

Who's Running Teddy Kennedy?

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Black Resistance North and South

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SECCION
EN ESPAÑOL

WORKERS VOICE



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Detroit Uniroyal strikers hang tough. Bommarito and media blackout are no help.

Rubber strikers hang tough vs. Uniroyal, Guidelines

Blacked out of news media

Eight thousand Uniroyal rubber workers are now on the front lines of the workers' struggle. Their orders to the front came as United Rubber Workers head Peter Bommarito announced that Uniroyal had renegeed on a 3-year agreement that would have raised pay and benefits between 30% and 40%.

President Carter saw the Uniroyal contract battle as a time to draw the line and reassert his power to keep workers' wages down. He's desperate because his anti-inflation, anti-worker guidelines have failed so miserably.

A BONEHEAD STRATEGY

Carter and the rubber industry have the Uniroyal strikers in a rough spot. The workers are most upset about the bone-headed strategy of Bommarito.

On February 12, he signed a no-strike agreement with the industry's number 2 tire maker, Firestone. He claimed that this was to the union's advantage because the company agreed to stay out of the mutual aid agreement among the Big 4 (Goodyear, Firestone, Goodrich, and Uniroyal). But the main benefit goes to Firestone, which is scrambling to make up for a massive recall of their defective "Firestone 500" radials.

Bommarito then chose to strike only Uniroyal,

disregarding the lesson of the victorious 141-day strike of 1976. Then the unity of 60,000 URW members shut down much of the tire industry, putting a squeeze on the auto giants and winning the rubber workers' first cost of living plan. This contract brought pay from \$5.50 an hour to over \$8.00 in three years.

Making matters worse has been the rapid growth of non-union tire operations in the South and Southwest. Twenty-five union plants have been shut down in the past decade. Fifty percent of Uniroyal's tire production comes out of its new, unorganized plant in Ardmore, Oklahoma. In fact, fully one half of the rubber industry is now non-union.

Also complicating the rubber workers' fight is the economic weakness of Uniroyal which could afford to pay only 4¢ a share in stockholder dividends last year. Uniroyal also has problems funding its pension plan because there are 13,000 retired workers, compared to only 8,000 on the job now. Uniroyal has even spurred rumors that it may shut down its 1909 vintage Detroit plant, which now employs 1,800.

Also looming is the threat of recession and reduced orders for tires. But the auto industry is not expected to have across-the-board layoffs until after first big push for 1980 models after changeover next fall and winter.

Despite the odds, the Uniroyal workers are hanging tough. They know the company will begin to hurt

(cont. on page 6)

Oil giants to blame for gas shortage

Gov't lends gougers a hand

When truck drivers get mad, they have ways of making people sit up and take notice. They've got something to say about the price of gasoline and fuel, and they started saying it on the weekend of June 2 and June 3. Owner-operators used their rigs to blockade big truck stops near Chicago, Souix City, Tulsa and a dozen other spots around the country.

The movement grew in the days that followed. The CB channels crackled with discussions of the truckers plans and their demands: ample supplies of diesel fuel and at a price that will permit them to stay in business, more like 50¢ a gallon than the 80¢ and up stations are charging now.

The truckers' stand is one everybody can sympathize with, because everybody is facing the same two pronged fuel crisis. In most of the country, big shortages still remain an immediate threat, not yet a reality, but everywhere gas prices are soaring toward and even over the bucka gallon mark. People are mad, fighting mad. They want and need gas. They need it to get to work, to go shopping, to transport their kids, to visit friends. Instead of driving where they want, they are being taken for a ride by the big oil companies and the government.

THE PRICE BOOM

In New York City and Chicago, gas at some filling stations is already over 99.9¢ and plenty of other places are right behind. The big oil monopolies basically decided

(cont. on page 14)



Letters

Dear editor,

We want to bring to the attention of everyone, in this country which talks about human rights, the constant violations against Mexicans. The judges cruelly condemn hundreds of Mexicans daily to 6 months in prison without caring about how our families are going to suffer. They don't have other means of living but the husband who comes with the hope of bettering the economic situation of his family- and the reality which he finds is another, much crueler one.

We find judges who sentence cruelly, without caring that those who suffer are in the majority children. They suffer misery and hunger while their parents serve sentences of 6 months because they didn't have the luck of being born on this side of the border. Not because we Mexicans can be scared with prison but because we believe that all the citizens of this country have to pay for our sustenance unjustly, both the poor and the rich. We came to work, and not to be supported by others, but this is what they are doing when they have us in their jails.

I want to say that we the Mexicans don't take away your jobs, nor did we come to stay here permanently, like others. And if some of us manage to find a good job, this government comes out ahead because the majority

of us can't claim any benefits. What's deducted from every paycheck, like social security, all remains for the benefit of this country. On the contrary we are accused, we are punished, we are told that we take jobs away from many citizens who don't have work. But the truth is that it would not be to the benefit of anyone in this country to work for so few dollars per day because everything is so expensive.

Don't let yourselves be fooled by capitalism. What they want to do is to keep one separated from the other so that we never unite, but we have to realize that in the United States and in Mexico the conditions for the working class are the same and each day that goes by they get worse. I send you these words, and we ask the support of all workers that enjoy their liberty, since we find ourselves in jail only for seeking a better life for our loved ones. We send you greetings from the jail of Pecos, Texas. We want this letter to be printed in English and Spanish because we want people to realize that we are human beings like anybody else and that we don't want to be discriminated against, like we are in these moments when the jails are full of Mexicans. To all the workers of the newspaper La Voz del Obrero our most cordial greetings from the jail of Pecos, Texas.



Mobilize to denounce Right-to-Lifers!

1979 will go down in the records as the year people started fighting back in earnest to defend women's right to abortions. Tens of thousands took to the streets on March 31 in New York (above) and almost 20 other cities. The next step is to confront the reactionary anti-abortion forces directly. On June 23 busloads of men and women from around the country will converge on Cincinnati, Ohio, to protest the national convention of the so-called right-to-lifers scheduled for that day. Many women's organization have endorsed the march and rally which is being coordinated by the Reproductive Rights National Network.

Garment strike shuts small NYC shop

First blow in union drive?

NYC - It was not a very big strike. Twenty workers in the middle of New York City, out for 7 weeks. But the workers at R&F Corp. in the city's Garment Center stuck together, and their action might be the start of a real organizing push. After 7 hard weeks, there was one less non-union shop around.

The garment center is really two centers. One is unionized, mainly in the International Lady's Garment Workers Union (ILGWU). Nearly 100,000 workers are packed into a 1-square mile area in the heart of town. But mixed right in is a thriving non-union garment industry. In particular, union cutters have been hard hit by non-union "cut-up" shops. These have grown to be a good 50% of all cutting rooms.

The ILGWU has by and large sat by while the non-union force grew up around it. They have lost over 100,000 union jobs in the past decade. The union leadership can blame it all on imports, but the truth is that non-union shops are everywhere in New York, many within a block of the union headquarters. And most of the strikes that the ILG runs are nothing

more than a couple of union employees picketing a place while work goes on as usual.

R&F was different. The workers themselves did the picketing. It was 100% effective for 7 weeks, with no work at all going on inside.

By the middle of the strike, one thing became clear. R&F was not going to re-open as a non-union shop. The workers were 100% united that they would either win big or win small, but not lose. Winning big would mean getting the union into R&F. Winning small would mean driving him out of business, with the workers seeking union jobs elsewhere with the help of the union. The bosses' big threat to close down if there was any organizing was met head on.

After 7 weeks, R&F shut down. The union arranged for a union shop to open up in its place, which now employs some of the R&F strikers. Others have found union jobs and still others non union jobs. But even this is not seen as a defeat. There are plenty of lousy jobs out there like R&F was. But now there are a few less. And forcing R&F out of business can be a lesson to other non-union bosses and a call to their garment workers.

SCRAMBLE

FIRST UNSCRAMBLE THE FOUR CLUE WORDS. THE LETTERS IN THE CIRCLES, WHEN UNSCRAMBED, SPELL THE ANSWER.

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THE WORKERS VOICE IS BEGINNING A SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE. IF YOU LIKE OUR PAPER, SIGN UP NOW!

VIET VETS STAND UP

CHICAGO — The week of May 28 to June 3 was declared Vietnam Veterans Week by President Carter. Rounds of applause and another "Thanks, guys" was offered but precious little else. Nothing much was said about the 13% unemployment among Vietnam era veterans or the dwindling GI bill. No solutions to the real problems of veterans were offered. Even when they were on the agenda, it was "the American public" which was blamed for neglecting veterans — not the corporations and government who sent them to Viet Nam in the first place.

The Vietnam Veterans Against the War in several Midwestern cities, however, used the opportunity to lay out how things are, like in Chicago where VVAW leader Bar-

ry Romo spoke at a city-wide celebration attended by several thousand people and put forward the real concerns of vets today. Like jobs and better VA hospital facilities, expanding the GI bill and treatment for the deadly effects of the chemical defoliant Agent Orange. In other cities VVAW marched in Memorial Day parades to put forward their demands.

On June 2 VVAW members from Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Hammond, Indiana and elsewhere came together to demonstrate in Chicago. They spoke about the continuing struggle to get Vietnam veterans what they rightfully deserve. Every vet who stepped up to the open microphone reflected the common sentiment that governed the day — "We can't forgive and we won't forget."

Anti-nuke movement comes of age

On May 6, the anti-nukes movement in the United States came of age. More than 100,000 people poured into the nation's capital on short notice to demand that the government put a stop to the menace of nuclear power.

The lead contingent in the short march from the White House to the steps of Congress was made up of 2,000 Pennsylvanians who live near the Three Mile Island reactor. Carrying signs like "I live in Harrisburg—Ask me how cheap nuclear power is!" they showed the deep and urgent concern felt by most of the protesters. At the same time there was a current of excitement that kept growing as late-arriving buses swelled the crowd.

The march was overwhelmingly made up of young white men and women, especially college and high school students. Most were not members of any organized anti-nuke group and for many it was their first demonstration. They had been jolted into action by the Three Mile Island incident and they wanted to be heard.

The speakers at the rally were a mixed bag. The best reception went to rock musicians who have been outspoken against nukes, like Jackson Browne, Joni Mitchell and John Sebastian.

Some of the most powerful speeches were given by ordinary people who have faced the menace of radiation, like Susan Cassidy, a pregnant woman who had to evacuate her home during the near disaster at Three Mile Island. Another was Orville Kelly who is dying of cancer. He was exposed to atomic fallout in the service as part of U.S. Army experiments during the '50's.

A DANGEROUS PROGRAM

Most of the speakers attacked the greed of the utilities and the big monopolies and the complicity of the government in foisting nuclear power on the country. Some of them, however, put forward a program guaranteed to derail the anti-nuclear movement while it is still young. Both



Since the D.C. march (above), anti-nuke forces have launched hundreds of local actions.

Ralph Nader and Tom Hayden made President Carter as an individual their main target and called for dumping him from office in 1980.

Neither Hayden nor Nader mentioned possible replacements for Carter. California Governor Jerry Brown didn't either, but it was not too hard to figure out who he had in mind. What he did do was call for everybody to rush home and write their Congressmen to demand a moratorium on the construction of new reactors.

As many in the crowd booed Brown as cheered him when he took the mike (and some shouted "Where's Linda?") They either sensed or remembered, those who had been in the anti-war movement, that to steer the struggle

into the "legitimate" channels of the political system, to let politicians become its spokesmen, would be to deprive it of its real power and potential.

That power is already having a major effect. The day after the unexpectedly massive turnout at the Washington demonstration, six of its organizers were hastily invited to the White House to talk with President Carter and some of his top advisers. Jimmy pleaded with them to recognize that they and he are on the same side and that his administration is really concerned with nuclear safety. However, he said, "it is simply not possible" to shut down all the nuclear plants.

IT IS POSSIBLE!

The stronger the anti-nuke movement becomes, the more "possible" it will turn out to be. The state of California has already placed a moratorium on the construction of new nuclear plants. In mid-May, the Tennessee Valley Authority announced that it had suddenly discovered that there will be no need for four of the 14 reactors it has under construction and all work on them will be halted. A jury awarded the family of nuclear martyr Karen Silkwood \$10,000,000 for her death at the hands of the Kerr-McGee uranium processing company.

More than a dozen reactors around the country are now on shutdown for safety checks and studies. Construction has been delayed on even more for the same reasons. The utilities that own them, like Commonwealth Edison in Illinois are screaming bloody murder about lost profits and threatening massive brownouts this summer, demonstrating just how concerned about safety they really are.

The biggest victories won by anti-nuke forces in the aftermath of the Three Mile Island incident didn't even come in the U.S. In West Germany, where the movement is older and more developed, the government has decided that construction of the planned nuclear waste recycling plant in the town of Gorleben is "politically unfeasible." This effectively stops nuclear development there because no plant can legally be built unless there is an assured way to dispose of its waste.

On May 6 in Washington, the anti-nuke movement in this country showed that it has the potential to win victories like the one at Gorleben. The widespread regional demonstrations on June 2 and 3 and the actions planned in the Black Hills and elsewhere in months to come will deal more setbacks to the nuclear monopolies and the government and further increase the ranks of the anti-nuke forces.

STOP THE NUKES!

"NATIONAL SACRIFICE AREA"

Corporations have nearly non-existent taxes, few regulations and a pool of unemployed, non-unionized workers on the reservations. Recent studies show that totally unsafe procedures have left over 90% of Navajo uranium miners with cancer!

The Black Hills are slated to become a "national sacrifice area." For the next thirty years they will be raped by uranium mining and milling, strip mining of coal and the development of massive power generating plants to use the coal and uranium.

The Black Hills will become a barren wasteland, and a deadly one. Already the town of Edgemont, South Dakota, is host to three million tons of sandy tailings, the waste left from the early stages of processing the uranium ore. The tailings retain 85% of their original radioactivity and blow all over the area. Today the cancer rate there is twice that for any other county in the state and "geiger counters go wild," one South Dakota scientist reports.

The Black Hills Alliance is using these grim facts to mobilize among white farmers and other area residents, and overcome tensions between them and the Lakota.

The power companies will require over 2.5 million acre/feet of water a

(continued on page 14)

Indians, farmers, anti-nuke forces unite vs. uranium mining

The Black Hills are not for sale !

RAPID CITY, SD — A big battle is shaping up in the Black Hills of South Dakota this summer. Native Americans of the Lakota (Sioux) tribe are joining with local environmental activists and farmers and with anti-nuke forces from around the country to form the Black Hills Alliance. They're putting out a loud clear message: "The Black Hills Are Not For Sale!"

These Indian lands have been threat-

ened ever since General George Armstrong Custer took his troops into the hills to open them up to a horde of gold prospectors in 1874. He broke the six year old Treaty of Fort Laramie which guaranteed the area to the Lakota people forever. This started the war which led him to his just desserts at the Little Big Horn.

The situation today is remarkably similar. This time it's a uranium

rush and those out to plunder the land are not the Army and individual prospectors, but the federal government and corporate giants like Gulf Oil, Union Carbide, and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Lakota men and women, many of them active in the American Indian Movement and Women of All Red Nations (WARN), point out that all the claims staked by the corporations since uranium was discovered in 1977 have no validity.

Under the terms of an 1868 treaty the Black Hills is acknowledged as the sacred land of their people. Even the federal government has as much as admitted it by offering the Lakota \$17.5 million dollars to drop their claim, an offer which was turned down.

The Lakota know from the experience of other Native Americans that the startup of large scale uranium mining will mean nothing but suffering. More than 90% of all uranium mining in the United States is on Indian land. In 1975 corporations paid an average of 60¢ a pound to the Native Americans for uranium which sold for over \$30 a pound.



Victories decisive where rank and file mobilized

Insurgents gain in steel election

Why did the Inland Steel Company look the other way when a union Local 1010 presidential candidate had his campaign slogans painted all over the furnaces right inside the mill?

Because the campaigner was Wally Hartman, a company union man, and he was out to beat Black reform candidate, Bill Andrews.

In the April elections, it was the McBride company unionists versus the reformers vying for control of the 5,300 USWA locals across the country. The turnout was heavier than usual. There was a lot at stake: the companies keep tight screws on the workers with the no-strike agreement, and Lloyd McBride and his sell-out cronies maintain firm command of the International and many locals. The seven-year-old reform forces are unevenly developed from local to local and have a tough fight on their hands to make their union a fighting one.

VOTES CLOSE, CONTRADICTORY

The reformers held their ground, if somewhat shakily, in the local elections in their home base, Chicago-Gary District 31. It's the biggest district in the union, encompassing one-fourth of the nation's 350,000 basic steel mill workers.

The votes were contradictory and in many cases close. The two biggest locals in the district are still split: at 1010, Inland Steel, the reform forces maintained leadership in a tight vote; at 1014, U.S. Steel Gary Works the incumbent slate beat the reformers badly.

At 1026, Blaw Knox, the reformers won in a close upset; at 6787, Bethlehem Steel's Burns Harbor, the reformers lost in an upset. Reformers lost at Local 1066, Gary Works, and won at Local 12775, NIPSCO.

In a surprise vote at Local 65,

U.S. Steel's South Works in Chicago, militant unionist Alice Puerala beat the Sadlowski-backed incumbent John Chico and McBride-backed Don Stazek for president. Chico, a nominal reformer hooked into the Democratic Party machine, rarely spoke of dealing with the company's attacks and betrayed his promise for a rank and file vote on the local contract. Alice Puerala, a 25-year veteran steel worker and the first woman to head a major steel local, was known as an effective griever and a long-time activist with a militant stance towards U.S. Steel.

The district-wide contradictory voting pattern was reflected within Local 65, where, besides Puerala, the other nine executive board positions went to McBride and independent candidates. And at Local 1033, Republic Steel, Eugene Pughsley, a tough Black unionist, defeated an openly racist candidate for Vice-President.

Outside District 31, reform forces won and consolidated pockets of control. Their biggest victory was the landslide at Local 1397, U.S. Steel's Homestead Works. It was the first major inroad into the Pittsburgh area, right in the backyard of both U.S. Steel and USWA headquarters.

They also made gains in St. Louis, McBride's home district, and maintained leadership in the Minnesota Iron Range (Local 1938) and Baltimore (Bethlehem Steel's Sparrows Point Local 2609).

While momentum is in the hands of the reform forces, they're still in a standoff with the company unionists. A big reason for the close and contradictory nature of the latest local votes was that many reform groups don't have a steady presence, have phased in and out of existence and in many cases coalesced only to serve as an election committee. Many did not struggle to clarify the issues

facing workers in the plants or develop roots in the departments to become a viable force capable of dealing with those issues.

RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT/ REFORM COMMITTEES

The most important victory for the rank and file was at Local 1397 at U.S. Steel's Homestead Works. The Rank and File slate captured all 10 executive board positions by a margin of 2-1, from the entrenched gang that has run the local for 30 years (see May issue of Workers Voice for details)

It's no coincidence that the most decisive vote count was at the local with the most deeply rooted rank and file movement. The Rank and File Caucus was more than an election committee. It ran on its record of fighting the company, which it's been doing since the day it was formed in 1976. They identified issues at the plant, decided what could be done, and sharply hit back at every company attack. Like the "Plant Plague" column in their newspaper, they never shrank from naming names and calling foremen and union hacks on the carpet. By informing, relying on and mobilizing the workers, they showed they were a viable force for dealing with the company, as well as union misleaders.

Nowhere in District 31 is there a reform movement as deeply rooted as at Homestead. Local 1010, the biggest USWA local with 17,000 members, comes the closest. In a tight vote, the 1010 Rank and File slate won all the executive offices but one, and 15 grievance positions, despite a tough bid for a comeback by the gang that ran the local till 1976. Bill Andrews, the only Black president of a large steel local, had to outflank racist

strategies to hang on to his post. In a plant only 25% Black, he had to overcome widespread polarization and gain enough white and Chicano, as well as Black, votes to win.

McBride forces pulled out all the stops to defeat him, including leaflets with racist cartoons of Andrews. And in a barely concealed appeal to racism, McBride backed two slates to manipulate support away from Andrews. One slate was mostly white and headed by Wally Hartman, and the other was mostly Black and Chicano hacks. Hartman (ala the slogans inside the mill) has been a company union man ever since he was VP under the old Lopez gang till '76 and a do-nothing grievance man after that. Most recently, he applied for a foreman position!

The 1010 Rank and File ran on the record they built up over the past three years in office: keeping the members informed, especially through their newspaper; holding a vote on the local contract — the first such vote in the industry; improving the grievance system and using money for fighting grievances instead of for lost time for themselves; putting the safety committee into action; getting the treasury out of debt; and participating in the campaign for the members' right to ratify the national contract. They supported striking iron ore miners, members of the USWA; coal miners on strike against Inland, and most recently, the Newport News shipbuilders fighting for USWA recognition.

The Rank and File is a force at Inland, but has some weaknesses that help explain why the vote was very close—Andrews won by only 700 votes out of 10,800. Rank and File action for the most part starts at the top and filters down from there. The group hasn't fully mobilized the workers on a department-by-department basis in its battles with the company.

The local election returns reflected the widely varied character of the opposition forces in the steel industry. At the other end of the spectrum from 1397 and even 1010 was 1014, U.S. Steel's Gary Works.

The reformers at 1014 are definitely not a movement and barely even an election committee. While the 1010 Rank and File was putting out over 20 leaflets with dozens of people handing them out, the 1014 slate, called the United Steelworkers, put out only a few. Those they printed had little to say. There are issues facing Gary workers: company harassment, abuse of job classification and description, wide disparity in incentive pay, company subcontracting which weakens the union, and internal union issues like rampant favoritism and abuse of dues money. But the reform slate didn't try to sharpen these issues and inform the membership of them. Key members of the slate were rarely seen organizing.

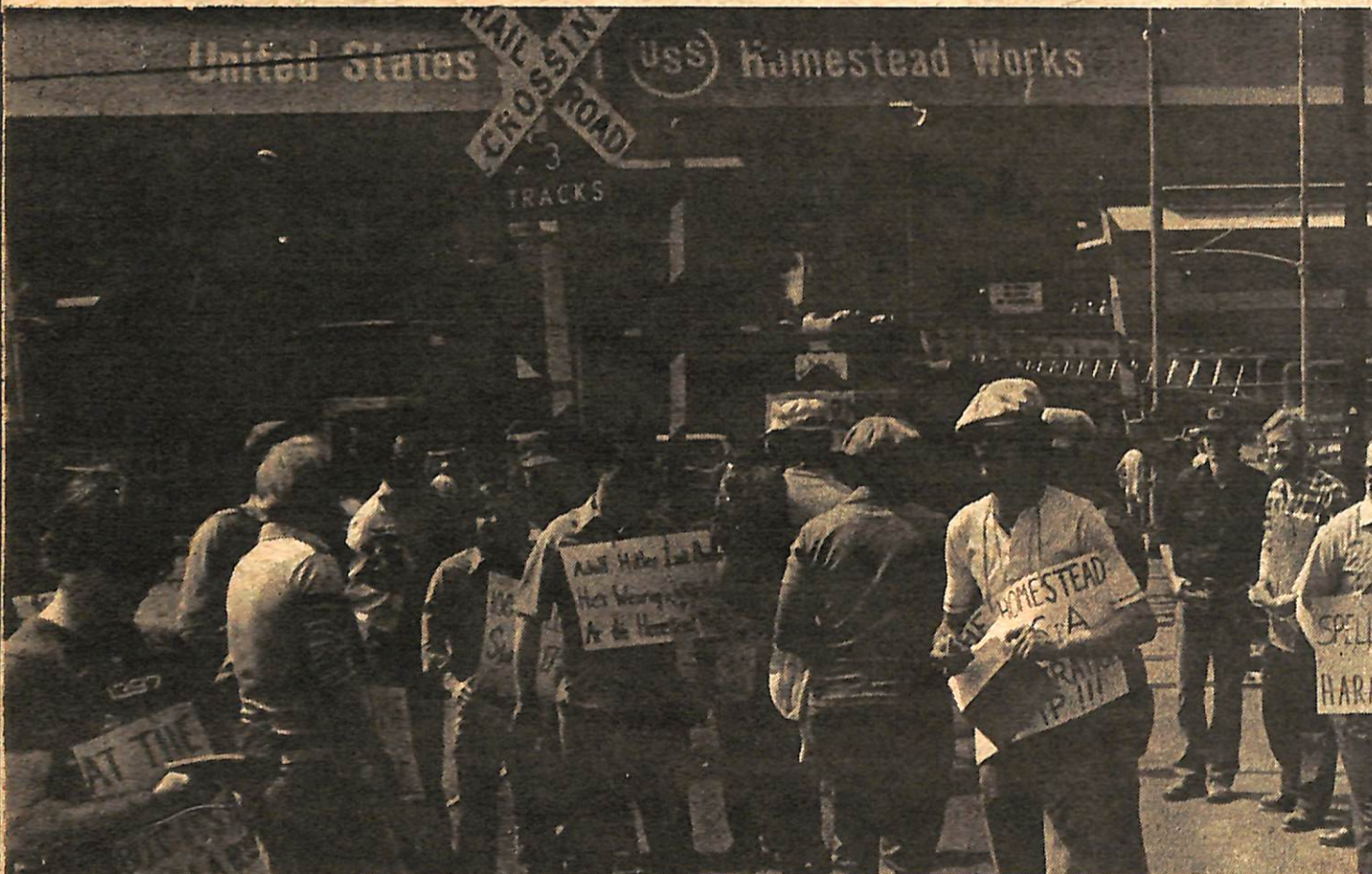
When a large number of workers — 130 — turned out for a United Steelworkers meeting just a few weeks before the election, they were given nothing to do to help!

The reform slate for executive positions was smashed by McBride's man, incumbent Jack Parton, by 3-2. And they won only 1 grievance position, down from a total of 3 in the last election.

UNION BACKING ON THE JOB

Despite the standoff between the

New leaders take on U.S. Steel



Right after the "1397 Rank and File" took control of the Homestead local, U.S. Steel tried to show the workers who's boss. Steelworkers were sent home for having their sleeves rolled up or given 10 days off for lateness. In the picture above, union members hit back by mass distributing the company's own warning slips for workers to use in "writing up their foremen." This plant gate action was part of a press conference against harassment in the mill

since the election victory.

The Rank and File has called in OSHA to follow up every safety violation. One new griever was typical of the new team, filing 20 grievances his first day. The organization also plans to help gear up for the campaign for the Right to Ratify Contracts which will be decided when 5,300 USWA Local Presidents meet in December.

(cont. on page 5)

Sabotage comes to light Meany, McBride block Newport News support

The upper echelons of the United Steel Workers Union and the AFL-CIO stabbed the key Newport News Ship and Drydock strike in the back.

It was recently exposed that they subverted support activities that were in the works to bolster the 3-month long strike.

According to Labor Notes, a newsletter covering the union reform movement, the USWA cancelled a large support meeting for the 800 member unions of the Maryland/Washington AFL-CIO Council. The meeting was initiated by the reform leadership of USWA Local 2609, Bethlehem Steel's Sparrows Point mill in Baltimore, which won approval from the state AFL-CIO President, Nicholas Forano.

After all the unions were asked to

the meeting, Forano cancelled out on orders from USWA District Director Edward Plato. A new letter was sent to all 800 unions calling off the meeting. Plato's boss Lloyd McBride pled ignorance when called by Local 2609's President, Dave Wilson.

Wilson then managed to get a major press conference scheduled with the co-sponsorship of the local AFL-CIO. This was then cancelled by AFL-CIO President George Meany. On top of this outrage, the Baltimore AFL-CIO president was told not to take any action in support of Newport News unless asked to by the USWA International leadership.

This sabotage happened all over the country. For example, Joe Samargia, President of the USWA iron range Local 1938 and leader of the longest major strike in USWA history, faced the same kind of obstruction. In February, soon after the Newport News strike began, he sent Steel Workers President Lloyd McBride a telegram asking that the International officially encourage plant gate collections from throughout the union. The International's bland and belated response was to send locals a letter detailing how donations should be sent, if they were collected!

This sabotage from the top officials was one important reason for the defeat of the key union recognition strike in the non-union South. And their strategy undercut the strike itself—from the first days of the walkout this winter when over 10,000 strikers were told to let strikebreakers cross the picketlines, to the nonstop preaching of reliance on the courts, to the call by union leaders for an unconditional return to work. Strike activists, who faced firings, intimidation, arrests, and a brutal police riot, had already shown they were willing to fight the shipyard company harder than that!



Police attacks couldn't break Stearns strike--it took an inside job.

UMW ABANDONS KY. UNION DRIVE

After 3 years on the picket lines, workers at Blue Diamond's mine in Stearns, Kentucky were sold out in early May. The United Mine Workers Union international leadership abandoned the organizing drive when it agreed to a rigged union recognition election.

The UMW met with Blue Diamond and the National Labor Relations Board and decided on voter eligibility: 110 scabs could vote along with only 60 of the original 184 miners at Blue Diamond.

The vote was held on company grounds May 3. Strikers weren't about to cross their own picket line to vote, and a court injunction kept out "unapproved" voters. The count was hardly surprising: 110-0 for the company union, the Justus Employees Association.

That's how over 100 miners were sold down the Cumberland River by the UMW. In the original union election in 1976, Stearns miners voted 127-57 for the UMW. They were getting organized to fight the company, es-

pecially for safety guarantees in their dangerous work. Only weeks before the vote, a Blue Diamond-owned mine in Scotia, Kentucky exploded twice, killing 26 men.

Despite the '76 vote, Blue Diamond refused to bargain with the UMW, and the miners struck again. They were steadfast through three of the worst winters in years. They fought scabs and jailings. They organized their 24-hour pickets from their bullet-riddled union hall. Their wives formed the Stearns Women's Club to help rally support.

They looked for inspiration to miners who had just won UMW representation in a fight-to-the-death strike at the nearby Duke Power Company mine in Harlan County, Kentucky.

Harlan County could become a beach head for the UMW in eastern Kentucky. At present only 16% of the mines there are organized. That's been the pattern for decades. But that figure is not about to change if the UMW leadership continues dumping militant miners like it did at Stearns.



Striker thanks McBride for the help.

Steel

(cont from page 4)

reformers and company unionists in the USWA, and the unevenness among reform groups, there are signs of motion in the mills which could tip the balance towards a rank and file movement. The seeds of this movement were seen in the course of the elections, from the militant Local 1397 to the scattered but strong rank and file organization that is developing on a department by department basis. These groups of activists mobilized to publish newsletters, elect tough grievors, deal with company attacks, and have grown more tightly knit on and off the job. Organized ferment in the coke plants forced the International to hold a coke workers conference earlier this year.

These groups have the potential for effectively fighting the companies as well as transforming reform committees into a strong rank and file force in the departments that will help the union function on the shop floor. And they also have big national tasks ahead: winning a decent contract in 1980, which involves building the campaign for workers' right to ratify contracts big enough to get it passed at the basic steel local presidents' meeting in January.

Postal amnesty fight still strong Making union officials move

NEW YORK — Postal workers have a special delivery message for the US Postal Service: Amnesty for all fired postal workers now!

They're going to Washington in late June to demonstrate and present petitions with the signatures of more than 30,000 amnesty supporters to Postmaster General Bolger and President Carter.

The fight for amnesty has been waged since last summer. When 4000 postal workers in New Jersey and San Francisco stood in the front ranks against government wage restraints and went on strike, the Postal Service singled out 200 and fired them. So far, under months of pressure from workers, they have hired back 35, a few at a time. They're trying to set an example to clear away rank and file opposition as post office working conditions and contracts get worse and worse. Two hundred were fired, but all postal workers are the target. That's why they're not going to let up on their amnesty campaign until every last one is rehired.

Their latest fight is against a decision by a panel of arbitrators set up by the Postal Service and the



union, APWU. It was a railroad. Arbitrators heard testimony on the firings only from management and postal inspectors. Based on that, they ruled that the USPS was "mandated" to give the maximum penalty to anyone involved in a strike.

To fight this decision, postal workers are mobilizing a broad range of support. They're publicizing the ruling among workers at the large mail centers and organizing for the demonstration in Washington. The rank and file Postal Workers Defense Committee has been active throughout the campaign and is keeping the workers informed through its newspaper P.O.W. (Post Office Worker).

New Defense Committee amnesty t-shirts are a hot item—one worker at the New Jersey Bulk Center sold 60 in one day. In bold letters, the t-shirts demand "Support Fired Workers! AMNESTY NOW!" In the post offices, even in the bulk center where there were lots of firings, many wear the shirts to work, and they've become a symbol of defiance to management. At one center they even used them to harass efficiency experts.

Months of building amnesty support among postal workers in the New York-New Jersey region has produced broader results. The official union hierarchy of the New York Metro local of the APWU, including its president, Biller, who betrayed the workers at the time of their strike last summer, has since taken up the amnesty campaign.

Meanwhile, the APWU national president Emmet Andrews and most others in the national leadership are continuing their sell-out policies and obstructing the amnesty fight. The latest skirmish came at the APWU National Executive Board meeting in Houston in late April. During the meeting, word came in that the ar-

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DODGE WORKERS RALLY TO SAVE 4,500 JOBS

When Chrysler announced in late May its plans to slow its aging Dodge Main assembly plant, 2,500 auto workers took to the streets of Hamtramck, Michigan. The cost-cutting move scheduled for next year will throw 5,000 Detroit-area workers on to the streets and seal the fate of 1,500 already on layoff. The Sunday, June 3 march from the local union hall to a Hamtramck park drew hundreds of Dodge Main workers including dozens of skilled tradesmen who left work to attend the rally in coveralls.

Local union officials and politicians addressed the crowd of workers, community people, and their families. None of the speakers could offer a plan for fighting the shut down. The main solution they had was to call for public financing of Chrysler. When Steve Yogich of United Autoworkers Region 1 expressed a hint of militancy, the crowd responded enthusiastically. Seventy percent of the Dodge Main workers are Black and a big percentage of the rest are Arabs.

Chrysler maintains it will absorb the 5,000 workers at other Detroit area plants. They mention the Jefferson Avenue Assembly Plant where the 1981 Volare and Aspen models are being shifted from Dodge Main and the Warren Truck Plant where light trucks from Jefferson Avenue will be made. But they have said nothing about the 1,500 workers already on layoff.

The proposed shutdown comes at a time of crisis for Chrysler, the fading number 3 auto maker. Chrysler reported losses of \$58 million in the first quarter of 1979. They are saddled with too many of the full size models in these times of scarce, high-priced gasoline and coming recession. Chrysler has already sold its European operation to Peugeot-Citroen of France. They are short of capital to retool for down-sized fuel efficient vehicles that come up to the new pollution standards. Their difficulties reflect the increasing monopolization of the market by Ford and General Motors. GM presently controls nearly 60% of sales.

The debt ridden number 3 auto company has hired the flamboyant former Ford president Lee A. Iococca (for \$33,000 a week) to streamline their troubled corporation. Iococca, who can count the death-on-wheels Pinto as one of his accomplishments, is busy firing advertising agencies and management personnel, devising marketing schemes, and planning new models. He has said he will try to gain a cheaper contract than Ford and GM in this year's negotiations with the United Autoworkers.

Iococca is the swaggering, cigar puffing executive that Chrysler needs, and the ruthless, cost-cutting capitalist that 6,500 Dodge Main workers and the thousand of others in Chrysler's empire are going to have to fight.

Auto workers eye G.M.'s \$3.51 billion

Contract fight heads toward Sept. 15

When auto bargaining talks open in July, it'll be hot in the car plants.

Auto workers have been sweating to keep up with the relentless assembly lines and with the equally rough rate of inflation. They are in no mood to tighten their belts another notch, especially with this year's probable target, General Motors, growing obese with profits.

When the talks start in air conditioned comfort, auto workers will be letting the top union officials know just how hot they are--hot about falling pay, forced overtime, the poverty of the retirees, production standards, job security, SUB guarantees, and threatened take aways in health coverage.

In union meetings and on the shop floor, they've spoken their mind. When union president Douglas Fraser refused to condemn the Carter 7% guidelines, a mood of discontent began brewing in the ranks. As other big unions took stands closer to rank and file pay demands, Fraser finally got on the anti-guidelines bandwagon.

At the April pre-bargaining conven-

tion several thousand active and retired workers demonstrated for a cost of living on pensions plan. Fraser was forced to briefly join the marchers and later proclaim the demand the number one priority.

Wages to keep up with inflation is the most widespread demand. Seven hundred and fifty thousand autoworkers find themselves depending on overtime pay just to keep up with dollar-a-gallon gas, and escalating mortgage rates.

Meanwhile General Motors has used the weeks-on-end of forced overtime to amass \$3.51 billion in 1978 profits, the highest earnings of any industrial corporation ever.

Their pay offer to the workers? A 3% raise, the same as they've given in every contract since 1950. They claim this is all that workers' productivity goes up. But according to a statement by Fraser at the Skilled Trades Conference productivity has gone up over 24% in the last three years.

Union activists propose a 20% raise the first year, wage reopens the



Autoworkers who slave for Big 3 don't intend to be shafted in new contract.

Building auto unity — as easy as ABC?

As the September 14 expiration begins to come into view, activity and organization are only beginning. The most significant efforts have come from the COLA on Pensions Committee, the main force behind the large demonstration at the pre-bargaining convention.

Pete Kelly of the Independent Skilled Trades Councils initiated Auto-Workers for a Better Contract (ABC) to unite tradesmen and production workers for a more effective fight. In the past the trades have been more organized than the unskilled workers in resisting sell out contracts. The tradesmen have more leverage against the companies because their skills are in demand. But because they are a minority in the union, they have gotten the shaft in the past few contracts.

Unfortunately the ABC coalition got bogged down in endless debates. After several months of internal hassling, ABC was not even able to organize for the big COLA on pensions rally. A few small leftist sects were responsible for blocking the ABC coalition from developing plans for a co-ordinated contract campaign.

The Philadelphia Workers Organizing Committee (PWOC) and some of its affiliated groups refused to unite with the priorities of demands actually coming to the fore in this year's battle. They insisted that affirmative action be a central thrust

of the organizing even though they admitted that it is not something that will figure much in this year's negotiations. They said it must be emphasized to educate white workers about racism.

PWOC's opponents in ABC pointed out that battles around stronger seniority rights, job postings, harassment, firings and affirmative action hiring and advancement are more likely to be successful in local contracts and shop struggles.

As PWOC continued to obstruct ABC meetings with abstract debate and empty calls to unite around their principals, it became clear to Kelly and other union officials and activists, many of whom are revolutionaries themselves, that ABC could go nowhere.

Kelly and the ISTC plan to work with rank and file caucuses and locally based committees in a less formal way as the deadline draws closer and as local organizing provides the basis to unite common efforts.

The demise of ABC is unfortunate because co-ordinated efforts are clearly needed to unite the auto rank and file around the demands and tactics of this year's battle. The obvious lesson of this failure is that a real rank and file coalition can only be built on the basis of organizations, activists, and union officials that have deep ties in the struggles in the plants and unions.

second and third years, and a COLA plan that compensates for the entire cost of living rise. The present formula only makes up for 80% of inflation.

Many in the UAW are looking for a shortened work week to relieve the heavy work load and reverse the decline in auto jobs. In the last contract they got some relief from the grind of 60 and 70 hour weeks. They won 12 paid personal holidays. These "PPH days" are very popular, but no substitute for voluntary overtime and a shorter work week at no loss in pay.

Automation, speed up, downsizing, and recession all pose big threats to job security. Welding and spray painting robots are already in operation, particularly at Chrysler. Plans to invest tens of billions in the '80's allow for as much as 30% of the workforce to be eliminated.

Union activists fear Fraser will take any important moves toward voluntary overtime and shortened work week off the bargaining table very quickly and settle for a couple more "PPH days."

Every major contract so far this year has provoked some kind of strike. Sabotage by the union officialdom and maneuvering by the companies and government have kept the walkouts somewhat limited. In trucking the lockout/selective strike combination kept the Teamster rank and file from flexing their muscle. In rubber, the walkout has only been at Uniroyal.

But if General Motors comes up with a bargain basement offer, or takeaways, GM workers are likely to set up picket lines from Fremont, California to Tarrytown, New York.

Rubber

(continued from page 1)

in four to six weeks. Losses in the 3rd and 4th quarter of 1979 will endanger its ability to attract investors and needed capital. A Worker's Voice reporter spoke to strikers in front of the Detroit Uniroyal plant. None had any good words to say about either Carter or Bommarito. They're proud of the long 1976 strike and resentful that the rest of the union wasn't pulled out this time too.

Many gripe that the top leadership hasn't kept them informed of what's happening. When a cop roughed up one of the strikers for not letting a boss's car through quick enough, the union hall and the bar across the street emptied out and Detroit cops had to backpeddle quickly.

The strikers won a victory when a federal judge ruled that the government has no power to impose sanctions on companies that give workers more than the guidelines. Uniroyal has said no matter what the guidelines are, it will not pay out what the workers are demanding.

But there's more involved than just Uniroyal against the strikers. Forty-seven thousand other workers are watching this fight very closely. If this pattern-setting settlement is a penny-pincher, the rest of the rubber industry may be crippled by strikes.

Aside from an over-the-guidelines pay hike, the strikers are demanding a cost of living escalator that covers 100% of inflation, sanctions against plant closings, industry pledges to give preferential hiring to displaced URW members, non-interference in organizing drives, protection of the pension funds, 25 and out, and no new productivity clauses.

Since the strike began May 9th, news of it has been virtually blacked out by the big time media. Unfortunately the trade union movement has yet to mobilize support for this key strike.

Behind the Kennedy boom



Union big shots among Bobby backers

The 1980 elections are more than a year off, but the antics of various politicians are already hogging headlines. The big news is the "Draft Teddy" movement ripping through the Democratic Party.

Democratic professionals and politicians are worried that Carter, who ranks with nuclear meltdowns in the popularity polls, will sink the Party in the elections.

Certain forces in the labor movement, and among Black and Latino public figures and traditional liberals, see Kennedy as the key to shoring up their dwindling political influence. They hope to channel mass popular discontent back into the system behind Kennedy.

THE BOOM AND TEDDY

Newsweek features his smiling face. Congressmen hold breakfast meetings to discuss running him. Liberals in California and party regulars in Ohio are challenging the state machines on his behalf.

A write-in campaign is underway in New Hampshire for next year's primary. In Iowa, a stronghold of the boom, Machinist officials predict the Kennedy delegates will beat Carter supporters 3 to 1 in the January party caucuses.

Teddy is playing coy. While strenuously denying a presidential bid, he has made only token efforts to stop the groundswell. He told the Boston Globe that if Carter doesn't run again, he will toss his hat into the ring.

Teddy has kept himself in the public eye by attacking Carter's domestic programs although he fully supports the administration's foreign policy, especially the SALT agreement.

Teddy's latest bid has been to push through a national health program, one of Carter's many unmet promises.

Teddy's backers like some of the advantages he has over Carter. First,

he is a Kennedy. Millions have great respect and affection for the family. The murders of JFK and Bobby elevated them from popular politicians to a more heroic stature. This has carried over to their younger brother, despite his shabby role in the death of Mary Jo Kopechne at Chappaquidick.

Also he has spent the last decade as a senator. He has not faced the same problems as Carter. It's not easy being the number one front man for the wealthy ruling class at a time when they have to crack down on the living standards of the majority to preserve their profits and system.

A California poll said that 53% there would vote Kennedy in the primary, with Jerry Brown getting 20% and Carter only 18%. Workers, minorities, and liberals all feel Jimmy has betrayed them--after their votes put him in office.

This situation has pushed a growing number of regular Democratic Party hacks, who fear a 1980 disaster, into the ranks of the Kennedy boosters.

THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS

The liberal opposition to Carter began to coalesce at the Democratic mid-term convention last fall in Memphis. Labor delegates especially from the Autoworkers, Black and Latino politicians, and others staged a mini-revolt. Teddy Kennedy put himself at the head of this trend, which fought for a return to the social programs of the New Frontier and the Great Society periods of the 1960's.

The brains behind this mini-revolt came from a group called the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee. This is a split-off from the old and now almost defunct Socialist Party dedicated to working inside the Democratic Party.

The idea of the Democratic Party, which is owned lock, stock and barrel

by the capitalist class, being a vehicle to very gradually bring socialism to the U.S. is laughable. What DSOC means by socialism, however, is not the rule of the working class.

They're talking about state capitalism, like Britain or Sweden, where the government has more extensive social welfare programs and more direct control over industry, though the wealthy few still run society.

DSOC helped to draw up the "Democratic agenda," a program of reforms like the national health bill for the opposition to rally around. Its success at the convention helped DSOC make gains in influence and membership, including such notable recruits as California's Black Congressman Ron Dellums and MS magazine publisher Gloria Steinem. Now DSOC is all-out for a Kennedy candidacy.

LABOR LEADERS IN A BIND

The only top labor leader to openly sponsor the "Draft Teddy" movement is another DSOC member, William Winpisinger, president of the powerful International Association of Machinists. When asked recently what Carter could do for the American people, he had a one word answer, "Die."

Other trade union big shots who have a political outlook similar to Winpisinger's, like Jerry Wurf of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers and Doug Fraser of the United Auto Workers, are a lot more cautious.

A Winpisinger lieutenant who is heading the Iowa campaign, Bill Fenton, told the Workers Voice that the UAW and AFSCME have instructed local officials not to take part in the meetings. He added that they have been coming anyway.

Carter was unable to deliver on the common situs picketing and labor law reform bills. His weak efforts

on these hurt him with union officials who wanted the legislation to help bolster their failing influence and membership rolls.

The AFL-CIO went all out to get its members to elect Carter. They told workers Carter was not just another crooked politician, but "the candidate of the little man." Then Carter made these union big shots look like chumps by promptly breaking every promise he made to labor. The 7% guidelines and stepped up social service cut backs are two examples.

Carter's attacks on the American people are an integral part of a tighten up by the big capitalists of their direct control over the government. In the process the AFL-CIO topcats are being stripped of some of the influence they used to exercise in the nation's governing circles. Even George Meany has been complaining irritably that Jimmy doesn't call and consult with him frequently, like JFK and LBJ used to.

TEDDY CAN'T CUT IT

Despite their reluctance to admit it publicly, there is no question that the majority of top union leaders would prefer to have Kennedy as the Democratic candidate in 1980. Already many second level figures and staff people are working in the "Draft Teddy" movement.

They see Kennedy as the charismatic figure who can channel disgruntled and restless workers back into traditional politics, but the Kennedy boom may become more of a boomerang.

If Teddy refuses to run, the anger built up against Carter may find other outlets. There is a lot of sentiment among lower level union officials for starting a third party based on the labor movement. When anti-nuke scientist and activist Barry Commoner called for such a party at a May 11 meeting of 300 Chicago area officials from thirty different unions, he got a standing ovation.

And even if Kennedy does run and win, it shouldn't take long for disillusionment to set in. One Congressman, Barber Conable, Jr., of New York, expressed admiration at how well Teddy has taken on the role of spokesman for the common people.

"He is being extremely artful in his positioning. I know the Kennedys and they are not all that liberal."

In office, Kennedy will face the same problems that Carter is facing - a crisis-ridden economy, a worldwide challenge from the Kremlin, stirrings of rebellion among Blacks, students, workers and other sections of the people, demands from the wealthy that contending sections of the ruling class that the crisis be resolved to each of their best interests.

Then he'll wish he really meant it when he claimed he wasn't running.

Recession knocking on the door

Recent government statistics leave little doubt that the economy is sliding rapidly into a recession. While Carter administration economists are busy denying the obvious, private economists see the real issue as how severe it will get.

Federal Reserve Board Chairman G. William Miller claims, "The good news is the economy is slowing and heading for a period of pause and consolidation."

Good news? Not for the people! Look at some of the records the economy is setting.

April orders for home furnishings, major appliances, cars, trucks, machinery, and other durable goods took the sharpest plunge in 11 years. The index of leading indicators, a measure of economic growth, dropped 3.3% in April, an all-time record.

Miller tries to take credit for the slowdown saying it is due to his tight money policies at Federal Reserve Bank. But the most immediate reason that business is slowing down is that the consumer is spent out. Consumer debt is staggering. People owe \$1

trillion on mortgages alone, another record. They're putting less in the bank than any year since '74.

When the common people can't afford to buy anything, sure enough there's a slowdown on the way.

What might be a "period of pause" to big business means extended layoff for workers and business failure for small capitalists.

The best way to see what "good news" a slowdown can be for the people is to look at the recession of 1974, the worst business drop since the Great Depression.

In '74 eight million were thrown out of work and 3 million jobs were lost for good. Unemployment benefits, welfare payments, and social services were slashed.

The bosses pulled themselves out of that recession by screwing the workers. The slowdown marked the shifting to overdrive in the productivity push with its speed up, layoffs, job combinations, and forced overtime.

How well did it do in fighting inflation? Nowhere near as well as it did in shafting the people. Inflation has continued to rise in each of the 6 recessions since world War II.

'People everywhere

U.S. earns hatred backing reaction

Iranians say: Hands off our revolution

In the last month, huge demonstrations have swept Iran protesting U.S. meddling in the Iranian revolution. The country is facing difficult tasks and decisions and there are sharp differences among the forces who pulled together to overthrow the Shah. Both the U.S. and rival superpower the Soviet Union, which has also been targeted in the recent demonstrations, are looking to take advantage of the unsettled situation.

Anger at the U.S., long the Shah's main backer, was triggered by a Senate resolution condemning the "summary executions" in Iran and by similar remarks from President Carter. Iranians were particularly outraged that the resolution was sponsored by N.Y. Senator Jacob Javits. Secret documents seized from the Shah's files had just been published, showing Javits' wife, Marion, was on the Shah's payroll to create an undercover Iran lobby to influence Congress and the press.

There is also a strong suspic-

ion that the United States is behind a mysterious terrorist group called Forghan. Claiming to be Islamic fighters, this outfit has assassinated top level officials of Ayatollah Khomeini's movement in a professional manner very reminiscent of SAVAK the dreaded secret police under the Shah.

A SUDDEN CONCERN

Why the sudden government and media concern about the human rights of the 250 odd sadistic torturers and paid henchmen of the old regime who have been executed? The Senate never passed any resolutions condemning the Shah's bloody tyranny and Jimmy Carter never once spoke out about the tens of thousands gunned in the streets by his troops last year.

Obviously it has nothing to do with human rights. The criticisms from the U.S. are intended to influence political developments in Iran.

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Demonstrators in Tehran burn effigy of Uncle Sam. Six pointed stars and hammer & sickle on U.S. flag show opposition to Israeli and Soviet meddling too.

U.S. pumps cash to Nicaraguan "Shah"

The U.S.-dominated International Monetary Fund (IMF) has just lent Nicaragua's besieged dictator, Anastasio Somoza, a helping hand—a whopping \$65 million loan. Just weeks later, on June 1, Nicaraguan guerrillas and civilians launched a major offensive aimed at Somoza's overthrow.

The IMF loan is intended to replenish Somoza's bankrupt treasury, nearly half of which goes to the military. And right now, the National Guard, Nicaragua's combined military-police, has its guns pointed at the Nicaraguan people, who have been in constant rebellion against the hated Somoza for almost a year. Once again the U.S. is propping up a tin-horn dictator facing doom at the hands of his people.

The U.S. has backed the Somoza family ever since it sent in the Marines and installed Anastasio's

father in power in the 1930's. To this day it arms the National Guard and trains its commanders, including Somoza's son, on military bases in the U.S. The family controls a \$500 million business empire, while most Nicaraguan people live in dire poverty. The U.S. has reaped many benefits from this mineral-rich, strategically located ally.

Yet even though the U.S. was sending Somoza more aid than any Latin American government in the mid-1970's, the regime is now on its last legs.

From the Sandinista guerrillas in the countryside, to the workers and youth in the cities, Nicaraguans are fighting to get rid of the isolated Somoza and the "Somocismo" system.

The June offensive has been long expected. There is heavy

fighting now between the Sandinistas and National Guard in many provincial cities throughout the country. The guerrillas on June 5 liberated Leon, Nicaragua's second largest city, and kept the nearby Guard garrison pinned down. The Sandinistas also now control El Naranjo.

Meanwhile the people of Nicaragua launched a general strike June 4, called by the Sandinistas and aimed at Somoza's overthrow. Stores, factories and transportation have been shut down by the high level of participation in the strike. This is despite the fact that thousands of civilians have been executed by the National Guard's "reign of terror."

Somoza's system is crumbling under him. In order to get the IMF loan, Somoza agreed to economic measures that will come down hard

on the Nicaraguan people. He has already begun implementing the terms of the loan by devaluing the Nicaraguan currency.

This led to immediate government sanctioned price increases. Electricity and water rates alone shot up 30%. The agreement also calls for holding down wages. Opposition to the new austerity measures is already fueling anti-government sentiment.

Last year, the U.S. government did everything it could to keep the Shah of Iran in power. It failed and its efforts earned it the hatred of the Iranian and freedom-loving people around the world.

Now the ruling class is, in the name of the American people, backing another greedy, vicious tyrant who has served them well in the past. Once again they are headed for miserable failure.

And Senate is set to do same in Rhodesia!



The establishment of a Black figurehead to prettify the white minority domination in Rhodesia has triggered a big move in U.S. ruling circles to end economic sanctions against the outlaw government there. In the aftermath of the farcical "free elections" which established an Uncle Tom named Muzorewa as Prime Minister, the United States Senate voted 75 to 19 in favor of ending the sanctions.

Behind the move to recognize the Muzorewa government is an effort to make a major shift in U.S. foreign policy in Africa. The vote was engineered by Senator Jesse Helms, who has one of the shrewdest minds of the 18th century. He is part of a reactionary trend which wants the United States to form a close public alliance with the racist apartheid regime in South Africa and give whatever aid is necessary to preserve white domination in the southern tip of Africa.

This is exactly what former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith had in mind when he set up the recent elections there. The military, the police, under white settler control, but now there are Black faces in government, even at the top. They are there to break the international isolation of the regime and strengthen its hand against the Black guerrillas of the Patriotic Front.

On June 7, Jimmy Carter announced he would defy the Senate vote and keep the sanctions on. Defending present U.S. policy, he pointed out that sanctions "limit the ability of outside powers," meaning the USSR, "to take advantage of the situation in southern Africa at the expense of the United States."

Unlike the conservative side of this confrontation, Carter recognizes that

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just want to be free'

Is USSR friend of liberation?

S.E. Asian revolutions face Viet Nam backstabbing

Across Southeast Asia, from the Philippines to Burma, national liberation movements have been fighting for years to free themselves from the yoke of oppression and foreign domination. The Vietnamese government came to power in just such a struggle.

But today the rulers of Vietnam and their massive army — the fourth largest in the world — are stabbing the peoples of Asia in the back. In just the last year Vietnam has:

- * Invaded neighboring Democratic Kampuchea (Cambodia), overthrown the government and installed its own puppets in power;

- * Stationed 200,000 troops in Kampuchea and its other neighbor, Laos, which it now dominates;

- * Compelled Laos to sign an agreement with the military government of Thailand (bordering both Kampuchea and Laos), providing for the suppression of the Thai guerrillas who have waged a 14-year war for liberation;

- * Set up a rival "genuine Thai Communist Party" based in Laos;

- * Condemned the New Peoples Army in the Philippines for its guerrilla war and its work with broad opposition forces in the country;

- * Sent Premier Pham Van Dong to five Southeast Asian countries, announcing to the governments, and, through press conferences, to the world, their opposition to every guerrilla movement in the area. The Premier went so far as to lay a wreath at the monument to British troops who fought against Malaysian liberation forces in the '50s.

- * Signed military, political and economic pacts with the Soviet Union that significantly expand Moscow's influence in the region.

DEPENDENCE . . .

There isn't a single liberation struggle in Southeast Asia that the Vietnamese or their Soviet masters support. It would run counter to their aim of hegemony in the region. And it would clash with Vietnam's strategy of reliance on the Soviet Union and Southeast Asia's dependence on Hanoi.

Vietnam has turned to the Soviets for the supplies and airlifts that were essential in its aggression in Kampuchea, just like the U.S. backed their puppets in South Vietnam. In return the Soviets get a political and military foothold in the most powerful country in the region.

On the assumption that foreign—mainly Soviet—aid would flow into the country, Vietnamese leaders have not decisively mobilized the people during their four years in power. As a result, the economic situation is disastrous. There are huge rice shortages, and in the cities a chicken costs two thirds of an average month's wages.

The diversion of energy, resources, and cadre into occupying Laos and attacking Cambodia certainly doesn't help to develop Vietnam internally. Since the clashes with the Chinese in

February, it has exploited the situation by calling back 200,000 men into military service. Putting the country on a war footing may temporarily solve a massive unemployment problem, but it won't get the Vietnamese out of the hole they're in.

OR INDEPENDENCE?

The national liberation struggles of Southeast Asia are taking a completely different path. They practice self-reliance, turning to the majorities in the countryside while building broad united fronts. In Thailand the front includes former parliamentary representatives and in the Philippines, Catholic clergymen.

The Thai People's Army and the New People's Army in the Philippines continue to score advances on the military front. Guerrilla struggles are developing in Burma and have a long history in Malaysia. The former Portuguese colony of East Timor is fighting hard against an invasion from Indonesia, and people's forces are active in Indonesia itself.

These movements' insistence on carrying out their own revolutions in their own way is unacceptable to the Vietnamese, even though all these movements (except Burma) are fighting U.S. imperialism. This self-reliance directly obstructs Vietnam's aims of controlling Southeast Asia.

Vietnam has responded to this challenge with slander and outright intervention. Vietnam set up a group of "authentic Kampuchean revolutionaries" just before invading and overthrowing the Kampuchean government this January. The recent establishment of a "genuine Thai Communist Party" forewarns of Vietnam's intention to meddle in Thailand, where the guerrilla movement otherwise has a solid chance of seizing power within a decade.

Through its press, Vietnam has publically repudiated the Southeast Asian national liberation movements as "outlawed Beijing (Peking) minded extremist organizations... (who) conduct armed attacks and terroristic and divisive operations, wantonly massacring civilians and ransacking the people's property."

Vietnam denounces these movements for "taking Mao Ze Dong Thought as their ideological foundation and armed struggle as the only means of securing power."

CHINA'S ROLE AND THE SOVIETS

In contrast to Vietnam, China continues to aid the liberation movements in Southeast Asia. Despite the requirements of a foreign policy that involves uniting with the U.S.-supported governments in the area against the Soviet threat, China has continued its longstanding support for the movements for liberation. Deng Xiao Bing (Teng Hsiao Ping) underscored this point at a recent Bangkok press conference, in the presence of the Thai ambassador

to China.

The Soviet Union, in keeping with the position of its Hanoi sidekicks does not support any of the Southeast Asian liberation movements, because none will become subservient to Moscow.

The Soviet thesis of "peaceful co-existence" with imperialism and refusal to support national liberation struggles emerged in the 1950's and

60's. Since then they have taken this policy from the defensive to the offensive.

In Asia, the Soviets use Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay as a temporary naval base, and are constructing yet another Pacific naval base, enlarging a super airstrip in the southernmost of the four Japanese islands they occupy, dispatching Cuban politicians on a diplomatic swing around the region, and offering arms to both the Thai and Philippine governments to use against the revolutionary struggles in those areas.

Today national liberation struggles have entered a new stage, facing Soviet, Vietnamese or Cuban intervention as well as that of the U.S.



Afghani rebels with Soviet whirlybird they downed.

Afghanistan rebels target Soviets

In April, Aleksei Yepishev, political commissar of the Soviet Army and a key figure in the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia, flew into Afghanistan. Yepishev was not vacationing in the mountainous, Texas-sized Asian nation. He was there to prop up the pro-Moscow government of Nur Mohammed Taraki, which is losing a rapidly escalating civil war with Islamic guerrillas.

The Khalqi Party, which Taraki heads, seized control of the country in a military coup, which they have since dubbed a "socialist revolution", early in 1978. Opposition at first was limited — the dictatorship of Mohammed Daud, also pro-Soviet, had done nothing for the desperately poor Afghani masses.

But Taraki instituted a series of ill-considered social reforms and backed them with repressive laws. The government did not take into account local custom and tradition or the fact that the small Khalqi Party had little firm support among the common people. Ignoring or attacking religion at a time of a nationalistic resurgence of Islam throughout the Middle East was a fatal error.

Taraki also sold out the national interests of the Afghani people. Soviet advisors were everywhere, running things openly and behind the scenes. Alienation from the government grew, even among patriotic intellectuals and leftists, as a result of steps like the dumping of Afghanistan's traditional flag in favor of a new, red banner.

By late last fall, the traditional-

ly independent mountain tribesmen were in revolt against the government. This rebellion spread and became a direct threat to Taraki's rule. Tens of thousands fled government reprisals and became refugees in Pakistan.

During a mid-March uprising in Herat, the third largest city, large numbers of soldiers and police deserted. On April 20 it escalated to armed mutiny in the Jalalaba garrison near the Pakistan border.

Government officials have tried to backtrack. "Socialism" is seldom mentioned and Taraki gets himself photographed praying in mosques, but it's too little, too late. Nearly every section of the population is hostile to the regime.

Taraki's main answer has been to lean on the U.S.S.R. even more. Yepishev's visit was followed by an airlift of T-60 tanks, MiG fighter-bombers, Mi24 rocket-armed copters and over 2,000 Soviet "advisors" to use this hardware.

Russians have become a natural target for the rebels. Over 200 have been reported killed so far. Other Europeans describe close calls in city streets when angry crowds armed with clubs and knives surrounded them on the assumption they were Soviets.

The rulers of the U.S.S.R. are in a real bind. They have committed themselves to the defense of the faithful Taraki regime — losing control of Afghanistan would be a practical and prestige setback. But they worry that the country may become, in the words of one Soviet diplomat, "our Viet Nam".

A new period begins for Black struggle

25 years after 'Brown vs. Bd of Education'

May 17, 25 years ago, the U.S. government made a promise to Black people — a promise of equality. On that day in 1954, the Supreme Court in the case of *Brown vs. Board of Education* ruled that "separate but equal" was inherently unequal.

25 years later, Black people are still not equal, let alone free. On the contrary, there is a new mood of resistance and there are stirrings of a renewed liberation movement.

It's a mood and a movement rooted in the struggles of the '50s and '60s — the bitter battles in which Black people wrung from the system whatever gains they've made over the last 25 years. The *Brown* decision outlawed segregation but it didn't end it. It was the thousands who dared face dogs, waterhoses and hooded killers who tore down the racist Jim Crow system and fueled the fire of Black pride and anger throughout the country. Watts went up in flames. Tanks rolled down the streets of Detroit after people with a vision of freedom on their minds and Black Power on their lips virtually took over the city. That's what it took to open up a few more opportunities.

They forced a reluctant government to go along. When the ruling class couldn't stop the 1963 Civil Rights march, it tried to coopt and subvert it. When it couldn't isolate Malcolm and the Black Panthers, it wiped them out.

Black people never stopped fighting. But by 1972, the trend was for them to take their struggle inside the "legitimate channels". The government dangled a few morsels of bait — and then didn't leave people much alternative but to bite. Those who scorned the ruling class' enticements had to retreat — or face its guns alone.

For the vast majority of people, however, the legitimate channels didn't work. Blacks stayed at the bottom of the barrel and Black unemployment remained twice that of whites. Since the latest round of economic crisis set in in 1973, illusions of progress have scattered to the winds. Blacks were busted out of the new jobs and skilled trades training programs they'd broken into, and dragged down by social service cuts. With the *Bakke* decision in 1978, the highest court in the land gave the official stamp of approval to the Ku Klux Klan cry that white people's civil rights were being violated. The Supreme Court called it "reverse discrimination".

Today, 25 years after *Brown vs. Board of Education*, Black people are again concluding that they have a big fight on their hands, a fight that goes way beyond the bounds of the Democratic Party or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or the courts. Each new outrage taps sentiments of "We're fed up and we're not taking anymore." People want power — power to shape the decisions and decision-making institutions that affect their lives. They've seen that as long as that power is in someone else's hands, it will be used against

them.

There are seeds of a new movement on the rise. The cops have always killed Black people with impunity and Black people have always reacted with rage. But now there's something different. In the last 2 years in N.Y., Philadelphia and Mississippi, movements triggered by particular cases of police brutality did not run their course and then die out. They continued. They broadened. They took on a whole range of issues. They brought back to life the spirit of a people standing up for their liberation.

These are the signs of what's to come. But right now, there are big questions confronting people who want to fight.

Leadership and organization — what the ruling class did not destroy at the end of the '60s, it pulled into the system and is just now pushing out. How does new leadership and organization develop?

Program, strategy and tactics — the conditions people face today are different than the '50s and '60s and so are their demands. How do you fight for desegregation in cities where the student population has become overwhelmingly Black? Or should the focus be on improving Black schools? How do you fight for jobs in a shrinking economy? How do you fight crime when all the police do is vamp on your people but the level of community organization is often too low to make self-defense a real alternative?

Black people have a valuable legacy to build on — the legacy of struggle, unity and pride from the '50s and '60s. Many remember what it was like to be in Martin Luther King's freedom marches. Many remember how the Black Power movement affected their lives. Black people don't have to go back in history to know "We are a people who fight the system."

The '50s and '60s gave people a better education than they ever got in the public schools. One important lesson, hammered home in the '70s, stands out: sometimes you have to fight within the system, but don't ever rely on it because it will turn on you with a vengeance.

And finally, the struggles of the '50s and '60s won some gains, limited as they are, that put Black people in a better position to fight today. The ruling class was forced to acknowledge that Black people have rights — and people will never let them forget it. More Blacks hold industrial jobs, union membership and union office today. Those who got a decent, stable job, or the relatively few who became lawyers or doctors or elected officials, are not about to give up what they won. And the many who never tasted these gains want them extended.

The ruling class points to these few advances, even as it attacks them, to prove the system works and discrimination is on the way out. If you're Black, you know that's a lie. In 400 years, let alone 25, the ruling class has never given Black people anything but the chains of slavery. And in one form or another, Black people have never stopped fighting to break those chains.

Workers Voice



Arrest of everyone on this April 14 march didn't stop United League from shaking Okolona up.

Mississippi struggle heats up

OKOLONA, MISS.— Deputy Hansel Rogers swore he would "kill me a nigger". Several protestors heard him say it April 14 as he fired a shotgun blast into the air to stop the United League freedom march. On June 5, with the United League going from one victory to another, he made good on his threat. He pumped a .357 magnum bullet into the head of 18 year old Leander Carothers, a Black inmate of the Chickasaw County jail.

"All we know right now," said Donald Pack, League Coordinator for Chickasaw County, shortly after the shooting, "is that a Black brother was murdered by a man who has been threatening and harrasing us all along."

But that was enough to pull over 500 people into the streets June 9 to demand Roger's firing. It was one of the biggest local marches northern

Mississippi had ever seen; it torpedoed the myth that Okolona Blacks like things the way they are; and as Okolona organizer Clint Standifer put it, "You could definitely say it turned the tide" in a year old battle.

County law enforcement couldn't even make a respectable show of force. Deputy Rogers was on suspension, the jailer was fired, and a number of other deputies had resigned. The "dogpen" that had been built behind the jail for United League demonstrations in the spring stood as a relic of the past. Even if police had been in a position to use it, it wouldn't have held half the marchers.

Not too long ago, talk in United League circles was about how tough a town tiny Okolona would be to crack. The League's boycott movement in Tupelo first spread 10 miles south to

Okolona last summer, after a Black man was beaten half unconscious by the Klan and then arrested as he fell on the Sheriff's car asking for help. The Klan greeted League activity with an ambush of 8 League activists and the burning of a Black-owned gas station last fall. The School Board responded to a high school boycott by firing Black teachers and expelling Black students (see page 12).

This spring the United League stepped up activity with daily picketing of local businesses and bi-weekly marches. Picketers were arrested every day and so were entire marches on April 14 and 28. But League President Skip Robinson expressed the League's determination to persevere: "It doesn't matter how long it takes. If we have to march for 6 years, if we

(continued on page 12)

Philly vote

Philadelphia — This is a Democratic town, so the elections here are usually decided in the Democratic primaries. This year Charles Bowser, a Black candidate, ran for Mayor. Bowser lost, but the thing Black voters will remember longest about the 1979 primary is that they weren't even allowed on the battlefield. Their vote was stolen from them by broken voting machines and rigged tally sheets.

For 3 Saturdays in a row, over 2000 Blacks turned out to meetings demand-



Black unemployment is still over

Five Black workers rip Weber's lies

Expose widespread discrimination at Kaiser

GRAMERCY, LA. - John Doe has worked at Kaiser Aluminum's Gramercy plant for 10 years. John Doe is not his real name. At this point he doesn't want it released publicly. But he's one of 5 Black workers putting their jobs on the line and risking Ku Klux Klan retaliation to file affidavits with the Supreme Court around the Weber case. They are asking that the case be sent back to Federal District Court without a ruling so they can testify about past discrimination at Kaiser.

The High Court is due to hand down a decision sometime in June on the Weber case, which could cut the guts out of affirmative action hiring and promotion. If it does rule, it will be without ever hearing from the parties who have the most at stake in the Weber suit - Kaiser's Black and female workers.

Most people know something about Brian Weber. A number of major corporations and big-time law firms back him and peddled his story all over the country. He's the white worker who was denied entrance to Kaiser's apprenticeship program while certain Blacks with less seniority got in. Weber sued, claiming the Kaiser-USWA affirmative action plan, which requires 1 minority be admitted to the program for each white male, constituted "reverse discrimination."

But most people haven't heard about Kaiser's rampant past discrimination

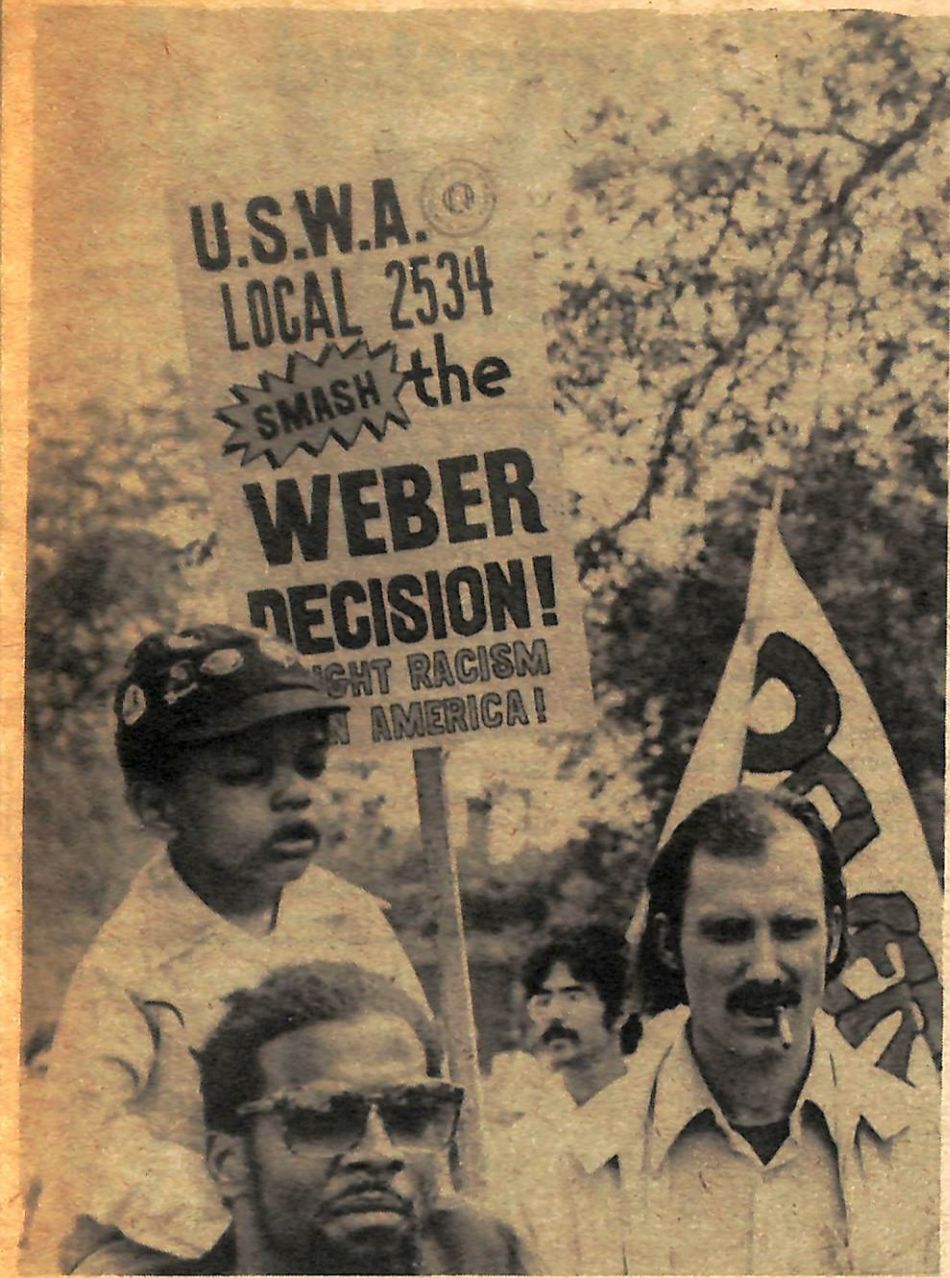
which necessitates affirmative action if it is to be remedied. John Doe, for example, tried to organize community people to fight the Weber case. But Kaiser found out and put him on extra-tough jobs. That silenced him for a while. But now he, and the 4 other Blacks filing affidavits, have decided they must get their story out.

*John Doe works with an all-Black crew on the conveyor belt operation in the yard. There are white workers on the belt too, but they all work on the docks. They have less seniority than the Blacks, but get all the overtime. John has a carpenter's certificate but could not get a carpenter's job because Kaiser said it required 5 years experience. John personally knows white carpenters at the plant who do not meet that qualification.

A few years back, John was fired for naving a fight with his cousin off the job. It took him 6 months of arbitration to get his job back, but he never got back pay. John sees this as one example of discriminatory discipline, where Blacks get fired for things for which whites get a reprimand, if anything.

*Clinton Wilkes had a similar experience. He had worked at Kaiser for 5 years when he was fired in July 1978. Wilkes had been trying to ask his supervisor why he was put on the

(continued on page 13)



On June 2, 300 people demonstrated in Chicago against the Weber suit. Similar actions took place in Washington, D.C., Oakland and other cities. Already plans are in the works for more demonstrations on the day after the Supreme Court hands down its decision.

steal unleashes Black anger

ing a re-run of the May 15 vote. People had begun mobilizing for the elections as a way to continue the battle they were waging in the streets - and they were enraged by the Election Commission's underhanded response. After years of being told, "If you don't vote, don't complain," they were hearing "Don't complain if your vote doesn't count."

Election night in Philadelphia was somebody's idea of a bad joke. Black wards were plagued by broken voting

machines. In Raymond Rosen Housing Project, the largest Black voting division in the city, tally sheets registered only 5 votes apiece for Bowser and popular City Council candidate John Street! Street's name didn't even appear on some ballots. Altogether 1/4 of the machines had to be impounded after the election.

For Black people, this was the second time around in 7 months. Last November, Blacks spearheaded a big movement which voted down an amend-

ment that would have let racist Mayor Frank Rizzo run for a third term. Then irregularities were even more widespread. For 8 years, Rizzo had effectively cut Blacks out of the political process with his iron grip on the Democratic Party and Black people had had enough.

People went into the voting booths this time as part of a resurgence of Black struggle in Philly. The defense of MOVE, a mainly Black commune under attack by Rizzo, last

spring developed into the Stop Rizzo campaign in the fall. Since then, a broad-based movement has been taking on issues like housing, police brutality and African liberation support.

In the course of the battles like these, people came up against their own lack of political power. Developments like a City Council vote denying federal grants to low income housing drove the point home: as long as someone else, particularly the Rizzo machine, ran the show, the people would continue to get the shaft. Now Blacks are fighting to get their own candidates into office as a way to get a voice in the decision-making process, as well as to consolidate the victories they've won in the last 2 years, and to create better conditions to win more.

So on May 15, Black people gave Charles Bowser 90% of their votes in hopes that electing a Black mayor would give them more political clout. Among Blacks, voting for opponent William Green wasn't even a question. Green, born into a machine family, couldn't do much to disguise where his sympathies lie. His campaign chest was filled with contributions from the city's biggest bankers and businessmen and he openly called for allocating rehabilitation funds to downtown businesses at the expense of the neighborhoods. In the end, the Rizzo machine threw Green its support.

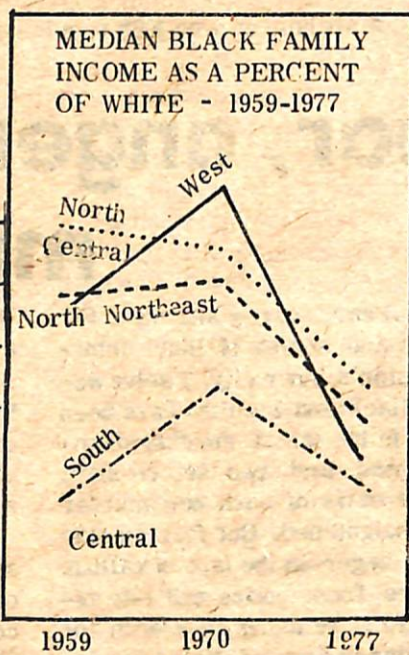
But with Charles Bowser, there was a lot more confusion. Bowser, a former deputy Mayor under machine politician James Tate, ran as the Black community's candidate. But beyond arguing that people should put a Blackface in office, he never addressed the concern of the community.

When community leader Milton Street organized a "move-in" into abandoned homes in a housing project, Bowser ignored it. When people fought to desegregate a South Philly playground,

(continued on page 13)



twice the white rate, with jobs almost impossible to find for youths.



The income gap between Black and white families is about the same as in 1959. As the above graph shows, gains made by Blacks on the heels of the upsurge of the '50s and '60s were short-lived. Now median Black family income is back down to 57% of that of white families.

Call that equality? It's hard to believe, but that's exactly what the rich and powerful are trying to do.

Workers Voice

Workers Voice

"Integration without equality" protested

OKOLONA & CORINTH, MISS.— The last day of school in Okolona, like the first, 98% of the Black students were missing from high school. The first day they walked out; the last day they went home in observance of a United League picket line.

Earlier that same week 100 Black parents, including members of the United League and the NAACP, turned out to a Corinth school board meeting to protest the selection of an all-white cheerleaders squad.

After desegregation suits and boycotts in the late '60s and early '70s, Black parents and students are now fighting the ways local boards transferred the age-old patterns of white supremacy into the new school structure. United League President Skip Robinson calls it "integration without equality".

According to Lagrowne Pack, an ex-teacher who was fired in one of those early battles, only 10% of the

Black children enrolled in first grade in Okolona graduate high school. "If you're outspoken and Black, sooner or later you go," said Mr. Pack of the systematic suspension and expulsion of Black students. The school board has also continued to displace Black teachers, so that a 60% Black student body is now taught by a 15% Black faculty.

In Corinth, the cheerleaders issue is only the tip of the iceberg. Of 23 teachers at Corinth High, only 2 are Black; a coach and a career counselor. The student body is 25% Black. "We don't learn as much from a white teacher," said senior Renee Boyd. "If they don't see you on the same side they are, look out because you'll be in a lower class next year."

Renee is one of the few Blacks who was allowed out of lower ranked classes into the levels where whites are concentrated. She tells of Black students paddled and suspended for fight-

ing with whites, while white students "cool off" in the guidance counselor's office; of senior proms held in the all-white country club, "members only" allowed to attend; and of Blacks kept from graduating by "mistakes" the front office discovers at the last minute in the number of credits they had accumulated. "They think we're

not good for anything but sports," adds Renee.

But, as team member Xavier Pratham told Principal Harold Smith at a meeting called by Black students, Corinth High's Black football players will be withholding their services next fall if they don't get any Black cheerleaders.

Miss . . .

(cont. from page 10)

have to shut down this town, we'll do it."

The League's determination paid off. They beat all charges stemming from the mass arrests and are now in federal court suing Okolona for \$200,000 for violation of 1st Amendment rights. May 19, the United League took to the streets once again, and although Chief of Police Travis Sullivan gave Robinson some lip, there was nothing

he could do to stop the march. On June 2, Mayor Richard Stovall stood by in grim silence as the League marched and rallied downtown, and then left some picketers behind as a reminder of its victory and the ongoing boycott.

Okolona has also lost federal school and construction funds.

The battle is not over. Deputy Rogers still has his job and discriminatory education and employment practices have yet to be rectified. But the handwriting is on the wall for Okolona's city officials, who fidget nervously everytime they hear the name "United League".

Klan terror beaten—2 weeks running

DECATUR, ALA. — The cops are trying to say 49 year old Curtis Lee Robinson started the whole thing, that he tried to kill Klansman David Kelso at the Tommy Lee Hines march May 26 and triggered a shoot-out between 100 Black demonstrators and 75 Klansmen.

In fact, the shooting started when Klansmen attacked the demonstration, and, to their dismay, landed 2 members in the hospital, one in serious condition. Three Blacks received superficial wounds. Far from protecting the SCLC-led demonstration, police rushed headlong to join the attack.

Black people in Decatur say they're sick of being trampled on and terrorized and the Hines case has become a focus for their anger. Tommy Lee Hines is a mentally retarded Black man sentenced to 30 years in prison for 3 rapes he was mentally and physically incapable of committing.

In the last 25 years, Decatur has grown from a small town with Blacks sharecropping on the outskirts to an industrial city of 45,000. Blacks have entered the factories, but the local power structure hasn't loosened its discriminatory practices, or its reign of terror, one bit. Only one of the city's 83 police is Black and even stores with 90% Black customers have few Black employees and no Black managers.

Fearful of the Black community's demands for change, Bill Wilkinson's Invisible Empire Knights faction of the Klan has come out strong in defense of the status quo. Some of the Klansmen who appear at Hines demonstrations with shotguns, semi-automatic rifles and submachine guns are from Decatur. But many live in small towns along Highway 72 where they gather at intersections to drink beer and burn crosses. Black protests forced the Mayor to pass a law banning guns at Hines demonstrations. Asked why police still failed to arrest Klansmen with weapons, he shrugged, "I guess they don't understand what the law means."

After the shootout, the Klan vowed there would be no more Black demonstrations. Nonetheless, on June 9 Decatur's Blacks were joined by supporters from around the country to march 2,000 strong. People are determined that the Klan will not rise again.



Marches of over 1000 people have mourned slaying victims and demanded something be done.

Fear, anger grow as more Black women die

BOSTON—Fear, sorrow and anger fill the hearts and homes of Black families in Boston's inner city. Twelve women—11 Black and 1 white—have been murdered in the last 4 months, strangled, stabbed and two set on fire.

With the news of each new murder fear has heightened. But fear quickly turns into anger in the face of callous indifference from police and city officials. After refusing to search for Yvette Stimson, one of the early victims, until 48 hours after her disappearance, and then arguing with the D.A. over whose responsibility the case was, police have come under mounting attack with each new murder.

One thousand Black people packed a community meeting February 5 to lash out at Police Superintendent Earl Butz and Mayor Kevin White. Off this meeting, several Black women joined together to form CRISIS, a group trying to build organization and unity in the

Black community to deal with the situation.

"There's an old saying," says CRISIS activist Marlene Stevens. "What comes for me in the morning will come for you in the night. Together we'll put a stop to these murders."

Besides going door to door encouraging neighbors to look out for each other, CRISIS has held demonstrations commemorating the slain women and focusing the community's outrage at the police and city officials. The first, 1,000 strong, passed sites where some of the bodies were found. Others picketed the State House and the Mayor's home.

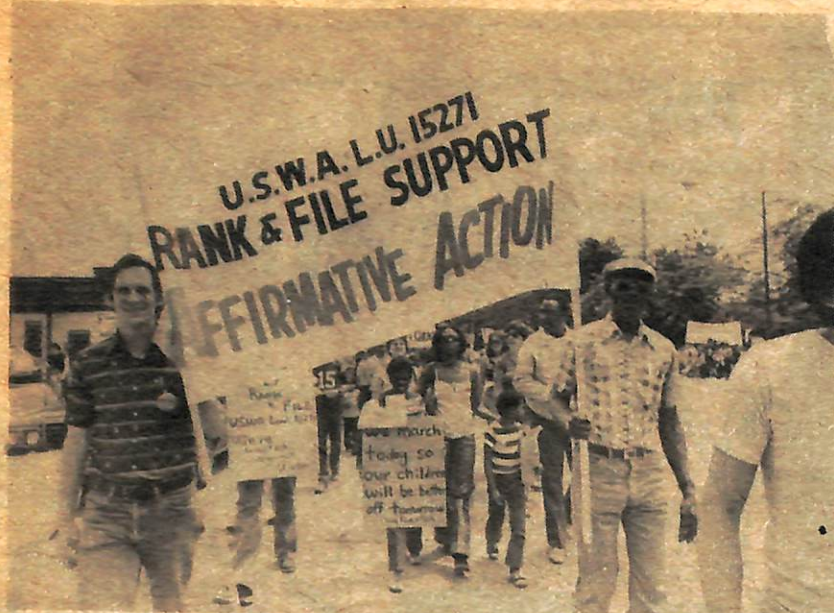
Other groups are organizing defense teams to patrol the streets of the Black community and community centers are offering self-defense courses.

In response to community pressure, the Mayor assigned 10 police officers fulltime to the cases. They set up an

office a few blocks from the Roxbury police station at the YMCA, claiming this would bring them closer to the community. There's no love lost between the Black population and Boston's Police Department, with its record of racist abuses. Many are suspicious of its appeals for help and claims of concern.

Within a week of the opening of the new office, Sandra Boulware's body was found burning in the lot right behind it.

As we go to press, the police have arrested 5 suspects. Unlike earlier cases, the most recent arrests occurred on the heels of the murders. Many people are skeptical as to whether the police have picked up suspects on solid evidence or made the arrests to quiet the community. The police refuse to divulge any information about the suspects, claiming it will hurt the court cases.



Workers Voice

Many rank and file groups have taken a stand against Weber.

Weber's lies . . .

(cont. from page 11)

worst job in the department every day when people were supposed to rotate. The supervisor refused to talk with him. So one day Wilkes went into his office. The supervisor, who happened to be a relative of the local union president, fired Wilkes, claiming the man had hit him. He eventually backed off the story after witnesses testified to the contrary, but Kaiser upheld the firing anyway.

*Rudi Gordon is one of the first 5 women to be hired at the Gramercy plant. She started work in 1973 in the chemical coring department, lifting 100 lb. sacks. Rudi is a small woman but she stuck to the job until her union rep got her transferred. No woman at Kaiser has enough seniority to get into the apprentice program, but Rudi did apply for a guard's job. Kaiser turned her down, saying she needed training in emergency care and fire protection. Rudi knows a number of the male guards and says they have no such training.

Two of Rudi's women friends at Kaiser applied for lab tech jobs. The company took the openings off the board as soon as they put in bids. Several months later, when a white male was ready to apply, they put one of the jobs back up and gave it to him.

*Kernell Goudia put in 15 years at Kaiser and got into the apprentice program strictly on seniority. Kernell was on the union's Equal Employment Committee, so he saw a lot of discrimination complaints. He paints a Catch-22 picture of what it's

like for a Black worker to get out of the Labor Pool and into the Skilled Trades. Supervisors decide who passes the craft test - and 95 out of the 100 supervisors at Kaiser are white. One Black journeyman carpenter with 10 years experience was told to make a simple box for his test as full carpenter. His white supervisor flunked him.

At the same time, it's near impossible for a Black to get a supervisory position because it requires a recommendation from the present supervisor. With the discriminatory discipline, the supervisor can usually point to a bad record as an excuse. Kernell knows a Black worker in the Coring Department with 10 years at Kaiser who was rejected for supervisor in favor of a white worker with less seniority.

So white supervisors can keep their own ranks white and through that, the skilled trades as well. When a Black worker finally does get a craft rating, he's usually kept as a "spare" and put into a department when a white worker is absent and bumped out when the white worker returns.

*Kaiser claims it's gone out of its way to recruit Blacks. But Dinnell Herbert, who filed the fifth affidavit, disagrees. He's lived in the Gramercy area all his life and never once saw a Kaiser "Help Wanted" ad in the newspaper. The way to get a job at Kaiser, says Herbert, is to know someone on the inside. Since the majority of Kaiser workers are white, Blacks are at a definite disadvantage. Herbert, who has 6 years experience as a welder, applied to Kaiser for years. The company continually told him he "did not have enough skills," even when a Black supervisor advised him of an opening for a welder that suited his qualifications.

Philly vote angers Blacks . . .

(cont. from page 11)

Bowser was silent. When cuts in overtime hit the Sanitation Department, Bowser blamed the worsening service on lazy workers.

Midway through the campaign, Thatcher Longstreth, President of the Chamber of Commerce, and John Bunting, head of First Pennsylvania Bank, decided that the Black community couldn't run a campaign on its own. So they asked their friends to give money to both Bowser and Green. Instead of denouncing this as the patronizing insult that it was, Bowser was thrilled. Next thing his supporters knew, he was uptown getting his picture taken with his arms around Joshua Eilberg, noted Rizzo supporter under indictment for influence peddling.

According to official returns, Bowser

lost by 37,000 votes. The city has denied the demand for a new election but Bowser is taking his case to court and Black activists are circulating a petition protesting the vote fraud. There is talk of running a third party candidate in November.

Black people did, however, make significant gains in the City Council primaries. Besides nominating 3 progressive at-large Council candidates, they handed John Street, Milton's brother, an overwhelming victory in his ward. Finishing first in a field of 10, Street ran on a platform of continuing the struggles he and his brother have been leading. "Put me in office so I can get paid for what I'm doing now" was the message Street put out - and the reason Black people in Philly put him over the top.

Hanging judge faces recall in Milwaukee

Judge Christ T. Seraphim. That's a holy-sounding name. But this Christ is a devil of a law and order Milwaukee judge who's got himself in a hell of a mess.

This man, who passes judgement on sex offenders, was recently exposed for five separate "counts" of making indecent advances at different young women. The first woman to blow the whistle on Milwaukee's most notorious hanging judge was riding the courthouse elevator when the jurist began nibbling on her ear and gave her an unwanted French kiss.

The man who imposes the strictest sentences in the city for petty criminals got deeper into trouble as new exposures revealed that he received a big discount on a new car from a dealership that he gave a suspended sentence to in 1970.

The exposures were what the people needed to kick off a recall campaign. The People's Committee to Oust Seraphim, called together by the Milwaukee Organization of Black Unity, drew 50 activists to its first meeting. The broad-based effort will focus on a two month campaign to gather 79,000 signatures needed to get a recall election. The group gathered 5,000 names at one big street festival and has begun mapping out plans for an extensive canvassing effort.

The campaign is tremendously popular, especially in the Black community, because Seraphim has been the public figure most associated with fascist courtroom methods and heavy handed repression for the past 19 years.

When Milwaukee was ablaze with Black rebellion and anti-war activity a decade ago, Seraphim performed a valuable role for the establishment. His methods are still useful to them, but he is becoming too thoroughly hated.

It's common for him to berate defendants and attorneys alike. He's been known to decide the length of a sentence by how many pigeons are sitting on the ledge outside his court. He once gave a guy 30 days merely

for giving a Black power salute on a picket line. He personally cut the stripes off the sleeve of a Vietnam Vet whom he considered to be a disgrace to the uniform.

His harsh and unpredictable moves have made him the target of the vast majority of defendants' requests for a change of judge. As a result his case load is light enough for him to pursue a full schedule of degenerate extra curricular activities.

As the Dump Seraphim movement has picked up steam, the power structure tried to smooth over the unpleasant affair. The Milwaukee Journal, which first broke the stories of his arrogance-run-wild has commented that recall is too drastic a move. The chief judge has re-assigned him to family court in an effort to quiet the critics. (Seraphim's also behind in his own alimony payments!)

But, what may have begun as a media attack, designed to pull him down a peg and then be forgotten, has gone far beyond a squabble in Milwaukee's ruling ranks.

The recall campaign won the endorsement of Milwaukee's second largest union, the 5,500 member A.O. Smith workers' DALU 19806. Civil libertarians, Democratic Party activists, and community organizers have joined the effort. Two State Representatives are drafting a bill to impeach him. The city's Judicial Committee and the FBI have been forced to investigate him for the "unreported gifts" from the car dealership.

Seraphim counter-attacked by making much of a murder and rape case in which the attacker was a defendant whose high bail had been reduced by another judge. Seraphim had originally set the bail at \$30,000.

But his law and order theme doesn't go very far to erase the people's memory of his own crimes and abuses. There's a lot of sentiment for getting back at this man who symbolizes arrogance and power over people.

Besides, what business does a sex fiend have presiding over family court?

Blacks rally to defend fighting judge

Koch, cops lash out

NEW YORK CITY - As the newspapers later admitted, Judge Bruce Wright had made a legally sound decision. Yet Mayor Koch and the Police Benevolent Association (PBA) were out to hang him for it. That's what happens when you're a Black judge who doesn't like to see the law used against your people.

But in demonstration after demonstration people rallied to his defense, 1,000 turned out April 17 to a rally near City Hall called by Reverend Herbert Daughtry and the Brooklyn-based Black United Front. 200 gathered the next day at a press conference called by the Legal Committee to Support Wright. Since then, almost every Black organization in the city has done something to back the 60 year old judge.

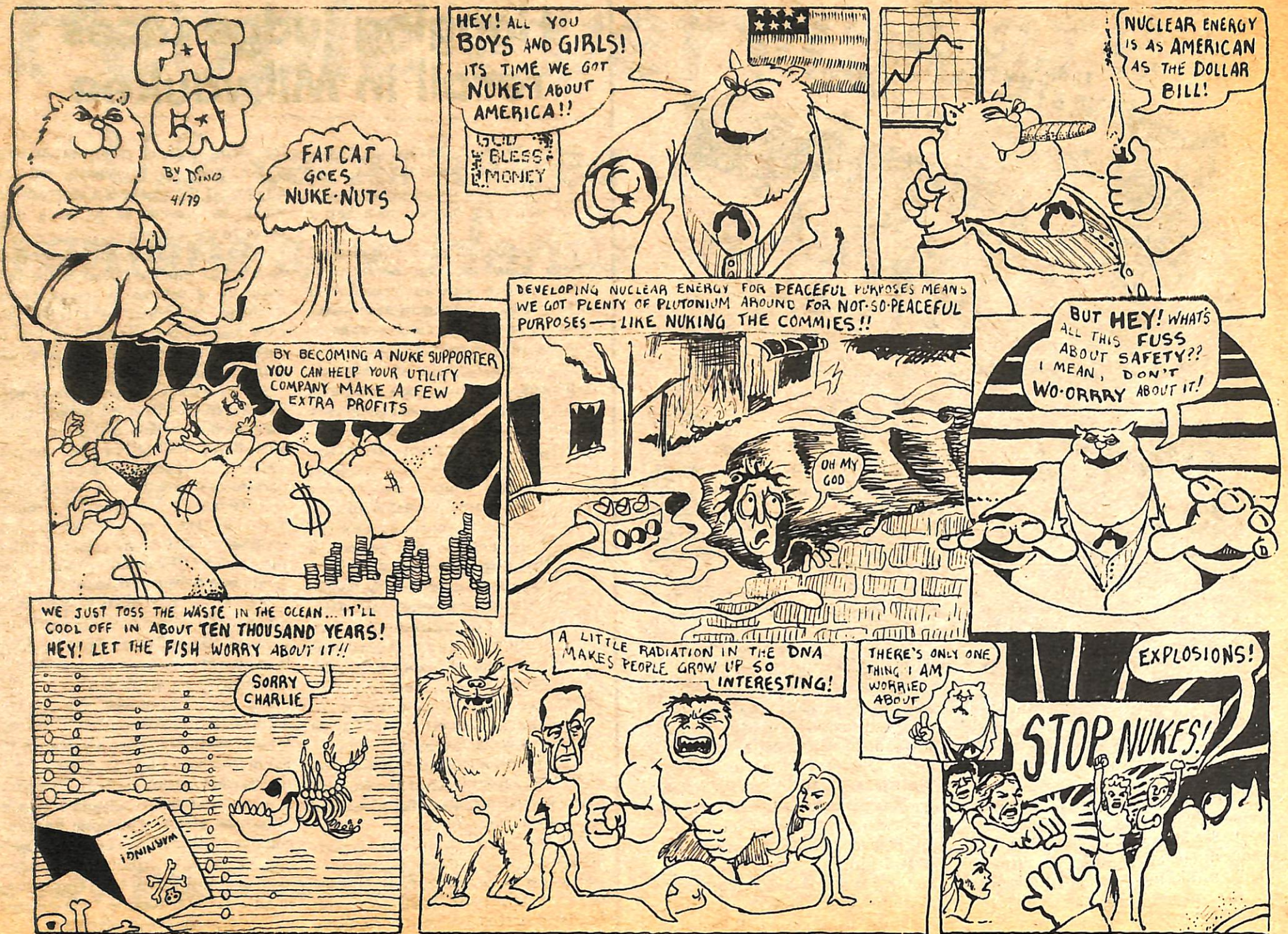
The controversy started when Wright released Jerome Singleton, charged with attempted murder of a decoy cop, without bail. Wright's known as a stiff sentencer when a person is found guilty

of a crime, but he's always felt using excessive bail as a form of punishment is unjust and unconstitutional. In fact, his example over the last 10 years has shaken up bail proceedings in N.Y.C.

In the Singleton case, all the evidence - or lack of it - pointed to one more instance of the cops picking up anyone in the vicinity of a crime who happened to be Black. Nor was there anything to suggest that Singleton, a married college student with no previous record, would not return for trial. In fact, Singleton did show when called to appear in court.

Immediately after the ruling, Sam Demilla, head of the PBA, told the press that Wright had turned a "cop slasher" loose. The PBA dredged up its old nickname for Wright: "Turn 'Em Loose Bruce". And Mayor Ed Koch denounced the ruling as "bizarre" and "personally disturbing", and an-

(cont. on page 16)



Oil giants to blame for gas shortage . . .

(cont. from page 1)

they had a green light to jack up prices after Carter announced that he was removing controls on the price of crude oil from U.S. wells. Oil company executives now openly call for \$1.50/gallon gas.

Prices at the pump are "far larger than can be explained by the increases in domestic and imported crude petroleum prices alone." This is the conclusion of no less an authority than the President's Council On Wage and Price Stability (which spends most of its time helping employers hold down contract settlements).

THE SHORTAGE

These outrageous price hikes have stuck for one simple reason—blackmail. In California, where the shortage has been most severe, people feel that even \$1.50 a gallon would be a lesser evil than 50 car lines, 5 hour waits, 7 gallon limits and rationing plans. And they are bitterly certain that when the price does get that high, the shortage will evaporate.

No one doubts that Exxon, Mobil and their buddies are systematically keeping crude on ice, running refineries at lower than capacity, and lying like crazy. Why shouldn't they? The President gave them the high sign at a May press conference in Iowa, saying the country needs "a few

demonstrable shortages" of gasoline for his policies of austerity, deregulation and price hikes to get over.

There's lots of proof coming to light that this shortage has been stage-managed by the oil companies, using as a cover the real tightening in world petroleum supplies since the Iranian revolution heated up last fall.

The Congressional Research Service, the Government Accounting Office and the CIA have each produced reports showing that there is no shortfall in world production or American imports large enough to account for the present situation. The International Energy Agency reports that "U.S. imports in February were the highest in U.S. history.

MORE THAN A STICKUP

The current shortage and price hikes are more than just a bold stickup—the oil mob is bringing its whole operation into the '80s. The age of plentiful, low cost energy in the U.S., which was the product of marauding global corporations backed up by Marine landings and CIA coups, is no more. With their domination of oil producing countries weakened, the oil monopolies no longer have complete freedom to dictate prices and production rates.

To strengthen their position in the world market, they have to increase domestic production. The government approves of this approach to cut the balance of payments deficit now plaguing the economy and because heavy dependence on foreign sources could mean disaster in case of war with the U.S.S.R.

The rub is that the oil companies won't increase domestic production without lots of capital to invest in the project and unless their profits are guaranteed. Hence the current gas crunch and the demand for \$1.50 gasoline.

BLAMING THE LITTLE GUY

To set up this new system on the backs of the American people, the ruling class tries to claim it's the people who caused the crunch. Prices must rise and austerity be imposed because the consumer is a greedy, self-centered energy hog who has to

be forced to do right.

But it wasn't America's working people who systematically crippled public transit. It was big corporations like General Motors, which bought the Los Angeles interurban system and let it die.

It wasn't working people who pushed big powerful gas guzzlers. It was the gas and auto companies, so much so that foreign firms captured over 15% of the U.S. market by providing small, sound, economical autos.

It wasn't workers who boasted to the world what a good thing it is that 40% of all the energy produced each year is consumed by the U.S., which has less than 5% of the population. It was Tricky Dick Nixon himself.

It will not be easy to make the American people foot the bill when they didn't run it up. The truck drivers are showing the way. Make the oil companies suffer — we don't intend to pay!

Black Hills . . .

(cont. from page 3)

year which will lower the water table and pollute streams and rivers, cutting ranches off from essential water supplies. Tourism, a major source of non-farm income in the region, will vanish.

The Alliance has called for a National Gathering of the People and Walk Through the Black Hills on July 7 to 9. The weekend will include a concert and rally featuring anti-nuke entertainers like Jackson Browne and Bonnie Raitt, a twenty mile march from Rapid City to Nemo, where dynamiting is going on despite a moratorium on new mining activity,

and a day of workshops on how to continue and build the struggle. They are aiming for a massive offensive to take place in the spring of 1980.

Local affiliates of the Black Hills Alliance have sprung up in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the West Coast. The members are young anti-nuke fighters who see a chance to "stop the poison at its source" and want to unite with the Native American struggle. They are predicting that thousands of supporters will pour into South Dakota in July to let the government and the energy monopolies know that the Black Hills are not for sale.

Students hit the bricks again

Nukes, Black Studies, draft key issues

Dozens of college campuses were hit by student demonstrations this spring. As the last school year of the 1970's drew to a close, it was evident that the media-heralded death of campus activism as the hands of student apathy and selfishness is far from real.

To dozens of college administrators, some scenes were frighteningly reminiscent of the 1960's. Black students paraded through Harvard Yard and 80 chained themselves inside the Amherst, Mass. administration building. Blacks and other minority students are fighting to defend admissions, remedial and ethnic studies programs won in the late '60's and early '70's. Administrators everywhere have taken the Bakke decision as a green light to step up their undercutting of those programs.

Political fallout from the near-disaster at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Reactor was probably the biggest factor in this spring's upsurge. Tens of thousands of students were drawn into the anti-nuke movement, and many learned a lesson they would not soon forget about corporate profit drives and government hypocrisy.

The international situation drew attention, too. Years of work by dedicated activists have made opposition to apartheid in South Africa a strong current on campus. Efforts to force administrations and trustees to sell stock holdings in companies which do



Black students at Rutgers rally.

business with the white settler regime there made headway at major schools like Michigan State and Minnesota and small ones like Lawrence and Hampshire Colleges.

The growing danger of war between the two superpowers, the U.S. and the Soviet Union, was brought home sharply when Congressional moves to restore the draft hit the news. Thousands of students hit the bricks in protest.

A decade ago, the Vietnam war confronted students both morally and personally. They had to decide whether to fight in a war and perhaps end up in a coffin, and they had to consider if that war was worth all the coffins it was producing.

There is no issue today, even nukes, which has the immediacy and impact on students that Viet Nam did. In the broadest sense, however, the kind of questions facing students haven't changed that much since; What kind of a world are we going out into? How can we lead a life that has a purpose to it? In time of growing struggle these questions are posed even more sharply, spurring students into action and deepening their understanding and commitment.

The following reports on this spring's campus clashes were submitted by Workers Voice bureaus:

* Amherst, Massachusetts, late April. An 8-day occupation of the administration building shook the campus up. Divestment of South Africa-related stocks has been a focus of struggle at U. Mass. for three years. This year Black students came to the fore with a program calling for a voice in the selection of deans, no cuts in Black orientation week and the hiring of more Black faculty members. Threats of suspension and civil charges against Black students who chained themselves in the building only fueled support for

the action.

* Chicago, May 22. Two thousand U. of Chicago students greeted World Bank president Robert McNamara with chants of "We Won't Forget" and "No Prize to the Butcher." A special University committee had selected him for a \$25,000 award for "great international achievement." McNamara's role as the principal architect of the Viet Nam war in the '60's when he was LBJ's Defense Secretary has not been forgotten. Thirteen department heads and hundreds of faculty signed letters disassociating themselves from the prize. Many joined the students in the demonstration, during which 25 were arrested.

* Kent, Ohio, May 4. Over 1,000 Kent State students took part in an indoor rally to commemorate the victims of the 1970 National Guard shooting which left 4 students dead. The administration and the student newspaper sabotaged and attacked the May 4 Task Force, which organized the event. They claimed that there is no longer anything at stake - after a seven-year struggle a gym has been erected to obliterate the site of the murders and the state awarded a large settlement to the parents of the shooting victims.

Kent students didn't buy it. At the rally they cheered speakers who attacked the attempted revival of the draft, pointing out that the battles of 1970 are anything but dead history. One member of the Revolutionary Student Brigade, which played a leading role in the Task Force, said, "If you think this was big, wait till next year, the tenth anniversary!"

Feel a draft?

Protesters say: "Hell no, we won't go"

Feeling chilled by a draft? If you're a teenager, you should be. May 10th the House Armed Services Committee supported a bill to require registration of all 18-year-old males with the Selective Service System (SSS) starting in 1981.

Over 500 demonstrators protested the bill April 30 with a resounding "Hell no, we won't go" on the capitol steps. Dozens of other actions around the country have hit the proposal. What's behind the stepped-up militarization by this country's rulers?

GLOBAL PRESSURES

The U.S. is in an increasingly desperate scramble to protect its world-wide turf from its Soviet rivals and liberation struggles. With puppet regimes teetering more and more at the edge of a cliff, the U.S. may have to play a more direct role throughout its empire.

The Soviets are the main reason the U.S. has started beating its war drums. With recent expansionist moves across the globe, notably Africa and Asia, the USSR has become the biggest military danger to U.S. interests overseas. Soviet military build-up in recent years has been phenomenal. From 1964-78, their conventional forces increased by 21%. In North Central Europe, 20,500 Warsaw Pact tanks face the 7,000 of NATO.

WHY DRAFT? WHY REGISTRATION?

U.S. imperialism's military strength isn't keeping pace with the world situation. Registration is needed for quicker mobilization in the

event of a big war and as a first step towards a draft, necessary to solve long-term personnel shortages.

Reserves face the biggest shortages. Scenarios of European war predict 500,000 American casualties within six weeks. The Army wants a reserve pool of 729,000 to meet this possibility. Right now it has only 182,000. Nor could the forces to continue the war be mobilized with the SSS inactive.

The All-Volunteer Force just isn't providing enough cannon fodder. All branches of the military missed their recruiting goals in 1978. The Navy was worst off, reaching only 85%. Nor will recruiting women eliminate the problem - the Army recruited only 72% of its female goal in the first half of fiscal 1979.

This is in spite of an intensely aggressive recruiting campaign.

There is already one recruiter for every 9.4 enlistable 18-year-old males, and an average of \$1,000 is spent to lure every recruit.

The All-Volunteer Force also suffers from a shortage of what the brass consider to be well qualified and trustworthy soldiers. In 1978

40% of the recruits were Black, hardly reliable in the event of an African intervention. Forty percent of all recruits don't finish their first tour, and the Navy's absentee and desertion rates are the highest in its history. In a recent Navy study of new recruits, 50% weren't sure or disagreed that free enterprise is the best economic system.

WHAT'S TO COME?

There are currently no less than eight bills in Congress dealing with the draft, registration, compulsive national service, or all three. Registration could be back this year, or within a few years. The draft is probably further off. Women will probably have to register. Possibly only 18-year-olds will have to register, leaving out older youths more influenced by the Viet Nam era. There will be few, if any, deferments.

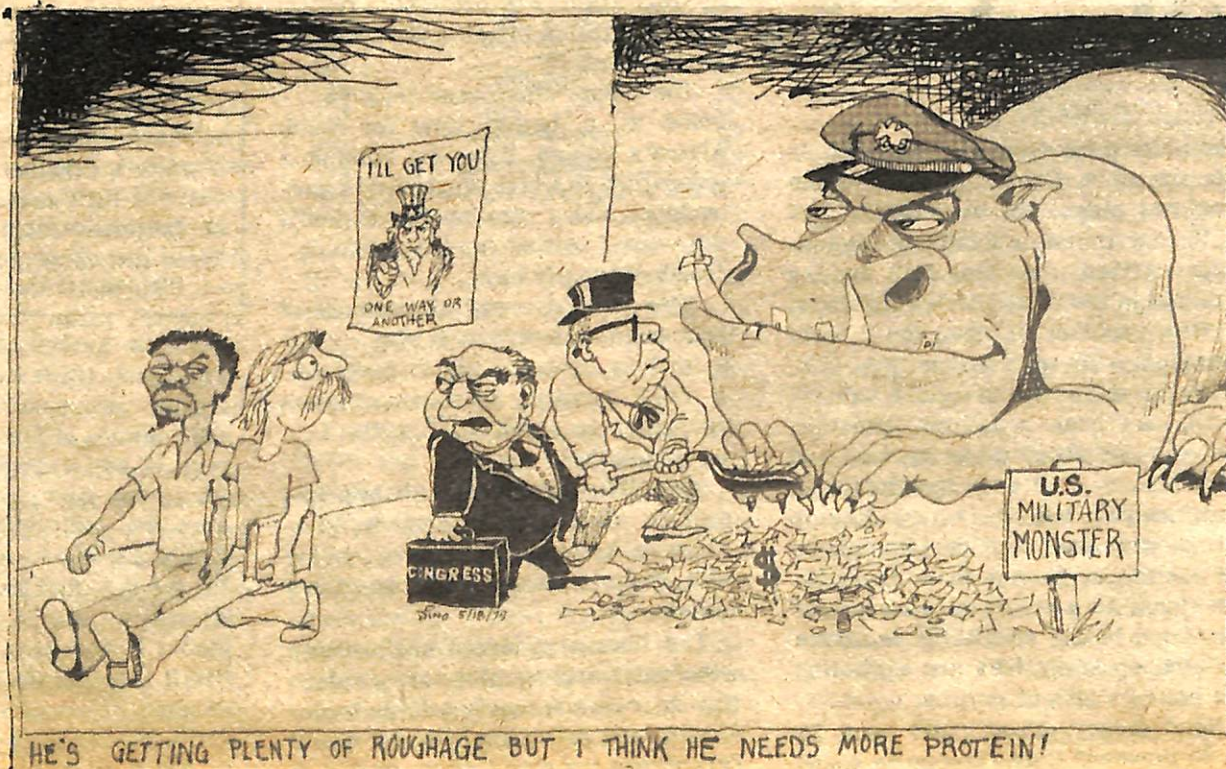
Meanwhile, Carter is asking for a larger SSS budget and is upgrading the SSS from "deep standby" status

to regular standby and has quietly begun appointing standby SSS directors in each of the 50 states.

The military machine is extremely concerned about public reaction to registration; this could greatly affect how fast they move. Said a Pentagon report:

"Major resistance to registration could adversely affect voluntary enlistments and seriously aggravate all-volunteer force recruiting difficulties ... if unopposed, registration could help recruiting and strengthen the U.S. military posture."

Their concern is well founded. May first saw demonstrations against the draft and registration across the country, many drawing hundreds of young people. The movement has also begun developing in high schools, including several in Madison, Wisconsin. A recent Harris poll showed that a majority of youths aged 18-26 are against a draft or registration. According to government figures, over 100,000 people deserted or evaded the draft during the Viet Nam era.



Philly driver stabbed

1,500 attend wake; demand protection

Philadelphia bus drivers drove with their headlights on in memory of Charles Kolbik, a union brother who was stabbed to death by a crazed passenger on May 13. Fifteen hundred attended his wake, busloads coming from each barn.

The members of Transit Workers Union local 234 wanted to stop work out of respect for Kolbik and in protest against the dangers of working in one of the country's most dangerous transit systems.

The union president conferred with Mayor Rizzo and held a TV press conference assuring all drivers that the police had agreed to make spot checks of busses.

"Spot checks? What does that do when a thug is coming at you with a knife?" was the typical driver's response. The union members could see another sell out in the works. They had won allocation of money for 2 way radios three years ago, and still the radios aren't installed.

Drivers began meeting to force some action. The top union leadership was not really interested in protecting the men. When a driver, accused of murder for protecting himself against an attacker, needed legal defense; the leaders offered him the union lawyer—for a slight fee, \$3,000.

The meetings united more drivers than any issue has in years. Out-of-office officials, a wives auxiliary, and union members from every barn

came to the meetings chaired by members of Driving Force, a rank and file organization within the local.

Driving Force was fresh from spearheading a fight that won the rehiring of 43 maintenance workers. The forty-three were fired for theft because the company computer had overpaid them.

Driving Force decided to invite some former union leaders to the meetings, even though some of them had been sell outs while in office. By including these guys the whole coalition was broadened. The former officials brought in their contacts. Other drivers were more willing to join the effort when they saw how many different types of people were involved.

The wives auxiliary made several press statements, calling for measures to protect their husbands.

The most popular demand is for a plexiglass booth to enclose the driver's seat. The wives have given the company until July 13 to respond. If they get no action, they'll set up a picket line that could trigger a wildcat.

Under all this heat, the company answered a demand Driving Force made a year ago when another transit worker was killed. Now, they'll offer a \$1,000 reward to anyone who comes to the aid of a driver being attacked.

The drivers will keep on fighting for as long as it takes to get off Philly's "endangered species list."

Fighting judge . . .

(cont. from page 13)

nounced a Judicial Commission investigation of Wright's actions. When the judge's 10 year term expires at the end of the year, Koch vowed to weigh the "No Bail" decision in deciding whether to reappoint him.

"I'll tell you why there's so much noise about this," Wright responded. "It's because it's a police officer that's involved." Later he added, "There's murder among N.Y.'s finest. Police have a license to hunt down Blacks and kill them with impunity."

The "Wright is Right" campaign has become a focus for people's outrage at the cops. Police murders of Blacks have occurred with alarming regularity — and have consistently sparked large scale protests. In the first 3 months of 1979, police brutality charges in N.Y. jumped 17%.

What's more, Wright is one of the few Black figures with political clout

that people see as their own. Mayor Koch iced most of the Black political establishment out of his administration, and in any case, people feel that too many Black politicians forgot the grass-roots long ago.

Finally, Wright has become the target of the same forces that Blacks in N.Y.C. are fighting around a whole range of issues: hospital closings, welfare cuts, unemployment, as well as police brutality. A few months earlier, an angry audience ran Koch out of a community meeting in Harlem. People are in no mood to tolerate his attempts to oust Wright.

"I guess I'll have to get an honest job," said Wright when questioned about the possibility of losing his position on the bench. Koch would love to cut Bruce loose but he might not be able to do it in the face of the outpouring of support for "the people's judge".

Rhodesia

(cont. from page 8)

the white minority governments are in deep trouble. Open support for these regimes means the eventual loss of U.S. investments and influence in southern Africa when they fall, and big trouble in the rest of Africa right now.

His problem is that the liberal position, with Ambassador to the U.N. Andy Young as its principal spokesman, has been a failure. The U.S. talks a lot about majority rule and the need to deal with the liberation movements, but it is unwilling to break with the white racist regimes or even force them to make real concessions. As a result the government has been losing credibility in Africa and the conservatives are exploiting the policy's lack of results.

Need money? Need guns? want 20 to 30 thousand Cuban troops to speed

up liberation a little? The Kremlin will be glad to oblige—and to present the bill later.

The conservative push couldn't come at a better time for South Africa's rulers. They are building a federation in which Muzorewa's government and a similar puppet outfit they are setting up in Namibia (South-West Africa).

They have dropped all pretense of compromise and are setting up for a hopeless, bloody stand in defense of white minority domination. Helms and company want to line the U.S. up behind this.

The USSR is delighted with the prospect of such a shift. Already, pro-Western African leaders are looking with more interest at Soviet offers of help.

The liberation forces in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and Namibia are conducting their own struggle with their own forces, and doing their best to avoid dependence on any outside power. A

MARCH ON P.O. DEATH TRAP

NEW YORK — On May 9, close to 1,000 angry postal workers demonstrated in front of Manhattan's main post office to protest unsafe working conditions at the soon-to-be-opened Morgan Station. The protest was called by the New York Metro local of the APWU.

Postal management has actually refused to permit inspectors from the government's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) into the \$70 million facility! The demonstration demanded a full OSHA inspection before any mail move through Morgan, a first step, workers say, but not the final one to insure a safe work place.

At Morgan, machines are unsafe in design and are jammed so close together that the heat will make

work around them dangerous — not to mention intolerable. Congressional hearings sparked by union protests have found that fire safety at Morgan is terrible and ventilation is totally inadequate.

The demonstrators, who also carried signs demanding amnesty, marched from the Main PO to Morgan to demand that it be opened for inspection. When Metro President Mo Biller tried to go in with a TV news crew, he was stopped security guards and PO management.

The union has instructed its members not to work any mail at Morgan until it gets a clean bill of health. Postal workers have condensed this into a simple slogan: "Not safe. No work."

Iran (cont. from page 8)

The State Department is trying to re-establish a network of agents and allies based on hidden SAVAK and armed forces personnel and those in government, business and intellectual circles who favor Western-style government and a capitalist economic structure.

These forces are well represented in the weak Provisional Government of Prime Minister Bazargan. Bazargan has repeatedly called for the Islamic Revolutionary courts to stop the trials of all but the worst mass murderers. He wants the country to return quickly to a state of "normalcy" where business can prosper once again in the oilfields and factories. He is eager to lure back foreign technicians and engineers, who won't return until things are more stable.

Ayatollah Khomeini points out that the number of traitors, torturers, thugs and thieves executed is very low by comparison with most revolutions. Should those who made life a hell on earth for the Iranian people for so many years go unpunished?

At the same time, Khomeini admits that the activities of the Islamic courts have not been without shortcomings. In May he called for limiting executions and the removal of "irresponsible elements" in the courts after big protests when the sons of a popular Ayatollah in Teheran were arrested for leftist activities.

Differences between the Provisional Government and the Islamic Revolutionary Council are also deepening over the shape of the future government of the country. The entire Board of Directors of the government run National Iranian Oil Company just resigned to protest the Islamic leaders new plans.

Instead of an elected assembly to debate and draw up a new constitution, Khomeini is having a small committee draft one, which will be submitted to a public Yes or No vote. He himself may run for president. Although Khomeini clearly feels the need to strengthen the Islamic path, there is little doubt that the measures he proposes could win the support of three quarters of the Iranian people.

Turmoil also continues among

shift in American policy to normal relations, trade and aid to the racist settler governments will strengthen the enemies of freedom and make the path of self-reliance harder to stick to. In any case, such a shift will insure that come victory, the people of Zimbabwe will have the same loathing for the U.S. that the people of Iran and Nicaragua do. As Patriotic Front leader Robert Mugabe pointedly asks, "Will it be possible to establish harmonious relations with a United States that will have waged an economic war, if not a literal war, against you?"

Iran's minority nationalities. Demands by the Arab inhabitants of Khuzistan province, center of the oil and shipping industries, for self-government sparked a near civil war in May. Fighting lasted almost a week before an agreement was signed between Arab leaders and the provincial chief.

The present situation has revolutionary forces in Iran walking a tightrope. Groups like the People's Fedaye have supported the just struggles of the minority nationalities for autonomy and united with workers, women, students and others fighting for concessions from the Bazargan government and the Islamic Revolutionary Council. Although they have won increased respect and following in these battles, they still run the danger of pushing the revolution farther and faster than the people's understanding and the situation warrant. To do so would create turmoil without advancing the cause of the masses of people.

Turmoil is the goal of one self-styled "communist" group, the Tudeh Party. After sitting out the Anti-Shah struggle, they have suddenly geared up to serve as the main hand of the USSR in the country. Their methods are shifty. Even as they hail Khomeini and the Islamic revolution in their publications, they stir up dissension wherever possible.

For example, they have denounced the autonomy struggles of the minorities, but many of the Kurdish and Arab activists who clashed with the central government pack boast late model Soviet weapons. The Tudeh Party unites with all attacks on the U.S., but paints the USSR as the natural friend of the Iranian revolution. Some friend! The Soviets have smuggled cash, arms and advisors to the Tudeh Party so it can make an all-out bid for power in the event the current situation decays into chaos.

The scheming of the two super-powers just underlines the importance of the big demonstrations against U.S. and other foreign meddling. The Iranian people have a tense situation to deal with as they work to consolidate their revolution, and such intervention can only worsen things.

P.O. (cont. from page 5)

bitration board was refusing to accept a brief written by lawyers for the fired postal workers. At this point Biller and APWU Mailhandler VP Kenny Leiner (himself a fired worker) called on the NEB to reject the original deal that set up the panel. APWU President Andrews led the roll call to vote them down.

Postal workers are now taking the Postal Service and the union to court over the arbitration ruling.

Huelga de ropas cierra pequeño taller en N.Y.

Primer golpe en campaña pro-union?

NUEVA YORK - No es una huelga grande. 20 obreros en el centro de Nueva York, en huelga por 7 semanas. Pero los obreros de la Corporacion R&F en el centro de aguja se unieron y sus acciones pueden ser el principio de un nuevo esfuerzo para organizar el centro. Despues de 7 semanas duras, hay una factoria menos sin union.

El centro de aguja es en verdad dos centros. Uno tiene uniones, principal-

mente la ILGWU. Casi 100,000 obreros concentrados en una milla en el centro de la ciudad. Pero, a traves del centro, hay talleres sin union. Los cortadores de la union, particularmente, han perdido trabajos a las fabricas sin union. Ahora, esas hacen solamente el 50% de este tipo de taller.

La union no ha hecho casi nada mientras que las fabricas sin union han crecido a traves del centro. De hecho, el ex-director del local 10 de los cortadores fue un dueno secreto de unas de las fabricas sin union. El botado de su posicion por la presion de los obreros, pero sus politicas

no salieron con el.

Ahora el ILGWU esta bajo presion de organizar. Ellos han perdido 100,000 trabajos en el ano pasado. El liderato de la union le hecha la culpa a los importes, pero la verdad es que los talleres sin union existen en todas partes de la ciudad, muchas de ellas en la calle donde esta situada la oficina de la union.

Muchas de las huelgas de la ILGWU no son nada mas que un punado de empleados de la union haciendo piquetes afuera de un taller mientras que todo los empleados siguen trabajando adentro.

R&F fue diferente. Los obreros mismo hicieron los piquetes, y fueron efectivos 100%, por 7 semanas, sin nadie trabajando adentro. El jefe venia todas las mananas, y cada dia todo lo que podia hacer era sentarse y esperar al dia siguiente. Todo el espirito estaba afuera. Los obreros de R&F difundieron la noticia de su huelga por medio de un volante distribuido por los cortadores y tambien hablaron con otros grupos de obreros de aguja.

A lo largo de la huelga habia un hecho claro. La compania R&F no iba

(vease pagina 4)

25¢
SECCION
HISPANICA

VOZ DEL OBRERO

JULIO, 1979

ANTERIORMENTE EL OBRERO

VOL II NO. 5

Petroleros gigante culpables por

Dictador Nicaragüense acerca ruina

EEUU apoya a Somoza

El Fondo Monetario Internacional (FMI), dominado por los EEUU, acaba de darle una mano al asediado dictador Anastasio Somoza un prestamo de \$65 millones.

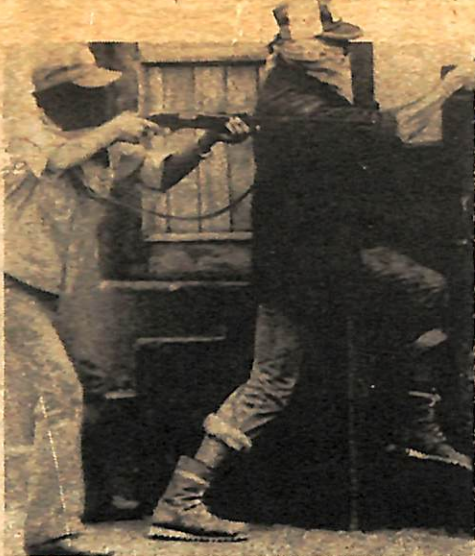
Solamente unas semanas mas tarde en el 1 de Junio guerrilleros y ciudadanos Nicaragüenses iniciaron una ofensiva mayor con la meta de derrotar a Somoza.

El prestamo abastecera la tesoreria bancarota de Somoza, de cual casi la mitad va a la Guardia Nacional. Y en este momento la Guardia, el cuerpo militar y policiaco de Nicaragua tiene sus armas apuntadas contra el pueblo Nicaragüense, que ha estado en constante rebellion contra el odiado Somoza, por casi un ano. Denuovo los EEUU esta tratando de respaldar un dictador detestado enfrentando la justicia del pueblo.

El ultimo prestamo del FMI ademas prepara el camino para otro prestamo de \$40 millon de la Asociacion de Seguro de Credito Federal, parte del banco de Exportar e Importar de los EEUU.

Los EEUU ha respaldado a la familia Somoza desde que envio los 'Marines' e instalo al padre de Anastasio como presidente en 1930. Hasta este dia arma la Guardia Nacional y entrena sus comandantes, incluso el hijo de Somoza, en bases militares en los EEUU. La familia controla casi todos los rasgos de la economia del pais, mientras la mayoría del pueblo Nicaragüense vive en pobreza, los EEUU ha ganado mucha ventajas de este aliado rico en minerales y locado estrategicamente.

Mas, aun que los EEUU le estaba



Guerrilleros jovenes apuntan armas contra.....

mandando a Somoza mas ayuda que a cualquier otro gobierno Latino Americano en los 1970's, el regimen esta en sus ultimas horas.

De los guerrilleros Sandinistas en el campo, a los obreros y la juventud en las ciudades, los Nicaragüenses estan luchando para derrotar al aislado Somoza y al Somocismo.

La ofensiva del 3 de Junio se habia expectado. Hay batallas reacias entre los Sandinistas y la Guardia Nacional en ciudades provinciales a traves del pais. El 5 de Junio los guerrilleros liberaron a Leon la segunda mas grande ciudad en Nicaragua y mantuvieron la guarnicion en estado de sitio. Los Sandinistas tambien controlan a Narango.

Mientras tanto el pueblo Nicaragüense lanzo una huelga general el 4 de Junio llamada por los Sandinistas con la meta de derrotar a Somoza. Tiendas, factorias, y el transporte han parado a causa del alto nivel de participacion en la huelga. A pesar del hecho que miles de ciudadanos han sido ejecutado por el



....la dictadura de Somoza, arriba.

“reino de terror” de la Guardia Nacional.

El Somocismo se esta desrumbando bajo los pies del dictador. Para poder adquirir el prestamo del FMI para comenzar a pagar \$1.8 millones en deudas del gobierno, Somoza accedio a dedidas economicas cuyo efecto sera muy pesado para el pueblo Nicaragüense. Ya ha comenzado a implementar los terminos del prestamo, devaluando el dinero Nicaragüense.

El resultado fue inmediatos alzos de precios, sancionados por el gobierno. Las tasas de electricidad y agua solamente subieron 30%. El acuerdo ademas requiere que los salarios se mantengan bajo. Oposicion a las nuevas medidas de austeridad ya han comenzado a alientar sentimiento contra el gobierno.

El ano pasado, el gobierno de los EEUU hizo todo en su poder para mantener al Sha de Iran en poder. Fallo y sus esfuerzos le ganaron el odio del pueblo Persico y de todos los que soportan la libertad alrededor del mundo.

Ahora los capitalistas estan, a nombre del pueblo americano, respaldando a otro codicioso, vicioso tirante que ha sido buen sirviente de ellos en el pasado. Denuovo estan examinado hacia otro fracaso miserable.

escasez Gobierno asiste al robo

Cuando los camioneros se enfurecen, tienen maneras de forzar a la gente a prestarle atencion. Ellos tienen algo que decir sobre los precios de gasolina y petroleo, y comenzaron a decirlo durante el fin de semana del 2 y 3 de Junio. Camioneros--duenos se sus propios vehiculos los usaron para bloquear las estaciones de camiones grandes cerca de Chicago, Souix City, Tulsa, y una dozena de otros sitios a traves del pais.

El movimiento crecio en los dias siguientes. Los canales de “CB” llenos de discusiones sobre los planes de los camioneros y sus demandas: amplias cantidades de petroleo a un precio que le permita permacecer operando, 50¢ por galon en vez de los 80¢ o mas que las estaciones estan cobrando ahora.

La posicion de los camioneros es una con quien todos pueden simpatizar, porque todos estan enfrentando la misma crisis dua. En la mayor parte del pais escasezes continuan siendo una amenaza inmediata, pero no una realidad, pero en todas partes precios de gasolina estan volando hacia la marca de un dolar por galon.

La gente esta enfurecida, listo para luchar. Quieren y necesitan gas. Lo necesitan para ir a trabajar, ir de compra, transportar a sus ninos, y visitar a sus amigos. Ahor estan cayendo victimas del atraco de las companias de petroleo y el gobierno.

EXPLOSION DE PRECIOS

En Nueva York y Chicago, gasolina sin plomo en algunas estaciones ya esta a mas de 99.9¢ por galon y muchos otros lugares la situacion es similar. Las companias de petroleo decidieron, despues que Carter anuncio que iba a quitar los controles de precio sobre petroleo producido en los EEUU, que tenian la luz verde para aumentar los precios. Ejecutivos de las companias

(vease pagina 4)

Carta

Queremos hacer del conocimiento de todos, en este país que se habla de derechos humanos, las constantes violaciones que en contra de todos los Mexicanos se cometen a diario. Ya que los jueces que condenan cruelmente a cientos de Mexicanos diariamente a 6 meses de prisión sin importarles lo que nuestras familias sufran. Ya que no tienen otros medios para sostenerse más que la esperanza del marido que viene con la esperanza de mejorar la situación económica de su hogar y la realidad que se encuentra es otra muy cruel.

Ya que encontramos jueces que condenan cruelmente, sin importarles que los que sufren en su mayoría son niños. Ellos sufren miseria y hambre mientras sus padres cumplen sentencias de 6 meses por no tener la suerte de nacer de este lado. No por que a nosotros los mexicanos se nos asuste con la prisión sino por que creemos que todos los ciudadanos de este país tienen que pagar nuestro sostenimiento injustamente, pobres y ricos. Nosotros vinimos a trabajar, no a que nos mantengan, porque esto es lo que están haciendo, porque nos tienen en sus cárceles de antemano.

Yo les quiero decir que nosotros los mexicanos ni les quitamos los trabajos, ni venimos a quedarnos permanentemente aquí. Y si logramos algunos de nosotros tener un buen trabajo, este gobierno está ganando porque la mayoría no puede reclamar lo que se quita de cada cheque, como seguro social, todo se queda para beneficio de este país. Al contrario se nos acusa, se nos castiga, se nos dice que les quitamos sus trabajos a muchos ciudadanos que no tienen trabajo. Pero la verdad es que a ninguno de esta nación le convendría trabajar por unos cuantos dólares por día ya que todo está muy caro.

HUELGA DE CAMPESINOS EN QUINTO MES

UFW desafiado a organizar obreros indocumentados

La Union de los Campesinos Unidos está entrando su quinto mes de una huelga amarga en contra de los dueños en California y un tiempo crítico en su historia.

En enero, el (UFW) comenzó su huelga por salarios a la par con otros obreros y condiciones de tra-

bajo decentes en el Valle Imperial de California. Los dueños respondieron con golpeaduras, balas, y el asesinato de uno de los huelguistas-- el asesino salió libre.

Cuando la huelga se extendió hacia el norte en abril, los dueños intensificaron sus esfuerzos para que-

brarla. Están organizando la importación de obreros indocumentados en grandes números para recoger la cosecha. Muchos de los obreros Mexicanos no ollen de la huelga hasta que están cientos de millas de sus casas y cientos de dólares en deudas a los contratantes que lo han transportado.

El Presidente del UFW Cesar Chavez reaccionó pidiendo que el servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización deportara a los obreros indocumentados, una acción que ha causado mucho debate dentro de la unión y entre sus partidarios. Los oficiales de la UFW han ido hasta el punto de darle los nombres y las direcciones de obreros que ellos sospechan de no tener documentos a la Migra. Aunque la Migra hace el papel de una fuerza de policía para los dueños y hasta Chavez admite que ellos hacen cumplir con las leyes selectivamente, en contra de los huelguistas y no los esquirols.

Una organización de campesinos de Arizona está empujando a la UFW a que pare de demandar la deportación de los indocumentados, y que los organice en vez, El Proyecto de Organizar del Condado de Maricopa (MCOP) notó en una carta a la UFW: "Mientras los obreros con documentos y los obreros indocumentados estén divididos los dueños podrán usar un grupo contra el otro."

MCOP ha organizado lo indocumentados con éxito, ganando una batalla importante de contrato en el rancho grande Arizona Goldmar Citrus a comienzos del año.

La carta del MCOP continuó: "Usar una agencia represiva como la Patrulla de Frontera, que está maltratando y asesinando nuestro pueblo, no es la solución a el problema de esquirols... la solución es organizar la gente como nosotros hacemos con cualquier esquirol que viene a tratar de romper nuestras huelgas."

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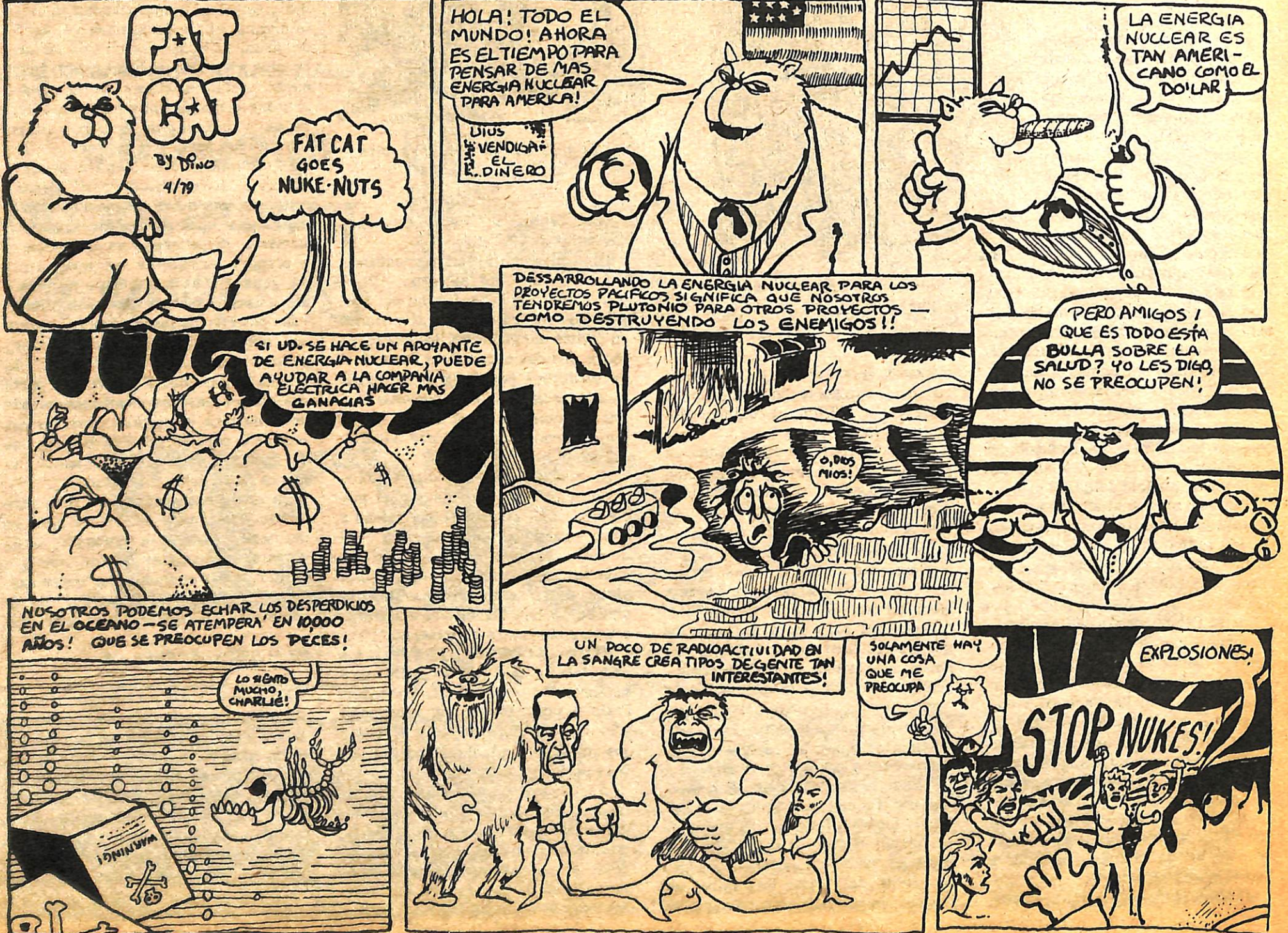
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No se dejen enganar por el capitalismo. Lo que quieren es tenernos separados uno del otro para que nunca nos unamos, pero debemos comprender que en los Estados Unidos y en Mexico las condiciones para la clase obrera es la misma y cada día que pasa va empeorándose más y más. Yo les mando estas palabras y les pedimos su apoyo a todos los trabajadores que gosan de su libertad. Ya que nosotros nos encontramos en prisión nomás por buscar una vida mejor para nuestros

seres queridos. Les mandamos saludos desde la cárcel de Pecos Texas. Queremos que esta carta se haga en Inglés y Español por que queremos que se den cuenta que nosotros somos humanos como cualquier persona y que no queremos ser discriminados en contra, como lo somos en estos momentos que se encuentran las cárceles llenas de Mexicanos. Para todos los trabajadores del periódico La Voz Del Obrero nuestros más cordiales saludos desde la cárcel de Pecos, Texas.



OLA DE LUCHAS SACUDE EL SALVADOR



Vocera del Bloc Popular Revolucionario denuncia dictadura.

El Salvador-Estallando, como una serie de petardos, cada explosión coincidiendo parcialmente y uniéndose a la paroxima, una serie de luchas han traído este país al borde de una insurrección popular. No pudiendo sofocar el movimiento con matanzas el gobierno ha declarado un estado de sitio.

Más pequeña y más espesa poblada de las naciones del área El Salvador ha tenido una larga historia de fermento de obreros y campesinos. La nueva ola, sin embargo es distinguida por su ritmo y ferocidad.

idad.

*El 5 de Mayo miembros del Bloque Popular Revolucionario tomaron las embajadas de Francia y Costa Rica demandando la libertad para 5 líderes encarcelados por el gobierno. El gobierno fue forzado a liberar a 2 pretendiendo que no tenía a los otros 3. Grupos de oposición acusaron que habían sido asesinados en la cárcel.

*8 de Mayo, 150 partidarios ocuparon el Catedral Metropolitano. Cuando 200 otros intentaron entrar la policía abrió fuego, asesinando a 23 e hiriendo a más de 70.

*11 de Mayo, el intento del gobierno de haogar el movimiento en la sangre del pueblo tiene el resultado contrario. Desafiando el ejército y la policía secreta 20,000 obreros y campesinos desfilan en el funeral de las víctimas, salmodiando lemas contra el gobierno y cargando los 23 ataúdes de las víctimas 3 millas hasta el cementerio. El mismo día la embajada Venezolana es ocupada.

*22 de Mayo, 150 manifestantes intentando abastecer la embajada Venezolana con comida son ametrallados por los menos 14 mueren y otros 20 caen heridos.

*23 de Mayo en represalia por la matanza guerrilleros matan el Ministro de Educación en una emboscada.

*23 de Mayo, el gobierno declara un estado de emergencia por 30 días suspendiendo todos los derechos constitucionales, incluso libertad de prensa, y 'habeas corpus'.

El BPR ocupó las embajadas Francesa y Venezolana hasta el primero de Junio cuando cambiaron los rehenes por salvoconducto y asilo en México.

Estas acciones y batallas diarias entre el ejército y guerrilleros armados en ambos áreas rurales y barrios bajos de San Salvador han dejado a más de 80 muertos y por lo menos 100 heridos desde el primero de Mayo.

Los alzós en violencia, secuestros, y huelgas sobre los últimos dos años reflejan las asperas condiciones económicas y sociales enfrentadas por el pueblo salvadoreño. Un sistema de agricultura feudal, respaldado por

46 años de dictadura militar, le da a un punado de la población (las catorces familias) control de 85% de la tierra cultivable. Para la mayoría de las población esto ha resultado en una tasa de desempleo de 20% entre la población de edad de trabajo, subempleo de 50%, y una tasa de mortalidad de infantes de 50%.

Estas condiciones han proveído un terreno favorable para el desarrollo de varias organizaciones revolucionarias arraigadas en la clase obrera y entre los campesinos.

Más grande de esta es el BPR, con 30,000 miembros, y las Fuerzas de Liberación Popular - Faribundo Martí con cual el BPR tienen lazos estrechos. Su estrategia llama por una guerra prolongada popular, basada en una alianza de obreros y campesinos para derrocar el régimen corriente de General Carlos Romero.

El aumento del BPR refleja extenso sentimiento contra el gobierno. Comenzando como una organización de campesinos se ha desarrollado en una coalición de dos sindicatos de campesinos, un comité de 33 uniones industriales, la unión de maestros más grande del país, y grupos estudiantiles de universidades y de escuelas secundarias.

Los sucesos en El Salvador son parte de una ola de lucha desplegándose de Guatemala a Panamá, que está aflojando el agarrón del imperialismo 'yankee' sobre la región. Para el pueblo salvadoreño significa condiciones más favorables para poner alto a la explotación y control imperialista que ahora enfrentan.

Luchas Borinqueñas golpean plan pro-estadidad

información del Guardian

A la vez que el Gobernador de Puerto Rico está viajando a Nueva York para participar en el desfile de San Juan una nueva ola de manifestaciones están golpeando sus planes a favor de estadidad.

La cumbre de esta ola es la lucha por el pueblo de Vieques para botar a la Marina de la isla Puertorriqueña, una batalla que está cobrando ayuda amplia de varias fuerzas y partidos.

Pero para Barcelo Vieques no es el único obstáculo a sus planes de hacer Puerto Rico el 51 estado de los EEUU. En una variedad de cuestiones - los cuatros prisioneros políticos Nacionalistas, represión de militantes de sindicato, corrupción del gobierno - las políticas de Barcelo lo han dejado extremadamente aislado.

El caso de los cuatros prisioneros Nacionalistas sirve de ejemplo, encarcelados en los EEUU por más de 25 años a causa de sus ataques pro-independencia contra el Congreso de los EEUU y Blair House. Todas las fuerzas mayores en la isla, incluso los últimos cuatros gobernadores de Puerto Rico, han demandado libertad para los cuatros.

Barcelo, sin embargo, le escribió al Presidente Jimmy Carter en Enero y pidió que Carter rechazara una petición pendiente por perdón.

En reacción, más de 5000 personas demostraron el 28 de Enero demandando la libertad de los cuatros y condenando el 'Corazón de piedra de Barcelo'. Solamente unos cuantos días más tarde el Presidente Carter perdonó a Patty Hearst enfureciendo aun más a los patriotas Puertorriqueños.

La obstinación de Romero Barcelo sobre los nacionalistas no es un incidente aislado. Solamente unas cuantas semanas anterior ocurrió el incidente de 'los dos himnos y banderas'. Puerto Rico había sido nombrado

como el sitio para los Juegos Pan Americanos en Julio, una competición importante de deporte internacional. Barcelo anunció sus planes de volar la bandera Americana a lo largo de los juegos al lado de la bandera Puertorriqueña, y usar el 'Star Spangled Banner' en adición al himno nacional Puertorriqueño, 'La Borinqueña'.

El último acontecimiento en esta lucha vino durante la pelea de boxear entre Wilfredo Benitez y Palomino en Enero. De acuerdo con los deseos del gobierno el 'Star Spangled Banner' fue cantada en esta ocasión, y media hora de chiflas, siseos, e insultos resultaron. El próximo día, Barcelo anunció que solamente la bandera y el himno Puertorriqueño sería usado en los juegos Pan Americanos, pero que el organizaría una recepción y celebración especial de estado en cual la bandera americana sería usada.

En adición a sus acciones anti-patrióticas, Barcelo ha sido aislado por sus políticas represivas.

Un gran jurado investigando las circunstancias circundante los asesinatos del 25 de Julio del verano pasado de dos jóvenes pro-independencia en Cerro Maravilla, y un pleito introducido por los relativos de los jóvenes, encontró el gobierno de Barcelo responsable directamente por las muertes.

El corriente juicio para fraguar al jefe de sindicato Miguel Cabrera como asesino es otro ejemplo de la estrategia del régimen para intimidar los movimientos de independencia y de obreros. Las acciones de Barcelo tienen la meta de combatir y contener la creciente militancia del movimiento de obreros Puertorriqueño, reflejado en la reciente reelección de 4-a-1 de Luis Lausell, miembro del Comité Central del PSP, a su puesto de presidente de la unión de



Residente de Vieques arrestado por protestar bombardeo de la isla

obreros de electricidad, UTIER.

La credibilidad del gobierno además ha sido danada por revelaciones de corrupción en altos niveles del gobierno. 'El asunto de Guillemard' implicando el amigo íntimo de Barcelo, Andres Guillemard, reveló el uso por Guillemard de su posición en un banco del gobierno para llevar a cabo negocios beneficiosos a una

compañía de cual él es dueño. Un solo trato le dio \$250,000 en ganancias a la compañía.

Estos sucesos han socavado los esfuerzos de Barcelo de pintar la estadidad como en el interés del pueblo Puertorriqueño, exponiéndolo en vez como un lacayo vendido de los EEUU dispuesto a vender el futuro de su país.

Vietnam traciona la revolucion en Asia surena

A traves de Asia Surena, de las Filipinas a Burma, movimientos de liberacion nacional han estado luchando por anos por liberacion de la opresion y dominacion extranjera. El gobierno Vietnemes vino al poder a traves de este tipo de lucha.

Pero hoy los gobernantes de Vietnam y su ejercito--el cuarto mas grande en el mundo esta apunalandq los pueblos de Asia en la espalda. Solamente en el ultimo ano Vietnam ha:

*Invadido a Kampuchea Democratica (Camboya), derrocando el gobierno y instalando sus titeres como los nuevos gobernantes.

*Estacionado 200,000 tropas en Kampuchea y su otro vecino, Laos, que domina ahora.

*Forzado a Laos a firmar un acuerdo con el gobierno militar de Thailand (contiguo a ambos Kampuchea y Laos), sobre la supresion de los guerilleros en Thailand, que han librado una guerra de 14 anos por liberacion.

*Organizado un "genuino Partido Comunista Tailanes" basado en Laos.

*Condenado el Nuevo Ejercito Popular en las Filipinas por su guerra de guerillas y su unidad con fuerzas de oposicion amplias de el pais.

*Enviado a su Primer Ministro Pham Van Dong a cinco paises de Asia Surena, anunciando a los gobiernos, y a traves de conferencias de prensas, al mundo su oposicion a todos

los movimientos de liberacion en el area. El Primer Ministro hasta puso una guirnalda sobre el monumento a tropas Inglesas que pelearon contra fuerzas de liberacion en Malaysia en los 1950's.

Firmado pactos militares, politico, y economicos con la Union Sovietica que agrandan significativamente la influencia de Moscu en la region.

DEPENDENCIA....

No hay ninguna lucha de liberacion en Asia Surena que los Vietnemes o sus patrones la Union Sovietica soportan. iriera en contra de su meta de hegemonia en la region. Y chocaria con su estrategia de dependencia en la Union Sovietica y por turno aumentar la dependencia en Hanoi de otras naciones de Asia Surena.

Vietnam se ha puesto decisivamente en el bloc Sovietico convirtiendose en el pais mas poblado en el. Ellos ignoran el papel de la URSS como un poder imperialista e insiste que Moscu ha "hecho grandes contribuciones a los esfuerzos revolucionarios de otras naciones." Vietnam se ha dirigido hacia los Sovieticos como proveedor de los abastecimientos necesarios para su agresion contra Kampuchea, igual que los EEUU respaldaron sus titeres en Indochina. Por su parte los Sovieticos ganan influencia sobre unos de los paises mas grandes y poderosos en la region.



Obreros en centro de agua en Nueva York estan comenzando a organizar.

Huelga de ropas . . .

(viene de pagina 1)

a abrir sin union. Los obreros estaban unidos 100% que si no ganaban una victoria grande iban a ganar una victoria pequena, pero no iban a perder. Ganar grande significaria organizar una union en R&F. Una victoria pequena seria forzar a R&F a cerrar el taller, con los obreros buscando trabajos en otros lugares con la alluda

de la union. La amenaza de los jefes de cerrar la fabrica si trataran de organizar una union fue enfrentada.

Despues de 7 semanas, R&F se cerro. La union asistio a un taller con union a situarse en el mismo sitio, que ahora emplea a algunos de los obreros de R&F. Otros han encontrado trabajos de union y aun otros han encontrado trabajos en talleres sin union. Pero aun esto no es visto como una derrota. Hay cantidades de trabajos malo en el centro como R&F. Pero ahora hay unos cuantos meno. Y el hecho que forzaron a R&F a cerrar puede ser una leccion a otros duenos de talleres sin union y una llamada a sus obreros.

Basada en la asuncion que ayuda extranjera--principalmente--Soviética--iba a entrar al pais en grandes cantidades, los lideres Vietnemes no han movilizado a su pueblo decisivamente en sus cuatros anos en poder. A consecuencia, la situacion economica es un desastre. Hay grandes escasezes de arroz, articulos de comida como pollos cuestan 2/3 del salario average de un mes. El desvio de energia y recursos materiales y humanos no alludan a desarrollar a Vietnam. Desde las batallas con China en Febrero, Vietnam a aprovechado de la situacion para llamar a 200,000 hombres a servicio militar. Militarizando al pais no sacara a los lideres Vietnemes de la incertidumbre en que estan.

O INDEPENDENCIA?

Las luchas de liberacion nacional en Asia Surena estan tomando un

Petroleros gigante culpable . . .

(viene de pagina 1)

están llamando publicamente por precios de \$1.50 por galon de gasolina.

Precios en las estaciones son extremadamente mas altos que los aumentos en los precios del petroleo domestico e importado." Esta es la conclusion del Consejo del Presidente sobre la Estabilidad de Precios y Salarios (que pasa la mayor parte de su tiempo alludando a los duenos a mantener los salarios bajos.)

Estos ultrajantes aumentos en precios han sido aceptado por solamente un razon -- chantaje. En California, donde la escasez ha sido mas extrema la gente piensa que \$1.50 por galon seria mejor que las lineas de 50 autos, limites de 7 galones, dilaciones de 5 horas, y racionamiento cada otro dia. Y ellos estan amargamente ciertos que cuando el precio suba a esa cantidad, la escasez desaparecera.

Nadie duda que Exxon, Mobil, estan acaparando petroleo, corriendo las refinarias bajo capacidad, y mintiendo al publico. Y por que no? El Presidente le dio permiso disimuladamente en una conferencia de prensa en Mayo, cuando dijo que el pais necesita "unas cuantas escasezes demostrativas" de gasolina para alludar a vender sus politicas de austeridad, deregulacion, y aumentos de precios.

Hay en cantidad de evidencia que la escasez artificial, creada por las companias usando como escusa un verdadero deficit en las provisiones de petroleo alrededor del mundo desde la revolucion en Iran el otono pasado. El Servicio de Investigacion del Congreso, la Oficina de Cuentas del Gobierno, y el CIA han todos publicado reportes que muestran que el deficit en la produccion mundial o en importes Americanos no es suficiente para producir la presente situacion. La Agencia Internacional de Energia reporta que los "importes de los EEUU en Febrero han sido los mas altos en la historia de los EEUU."

MAQUE UN ATRACO

La escasez corriente y los aumentos de precios son mas que un robo audaz--la mafia de petroleo esta modernizando sus operaciones, ajustandolas a las condiciones de los 1980's. El era de abundante, barata energia en los EEUU, que fue un resultado de corporaciones

camino completamente diferente al de Vietnam. En vez de mirar hacia poderes extranjeros, ellos confian en si mismo. Ellos miran hacia el campo, donde vive la mayoria del pueblo. Al mismo tiempo han construido frentes unidos amplio incluyendo ex-representantes de parlimento en Thailand y miembros de la Iglesia Catolica en las Filipinas.

El Ejercito Popular Tailanes y el Nuevo Ejercito Popular de las Filipinas sigue ganando victorias en el frente militar, mientras guerras de guerilla se van desarrollando en Burma y tienen una larga historia en Malasia. La ex-colonia Portuguesa de Timor del Este esta luchando arduamente contra la invasion de Indonesia, y fuerzas populares estan activas en la misma Indonesia.

Hoy en dia luchas de liberacion nacional han entrado una nueva etapa, enfrentandose contra intervencion Sovietica, Vietnemesa, y Cubana encima de la de los EEUU. Los Vietnemes han pisoteado el famoso lema de Ho Chi Minh, "Nada es tan precioso como la independencia y libertad."

mundiales merodeas respaldadas por invasiones de los 'Marines' y golpes de estados del CIA, se ha terminado. Con la disminucion de su dominacion de los paises petroleros, los monopolios de petroleo carecen de la libertad absoluta para dictar precios y tasas de produccion.

Para fortalecer su posicion en el mercado mundial, ellos han tenido que aumentar su produccion mundial. El gobierno esta de acuerdo con esta solucion al balance de comercio internacional que plaga a la economia y porque alta dependencia en recursos extranjeros seria desastroso en caso de guerra con la Union Sovietica.

El problema es que las companias de petroleo no aumentaran produccion domestica sin grandes cantidades de capital para invertir en el proyecto y a menos que sus ganancias sean garantizadas. Por tanto, la crisis de gasolina y la demanda por \$1.50 por galon.

CULPANDO A LA GENTE COMUN

Para establecer este nuevo sistema sobre las espaldas del pueblo americano, los capitalistas tratan de pretender que es el pueblo que a causado la escasez. Los precios tienen que subir y la austeridad tiene que ser impuesta porque el consumidor es un codicioso, egocentrico, gloton que tiene que ser forzado a conservar.

Pero el pueblo Americano trabajador no son los que desbarataron sistemáticamente el transporte publico. Fueron las grandes corporaciones como General Motors, que compraron el sistema de transporte publico en Los Angeles y lo dejaron morir. No fueron la gente trabajadora que vendieron los autos grandes. Fueron las companias de auto y petroleo, un resultado fue que las companias extranjeras capturaron 15% del mercado en los EEUU proveiendo pequenos y economicos autos. No fueron los obreros que alardearon al mundo que 40% de toda la energia producida en el mundo es consumida por los EEUU, que tiene meno de 15% de la poblacion. Fue el mismo Nixon.

No sera facil forzar al pueblo americano pagar la cuenta cuando ellos no causaron el problema. Los camineros estan enseñandonos la solucion. ¿ufriir? --de ninguna manera! Que pagen las companias de petroleo.