

afro-americans for halstead and boutelle newsletter

Vol. 1, No. 1

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Brothers in Pittsburgh go up against troops sent in by Democratic Party Governor Shafer

With this first issue, we begin the publication of the Afro-Americans for Halstead and Boutelle Newsletter. The purpose of the Newsletter will be to inform black people about the activities of black supporters of the Socialist Workers Party presidential campaign, and to educate black people as to why they should support Fred Halstead for President and Paul Boutelle for Vice-President.

We will oppose and expose the racist nature and the anti-black activities of the Democratic and Republican Parties. And we will support and spread information about any and all movements by black people to build a black political party as an alternative to these parties of trickery.

The Newsletter will try to carry comments and major addresses of our candidate Paul Boutelle. Because of our limited amount of funds and resources, the Newsletter will come out every three to four weeks during the summer. We hope that you will not only read the Newsletter yourself, but try to pass it on to other Brothers and Sisters.

Anthony Thomas, Editor



Paul Boutelle and Fred Halstead

WHY BLACK PEOPLE SHOULD SUPPORT THE SOCIALIST WORKERS CAMPAIGN

The following statement will be printed up as an Afro-Americans for Halstead and Boutelle brochure.

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In 1964 Malcolm X stated, "The system in this country cannot produce freedom for an Afro-American. It is impossible for this system, this economic system, this political system, this social system, this system, period."

Now, four years later, increasing numbers of black people are becoming aware of the truth of what Malcolm was saying.

Despite the intensification of the fight for black liberation, despite four succeeding summers of mass uprisings, despite the struggles being waged in schools and colleges, and in all the various institutions where black people are victimized by this racist system--the conditions of black people have not improved.

It is a sign of a bankrupt social and economic system when mass revolts against oppression are met only with more oppression, when a country sends in armies of troops to occupy its major cities.

American capitalism is facing a mounting crisis not only at home, but on a world scale. While black people struggle for self-determination in the heartland of U.S. imperialism, the Vietnamese are fighting against U.S. domination of their country.

Not only are troops sent in to occupy the cities within the U.S., but American military forces are sent to maintain the American empire in Vietnam, the Dominican Republic, Korea, Bolivia or wherever they are required.

The reaction of U.S. imperialism to the worldwide struggle of oppressed peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America is exposing the fact that the ultimate weapon it uses to maintain its system of exploitation of colonial peoples is the weapon of force--just as cops, troops, and jails stand ready in this country to be used against black rebels.

But force is not the only means by which the capitalists maintain their power. There is an-

other weapon, just as useful and important to them as their cops and troops. This is the weapon of political trickery.

Because 1968 is an election year, we are already seeing plenty of this trickery and deceit. Already the Republican and Democratic party politicians are coming into our communities, making all kinds of promises they never intend to keep.

There are "lesser evil" candidates, who, like foxes, will use cunning to hide their racist policies. As Malcolm X explained it in 1964, "If Johnson had been running all by himself, he would not have been acceptable to anyone. The only thing that made him acceptable to the world was that the shrewd capitalists, the shrewd imperialists knew that the only way people would run toward the fox would be if you showed them a wolf."

In 1964 over ninety percent of the black voters in this country pulled the lever for LBJ. In 1968, the Democrats will once again be depending on the votes of millions of black people to put them in power.

Afro-Americans will thus once again be asked to vote for a party which throughout its existence has been responsible for the oppression of black people.

Afro-Americans for Halstead and Boutelle believe that it is time to stop supporting our oppressors. This means first and foremost we must stop voting for the parties which are run and controlled by them.

We must revolutionize this society by waging a struggle against white capitalist rule. The most important question facing us is how to organize and unite the black community in a way that black people can exercise the greatest amount of black power in this country.

In the Socialist Workers Party election campaign, Fred Halstead and Paul Boutelle are outlining a perspective to accomplish this with the following demands:

BRING OUR BLACK GIS HOME NOW!

**The black man's battle is here at home.
BLACK CONTROL OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY!**

--Support for community control of the schools and the struggle to end control of our children's education by white administrators who do not understand or care about their needs.

--Replacement of police occupation of the ghetto with a community controlled police force made up of deputized members of the community.

--The construction of black controlled cooperatives.

--Black control of all government funds which are allocated to the black community.

--Control by black people over all plans and funds to renovate and reconstruct housing and other facilities in our community.

SELF DEFENSE!

The assassination of Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Bobbie James Hutton, and countless others, have made the need for organized self-defense clearer than ever.

Black people have the constitutional right to own guns for protection. We must fight against the various gun laws being pushed by the government which would leave black people disarmed while cops and racists continue to arm themselves and attack our community.

FOR AN INDEPENDENT BLACK PARTY!

A black political party is needed to effectively fight for control of our communities. Such a party can fight by any means necessary for the liberation of black people--at the ballot box, on the job, in the streets. The only real way to



Cuban militia girl

fight the Democrats and Republicans is to provide an alternative to them.

UNITY WITH THE LIBERATION STRUGGLES OF OPPRESSED NATIONS!

The peoples of Latin America, Asia, Africa, and the Arab countries are fighting for full independence from imperialism so that they can develop their countries for the benefit of the masses of people who live there. But history has repeatedly demonstrated that this cannot be achieved under capitalism.

It is only through a socialist revolution that complete political and economic independence has been possible. This is seen in the example of Cuba where it was necessary to nationalize the economy in order to win full independence from American imperialism, and to carry out much needed land reform.

Likewise the black liberation movement in this country will not win freedom for the black nation until the capitalist rulers are replaced and a socialist government is established.

White capitalists introduced the system of racial oppression into this country, first in the form of slavery; they continued it under other forms after slavery was abolished and they maintain it today.

Racism is used by the capitalists to divide black and white workers, to keep workers in this country from uniting in revolutionary actions as we recently saw in France.

Racism is used by the capitalists as an excuse for the existence of unemployment, unemployment which is necessary to the functioning of capitalism. "Last hired and first fired" means that the capitalists have a ready-made pool of cheap labor which can be exploited for super-profits.

In addition, racism is used to rationalize the worldwide imperialist exploitation of non-white peoples.

The white ruling class in this country will not give up the benefits it gains from racism without a struggle.

To throw out the strongest and most brutal ruling class the world has ever seen will not be an easy job. It will require the support

of the worldwide revolutionary movement. And it will take the coordinated efforts of black, white, Puerto Rican, Indian, and Mexican-American revolutionaries in this country.

SWP candidates Fred Halstead and Paul Boutelle are promoting this revolutionary outlook and perspective in the 1968 campaign. Afro-Americans for Halstead and Boutelle urge all black people who agree with this general perspective to join us in supporting them.

PAUL BOUTELLE CAMPAIGNING

Near the end of May, our Vice Presidential candidate Paul Boutelle completed a nationwide speaking tour. During the five months of speaking and debating, Boutelle was able to reach hundreds of thousands of people through radio, TV, and meetings at colleges and universities all across the country.

In the middle of May, Boutelle visited Detroit, where in the course of a week he spoke to 1,900 people. His largest meeting was at Cleveland Junior High School, where he spoke to 800 students. Out of these meetings, over 200 young Brothers and Sisters signed up as supporters of the campaign.

One of Boutelle's largest meetings on his national tour was in Carbondale, Illinois, where over 700 people turned out to hear him at Southern Illinois University. Of the people attending, about 500 were Brothers and Sisters from the campus and the Carbondale ghetto. The meeting occurred a couple hours after the King assassination on April 4.

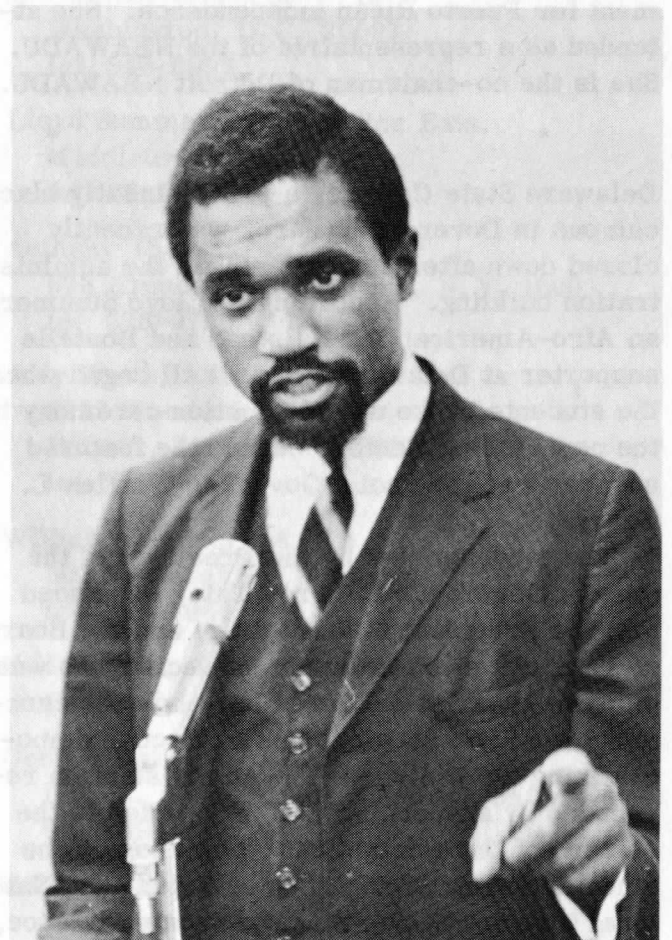
Detroit and Carbondale are just some of the highlights of Boutelle's national tour.

Before Boutelle began his national tour in January, he went on an extensive speaking tour through the South. On this speaking tour, most of the meetings took place at black campuses. Some of these were: Delaware State College, Morehouse College, Fisk University, Texas Southern University, Houston-Tillotson College, Langston University in Oklahoma, Southern University in Louisiana, and Kentucky State College.

After completing his trip through the South, Boutelle attended the Black Youth Conference in Los Angeles.

Thus, one can see that Boutelle has done a lot of campaigning, blowing and opening the minds of black people as to why the Brothers in the imperialist U.S. army should be taken out of Vietnam, as to why we need a national black political party to take control over our communities, as to how the beast known as American imperialism can be destroyed, and as to why Marxism is a necessary tool for black liberation. At the same time, Boutelle has moved a lot of white youths into becoming revolutionary opponents of this decadent and disintegrating society.

At present, Boutelle is in Europe. His first stop is in England, and from there he enters France, which is on the brink of revolution. We will be reporting on this trip in later editions of the Newsletter.



Paul Boutelle

AFRO-AMERICANS FOR HALSTEAD AND BOUTELLE IN ACTION

Derrick Morrison, Socialist Workers Party candidate for congress in the 20th C. D. in New York City and writer for the Young Socialist magazine, has just completed a national speaking tour on the topic: Black Nationalism and the Struggle for a Socialist America. While speaking on some of the ideological and political problems of the Black Nationalist movement, Morrison also helped build support for the National Black Anti-War Anti-Draft Union, NBAWADU. NBAWADU was founded last January as a coalition of black organizations to mobilize black people against the war in Vietnam and the draft.

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Another black supporter of Halstead and Boutelle, Judy Watts of Detroit, recently attended a convention in Puerto Rico of the Movement for Puerto Rican Independence. She attended as a representative of the NBAWADU. She is the co-chairman of Detroit NBAWADU.

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Delaware State College, a predominantly black campus in Dover, Delaware, was recently closed down after students seized the administration building. According to Lloyd Summers, an Afro-American for Halstead and Boutelle supporter at Delaware State, it all began when the students broke up a dedication ceremony to the new Student Center because the featured speaker was the racist Governor Charles L. Terry.

The students, led by the President of the Student Government, Leroy Tate, demanded that the President of the College and the Board of Trustees meet with them to decide who was going to speak at the ceremony, how the ceremony would be planned, and to discuss democratizing the College. The administration responded by suspending Tate. This led to the seizure of the administration building by the students. Gov. Terry then called out the National Guard. Not wanting to see any violence,

the President of the College then met with the students to set up a committee of students, faculty, and Board of Trustees to discuss the problems at D. S. C.

After agreeing that students would get their grades and the seniors their diplomas, the school was closed down.

D. S. C. was one of the first colleges where Boutelle spoke on his Southern speaking trip. As a result, there are a number of Afro-American endorsers of the campaign, including Leroy Tate, President of the student body.

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In New York, Afro-Americans for Halstead and Boutelle are sponsoring a Malcolm X tape series for the month of June. The tape sessions will be held every Saturday at 7:00 p. m. at 873 Broadway.

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In a report from Minneapolis on Boutelle's tour through that region, a campaign correspondent remarked, "In Eau Claire, Wisconsin, endorsements were obtained from nine members of the Afro-American students Association. A group of American Indian students crossed out the 'Afro' and inserted the word 'Indian' on the cards to list American Indians for Halstead and Boutelle. Two more Indians signed up at the Twin Cities Socialist Forum."

Three of the Indians are from the Wisconsin Indian Youth Council of the National Congress of American Indians.

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For our Puerto Rican and Mexican-American Brothers, there is a campaign brochure entitled, "Vote Socialist Workers en '68." It can be obtained from the SWP Campaign Committee at 873 Broadway, New York 10003.

DEFEND THE BLACK PANTHERS!

With clear cut design and purpose, the white political establishment in Oakland, California, is attempting to destroy the Black Panther Party. Huey Newton, Minister of Defense of the Panther Party comes up for trial on June 10 on charges of murder. Although he is alleged to have killed one cop and wounded another in October of 1967, the wounded cop reported that he never saw a gun in Newton's hand. The incident occurred when Newton was stopped by the two officers while driving in Oakland, Calif.

In April of this year the Oakland cops killed Bobby Hutton, treasurer of the Panther Party, and wounded Eldridge Cleaver, Minister of Information of the Party and author of the brilliant and hot-selling book Soul on Ice. These malicious deeds were the results of cop harassment of the Panther Party over the last year and a half.

And the harassment continues. We can't go into all the details now, but we urge you to get a copy of the June issue of the Young Socialist magazine, which has an interview with Huey Newton and an article on the history of the Panther Party and the need to defend it.

You can help defend the Black Panthers by sending funds to the International Committee to Release Eldridge Cleaver, P. O. Box 2967, Customs House, San Francisco, California.

Also send funds to the Huey Newton Defense Fund, P. O. Box 8641, Emeryville Branch, Oakland, Calif.

Subscribe to the Black Panther, the Party newspaper, by sending \$1.50 for 3 months, \$3 for 6 months, or \$5.50 for 1 year to the Black Panther Party, P. O. Box 8641, Emeryville Branch, Oakland, Calif. 94608



CASE OF THE QUEENS 17

In New York City, as of this writing, two of the Queens 17, Arthur Harris and Herman Ferguson, are on trial. The 17 Brothers and Sisters were arrested in June of 1967 for supposedly conspiring to kill Whitney Young and Roy Wilkins.

What is at stake here is the right of black people to armed self-defense. You can support Harris and Ferguson by attending the trial to watch the administration of "justice," or by sending contributions to the National Legal Defense for the 17 African-Americans Accused, c/o The Allied Federal Savings and Loan Association, 115-02 Merrick Blvd., Jamaica, New York.

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BRING THE GIs HOME NOW THE ENEMY IS AT HOME



JOIN THE 1968 SOCIALIST CAMPAIGN

Unlike LBJ, Hubert Humphrey and their Republican counterparts, Fred Halstead and Paul Boutelle are workers, antiwar leaders, fighters for the right of black people to control their own communities, and active in the struggle for a socialist America.

Some supporters of the Halstead-Boutelle campaign are members of the Socialist Workers party. Most are not.

Many of them do not agree with all the planks of the SWP program. But they believe that the ticket of Halstead and Boutelle campaigns for the break with capitalist politics that must be made by the majority of Americans—Afro-Americans, workers, GIs, and students—if we are to put an end to war and racism.

Socialist Workers Campaign Committee
873 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003
Tel. (212) 673-0790

- Please send me more information on the Socialist Workers campaign.
- Enclosed is \$1.00 for a packet of campaign literature.
- I want to organize a meeting for a candidate.
- Enclosed is a donation of
- Although I do not necessarily agree with all the planks of the Socialist Workers Party platform, I endorse the SWP's presidential ticket as a positive alternative to the Democratic and Republican parties.
- Add my name as an Afro-American for Halstead and Boutelle.
- I will help petition this summer in (indicate the state).

Name Address
 City State Zip
 School or Organization
 Summer Address

BLACK CONTROL OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY