

Bulletin

Twice-Weekly Organ of the Central Committee of the Workers League

NOW
TWICE A
WEEK!

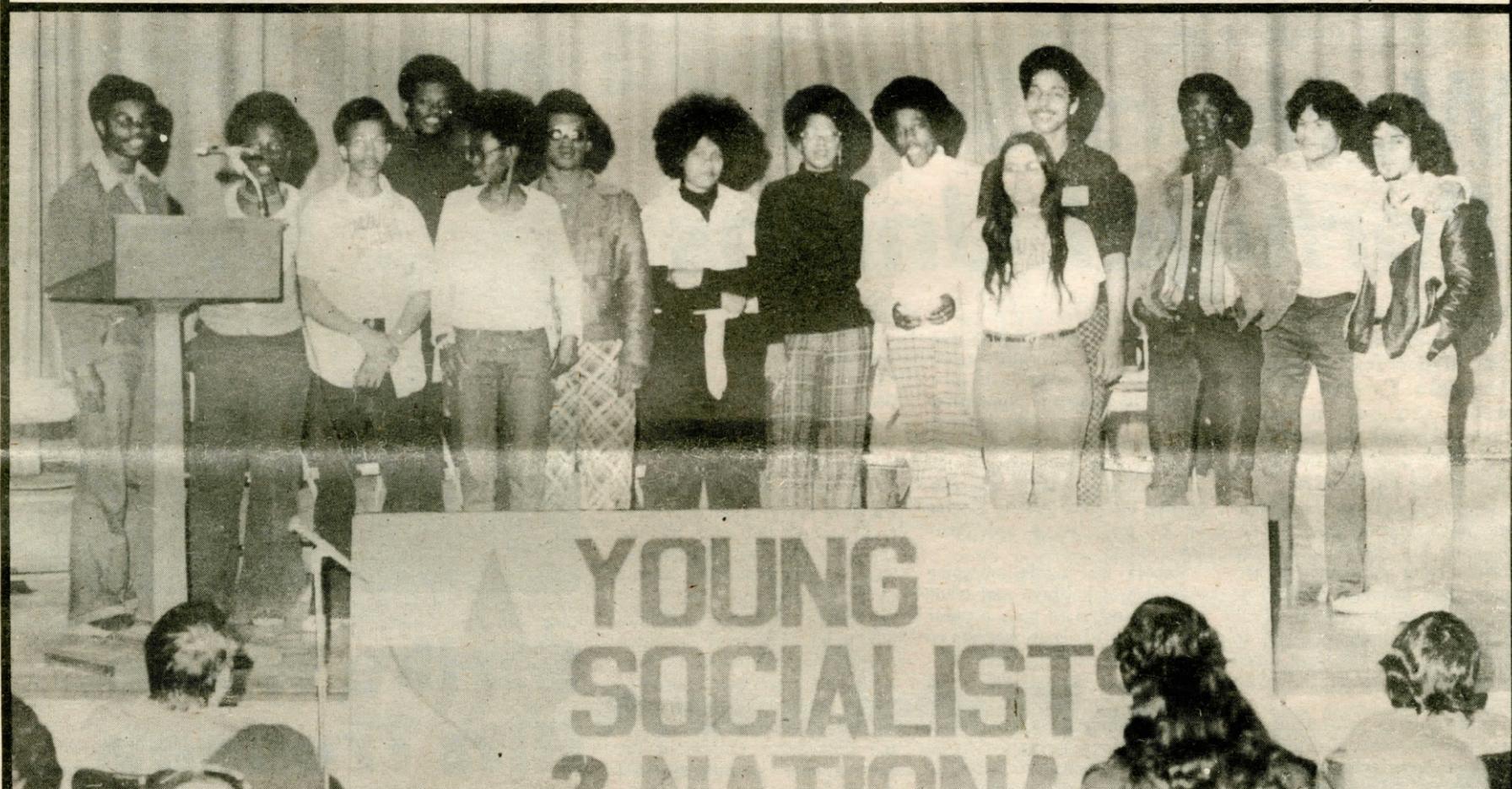
VOLUME TEN NUMBER THIRTY SIX 372

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1974

FIFTEEN CENTS

550 At Young Socialists National Conference Say:

Force Nixon Out!



Left to Right: Larry, Youngstown; Gina, Washington SE; Aaron, Elmhurst-Oakland; Eddie, Cleveland; Yvette, St. Louis Central; Willie, St. Louis West; Adele, East Flatbush; Helen, East New York; Larry, Bedford-Stuyvesant; Terry, East Flatbush; Leonard, Cleveland; Dan, Watts; Freddy, Brownsville; George, East New York.

BY THE EDITORS

The Second Annual National Conference of the Young Socialists, held in New York May 4-5 pledged to build a mass Young Socialists movement throughout the country and to construct the revolutionary party to unite workers and youth against Nixon and the capitalist class.

The conference was attended by 550 youth and young workers from all over the country, expressing the tremendous growth in the Young Socialists over the past year.

Delegations attended from California, Minneapolis, Detroit, St. Louis, Chicago, Pittsburgh, and the Cleveland-Dayton-Youngstown, Ohio area. East Coast delegations came from Boston, New Haven, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Baltimore, and New York.

Helen Halyard, of the Young Socialists and a member of the Central Committee of the

Workers League, gave the opening political report to the Conference:

"We hold this conference not for the purpose of exchanging good ideas, but for the development of a revolutionary leadership that can mobilize the working class independently for the construction of its own political party pledged to socialist policies.

"We hold this conference under conditions of the deepest international crisis of world capitalism. The lifting of wage and price controls will now move millions of workers into struggle against Nixon to defend their standard of living.

PORTUGAL

"This can be seen clearly in the events in Portugal. Workers in Portugal have been under a fascist dictatorship for 40 years and they now launch a wage offensive with major strikes in the cities of Lisbon and other industrial cities, as part of a worldwide movement of workers against capitalism."

Helen said the events in San Francisco, where hundreds of police have occupied the Fillmore district to hunt the so-called Zebra killer, was a

warning to every youth and worker of the plans of the government.

"Mayor Alioto's statement that extraordinary situations require extraordinary measures show the extent to which this government will go to use police and military against the working class.

"The task of the Young Socialists is to prepare a leadership. The youth cannot fight outside of uniting the working class for the struggle for socialism to overthrow this corrupt and dying system. We must win the support of millions of workers, because it is only the action of the working class that can force Nixon out."

Tim Wohlforth, National Secretary of the Workers League, in his greeting to the conference, stressed that this conference was being held under new conditions of crisis and revolutionary struggle internationally.

OFFENSIVE

"In 1970 when the last wage offensive took place, you had the auto and steel contracts, you had troops occupying the post office to break a strike of postal workers. You had the murder of

students at Kent State."

Wohlforth said that this offensive deepened the crisis of the ruling class and forced Nixon to take monetary policies of wage and price controls and of removing the dollar from its gold backing.

"We must see that the wage offensive today takes place under far more severe conditions and will bring about a far greater collision between classes."

The decisions of 1971 created the conditions for unheard of levels of inflation, now rising at an annual rate of 15 percent, and of unemployment. Today, masses of workers face the destruction of their living standards as the capitalists deliberately escalate recession and trade war internationally.

Wohlforth said it is this uncontrollable crisis that forces the capitalists to prepare for dictatorship and to conspire to destroy democratic rights.

Wohlforth warned that the lesson of Watergate is that "the capitalists have already gone a long distance in their attempts to deal with the working class with dictatorial and police measures.

"This is the lesson of the transcripts. It is like watching a

meeting of the top level Mafia, except the leader happens to be the president of the United States.

"For a number of years, the content and the nature of America has changed, but the form, the way it looks on the surface, seems to be the same. Nixon tries to make it seem as if he is obeying the law to keep illusions in democracy.

DEMOCRATIC

"We must recognize that the content of democratic rule has

(Continued On Page 12)

In The Weekend
Edition

•Part Three of "Nixon Speaks: A Portrait Of A President" on the transcripts and an assessment by David North.

•Special photo feature on the YS 2nd Annual National Conference.

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The Wage Offensive: New Stage In The Crisis

The expiration of wage and price controls on April 30 means that the last restraint on an absolutely uncontrolled wave of price increases has been removed.

Acting as a stalking horse for Ford and General Motors, Chrysler has declared its intention of raising prices on cars by an average of \$122 a vehicle. New increases for food, gasoline, and thousands of basic commodities are inevitable and will add to an inflation that is already skyrocketing at 15 percent.

With wages now falling behind at a 5.6 percent annual rate, a massive wage offensive by millions of American workers is rapidly being prepared.

The explosive character of the coming struggles was anticipated in the strike of thousands of San Francisco workers which virtually shut down the city for an

entire week.

The wage fight of the American working class is launched amidst an unprecedented offensive of the international working class.

The revolutionary implications of the new wages struggle must be grasped. It was precisely the battle for wages launched by the American working class during the first Nixon administration, particularly the increases won by the steel and auto workers, that resulted in a massive run on the dollar and forced Nixon to sever the dollar from gold.

These August 15, 1971 measures set into motion the rapid disintegration of capitalism on a worldwide basis. With paper money unrelated to gold, there were no

longer any restraints on an explosion of inflation and credit.

This brought on a continuous series of monetary devaluations, astronomical increases in the price of gold and commodities, worldwide trade war and preparations in every country for a savage attack on living standards through wage slashing and mass unemployment.

The May Day march of two million Portuguese workers through the streets of Lisbon after nearly 50 years of fascist rule expresses the tremendous determination and power of the working class to beat back these attacks.

The coming wage struggles in the United States represent a whole new stage in the capitalist crisis. The capitalists are well-aware that the new wage demands represent a threat to their very ability to rule.

This means preparation for police state forms of rule, brutal repression, and the destruction of basic democratic rights. It is not negotiations with the unions the capitalists have in mind, but police and military operations.

The latest moves to do away with wage and price controls represents the decision to allow prices to run wild while preparing this head-on confrontation.

This is the meaning of the revelations now coming out about the Watergate conspiracy. Behind the facade of elections and democratic procedures, the Nixon administration was conspiring to create the secret apparatus for a police state.

The paralysis of Nixon only increases the determination of the capitalist class to plunge ahead.

The Wallace movement is rapidly gathering its forces to exploit the conditions of inflation, unemployment, and mass hatred of the government to build a

right-wing racist movement as a bludgeon against the labor movement.

"Operation Zebra" is a warning of the sort of racist divisions and police terror the ruling class intends to employ against the power of the labor movement.

It is no accident that a caravan of youth on their way to the Young Socialist National Conference were stopped by Utah police and accused of being members of the SLA, while guns were held to their heads.

The guns pointed at the Young Socialists are aimed at every trade unionist in the country who is determined to defend his rights and living standards.

Under these conditions, the wages battles of the American working class will take place. These are not trade union questions, but require preparation for revolutionary tasks through the construction of the revolutionary party.

The fight to defend the unions and maintain living standards requires a massive mobilization for a wage offensive.

This means fighting for full compensation for all wages lost to the inflation and establishing a 100 percent cost of living escalator in every contract.

It means demanding the reopening of every union contract, such as those in steel and auto that obligate workers to accept the erosion of their wages.

Labor must act to call demonstrations in every city to demand Nixon's resignation. It must convene an immediate Congress of Labor to launch its own labor party committed to defending jobs, wages, and democratic rights through socialist policies.

It is through the fight for this perspective that the Workers League and the Young Socialists will train the revolutionary leadership in the unions and the communities for this new period of civil war.

What We Think

Workers Seize Portugal Unions

BY A CORRESPONDENT

Only one week after the coup d'etat that overthrew Portugal's Caetano government, the new military leader Antonio de Spinoza is seeking to preserve the structure of the old regime.

Masses of workers are demonstrating throughout Portugal demanding the ouster of all the former state and company officials. Two hundred workers at the Portuguese airline TAP forced their management to resign and workers have taken over direct control at seven major unions.

Spinoza has declared an amnesty for army deserters and draft dodgers who fled from fighting in Portugal's African colonies, but only on condition

that they join the army.

Spinoza, after holding discussions with all political and trade union leaders, is preparing to announce the formation of the new government. Communist Party leader Alvaro Cunhal and Socialist Party leader Mario Spares are supporting the junta and are bidding to be part of a coalition government.

Spinoza has made sweeping promises of political and trade union freedom to gain popular support for his coup, but has no intention of carrying them out.

The junta immediately faces demands by the Portuguese working class for big improvements in their standard of living while the liberation forces in Mozambique and Angola have rejected his proposals for a

federation.

Holden Roberto, leader of the National Liberation Front of Angola declared: "What we want in Angola is that power be turned over to the majority. Without this formula, peace is not possible."

The Portuguese Communist Party is carrying out the same treacherous betrayal as the Chilean CP did last September. The Chilean CP gave its support to a coalition between Social Democrat Salvador Allende, only to have the army execute a brutal coup and massacre thousands of workers and peasants.

This deliberate betrayal must not be repeated. It now falls to the Portuguese section of the International Committee of the Fourth International to build the revolutionary party in Portugal.

Mitterand Wins On First Ballot

BY MELODY FARROW

Francois Mitterand, leader of the Socialist Party, won 43 percent of the vote in the French election and must now face Independent Republican Valery Giscard d'Estaing, who got 33 percent, in a runoff on May 19.

The vote represented a crushing defeat for the traditional Gaullist party, UDR, whose candidate, Jacques Chaban-Delmas only received 15 percent of the vote.

Mitterand is the common candidate of the Left Union, which also includes a section of the capitalist Radical Party.

In huge election rallies throughout the country, Mitterand and CP General Secretary George Marchais have emphasized their moderation, and stressed the "democratic" and "patriotic" nature of their program.

At a 17,000 strong Mitterand rally in Lyons where Chaban Delmas only drew a crowd of 4000, Mitterand and the CP leaders consciously sought to dampen the enthusiasm of the ebullient crowd and squashed the spontaneous singing of the "Internationale."

In every city, the revolutionary determination of the French workers and youth has been in sharp contrast to the conservative bourgeois image projected by the Stalinists and by the SP.

There is no mention of the working class or of a socialist program. On the issue of nationalization, George Marchais, general secretary of the Communist Party declared: "Nationalization is not a religion to us. We absolutely do not approve extending this measure to the entire economy."

On April 26, George Seguy, leader of the Stalinist controlled General Federation of Workers (CGT) stated: "We will know how to take into account, as responsible trade unionists, the economic realities of the social

possibilities that result from this."

In addition, the CP and the SP will maintain the 1958 constitution which DeGaulle used to give the President unlimited powers. To assure their bourgeois and middle class supporters they were not for revolution, the CP and SP cancelled the annual May Day marches.

This election campaign has exposed the position of all the centrists and revisionists in France. The OCI, the Pabliste Ligue Communiste and Rouge have all lined up behind Mitterand.

The position of the OCI who advance no independent program and say the major issue is to defeat the Gaullists is virtually indistinguishable from the Stalinists.

This election will be a prelude to enormous class battles in France in which the fight for power will again be on the agenda as it was in 1968. The critical fight now is to build a section of the International Committee of the Fourth International in France.



French miners greeted Prime Minister Pierre Messmer on visit to Lorraine with signs reading "No to Wage Freeze, Stop Unemployment."

Strike Wave Hits Trudeau

BY FRANK MARTIN
MONTREAL—The

Liberal government of Pierre Elliot Trudeau faces a major crisis over its budget proposals which will be presented May 6 to the House of Commons.

David Lewis, leader of Canada's New Democratic Party, has called his differences with the Liberals "irreconcilable." If the NDP votes the budget down, new elections must be called.

The collapse of the Liberal regime comes under conditions of a massive wage offensive by the working class. Walkouts by postal workers, airport firemen, and St. Lawrence Seaway river pilots last month virtually shut down the entire transport system in the country.

While the postal workers have reached a temporary agreement and the firemen, and pilots were forced back to work by government legislation, air traffic controllers are expected to vote for a strike on May 5.

In a front page article entitled "Wildcat Strikes Leave the Spoor of Anarchy," the Financial Post spelled out the position

of top financial interests in Canada. The article, assessing the strike wave, makes three points: 1. "Two of the major strikes—by the postal workers and the airport firemen—are illegal wildcat strikes.

2. "Union leaders are becoming more militant.

3. "The harried Liberal government is in no shape to handle labor unrest."

The Post article concluded: "The dangerous spread of confrontation outside the legal channels of collective bargaining can lead only to anarchy and the law of the jungle."

The wage offensive of the working class and the rise in the exchange rate of the Canadian dollar has intensified the crisis for the Canadian bankers and financiers. They require a strong government to deal with the working class.

After keeping the Liberals in office since 1972, Lewis is now hinting that he will give the right-wing Tory party "trial support" if the Liberals fail, and thus prevent new elections.

A campaign must be launched to unite the labor movement around socialist policies, to kick the Liberals and Tories out for good and to bring an NDP government to power pledged to carry out this program.

NY Publishers Force Confrontation

BY CYNTHIA BLAKE
NEW YORK—A showdown between New York City printing workers and publishers of the Daily News was averted at the last minute as negotiations continued past Monday, May 6.

The Daily News has announced that it will begin to use new automated equipment on that date, in effect locking out the ITU members, who have been staging a work slowdown for the past two weeks. The New York Times immediately issued a statement that it would support the News.

In the statement, Times publisher Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, said: "In successive negotiations over the past number of years, Mr. Powers has gone back and forth between the two newspapers unconscionably applying his pressure tactics to exact the last ounce of tribute.

"This time he will not divide the publishers or achieve a settlement that will jeopardize the future of both newspapers in New York City."

The publishers are forming a united bloc in a drive to completely break the union in the course of this struggle, which has centered on job guarantees for the 2000-some ITU members who work on the News, the Times, and the New York Post.

The publishers hope to force the typographers out onto picket lines and force other employees to publish scab editions using the new computerized type equipment. A Times official told a meeting of security analysts Thursday, "A number of non-union Times personnel have been trained in the use of the automated equipment. Several dry runs have been held, and a respectable paper can be produced."

"We just want to keep working—that's the long and short, the beginning and the end of it," one member of the Daily News Chapel of the ITU told the Bulletin.

Another member pointed out that one year of the contract has already gone by. These negotiations cover April 1, 1973 to March 31, 1975. He said that the guarantee they are offering, which does not cover substitute typesetters, is really only good for one year.

GUARANTEE

"The guarantee they're offering is no guarantee at all. There's a clause in that contract that a job action nullifies all the terms of the old contract.

"So we get to March next year, and they lock us out—there goes the guarantee, right then. We want a guarantee for as long as the company is in business. If they keep making money, we keep making money."

As the Monday deadline approached, the ITU leadership at the News and president Bertram Powers had still not



ITU No. 6 members working in the composing room of the New York Times.

announced their plans, or called a meeting of the membership.

Many workers feel that the only way to fight the publishers, who know that a defeat of the union here would open the way for automated equipment at every daily in the country, is to mobilize the full strength of the labor movement, beginning with the nine other unions at the papers.

As one worker put it: "I'll be frank with you—the company has never been in such a strong position. They have all the

marbles, and they're sitting on the rule book.

"If they lock us out Monday, they'll try to put out scab editions.

"The only way we can win is to get the other unions out, too, to close all these papers tight. That means we need backing from the Central Labor Council, from everybody."

Officials of the 10 unions involved were scheduled to meet Friday morning to plan their reactions to the possible lock-out.

Eight of these 10 unions have

already signed contracts with the newspapers. All 10 must stand together now against the union busting of the publishers.

The Central Labor Council of New York must stand behind the ITU in this fight by mobilizing the support of the city labor movement, which has been hard hit by layoffs in every industry.

This raises the need for a political fight for a labor party to nationalize industries like publishing under workers control, in order to institute a shorter work week and secure jobs for all.



Workers in New Delhi demonstrating against rising food prices clash with Indian police.

Steel Companies Boost Prices 25%

BY A REPORTER

The decision of the major steel manufacturers to raise prices from 10 to 25 percent will mean another leap in all basic products, from cars to appliances, that are made from steel.

US Steel raised all its products 5.7 percent, with the price of cold rolled steel sheet up 9.7 percent. US Steel also announced that new increases will be added when deliveries are made on May 20.

Youngstown Sheet and Tube raised its prices 10 to 25 percent.

Other industries which announced major price boosts are brass, copper, chemicals and aircraft. Fabricated copper goods have gone up 18 percent, liquid gases such as oxygen and nitrogen, 10 to 15 percent.

The Canadian newsprint industry is also considering a 10 percent increase in prices to US customers which will send all paper products soaring.

Prices in the medical and construction industries, already at a high level, are expected to skyrocket in the coming months.

These price jumps follow on the heels of the announcement of John Dunlop, president of the Cost of Living Council, that he has informed the major companies of their "moral obligation" to restrict price increases.

The price surge in these basic manufacturing materials is only the beginning of a continuous wave of inflation, now that all pretense at controls have gone.

In a speech to 3200 businessmen last week, Nixon cynically stated that business and labor would have to act "responsibly" to hold down wages, and that "more production" was needed to combat inflation.

He made a thinly veiled threat against the trade unions that emergency legislation will be passed by Congress unless wage increases are held down, while big business gouges out increased profits from speedup and price increases.

The government intends to use the "voluntary" services of union leaders to keep wages in line.

As these price increases were being announced, leaders of construction craft unions declared they would continue to abide by the machinery set up with the Construction Industry Stabilization Council, when wage controls were instituted in 1971.

The Plumbers Union has made a deal with four major contractors to establish a voluntary Piping Industry Collective Bargaining Council to eliminate "crisis bargaining, strikes and lockouts wherever possible."

The fight for a decent standard of living and cost of living escalator clauses will mean a bitter struggle against the labor bureaucrats who will seek to impose wage cuts rather than lead the necessary political fight against Nixon and the corporations.

Gandhi Jails 2000 Railroad Workers

BY A REPORTER

Railroad workers walked out at all the major rail centers of India, at Bombay, Bhopal, Lucknow, Ahmedabad, and Patna following the arrest of 700 union leaders throughout the country.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi ordered the mass arrests in a desperate move to halt a threatened nationwide strike of two million rail workers this Monday.

The strike erupted shortly after the arrests when it was reported that one of the union leaders V.R. Mhalgi died of a heart attack.

Gandhi has vowed to maintain the rail service and has called up the army reserves to stand by if

the strike goes ahead. The unions have broken off all talks with the government.

The rail strikes have thrown the Gandhi government into crisis. Any violent crackdown on rail workers could lead to a general strike at a time when strikes and demonstrations over wages, food shortages, and soaring prices have continued uninterrupted for the past months.

DOUBLING

The rail workers are demanding a doubling of their wages, a bonus, shorter work hours, cheaper food rations, and reinstatement of those fired for union activities. The government has rejected any increase in wages.

Rail workers in India make

less than \$35 a month at a time when inflation rose 25 percent last year and is now rising at an even faster rate.

COLLAPSE

Staggering under a worsening economic crisis, the Gandhi regime is on the point of collapse. The trade deficit is growing. Production of basic materials such as steel and fertilizers is 50 percent below capacity, while huge prices are paid for importing them.

A strike in India's vital rail system will bring basic industry to a halt and create conditions to unite the struggles of peasants in the provinces against the corrupt governors and landlords with the struggles of the industrial workers.

Court Rules 1199 Must Pay Fine

**BY AN
1199 MEMBER**
NEW YORK, NY—As Local 1199 prepares for the 1974 contract negotiations, a whole series of attacks have been launched against hospital workers.

The union lost its final appeal against court fines issued during the November, 1973 strike, which means that the union will be assessed \$600,000, \$120,000 in additional fines against union officers, including a \$10,000 fine against 1199 President Leon Davis.

REJECT

The decision to reject the appeal was made before Judge Carter, the same judge who issued the original injunctions. At the same time, Adelphi Hospital in the Fort Greene section of Brooklyn was closed down, laying off hundreds of 1199 members.

UNIONIZATION

Adelphi was the scene of a bitter unionization struggle several years ago. The hospital refused to pay back pay and wage increases amounting to \$50,000. Morrissania Hospital in the Bronx, also organized by 1199, is also planning to close.

The fines against the union are an open attempt to bankrupt it.

Union officials have mentioned the possibility of assessing each union member in order to raise the money.

For the first time the union is demanding a one-year contract, including an across the board increase of \$25 or 15 percent, whichever is higher; a clause to adjust wages along with the rise in the cost of living, to be adjusted every three months.

CLOSURES

The hospitals now intend to use the threat of further closures and layoffs to dictate the terms of the new contract this year.

Davis, like Richard Vizzini of the Uniformed Firefighters Association which was fined over \$100,000 for a four hour strike last year, is preparing to accept these fines.

The decision of the courts to uphold these fines is confirmation that every retreat by the union leadership will only encourage the government to press further in its attacks.

Last November, Davis ended a powerful strike, claiming the workers could not fight the government, rather than turn to the millions of New York workers who would have supported Local 1199.

COMMON FIGHT

Today, it is even clearer that the city labor movement faces a common fight and that the printers, city workers, and all other unions must give full support to Local 1199 in refusing to pay the fines.



'You Can't Live On \$70 A Week'

100 young workers at 10 Bookmasters stores in New York City walked off the job last week to demand an increase in pay. The spirited pickets stopped every shopper with chants "Help us out, don't go in."
"You can't live in New York City on \$70 a week—it's as simple as that," a picket outside the 31st Street store told the Bulletin.
The sales clerks and stockboys are organized by District 65, Distributive Workers of America.

Metro Bus Drivers Strike Over Cost Of Living Pay

BY

A REPORTER

WASHINGTON, DC—

Metro bus drivers, mechanics, and clerical workers walked off their jobs at midnight, May 2, bringing this city's mass transit system to a halt.

The work stoppage involving 3000 workers was provoked by Metro when they announced that the cost of living escalator clause written into the old union contracts since 1956, would be

placed under binding arbitration in the new contract.

The latest contract ran out April 30. George Davis, president of Local 689 of the Amalgamated Transit Union, said: "Metro put us on the spot. We did not have an opportunity to tell the situation to our membership."

According to Davis, arbitration of the escalator provision would violate a provision of federal law, which he says prevents Metro from taking any steps that might diminish the pay or benefits of union members.

Chief US District Court Judge George L. Hart, Jr., signed a restraining order at 12:25 am May 2, telling the officers of Local 689 that they should try to get the members back to work.

JAIL

Before signing the back to work order, Judge Hart said: "I want to be sure that if the order is not obeyed, somebody goes to jail. Otherwise it's stupid."

The union has called a mass membership meeting for May 3, to vote on whether to obey the restraining order or not. From all indications, workers will vote to continue their strike.

OPERATIONS

The walkout is affecting all Metro bus operations except the Maryland Division, which has 130 buses serving central and

southern Prince George's County. Workers there are represented by the Teamsters Union, which has a different contract with Metro.

The leadership of Local 689 did not approach the Teamsters with regard to joining the strike action.

The decision to strike was made by a unanimous vote of over 2000 Metro bus workers at a mass membership meeting just hours before the strike deadline.

ALEXANDRIA

The Bulletin interviewed a bus driver in the Alexandria Division, who asked not to be named for fear of retaliation. "In order to move Metro into negotiating a contract, you have to strike. Without a cost of living escalator clause, we would be working for nothing."

"The government plays an important role. They're responsible for the price increases, and, in fact, Metro is partially owned by the government."

"Our jobs are unstable, since the rules can only be used against us. A lot of the old buses are unsafe. Just recently, I cut my finger, which put me out of work for some time."

Metro bus workers must demand the reopening of their contract and 20 percent increase in wages instead of the less than 5 percent increase the leadership is asking for.

CTU Votes May 15 To Shut Washington Post

BY A REPORTER

WASHINGTON, DC—

Members of Columbia Typographical Union No. 101 will take a strike vote on May 15, possibly in the midst of a major printers' strike in New York City.

The major issue in the disputes are the same—the defense of printers' jobs and the union itself, in the face of new automated typesetting equipment the publishers want to bring in.

SCANNERS

With the new machine scanner which translates typewritten pages into columns of type in one step, the ITU typesetting is not needed. Publishing companies are determined to break the unions so that they can save thousands of dollars in salaries.

TOUGH

"We're not going to have duplication of keyboarding. It's a tough thing for the union to accept, but that's the way it is," stated John S. Prescott, president of the Washington Post, reflecting the hard-line position of the publishers.

The Washington Post and Washington Star-News have of-

fered to guarantee lifetime jobs in the company for some 1000 printers and apprentices, but not for the substitute printers. A clause in past contracts guarantees that any substitute printer who reports to the composing room must be put to work.

This has usually been done through a traditional agreement that the union can re-set any advertisements that come into the shop already completed. The papers want to terminate this practice after a backlog is used up.

The union has already agreed to sign a record 4 and one half year contract once the automation dispute is settled.

INCREASE

The company is offering a \$16.40 increase in wages the first year, \$17.40 and a wage re-opener in the second year. The union is demanding \$300 for a four-day work week, with quarterly cost of living adjustments.

GUILD

Members of the Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild just returned to work after a strike at the Washington Post with only a 12 percent wage increase.

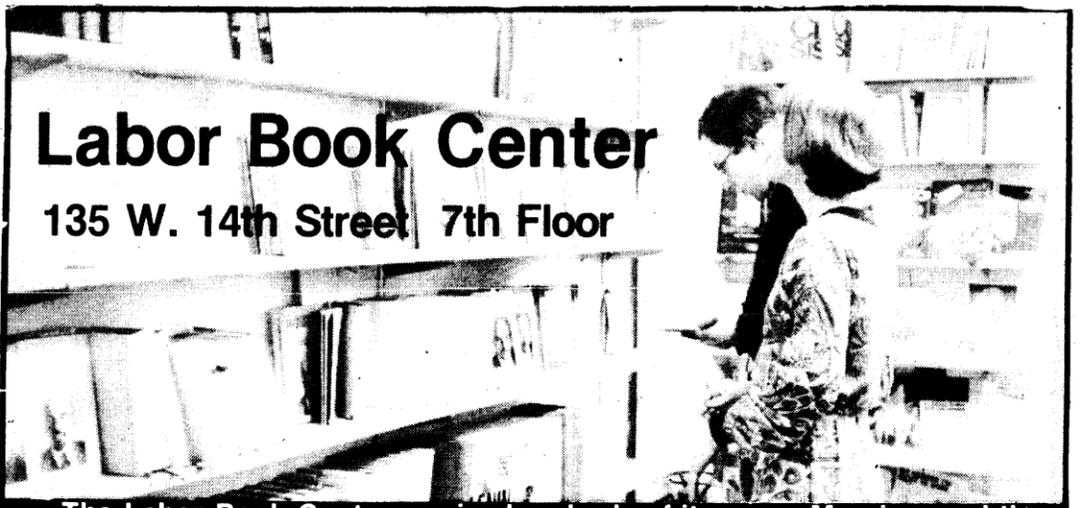
If the CTU members vote for a

strike on May 15, strike authorization will still have to be granted from the International Typographical Union. ITU members are also electing new International officials the same day.

All candidates must be mandated now by every ITU local not to delay any strike action, so that the strongest campaign possible can be mounted against the union-busting attempts of these giant publishing corporations.

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BY ESTHER GALEN

In England, evidence continues to be uncovered showing active military and police involvement in robbery, kidnapping, and frame-ups used now to witch-hunt left-wing organizations and to prepare repression against the trade unions. The Labor government continues to cover up these conspiracies.

On November 15, 1971, the army ambushed and arrested Martin Joseph Crawford in Belfast as he was returning home from Britain.

He was taken to Girdwood Barracks, headquarters of a torture unit, where he says he was punched and slapped. He was made to face a wall for eight hours, and deprived of food and sleep.

He was questioned by Inspector Harry Taylor of the Special Branch while being held by the army. The next day, he was visited by two English officers from the Special Branch at Scotland Yard.

Allegedly, Crawford admitted he drove a van with guns stolen from an army depot. He mentioned an accomplice named John Parker.

On November 17, while Crawford was still in Belfast under interrogation, the Special Branch was active in London's East End. A Toyota parked outside of 257 Wick Road. Police, planted close by, arrested three men from the car and busted into the house, arresting two more people.

On the first floor of the house, they went directly to a small door, broke it down, and found a quantity of rifles and bayonets wrapped in blankets. Inside, a locked box and trunk, they found a Browning automatic, two "Star" automatic pistols, five magazines, and 56 rounds of ammunition.

Even before the police left the scene, evening newspapers carried headlines: "London Hunt For IRA Terror Guns" and "Arms Charge—Gun Guard For Five."

When the accused appeared in court, police had the court surrounded with armed police, dogs, and searched every visitor.

The leader of the Saor Eire group asked to take full responsibility and stated: "For hundreds of years you have oppressed us and the only way is to fight you by our means."

"I don't regard myself as a murderer, but I am prepared to use any degree of violence to achieve what I consider is right for Ireland."

It seemed like the Special Branch had the case wrapped up. But several odd features of the case began to emerge.

First, the prisoners were charged with the possession of the rifles, not the pistols. None of the rifles worked. They were just cadet drill equipment, and could not be fired, while the pistols were in good order.

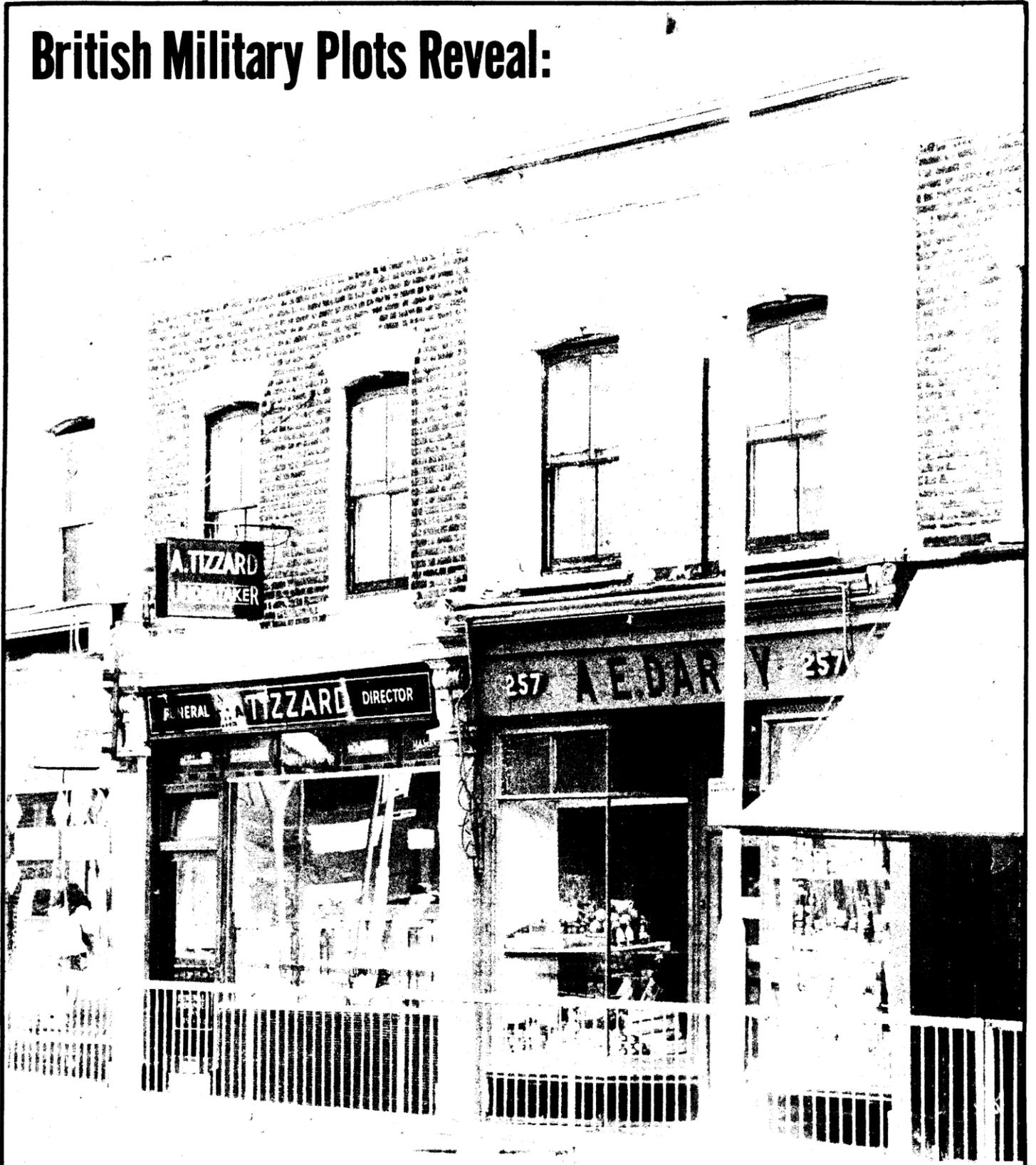
When their trial began on June 5, 1972, the accused had been in custody for eight months.

The defense argued that the confession made by Crawford was gotten under duress and he had medical evidence to show that Crawford had been repeatedly punched.

The judge decided that Crawford's confession was inadmissible as evidence, so the case against him was dropped.

The trial of the others then

British Military Plots Reveal:



257 Wick Road, where police arrested three men outside and two inside, finding rifles and bayonets.

DANGER OF DICTATORSHIP

was to start. During jury selection, as the potential jurors filed into court, the prosecutor appeared to know who to challenge and who to let sit on the jury.

The officer in charge of the case, Pittendreich, revealed in his testimony how the prosecution was able to make such assessments.

Cross-examined by the defense lawyer, he said: "I've only recently joined the Special Branch. The Special Branch is a crime—leastways as intelligence gathering unit. Not necessarily criminal. We do a large amount of political work."

"There was written information from records against a number of names of the jurors. Information from Special Branch and other police records."

This means that the government can intervene in a trial to get a jury of conservatives or Tories, rather than liberals or left-wing people, so they can make sure of a conviction. Not a word of this jury rigging appeared in the capitalist press at the time.

The defense lawyer stated: "I intend to show that this whole case has been engineered by the Special Branch through a man,

Parker, to plant these guns on my clients."

The defense lawyer was also interested in a Mr. Lee who was not in court either. Both Parker and Lee had played an important part in getting the arms found, by the police, yet where were they?

Three days later, the prosecution announced it was dropping all charges. No reasons were given.

Following the Workers Press's investigation into the affair, the Sunday Times's "Insight Team" discovered the true identity of Parker and Lee.

Parker was a hired, professional agent provocateur. He gave the newspaper a description of how he had been instructed by the Special Branch to infiltrate a group of Irishmen suspected of running guns to the IRA.

A detective, using the false name of Lee, accompanied him when he first made contact with the group. Parker had been working with the Special Branch for 20 years.

Following the newspaper's investigation, Parker disappeared and has not been heard of since.

These revelations were so explosive that the Tory deputy

Prime Minister called for a police investigation. Of course, the police have never been known to do a top job of investigating themselves.

The detectives did reveal that the telephones of Saor Eire had been tapped since they were installed and members had on several occasions been photographed by Special Branch officers with hidden cameras.

No charges resulted from the inquiry. Governments in every country are now preparing every means possible for police-military provocation and terror because they know they will be facing powerful rebellions from the working class against inflation and unemployment.

The recent kidnapping, bank robbery, and death threats of the Symbionese Liberation Army may involve the work of a police provocateur. Creating a hysteria around these events, the police set the stage for the campaign for the "Zebra killer."

So far, there has not been one piece of evidence given about the existence of this "Zebra killer," yet police have used this to invade the Fillmore district of San Francisco, searching and arresting over 24,000 people.

Giving no evidence, Mayor

Alioto of San Francisco has said that 80 Californians have been murdered since 1971 by "Zebra killers."

He said that he met over the weekend with police, a lawyer, and an informant to obtain this information, but he refused to identify the source.

Each provocateur-arranged kidnapping, robbery, or murder threat, is used by the government to increase telephone tapping, mail opening, infiltrating trade unions, and bringing the police and army into preparations for civil war.

After the Littlejohn Affair in England, in which ex-convicts were hired by British intelligence to rob, kidnap, and fire-bomb to discredit the IRA, the Lynch government outlawed the IRA and introduced special courts which sit without juries.

The Saor Eire arms trial in Britain makes clear some of the tactics of the Special Branch which expose the governments moves towards a police-state.

As Watergate has revealed, massive conspiracies are well underway in this country. The Saor Eire case must serve as a warning to workers in the US as each government moves to take away the democratic rights of the working class.

Nixon Speaks: A Port

BY DAVID NORTH

The transcripts of secret White House conversations show that once Nixon and his closest aides, John Ehrlichman and H.R. Haldeman, realized that they were in danger of being implicated by the testimony of the original Watergate defendants and officials of the Committee to Reelect the President, they decided to protect themselves by organizing yet another massive coverup.

Meeting in Nixon's Oval Office for sessions that often dragged on for several hours, they painstakingly put together what was called a "scenario" in which past events were completely rewritten or fabricated to serve the interests of Nixon.

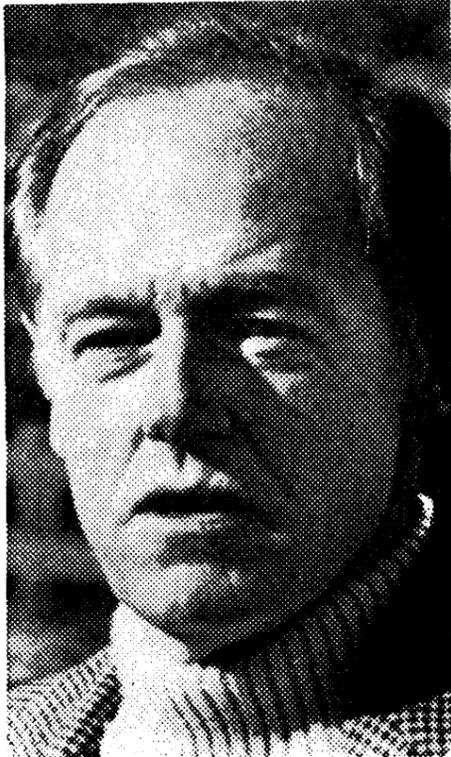
These "scenarios" were written like television scripts and actually rehearsed by Nixon, Haldeman and Ehrlichman in the White House. The aim of these "scenarios" was to cover up the vast conspiracy organized by Nixon. What American workers would be told about Watergate was to be decided by Nixon.

Revealed in the transcripts are not only the methods of Nixon but the methods of the class he represents. This is the first time in history that American workers have been actually able to read what is said within the inner sanctums of the government.

What is so clearly exposed by these transcripts is that beneath all the forms of democratic government lies a very different content. Probing beneath the surface, workers can see the rule of conspirators, a government conducted by "scenarios" drawn up by men who work independently of any laws except what is needed to defend the profit system.

These transcripts will come as a great shock to those whose faith in bourgeois democracy is based on the forms which the ruling class seeks to maintain by using the very "scenarios" which Nixon manufactured in the White House.

But, as the transcripts show, the forms which Nixon sought to preserve—that of a President scrupulously defending the law—serve to mask a very different content: a President engaged in conspiracy, bribery, illegal surveillance and perjury, all these actions part of an at-



Howard Hunt

tempt to falsify an election and break up basic democratic rights.

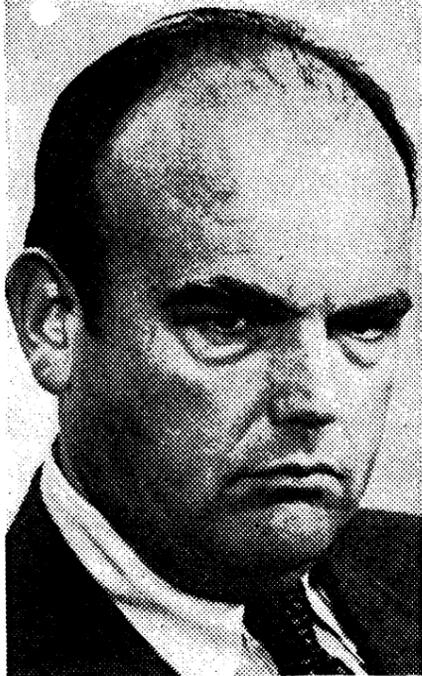
As the transcripts show, Nixon and his advisers carefully discussed how the fundamental institutions of American bourgeois democracy—the courts, the Congress and the press—could be made part of the "scenario" to cover the Watergate conspiracy.

This issue of government by scenario and conspiracy assumes great importance in understanding how the ruling class as a whole operates and what it is actually planning to do in this country.

With Nixon's transcripts in hand, every American worker must immediately ask what other "scenarios" are being played out by the ruling class.

What type of "scenario" was drawn up by the San Francisco police department before it launched "Operation Zebra" and began rounding up thousands of Black youth in the Fillmore district? The open frameup of seven young Black workers last week, some of them Muslims, for the so-called "Zebra" killings is the product of a conspiracy cooked up by Mayor Alioto. It now appears likely that that last month's shooting of a white man was the signal for Mayor Alioto to enact a "scenario" for police terror that will serve as a model for the civil war methods being tested out by the capitalists against the entire working class.

It is clear that when the Chicago police



John Ehrlichman

burst into the apartment of Black Panther leader Fred Hampton in 1969 and murdered him while he slept, the "scenarios" had been worked out well in advance.

These "scenarios" for the destruction of the democratic rights of the working class are being produced by the capitalists all over the world. In England, there is now irrefutable evidence that the mysterious bombings that were used to justify repression against the IRA were the product of "scenarios" produced by the Tories and Scotland Yard which called for everything from bank robberies to bombings to murders.

In Canada, the army has actually written a scenario—only recently exposed—which described in detail the conditions under which a military dictatorship would be established to crush a revolutionary movement of the working class.

This is what lies behind all the discussions held in the Oval Office between Nixon, Haldeman, Ehrlichman, John Dean, and Ronald Ziegler. How are the White House plumbers to be hidden?, how is the breakin of Ellsberg's doctor to be falsified?, how can we prevent the public from knowing about the payment of bribes?, how can we prevent the other buggings from being exposed?

While this was going on inside the White House, Nixon had the full cooperation of Assistant Attorney General Henry Petersen—the man supposedly in charge of investigating the Watergate coverup—in pledging not to look into Nixon's role in the conspiracy.

The crucial period in the preparation of a "scenario" was between March 27, 1973 and April 16, 1973. As the transcripts prove, in spite of heavy deletions made by Nixon, he became very worried by the end of March that it would be difficult to cover up his involvement in the Watergate conspiracy.

Nixon's concern was provoked by fear that the payment of hush money to White House plumber E. Howard Hunt would be linked to the Oval Office either by Hunt or by former special counsel Charles Colson.

Furthermore, Nixon had reason to believe that Jeb Magruder, former chief of staff of the Committee to Reelect the President, would tie the White House to all the sabotage and "dirty tricks" associated with Watergate.

Meeting on March 27, Nixon, Haldeman and Ehrlichman began to discuss the

from the transcripts— Part 2: The Creation Of

(Reprinted below are sections from the edited transcripts of White House conversations in which Nixon, Haldeman and Ehrlichman worked out scenarios to coverup their role in the Watergate conspiracy. The first discussion occurred on April 14, 1973 and shows how they worked out a scenario to make former Attorney General John Mitchell the scapegoat for Watergate. The second conversation occurred two days later and shows Nixon rehearsing the scenario with Ehrlichman and Haldeman. P means Nixon, E means Ehrlichman, and H means Haldeman.)

April 14, 1974

E. No, I'll tell you, last night I got home I decided that I would sit down and try to put on paper a report to you what I have been doing since you asked me to get into this.

P. Right. E. I am concerned about the over-all aspect of this and I want to talk about that before—I don't know what your timing is like.

P. No problem. E. We'll probably get back to it. P. Got plenty of time.

E. But Dean called and he said, "All right, here's a scenario which we've all been trying to figure out to make this go." He says, "The President calls Mitchell into his office on Saturday. He says, 'John, you've got to do this. And here are the facts: bing, bing, bing.' And you pull this paper out here. 'And you've got to do this.' And Mitchell stonewalls you. So then John says, 'I don't know why you're asking me down here. You can't ask a man to do a thing like that. I need a lawyer. I don't know why you're asking me down here. You can't ask a man to do a thing like that. I need a lawyer. I don't know what I am facing—you just really can't expect me to do this.'" So the President says, "Well, John, I have no alternative." And with that the President calls the US Attorney and says, "I, the President of the United States of America and leader of the free world, want to go before the grand jury on Monday."

P. I won't even comment on that.

H. That's a silly—

P. Typical of the thinking of—

E. We're running out every line. So that was 12:30 this morning. I, but I—

P. I go before the grand jury. That's like putting Bob on national television—H. With Dan Rather.

P. What? H. With Dan Rather.

P. Well by putting it on national television, period. (Unintelligible.)

E. Let's take it just as far as you call Mitchell to the Oval Office as, a—P. No.

E. I'm essentially convinced that Mitchell will understand this thing. P. Right.

E. And that if he goes in it redounds to the Administration's advantage. If he doesn't then we're—

P. How does it redound to our advantage?

E. That you have a report from me based on three weeks' work; that when you got it, you immediately acted to call Mitchell in as the provable wrongdoer, and you say, "My God, I've got a report here. And it's clear from this report that you are guilty as hell. Now, John, for (expletive deleted) sake go on in there and do what you should. And let's get this thing cleared up and get it off the country's back and move on." And—

H. Plus the other side of this is that that's the only way to beat it now. P. Well—

H. From John Mitchell's personal viewpoint that's the only salvation for John Mitchell. I see no other way. And, obviously, once you've had it, you've got to admit—

P. How can he make it, anyway? H. Another factor, in that, to consider, for what it's worth, is the point Connally made to me in that conversation we had.

P. I ought to talk to Mitchell? H. I don't know whether he said that to you or not. He made the point that you had to get this laid out and that the only way it could hurt you is if it ultimately went to Mitchell. And that would be the one man you couldn't afford to let get hung on this.

P. Even worse than (unintelligible) thought. H. He thought so. P. That's true. Yeah. H. It seemed to me, because he's the epitome of your hard-line.

P. I think he's wrong about that. I think this is the worst one, well, due to the closeness to the President at the time of the crime. Would you agree, John?

E. (Unintelligible)

H. But, what Connally also said was unless it's the President himself who nails him. Then the President is (unintelligible).

E. Can I put a larger picture on this? We kind of live day to day for these things, and forget. P. Yeah.

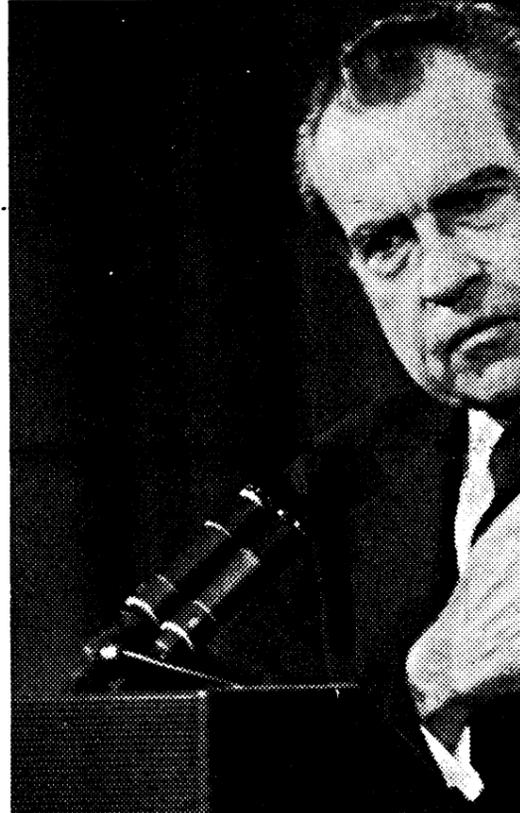
E. The perspective then will be put on this period. H. Yeah.

E. Three months later.

P. The point is whether or not, I think I've got the larger picture, alright, and I mean, in this regard, the point is this that we need some action before, in other words, is like my feeling about having the grand jury do it and the court system do it rather than Ervin committee. Now we want the President to do it rather than the grand jury. E. No.

P. And I agree with that.

E. Well, you're doing it in aid of the grand



jury. P. No. I didn't mean rather than the grand jury but I mean to worm the truth, now look, the grand jury doesn't drag him in, he goes in as a result of the President's asking him to go in.

H. OK—but while you're on that point could I argue a contrary view for a minute? Because I don't agree with that.

P. Yeah. H. I strongly feel, thinking it through, with all the stuff we talked about last night, that we don't want the President in it, and that the solution here, if we can find it—maybe it's impossible—

P. Is for (unintelligible) to come voluntarily? H. Well, or for Magruder to come voluntarily and nail it. But if the solution is, I agree with some—

P. Where does Magruder come to? To me? H. No. The US Attorney. P. Why does, what if I urged Magruder to—I mean, let me look at this. The urging voluntarily? H. Well, or for Magruder to of Liddy to testify, the urging of Magruder to testify and Mitchell. John, run those by. I didn't mean to—to stop your analysis, but I think, I know what you're—isn't that really the essence of it—

E. I'm trying to write the news-magazine story for next Monday. P. Right.

E. Monday week. And if it is that "Grand Jury Indicts Mitchell"—

P. Right. E. "The White House may have its coverup finally collapse last week when the grand jury indicted John Mitchell and Jeb Magruder." P. Right.

E. "Cracking the case was the testimony of a number of peripheral witnesses who, each of whom contributed to developing a cross triangulation and permitted the grand jury to analyze it" and so on and so forth.

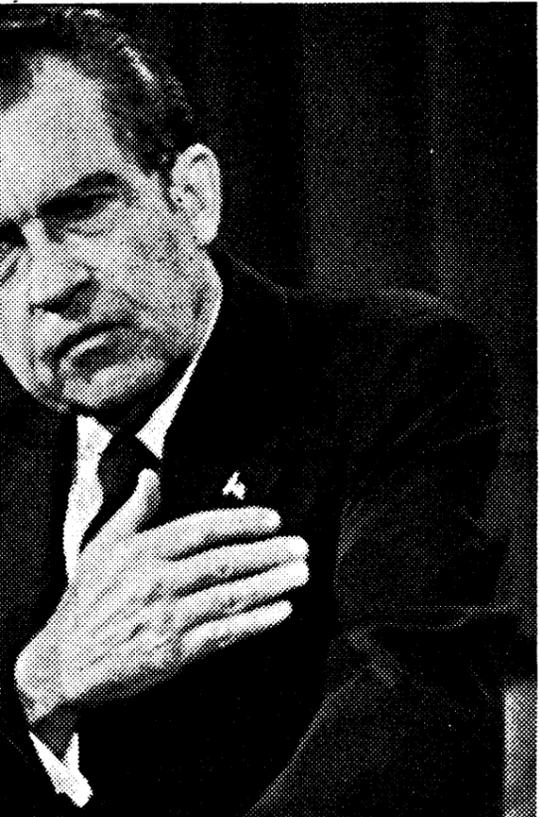
Portrait Of A President

Of A Scenario

"The final straw that broke the camel's back was the investigator's discovery of this and that and the other thing." That's one set of facts. And then the tag on that is, "White House Press Secretary Ron Zeigler said that the White House would have no comment."

P. I know. I know. It can't be done.

E. The other one goes: "Events moved swiftly last week, after the President was presented with a report indicating for the first time that suspicion of John Mitchell and Jeb Magruder as ringleaders in the Watergate breakin were facts substantiated by considerable evidence. The President then dispatched so and so to do this and that and maybe to see Mitchell or something of that kind and these efforts resulted in Mitchell going to the US Attorney's office on Monday morning at 9 o'clock, asking to testify before the grand jury. Charges of coverup by the White House were materially dispelled by the diligent efforts of the President and his aides in



moving on evidence which came to their hands in the closing days of the previous week.

P. I'll buy that. E.O.K.

April 16, 1974

P.: How has the scenario worked out, may I ask you?

H.: Well, it works out very good. You became aware some time ago that this thing did not parse out the way it was supposed to, and that there were some discrepancies between what you had been told by Dean in the report that there was nobody in the White House involved, which may still be true.

P. Incidentally, I don't think it will gain us anything by dumping on the Dean report as such.

E.: No.

P.: What I mean is, I would say I was not satisfied that the Dean report was complete and also I thought it was my obligation to go beyond that to people other than the White House.

E.: Ron (Ziegler) has an interesting point. Remember you had John Dean go to Camp David to write it up. He came down and said, 'I can't.'

P.: Right.

E.: That is the tipoff, and right then you started to move.

P.: That's right. He said he could not write it.

H.: Then you realized that there was more to this than you had been led to believe. (unintelligible).

P.: How do I get credit for getting Magruder to the stand?

E.: Well, it is very simple. You took Dean off of the case right then.

H.: Two weeks ago, the end of March.

P.: That's right.

E.: The end of March, remember that letter you signed to me?

P.: Uh, huh.

E.: 30th of March.

P. I signed it. Yes.

E.: Yes, sir. And it says Dean is off of it. I want you to get into it, be prepared to —

P.: Why did I take Dean off? Because he was involved? I did it, really, because he was involved with (L. Patrick) Gray (former FBI chief)

E.: Well, there was a lot of stuff breaking in the papers, but at the same time —

H.: The scenario is that he told you he couldn't write a report so obviously you had to take him off.

P.: Right, right.

E.: —And so, then we started digging into it and we went to San Clemente. While I was out there, I talked to a lot of people on the telephone. Talked to several witnesses in person, kept feeding information to you, and as soon as you saw the dimensions of this thing from the reports you were getting from the staff—who were getting into it—Moore, me, Garment and others.

(Richard Moore and Leonard Garment are Presidential aides.)

H.: You brought Len Garment in.

E. You begin to move.

P.: I want the dates of all those.

E.: I've got those.

P.: Go ahead. And then—

E.: And then it culminated last week.

P.: Right.

E.: In your decision that Mitchell should be brought down here; Magruder should be brought in; (Gordon) Strachan (a campaign aide) should be brought in.

P.: Shall I say that we brought them all in?

E.: I don't think you can. I don't think you can.

H. I wouldn't name them by name, just say I brought a group of people in.

E.: Personally come to the White House.

P.: I will not tell you who because I don't want to prejudice their rights before (unintelligible).

E.: But you should say, "I heard enough that I was satisfied that it was time to precipitously move. I called the Attorney General over, in turn Petersen."

P.: The Attorney General. Actually you made the call to him on Saturday.

E.: Yes.

P.: No question. But this was after you heard about the Magruder strategy.

E.: No, before.

P.: Oh.

E.: We didn't hear about that until about 3 o'clock that afternoon.

P. Why didn't you do it before? This is very good now, how did that happen?

E.: Well.

P.: Why wasn't he called in to tell him you had made a report, John?

H.: That's right, John's report came out of the same place Magruder's report did.

P.: No, my point is ...

E.: I called him to tell him that I had this information.

P.: Yeah, but why was that? That was because we had heard Magruder was going to talk.

E. No. Oh, I will have to check my notes again.

H. We didn't know whether Magruder was going to talk.

E. That's right.

H. Magruder was still agonizing over what he was going to do.

P. Dean—but you remember you came in and said you have to tell him about it politely. Well anyway—

H. I will tell you the reason for the hurlyburly in the timing was that we learned that Hunt was going to testify Monday afternoon.

E. The President is right. I didn't talk to Kleindienst. Remember, I couldn't get him.

P. Yeah.

E. I didn't talk to him until he got home from Burning Tree, which was the end of the day. And I had already talked to Magruder.

P. Right. But my point is, when did we decide to talk to Kleindienst, before Magruder?

problem of how they could stop the investigation from reaching too far by getting former Attorney General John Mitchell to take the rap. The three men then begin discussing a "scenario" for Mitchell to accept guilt for the Watergate breakin while claiming that he had never expected the White House plumbers like Gordon Liddy and Howard Hunt to go as far as they did.

It is in this context that the following exchange took place on March 27:

P. Well, what is Mitchell's option though? You mean to say—let's see what he could do. Does Mitchell come in and say, "My memory was faulty. I lied?"

E. No. He can't say that. He says—ah, ah.

P. "That without intending to, I may have been responsible for this, and I may regret it very much but I did not realize what they were up to. They were—we were—talking about apples and oranges." That's what I think he would say. Don't you agree?

H. I think so. He authorized apples and they bought oranges. Yeah.

P. Mitchell, you see, is never never going to go in and admit perjury. I mean he may say he forgot about Hunt-Liddy and all the rest, but he is never going to do that.

H. They won't give him that convenience, I wouldn't think unless they figure they are going to get you. He is as far up as they've got.

E. He's the big Enchilada.

H. And he's the one the magazines zeroed in on this weekend.

P. They did? What grounds?



John Mitchell

H. Yeah. (unintelligible) has a quote that they maybe have a big fish on the hook.

P. I think Mitchell should come down.

The Mitchell "scenario" was discussed repeatedly, especially at a meeting on April 14 when Nixon expressed concern over how to tell Mitchell that he was to be the scapegoat and also over what to do if Mitchell refused to go along with the plan.

A point which Haldeman and Ehrlichman made repeatedly, which completely explodes Nixon's claim that he was concerned only with discovering the truth, is that Nixon had to throw someone to the wolves in order to be able to claim at a later date that he had acted to clear up the Watergate scandal.

Ehrlichman asked Nixon how he should approach the problem of breaking the news to Mitchell. Nixon replied:

"Oh, Mitchell? Well you could say to Mitchell, I think you've got to say that this is the toughest decision he's (Nixon made and it's tougher than Cambodia, May 8 (the decision to mine Haiphong Harbor) and

December 18 (the decision to bomb Hanoi) put together. And that he can't bring himself to talk to you about it. Just can't do it. And he directed that I talk to you."

Nixon, Ehrlichman and Haldeman then rework the scenario in case Mitchell refuses to be the scapegoat.

E. Now, let's suppose Mitchell turns us down cold and says I'm going to preserve all my rights. I'm going to fight every inch of turf and so on and so forth. OK. That's right. But at least you, having accumulated all this knowledge this week, have tried to get this thing out, so that sometime two months from now, three months from now, a year from now when there's a panic you can say on the 14th of April—

P. It's the 13th.

E. 14th—14th day of April.

P. This is the 14th—Saturday.

E. Yeah. Friday was the 13th, yesterday. On April 14th—

P. No, seriously, as I have told both of you, the boil had to be pricked. In a very different sense—that's what December 18th was all about. We have to prick the boil and take the heat. Now that's what we are doing here. We're going to prick the boil and take the heat. I—am I overstating?

E. No. I think that's right. The idea is, this will prick the boil. It may not. The history of this thing has to be though that you did not tuck this under the rug yesterday or today, and hope it would go away.

P. Now, in the scenario I sort of go out and tell people that I have done this.

E. I don't know. It depends on how it all turns out.

All this working out of a scenario—in which Nixon sometimes resembles an actor who can't remember his lines—is accompanied by discussions on how they can completely circumvent the judicial system in order to get everyone off the hook.

The three conspirators talk about taking the investigation out of the courts and the Senate Watergate Committee by working with Supreme Court Justice Warren Burger to set up a fraudulent "prominent persons" panel that would come through with a white-wash of the Watergate coverup.

The transcripts reveal that Burger discussed this plan with former Attorney General Richard Kleindienst, thus putting the Supreme Court at the service of the conspiracy.

What emerges so clearly from the transcripts is the real face of this government of the ruling class: a small clique of conspirators who are placed above the law in order to carry out the plans of the ruling class as a whole.

Referring to the payment of hush money to Hunt, Nixon says on April 14: "This was not an obstruction of justice. We were simply trying to help these defendants."

If Nixon can place himself above the law, it is because for the ruling class there is no law except the law of defending the profit system by whatever means necessary.

Nixon feels that he can release these transcripts with impunity because his methods are those of a class that is preparing for dictatorship, a class that is constructing elaborate scenarios for the frameup of militants, police terror against youth, and brutal attacks on the trade unions.

The transcripts show only the tip of the iceberg. What was the scenario behind the murder of George Jackson? What was the scenario behind the frameup of Angela Davis and now AIM? What scenarios are being written now to prepare action against the movement of millions of workers in defense of the jobs, living standards and basic rights?

The transcripts are a warning to the entire working class. Big business is preparing feverishly for civil war. It is doing so behind closed doors, using the appearance of democracy as a cover for its secret plots.

The working class must confront these dangers by constructing a revolutionary leadership in the trade unions, in the communities, and among the youth. The building of the Workers League and the Young Socialists becomes the most urgent task as big business presses ahead with its conspiracy.

We call on all workers and youth to join the Workers League and YS to build this revolutionary leadership.

TO BE CONTINUED

Nixon Speaks: A Portrait Of A President

BY DAVID NORTH

The transcripts of secret White House conversations show that once Nixon and his closest aides, John Ehrlichman and H.R. Haldeman, realized that they were in danger of being implicated by the testimony of the original Watergate defendants and officials of the Committee to Reelect the President, they decided to protect themselves by organizing yet another massive coverup.

Meeting in Nixon's Oval Office for sessions that often dragged on for several hours, they painstakingly put together what was called a "scenario" in which past events were completely rewritten or fabricated to serve the interests of Nixon.

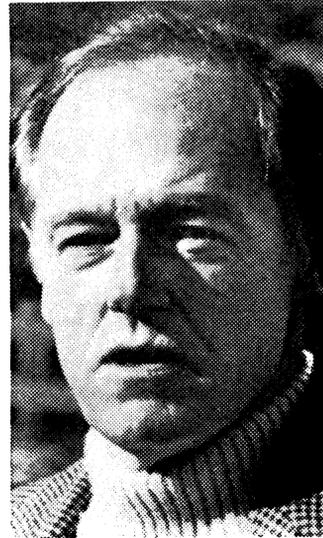
These "scenarios" were written like television scripts and actually rehearsed by Nixon, Haldeman and Ehrlichman in the White House. The aim of these "scenarios" was to cover up the vast conspiracy organized by Nixon. What American workers would be told about Watergate was to be decided by Nixon.

Revealed in the transcripts are not only the methods of Nixon but the methods of the class he represents. This is the first time in history that American workers have been actually able to read what is said within the inner sanctums of the government.

What is so clearly exposed by these transcripts is that beneath all the forms of democratic government lies a very different content. Probing beneath the surface, workers can see the rule of conspirators, a government conducted by "scenarios" drawn up by men who work independently of any laws except what is needed to defend the profit system.

These transcripts will come as a great shock to those whose faith in bourgeois democracy is based on the forms which the ruling class seeks to maintain by using the very "scenarios" which Nixon manufactured in the White House.

But, as the transcripts show, the forms which Nixon sought to preserve—that of a President scrupulously defending the law—serve to mask a very different content: a President engaged in conspiracy, bribery, illegal surveillance and perjury, all these actions part of an at-



Howard Hunt

tempt to falsify an election and break up basic democratic rights.

As the transcripts show, Nixon and his advisers carefully discussed how the fundamental institutions of American bourgeois democracy—the courts, the Congress and the press—could be made part of the "scenario" to cover the Watergate conspiracy.

This issue of government by scenario and conspiracy assumes great importance in understanding how the ruling class as a whole operates and what it is actually planning to do in this country.

With Nixon's transcripts in hand, every American worker must immediately ask what other "scenarios" are being played out by the ruling class.

What type of "scenario" was drawn up by the San Francisco police department before it launched "Operation Zebra" and began rounding up thousands of Black youth in the Fillmore district? The open frameup of seven young Black workers last week, some of them Muslims, for the so-called "Zebra" killings is the product of a conspiracy cooked up by Mayor Alioto. It now appears likely that that last month's shooting of a white man was the signal for Mayor Alioto to enact a "scenario" for police terror that will serve as a model for the civil war methods being tested out by the capitalists against the entire working class.

It is clear that when the Chicago police



John Ehrlichman

burst into the apartment of Black Panther leader Fred Hampton in 1969 and murdered him while he slept, the "scenarios" had been worked out well in advance.

These "scenarios" for the destruction of the democratic rights of the working class are being produced by the capitalists all over the world. In England, there is now irrefutable evidence that the mysterious bombings that were used to justify repression against the IRA were the product of "scenarios" produced by the Tories and Scotland Yard which called for everything from bank robberies to bombings to murders.

In Canada, the army has actually written a scenario—only recently exposed—which described in detail the conditions under which a military dictatorship would be established to crush a revolutionary movement of the working class.

This is what lies behind all the discussions held in the Oval Office between Nixon, Haldeman, Ehrlichman, John Dean, and Ronald Ziegler. How are the White House plumbers to be hidden? how is the breakin of Ellsberg's doctor to be falsified? how can we prevent the public from knowing about the payment of bribes? how can we prevent the other buggings from being exposed?

While this was going on inside the White House, Nixon had the full cooperation of Assistant Attorney General Henry Petersen—the man supposedly in charge of investigating the Watergate coverup—in pledging not to look into Nixon's role in the conspiracy.

The crucial period in the preparation of a "scenario" was between March 27, 1973 and April 16, 1973. As the transcripts prove, in spite of heavy deletions made by Nixon, he became very worried by the end of March that it would be difficult to cover up his involvement in the Watergate conspiracy.

Nixon's concern was provoked by fear that the payment of hush money to White House plumber E. Howard Hunt would be linked to the Oval Office either by Hunt or by former special counsel Charles Colson.

Furthermore, Nixon had reason to believe that Jeb Magruder, former chief of staff of the Committee to Reelect the President, would tie the White House to all the sabotage and "dirty tricks" associated with Watergate.

Meeting on March 27, Nixon, Haldeman and Ehrlichman began to discuss the

from the transcripts— Part 2: The Creation Of A Scenario

(Reprinted below are sections from the edited transcripts of White House conversations in which Nixon, Haldeman and Ehrlichman worked out scenarios to cover their role in the Watergate conspiracy. The first discussion occurred on April 14, 1973 and shows how they worked out a scenario to make former Attorney General John Mitchell the scapegoat for Watergate. The second conversation occurred two days later and shows Nixon rehearsing the scenario with Ehrlichman and Haldeman. P means Nixon, E means Ehrlichman, and H means Haldeman.)

April 14, 1974

E. No, I'll tell you, last night I got home I decided that I would sit down and try to put on paper a report to you what I have been doing since you asked me to get into this.

P. Right, E. I am concerned about the over-all aspect of this and I want to talk about that before—I don't know what your timing is like.

P. No problem. E. We'll probably get back to it. P. Got plenty of time.

E. But Dean called and he said, "All right, here's a scenario which we've all been trying to figure out to make this go." He says, "The President calls Mitchell into his office on Saturday. He says, 'John, you've got to do this. And here are the facts: bing, bing, bing, bing.' And you pull this paper out here. 'And you've got to do this.' And Mitchell stonewalls you. So then John says, 'I don't know why you're asking me down here. You can't ask a man to do a thing like that. I need a lawyer. I don't know why you're asking me down here. You can't ask a man to do a thing like that. I need a lawyer. I don't know what I am facing—you just really can't expect me to do this.'" So the President says, "Well, John, I have no alternative." And with that the President calls the US Attorney and says, "I, the President of the United States of America and leader of the free world, want to go before the grand jury on Monday."

P. I won't even comment on that.

H. That's a silly—

P. Typical of the thinking of—

E. We're running out every line. So that was 12:30 this morning, I, but I—

P. I go before the grand jury. That's like putting Bob on national television—H. With Dan Rather.

P. What? H. With Dan Rather.

P. Well by putting it on national television, period. (Unintelligible.)

E. Let's take it just as far as you call Mitchell to the Oval Office as, a—P. No.

E. I'm essentially convinced that Mitchell will understand this thing, P. Right.

E. And that if he goes in it redounds to the Administration's advantage. If he doesn't then we're—

P. How does it redound to our advantage?

E. That you have a report from me based on three weeks' work; that when you got it, you immediately acted to call Mitchell in as the provable wrongdoer, and you say, "My God, I've got a report here. And it's clear from this report that you are guilty as hell. Now, John, for (expletive deleted) sake go on in there and do what you should. And let's get this thing cleared up and get it off the country's back and move on." And—

H. Plus the other side of this is that that's the only way to beat it now, P. Well—

H. From John Mitchell's personal viewpoint that's the only salvation for John Mitchell. I see no other way. And, obviously, once you've had it, you've got to admit—

P. How can he make it, anyway? H. Another factor, in that, to consider, for what it's worth, is the point Connally made to me in that conversation we had.

P. I ought to talk to Mitchell? H. I don't know whether he said that to you or not. He made the point that you had to get this laid out and that the only way it could hurt you is if it ultimately went to Mitchell. And that would be the one man you couldn't afford to let get hung on this.

P. Even worse than (unintelligible) thought, H. He thought so. P. That's true. Yeah, H. It seemed to me, because he's the epitome of your hard-line.

P. I think he's wrong about that. I think this is the worst one, well, due to the closeness to the President at the time of the crime. Would you agree, John?

E. (Unintelligible)

H. But, what Connally also said was unless it's the President himself who nails him. Then the President is (unintelligible).

E. Can I put a larger picture on this? We kind of live day to day for these things, and forget. P. Yeah.

E. The perspective then will be put on this period. H. Yeah.

P. The three months later.

E. The point is whether or not, I think I've got the larger picture, alright, and I mean, in this regard, the point is that we need some action before, in other words, is like my feeling about having the grand jury do it and the court system do it rather than Ervin committee. Now we want the President to do it rather than the grand jury. E. No.

P. And I agree with that.

E. Well, you're doing it in aid of the grand

jury.

P. No, I didn't mean rather than the grand jury but I mean to worm the truth, now look, the grand jury doesn't drag him in, he goes in as a result of the President's asking him to go in.

H. OK—but while you're on that point could I argue a contrary view for a minute? Because I don't agree with that.

P. Yeah, H. I strongly feel, thinking it through, with all the stuff we talked about last night, that we don't want the President in it, and that the solution here, if we can find it—maybe it's impossible—

P. Is for (unintelligible) to come voluntarily? H. Well, or for Magruder to come voluntarily and nail it. But if the solution is, I agree with some—

P. Where does Magruder come to? To me? H. No. The US Attorney. P. Why does, what if I urged Magruder to—I mean, let me look at this. The urging voluntarily? H. Well, or for Magruder to go to Liddy to testify, the urging of Magruder to testify and Mitchell. John, run those by, I didn't mean to—to stop your analysis, but I think, I know what you're—isn't that really the essence of it—

E. I'm trying to write the news-magazine story for next Monday. P. Right.

E. Monday week. And if it is that "Grand Jury Indicts Mitchell"—

P. Right, E. "The White House may have its coverup finally collapse last week when the grand jury indicted John Mitchell and Jeb Magruder." P. Right.

E. "Cracking the case was the testimony of a number of peripheral witnesses who, each of whom contributed to developing a cross triangulation and permitted the grand jury to analyze it" and so on and so forth.

"The final straw that broke the camel's back was the investigator's discovery of this and that and the other thing." That's one set of facts. And then the tag on that is, "White House Press Secretary Ron Ziegler said that the White House would have no comment."

P. I know. I know. It can't be done.

E. The other one goes: "Events moved swiftly last week, after the President was presented with a report indicating for the first time that suspicion of John Mitchell and Jeb Magruder as ringleaders in the Watergate breakin were facts substantiated by considerable evidence. The President then dispatched so and so to do this and that and maybe to see Mitchell or something of that kind and these efforts resulted in Mitchell going to the US Attorney's office on Monday morning at 9 o'clock, asking to testify before the grand jury. Charges of coverup by the White House were materially dispelled by the diligent efforts of the President and his aides in

moving on evidence which came to their hands in the closing days of the previous week.

P. I'll buy that. E.O.K.

April 16, 1974

P. How has the scenario worked out, may I ask you?

H.: Well, it works out very good. You became aware some time ago that this thing did not parse out the way it was supposed to, and that there were some discrepancies between what you had been told by Dean in the report that there was nobody in the White House involved, which may still be true.

P. Incidentally, I don't think it will gain us anything by dumping on the Dean report as such.

E.: No.

P.: What I mean is, I would say I was not satisfied that the Dean report was complete and also I thought it was my obligation to go beyond that to people other than the White House.

E.: Ron (Ziegler) has an interesting point. Remember you had John Dean go to Camp David to write it up. He came down and said, 'I can't.'

P.: Right.

E.: That is the tipoff, and right then you started to move.

P.: That's right. He said he could not write it.

H.: Then you realized that there was more to this than you had been led to believe. (unintelligible)

P.: How do I get credit for getting Magruder to the stand?

E.: Well, it is very simple. You took Dean off of the case right then.

H.: Two weeks ago, the end of March.

P.: That's right.

E.: The end of March, remember that letter you signed to me?

P.: Uh, huh.

E.: 30th of March.

P. I signed it. Yes.

E.: Yes, sir. And it says Dean is off of it. I want you to get into it, be prepared to—

P.: Why did I take Dean off? Because he was involved? I did it, really, because he was involved with (L. Patrick) Gray (former FBI chief)

E.: Well, there was a lot of stuff breaking in the papers, but at the same time—

H.: The scenario is that he told you he couldn't write a report so obviously you had to take him off.

P.: Right, right.

E.:—And so, then we started digging into it and we went to San Clemente. While I was out there, I talked to a lot of people on the telephone. Talked to several witnesses in person, kept feeding information to you, and as soon as you saw the dimensions of this thing from the reports you were getting from the staff—who were getting into it—Moore, me, Garment and others.

(Richard Moore and Leonard Garment are Presidential aides.)

H.: You brought Len Garment in.

E.: You begin to move.

P.: I want the dates of all those.

E.: I've got those.

P.: Go ahead. And then—

E.: And then it culminated last week.

P.: Right.

E.: In your decision that Mitchell should be brought down here; Magruder should be brought in; (Gordon) Strachan (a campaign aide) should be brought in.

P.: Shall I say that we brought them all in?

E.: I don't think you can. I don't think you can.

H. I wouldn't name them by name, just say I brought a group of people in.

E.: Personally come to the White House.

P.: I will not tell you who because I don't want to prejudice their rights before (unintelligible).

E.: But you should say, "I heard enough that I was satisfied that it was time to precipitously move. I called the Attorney General over, in turn Petersen."

P.: The Attorney General. Actually you made the call to him on Saturday.

E.: Yes.

P.: No question. But this was after you heard about the Magruder strategy.

E.: No, before.

P.: Oh.

E.: We didn't hear about that until about 3 o'clock that afternoon.

P. Why didn't you do it before? This is very good now, how did that happen?

E.: Well.

P.: Why wasn't he called in to tell him you had made a report, John?

H.: That's right, John's report came out of the same place Magruder's report did.

P.: No, my point is ...

E.: I called him to tell him that I had this information.

P.: Yeah, but why was that? That was because we had heard Magruder was going to talk. E. No. Oh, I will have to check my notes again.

H. We didn't know whether Magruder was going to talk.

E. That's right.

H. Magruder was still agonizing over what he was going to do.

P. Dean—but you remember you came in and said you have to tell him about it politely. Well anyway—

H. I will tell you the reason for the hurrry in the timing was that we learned that Hunt was going to testify Monday afternoon.

E. The President is right. I didn't talk to Kleindienst. Remember, I couldn't get him.

P. Yeah.

E. I didn't talk to him until he got home from Burning Tree, which was the end of the day. And I had already talked to Magruder.

P. Right. But my point is, when did we decide to talk to Kleindienst, before Magruder?

problem of how they could stop the investigation from reaching too far by getting former Attorney General John Mitchell to take the rap. The three men then begin discussing a "scenario" for Mitchell to accept guilt for the Watergate breakin while claiming that he had never expected the White House plumbers like Gordon Liddy and Howard Hunt to go as far as they did.

It is in this context that the following exchange took place on March 27:

P. Well, what is Mitchell's option though? You mean to say—let's see what he could do. Does Mitchell come in and say, "My memory was faulty. I lied?"

E. No. He can't say that. He says—ah, ah. P. "That without intending to, I may have been responsible for this, and I may regret it very much but I did not realize what they were up to. They were—we were—talking about apples and oranges." That's what I think he would say. Don't you agree?

H. I think so. He authorized apples and they bought oranges. Yeah.

P. Mitchell, you see, is never never going to go in and admit perjury. I mean he may say he forgot about Hunt-Liddy and all the rest, but he is never going to do that.

H. They won't give him that convenience. I wouldn't think unless they figure they are going to get you. He is as far up as they've got.

E. He's the big Enchilada.

H. And he's the one the magazines zeroed in on this weekend.

P. They did? What grounds?

H. It's the 13th.

E. 14th—14th day of April.

P. This is the 14th—Saturday.

E. Yeah. Friday was the 13th, yesterday. On April 14th—

P. No, seriously, as I have told both of you, the boil had to be pricked. In a very different sense—that's what December 18th was all about. We have to prick the boil and take the heat. Now that's what we are doing here. We're going to prick the boil and take the heat. I—am I overstating?

E. No, I think that's right. The idea is, this will prick the boil. It may not. The history of this thing has to be though that you did not tuck this under the rug yesterday or today, and hope it would go away.

P. Now, in the scenario I sort of got out and tell people that I have done this.

E. I don't know. It depends on how it all turns out.

All this working out of a scenario—in which Nixon sometimes resembles an actor who can't remember his lines—is accompanied by discussions on how they can completely circumvent the judicial system in order to get everyone off the hook.

The three conspirators talk about taking the investigation out of the courts and the Senate Watergate Committee by working with Supreme Court Justice Warren Burger to set up a fraudulent "prominent persons" panel that would come through with a white-wash of the Watergate coverup.

The transcripts reveal that Burger discussed this plan with former Attorney General Richard Kleindienst, thus putting the Supreme Court at the service of the conspiracy.

What emerges so clearly from the transcripts is the real face of this government of the ruling class: a small clique of conspirators who are placed above the law in order to carry out the plans of the ruling class as a whole.

Referring to the payment of hush money to Hunt, Nixon says on April 14: "This was not an obstruction of justice. We were simply trying to help these defendants."

If Nixon can place himself above the law, it is because for the ruling class there is no law except the law of defending the profit system by whatever means necessary.

Nixon feels that he can release these transcripts with impunity because his methods are those of a class that is preparing for dictatorship, a class that is constructing elaborate scenarios for the frameup of militants, police terror against youth, and brutal attacks on the trade unions.

The transcripts show only the tip of the iceberg. What was the scenario behind the murder of George Jackson? What was the scenario behind the frameup of Angela Davis and now AIM? What scenarios are being written now to prepare action against the movement of millions of workers in defense of the jobs, living standards and basic rights?

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TO BE CONTINUED

John Mitchell

H. Yeah. (unintelligible) has a quote that they maybe have a big fish on the hook.

P. I think Mitchell should come down.

The Mitchell "scenario" was discussed repeatedly, especially at a meeting on April 14 when Nixon expressed concern over how to tell Mitchell that he was to be the scapegoat and also over what to do if Mitchell refused to go along with the plan.

A point which Haldeman and Ehrlichman made repeatedly, which completely explodes Nixon's claim that he was concerned only with discovering the truth, is that Nixon had to throw someone to the wolves in order to be able to claim at a later date that he had acted to clear up the Watergate scandal.

Ehrlichman asked Nixon how he should approach the problem of breaking the news to Mitchell. Nixon replied:

"Oh, Mitchell? Well you could say to Mitchell, I think you've got to say that this is the toughest decision he's (Nixon made and it's tougher than Cambodia. May 8 (the decision to mine Haiphong Harbor) and

December 18 (the decision to bomb Hanoi) put together. And that he can't bring himself to talk to you about it. Just can't do it. And he directed that I talk to you."

Nixon, Ehrlichman and Haldeman then rework the scenario in case Mitchell refuses to be the scapegoat.

E. Now, let's suppose Mitchell turns us down cold and says I'm going to preserve all my rights. I'm going to fight every inch of turf and so on and so forth. OK. That's right. But at least you, having accumulated all this knowledge this week, have tried to get this thing out, so that sometime two months from now, three months from now, a year from now when there's a panic you can say on the 14th of April—

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E. 14th—14th day of April.

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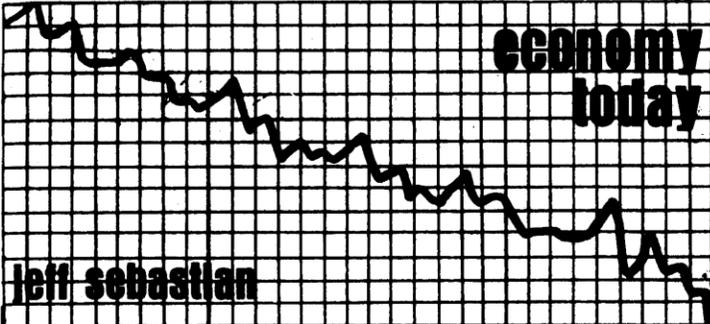
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The Bankers Rescue Con Ed

New York State is about to undertake a corporate bailout that rivals the massive payoff provided by the Nixon administration to prop up the bankrupt Lockheed Corporation.

For the first time in 89 years, the Consolidated Edison Company has failed to pay dividends.

Con Ed claims that huge increases in fuel bills as well as skyrocketing interest rates have left it strapped for cash and unable to raise capital.

Under the New York State scheme, the New York State Power Authority would in essence bankroll Con Ed by a staggering \$800 million.

The Power Authority intends to take over two uncompleted electrical generating plants, paying Con Ed \$500 million for the privilege. In addition, the state will then provide another \$300 million to complete the plants in the next two to three years.

Ultimately, the state would sell the power to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the Port Authority of New York, and New Jersey, and similar quasi-government operations.

A certain amount of the power would be sold to Con Ed itself to be resold to its customers at higher rates.

The Power Authority will raise these huge sums by selling tax exempt bonds. The state intends to leave open the possibility of further handouts in the future if Con Ed's financial position worsens.

The save Con Ed operation is taking place precisely as Mayor Beame is hoping to stave off the financial collapse of New York City by floating more than a half a billion dollars in bonds.

Debt Service on loans to the city has risen steadily to the point that it occupies well over 10 percent of the city budget.

These bonds, just as in the case of the proposed Power Authority bond issue, are available only in very large denominations and are bought mainly by the biggest banks, insurance companies, and other financial houses.

It is significant to note that much of the electrical power expected to be produced by the state will be sold to institutions such as the Port Authority and the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

These are not city agencies. They operate with sealed books and chairmen responsible only to the large banks.

These institutions supervise the running of transit systems, bus and railway terminals, airports, bridges and tunnels.

They are capitalist institutions which run those essential services which private capital has been unable to handle at a profit.

They collect the bridge and tunnel tolls, subway fares and railroad revenues and use this income to pay interest on the privately owned bonds.

Thus the Port Authority, with assets of nearly \$4 billion represents a huge capitalist financial institution collecting money from the working class and paying it to the bondholders.

Precisely in this way, all money collected from tolls, parking fees, taxes, etc. ultimately finds its way back into the hands of the bankers.

The sale of cheap electrical power from the state to the Port Authority or the MTA will provide absolutely no benefit to the working class, but will go to assure that these agencies will be able to pass the savings along to their bondholders.

It is the great banks such as Chase Manhattan and the First National City Bank who bid for these bonds through syndicates that hold the real power in the city.

It is they that determine that the subways must continue to deteriorate, that city wages must be held down, and that Mayor Beame must lay off workers and economize on essential city services to guarantee the payment of city debts.

As the economy heads towards slump with the inevitable reduction of city revenues, these bondholding parasites will be increasing the pressure to squeeze every drop of interest out of the working class through even deeper slashes in essential services.

The working class can only fight back by demanding the nationalization without compensation under workers control of utilities like Con Ed. This must be taken forward through the construction of a labor party committed to the nationalization of all banks and financial houses.

Harshaw Threatens Strikers With Guns

BY DAVID NELSON
CLEVELAND, Ohio—The Harshaw Chemical plants in Cleveland and Elyria, Ohio were shut down last Thursday in a strike deliberately provoked by management.

The strike involves two locals of the International Chemical Workers, Local 10 and Local 73. Last weekend, the strike in Cleveland developed into an angry confrontation between pickets and a crowd of management scabs and police that mass each day in a parking lot near the picket lines.

On April 29, police attempting to rush scabs into a Harshaw building across the street from the main plant were driven back in a hail of stones. On several occasions, security guards have

pulled out shotguns on strikers trying to halt deliveries.

The company walked out of the negotiations when the union membership protested the final offer of 4 and one half percent for the next three years, with a 35 percent cost of living.

"With that cost of living, you are losing money every day, and the 45 cents over three years—I can't buy a loaf of bread for 45 cents anymore! Tonight the price controls are coming off, and we have to have some more money."

"They just got the scabs ready," one worker told the Bulletin. "For weeks before the strike, they hired young men to come in and work overtime while they stockpiled material in truck depots, waiting to ship it out."

All of the company's 600 workers were fired on the first day of the strike, and on that same day, the company cancelled the health insurance policies of all its employees.

"It's a political thing," one young worker told the Bulletin. "All the businesses work together with each other and with the police to crush the little man."

"The company made six million dollars in the first quarter of this year. And they say we can't have a lousy 55 cents. And most of their profits came from this plant right here."

The ranks are demanding a minimum of 35 cents an hour, tied to a full cost of living, with no reprisals from management and the just settlement of all grievances.

The union leadership was ready to accept the contract but it was the young workers who led the opposition and sealed the plant. Many of them described the prison-like working conditions.

The strike has received warm support from rank and file Teamsters and railroad crewman, who have refused to handle Harshaw materials.

1200 Detroit Teachers Eliminated

BY A REPORTER
DETROIT—Education in Detroit was dealt another blow by the Board of Education on Monday, when it announced that it was terminating all first and second year teachers—1200 in all.

Dr. Charles Wolf, school board president blamed declining enrollment and inflation for the layoffs.

This latest action by the Board marks a new stage in its battle to eliminate any decent education in this entire city which is plagued by unemployment, and decaying housing.

Issues which forced the 43 day strike last fall are still unresolved.

According to a home economics teacher at Koch Jr. High, nothing has changed.

"We were the only ones fighting for education," she said, "and they talk about accountability. How can you teach more than 30 students in a class with enough equipment for 10? The supplies I order at the beginning of the year are not received until the end—if at all. The board's actions to get rid of any teachers with new ideas will destroy education."

"We never should have returned after the last strike. I don't know how they could have accepted such a compromise. The union leadership was very poor. I know that I will be unwilling to go out again unless we are really going to fight. It's a matter of principle. Who really cares about the kids? It's certain the school board doesn't."

Dr. Wolf's statement that "zero-population" has at last been realized and no more teachers are needed contradicts the actual conditions students face in the classrooms.

"My fourth hour class has 36 people in it," Dilliard, a student at Southeastern High explained.

"People have to stand up or sit on the top of someone else's desk. You can't even take notes that way."

"It looks like they're trying to do to teachers what they did to

the auto workers—lay them off so nobody will have to pay them."

A shortage of funds is blamed for the delay in starting the Spring Athletic program. Unless it can get the \$50,000 needed, this Spring athletics will be eliminated. Without the track meets and baseball games, many students won't get athletic scholarships and be unable to attend college this fall.

This school year has already been extended to July 12th, and no solution to the crisis appears.

The Board is trying to divide students and teachers and in the process crush the teachers union, but so far have been unsuccessful.

ion, but so far have been unsuccessful.

The refusal of president Mary Ellen Riordan to launch a real fight during the last strike and call on the strength of the entire labor movement to support the teachers has given a green light to the school board.

What is at stake is the future for the entire working class of Detroit.

As Lou, from the Detroit YS put it: "The YS has no intention of letting the board get away with this. We're campaigning to unite teachers and students against these layoffs through the political fight to kick Nixon out."

Massive City Layoffs Follow Cleveland Pact

BY A REPORTER
CLEVELAND, Ohio—The 17-day strike of Teamsters Local 244 that paralyzed garbage removal throughout Cleveland ended today.

In a close vote, the ranks ratified an agreement calling for a 37 cent an hour increase, effective immediately, plus 10 cents an hour retroactive to January 1. An additional 25 cents an hour retroactive from January 1 to today is supposed to be paid if the city raises income taxes.

525 city workers from other city departments will be laid off to finance this wage increase. As part of this settlement, 750 workers from Local 1099, Municipal Foremen and Laborers Union, who were laid off by Mayor Perk in retaliation for the strike, will be recalled with full pay.

Members of Local 1099 voted 95 to 70 to accept the contract. In all, 16 city unions who had wage re-openers with the city are supposed to receive the same settlement.

The settlement offer was a desperate attempt by union leaders James Russo of Teamsters Local 244 and Paul Wells of Local 1099 to hold back a general strike of all city workers. Just as they were trying to ram this settlement through, members of

AFSCME Local 100 overwhelmingly voted to authorize strike action in support of the striking Teamsters.

Since passage of the new city budget, the Perk administration has launched an onslaught against city workers, refusing to honor previously-negotiated pay hikes, then using the threat of massive layoffs to keep the unions in line.

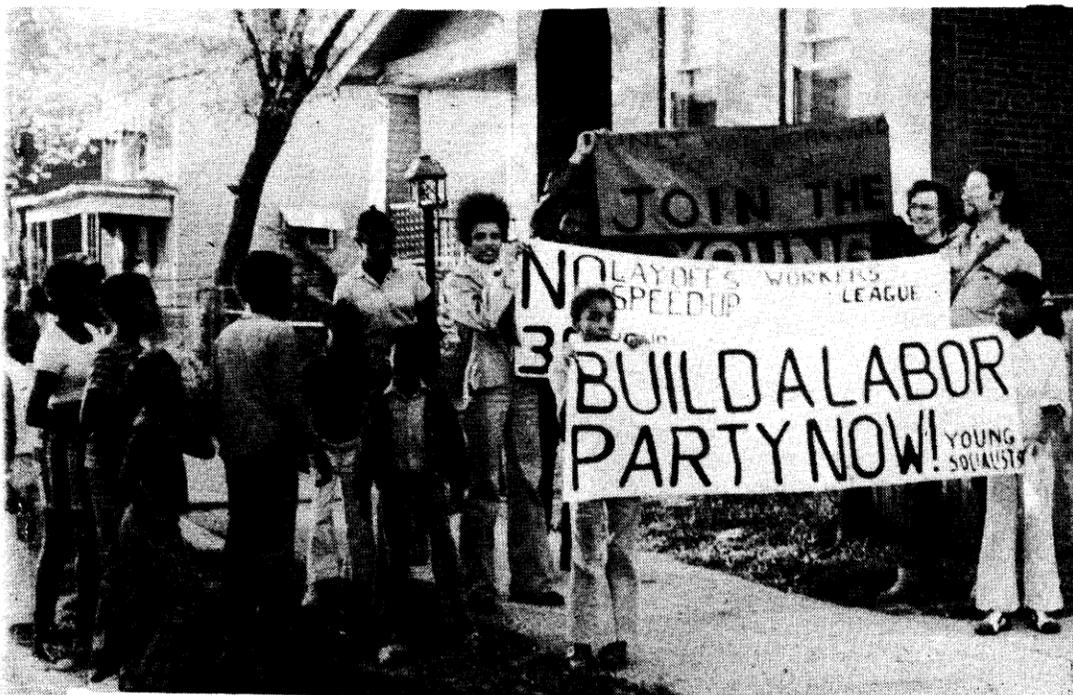
The 525 workers now slated to be laid off will eliminate city recreation programs this summer. These workers will be fired just one day before they become eligible for unemployment compensation.

Many swimming pools will not open as a result. Workers on streets and sewer repair are also receiving layoff notices.

Truck drivers and garbage collectors returning to work are angry and bitter with the union leadership. One worker told the Bulletin, "We need more money. Last week, the price of eggs went up from \$1.09 to \$1.29. Everything is going up; how can you live with that (settlement)?"

Another worker added, "Paul Wells didn't even call us out on strike. He said he would do that if they laid off one man, and here they laid off 750."

"They knew Perk wasn't going to give anything, and they wouldn't fight him. And this goes all the way up to Nixon. They all have to be thrown out."



St. Louis Young Socialists campaigning prior to May 4-5 National YS Conference in New York.

Dayton Teachers Held To 4.5 Wage Increase

BY DOROTHY WRIGHT

DAYTON, Ohio—Less than 50 percent of Dayton teachers attended the Dayton Classroom Teachers meeting where at least one-third voted against ratification of a new contract offer.

The new contract allows only a 4.5 percent increase in the first year of the contract.

Leaders of the DCTA (Dayton Classroom Teachers Association) and the OEA (Ohio Education Association) came into the meeting with the obvious intention of selling the contract and pushing through a quick vote.

Emphasizing the reactionary school board and the reactionary state laws, which say a raise can only be paid on the condition the clerk of the board certifies that the funds are available, DCTA President Pete Haws and Stu Miller, OEA field representative, claimed that teachers were powerless to do anything but accept the contract.

Haws admitted that the school board has refused to arbitrate any grievances since 1972, that 250 teachers were cut out in spring of 1973, and that this spring, an additional 100 teachers, nurses, and coun-

selors were eliminated.

He referred to the fact that the board has declared the master agreement null and void, and 80 items including class size non-negotiable. He stated that in late 1973, the board turned down all of the DCTA proposals and that: "The 1974 negotiations surprised even the most cynical of us.

"The Board has every intention of not only allowing no new gains, but destroying everything we had gained before." He admitted that the raise was totally inadequate to keep up with the cost of living, but added, "considering the financial condition of the school district, perhaps you're lucky."

Stu Miller of the OEA dismissed a strike, saying a strike would be "long and costly," would result in injunctions and fines, and loss of pay like the Mad River teachers strike when teachers lost three days pay.

The 4.1 percent raise in the second year is up in the air since it was admitted that the School Board may not have the funds to certify it.

Angry teachers demanded to know how they could possibly keep up with inflation under the new contract.

One teacher attacked the leadership for not taking up any fight for a cost of living clause: "We are 13.9 percent behind as it is now," he said.

Before any other teachers had

a chance to speak, Haws pushed through the vote and declared it overwhelmingly in favor. Shouts of dissatisfaction and demands to know the count were ignored.

A teacher at Cornell Heights High School told the Bulletin: "The whole thing was a farce. We weren't even told beforehand that the meeting was for a vote on the contract.

"Everything was hush-hush as to what the meeting was about. We thought it was going to be another progress report.

"After pretending a militant stand all these months, the DCTA sold us out. We were taken. All the officials obviously came in there to sell the contract.

"Teachers were presented with no alternatives, so what could we do? We were completely stunned, that's why there weren't more people prepared to speak.

"Given more discussion, the vote might have gone differently. Teachers in our building are considering some kind of protest, to see if we can get a revote.

"We can't get along on the money, and we can't continue to teach under the conditions we're faced with. I have between 32 and 38 pupils in each class now.

"The cuts will bring me close to the 45 mark. How can you teach people in classes that size?"

over one year ago, because they had some foremen come up from Tennessee and they have been slowly taking equipment out of the plant here in Harvey. Right now most of the machinery is gone. They claim that 200 men are working still, but I'd say it is less than that.

"The company has placed some men in jobs with other companies, but this has been only the skilled trades, tool and dye, welders, and so on. Straight laborers like myself have not been placed anywhere.

GRIEVANCES

"We had over 100 grievances filed and they settled none of them. They have given this excuse and that excuse and now they say they are moving so they can't do anything about them. And the worst thing is they won't say when they are moving. Maybe they will let us know the day it closes.

Maremont Automotive To Fire 600

BY WILL ROEMER

CHICAGO—The Maremont Automotive plant in Harvey Illinois is preparing to close down their plant and toss its 600 employees, members of UAW Local 453, out on the street.

Maremont makes a variety of auto parts, particularly mufflers for the Ford Motor Company. The sharp downfall in production in auto has led to massive unemployment here.

The Bulletin interviewed Marvin B., who is one of the men scheduled to lose his job with Maremont. He began working at Maremont in 1943.

"Our contract expired on April 5 of last year. We had a union

election in June and ever since they wouldn't make an agreement. A month ago, they let it out that they were planning to move the plant to two non-union facilities in Tennessee.

"They have not given us any notice exactly when they are going to move, just sometime between July 5 and August 5. They are having a big layoff Friday.

"We began a fight for severance pay but the company refuses to give us any severance pay, only SUB payments. This is not right because when we got the contract in 1957, the company agreed to put in 3 cents for each hour for each man for a severance fund.

"Now they are trying to give us none of this money. There are about 50 of us who have at least 30 years with the company. We figure that the company owes us at least \$8000 each.

"I think they planned to move

midwest news Auto Slump Threatens Job Cuts

BY A REPORTER

Profit figures released for the first quarter of 1974 reveal the continuing collapse in the American automobile industry.

The giant General Motors Corporation announced that its profits fell by 85 percent compared to the first quarter of 1973.

Shipments of new cars from US plants fell 46 percent, with most of the cutbacks in the high profit large models. At some points during this period, half of GM's assembly lines were closed down.

8000 GM workers remain out of work on long term layoffs. Production scheduling for the second quarter will mean a slash in production of 31 percent over the previous year.

Both Ford and Chrysler face similar declines. Ford profits plummeted 66 percent and

Chrysler's by 98 percent.

In a significant development, the big three revealed that profit declines were considerably lower in their foreign operations than in the US, and Chrysler actually recorded a loss for its North American operations.

The decline in earnings is forcing a major battle for the compact car market. Huge sums are being earmarked for production of the smaller models through conversion of assembly lines.

This development is extremely ominous for the much smaller American Motors Company. American, which has received numerous concessions from the UAW, because of its weak financial position, actually expanded production and sales.

Despite the fact that it was geared to the small car market ahead of its rivals, materials costs actually resulted in a profit drop of 59 percent. With competition for small cars raging, AMC could shortly be forced to the wall.

Dairies Drive Farmers Out

BY JEAN BRUST

ST. PAUL, Minn.—National Farm Organization members sold over 1500 head of milk cows for slaughter during the last two weeks in Minnesota and Wisconsin, in protest over falling milk prices.

Meanwhile, housewives pay 75 cents for a half-gallon of 2 percent milk, up from 57 cents last summer.

Gene Paul, assistant director of the regional NFO Dairy Department, states: "Dairy processing firms are engaged in an effort to roll back prices paid to milk producers, resulting in an inability of farmers to break even, much less support their families.

"Cheese prices have gone down 7 to 8 cents a pound in the first month alone. This means a 70 to 80 cent cut to the producers.

Butter is down about 11 cents to the producer. Meanwhile, these prices are not dropped in the grocery store.

"Production costs go up rapidly. Fertilizer and fuel have jumped 40 to 50 percent.

Cyrus Carpenter, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union, discussed the similar plight of the Minnesota hog and cattle raisers. About \$200 a head is now lost on cattle, and proportionally the same on each hog.

The farmer cannot hold them for a higher market price. Every day they are held, they not only cost more in feed and interest, but the value of the livestock goes down for every pound added

above optimum weight.

One of the biggest expenses of both livestock and dairy farmers is the tremendous interest rates. Eleven percent interest demanded for short-term operating loans, to buy feed for example, is pushing thousands of farmers out of livestock or off the land entirely.

What this means is that both livestock and dairy farmers are caught in a pincer between skyrocketing inflation of the price of their raw materials and credit dollars on the one hand, and reduced prices for their products on the other.

Paul explained the slaughter of the milk cows this way: "The objective of our ranks isn't to reduce the amount of milk and thus raise prices. We're just demonstrating our determination, period. Rather than produce and lose money, we'll quit producing.

"In the past year, even when prices to the farmer were going up, 6000 dairy farmers were driven out of business in Minnesota and Wisconsin alone.

"They moved to the city, swelling the ranks of the unemployed."

What is involved is a conscious drive by Nixon and the big dairy processing companies to drive the remaining farmers off the land, in order to create a monopoly over the milk supply. This way, they would control more directly the dwindling supply and create even greater profits.

As a result, tremendous food shortages will develop in the next few months as the effect of the sell-off further reveals the breakdown in the ability of capitalism to produce men's most basic needs.

TV QB VII

by esther galen



Ben Gazzarra as Abraham Cady

In QB VII, a six hour, two part television movie, Abraham Cady, author of a novel *The Holocaust*, is being sued for libel for accusing a Dr. Kelno of collaborating with the Nazis in sterilization experiments.

The first part of the film details the events in Kelno's life as he flees the Communist liberation of Poland. He begins work in London.

War Crimes

When the Communists try to have him extradited to Poland, he maintains that it is for his political beliefs, and that he is innocent of any war crimes. Throughout the whole first part, the film encourages this view.

The Communists lose the extradition hearing and Kelno flees to Kuwait to dedicate himself to healing the Arabs. After being knighted for his work, Kelno returns to practice in London.

Next we are introduced to Abraham Cady as he recuperates from the war in a London hospital. He is a tortured man, trying to cut himself off from his Jewish identity. His orthodox Jewish father keeps trying to get him back into the fold.

The most powerful part of the film is the last part depicting the libel trial in the courtroom of Queens Bench VII. Kelno relates his version of events in the concentration camp, which he describes as not very terrible, with perfectly understandable reasons for what he did.

Horror

Gradually, the full horror and his lies are revealed, as victims of his sterilizations testify against him, and finally, a surgical record is introduced which documents every crime. We witness him come apart.

However, it is infuriating that these atrocities are used by the filmmakers in an all-out campaign for Zionism. The film uses events during the holocaust to recreate all the myths which have been used to tie the Jews to the Israeli state: that Jews are a nation and that Israel is their defense against oppression from the non-Jewish world.

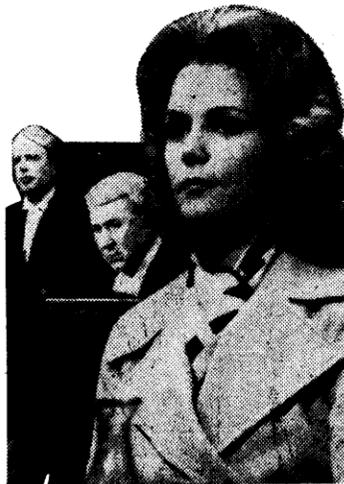
The film makes this point many times. For instance, Cady travels to Israel to be at his father's bedside as he dies. His father's last words are: "Be a

good Jew." Cady thus attains salvation and realizes his mission in life: to take up the cause of the Jews through his writing. None of this is even in Uris's book.

Experiments

In the novel, Dr. Parmentier, a non-Jew who testifies for Cady about the tortures and experiments which she resisted doing in the camp, is from France. In the movie, she has moved to Israel to atone for what her people did to the Jews.

Cady's last remarks sum up the philosophy of the film:



Lee Remick

"What has happened will continue to happen so long as evil men remain organized and good and gentle men are deceived and paralyzed by them."

One must not, he says, judge a man according to his race, religion, or politics. In other words, there is good and evil in everything. This liberal garbage is shown throughout.

For example, a Polish Communist lies to testify in defense of Dr. Kelno, and quips during his testimony: "All Communists are not good, just as all capitalists are not bad."

Individuals

However, individuals act certain ways in order to protect their interests as part of a class, not because they are evil or good individuals. Because the great events during the World War Two period are dealt with, or rather not dealt with, just by showing the experiences of several individuals, the film remains superficial and weak.

Alioto Frame-Up In Zebra Witch-Hunt

BY JEFF SEBASTIAN

The early morning arrests of seven Black men charged with the "Zebra" killings in San Francisco is part of an elaborate "scenario" designed to whip up a racial hysteria and prepare for massive terror against the Black community.

More than one hundred police armed with sub-machine guns, shotguns, and automatic rifles, backed up with helicopters made the arrests.

All seven men arrested are Muslims and are associated with the Black Self Help Co., Inc., a Muslim business that operates a moving and storage service.

Mayor Alioto, who instituted "Operation Zebra" in the Fillmore district by sending huge numbers of police into the community to conduct stop and search operations against thousands of Black men, has now concocted an incredible tale to justify the escalation of the terror.

According to the mayor, the "Zebra" killers "may be connected to the Muslim church" and are part of an organization called the "Death Angels."

He added: "The local group is a division of a larger organization dedicated to the murder and mutilation of whites and dissident Blacks. The pattern of killing is by random street shooting or hacking to death with machete, cleaver, or knife. Decapitation and other forms of mayhem bring special credit from the organization for the killers."

Alioto has released a list of 73 victims throughout the state, claiming that he suspected that many more would never be known.

The list of victims goes back as far as September 14, 1970. Some were victims of robberies. Others were bodies found with no witnesses and no evidence whatsoever. Alioto has simply made up a laundry list of cases of murdered whites still unsolved and attributed it to the "Death Angels."

Alioto is now demanding: "A concerted drive by local, state and national law enforcement agencies to shatter this organization."

There is absolutely no proof for the existence of this group apart from the word of a mysterious and unidentified police informer who, according to his lawyer, was "motivated in part" by the \$30,000 reward.

Not a single police chief in the entire Bay Area is willing to back up the mayor's claims.

There is reason to suspect that Alioto's "Death Angels" may not have originated with the mayor. Four months ago, a white man, Robert Spoeckmann was the victim of a "Zebra" type assault. He wrestled with the assailant and shot him. The man was identified as a Muslim, has provided the police with no information, and is now in jail.

According to Spoeckmann he was told at the time by a policeman and by a man he was informed was "associated with

the Justice Department" that his attacker belonged to a nationwide organization that had already killed hundreds of people.

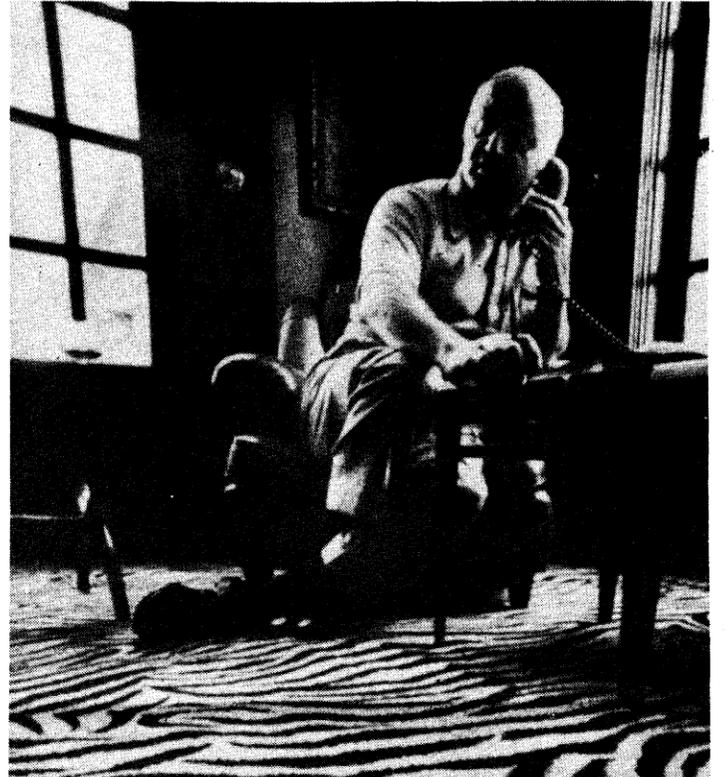
Alioto is now flying to Washington to confer with Attorney General Saxbe whose Justice Department may be very closely involved in originating the story.

Four of the arrested men have already been released by the San Francisco police because no witnesses were able to identify them. Three others are still

quarters is located in Chicago. Alioto may be preparing for a series of raids on Black Muslim facilities and Temples to intensify the terror in the Black communities.

The "Death Angels" story has all the earmarks of a carefully orchestrated plot. Alioto who is trailing in third place in his campaign for the Democratic nomination for governor has clearly seized on the opportunity to attempt to revive his lagging popularity.

The working class in San



Mayor Alioto sits on his Zebra rug in his office.

being held with the police claiming that they have been identified by "Zebra" victims.

For weeks the authorities have been making clear that they had absolutely no knowledge of the killers. Victims who survived gave such hazy descriptions that the Fillmore raids were conducted against virtually any Black who was not fat or extremely short. Under the conditions of mass press hysteria, the identifications of the victims are worthless.

But this in no way deters the San Francisco authorities who are continuing "Operation Zebra" through a beefed up police presence through the Fillmore district.

Alioto's attempt to link the killings to the Black Muslims are extremely ominous. He has declared that the "Death Angels" have their headquarters somewhere in the midwest and are extremely well financed. The Muslim head-

Francisco is among the most organized and powerful in the country. This vicious police assault is aimed at provoking racial divisions within a labor movement which only a few weeks ago shut the entire city in a general strike.

Alioto has been allowed to launch this fraudulent campaign because the leadership of the San Francisco labor movement has given him their full support in his campaign for governor.

The San Francisco labor movement must answer this attempt to divide white and Black by calling a massive demonstration to demand an end to the witch-hunt and the police occupation of Fillmore.

The police actions in San Francisco and the frameup methods of Alioto and the Justice Department are a test case for similar attacks on trade unionists fighting for a decent standard of living.

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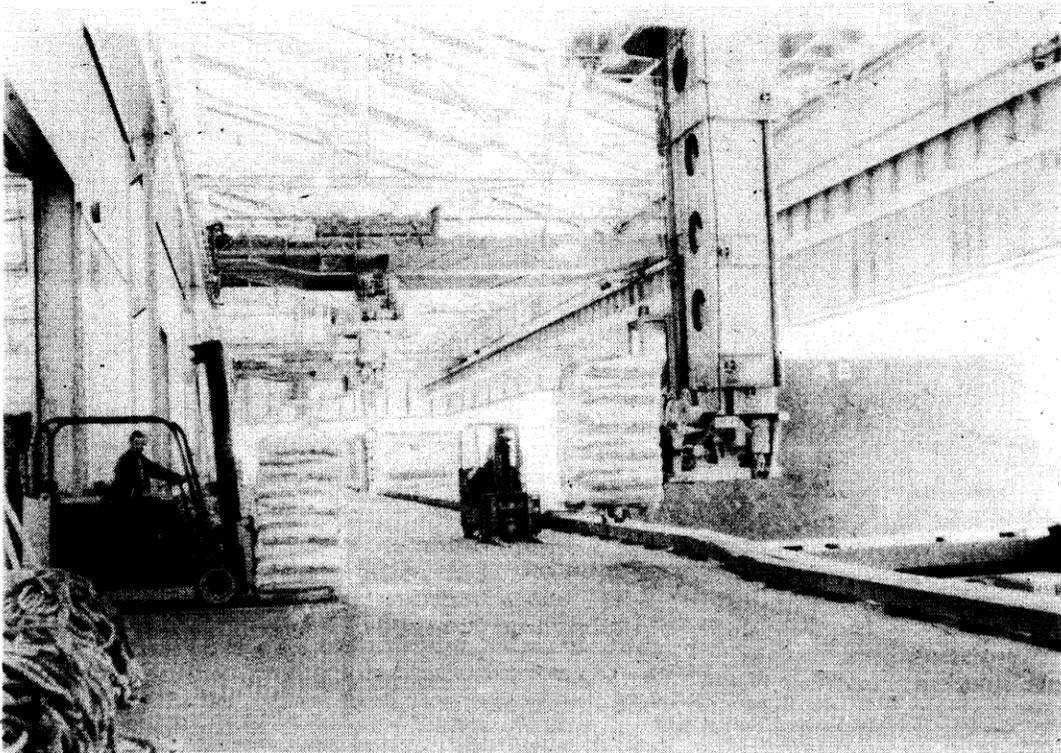
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Dockers are temporarily back after one-day strike for cost of living increase.

west coast news

7000 Out In Northwest Metal Strike

BY GERARDO NOYES
PORTLAND, Ore.— Nearly 7000 members of the United Metal Trades Council are entering the second month of their strike against employers in both Portland and Seattle.

the way. We have to have a cost of living clause. You don't know what's going to happen next year," he said.

In Seattle, 5000 metal workers struck 50 shops on April 5, after trade unionists rejected a three-year contract proposal by a two-to-one margin against the recommendation of the Metal Trades Council bureaucracy.

Michael, a young trade unionist picketing the Bingham-Willamette plant, said that the union leaders "have been there for a long time. They don't seem to think we can win."

Conscious of this movement against the present leaders, the Metal Trades Club of the Communist Party in Seattle issued a declaration calling for unity with the present leadership as long as the strike lasts.

The Communist Party claims that "Unity will win this strike. Unity between union officials and the rank and file. We can't afford artificial divisions within our ranks. Those who create them are doing the bosses' work."

WARNING

As a further warning to any worker seeking an alternative leadership, the CP statement says, "All union members deserve full membership rights as long as they aren't union disrupters."

By supporting these union bureaucrats, the Seattle Communist Party hopes to regain the foothold in these unions which it lost when this same reformist union leadership expelled the Communists in 1966.

This first massive strike in the Pacific Northwest this year centers on wages. In Seattle alone, 75 percent of the union contracts are up for renewal this year.

The United Metal Trades Council represents local Machinists, Boilermakers, Electricians, Hodcarriers, and Laborers, Engineers, Painters, Sheet Metal Workers and Teamsters in both cities.

The biggest plant shut down in Portland is FMC, which was producing 18 railroad cars a day, and employs 500 men. About 950 men are out in the other three big plants, Bingham-Willamette, Albina Engine and Machine Works, and Rayco-Wagner Company.

A picket at Bingham-Willamette told the Bulletin that the wage demand is \$1.15 an hour, plus a cost of living provision. The company has offered only 60 cents in exchange for a three-year contract.

"The man in blue is the backbone of our country. I support the demand for \$1.15 all

matter who it is, any type of equipment."

Bridges refused to fight the Pay Board wage cut, because to do that would have meant a political fight against Nixon and the Democrats who gave Nixon the power to slash wages.

Now he is trying to spread the dangerous illusion that with the expiration of formal wage controls, the fight for decent wages is no longer a fight against the government.

But the Pacific Maritime Association has already said that they consider the walkout to have been illegal, claiming the reopener clause in the 1972 contract was not explicitly carried over to the 1973 contract.

Dockers must demand an immediate, all-out strike to win back the 30 cents, and a full cost of living escalator clause.

Dockers Demand Money Slashed By Pay Board

BY
**A REPORTER
 SAN FRANCISCO**— Longshoremen returned to work Thursday, May 2, after a one-day strike that shut ports from Seattle to San Diego.

The strike was called off by International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU) President Harry Bridges, after the Pacific Maritime Association agreed to immediately discuss the union's proposal for a cost of living adjustment.

The strike action was taken under a clause in the 1972 contract, which allows the union to reopen the contract upon 24 hours notice once federal wage and price controls were lifted.

The union is demanding restoration of 30 cents cut by the Pay Board in 1972 after a 134-day strike, as well as an additional sum to make up for inflation.

Union spokesmen pointed to official price statistics which show that the rising cost of living has cut 44.5 cents from real wages since last July 1, wiping out the 40 cent raise dockers received then.

The cost of living formula in

the 1972 contract does not take affect until next January 1, and is limited to a maximum raise of 12 cents January 1, 1975 and 10 cents on July 1, 1975.

Longshoremen who spoke with Bulletin reporters at the San Francisco container pier agreed that more than a one-day action was necessary.

"If they don't give the wage increase, I won't go back to work," said one.

"One day didn't do anything. I'm all for a strike if it gets back the money that they stole from us."

Another docker said: "It's due to us. Once something is promised, it's due. I don't think one day is going to do it. It's going to mount up to a fight with Nixon."

"Everybody's got to stop, no

Secret Probe Into SLA

BY
**A REPORTER
 SAN FRANCISCO**— All the techniques of former Attorney General John Mitchell are being revived in a new secret investigation of the Symbionese Liberation

Army.

Yesterday, the Grand Jury granted immunity to Paul Halverson of San Francisco State University and Cynthia Garvey, of Oakland, both former political activists, for the purpose of forcing them to testify about their past associations with people now

alleged to be SLA members.

Both Halverson and Garvey are refusing to testify. Halverson told the press: "I have committed no crimes against the state or any individuals in the state, and if I end up in jail as a result of these Grand Jury proceedings, it will be because I refused to relinquish my constitutional rights."

Newspaper reports claim that the Grand Jury is especially interested in the April 15 bank robbery carried out by the SLA. A driver's license belonging to Janet Cooper Weiss was used to rent the get-away car for the hold-up.

The questioning of Cooper, a former member of the Vencermos organization and Revolutionary Union, makes it clear that these two organizations are next on the agenda for the Grand Jury's witch-hunt.

Police claim that SLA members had lived in the apartment for over a month, prior to April 26. They discovered both the keys to the get-away car used in the April 15 bank robbery, and SLA slogans on the wall signed by Cinque, the group's leader, and Tania, the name adopted by Patricia Hearst after she joined the terrorist organization.

On Thursday night, police and FBI conducted a full-scale raid on a suspected SLA apartment hideout in the Fillmore district.

IAM Machinists Strike Caterpillar

BY TED BAKER
SAN LEANDRO— At a mass union meeting last night, 1200 members of International Association of Machinists Lodge 284 voted unanimously to strike Caterpillar Tractor.

Al Silva, IAM shop steward, told the Bulletin: "Their offer was an insult. Seven percent, six percent, and six percent. It was like a slap in the face."

The union is demanding a three year contract with a 10 percent raise each year. Similar demands on the 105-plant California Metal Trades Association (CMTA) led to a pattern settlement of 10 percent the first year,

and 7 percent the following two years, in contracts signed last month.

Caterpillar and several smaller East Bay plants refused to accept this and are being struck. Another picket told the Bulletin: "It was ridiculous. We had to reject it. All the CMTA locals got 10 percent, and ever that isn't enough to live on."

The San Leandro plant is one of the few Caterpillar plants represented by the IAM. Most plants of the giant farm machinery manufacturer are organized by the United Auto Workers, which last year signed contracts for 5.5 percent increases, when the UAW leadership refused to challenge the government pay ceilings.

Caterpillar's goal is to keep contracts with the Machinists as close to this figure as possible, despite the official ending of

wage controls.

John M., another striker, said: "The main issue is money. If it wasn't for that, we wouldn't be out here. All the other issues are important, but we're striking for the money."

According to the union, Caterpillar is demanding language changes which would allow it to carry out job regrading without regard to seniority.

This is the preparation for a speedup drive.

Pickets on the site expect the strike to last weeks. Negotiations have been broken off by Caterpillar until the end of next week.

The plant makes engines and engine accessories for assembly plants on the West Coast as well as in the East. Parts shortages could hit assembly plants in the East as well as on the West Coast.

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lucha obrera

— lucía rivera —

Portugal: Lucha Combinada De Las Colonias Y Trabajadores

Millones de trabajadores y jóvenes se lanzaron a las calles para celebrar el primero de mayo en Lisboa, capital de Portugal. Luego de casi cincuenta años de dictadura militar fascista, un golpe militar liderado por António de Spínola destituyó a la semana pasada al odiado gobierno de Marcello Caetano.

Este golpe ha sido el comienzo de un movimiento masivo de la clase obrera portuguesa luego de largas décadas de opresión para demostrar su oposición en contra del anterior gobierno fascista y sus intenciones.

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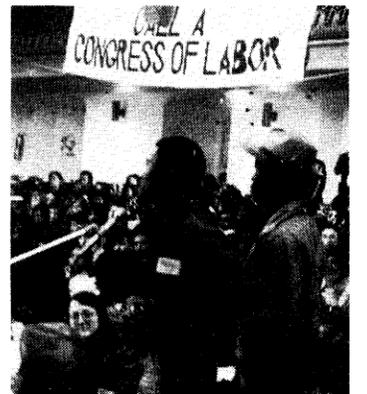
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La labor de esta columna es la construcción de un nuevo liderazgo en la clase obrera. Es por ello que necesitamos el apoyo de todos los obreros hispanos en desarrollar esta columna. Favor de dirigir su correspondencia a: Lucia Rivera, c/o Labor Publications, 135 West 14th St., New York, N.Y. 10011

lucha obrera

—lucía rivera—

Portugal: Lucha Combinada De Las Colonias Y Trabajadores

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