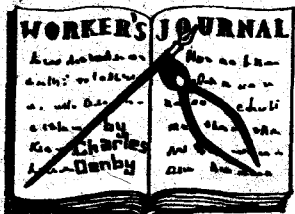


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Union leaders fight Blacks, labor history

by Charles Denby, Editor

Last month I read that Herbert Hill, the labor director of the NAACP, was leaving the organization after so many years of fighting against employment discrimination. The NY Times said that AFL-CIO President George Meany will shout hooray over Hill leaving, because of his attacks on racism in the labor movement.

I personally believe that Hill was fired. It looks very much like Ben Hooks, the new NAACP director who replaced Roy Wilkins, made a deal with Meany for AFL-CIO support of some civil rights policies. The price was that Hill had to go, because he challenged racism in the unions, especially in the construction industry. That lily-white industry is where Meany got his start, and a lot of his power still comes from the Building Trades Council.

'DEALS' KEPT QUIET

It is a measure of the leadership today in the Black movement that they make these deals, and then try to keep them quiet. They are saying that Hill left to take a job as Professor of Industrial Relations and Afro-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin. But this does not explain anything. Ben Hooks was never a real part of the Civil Rights Movement, South or North, or anywhere else. He is a politician who got his position on the Federal Communications Commission under the Republicans.

As the battlefield in the Civil Rights Movement swung to the North, Hill became a target. At the last convention of the NAACP he bitterly attacked the labor leadership as an enemy of minority and women workers, and said "a coalition that can exist on the basis of sacrificing the most vital interests of the Black community is not worth preserving."

You can see why Meany wanted him out. As soon as Hill was gone, Meany jumped to the defense of Black leaders who said Carter was not doing anything about Black unemployment. This is the way he covers up the racism — by making statements, but not taking any action inside the AFL-CIO.

Some years ago, Meany unleashed an attack on A. Phillip Randolph, at an AFL-CIO convention, for saying that the union was denying Blacks the chance to be upgraded in the union. Meany yelled, "who in the hell told you that you are the spokesman for the Negroes?" Randolph finally backed down, just like Vernon Jordan did when Carter said the criticism of his Administration was hurting Black people.

JORDAN FORCED TO SPEAK OUT

The gap between the leaders and the masses of Blacks was never greater. It was the Black youth, who took what they needed in the New York blackout, that forced Jordan and the rest of the Black leaders to speak out about racism as it truly is in America today. Black youth who have been looking for jobs and not finding any, know the way the union leaders have totally ignored them.

These union leaders have lost all principles, even
(Continued on Page 2)

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NEWS LETTERS

'Human Power is its own end'

VOL. 22—NO. 8

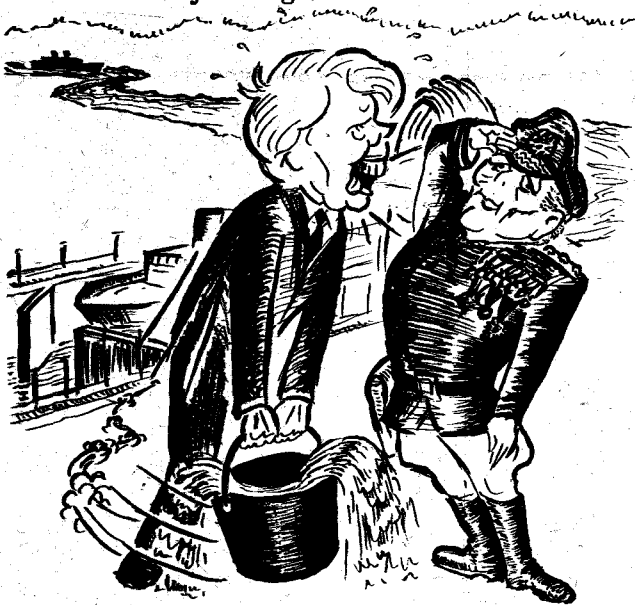
27 Printed in 100 Percent Union Shop

OCTOBER, 1977

Global economic crises spawn worldwide fascist resurgence

by Mary Holmes

The depraved, Nazi-inspired, white mobs in Chicago who cheered when they learned that the seven-year-old Black child, Mellaine Turner, had died from an attack of sickle cell anemia, brought on by walking their racist gauntlet to go to school in lily-white Bogan Park, are no mere "throwback" to the lynch mobs of Little Rock, Ark. a full 20 years ago.



M. FRANKL
9-20-77 NEWS AND LETTERS
"Here it is, General Torrijos. We have decided to return the canal to you, the people of Panama!"

They are, at one and the same time, proof of the malignant racist cancer that has infected this land ever since its birth, and part of a new fascist resurgence that is global in its thrust, though it is home grown in each country.

● In "civilized" Britain, which has always claimed it has no "race problem," the leader of the Nazi, racist, anti-Semitic National Front (NF)—nearly 30 years after Hitler destroyed London—claims Hitler's Mein Kampf as his guide and openly espouses getting rid of two million Black and Asian British citizens as the "final solution" to the crisis there.

● In Argentina, a haven for actual Nazis since the end of World War II, the Videla government is fomenting a new wave of anti-Semitism, blaming the current crisis there on the "Jewish-Marxist-Montonero" connection.

● In Germany, where a film is being promoted that glorifies Hitler and says nothing of the death camps where six million Jews were murdered, ex-Nazi and present Chancellor Helmut Schmidt welcomes back escaped Nazi war criminal Herbert Kappler as a "free man."

● And in state-capitalist Russia, so degenerate is the practice of persecuting Jews that the perverters of Marxism have seen fit to make it a respectable theory by hailing it as a "manifestation of class struggle" rather than as anti-Semitism.

WORLD ECONOMIC CRISIS DEEPENS

Not since the end of World War II has world capitalism, private and state, been in such deep economic crisis. Just as the Great Depression in the 1930s spewed forth the greatest barbarism the world had yet seen—Nazism—from one of its most "civilized" countries—Germany—and paved the way for World War II, so today each capitalist country, private and state, is turning to increased militarization and providing fertile soil for its own indigenous brand of racism, anti-Semitism and neo-fascism as the capitalist answer to the ever-deepening economic and social crises.

The latest U.S. economic figures show that not only is production stagnating and unemployment growing, but that the unemployment rate for Blacks—14.5 percent—continues to be double that for whites. In New York City the unemployment rate for Black teenagers was 86 percent!

The Carter Administration's response has been to step up the counter-revolution, which he inherited from Nixon-Ford, against all the hard-earned gains of the 1960s Black Revolt, including even cutting off federal funds for abortions to the poor.

POLICE PROTECT NAZIS, KKK

So blatant is Carter's racism—from his pre-election deliberate remark on preserving "ethnic purity" to his Presidential "no comment" on the July 4th KKK rally held in his own home town of Plains, Ga.—that the Nazis and the KKK no longer feel they have to hide behind the cloak of "populism," as did the supporters of George Wallace, but openly parade in white sheets and swastikas.

The Nazis and KKK are so alike in mentality, that there is nothing today fundamentally different between the two. In fact, they draw their support from the same white racist, lynch mob types: the white sniper in North Carolina, an official supporter of the Nazi Party, who was wearing a swastika when he shot and killed two Blacks at a church picnic, and the Nazi and KKK women at the International Women's Year conferences this

(Continued on Page 8)

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Striking Essex workers demand plant shut-down

Elwood, Ind.—Striking workers from the Essex Wire plant picketed a speech by Gov. Otis Bowen in Anderson, Ind. on Sept. 15. They were demanding that the Essex plant in Elwood be closed until negotiations for a new contract are completed. The same demand was made in petitions, circulated by the citizens of Elwood, a town of 12,000, to the Governor.

The strike began April 6, when 220 workers, 85 percent women, walked off their jobs making plastic auto parts. After being in UAW Local 1663 for 11 years, the workers were earning \$2.76 per hour. Fringe "benefits" include \$35 per week sick pay and optional medical insurance.

One of the women described their situation: "Our strike is something that's absolutely necessary. We need better wages and sick pay. If we take what they're offering, we'll be making \$3.10 per hour or thereabouts in a few years. We can't live on that."

SCABS ATTACK STRIKERS

"Essex brought in scabs. They came out here and beat up five of our people right outside the gate. Another dozen were hit by cars. We were planning to have a rally and let people know we had support when that very night, July 11, a woman striker got shot in the back."

"Essex is discriminating against us. They thought we were just a bunch of dumb women. They thought that we'd run back to them on our knees. Only three strikers went back in, and all three of them are men."

"We haven't had any support from the union. Whatever we've done out here, we've done ourselves. We get some money support, but they won't let the workers come out here and stand and say 'we support you'. They want to give the scabs super-seniority. They don't want to give us any pension. We could get more money on welfare."

TROOPERS ESCORT SCABS

Sixty state troopers were posted at the Essex plant in Elwood on July 11, when Gov. Bowen ordered them there "to restore peace." Then on Sept. 15, they were reassigned to the Morgan Packing Co. in Austin, where 200 workers have been on strike since Aug. 19. The troopers had been escorting the scabs in and out of the Essex plant.

The strike has affected the entire Elwood community, and youths are discussing the strike in their classes at school. Rank-and-file auto workers and locals of United Electrical and International Association of Machinists have written letters of support to the Elwood Essex union.

The Elwood workers have also been in communica-

tion with strikers at Essex plants in Canada and England. A group of Cleveland workers, who are now unemployed because Essex closed its plant there rather than settle with the union, have also written to the Elwood workers.

The Sept. 15 demonstration in Anderson was sponsored not only by the Elwood strikers, but also Union W.A.G.E., the NOW Labor Task Force and the Xanthippe Women's Collective of Bloomington, Ind. Also, feminists in Chicago, including Women's Liberation—News & Letters Committees, are supporting the Elwood strikers.

—Marie Dignan



women-worldwide

In Buenos Aires, scores of women defy police by meeting daily to demand information regarding relatives who have been abducted by armed squads. Called "The Mad Women of Plaza de Mayo," the women hope to call international attention to the 2,000 labor leaders, journalists, students and other leftists who have been kidnapped this year.

Portuguese wives will be given equal rights with their husbands, and women will be able to become judges for the first time under a new amendment to the Constitution, which was due to go into effect Sept. 19.

A woman attorney defeated Judge Archie Simonson of Madison, Wis., by 8,809 votes in a recall election initiated by feminists in response to Simonson's sexist remarks justifying the rape of a 16-year-old girl as "a natural response."

King Khaled of Saudi Arabia has demanded that foreign women living in his kingdom obey Islamic law requiring that a woman's body be totally covered in public or face punishment. Under Islamic law, an adulterer can be stoned to death and a thief's hand can be cut off.

In South Africa, Jackie Bosman, a journalist, and Ilona Kleinschmidt, wife of an exiled anti-apartheid worker, were sentenced to a year's imprisonment for refusing to give evidence concerning their alleged visit to banished freedom fighter Winnie Mandela.

Sexism, politics and revolution

eries) to work full shifts in factories, and the fact that many women have become "plant managers," have been touted as women's liberation. The little news that has leaked out in recent years of strikes for higher wages and better living conditions points to Chinese women workers finding neither the factories, nor having some women lording it over them in place of men, very liberating — a fact of life no doubt shared by Essex women workers.

It is 30 years since Ting Ling dared to raise the question of feminism in general, and although both Chinese women and the women at Essex could undoubtedly relate to that, feminism without revolution will not change their lives as women workers. This past year, we have seen the Portuguese women, who participated both as revolutionists and as feminists in their revolution, still facing rampant sexism among the Left. (See "Will the Revolution in Portugal Advance?," N&L, Jan.-Feb., 1976, and Mary Holmes' report from Europe, N&L, June, 1977.)

We cannot let that division between sexism, politics and revolution further abort what we are trying to do, and that is to uproot this class society, both capitalist and state-capitalist calling itself socialist, as in China.

Dunayevskaya has raised these questions specifically in relationship to women's liberation, and as we went to press, the women strikers in Indiana sent out a call for all to help them in their struggle. Can this be the beginning of not just helping, but seeing that philosophy and revolution no longer remain divided, and finally being on the road to a new society?

—Angela Terrano

Sexism, Politics and Revolution in Mao's China

By Raya Dunayevskaya

- Chiang Ch'ing, Hua Kuo-Feng in Post-Mao China
- Alienation and Revolution: A Hong-Kong Interview with a Chinese Refugee

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

(Continued from Page 1)

on the history of the labor movement. Last winter, I attended a celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Flint sit-down in Flint. The UAW ran it, and tried to make the whole program around the late Walter Reuther and Leonard Woodcock. It was so far from the real history of how the UAW began that I couldn't recognize it. Genora Johnson, the woman who organized the Women's Emergency Brigade, was in the audience but they wouldn't let her on the program. News & Letters and Flint NOW organized a demonstration and forced them to recognize her and let her speak.

A few weeks later I went to the first planning meeting to organize a Michigan Labor History Society. It was started by some liberal intellectuals in Ann Arbor. I heard that the UAW was really disturbed by the demonstration in Flint, and asked a lot of questions about who would be in the labor history group. After several other planning meetings, a "founding meeting" was set for June.

The UAW had written a constitution with a section on how to expel members if the Board thought they were hurting the group. The meeting voted to eliminate that section completely.

Since the first "founding meeting" didn't finish the business, they had another one in September. They brought in a new section on expelling members, and a full slate of officers and Board members they wanted elected. When I looked around the room, I saw that they had packed the meeting with everyone they could get, including the goons they call the "Flying Squadron" today — which is the total opposite of what it was when the UAW started.

This bunch did whatever they wanted at the meeting. They elected Ken Morris as president, and Bill Marshall as vice-president, and neither of them had ever attended a meeting of the group — and probably never will. Out of 15 on the Board, the only Black elected was Tom Turner, and he is the one Black in his own union called "Uncle Tom." They ran the voting, violating the constitution they had just passed half an hour before. They wouldn't even allow people who weren't on their slate to be nominated, and then they refused to have a secret ballot for the one spot on the Board that was contested.

It was very educational to see how important the meeting was to the UAW leaders. They do not want the true history of the labor movement known and told, because they know that history, if it is true history, is a powerful idea for today's struggles. To them, Blacks and women, and the rank-and-file, are not labor history. None of the Left parties like the IS and the SWP came to the meeting. They don't see history as alive, either.

At the end of the meeting, all the people the UAW brought to pack it were leaving and saying they would not have to come back. And all the people who wanted to start it in the first place were leaving in disgust, saying that they would not attend another meeting, because the Society is dead. But true labor history is still being written every day in the plants and in the mines, and we are telling it in the pages of News & Letters. It is alive because it is the fight for a totally new world.

Protest for new VA trial

Detroit, Mich.—About 300 demonstrators, demanding a new trial for Filipina nurses Leonora Perez and Filipina Narciso, picketed for three hours in front of the federal courthouse on Sept. 15. This was the day the nurses were to be sentenced at "the judge's discretion," which could have included life imprisonment. (See News & Letters, Aug.-Sept., 1977.)

When we learned that the judge had turned the nurses over to the U.S. Attorney General for at least 90 days of "psychiatric observation" in a West Virginia federal penitentiary, we began to shout, "The feds need the observation."

One of the organizers of the Coalition to Free the VA Nurses cited a leaflet written by veterans, which stated that the two women were used as scapegoats by the VA to draw attention away from the bad conditions in VA hospitals. These included lax security where there was "no list of the doctors or medical students who had gone through; that's why the FBI couldn't find who had been there between July and August 1975 when the deaths (of five veterans) occurred."

The Coalition is hoping to build more support for demonstrations on Oct. 11, when arguments for a new trial begin. For more information, or to express support, write: Narciso/Perez Legal Defense Fund, 2516 Essex, Ann Arbor, MI, 48104.

Local News & Letters Committees can be contacted directly in the following areas:

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WOMAN AS REASON

In the new mini-pamphlet, *Sexism, Politics and Revolution in Mao's China*, Raya Dunayevskaya analyzes the relationship of sexism, politics and revolution as crucial not just for China, but for women's liberationists and all forces of revolution. In reviewing the pamphlet, I could not help but think of the meaning it holds for women here in the U.S., particularly the 220 workers on strike at Essex Wire Co., who are facing the sexism of both their company and their union. (See story this page.)

The pamphlet shows how Chiang Ch'ing came up against male chauvinism in Mao and others but sought only glory and a leadership position for herself. She was as brutal against the masses when she reached her height during the "Cultural Revolution" as any of the men leaders.

She attempts to rewrite history through a bourgeois feminist writer, Roxane Witke, to make events fit her life rather than seeing the world ramifications that events inside and outside China had, ignoring the whole question of the Sino-Soviet split, which laid the groundwork for the "Cultural Revolution" and which has directed China's path to this day.

Whereas Chiang Ch'ing afforded not the slightest hint of an alternative to the drive toward nationalism because she was one with Mao in theory and practice, the feminist writer Ting Ling, in the midst of the Chinese revolution itself, confronted Mao on his sexism, attempting to bring the universal of feminism, the oppression of women, front center. Her attempts became aborted, however, once that question was not linked to the world around her nor to workers, nor to the question of revolution.

A recent report of China's State Planning Commission (N.Y. Times, Sept. 13) states, "We can never substitute revolution for production." If one is misled into thinking this is a warning to Chiang Ch'ing rather than to the Chinese masses, ask one simple question: who works in production—Chiang Ch'ing? It is only the dateline which distinguishes Peking from Elwood, Ind.

And would not any Essex worker know what the Chinese State's "right to set wages and power to regulate the number of workers" mean? Only translation of words is needed, not of intent. The extent of the workers' revolt can be seen in what production bosses the world over demand as their "rights."

Both the fact of young Chinese women leaving the home (sending the children to grandmothers and

How can we stop lay-offs at Uniroyal?

Detroit, Mich. — Many workers at Uniroyal are starting to wonder if there will be lay-offs at the plant this winter. There have been rumors that 70 percent of the personnel will be cut. For one thing, all the economists are saying that things are going to get worse this year.

There have already been some signs of it at the plant. A few shifts have been sent home early. The slow season will be coming up around November, and the company is stockpiling tires by overtime and speed-up.

The last time there were big lay-offs was in November, 1974, and since then the plant has gone from 3,300 workers to about 1,200. The company can lay off all these people because they are becoming more and more automated, and that means less and less workers. And now they don't even have to keep operations in union plants.

I have heard there was as much as 40 percent production in rubber plants during the national United Rubber Workers strike last year, because they were operating in plants that were non-union. The airplane tire operation that used to be here has already moved to a non-union plant in the South. And the union doesn't even bother to organize the whole industry.

I had plenty of seniority at the time of the 1974 lay-offs and wasn't affected right away, but many of the younger guys were happy about it. They were thinking that they would only be off for two or three months, like a vacation with unemployment and SUB benefits. I believed it too, and thought they were lucky. They spent the last day partying down in the locker room and went out the door smiling. But that lay-off lasted over two years, and the ones who got back lost all their seniority. It was a disaster for everybody.

The point is if the company lays off again, that will be it for the low-seniority people. The next time we'd better not react to it the way we did last time, but do something to protect our jobs and keep it from happening.

And the union better do its job and stick up for its members. But if "company people" like Pete Swider ("Mr. 500") get into union office again, who knows what will happen?

—Uniroyal worker

Laid-off workers picket Penn

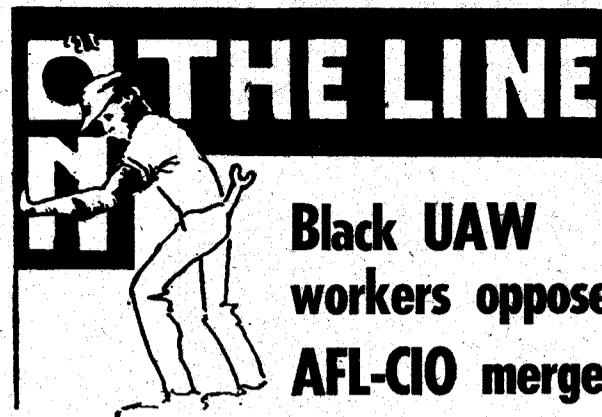
Philadelphia, Pa. — Members of the housekeeping staff of the University of Pennsylvania have been picketing the entrances to campus buildings here since Aug. 9, in response to the university's union-busting tactic of laying off all 343 workers and replacing them with four outside contractors.

The workers had elected Teamsters Local 115 to represent them at the end of June, and they believe that the university's reluctance to deal with a union is behind the lay-offs rather than the budget deficit, which is being used as an excuse.

Many janitors and maids are middle-aged, and 33 have worked for Penn for more than 20 years, 77 for more than 15 years; 65 percent are Black, and the rest mainly Polish women, many of whom do not speak English. It has been pointed out that Penn employs 15,000 people and that its budget for 1977-78 is \$32 million.

It is hard to believe it is too poor to pay 343 people \$4.13 an hour, especially when faculty and administrators got raises this year. Only the lowest-paid workers on campus, the housekeeping staff, were asked to take pay cuts.

The housekeepers are asking students, unionized workers, non-unionized secretarial staff, and residents of the West Philadelphia community near the Penn campus to write or phone the president of the university, Martin Meyerson, demanding the reinstatement of the workers. Students who pay high tuition, the underpaid and overworked clerical staff, and the laid-off workers will have to fight Penn like any other exploitative big business, or be cut individually.



Black UAW workers oppose AFL-CIO merger

by John Allison

The question of reaffiliation with the AFL-CIO is of great concern to the leaders of the UAW, and especially President Doug Fraser who is in favor of rejoining the national labor group.

Most workers couldn't care less about this deal, because they feel that one way or the other won't make any difference in their lives or working conditions. But many Black workers do feel strongly against the AFL-CIO because of their racist policies, and especially in the construction and other skilled trades where they have been open in their fight against allowing Blacks in their unions.

This sentiment of Black UAW workers against reaffiliation has been driven home to both Marc Stepp and Buddy Battle, two Black leaders of the UAW. It's being reported that they made a deal whereby they won't vote against reaffiliation in the top levels of the UAW bureaucracy's actions because Fraser wants to rejoin, and in exchange that they won't have to pressure Black workers to be in favor of reaffiliation.

The UAW realizes it needs help to fight the powerful South and its right-to-work laws. Runaway shops from the North are forcing the UAW to look to merger with the AFL-CIO for the second time in the past 20 or more years. Reform of the labor laws by showing the Carter Administration that labor is united seems to be behind the reaffiliation strategy.

While the UAW leadership is trying to line up the vote for reaffiliation with the AFL-CIO, the AFL-CIO is moving to pull out of the International Labor Organization (ILO), a United Nations agency made up of representatives from over 100 countries. The ILO is under fire from the Chamber of Commerce, the AFL and other groups for seating a Palestine Liberation observer and a resolution condemning Israel.

So we begin to see that the AFL-CIO and the UAW have their hands in many pockets. And while they're playing all of these games at home and abroad, the rank-and-file workers are left to fight their own battles. It's no wonder they're not excited about this whole reaffiliation bit.

Farming like assembly line—produce more and get less

by Felix Martin, West Coast Editor,

I recently visited southern Indiana where I farmed in the '50s, and realized how much farming today reminds me of my own job on the GM assembly line — work harder and produce more for less.

I still own a small farm there, and went shopping to find a used tractor. A 1948 Ford tractor was selling for \$1,250. In 1952, my dad and I bought a new tractor, the same size, all for the same \$1,250.

Corn at that time was selling for \$1.50 a bushel. Today it is again \$1.50 a bushel, and may go lower this year. My mind was trying to figure out how farmers could stay in the business of farming. With the high prices for food, I thought the farmers were really doing alright. But the only way a farmer can stay in the farming business is to keep buying more land from the farmers that are going broke. And this way they stay in debt to the bank.

The farmer is like a non-union worker. He has no say-so about the prices of what he produces and sells, just like a worker in a non-union shop has no say-so over his wages. The farmer takes his grain to market and has to sell it at the price the buyers are paying that day.

After the buyer gets the wheat, the big corporation he is buying it for can set the price. And from there the price begins to double. To keep these prices doubling for the dealers or capitalists, the government steps in to pay the farmer not to grow. President Carter is reportedly ready to assure price supports totalling \$4.4 billion next year for the farmers not to grow.

This cutback comes in the face of something like half a billion people in the world facing starvation. But our "human-rights" Sunday-school-teaching President feels it is more important to keep the profits doubling for the capitalist than to feed hungry people.

And where will he get the billions of dollars for subsidizing the prices? By taxing the workers who have to pay the higher prices for food at the grocery store.

FROM THE AUTO STOPS

GM South Gate

South Gate, Cal.—The production office failed to give body shop workers advance notification of a line time or line time change. Because only eight hours of relief time had been given, some workers walked off the line to their time clocks at eight hours. Others were heading for their lockers to put tools and protective clothing away when their frantic foremen stopped them. Those workers who had already punched their time cards, or were about to, were persuaded to return to the line by stunned union committeemen and foremen.

Labor relations, the company's lawyers, called production and verbally "slapped hands." A line time was immediately given, but it was for an additional hour, and workers responded with a spontaneous slow-down. The usual insane din of tools buzzing and banging was reduced to half, and at certain times, to virtual silence.

One foreman, while saying the company ought to fire those who walked off, was challenged and even threatened by some workers who had not walked off. One of them yelled back "management is the one who should be fired—you think you can do us any way you please! We're people—don't think you can take us for granted!" Management had to shut the line down 20 minutes earlier than expected.

—GM South Gate worker

Lynch Road

Detroit, Mich. — This past summer, the workers at Lynch Road and many other Chrysler plants walked off their jobs due to 100-plus degree heat. After speed-ups, forced overtime, and health hazards, the heat was just too much. After these walkouts, many workers were fired.

But due to a spirit of unity and pressure from the membership, on Aug. 26, Chrysler reinstated the three workers fired during the July heat walkouts at Lynch Road. Out of work since July 15, the three were reinstated along with 51 Chrysler workers at other Detroit plants. The agreement between the UAW and Chrysler includes dropping the grievances, no back pay, and disciplinary suspensions remaining on the fired workers' records.

When the workers were fired at Lynch Road, a defense committee was formed on their behalf. Petitions were circulated, leaflets were passed out, and buttons were sold that said, "Beat The Heat! Bring 'Em Back!"

Without pressure from the membership, these workers may not have been reinstated.

This past summer a spark of militancy and unity began at Lynch Road. This is only a beginning and there definitely is a long road ahead. But, I think we taught Chrysler a lesson — we can only be pushed so far!

—"Diver Dan," Lynch Road worker

Fleetwood

Detroit, Mich.—Many new workers have been hired recently, 42 in the paint shop alone, because of so much absenteeism.

After the next changeover, they are going to phase out the Eldorado from Fleetwood and move it to Oklahoma—to a non-union plant. Management claims it is not happy with the quality at Fleetwood, and is threatening us that if they decide quality has not improved, they may take the K-body away also.

Taking away the Eldorado alone will mean that all the current new hires will be gone by next year. If the K-body goes too, workers with several years seniority will be laid off.

GM is threatening to move models elsewhere while doing nothing about dangerous safety conditions right here. The paint shop is always a fire trap, and if there ever was an explosion, we would be trapped in there. In one fire drill a couple years ago, it took 20 minutes to get out of the plant. We need more fire exits and routes.

—Paint shop worker

Dodge Truck

Warren, Mich.—Everyone on final line got speeded-up when foremen stopped shutting the line off if the crane didn't have a cab ready to drop when the rear wheels of the chassis got to the edge of the pit. Now the crane drivers drop cabs while the next job is crossing the pit, and everyone on the line and in the pit is thrown into the hole.

When Jack Barrett was afternoon shift chief steward for medium line, he did nothing when some workers got written-up for missed operations because of the line speed. Once he even went to the foreman first to find out why a worker was missing jobs. Then he told the worker his discipline was "justified"! No one outside the medium line would have voted for him if they had known what he's like. Now we're stuck with this speed-up and these lousy killer-jobs.

—Main building worker

EDITORIAL**Panama treaty keeps U.S. control 'in perpetuity'**

Neither the fantastic and opulent splendor of the internationally-televised ceremonies at the Hall of the Americas, in which U.S. President Carter and Panama's Torrijos signed the new Panama Canal Treaty, Sept. 7, nor the unanimous applause of the representatives of 28 Western Hemisphere governments invited for the occasion, could hide the treaty's colonial reality. Far from representing what Carter called a "new chapter in our relations with all the nations of this hemisphere," the treaty precisely spells out, in 1977, the methods U.S. imperialism will employ to continue in perpetuity the control, not only of the Canal, but all of Panama, that Teddy Roosevelt began in 1903.

While General Torrijos did his utmost to support Carter's attempts to appear "liberal," even crediting him with "turning imperial force into moral force," their posturing was belied both by the treaty's actual provisions and by the mass opposition of the Panamanian people. For three straight days, as the rulers celebrated in Washington, Panamanian students took to the streets, battling riot police, to protest the treaty and the Torrijos dictatorship. They were continuing the wave of revolutionary activity they began last year when they joined Panama City workers fighting food price increases.

In fact, so deep is the revulsion over the treaty, that Romulo Escobar Betancourt, Panama's chief negotiator, has resorted to explaining it at home by creating a smokescreen of interpretations wildly different from those announced in Washington. He even denied that the treaty gave the U.S. "the right to intervene in Panama."

A STRANGLEHOLD FOREVER

The truth is that the treaty maintains the U.S. stranglehold over the Canal all the way to the end of the century, compelling no reduction whatsoever in the size of the notoriously racist "Southern Command," the U.S. Armed Forces unit that actually rules the Canal Zone. All 14 U.S. military bases may be maintained up to the year 2000, continuing their function as the hemispheric center for training the elite troops of "friendly" Latin American rulers in counter-insurgency warfare. In return, Panama is to receive all of \$60 million a year from

canal revenues. Little noted, but much appreciated by Torrijos, was an agreement granting him \$50 million in military assistance for "internal and external security."

As for the 21st century, a separate treaty assures the U.S. the right to keep the canal "permanently neutral," a provision Torrijos admitted "places us under the Pentagon's defense umbrella."

That such a thoroughly imperial document faces an uncertain future, with three months of committee hearings, as well as a planned filibuster against it from the ultra-right inside the Senate, is a measure not of how much Carter is "giving away," but of the divisions within U.S. capitalism about how best to continue its exploitation of Latin America.

The right-wing, here and throughout the world, is ready for totalitarian answers. So extreme is the jingoism of a Thurmond or a Reagan, that "flying the U.S. flag" over the Zone becomes the rallying cry for a battle over the treaty, with Carter lining up the likes of Dean Rusk and Henry Kissinger on his side. Rusk promptly assured the House International Relations Committee that any U.S. military intervention in Panama "would be in a far stronger position . . . under the treaties of 1977 than under the anachronistic treaty of 1903."

GUEST LIST OF MURDERERS

What unites both capitalistic sides on this "debate" is their insistence that all Latin America shall remain under U.S. domination — whether that means outright ownership, as in Puerto Rico, or the numerous neo-colonialisms in which U.S.-directed counter-revolutions are currently in the ascendancy. Virtually every one can be found by examining the Treaty celebration guest list.

From Torrijos' own Panama, which has exiled and imprisoned hundreds of student and worker opponents, to Videla's Argentina, where left opponents have been gunned down, kidnapped or simply made to disappear — it has never been clearer that the real opposition to U.S. rule is not any narrow nationalism of leaders demanding a "better deal" from Carter, but the revolutionary opposition of the masses to both their own rulers and U.S. imperialism.

That is what was developing in Chile 1970-73, and sending revolutionary impulses throughout Latin Amer-

ica. The fact that the fourth anniversary of the U.S.-organized fascist coup which drowned revolutionary Chile in blood coincided not only with the new oppression of the Canal Treaty and Carter greeting Pinochet in the White House, but with new sparks of revolt in Colombia, Mexico, Brazil and Bolivia, demands that U.S. revolutionists recognize now their responsibilities for genuine international solidarity. Those responsibilities begin with the needed revolution right here at home, where the past year has seen the Latino/Chicano revolt emerging all across the country.

In Chicago's Humbolt Park revolt, and in the NY blackout events, Puerto Rican and Chicano youth joined with the Black masses to expose the unbridgeable gulf between two worlds in the centers of America's cities.

Never has the urgency been greater to recognize the new forces and new ideas emerging both in Latin America and in the USA. The rulers already have their version of hemispheric solidarity. For us, acts of solidarity and a philosophy of liberation must be inseparable from each other and from a determination to see that philosophy actualized. For it is only then that the Americas, North and South, can begin their true history.

News & Letters

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'ULTIMATE' WEAPONS

The new machine gun that got publicity this summer is the ultimate in automated crowd control weapons. At 33 rounds a second, a burst only a second and a half long is equal to a shot from a 12 gauge riot shotgun. It has zero recoil, so anyone can fire it with no training. A "laser" gunsight casts a six inch circle of light on the target at 50 yards, which the gun shoots right into, so anyone can be a marksman with no training. Gun magazines gloat over how the beam terrifies crowds of prison inmates when played over them. It uses greased bullets, which cause infections that antibiotics don't work well on. One officer with this gun could replace half a dozen with riot guns in an urban riot. And, like the neutron bomb, it is quite gentle on property. So now, in the great tradition of the continuous miner — the continuous shotgun.

Teacher
Chicago

The only reason I didn't get too excited about the neutron bomb at first is because I have been reading all the time that this country has enough bombs to kill everybody five times over, and then that Russia is developing bombs to kill us all ten times over, and on and on. How many times can they kill us? Once, is all I figure.

Retired Worker
Detroit

People say that the neutron bomb is insanity but I think it is really logical for capitalism to have developed. They have always cared more for their machines and equipment than for the human beings that work them. People who don't work in factories are seeing what we have been talking about all along.

Auto Worker
Detroit

WOMEN'S LIBERATION

I was very happy that Judge Archie Simonson of Dane County, Wisconsin, who said that rape is a "normal reaction" to women's "provocative dress,"

lost his seat in a recall election to a feminist — Ms. Moria Krueger. In the 1960s I was part of one of the first anti-rape groups in the country that had published a pamphlet, *Stop Rape*. Just by word of mouth we would receive hundreds of orders for that little pamphlet every week. It is the same kind of response from women that recalled Judge Simonson.

Feminist
Chicago

Though we have been warned that there will be room for only the actual delegates and official observers at the IWY meeting in Texas in November, we hear there are large numbers of women from all parts of the country determined to go and make their voices heard, even to setting up alternative meetings. Please ask readers who are interested to contact N&L for and with more information.

WL-N&L Member
New York

The quality of N&L made me particularly distressed to read in the last issue on the Women's page, that, "There were thousands of Japanese women and women of other ethnic groups who could not attend (the IWY conference) because their husbands would not allow them to." An equally racist retort, but better founded, would be to say that I have never known a Japanese woman who unwillingly obeyed her husband.

A Japanese-American Woman
New York

FASCISM AND ANTI-FASCISM

You will have read of the recent successes of the openly Nazi National Front here. The Ladywood bye-election gave them third place, beating the Liberals. Other NF activities have not been so widely publicized. During the past month five left-wing bookshops have been attacked, one almost burnt down after petrol was poured through the letter box and ignited. Each time racist stickers were pasted on the windows.

Sympathy for fascism is becoming almost "respectable." The Daily Telegraph carried a leading article calling for the

release of Rudolf Hess, not on "humanitarian" grounds but because of the "illegality" of the Nuremberg Tribunal, and regretting that those hanged cannot be released along with him.

The mass media have launched into an unprecedented vicious attack on the anti-fascist demonstrators at Lewisham, singling out the SWP, which was, indeed, the main organizer, but whose members represented a tiny minority that did all it could to restrain its supporters. It's a made-to-order situation for the Tories, who are demanding even greater police powers to deal with "left-wing hooligans." The Left may not appreciate the totality of the liberation struggle, but our rulers surely do.

Bob Potter
England

Most militant of the anti-fascists at the Aug. 13 Lewisham rally here were the Black youth who, in terms of education, housing, jobs and recreation facilities, are at the bottom of the social pile. To add insult to injury, they are blamed for everything from mugging to rape, and are subjected to racist attacks by police and fascists. In Lewisham, they showed a willingness and ability to fight back.

At the moment, the National Front is an embarrassment to the ruling class, which prefers to rely on more respectable outfits such as the National Association For Freedom. Indeed, the Tory leader, Ms. Thatcher, has sought to label fascism a "left-wing" movement and lumps fascists and socialists together as violent extremists and enemies of democracy.

While defending the fascists' "right" to stage provocative racist demonstrations, the Tories will use anti-fascist counter-demonstrations and other militant working class actions, like the mass pickets at Grunwicks, as an excuse to strengthen the powers of the police and

Reader

step up repression. The movement from below, especially of the youth hardest hit by the crisis, will ensure that these plans come unstuck.

Terry Liddle
London

HUMAN RIGHTS

The Coalition for Human Rights, a group formed to fight sexism and discrimination against gays, organized a march of over 300 men and women to the UN Plaza here to demand that human rights be made concrete for everyone. The lack of action on gay rights is indicative of the lack of rights protection for all people. The right-wing attacks on Blacks, Jews, and gays, especially after the Miami referendum in June, has forced the gay movement to be a revolutionary movement encompassing all people's struggles.

Supporter
San Francisco

When I read that the U.S. chapter of Amnesty International has adopted the Wilmington 10 as "prisoners of conscience" and called on North Carolina Governor James Hunt to grant them an immediate pardon, I was reminded this was exactly the point you had hammered at in your *Worker's Journal* in the June issue. The jails of this country are also full of political prisoners.

Supporter
Detroit

TWO ANGRY VIEWERS

Yes, anti-Semitism takes many forms, indeed. Who would have believed ten years ago that a movie like "The Eagle Has Landed," in which all the heroes are Nazis, could have been shown without a single sign of protest from anywhere? I was so incensed when I saw it — so insulted that I was asked to accept a Nazi officer (debonaire Michael Caine),

TWO WORLDS

by Raya Dunayevskaya
Author of **PHILOSOPHY AND REVOLUTION**
and **Marxism and Freedom**

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Below are brief excerpts from Raya Dunayevskaya's Perspectives Report at the National Editorial Board Meeting of News and Letters Committees, convened over Labor Day weekend. The full report can be ordered from News & Letters for 50¢ plus postage. See ad, page 7, for the complete table of contents.)

NO SPOT ON the globe is free from getting sucked into the world market and its power politics. The latest little country, that literally has no wealth at all, over which imperialism could fight is Djibouti. Nevertheless, its achievement of independence disclosed not only the neighboring powers looking hungrily at it, but the Big Powers as well. Because it is a port, and thus a key to the Red Sea, one of the powers looking hungrily at it now, Ethiopia, has one of the two superpowers, Russia, on its side.

Poor Ethiopia. There is hardly any other country that is falling apart quite like it. Besides Eritrea fighting for its independence and Somalia claiming a good part of Ethiopia for its "Greater Somalia," there are no less than five resistance movements within the country fighting the military regime. Here is (was) the second largest country on the African continent, with a fertile soil that used to be the envy of Africa, and the one and only country in Black Africa that was independent when the rest were colonies . . .

Yet with the 1960s initiating Black Revolution throughout Africa, the one that was not successful was in "independent" Ethiopia. And now the very military regime that overthrew Haile Selassie and has the opportunist affront to call itself "Marxist" is the very one to carry on old imperialist adventures against Eritrea and Somalia, as well as counter-revolutions against the resistance movements of the Ethiopian masses. As it is

WORLD PERSPECTIVES—1977-1978

disintegrating from all these battles within and without, in comes Russia (and of course Cuban "advisors") despite the fact of Russia's critical previous alliance with Somalia, where it already has naval and air base facilities at Berbera which are vital to the Indian Ocean's strategic balance.

THE MIDDLE EAST has been and remains the main immediate point of crisis. But Russia has now lost out in Egypt, and despite holding on tightly to the PLO and Syria, it is not overly secure in the Middle East; is very much shaken up also in India; therefore any entrance to the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea is crucial to it. As if it wasn't bad enough for a country calling itself Communist to participate in these myriad capitalistic-imperialistic double-crosses, we also have the situation that while it's certainly in the forefront in its anti-Zionist, anti-Israel anti-Semitism, it is finding itself aiding Ethiopia as is Israel.

One thing that happens not to have gotten much attention is that the Red Sea, which Saudi Arabia wants to make into an "Arab lake" while Ethiopia used to sound more revolutionary in its insistence that the Red Sea was in African "territory" and in any case was a world waterway, is that the Red Sea is also the outlet to the Port of Elat. Saudi Arabia is offering some very fancy gold to Djibouti to close its port to Ethiopia.

Now — as if all these points of crisis were not enough of a crazy quilt pattern of little power alliances, Big Power alliances, in the volatile Horn of Africa — enter China which is asking the U.S. to make sure to stop Russia's power play in Africa, all the while having both West and East, North and South, believe it is Taiwan that is the issue!

No, it is by no means a question of who of the powers is the "wiser" and who is making the "fatal" mistake in the Horn, or even whether there will be room for oil tankers to travel through the Red Sea to the West, but who will finally get single global control in this state-capitalistic age.

OUTSIDE OF THE theory of protracted guerrilla war, Mao's most original theoretical-practical-philosophic-revolutionary contribution is the primacy of superstructure over economic base, ideology over the relations at the point of production which he vilified as "economism," with culture itself being ordered to shed its life and turn "proletarian."

Mao "died" at the moment he "signed" Lin Piao's
(Continued on Page 7)

WHO WE ARE

News & Letters was founded in 1955, the year of the Detroit wildcats against Automation and the Montgomery, Ala. Bus Boycott against segregation — activities which signalled new movements from practice, which were themselves a form of theory. News & Letters was created so that the voices from below could be heard, and the unity of worker and intellectual, philosophy and revolution, could be worked out for our age. A Black production worker, Charles Denby, is the editor.

The paper is the monthly publication of News and Letters Committees, an organization of Marxist-Humanists that stands for the abolition of capitalism, whether in its private form as in the U.S., or in its state form calling itself Communist, as in Russia and China. The National Chairwoman, Raya Dunayevskaya, is the author of *Philosophy and Revolution* and *Marxism and Freedom* which spell out the philosophic ground of Marx's Humanism for our age internationally, as *American Civilization on Trial* concretizes it on the American scene. In opposing this capitalistic, exploitative, racist, sexist society, we participate in all freedom struggles and do not separate the mass activities of workers, Blacks, women and youth from the activity of thinking. We invite you to join with us both in the freedom struggles and in working out a theory of liberation for our age.

Views

fresh from the Polish front, who doesn't know Jews are being exterminated; admire the humane Nazi troops who trap themselves because they heroically rush to save a poor little English girl from drowning; cheer the beating of an English country-boy who apparently deserves to be shot because he is going to reveal the presence of the Nazis in his village—that I was shaking with rage when I left the theater. Butz is not the only one, apparently, asking us to believe that the slaughter of six million Jews was "just a Jewish hoax." The film should be picketed to protest a deadly rewriting of history.

Angry
Philadelphia

The ABC-TV series, "Soap," which premiered last week, is one of the worst examples of the destruction of thought which characterizes our time. Its whole theme is to treat the most serious problems in human relationships, particularly sexism, in a frivolous light as though it were simply part of the "fun of life." It is also racist, with a Black character set in the worst "Amos 'n Andy" stereotype, and anti-Semitic with one young woman obviously representing the stereotype of the Jewish woman as a sexual animal. And the choice of Celtic names for the families involved may not have been such an accident either.

One Very Angry Person
Detroit

WCCC STRIKE

The story of the strike at Wayne County Community College could be subtitled: "Choose your poison—a house union or the UAW." A friend of mine belongs to the association of semi-professional employees which returned to work after a month while the UAW Local 1796 was still out. Not only was she made to work overtime 7 days a week for no extra pay but she had to

do the work of the UAW members. When she refused, the association did not support her and she was told to do the work or stay out until the UAW settled.

More of the work of the UAW members is being done at the Channel 56 (Public Broadcasting System) computer terminals, despite the fact that one of their board members is a prominent UAW official. I can imagine what the strikers on the picket lines are saying about that!

Observer
Detroit

LOOKING IN THE RIGHT PLACE

In East Harlem and the South Bronx, there are a lot of people looking for a better thing, but not looking in the right place. Lots of 16 and 17-year-olds have just been working hard for the election of Herman Badillo for mayor, just because he's a Latino and he's there. But Badillo offers nothing, no alternative. He can't even get a job for one poor person, so what can he do for a mass? He said we have to rebuild the ghettos so the poor will stay there, and not chase the middle class out of New York!

Esteban Gonzales
New York

A lotta yakking's going on about an alien-amnesty law . . .

However, hardly anyone is focusing on the needle's eye through which that hobbled camel must be driven—No amnesty law will clear the magnolia swamps or the Senate Judiciary Committee unless Jim Eastland wants it to, in the form he wants.

Rey Davis
Los Angeles

The blackout was an unfortunate way for the poor man to express his frustra-

tion with the system. It wasn't directly against the people who've been oppressing and exploiting us. One way or another, though, it reached the system. They had to lay out money, create emergency funds, to help re-establish the businesses. One thing we found out is that when the city wants to act, it can.

Puerto Rican Taxi Driver
New York

PHILOSOPHY AND REVOLUTION

It is horrendous that after the Republican Gov. Thompson, of Illinois, out of "conscience," vetoed a bill that would ban the right to public assistance for elective abortion, Jesse Jackson of PUSH came out opposing this woman's right and has joined the conservative Illinois Pro-Life (sic) Coalition to fight Thompson's veto.

For Jackson to wind up to the right of a Republican governor of so racist and sexist a state as Illinois in 1977, means more than that today's Black leadership is stagnant — it is reeling backwards at an unprecedented rate. As a Black man, I have no doubt that Black (and white) women will deal with the Carters of this world, but it will take a new form of Black thought and leadership to deal with the Jesse Jacksons within the movement.

WL Supporter
Los Angeles

After our initial exuberance when the Parti Quebecois won the Nov. 15 elections, it is alarming to see how quickly the party leadership has moved to the right. The most shocking sign is the Sept. 9 unveiling of a statue of Maurice Duplessis, the dyed-in-the-wool fascist dictator who ruled Quebec with an iron hand from 1936 to 1959, except for most of the war years.

Under his regime, he had a private army (the "Liquor Police"), women had neither the right to vote nor own property, nor any rights in marriage, there were no secular schools—the Church ran everything, and huge areas of Quebec were signed away to U. S. corporations. He persecuted the Native peoples

mercilessly. His anti-labor persecutions are beyond description!

What is so startling is that this total retrogression has taken place so rapidly. To drag out the most hated symbol of Quebec's murky past (which sat for years in a warehouse full of illegal pinball machines) is a total betrayal of those who voted PQ in hopes of a better society. Opposition to the PQ leadership will not be long in coming.

Calum Weir
Quebec

The 30,000 protesters, from all over Europe and England, who came to Grays-Malville in France to demonstrate against a huge fast-breeder nuclear reactor, were students, women, scientists, small farmers, and local officials. They are left-oriented, but they had to battle the established "Marxist" parties, unions, and their pro-nuclear governments.

What happened in the United States that less than 10,000 participated in the 1977 Abolish All Nuclear Weapons Campaign? In the Northern California Committees the same situation as in Europe was reflected. The pro-Russian and pro-China groups, the trade unions ("build nuclear plants—we need jobs for our members"), the established parties, were all conspicuously absent.

Future actions will see the rising of the new passions and the new forces of this nuclear age.

Anti-Nuclear Protester
Bay Area

The UAW's recent disgusting steamroller take-over of the fledgling Michigan Labor History Society made me wonder what the intellectuals and academics in MLHS expected to give birth to when they went to bed with both the UAW and the CP? For real labor history, in the past, present and especially the future revolutionary tense — from Charles Denby's Worker's Journal, to the Auto Shops, to Raya Dunayevskaya's Two Worlds column, I heartily recommend the newest bound volume of N&Ls.

Marxist-Humanist
Detroit



Chicago Latinos fight grand jury harassment

(Following is an article by a Puerto Rican woman activist in the Chicago Committee to End the Grand Jury—Ed.)

Chicago, Ill. — Robert Calderon, Pedro Archuetta, Jose Lopez and his brother were all asked to speak to the grand jury investigating bombings in New York and Chicago.

They refused and were sent to jail in August, where they're supposed to stay until the Grand jury ends its session — February, 1978.

When Judge Parsons tried to eliminate the grand jury audience, we appealed and won. The courtroom was packed and there was a lot of security. In one court session, a man was on his way to the door to seat people coming in, and the sheriff told him to sit down. The man sat down, but got up to seat another person.

When the sheriff grabbed him by the throat and was dragging him out of the courtroom, everybody jumped on the sheriff. A fistfight erupted, and two persons were arrested. Judge Parsons then ordered that no more audiences be involved, and told everybody to get out of the courtroom.

Judge Parsons has seen what has been going on — the Humbolt Park incident, and then what happened in his own court. What he and others are trying to do is put down this new fever that has erupted in our commu-

nity and in Puerto Rico. They think that by harassing us, by grabbing the leaders, they might be able to suppress the political independence movement.

In New York, there are some political leaders, like Badillo. Here in Chicago, we don't have a leader as such. I see it as a benefit, because that's when the people can really say what they feel. We have masses of people with ideas to bring out, and there's no Badillo in the way telling us which road we have to take.

People in the Latino community in Chicago have been boycotting schools because of the bad school system, and boycotting the banks because they are not servicing our community. It's evident that there is no apathy. It's when our own people that we have hopes on, that we really push, don't get us anywhere, that we become apathetic.

But the people in the community are really angry now, and those that think they might be called to testify for the grand jury are completely defiant and say they're not going to cooperate. The Committee to End the Grand Jury is having a march at the jail complex to try to get Jose and the others out, and we're trying to get monies to continue the case and for the people involved.

Contributions can be sent to: Committee to End the Grand Jury, 3700 W. Grand, Chicago, Ill. 60651. —Celia de Burgos

Inuit protest language bill

By Shainape Shecapwe

I have been hearing a lot recently about the protest by the Inuit people of Northern Quebec against the Parti Quebecois' (PQ) French Language Charter, Bill 101. The bill makes French the language of government and education except for people whose parents were taught English or who meet other special criteria.

When the Inuit in four communities demanded that provincial officials leave until the dispute was settled, the province sent 25 heavily-armed riot police into the communities of Ft. Chimo and Great Whale River. The Inuit then cut off water and garbage collection to the offices, but the officials have not left so there seems to be a stalemate as of this writing.

The protest is not just that the Inuit do not want to use French as a second language — they are afraid that French will be forced on them as a first language, denying them any choice at all. Until 13 years ago, the provincial government refused to have any dealings with native peoples and since dealings with them were handled by the federal government in Ottawa, English became the second language.

English has even become important in communicating with other Inuit people since the dialects of the Inuit language, Inuktituk, are very different and English is the only way a Quebec Inuit can speak with an Inuit from Alaska or Greenland. Under the bill, an Inuit who moved to Quebec from outside the province would be required to learn French.

The Inuit are protesting the bill on the grounds that it violates the James Bay Agreement which guarantees them the right to determine what language their children will be taught. But the Inuit have not been happy with other terms of the agreement and many wonder if the protest might also be a way to keep it from being proclaimed by the deadline of Nov. 11 this year. Both Quebec and Ottawa, as well as the U.S., are anxious to get their hands on Northern Quebec's vast hydro-electric power, which the James Bay Agreement would permit.

The Inuits' fear of being forced to learn French seems to be justified since in spite of Levesque's assurances that they would be allowed to keep their own language, as soon as the Parti Quebecois came to power, all communication from the provincial government was done in French and French was spoken at government meetings even by officials who had spoken English before.

Unfortunately, there are splits within the Inuit people over the protest, with some not feeling that strongly about it. There is also a split with some Cree leaders who are satisfied both with Bill 101 and with the James Bay Agreement.

But this is no small matter, and those who are protesting are being very firm in refusing all provincial services, including welfare checks. The protest should not just be seen as a way for Ottawa to make trouble for Quebec which is how Quebec has been responding. A friend writes that the protest "is something quite new in the North and represents an important step."

The PQ needs to take the language protest seriously because it was formed itself around the same issue — by people who needed to speak and think and work in their own language and culture. The Inuit should not have to protest. The PQ should recognize their right to self-determination.

Thousands protest Guatemala police role in student murders

(The following eyewitness report was sent from a correspondent in Guatemala—Ed.)

Throughout the '70s, the right-wing military governments of Guatemala have been fairly successful in suppressing any large-scale and open opposition to the status quo. Nevertheless, there is wide-spread dissatisfaction throughout the country, and there are signs that some of it may surface in the near future.

One such sign was the massive reaction of students throughout the country to the abduction, torture and killing of two students from Guatemala City during the month of August.

One student was Lionel Caballeros, vice-president of the student body of the Instituto Rafael Aqueche, a government secondary school. After having been forced into an automobile by armed men, described by his classmates as "secret police," he was beaten for two days and strangled.

At the same time, Robin Mayro Garcia, a young student of agronomy at the National University, was also abducted. Immediately, all government high schools were in an uproar and thousands of students demonstrated before the National Palace, the seat of government, protesting the killing of Caballeros and demanding the return of the kidnapped Mayro Garcia.

A few days later, Mayro Garcia's body was found near the capital. Near his body was a leaflet with the initials "E.S.A.," the so-called "Anti-Communist Secret Army," a paramilitary organization which appeared in recent weeks in Guatemala. The students maintain, however, that both victims were originally captured by security personnel.

The government secondary schools went on strike in protest. They were warned, however, by Interior

Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz against any further demonstrations. But public indignation at the entire incident grew to such proportions that finally President Kjell Laugarud acknowledged that "some off-duty police may have been collaborating with the paramilitary groups."

He had to overrule his Interior Minister by allowing the students to demonstrate if they so wished. The funeral procession for the students involved tens of thousands of mourners in Guatemala City, and demonstrations took place in all major cities of the country. —Dee Watson

(precio: \$4)

(precio: \$5)

Dos obras esenciales del Humanismo-Marxista por Raya Dunayevskaya

Mande a:
**News & Letters, 1900 E. Jefferson,
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Racist union shafts cabbies

New York, N. Y. — Some weeks ago, I was shocked to receive a paper in the mail which described the death of two cab drivers in robberies by teenagers and called for the death penalty for the 15-year-olds as the solution. It was the Taxi Drivers' Voice, a union paper paid for out of workers' dues.

After descending to such depths, the union leadership met with Mayor Beame, who's since come out for the death penalty, too. He also promised additional police patrols.

Another "victory" the union paper played up was the Port Authority's refusal to allow Long Island cabbies to pick up at Kennedy Airport. Still another "victory" was the City Council's annual refusal to legalize the gypsy cabs which serve the Black and Hispanic communities — where yellow cabs often refuse to go. However, in the latter case, the City Council, remembering the pro-gypsy demonstration several years ago, refused the racist union leadership's demand to "crack down" on the gypsies.

If these are our enemies, according to the union, then who are our friends? You guessed it — besides Mayor Beame, our friends are the fleet owners. Hardly a word has been printed against them in months, and a big spread recently praised them for cooperating with the scholarship fund. Was anyone surprised when the scholarship recipients were almost all relatives of union bureaucrats?

Meanwhile, thousands of taxi jobs keep disappearing as fleets sell out to minis, and the union doesn't even say a word about it. —Taxi driver

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By Peter Wermuth and Jim Mills

The Kent State University student protest against the construction of a gym on Blanket Hill, where National Guards murdered four students on May 4, 1970, has caught the attention of students nationwide. We just returned from a national rally on Sept. 24, which was held on the Commons, the very spot where the anti-war protest was held that ended in the slaughter in 1970. It gave you a tremendous feeling of history and you knew why the university is determined to destroy that memory.

From the beginning, the administration's actions typified the callousness that caused the murders in 1970. No less than 52 sites are available on campus for the gym, and half a dozen plans for alternate sites were drawn up prior to the selection of Blanket Hill. A recent poll showed 70 percent of the students are against the gym site, and construction may result in a \$30-per-semester tuition raise.

In the face of continuing threats of imminent construction, 1000 students from as far away as Texas and New York poured into Kent. Several students told us Kent's national attraction is because the struggle raises the spectre of both the student movement of the 1960s and the brutal capitalistic nature of today's university. Another 1000 students and supporters from the Ohio area turned out for the mass rally, called by the May 4 Coalition, which was formed by Kent students on May 4, 1977.

One coalition member said, "We've been fighting for over four months, and this has given me a feeling of power, of being in history, of being at a turning point. We feel our power. The administrators, they have the might, but we have the power."

But one thing threatening that power is the stranglehold over the Coalition attempted by one Maoist organization, the Revolutionary Student Brigade (RSB). One RSB member, in discussing their fight with a rival Maoist group, the October League, actually admitted that all the Kent State struggle meant to him was a chance to prove to China which party "would lead mass struggle." He reduced the great Sept. 24 demonstration to a mere

Kent State at the crossroads

warm-up for their planned Communist Youth League founding convention in October.

Many Kent State students who were early activists in the Coalition but dropped out of it over the strongarm tactics of the vanguardists, as well as those who remain members though alienated by the same things, nevertheless turned out for this rally.

A deeper problem is the separation of white and Black students during the four-month struggle. Many students wear T-shirts with "Remember the Spirit of Kent and Jackson State" on them.

But after the Black United Students (BUS) of Kent State occupied the Student Center in May to protest cuts in their budget (in the same week that the May 4th Coalition was born in another occupation), few white students recognized the undercurrent of Black revolt disclosed by the BUS occupation and its integrality in establishing the ground for all activity this summer.

One Black student said that in 1972 they had also been alone in their fight to stop the Administration from tearing down their institute of Black culture to "make room for" the Business Administration building.

The Kent State struggle can become a nationwide point of departure only if the activity is not separated from what Blacks, on and off campus, are saying. By developing this needed unity both at coalition meetings and in the ongoing protests, Kent State will be remembered not alone for the murders of 1970, but also for the creativity of 1977.

Detroit readers — don't miss
Speakers from Black United Students and
May 4 Coalition, Kent State University

STRUGGLES AT KENT STATE

- Against the gym on Blanket Hill
- Against attacks on Black programs

Thursday, October 6, 4:30 p.m.

Wayne State University Student Center Building

Co-sponsored by CADRE & WSU-N&L Youth Com.

BLACK-RED VIEW

by John Alan

During the last few months, while Ambassador Andrew Young and the British Foreign Secretary, David Owen, were traveling between Lagos, Lusaka and Johannesburg, in their futile efforts to bring about what they call, "constitutional settlement" of the Zimbabwe civil war, reverberations of last year's Soweto revolt could be heard all over South Africa.

In Soweto, resistance to the "Bantu educational policy" of the apartheid government become pronounced when all 700 teachers of the 40 high schools quit their jobs "until the teaching arena is cleaned." The teachers decided on mass resignations to prevent the efforts of the government to break a month-long boycott of the students, who were demanding the end of the system of inferior education.

At the same time, in Cape Town, more than 900 miles from Johannesburg, Black and white were demonstrating against the demolition of a shanty town where many of Cape Town's Black workers lived. This demonstration was aimed to thwart the government policy of assigning Blacks to "home lands," far from the urban centers where nine million Black South Africans live and work.

This is the crux of the apartheid policy whose sole purpose is to reduce Black labor to the status of "pure labor power," maintaining a resource which white capitalism can tap at will, and, when not needed, send back to the barren "home lands."

The government has not abated in its ferocious attempts to suppress resistance to apartheid. It is a continuous day-to-day activity in South Africa, taking ever new forms despite the fact that this summer, nine members of the African National Congress (ANC) have been sentenced to life imprisonment under the "Suppression of Terrorism Act."

Why is News & Letters so concerned over the Soweto revolt of last year? Is it any different from all the other resistance actions against apartheid, the pass laws and racial oppression we have witnessed in South Africa? Is Soweto more important than the strike of the Black miners in 1946, or the Sharpeville massacre, or all the organizations that Black South Africans have built since 1912 to combat oppression? And is Soweto more significant than the position that the Pan African Congress (PAC) advocated when it turned its back on "liberalism" and called upon the Indians and "Coloured" people to unite with the Black majority to fight white oppression?

One must examine the Soweto revolt to understand it as a turning point in the history of Black liberation struggles in South Africa, and not just lump it together with everything that preceded it.

Soweto took place at a time when all the old organizations were neutralized by oppressive police action. It took place at a time when there was no visible leadership. Therefore it took place outside of the leadership of the old organizations and without them. As the revolt developed, in the course of conflict, new fluid organizational forms sprang up that could not easily be detected

Soweto—new turning point

or destroyed by the police.

Its leadership was the unknown leadership of the revolutionary youth, who by sheer passion (a quality of revolutionary struggle), could reach out in a democratic way, via consultation, to their parents, to women, to other students, and above all, to the working class, bringing them all within the orbit of revolutionary struggle.

Although the Left did not grasp the full revolutionary nature of the Soweto revolt, it did not go unnoticed in Washington. Much of the outside impetus on Kissinger and Vorster to settle the Zimbabwe question at that time undoubtedly came from the Soweto revolt. Ian Smith had to be brought into line before white rule was threatened in all of Southern Africa.

To discover the revolutionary new in the Soweto revolt should be the task of the Black radical intellectuals. That is to say, if they are to be viable, they must discover and meet the practice of the Soweto revolt with a comparable theory of the African and American revolutions-to-come.

Racist abuse kills Black girl

Chicago, Ill. — In the Bogan area of Chicago, where white mobs of parents and teenagers appeared daily at the opening of schools, screaming racist epithets at grade-school Black children one Black student, seven-year-old Mellaine Turner, died from sickle-cell anemia.

When doctors claimed that stress could have precipitated the death, one TV station focused on the responsibility of Black parents to "shield their children."

With the opening of school this year, a plan was implemented to allow students to voluntarily transfer from overcrowded Black schools to less crowded white schools. The white leaders of the Bogan Community Council told Chicago Mayor Bilandic that if this plan went into effect, the "KKK and the Nazi Party are waiting to take over the leadership of our community."

When a white policeman openly declared to the Board of Education that he and many white officers would not defend Black children transferred to white schools, Police Superintendent Rochford came to his defense. That's when even Jesse Jackson of PUSH, who has long said the "days of marching are over," decided to march against City Hall to demand that the children be protected.

This, after the city has obtained a permanent injunction to stop Black civil rights groups from trying to march for open housing and an end to racist violence in Marquette Park.

Many Black "leaders" joined the chorus of criticism in the white-press of the King Movement Coalition for "provoking" white racism. Yet the whole of white southwest Chicago has produced a wave of violence against Blacks, with white mobs going after any Blacks isolated in the area.

TWO WORLDS

(Continued from Page 5)

death warrant, and rolled out the red carpet for Nixon. It is from that moment that the question of a triangular world, a possible alignment with U.S. imperialism, was placed on the historic agenda . . . China can challenge the bi-polar world not simply because it has 800 million people, but because it also has the H-bomb and can become an important industrial power. Which is why it was "necessary" for Mao to die, and with him, the illusions of the Little Red Book.

It may still happen that it will be the Middle East, now that Likud's reactionary victory has brought Menachem Begin to power and thus further heated up that volatile region, that will be the first to detonate war. But what will call into question humanity's very survival is the tri-polar struggle for single world domination. Which is why what is happening in China remains so pivotal.

BECAUSE THE CRISIS is so total and revolt so continuous, it no sooner stops in one place, be it China or Paris, May 1968, or Portugal, 1975 — when it arises in Soweto. This year it is not only South Africa but what seems to have no direct connection with it — the Black-out in New York — which disclosed the true intercontinental character of the Black Dimension. Which is why so simple a matter as an accidental Blackout in New York acted as expose of the Achilles heel of American capitalism, its racism — the imperial carrier of poverty to the Blacks in America as in Africa.

It is by no accident that what we plan for next year on the Black struggles in the U.S., in Africa, in Latin America, especially the Caribbean, is seen in the very title of our projected pamphlet: Frantz Fanon, Soweto, and American Black Thought, for we cannot forget that Frantz Fanon was neither African nor American, but West Indian . . .

It is because there is a totality of mind, body, and heart in the spontaneous movement of masses from force to Reason, that, from the start of the American enslavement of the Blacks, the triangular trade of slaves, molasses and sugar from Africa, to Latin America, to the U.S., became the triangular exchange of aspirations for freedom on every subject from nationalism to culture to new human relations . . . At this moment, nothing short of the totality of transformation of all human relations can act as banner. It is to that end that our Black Thought pamphlet aims.

BUT THIS IS NOT the place to spell out the concrete activities, especially the expansion of News & Letters. What you see before you in the bound volume of N&L for seven long years gives you one view of the world none other gives you. The point is now to become not just a reader as we expand but writers-editors yourselves. Let your voices be heard, and your thoughts and your labors. Again, just as you will get an Organization Report, you will have a N&L report, and Youth and Women's Liberation will follow.

I am mentioning them in passing only to stress that the politicalization begun with the Political-Philosophic Letters will first now be extended in the way in which we function in the Movement, in other organizations, and in our organizational - philosophic - political - membership growth as the warp and woof of philosophy in action — and action as the remaking of the world, beginning with preparations for the American Revolution, not because we are under the illusion that we are now in a pre-revolutionary situation but because we know that the totality of the capitalist crisis is such that for them time is running out. For us it has just begun.

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OUR LIFE AND TIMES

by Peter Mallory and Ron Brokmeyer

Anniversary of Mao's death marked by China's revision of Mao's Thought

The first anniversary of the death of Mao Tse-tung has been marked by the opening (to high officials only) of his tasteless Stalin-type monument, housing a pretentious crystal coffin, the beginning of a series of revelations of his life style, and revisions of his very often contradictory thought through the official party organs—*Liberation Army Daily*, the theoretical journal *Red Flag*, and the *Peoples Daily*.

It has been revealed that in 1954, only five years after assuming power, Mao had set up a special "body guard" and a secret intelligence Unit #8341. It consisted of several thousand selected officers, whose duties were to guard top Communist officials and to report on conditions throughout the country directly to Mao, by-passing the Party, the State, and all other Communist Party officials. The unit was and still is headed by Wang Tung-hsing, who is now a member of the Politburo.

In setting up the unit, Mao instructed that "All documents sent out in the name of the Central Committee can be dispatched only after I have gone over them, otherwise they are invalid."

Through Unit #8341, which has its offices in

the leadership enclave known as Chungnanhai at the western end of the Imperial Forbidden City, Wang Tung-hsing was able to exercise enough control to arrest Chiang Ch'ing, Mao's widow, and prepare his case against Chiang's "doctored will" and the "gang of four."

The reports state, "Chairman Mao ordered us to select one man from each prefecture throughout China to work in the bodyguard unit. He regarded investigation by these comrades back in their home villages as one of his methods to keep in contact with the rural areas and grasp the situation there."

Now even the sacred "Thoughts of Mao" are to be taken with a grain of salt. Contradictory as they are, the new leadership pretends to follow them while moving as far away as possible from the "Cultural Revolution." To solve the dilemma, the *Peoples Daily* advises that while always correct, Mao's Thought applied only "to a particular question at a given time in given circumstances." They further advise, "Everything he wrote is decided by time, place and conditions." Thus the groundwork is laid for the "anti-revisionists" to revise Mao at will.

It is clear that, just as in December, 1965, Mao instructed us about "tight control of confidential

matters . . . (to) maintain vigilance against sabotage by ghosts and monsters," so it still exists against "the gang of four," or whomever the new ruling bureaucracy so designates any time it chases.

Dateline Tokyo, another revelation comes that alleges Lin Piao used "bombers, warships and flame throwers" in his coup attempt in 1971. Again, though Lin Piao and Chiang Ch'ing were clearly "enemies" and Mao was still alive, and the whole CC maintained Chiang Ch'ing as leader, the article now claims that Chiang Ch'ing "viciously vilified Unit #8341 to be unreliable." But even they cannot produce a document that Mao moved against Chiang. Quite the contrary. As late as 1975, it was she who certainly was with Mao in the move against Teng, if not the actual inspirer of the move.

What is important is not these endless double-crosses among any ruling clique, or even the Sino-Soviet conflict, but the fact that — from the very establishment of the People's Republic of China — GPUs, under Chinese names, that spy on party members as much as on class enemies, are an integral part of state-capitalist regimes calling themselves Communist.

Steven Biko

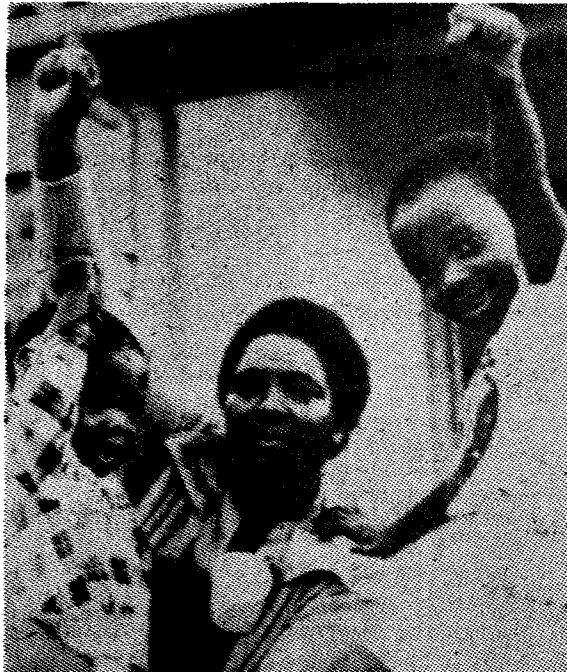
In 1973, Steven Biko, revolutionary activist and thinker in the Black liberation movement of South Africa, was "banned" by government order to the isolation of Kingwilliamstown, where he was forbidden to make public statements, attend meetings, travel, or be published. On Aug. 18, 1977, he was picked up by the State Security police under the infamous Section 6 of the Terrorism Act, which allows permanent detention without charge or trial.

On Sept. 12, they murdered him.

Not a reasonable soul on the face of the earth, and certainly none in Black South Africa, listened for a second to the mouthings of Vorster's Justice Minister, James Kruger, on how Biko died, just as none have believed his explanations of the deaths of 22 other imprisoned activists in the last 18 months.

It is a disgraceful measure of the racist and parochial indifference of these United States, that at his death not even his name was generally known, much less his role as one of the founders of the Black consciousness movement and the new organizations it generated — the Black People's Convention and the South African Students Organization.

In the days that followed Steven Biko's murder, Black South Africa demonstrated to the world what he had represented in his life. At the University of Fort Hare, police with dogs arrested virtually the entire student body as they sang "Nkosi Sikelele Afrika" at a memorial meeting. So powerful was the feeling everywhere, that three days later, when tens of thousands met in Soweto, police did not dare to move in.



The family of Steven Biko—Ntsikie Biko and their children, Sakora, 2 and Nkosinathi, 6.

All across South Africa, the Black masses showed their determination that even the assassination of Steven Biko will not stop the movement for freedom from fascist rule. Mourning itself was transformed, as the powerful memorial meetings became a chorus of freedom songs, a sea of clenched fists. They who were inspired by Steven Biko have, in turn, given inspiration to freedom fighters around the world. Their time has just begun.

Leonid Plyushch

Leonid Plyushch, an official spokesman for the Helsinki Movement, has been speaking in the U.S. about the Stalinist terror in Russia, the crushing of the Helsinki Movement, and the new depth of anti-Semitism in Russia — including the singling out of a Jew, Anatoly Shcharansky, to be tried for treason with a possible death sentence.

Plyushch himself was a Helsinki activist in Russia until February, 1976. He had been branded a schizophrenic and confined in Dnepropetrovsk mental hospital and subjected to painful drug therapy. His testimony and lengthy documentation, along with former Leningrad psychiatrist Marina Voikhanskaya, were instrumental in getting the World Psychiatric Association meeting in Honolulu to censure Russian psychiatry for political abuses.

"A free flow of information would undermine Brezhnev and his people," Plyushch said in his speech in Chicago. He calls Russia a state-capitalist society that is in the throes of an economic crisis. Various Trotskyist groups have been coming to his speeches to attack him. In Chicago, one group had the nerve to attack him for not defending Russia as a "workers' state." Another said Plyushch did not support Arab nationalism.

Plyushch said he did not support any nationalism but was for the right of all national groups, like his own Ukraine, to live separately and independently. He said there is chauvinism on both sides in the Middle East but that the biggest problem there is the interference of the superpowers. That "Arabs are killing Arabs with Russian arms" and fighting "Zionism" for Brezhnev and his people, means putting down any opposition to their totalitarian rule within Russia.

Global economic crises spawn worldwide fascist resurgence

(Continued from Page 1)

past summer who were actually elected as delegates from several states. And a U.S. KKK leader has been invited by the Nazi NF in Britain to start a Klan there.

Just as the Nazis and KKK are openly parading in the U.S., so too the NF is openly violating Britain's "anti-racialist" laws with their vituperative racist and anti-Semitic election campaign.

So unable is the ruling Labor Party in Britain to answer the crisis there—marked by the highest unemployment rate since the end of World War II and daily wildcat strikes by workers—that they have unleashed the police, not against the NF, but against the Blacks, Asians, workers and "left-wing hooligans."

When a call went out from the Black community of Lewisham to stop the Nazis from parading in their streets, well over 5,000 Blacks, workers, and Leftists turned out Aug. 13. And despite the fact that over 4,000 police — one-fourth the entire London force — turned out in full riot gear to protect the NF and viciously beat and arrested over 200 of the anti-fascists, they broke through the police cordon and cut the NF march in two, breaking up the rally and sending the Nazis running for their lives.

In the U.S. too, where Chicago cops openly show their KKK-Nazi sympathies, it was only after Black parents expressed their outrage and were ready to come down themselves to protect the Black school children, that any attempt was made to control the white racists in Bogan Park.

In Skokie, Ill., where the American Civil Liberties Union has the gall to defend the Nazis in the name of abstract "constitutional" rights, it was the Jewish survivors of Hitler's death camps who rallied support to prevent the Nazis from parading through their streets. In Columbus, Ohio, every time the KKK crawled out in their sheets and hoods to hold a rally, they have been met and out-numbered by Black and white counter-demonstrators who have broken up their rallies.

As critical as these confrontations are—and it is imperative that outright fascists be stopped everywhere they appear—the fact must be faced that the NF has gotten too many of its votes from the white British workers, as did George Wallace from many white U.S. workers.

While there have been times this past summer when white labor has overcome its racism and followed its good class instincts—from the thousands of Black and white workers who walked out of unbearably hot auto plants in Detroit, and when they returned, worked together to get fired workers reinstated, to the tens of thousands of workers from all over Britain who rallied in London to support the Grunwicks workers, Asian women, striking for union recognition—white labor has yet fully to face its own racism. In Britain, it begins with no longer acting as if there were no "race question," and facing the fact that it is not the Black and Asian British citizens but capitalism that has created permanent unemployment and the current crisis.

In the U.S., white workers have to face the fact that not only did they support Wallace, but actually

elected near-fascist Nixon, who was only narrowly stopped in his drive for one-party rule.

The naked face of fascism in power today can be seen in that arch citadel of racism, apartheid South Africa, on its way to becoming nuclearly armed. While this fascism, just as all fascism in power, clearly reveals itself to be a vicious barbarism, much more importantly does the Black mass revolt in Soweto and throughout southern Africa show both the method of the movement toward freedom and that the movement for freedom cannot be stopped, despite the government murder of its leaders (see *Our Life and Times*, this page).

The undeniable method of the movement toward freedom is revolution, which is the truth of Soweto as it is everywhere—including the U.S. Certainly the Black masses have always been the vanguard in uprooting the inhuman conditions of U.S. "civilization". However, it has been only when white labor has faced, and overcome, its own racism, that any historic forward movement has been achieved.

Facing up to that racism by white workers is more critical today than ever, because it is no mere "lunatic fringe" of fascists that is emerging everywhere. It is the sign of the depth of the global crisis. And more ominous today than in the 1930s, the capitalist answer to the crisis is the growing threat of fascism, which has always meant the enslavement of its own workers and increased militarization leading to actual war. The latest capitalist weapons, the N-bombs and new missiles-yet-to-come, underline with urgency the fact that time is running out.