

# WORKERS' DAILY

PRODUCED UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE  
CENTRAL ORGANIZATION OF U.S. MARXIST-LENINISTS

WEEKEND EDITION 10¢

Vol. 2, No. 15, February 1, 1974

## MONOPOLY CAPITALISM IS THE CAUSE OF THE HOUSING PROBLEM

Under the rule of the monopoly capitalist class, the working class suffers from constant deterioration of its housing, widespread housing shortages and constantly rising rents and housing costs. The Consumer Price Index during 1973 showed that the cost of workers' housing rose more sharply than any other product except food; housing costs for the working class have gone up over 40% in the last five years and make up the largest single part of the workers' living costs (on the average, over one-third of the workers' wages are spent on housing needs). The government census itself reports that 20% of American workers live in "substandard housing". The severe problems of tremendously rising housing costs and deteriorating housing conditions faced by the working class are caused by the monopoly capitalist class, which seeks maximum profit in the shortest period of time in the housing industry, as it does in all other spheres.

Under the capitalist system, the means of production and subsistence are owned and controlled by the monopoly capitalist class. The capitalists wield their monopoly over the means of production and subsistence in order to exploit the labor of the working class. The working class is forced to sell its labor-power to the monopoly capitalists, and the monopoly capitalists pay the workers only enough for the workers to remain alive and to continue selling their labor-power to the capitalists. The capitalists expropriate for themselves the full product of the labor of the working class. This reveals the basis of capitalist profit. Furthermore, the monopoly capitalists constantly seek to reduce the wages of the workers even further by selling back to the working class its necessary means of subsistence (food, clothing, housing, etc.) at the highest possible prices. Thus by constantly raising the price of housing, the monopoly capitalists are increasing the burdensome inflation imposed on the working class, increasing their own maximum profits by reducing the real wages of the working class, and thus deteriorating the living conditions of the workers.

Investigation of the housing conditions of the working class in several cities throughout the country reveals some of the means and methods employed by the monopoly capitalists to make maximum profit in the shortest period of time in the housing business. One widespread phenomena occurring in all the major cities is the wholesale destruction of workers' houses and their replacement with luxury apartments, shop-

ping malls, commercial offices, etc. This wide-scale destruction of workers' housing produces a more and more severe housing shortage, creates overcrowding and slum conditions by forcing more and more workers into smaller and smaller areas of the cities, and causes the rents and housing costs of the workers to rise higher and higher. This entire process yields maximum capitalist profit for the building construction firms, banks, land speculators and landlords. Comrade Engels described this situation 100 years ago: "the expansion of the big modern cities gives the land in certain sections of them, particularly in those which are centrally situated, an artificial and often enormously increasing value; the buildings erected in these areas depress this value, instead of increasing it, because they no longer correspond to the changed circumstances. They are pulled down and replaced by others. This takes place above all with centrally located workers' houses, whose rents, even with the greatest overcrowding, can

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### CONDITIONS OF THE WORKING CLASS:

## Pool of Unemployed Workers Insures Maximum Exploitation of the Entire Working Class

(Many readers of Workers' Daily have asked us to write about the conditions of the working class. With this issue, we are introducing a regular feature on this subject. This first article is based on a report submitted to Workers' Daily by communist workers, supporters of the Central Organization of U. S. Marxist-Leninists, in Providence, Rhode Island-- Editor's note.)

Olneyville is a part of Providence in which thousands of workers are employed in capitalist sweatshops most of which are connected with the jewelry industry. The monopoly capitalists who own the jewelry, metal, wire and other factories in Olneyville achieve maximum capitalist profit in the shortest period of time through the super-exploitation of the working class. Our investigation shows that one of the prin-

ciple ways in which the monopoly capitalists are able to achieve maximum exploitation of the working class is through the maintenance and constant increase of a huge pool of floating and semi-employed workers.

The factories in Olneyville generally work on a "seasonal" basis, running about two "peak" seasons a year, one in the spring or summer and one around Christmas time. During the "peak" periods, the monopoly capitalists employ relatively large numbers of workers and exploit them to the maximum in order to turn out maximum amounts of jewelry and other products. The tremendous production of jewelry and other products by the workers is, in the first place, carried on solely for the purpose of the capitalists winning maximum profit in the shortest period of time through maximum exploitation of wage-labor and, in the sec-

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never, or only very slowly, increase above a certain maximum. They are pulled down and in their stead shops, warehouses and public buildings are erected. . . . The result is that the workers are forced out of the center of the towns towards the outskirts; that workers' dwellings and small dwellings in general, become rare and expensive and often altogether inobtainable, for under these circumstances the building industry, which is offered a much better field for speculation by more expensive dwelling houses, builds workers' dwellings only by way of exception."

In Albany, New York, for example, the state government of New York destroyed over 3,000 housing units during the 1960's (8% of all the housing in Albany), in order to pave the way for the South Mall State Office Complex. The South Mall was built for the sole purpose of lining the pockets of the finance capitalists (the state already had a surplus of office space). On the interest from the bonds alone, the banks made more than \$600,000,000 on the South Mall project. As soon as the South Mall project was under way, the finance capitalists in Albany began to buy up whole neighborhoods of working class housing which surrounds the Mall with the plan of tearing down more homes in order to build up hotels, restaurants, luxury apartments and commercial office buildings to take advantage of the business generated by the Mall. Thus, for the last 5 years the finance capitalists have been causing the workers' houses in these surrounding neighborhoods to decay and collapse at the fastest possible speed (through refusal to make repairs and so forth). The finance capitalists are turning the area into a slum in order to drive the workers out, drive out the smaller landlords and then proceed to tear down the workers' homes and build up commercial offices, hotels, etc., in their place. This same pattern is being followed all across the country with thousands of workers' housing units being torn down every year in each of the major cities in the U. S. For the working class this process causes severe housing shortages, rising rents and constantly deteriorating living conditions, while for the monopoly capitalists it means maximum capitalist profit through high rents, land speculation, windfall construction contracts, etc.

In all of the schemes of the monopoly capitalists to reap super-profits in housing through the destruction of workers homes, creation of slums, raising of rents, land speculation, etc., the state machine of the monopoly capitalists plays an indispensable role. In the case of Albany it was the state government of New York which extorted millions in tax money from the working class of New York to finance their South Mall projects, and it was the state machine which forced the workers out of their homes.

One of the basic state-sponsored programs for increasing the profits of the finance capitalists through destruction of workers' housing is urban renewal, which is financed by the federal, state and local governments all across the country. Urban renewal is publicized as being a program "for the people", a means of "ending urban blight", "revitalizing the inner-city" and "eliminating slums" but in fact urban renewal is nothing but a program of the monopoly capitalists for reaping maximum profits through the wholesale destruction of workers' homes and the wholesale extortion of tax money from the working class. The operation of the Boston Redevelopment

Authority, an urban renewal agency, is a case in point. First the BRA chooses a low-value, run-down site of urban land for "renewal". Immediately the value of the land rises by three or four times its actual value just by the fact of being chosen as an urban renewal site and the BRA buys it at this inflated price, awarding a windfall profit to its owners. If the site is not "run-down" enough, the BRA will see that it becomes a slum fully "qualified" for urban renewal. The working class families living in the "target" area are usually evicted from their homes and their housing units razed. Now the BRA is ready to "improve" the area.

The BRA finances "capital improvements" (new street lights, sewers, roads, etc.) on the site; at the Kendall Square project in Cambridge, for example, this cost over \$20 million. The BRA then sells the land to a developer at a "write-down", i. e., significantly less than it cost the BRA to purchase the site. The corporation which develops the site receives a 40-year tax exemption under Massachusetts state law. In short, through urban renewal programs, the state agencies syphon hundreds of millions of dollars of workers' tax monies directly into the hands of monopoly capitalist financiers, land speculators and investors, destroy workers' homes on a wide scale, and through "capital improvements" raise the value of land and hence the rent. In Boston, in the past few years, over \$350 million in tax money has been extorted out of the working class for urban renewal projects.

The monopoly capitalists and their propagandists claim that the problem of bad housing and slum conditions and high rents is caused by "economic undesirables", "poor people" "national minority workers", etc. These are simply clumsy attempts to blame the working class for the crimes of the monopoly capitalists. The problems of deteriorating housing and slum conditions, constantly rising rents and housing shortages are caused by the inherent laws of capitalism and the monopoly capitalist class in its scramble for maximum profit in the shortest period of time. Comrade Engels correctly pointed out that: "The solution /to the housing question/ lies in the abolition of the capitalist mode of production and the appropriation of all the means of subsistence and instruments of labor by the working class itself." In order to carry through this fundamental transformation in the ownership and control of the means of production and subsistence, the working class must organize a proletarian revolution which overthrows the monopoly capitalist class and smashes its state machine, and must constitute itself as the ruling class in a Socialist People's Republic of America

End item.

WORKERS' DAILY NEWS RELEASE is produced under the leadership of the Central Organization of U.S. Marxist-Leninists.

Monthly subscription rate (five issues a week):

North America: \$6.00

Outside North America: \$10.00

Bulk orders are available on request. Subscriptions should be sent and all checks should be made payable to:

N. F. C. Publications

P. O. Box 930

Boston MA 02103

## Soviet social-imperialism: Savage enemy of the revolution, socialism and the peoples of the whole world

The Albanian Telegraphic Agency of January 10, 1974, published an editorial entitled "Soviet Social-Imperialism--Savage Enemy of the Revolution, Socialism and the Peoples of the Whole World". The following is the full text of the editorial:

The Party of Labor of Albania more than once has pointed out that the restoration of capitalism and the creation of bourgeois bureaucratic ruling class in the Soviet Union could not but have as a consequence its transformation into a great chauvinistic and imperialistic power. There was repeated but under new circumstances, much greater proportions and with very dangerous consequences the same phenomenon Lenin had analyzed in the years of the first world war: the transformation of opportunism into social-imperialism, which according to Lenin's expression means socialism in words and imperialism in deeds. The only essential change is that while at Lenin's time this counterrevolutionary process happened with the opportunist chieftains of the former parties of the Second International, who not having in their hands the state power, were transformed into lackeys of the imperialist bourgeoisie, in our time it happened in such a country as the Soviet Union, where the revisionist clique has usurped the state power. As a consequence, the Soviet state, with its great economic, political and military potential was transformed, within a relatively short period of time, into a new imperialist superpower too thirsty for expansion, which today, in rivalry and collaboration with U. S. imperialism, wants to realize the crazy dream of world domination.

The political and military expansion, alongside the economic, constitutes, as Lenin has proved, one of the most characteristic features of imperialism. This permeates as a red thread the entire international activity also of the present Soviet social-imperialism.

The facts proving this are numerous. Let's mention here the aggression of the fascist type against Czechoslovakia, which marked openly the transformation of Khrushchevian revisionism into social-imperialism. This shameful act against an "ally" country was followed by the armed provocations against the People's Republic of China, a socialist country, along the borders of which the Moscow chieftains to this day have concentrated more than one million soldiers armed to the teeth. But the inclination for aggressions, the imperialist desire for expansion do not end with this. It is publicly known the threats against the People's Republic of Albania and some other countries, as are known the attempts of Soviet social-imperialism to stretch its hands also on various areas and continents of the world.

The Kremlin revisionist chieftains have invented various kinds of theories, which raise to a "principle" and want to legalize the Moscow social-imperialist policy. Thus, in order to legalize the rights of the boss on the satellite countries, there were put into circulation the Brezhnev theories on "limited sovereignty", "the international proletarian dictatorship", "the defense of socialist community"; and using as their instrument the Warsaw Treaty, which they have transformed into an aggressive and oppressive pact of the NATO type, the Soviet social-imperialists recognize to themselves the unlimited right to dictate on their partners the foreign and home policies they should follow, to place the armies of those countries under the dependence of the Warsaw Treaty, in other words, under the Soviet command, to introduce in their territories whenever they want, under the sign of "joint manoeuvres"

the Soviet troops, to realize their "peaceful" occupation, or otherwise perpetrate armed aggression as in Czechoslovakia. Indeed the Soviets have presented now to the Warsaw Treaty member countries even the demand that aside the "coordination of the foreign policies" to "jointly discuss" before hand, that is taking before the Soviet approval, also the laws issued in those countries.

Facts are revealing ever more clearly that, as Comrade Enver Hoxha stressed at the 6th Congress of the P. L. A., "the theory of limited sovereignty" is the theory of the chauvinism and expansion of the great power, the theory through which the new Soviet imperialists want to quench any sovereignty of the other peoples and create to themselves "the sovereign right" to interfere wherever and whenever they want. Denying to the others their sovereignty, they want to deny to the nations and states that which they cherish more dearly--the freedom and independence, to deny their national individuality, the undeniable right to self-determination and the independent development, the right of equality in the international life and of active participation in the world relations. With the "limited sovereignty", they want to legalize the right of the strongest to strangle the weakest, of the biggest to gobble up the smallest. That is the theory of the justification of the imperialist aggression. The Moscow logic on the right of interference to allegedly defend "socialist community" is the same criminal logic of U. S. imperialism to interfere everywhere, under the pretext of the defense of "freedom" and "western civilization" from the "danger of communism".

But the satellite revisionist countries do not constitute the only object of political and military expansion of Soviet social-imperialism. The new Kremlin Czars exhumed and put the Soviet label to the theory of the old Czars on "the Russian interests in the world". According to their typical imperialist logic, the Soviet Union, as a big world power, cannot stand passive towards the events everywhere in the world which allegedly touch upon its security and that of its friends, no matter how far away they may be from the territorial viewpoint. In compliance with this, in the Middle East, making use of the temporary difficulties of the Arab countries, victims of the Israeli aggression, the Kremlin is trying to place them under its dependence, through the selling of arms and to secure Soviet military bases in their territories. In order to settle down on the Indian sub-continent and to encircle People's China, the Soviet revisionists incited India for aggression against Pakistan and organized the coup d'etat in Afghanistan. The Soviet expansionist aims serve also the Brezhnev idea of the creation of the so-called Asian Collective Security System. For imperialist aims the Soviet warships roam about the Mediterranean, in the Indian Ocean and other seas, threatening seriously the security of the states and peoples of these areas, while the Soviet aircraft loaded with bombs and missiles brutally violate the air spaces of the sovereign and independent countries.

In the light of these facts, known publicly, the peoples are not deceived by Brezhnev's fine words that allegedly the Soviet leadership sticks to the principles of the "non-use of force, or threat for the use of force in the relations among states, the non-interference in the internal affairs of one another", etc. They see in Soviet social-imperialism as dangerous an enemy to their freedom and independence as U. S. imperialism.

The expansionist aims and acts of Soviet social-imperialism have met and are meeting more with every

passing day with the resistance of the freedom-loving peoples and the progressive forces. First and foremost they have met with the determined opposition of great People's China and socialist Albania that follow consistently an internationalist foreign policy, the policy of the tit-for-tat struggle against imperialism and social-imperialism, against oppression and reaction, the policy of the powerful support of the peoples fighting for freedom, independence and their sovereign rights.

In his analysis on imperialism, V. I. Lenin pointed out that this stage of the development of capitalism is accompanied by a savage competing struggle among the imperialist monopolies and states for markets, sources of raw materials and spheres of exporting the capital. In this struggle for the redivision of the markets and spheres of influence among imperialist powers intensively participates a new competitor--Soviet social-imperialism, that has been finally turned into a neo-colonial power.

The present Soviet policy of economic expansion and neo-colonialism is very clearly seen in the economic relations of the Soviet Union with the other C. M. E. A. member countries. N. Khrushchev's chauvinistic course for economic subjugation of these countries under Brezhnev's rule has further deepened, intensifying the process of their economic gobbling up by the Soviet social-imperialist metropolis.

The ideologists of Soviet social-imperialism, wanting to justify and mask this policy, have thrown into the market and are noisily advertising the theories on "international socialist division of labor" of the "specialization and cooperation of production", of "economic integration", etc.; moreover, they try to present all this allegedly as an implementation of Lenin's idea on the future world communist economy!

But what has brought in fact the putting into practice of these so much advertised theories to the revisionist satellite countries of the Soviet Union? The only results were the one-sided development of the economy of those countries, which now for everything--beginning with the supply with raw materials, technology and combustibles and ending with the markets for selling their goods--depends on the Soviet metropolis, which exploits it to draw profits, the strengthening of Soviet control on the main directions of the economic development of those countries, adapting their economic structure to the needs of the development of Soviet economy, the introduction of national economies of those countries on the road of gradual integration with the Soviet economy, thus of the complete gobbling up by the Soviet metropolis.

The grave consequences brought about to the economies of the C. M. E. A. countries by the giving up of the independent development and their introduction under the Soviet dependence, are being seen with a special force now, when the capitalist system and the revisionist one are undergoing a sharp economic crisis. Proceeding from their benefit, the Soviet social-imperialists are avoiding the supply of such countries such as Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria, etc., with combustibles, and raw materials to the quantities envisaged by the plan; in the same way, they refuse to receive, for example, from Czechoslovakia, the machines and other commodities turned out according to the "coordinated plans". That is why, there began to convene one after the other the plenums of the central committees of the respective revisionist parties to find a let-out from the grave situations that have been created by the Soviet social-imperialist bosses.

As a superpower, Soviet social-imperialism is trying to introduce in the area of its expansion and

control also the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Here too, the Soviet neo-colonialists are striving to put into practice their favorite theory of the "international division of labor" aiming at penetrating in these countries, at turning them into sources of raw materials and cheap agricultural and livestock products, appendage processing workshops, into spheres of exporting the capitals and markets for selling stock commodities in service of the Soviet capitalist metropolis.

Typical in this direction is India's case, where through the so-called "aids" and "international division of labor", the Soviet social-imperialists, according to the data of the Indian press itself, control 30 per cent of the iron and steel industries, 35 per cent of the oil refining industry, 20 per cent of the electric power industry, 85 per cent of the engineering industry, etc. On the basis of imposed enslaving agreements, India is compelled to export to the Soviet Union many of its products at lower prices than the average international prices, or it is compelled to set up factories and enterprises destined especially for the needs of the Soviet economy.

One of the main means of the Soviet neo-colonial policy has become arms trade. In 1972 alone, the Soviet Union sold arms to the tune of 2 billion and 200 million dollars. For the Soviet neo-colonialists this is not only a source of colossal profits, but also a means to penetrate in various countries, for their turning into spheres of Soviet influence, shooting ranges and military bases of Soviet social-imperialism, for plundering their riches. This fact clearly shows that even the famous Soviet proposal in the United Nations Organization to reduce by 10 per cent the military budgets of the permanent Security Council members and use a part of the spared means allegedly to "grant aid" to the developing countries, is nothing else but a cynical mockery with the peoples of those countries.

The present Soviet Union, that has been turned into a social-imperialist country and that follows an aggressive and neo-colonial policy, has also become a saboteur and fire extinguisher of the revolutionary and liberation struggles of the working people and peoples. In words, the Soviet ruling clique swears that it supports the just struggles. But all its activity testifies to the contrary.

The Brezhnev renegade group, proceeding in the wake of Khrushchev, continues to sabotage the cause of revolution everywhere in the world through the spreading of the dangerous opportunist theory on the so-called "peaceful, parliamentary road of transition to socialism", on the "non-capitalist road of development", etc. In order to extinguish the revolutionary movement in the former colonial countries and withdraw them in the sphere of Soviet neo-colonial domination, it spreads the illusion that it is enough that these countries connect with the Soviet Union and receive "aids" from it and their transition to socialism is allegedly ensured! Every real revolutionary action and struggle is proclaimed as an "adventurism" by the Soviet revisionists.

The consequences of such preachings are known. They not only are equal to the giving up practically of the real struggle for socialism but they inflict incalculable losses to the revolutionary movement. Victim of these illusions are thousands upon thousands of Iraqi, Indonesian communists and others, massacred in the past, such as thousands of Chilean patriots, revolutionaries and progressive men massacred by the fascist coup of the reactionary forces and yankee imperialism.

Precisely to strangle with violence or to extinguish

through "peaceful means" the revolution and liberation movements of the peoples, the Soviet social-imperialists have entered a criminal collaboration with U. S. imperialism. The two superpowers are spreading the concept that the solution of international problems depends in the final account, on the stands of the U. S. A. and the Soviet Union; that these bear a "special responsibility" for the destinies of the world and as a consequence also "exclusive position and rights" in the international relations. Thus, they recognize to themselves the "right" to interfere, together or separately, everywhere liberation struggles break out where their interests are impaired and their hegemonistic domination is at stake. In this spirit, the Soviet social-imperialists, in agreement with U. S. imperialism and coming to its aid have done and are doing their utmost to sabotage the liberation struggle of the Vietnamese, Laotian and Cambodian peoples or the just struggle of the Arab people against the Israeli aggressors, etc. According to the concepts of Soviet social-imperialism, the freedom-loving peoples should sacrifice their freedom and independence and bend their knee for the sake of the good relations between the superpowers. These imperialist brutal interferences, that constitute flagrant violations of the most elementary norms of the international law, the Soviet-U. S. propaganda is trying to present not only as a "right" of the two superpowers, but also as an "accomplishment of their international duty", something for which the peoples and all mankind should be grateful to them!

Always on the basis of the "responsibility and exclusive rights" they have recognized to themselves, the Soviet social-imperialists and U. S. imperialists have raised to a system the secret diplomacy, the talks and the coordination of actions among them for all the international problems behind the back of the other states and without consulting their close allies. The bargainings of the two superpowers in the U. N. O., the SALT talks, the tête-à-tête Brezhnev-Nixon talks in Moscow and Washington, and the introducing of the practice of annual meetings between the Secretary General of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and U. S. President, the coordination of stands towards Middle East events, etc., all this clearly testifies to the common plots of the two imperialist superpowers at the expense of various peoples and countries, as a component part of their crazy strategy for world domination.

The security of a close and permanent collaboration with the U. S. A. in the economic field and in many other fields constitutes one of the most desired objectives of the foreign policy of the Soviet revisionists. This collaboration has assumed now unprecedented proportions and the whole chorus of Soviet propaganda has been zealously mobilized to justify and advertise the "innumerable blessings" it will allegedly bring to the Soviet and American peoples, and so the entire mankind as well.

"Today," Brezhnev declared at the 'Peace Congress' in Moscow, "it is merely unprofitable and unreasonable to limit the economic collaboration only to trade. Marching with time, rising to the level of the demands and possibilities of technico-scientific revolution, is possible only by basing on a broad international division of labor. This is today an axiom." In this economic collaboration is included the granting of credits from the U. S. A. and other imperialist countries, capital investments by them for the setting up of great economic objects on the territory of the Soviet Union, for the exploitation of its natural riches, cooperation in the field of production, etc. Thus, with U. S. credits, there is being built in Kama an automobile plant at a value of 1 billion and 600 million dollars, a sum 16 times larger than the whole volume of U. S. exports to the Soviet

Union in 1970. While in June 1973, the U. S. capitalist companies, Occidental Petroleum and El Paso Gas Company, signed an agreement in Moscow, according to which they will build in Siberia a gas pipeline 3000 kilometers long that will cost 2 billion dollars, to be supplied with the gas of Soviet Yakutia during the 25 years.

The evolution of the concept of the Soviet revisionist leadership on the so-called "international division of labor" shows its absolute departure from the positions of Marxism-Leninism and testifies to the complete restoration of capitalism in the Soviet Union. At the beginning it was spoken about a "socialist international division of labor" among the revisionist countries; further on it was spoken about the "international division of labor" between the Soviet Union and the other revisionist countries and the backward countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, that try to ensure the economic independence from imperialism; while now, it is being spoken about a "division of labor with all the capitalist world", including first and foremost the great imperialist countries, especially the U. S. A. Thus, there has evolved generally the Soviet revisionist concept on the relations with the capitalist and imperialist world: from the "peaceful coexistence" and the Khrushchevian "peaceful race", they have passed to the Brezhnev theory of the "all-round and stable collaboration" and the "international division of labor" with the U. S. A. and capitalist world.

J. Stalin, in analyzing, on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, the changes that have taken place in the world after the Second World War, in Economic Problems of Socialism in the U. S. S. R. stressed that "the most important economic result of the Second World War must be considered the division of the sole and universal world market. This circumstance defined the further deepening of the general crisis of the world capitalist system." Now we see that the Soviet ruling clique has liquidated the once division into two world markets--the capitalist and socialist, this great victory of socialism, in the era of its dictate and is marching at full speed towards the complete integration of the Soviet economy in the wheels and cogs of the world capitalist economy.

But the counterrevolutionary economic, political and military collaboration of Soviet social-imperialism with U. S. imperialism constitute only one side of the medal. Its other side shows us that this is a conjunctural collaboration between two imperialist powers in irreconcilable rivalry with one another in the aims of each for world hegemony. There is no doubt that the rivalry and contradictions between them will further aggravate, endangering the peoples in new conflicts.

That is why the vigilance and the struggle of the peoples and of all the progressive and peace-loving forces against the policy of the rivalry and collaboration of U. S. imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism remain a constant task of a great importance.

The Soviet revisionists, with their entire counterrevolutionary line and activity have caused an incalculable damage to the cause of socialism in the world. The liquidation of the socialist order in the Soviet Union and in a series of other countries and the destruction of the big camp of socialism, the breach and undermining of the international communist movement, the sowing of a great confusion in the world revolutionary movement are first and foremost consequences of the treachery of the Khrushchevite revisionists.

But the social-imperialistic policy followed by them to the detriment of the peoples and the revolutionary and liberation struggles, has grave consequences also for the Soviet people themselves. The transformation

itself of the Soviet Union into a social-imperialist power is the consequence of the process of the complete restoration of capitalism in the country, something which has led to the continuous intensification of the exploitation and oppression of the broad working masses. The following of the neo-imperialist policy of economic, political and military expansion, the competing struggle for spheres of influence and domination in the world, the ever deeper introduction of the Soviet economy into the wheels and cogs of the world capitalist economy and the opening of the doors for the penetration of the foreign imperialist capitals, etc., --all these have caused and are causing serious difficulties and crises to the Soviet economy which weigh down on the back of the working masses, increasing their discontent and protest, aggravating further with every passing day the contradictions of the working class and of the working masses with the new Soviet bourgeoisie in power, which in order to preserve its domination, is resorting to the most brutal fascist violence.

The propaganda of the Soviet ruling clique is trying through demogogy to hide all these and to present idyllically the situation in the Soviet Union. But life is proving that the resistance of the Soviet people against the domination of the Brezhnev revisionist clique, against its counterrevolutionary neo-capitalist and social-imperialist home and foreign policies is on the rise.

It is already known the distribution some years ago of the programmatic leaflet of the Soviet bolshevik revolutionaries through which they appealed to the Soviet working class and to all the Soviet people to rise in struggle to overthrow the revisionist clique. Various news that leak out time and again from the Soviet Union show that especially during the last Five Year Plan, there have taken place numerous strikes and demonstrations of the workers in Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Hardov, Novocerkask, Zhitomir, Svjerdlovsk, Celyabinsk, Usebekistan, etc. During these strikes and demonstrations, the workers have faced the police forces, K. G. B., and the army that the Brezhnev clique sent to suppress them with fire and sword.

The workers' demonstrations of Moscow, Leningrad, Novosibirsk and others in 1968, in protest against the Soviet aggression in Czechoslovakia, have had a great echo in the people and working class of the Soviet Union. In May, 1969, the workers of the Kiev electric power station went on strike and entered a fierce conflict with the authorities, because of the dwelling houses. By the end of 1970, the workers of Kaliningrad and Kiev went on strike in solidarity with the great revolt of the Polish working class against Gomulka revisionist regime. On June 25-26, 1972, in Dnepropetrovsk city, Ukraine, thousands of workers held a big demonstration. They occupied the offices of the security organs and destroyed their archives. Demonstrations were held there also in September. The workers encircled the Party Committee of the city and demanded the improvement of the living conditions. In February, 1973, the workers of a plant in Byelorussia went on strike demanding the rise of wages.

Alongside these struggles of the working class in the Soviet Union, the discontent, the protest of various nationalities against the oppression of the Great Russian chauvinistic bourgeoisie have increased. It has burst out in various forms in Georgia and the Ukraine, Latvia and Estonia, as well as in almost all the Soviet republics with non-Russian nationalities and national minorities. The fierce repressive measures, as well as the purging operations of the cadres in the Ukraine, Georgia and elsewhere the Brezhnev chauvinistic clique has undertaken and is undertaking from time to time,

have not been and will never be able to quench the fire of protest that has burst out and is spreading nonstop in all the regions of the Soviet Union.

In the conditions of this mass struggle on the increase that is going on against the domination and the policy followed by the Brezhnev revisionist clique, in various centers and regions of the Soviet Union the genuine revolutionary elements are being organized in Marxist-Leninist cells, groups and circles, which set to themselves the task to raise the working class and the other oppressed masses in struggle and revolution to restore the dictatorship of the proletariat and to return the country to the road of socialism. The Soviet ruling clique is trying to raise a wall of silence on the activity of the genuine revolutionaries fighting against its domination from the positions of Marxism-Leninism. Against them there are no public trials and the Soviet press writes nothing. They are arrested, imprisoned, deported to Siberia and persecuted in the most savage way, in silence.

But neither the fascist persecutions nor the silence have been and will ever be able to wipe out the revolutionaries and their organizations, because they emerge from the struggle of the masses and are the first whirls of that revolutionary storm which, inevitably, will burst out and will wipe out from the earth's face the Soviet revisionist ruling clique.

The overthrow of revisionism and social-imperialism in the Soviet Union, the restoration of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the return of the country to the road of socialism are an irresistible process. But it will not come by itself. In order to pave the way for this process, it is indispensable that the Soviet people who have a historic responsibility for the cause of socialism in the Soviet Union as well as in front of the world revolutionary movement, the peoples' victims of the aggression and interference of Soviet social-imperialism throw away as soon as possible any illusions and rise to overthrow the new Kremlin Czars, to receive the state power usurped by the Soviet bourgeoisie, to return the Soviet Union onto the road of the October Revolution, on the glorious road of Lenin and Stalin.

End item.

### I. P. S. G. Holds Meet in Pittsburgh

The Indian Progressive Study Group held a meeting on January 12 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The subject of the meeting was the "Fraud of Indira Gandhi's socialist policies". The leaflet which IPSP distributed pointed out that in spite of slogans about "socialism", "nationalization" of banks, state or public sector of industry, and so on, the state and the means of production--including the banks and the state sector of the economy--were still in the hands of the landlords and big sellout capitalists. The leaflet concluded that the only way to build socialism in India is to overthrow the rule of the exploiting class and, under the leadership of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist), establish the state of the workers and peasants.

End item.

OLNEYVILLE - continued from page 1

ond place, is immediately turned against the workers by the capitalist class. The tremendous productivity achieved by the workers in the "peak" season leads to the wide-scale throwing of workers out of jobs in the slow periods or "off-season", when the monopoly capitalists simply sell off the goods already produced and stockpiled while paying out almost nothing in wages. This process likewise insures that when the next "peak" period arrives, the monopoly capitalists will have at their beck and call a large supply of cheap labor because the period of widespread unemployment of workers created maximum competition for fewer and fewer jobs. Within a year's cycle many factories in Olneyville experience a 75% or more turnover of the work force.

In order to further assure themselves of a readily accessible supply of labor which can be employed in peak periods and just as easily cast out of work in the slow period, the monopoly capitalists are constantly drawing large sections of youth and women into the work force and setting them to work in the Olneyville sweatshops. Once a production cycle is finished, these newly-employed youth and women are thrown out of their jobs and forced to seek employment in another sweatshop somewhere else in Olneyville. To supplement this "natural" process of capitalist production, the monopoly capitalists have enlisted the willing aid of the state machine in Rhode Island. The state forces workers from the Boys' Training School (a penal institution) to work in the jewelry sweatshops. These young workers are generally on probation and are forced to work as slave-labor for the capitalists. If they take up the slightest resistance against the brutal exploitation imposed by the capitalists, these workers face the constant threat of being sent to prison.

Likewise, the state is increasingly using its Department of Employment Services and Welfare Department to force unemployed workers into the Olneyville sweatshops. These workers are forced directly by the state machine to accept the most miserable and lowest-paying jobs or be cut off from their benefits and face starvation. A large number of them are Afro-Americans and other national minority workers. Thus the state machine directly assists the maintenance of a surplus labor force at the beck and call of the monopoly capitalists and directly enforces the most vicious super-exploitation of the workers through forced-labor programs.

The existence of a large floating pool of readily employable wage-labor in Olneyville is the basic condition keeping the wages of the entire working class of the area down to the minimum. In Olneyville, the starting wage is \$1.60 per hour, and wages in the sweatshops rarely go above \$2.25 per hour. Because there is maximum competition for the available jobs and because of the meanness of the work--which requires no "training period" or experience but simply the sweat and blood of the working class in order to turn out superprofits for the capitalists--wages are kept down to the minimum while the rate of exploitation inside the sweatshops is constantly stepped up through speed-up and overtime.

Comrade Marx teaches us that ". . . the pressure of the unemployed compels those that are employed to furnish more labor, and therefore makes the supply of labor to a certain extent, independent of the supply of laborers. This action of the law of supply and demand of labor on this basis completes the despotism of capital." The despotism of

**U.S. Has Lowest Growth Rate****Since 1970**

The United States Department of Commerce announced on January 17 that the U. S. economy's growth rate had slowed down to near recession levels in the last quarter of 1973. The value of goods and services produced by the economy in the last three months of 1973 grew by only 1.3% while inflation climbed 7.9% in the same period. Non-government economists predict that there will be a further decline in economic growth in 1974. West Germany is facing similar problems of a static economy. Economics Minister Hans Friedrichs said on January 17 that "most experts agree that in 1974 the greatest economic growth that can be achieved is somewhere between zero and two per cent at the most".

(Reprinted from PCDN, January 23, 1974)

capital in the Olneyville sweatshops is expressed in concentrated form in the phrase: "If you don't like your job, you can just get out," which is used whenever the workers take up resistance to the vicious capitalist exploitation, or is used as a threat to increase the rate of exploitation through more and more speed-up.

Under the capitalist system the working class is forced to sell its labor-power to one or another capitalist. The existence of a large reserve army of labor enables the capitalists to carry out the most vicious super-exploitation of the employed workers while simply firing those who resist this exploitation. The fired workers have no alternative but to seek employment with a different capitalist but under the exact same conditions of maximum capitalist exploitation.

Along with constant speed-up, the monopoly capitalists in Olneyville constantly increase the exploitation of the workers through wide-scale use of overtime work. It is common practice for workers to work 10-hour days and 50-hour weeks and many work much longer hours than this. The capitalists force the workers to work overtime in order to lengthen the working day and thus increase the amount of surplus-value created by the worker and expropriated by the capitalists in one day. The workers must work overtime because the wages paid them are so low that they must work 10 and more hours of overtime a week (50 or more hours) just in order to subsist. Although the capitalists claim that overtime is a great "benefit" to the workers because they receive "extra money", the capitalists are merely using "overtime" to hide the fact that the normal wages of the workers are too low to even live on and the fact that the capitalists are using overtime to prolong the working day and increase the rate of exploitation of the working class. In addition, the wide-scale use of overtime presents tremendously increased health and safety hazards to the workers, who become greatly exhausted through overtime work, and thus serves to deteriorate the health and life of the workers in general.

Overtime allows the capitalists to cut back on the costs of maintenance of the means of production. Furthermore, by employing fewer workers for longer and longer hours, the capitalists relieve themselves of having to pay out benefits. In some factories the capitalists have eliminated the entire second shift and placed double the burden of work onto the first shift workers through wide-scale use of overtime. The workers know that if they don't work overtime, they will soon find themselves out of a job

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and another worker in their place. The constant increased exploitation of the employed workers through overtime and speed-up results from the pressure of the large floating pool of unemployed workers and further reveals the despotism of capital over the working class.

The conditions of the workers in Olneyville show clearly the absolute necessity for the entire working class to unite for the overthrow of the monopoly capitalist class and the capitalist system. By constantly increasing the ranks of the unemployed workers and maintaining the system of extreme job insecurity for all workers, the monopoly capitalists force the maximum rate of exploitation onto the working class as a whole. The monopoly capitalists use this division of workers into employed and unemployed sections to suppress their economic struggles. Few unions exist in Olneyville, and the working class has no organized means of collectively fighting against capitalist exploitation and wage-slavery and the all-around despotism of capital over labor. The economic struggles of the workers at

Olneyville today remain extremely disconnected and isolated from one another, and this isolation is caused by the very conditions of constant unemployment and extreme job insecurity.

The conditions of the working class in Olneyville show clearly that the cause of vicious super-exploitation, of constant unemployment and job insecurity for the entire working class, is the capitalist system. Under the capitalist system, the monopoly capitalists control all the means of production and subsistence and wield them for the purpose of super-exploiting the working class. The working class can only sell its labor-power to one or another capitalist in order to live. The working class must unite itself in the struggle against capitalist exploitation and wage-slavery and against capitalist unemployment and job insecurity and fight for the complete overthrow of the monopoly capitalist class and the capitalist system by organizing proletarian revolution. Building the Marxist-Leninist Party as the general headquarters of the working class in its all-sided struggle against capital is the first step on the road to proletarian revolution. End item.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

The Greater Boston Branch of the  
Central Organization of U.S. Marxist - Leninists  
opens its headquarters Saturday, February 9, 1974.

### MARXIST - LENINIST CENTER FOR THE WORKING CLASS

Location: 91 River St., Cambridge, Ma. (Central Square)

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 3:30-10 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.- 10 p.m.

## MEETING

1. The present "economic crisis" is caused solely by the monopoly capitalist class and the capitalist system!

## AND

2. Down with U. S. imperialist aggression and war preparations!

## RALLY

3. Organize the working class for proletarian revolution!

**OLD WEST CHURCH, 131 CAMBRIDGE ST. BOSTON**  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1974 7:00 P.M.**

**HAIL THE OPENING OF THE GREATER BOSTON  
BRANCH HEADQUARTERS OF COUSM-L !**