

Marines in Lebanon Guard Oil Profits

Eisenhower Action Against Arab People Risks World War III

By Myra Tanner Weiss

JULY 17 — In obvious panic over the advance of the Arab national independence revolution, the trigger-happy Eisenhower Administration, July 14, ordered 5,000 atom-

equipped U.S. marines into the tiny country of Lebanon. The move came on the heels of the revolutionary overthrow in Iraq of King Faisal and his replacement by a regime of young Army officers committed to the Arab national-liberation cause. Faisal's monarchy was the firmest prop in the Arab world of the oil monopolists and of U.S. foreign policy.

The invasion of Lebanon took place under cover of powerful air and sea support. So far the marines have met no resistance as they quickly moved to take over key centers in Beirut, the Lebanese capital.

The next day, July 15, Eisenhower got around to reporting his action to Congress. He admitted there were "risks involved" and that "serious consequences" might ensue. He justified his shocking gamble on the ground that Lebanon's unpopular president, Camille Chamoun, requested the invasion.

The risk Eisenhower took is the danger of World War III. And in any case, there still remains the danger of another Korean slaughter such as began eight years ago under Truman.

In view of the danger of

another World War, U.S. military forces throughout the world were put on an alert. The N. Y. Daily News, July 16, quoted a Defense Department official as stating that "H-bombers, with their nuclear loads, were put on 'improved readiness condition.'" More marines, tactical fighting planes and a Battle Group of 1,600 Army troops from a crack "pentomic" division were airlifted to the Middle East. A "pentomic" division is one equipped with nuclear weapons.

Washington plainly feared a quick Soviet reaction to U.S. war moves. The N. Y. Times, July 16, reported that "pleasure was expressed privately [in Washington] that this had not yet occurred." While the American people were quite unaware of the danger to which they were exposed, both the Pacific and Atlantic fleets were put on a four-hour alert and marines were put to sea from naval bases in North Carolina and Virginia.

Only a few weeks ago, July 3, the Observer Team of the United Nations reported that the Lebanese rebels were primarily Lebanese and that there was little evidence of "infiltration."

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THE MILITANT

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United Socialists Name Top Candidates in N. Y.

Reactionary Bills Gain In Congress

By Herman Chauka

JULY 17 — Under cover of the war danger they themselves created, the bi-partisan rulers in Washington are now pushing for the adoption of new laws that would help gut the Bill of Rights. The House of Representatives is expected to pass a bill that would reinstate state "sedition" laws. The Senate is holding hearings on various passport measures that would badly cripple the Constitutional right of freedom to travel abroad.

The "state's right" bill—under which state "sedition" measures would be legal—has swiftly gained ground since troops were dispatched to Lebanon two days ago. The measure is designed to invalidate the Supreme Court ruling which set aside the conviction of Communist Party leader Steve Nelson under a Pennsylvania "sedition" law. The high court had ruled the state law was not operative because a federal statute—the Smith Act—covered the same subject. The "state's right" bill would permit witch-hunters again to use state measures—along with the Smith Act—to curb free speech.

The bill being voted on in the House provides that federal law would no longer supersede state laws on the same subject unless there is an "irreconcilable" conflict between them, or unless Congress gives specific priority to each new law it passes. The new measure has not yet come up before the Senate, but if the war hysteria now being whipped up reaches a sufficient peak the danger is not excluded that it could be jammed through.

BLOW TO LABOR

If enacted, such a law would deal a body blow to labor, the Negro people and to civil liberties generally. It would mean that Southern laws enforcing

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The Next Task



Lamont, McManus, Rubinstein to Run; Lebanon Invasion Hit

By Harry Ring

NEW YORK, July 18 — At a press conference today, Dr. Corliss Lamont announced his willingness to run as a candidate of the United Independent-Socialist Campaign Committee. A week ago Lamont had declined nomination because of previous commitments which would have interfered with a vigorous campaign. The landing of American and British troops in the Middle East, gravely increasing the threat of World War III, caused him to

put aside all other considerations, the distinguished educator and civil libertarian said in order to speak out for peace.

Two days before this important development, the Committee had announced its nomination of John T. McManus for Governor of New York and Dr. Annette T. Rubinstein for U.S. Senator.

As the Militant went to press the Committee had not yet settled on how Dr. Lamont's candidacy would affect the nomi-

nations for the various offices. Committee members indicated that most likely he would be nominated for Senator or for Governor.

Candidates for the other posts had likewise not yet been decided upon today, but the campaign to put the independent-socialist ticket on the ballot was already in full swing. Headquarters were rented at 799 Broadway, and supporters of the socialist campaign are now mapping out plans for the collection of signatures.

In its July 16 announcement of the nomination of John T. McManus and Dr. Annette T. Rubinstein, the Campaign Committee declared its vigorous opposition to the landing of U.S. Marines in Lebanon.

The committee charged that Washington's action violated the right of self-determination of the Lebanese people and laid the basis for similar intervention in Iraq. It said, "This Korean-type police action is intended solely to defend the interests of such oil billionaires as the Rockefellers in the Mideast. It is a reckless move that could bring a new world war and explosion of the entire planet. The American people must demand a halt to this insane gamble with the fate of humanity."

INITIAL SPONSORS

The United Independent-Socialist Campaign Committee was established by a conference held here, June 13-15. The committee includes leaders and members of various socialist groupings, unaffiliated socialists and independent radicals. The initial sponsors of the conference included: Dr. Corliss Lamont, philosopher and lecturer; Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, world-famed historian; Muriel McAvoy, an early organizer for the Progressive Party; Dr. Howard Selsam, former director of the Jefferson School; Russ Nixon, national legislative representative of the United Electrical Workers (Iud.); Joyce Cowley, 1957 mayoralty candidate of the Socialist Workers Party; Richard DeHaan, chairman of the Young Socialist Alliance; George Stryker, a Long Island socialist; former ALP leaders John Goldin and Henry Abrams; Dr. Rubinstein and John T. McManus.

Seven hundred persons throughout the state registered their support of the conference and 500 participated in its deliberations. They voted to challenge the capitalist parties with candidates for the five major state offices and unanimously adopted a draft socialist platform which expressed a wide area of agreement on a minimum program.

It empowered a continuing committee—the present United Independent-Socialist Campaign Committee—to select candidates. The group said today that nominations would be made later this week for the offices of Lieutenant Governor, Comptroller and Attorney General.

To win a place on the state (Continued on Page 2)

A Protest Letter To Eisenhower

To the President of the United States: Sir,

Your personal decision to send U.S. armed forces into Lebanon has plunged America into another foreign civil war like the one in Korea. The invasion of Lebanon by American troops threatens to set off another world war.

Chamoun's personal appeal for intervention is not in the interest of the Lebanese people but in the interest of the oil monopolists. The Lebanese Chamber of Deputies has branded your action as "an infringement of the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon." The people of Lebanon and the entire Mideast are determined to end the imperialist domination that the U.S. occupying force represents.

The American people have no stake in imperialist exploitation. They will condemn your reprehensible act just as they did the Korean "police action" of your predecessor.

U.S. troops must be withdrawn from Lebanon and from the entire Mideast at once. The interests of the American people, the Arab people and the peace of the world demand it.

Thomas Kerry
Acting National Secretary,
Socialist Workers Party

A Great Step Forward

An Editorial

Announcement by the United Independent Socialist Campaign Committee that it will place a full slate of candidates in the 1958 New York state elections is a rallying call for all socialists in the state. Ready to carry the banner for peace and socialism against the Democratic and Republican parties are such prominent radicals as Corliss Lamont, John T. McManus and Dr. Annette Rubinstein.

The entry of the united socialist ticket into the field comes on the very day that both capitalist parties have acted jointly against the Arab national independence movement with military forces in a move that intensifies the risk of a world holocaust.

The united socialist ticket will provide a necessary vehicle for rousing popular sentiment against this reactionary adventure. We fully subscribe to the initial statement of the united ticket committee which vigorously denounces the dispatching of U.S. Marines to Lebanon as a "Korean-type police action . . . to defend the interests of such oil billionaires as the Rockefellers."

We are sure this stand will be warmly endorsed by every voter in the state who is concerned with the fight for peace and with the right of all nations to self-determination.

In addition to presenting a program of socialist opposition to the imminent new war danger, the socialist slate will serve as an important weapon in the fight for the preservation of the civil liberties of the American people. It will expose and combat such moves as the current bi-partisan effort to jam through Congress

a law to nullify the Supreme Court's recent decision upholding the Constitutional right of freedom of travel.

We are confident that the united ticket will also speak out boldly against the current drive to turn back the clock on the high court's school desegregation decision as typified by the disgraceful Jim Crow court ruling in Little Rock. As a socialist foe of racism in all its forms, the united ticket will be an important spokesman for the Negro people in their just demand for full equality without any further delay.

Corliss Lamont, John T. McManus and Dr. Annette Rubinstein are to be congratulated for undertaking the campaign for peace and socialism. Their long and courageous record of opposition to the cold war and witch hunt gives assurance that they will wage a militant campaign that will strengthen the socialist cause.

For our part, we pledge our unstinting support to a campaign that marks a big step forward in the revitalization of the socialist movement. We are confident the campaign will help to unite a long-divided socialist camp.

The campaign will bring presently inactive socialists back to active duty and it will win many new adherents to socialism. Its salutary effect will not be limited to New York. It will help rebuild the socialist movement across the country.

By raising the banner of independent political action in the election, the united socialist ticket will also make an important contribution toward convincing the ranks of labor of the need for a break with capitalist politics and for the creation of labor's own party. Let's get on with the campaign.

The 5.5 Million 'Forgotten Men'

By Frances James

The rose-tinted glasses through which President Eisenhower's top advisors view the economic situation were focused this week on "upturns" and on optimism. Raymond J. Saulnier, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, gave the Senate Banking Committee what was termed "a generally encouraging picture of the nation's economy."

The Democrats, through Senator Clark (Pa.) are pushing for an interim economic report by the president before Aug. 1. The real purpose of the bill seems to be to debunk the rose-tinted picture painted by the Republicans. Although the Democrats are not presenting any anti-depression measures of their own, they hope to use the depression as campaign ammunition in the fall elections.

While the capitalist politicians maneuver for votes, the working people face continued unemployment, short work weeks and rising prices.

PROGRESS

The July 8 official report on unemployment shows a rise to 5,437,000 — highest unemployment since 1941. But even these gloomy figures have been presented in an "optimistic" light. Economists had predicted six million unemployed whereas there are "only" 5½ million! All other "optimistic" estimates are of this nature. Even the rosier forecasts predict

that the economy will "bump along the bottom" for many months. More sober forecasts anticipate seven million unemployed next year.

Young workers under 25 years, many of them married and supporting families, have been hardest hit, according to figures compiled by Business Week magazine. They lack seniority when layoffs come. Women and Negro factory workers are next hardest hit by unemployment.

Among white workers, 6.4% are classified as unemployed, while 12.7% non-white workers are so listed. When jobs are open again these workers are the last to be hired. Many of them are among the 260,000 who exhausted their claims to unemployment insurance in June and are now forced, in desperate circumstances, to turn to relief agencies for food.

In addition to the officially-reported 5½ million jobless, there are millions partially employed. The July 18 U.S. News reports that coal miners are the hardest hit by the short work week. Official figures show that anthracite miners average only 22.4 hours of work per week and bituminous miners, 30.3. Shoe factory incomes have dropped 10% in the last year due to short hours.

The depression hits hardest those who are unemployed or partially employed. In addition inflation hits the entire working

class. Because of the twin evils, oil and gas-fuel workers were the only industrially employed group to show an increase in "real" incomes (purchasing power) in the last year. (July 18 U.S. News.)

A few categories of workers held their own because of union-wage increases, but most workers' "real" incomes are down despite slight hourly wage gains. For example, "real" wages for tire factory workers decreased by 7.8%, for textile workers by 6.1%, for garment workers by 4.8%, for aircraft workers by 2.2%, for steel workers by 1.8%, for construction workers by 1.4% and for auto workers by 1.2%.

Thus the economic outlook for the working class is one of continued unemployment and of lower living standards. Congressional extension of unemployment insurance by a maximum of 13 weeks is turning out to be woefully inadequate. Congress has now dropped consideration of anti-depression measures such as public work projects, tax cuts, etc. It has not even broached upping the rate of compensation or voting a new extension.

The Democrats and Republicans cannot be counted on for any serious anti-depression steps. The only reliable solution lies in independent working class political action. The American workers need a Labor Party.

Petition Workers' Rally

The United Independent-Socialist Ticket must secure a minimum of 12,000 signatures of registered voters to qualify candidates for the New York State ballot this November. Join other independents and socialists to get this job done.

Attend a Petition Rally

Thursday, July 24 — 8 P.M.

Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Ave. (Near 14th St.), N.Y.

