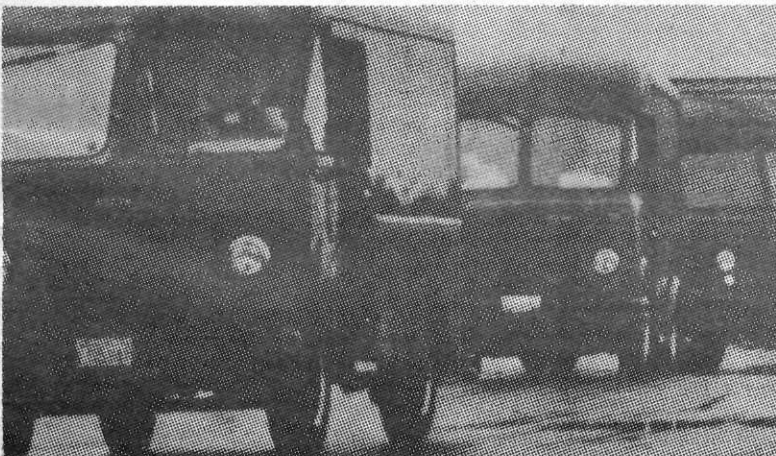
"Even you and the rest of the supervisors have no say in whether or not you want to have these ridiculous TLA sessions."

After a short pause during which I was the object of a bewildered stare, the supervisor repeated his initial question: "So you're not going to fill out the questionnaire?"

When I said no, he asked me if I had bothered to read the questions. I answered affirmatively and said that I considered them inane and childish.

(They were fairly simple questions like "How would the employees help the company provide better service?" and "What do you like about your job?")

I finally gave in and decided to



A UPS workers' dream: "May your trucks turn green and your money turn brown."

"But would it be run as efficiently as the company is now?"

EFFICIENCY

"Under the present system," I explained, "workers don't care. They'll step on packages without a second thought. They'll work slow or take breaks whenever they can get away with it."

"The result is higher prices and poorer service because of damaged merchandise and lost working time. If you call this efficiency, then you've been brainwashed."

"Under an alternative system workers would have control over what happens in this building. They could actually set policy."

"Initially, 'efficiency' might suffer because the flow of boxes through the building would be slowed to a human pace."

"But in the long run, because of democracy in the work place, fewer work hours would be wasted by alienated workers and less merchandise would be thrown or stepped on by the uncaring handlers."

Apparently I had caught the young supervisor off guard and he had prepared no criticism of the alternative system I introduced to him.

UNNECESSARY

"And frankly, I don't think your job is necessary. I believe that the workers in each section could elect someone to perform what few duties you have, such as paper work, or letting the loaders know when boxes are backed up on the rollers of a particular truck."

"But even this problem could be taken care of simply by having the people who pick off the packages yell out whenever they need a loader."

"So you think this building could function smoothly without supervisors?"

"Yes, I do."

"Tell me how this system would work," he said inquisitively.

"Well I certainly couldn't lay out the blue prints of such a system. I just know it would be democratic, unlike the present set-up."

"Also, we would all have to learn how the building operates so that we would all have the ability to come up with innovative ideas."

"We certainly are capable of learning and being creative. Your subordinates aren't as stupid as you think."

BACK TO WORK

When it was obvious that neither of us had anything left to say, we both got up and walked back down to our conveyor belt.

I took my place in front of my assigned truck and started thinking while my hands worked mechanically.

The TLA was definitely a waste in that nothing would come of my suggestions.

But on the other hand, it did serve as a release for my bottled-up feelings of bitterness and frustration. Of course, the bosses are well aware of this function of the TLA and other phony mechanisms where their workers can "let off steam."

But I know that I speak for the rest of the guys along this conveyor belt as well as myself when I say: There is still plenty of steam left inside us.

Goddammit! Here comes a big pile of boxes. Greensburg, Pa.... Connellsville, Pa.... Montgomery, Ala.... Atlanta, Ga....

Only four more hours 'til quitting time...

WORKERS' POWER

A revolutionary socialist weekly, published by the International Socialists.

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MA BELL THREATENS LOUISVILLE STEWARD Local Demands End To Harassment

LOUISVILLE — South Central Bell began a campaign last week to fire newly elected union executive board member, Harold Kincaid.

On Monday of last week, Kincaid was elected to the executive board of Local 10310. He was elected on the United Action slate, in opposition to the leadership of the Local.

On Tuesday, Kincaid was taken into a conference by the District Traffic Manager. He was told he would be fired unless he stopped passing out "unauthorized" material. A personnel entry to that effect was made on his record.

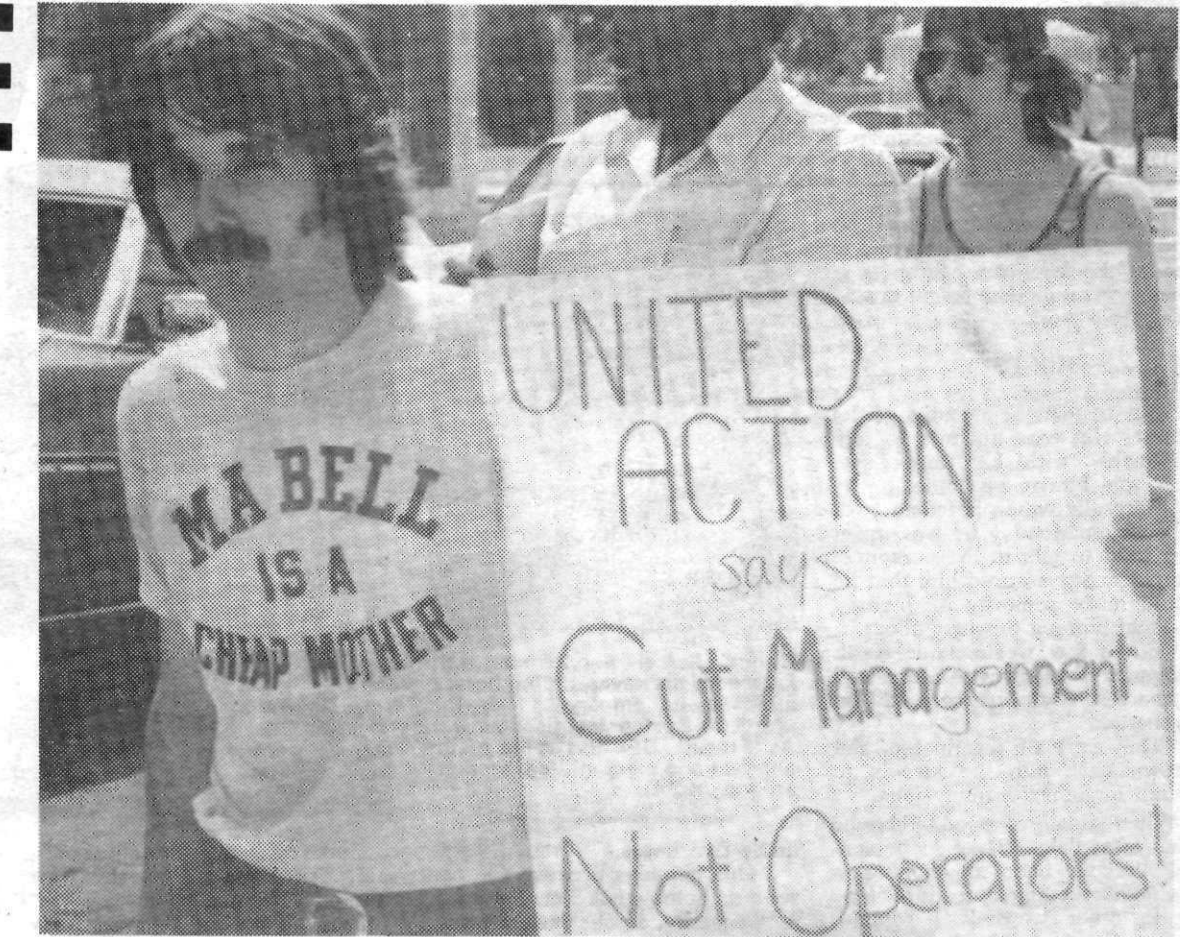
The "unauthorized" material that upset the company was a steward's report. The company was not assigning hours according to the contract, and Kincaid reported

what was being done to stop it. The company claimed Kincaid could only pass out material authorized by Local President, Dennis Dearing. Dearing was called by the company before Kincaid was disciplined. By his own admission, Dearing told the company to "do what you have to do."

STOP ORGANIZING

The company, with the approval of the union, is conspiring to silence or fire Kincaid. But their aim is more than that. They want to stop any steward from organizing.

United Action took steps last week to stop the company's attack. They leafletted Thursday's Local meeting to pass the following



Harold Kincaid (above) is steward and CWA local Executive Board member threatened by Bell.

motion: "Be it resolved that the membership meeting of Local 10310 demands that the company stop threatening Mr. Kincaid, remove the entry made against him, and

comply with the law. The President is instructed to express this view to the company by letter."

The motion passed. For the time being, Kincaid is assured of some support against company intimidation. A complaint is also being filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

In the weeks ahead, a serious fight will have to be made to protect the rights of stewards and members to organize against the company. As the UA leaflet put it, "if they succeed in intimidating Kincaid, they will have made a complete joke of our union. We can't allow it." □

What Auto Workers Think Of A Shorter Work Week

Reprinted from NETWORK, Voice of UAW Militants



I dig it! It seems to me it would benefit everybody, the people who are out of work and the people that are working. It would open up job opportunities. I'm working, and with a shorter work week, I wouldn't be turning away no money. We'd be getting the same, but working less.

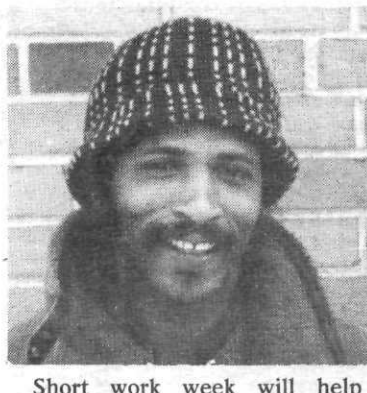
There will also be better jobs available for people because they would need more people to do the better jobs, such as reliefman. I think we can get the shorter work week, but some time and work by rank and file members is needed to put pressure on the union leadership to get it for us.

Scott Fuller
Local 235, Chevy Gear and Axle, Hamtramck, Mich.



I think we should have a shorter work week because it would cut down on the layoffs. The company will not be able to stock pile and then lay us off as they did last year. If we have a shorter work week this will give all the workers an opportunity to have a job. This is especially true of women. Women are the last hired and the first fired. Women work not because we want to buy because we have to work. Quite a few of us are the heads of our household or we are working because the husband makes less than seven thousand dollars a year. If we do not have a short work week this brings hard times for everyone particularly women.

Carolyn Wynn, Dept. 88
Mound Road Engine



Short work week will help people that are unemployed. A short work week would keep us from going through our SUB fund. Without a short work week we are depriving people that do not have jobs. We still have layoffs at Chevy and with a short work week everyone could work.

Ray Dewberry,
Chevrolet Gear and Axle Plant 6

For More On Short Work Week SEE PAGE 3

South Philly UPS Hub Caught Napping

PHILADELPHIA—Last Thursday the night shift workers at South Philly UPS responded to the suspension of one of their co-workers by holding a "sleep-in" in the hub cafeteria.

Full time workers, 29 of them, overslept their lunch break to protest the three-day suspension of a fellow worker, for oversleeping his lunch break. The workers began their nap around 4 a.m. After about ten minutes their rest was disturbed by angry supervisors who ordered them to return to their posts.

As they began to file back to their jobs, one worker became involved in an argument with a supervisor and was fired. When he demanded his pay check before

leaving, police were called and he was removed from the property.

UPS has used this incident to make an attack on the union. The evening shop steward was also fired by supervisors for allegedly organizing a slowdown.

Management hopes to intimidate all the workers by singling out this shop steward.

One worker said there has been an employer offensive on at UPS for months. "There's always a management push right before contract time," he said.

If the Philadelphia hub workers do not allow management to undermine their strength with attacks on their representatives and co-workers, UPS may wish they had never woken them up. □