

THE MILITANT

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Columbia Univ. Strike Deepens in Third Week

by Dick Roberts

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, May 9—The student strike on this campus has continued to deepen in the last week, largely because of the formation of a university-wide strike coordinating committee eight days ago.

Now composed of close to 70 delegates, the strike coordinating committee has been elected from all levels of the student body. Strike organizations have been based on major subjects, departments, the buildings occupied by rebelling students earlier in the strike ("Communes"), and "Step Sitters and Sympathizers"—those who were not in occupied buildings but tried to defend them against police attack.

Speaking before the daily "Noon Rally" at Columbia yesterday, SDS leader Dave Gilbert declared that the coordinating committee representatives were learning to work together. He stated that the university administration is a "coherent group" that is prepared "to wait it out."

"The key to our strategy now is to build a political organization that lasts over the summer—a broad based representative group."

Mark Rudd, the young SDS chairman who led the occupation "rapped" out a continuing program of political discussion and activity to keep the strike movement alive.

Since May 3, the Strike coordinating committee has been fighting on the basis of a two-part program: As precondition for negotiations, it insists that there shall be no reprisals against strike participants and "that the administration recognize our right to participate in the restructuring of the university."

Once these preconditions are recognized, the coordinating committee lists five demands to be negotiated: termination of the projected Harlem gym; breaking ties with the Institute for Defense Analysis; revoking the ban on

indoor demonstrations; a permanent student-faculty commission, democratically elected, to judge all future disciplinary action; and the dropping of all previous charges connected with protest against the gym. (For the background of the demands, see *The Militant*, May 10.)

The administration has not offered to meet the strike coordinating committee on these grounds. Instead, it has negotiated with a number of students and faculty members who do not represent the broad strike coalition and is attempting to convey the impression that progress can be made back to normal classroom activity, side stepping the strike leadership.

So far, that has been far from the case.

The university remains garrisoned by police. Only those with university identification cards are admitted on campus. Any time the threat of a confrontation at the university gates arises, hundreds of additional cops are rushed to the scene. It shows the university is well aware of its unpopularity and has no intentions of allowing other students from around the city or neighboring Harlem residents to come to the aid of the strike.

On campus, only three departments—law, business and engineering—are functioning on anything close to a "normal" basis. The rest of the campus is virtually shut down. Some classes are held on the lawns outside buildings—usually simply to terminate the semester with some grade system agreeable to students.

Other "liberation" classes are being held on a wide range of subjects suggested by students and teachers, from modern drama to revolutionary socialism.

The main classroom buildings are constantly picketed, and very few students or teachers cross the lines.

Afternoon concerts have been provided by "Da Da" and the "Grateful Dead"; a small drama group has worked up a number of skits satirizing the administration; the School of Arts has prepared a life-size board game called "Trustee"—for those who would rather have a monopoly on "Kirk," "IDA" and the "Police Force" than "Broadway" and "Park Place."

In spite of a threat of arrest and criminal prosecution, "Communards" are continuing to circulate and publicize the mail of university president Grayson Kirk, xeroxed during the occupation last week. Whatever else happens in the course of this strike struggle it is certain this incident won't be easily forgotten.

For one of the few times in history, the mail of one of the most powerful agents of American capitalism has been made public property. It is mighty embarrassing, and not only for Kirk, but for all the "friends of friends" mentioned in the letters—letters in which Kirk or someone else is busy promoting friends in one CIA-related organization or another.



Paul Boutelle

Columbia Rally Hears Boutelle

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, May 8—Paul Boutelle, Socialist Workers candidate for Vice President, expressed solidarity with the three-week student strike at a "Noon Rally" today. He was warmly applauded by an audience of over 500, including a number of the militant strike leaders.

Recounting how he had grown up in the nearby Harlem ghetto, Boutelle remarked that it used to be dangerous for a black youngster to cross the campus. "We called it the white section" he declared.

"They have called me a rabble rouser," Boutelle continued, "and now they're calling you rabble rousers. But the real rabble here is Kirk and his parasitic board of trustees."

"This is an initial society," he stated. "Which do you want, IDA or SDS?"

Boutelle discussed an overall strategy for combatting American imperialism. Noting the growing protest of students throughout the country he emphasized, "students are realizing that they have to have an independent voice, whenever they want to have a change."

"This is a rotten school, this is a rotten community, and a rotten system," he stated. "That is what we are united on." With a common enemy, Boutelle continued, it is necessary for students and Afro-Americans to form independent organizations.

Parallel to black power struggles, the Socialist Workers candidate advocated "student power." "You are not going to make any changes, you cannot fight effectively, unless you unite."

The SWP presidential ticket is the only one that has come out in support of the student strike struggles. Democratic Party presidential aspirant Hubert Humphrey declared the Columbia strike makes him "physically sick."

Special: Interview With Venezuela Guerrilla

—See page 4—

Panthers Framed By Oakland Jury; Cops are Cleared



VICTIM Slain Black Panther Party treasurer Bobby James Hutton (right) at rally at U. of California at Berkeley, May 10, 1967. Hutton was shot to death by Oakland cops. Next to Hutton is Peter Camejo, Socialist Workers leader in Berkeley. At microphone is Barbara Author speaking in support of Panthers.

by Elizabeth Barnes

Last month Oakland, Calif., police murdered one member of the Black Panther Party and wounded two others. Now the cops have been exonerated and eight Black Panther party members have been indicted on a trumped-up charge of "attempted murder." Once again the victim becomes the "criminal" and the criminal the victim.

The eight Panthers were indicted April 25 on charges of attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon. The indictment grew out of the April 6 confrontation where the police killed Panther treasurer Bobby Hutton, 18, in cold blood. Writer Eldridge Cleaver, a Panther leader, and Warren Wells were wounded.

The Alameda County grand jury which

Panthers' Support Grows See Page 8

indicted the eight Panthers asserted the cops acted "lawfully" when they shot Hutton because, they claim, "he did not heed commands to halt."

In addition, the jury accused the Panthers of initiating the April 6 confrontation with an assault on the police.

In an interview with the San Francisco Chronicle, Eldridge Cleaver, author and Panther Party leader who was with Hutton when he was murdered, called the official version of what happened "a tissue of lies."

Cleaver explained how Hutton was shot down in cold blood as he came out of a house where some 50 police held Black Panther members captive.

The cops did not order Hutton to "halt" but instead told him to run to a nearby squad car. As he was running, his arms raised high over his head, the cops shot him down. Twenty bullet holes were found in his body. Cleaver himself was saved from a similar

fate because he had taken off his clothes before emerging from the house, making it impossible to claim he was concealing a gun. Nevertheless, he was beaten and kicked by police after he was in their custody.

The confrontation on April 6 began after the Panthers were ambushed by police as they were riding in a car in Oakland. Cleaver says when he and Hutton were forced to take refuge in the nearby house, the cops made no attempt to allow them to come out peacefully. Instead, they began pouring bullets in through the walls.

During the attack Cleaver was shot in the foot and hit on the shoulder with a tear gas cannister. He and Hutton were finally forced out of the house when cops set it on fire. It was then that Hutton was murdered.

Cleaver, who was on parole, was immediately arrested, and his parole was revoked without a hearing. He was put in solitary confinement in Vacaville prison where he has been denied a typewriter, books, visitors or contact with other prisoners.

In addition to the two indictments given the other seven defendants, Cleaver was charged on two extra counts of attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon against police officer John Schlim. Thus the Panther Party leader now faces the possibility of being returned to prison for life.

Bail for the other Panthers was set at the extremely high sum of \$40,000 apiece.

Black Community Support

Residents of the black community in Oakland have shown their support for the Panthers in the form of contributions to the bail fund. In a matter of days, enough money was raised to bail out almost all the victims of the police ambush except Cleaver. It has not been possible to obtain bail for Cleaver because the authorities also are charging him with violating his parole.

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The Paris "Peace" Talks

The talks between representatives of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the Johnson administration, scheduled to open in Paris May 10, have undoubtedly heightened hopes throughout the world that this signals the end of the war in Vietnam and a lowering of the danger of a nuclear catastrophe.

Among millions of Americans, the Paris talks are viewed as a favorable indication that the GIs can soon come home and that the pressure of the draft boards for fresh levies of youth may now be lowered.

How realistic are these hopes? Are the Washington representatives of the capitalist class in this country prepared to pull out of Vietnam? Are they prepared to genuinely recognize the right of the Vietnamese people to determine their own fate? Are they prepared to stop meddling in the internal affairs of Vietnam? Are they prepared to admit defeat?

The facts are not reassuring. First and foremost is the fact that what Johnson says continues to match very badly with what he does. His announcement that he does not intend to seek renomination does not seem to have changed his credibility gap.

For instance, both Johnson and his chief toady, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, repeatedly pledged their readiness to go "any place any time" to meet Hanoi at the "negotiations table."

It was partly in response to the nth reiteration of this bit of "peace" propaganda that the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam finally agreed to put Johnson's promise to the test. Hanoi named Phnompenh or Warsaw as suitable places, the latter city being the place where Washington has long been carrying on talks with the People's Republic of China.

Johnson's fast footwork was a sight for the world to behold. Any place—except those places! The scandal became so great that it was embarrassing to even Hubert Humphrey.

As revealing as this was, the developments in Vietnam spoke even more eloquently.

When the Democratic Republic of Vietnam announced that it had decided to accept Johnson's offer to talk "any place any time," Johnson's response was to at once step up military operations. It is true that he ordered a reduction in the bombing of certain areas of North Vietnam. But, as the New York Times pointed out May 5: "The air offensive against North Vietnam was a mistake from the start. It has hurt the United States more over the last three years than it has hurt Hanoi." While rectifying this "mistake" by ordering a reduction of bombing in some areas, Johnson ordered an increase in other areas.

Thus on April 19, almost three weeks after Johnson's latest promise to go "any place any time" to talk with Hanoi, the U.S. carried out its heaviest air raid of the year in North Vietnam. The number of missions—what a word for the dumping of napalm and high explosives on human beings!—was almost triple the average number being flown before Johnson's speech.

As for the American generals, they discount the Paris conference. An unnamed American general, "talking about the ground war in South Vietnam in relation to any peace talks," told a correspondent of the New York Times May 5: "We don't intend to do anything but push ahead as usual."

It is thus clear that Johnson's intention is to gain whatever is possible by diplomatic means in the Paris meeting, while at the same time seeking to entrench the U.S. armed forces in South Vietnam.

In suggesting Paris as a meeting place, Hanoi made a concession to Washington. It is doubtful that this reflected any weakness. On the contrary, it may be that the Vietnamese freedom fighters are so confident of victory that they see nothing to be lost by opening talks, which in principle are comparable to feelers in a strike situation.

The possibility also exists, of course, that they are under heavy pressure from the Kremlin on whom they are forced to depend for material aid. There are few things that would please Moscow more than some kind of settlement in Vietnam that would, for the sake of an accommodation with imperialism, deprive the freedom fighters of their victory as in 1954.

Important as these questions are, what is primary for the antiwar movement in the United States is to keep up the pressure on Washington.

The imperialist strategists will not admit defeat in Vietnam. For all their megatons of "peace" propaganda, they intend to keep the GIs 10,000 miles from home in Southeast Asia. As long as they stay there, peace will not come.

Whatever occurs in the talks at Paris, the first duty of the antiwar movement in the United States is to continue the course that has already proved its worth. Keep up the demonstrations. Stay in the streets. Try to involve ever broader layers of the population in action. Above all, remember that the real substance of "peace" talks is easily measured. How many GIs are they bringing home and when?

'British Exploiters Split Workers'

'System Cannot Create Employment'

New York, N.Y.

That the exploiters' system cannot create full employment is a commonly accepted fact. In England, the exploiters direct the anger produced by this fact in workers of white pigmentation against the nonwhites, distracting attention from the true cause of the matter.

Racism has always been a tool for the defense of exploiters throughout human history. Presently it is being incremented as the crumbling of capitalism intensifies.

Of course it is to the workers' interest to combat militantly the direct and indirect intentions of the exploiters in dividing the working people, in passing antiunion laws, in applying taxes to workers who have to sell their labor, be it mental or manual, in order to subsist.

In the USA, as in England and anywhere else, the true enemy is the exploitation of man by man—capitalism—and not the symptoms of capitalism's rottenness.

J. O.

Stamps for SNCC

Mill Valley, Calif.

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee has asked support for a nationwide trading stamps drive through which it hopes to equip its Atlanta, Ga., garage. SNCC has recently been able to obtain, through redeeming such stamps, three mini-buses as well as several battery chargers, and tirechanging, wheel-balancing and other equipment which enables it to keep its cars operational.

All kinds of trading stamps can be used, SNCC says, but most helpful are S&H Green, Blue Chip, Top Value, Holden Red, and Golden Bond. It asks that stamps be sent to Marin County Friends of SNCC, P. O. Box 210, Mill Valley, Calif. 94941.

Al Lowry, Chairman,
Marin Friends of SNCC

Against Palestinians' Guerrilla Struggle

New York, N.Y.

In your April 29 issue you have devoted nearly a full page to cover—with implied sympathy—the proceedings of the conference of the Arab students in America and the interview with the political leader of the extremist nationalistic Arab guerrillas—Al-Fatah.

According to your report, at the conference of the Arab students an outside speaker "enlightened" the audience about the character of Al-Fatah, which are—supposedly—fighting not only against "Zionist Israel" but also against Western imperialism and for a social revolution in the Arab countries.

The world did not hear as yet about the fight of Al-Fatah against Western imperialism or against the Arab ruling classes for a social change. This leaves as their aim only the fight against "Zionist Israel," the objective of which is elaborated in the interview with their leader.

He stated "magnanimously" that they have not "proposed, as have other Arab leaders, to drive the Jews into the sea." They want "only" to "dismantle the Israeli state apparatus" and "send the invaders back to Europe or their countries of origin," leaving a handful of old-timers (i.e., the Jewish settlers before the first world war) to the tender mercies of the Arab rulers.

It is difficult to imagine how to express more cynically this "moderate" program of Al-Fatah to destroy an independent state of Israel (as such, not "Zionist Israel") and to ship away the bulk of its population. And this aim is being served us as a worthy "revolutionary" perspective! It is no wonder that the people of Israel, confronted with such a threat, are united

behind their present Zionist leaders.

The duty of all genuine socialists is to fight against Zionism—i.e., against its false ideology "to solve" the problem of Jews all over the world by immigration to Israel and to consider it as their "fatherland," and also against the striving of the Zionist leaders in Israel to expand its territory for strategic or historical reasons. But the struggle on the part of socialist internationalists against Jewish (or Israeli) nationalism does not mean that they should embrace an opposite Arab nationalism.

A. Binder

Looking Backward

Midlothian, Md.

The Great Depression of the late '20s and early '30s was caused by the greed of U.S. capitalists who wanted to own everything in the country.

They knew the lower wages they paid, the more they could profit. They decided to close down all the industries they possibly could to create a terrific surplus of labor.

People were soon eating off of garbage dumps. Because of lack of food, lots of old folks and children and those in poor health died when they took sick. People cursed the Republicans and marched to Washington, D.C., and asked for assistance; they were told no.

When Roosevelt was elected in 1932, the government started three different work programs, but to keep them going they would have had to tax their masters, the capitalists.

Instead, the U.S. government grabbed the chance to send these little fellows that had to eat out of garbage pails over to fight in Europe. In the end we saw it was all to checkmate Russia and make a capitalist showcase out of West Germany.

When the GIs came back from service, the U.S. investors had the factories almost closed down, and the markets in the U.S. were flooded with goods from West Germany and other countries they thought they could keep from going communist.

But today the U.S. investors have killed the great prosperity in West Germany with automation, and people are leaving each month by the thousands.

I say to all Vietnam soldiers to look back and see what the old fellows got out of fighting imperialist wars for the capitalists. The capitalists can afford to pay the dictators in Washington well to

Letters From Our Readers

This column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of general interest to our readers. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Writers' initials will be used, names being withheld unless authorization is given for use.

keep the war going in Vietnam out of the profits they make off factories that make war materiel.

William Cecil

For 'Active Action'

Macedonia, Ohio

It seems that the effectiveness of the antiwar demonstrations and protests is very questionable. As a matter of fact, all the previous demonstrations have neither stopped the bombing nor brought "our boys home."

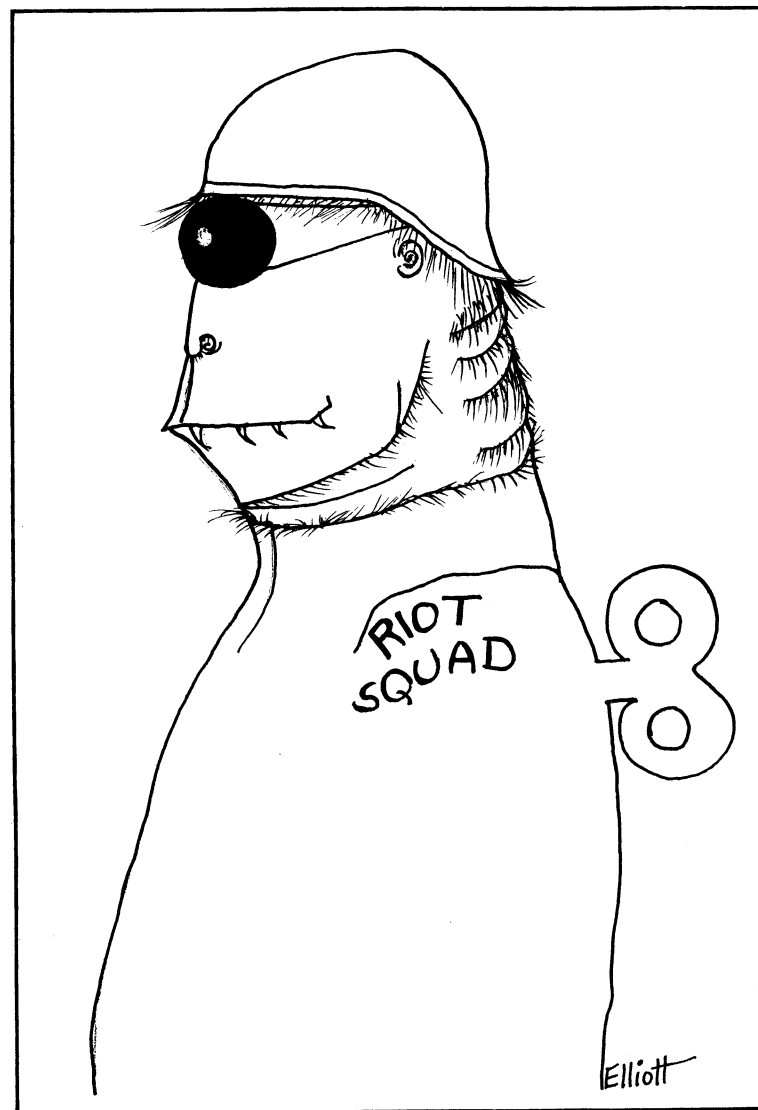
On the contrary, the record shows that each time there has been a renewed drive for peace—including peaceful demonstrations—the administration escalates the war in South east Asia. . .

The reason of such a "paradoxical phenomenon" is simple: The tragic events in Vietnam in the past few years once again showed that men like L. B. Johnson, Rusk and Co., etc., are complete strangers to such words or conceptions as "humanity," the "right of every nation for self-determination," "international law," and so on.

Instead of this, these "leaders of the free world" prefer more and more often to use such words as "bombing," "killing," "search and destroy" (Westmoreland), "napalm" and many other similar ones from the rich dictionary of the Pentagon. And because these "peacemakers" do not pay any attention even to the massive popular protests against their barbaric war in Vietnam, there remains only one choice:

Instead of passive and ineffective antiwar demonstrations, there must be some sort of active action in fighting for peace that cannot be ignored by the warmakers. Less words—more action!

J. M.



Behind Britain's Racial Crisis

By Peter Peterson

LONDON (World Outlook)—The events following the April 20 speech of Enoch Powell, a racist leader of the extreme right wing of the Tory Party, show the danger in Britain of the emergence of organised ultraright tendencies with mass support.

The fact that up to 3,000 dockers came out on strike April 23 in support of Powell after the Conservative leadership had sacked him from his "shadow cabinet" post, proves that the virus of racialism has infected sections of the working class generally thought to be the most militant.

The strike of the dockers was by no means an isolated example. There were many other smaller actions. And the Smithfield Market porters—another sector recognized for its militancy—marched to the House of Commons April 24 led by an avowed fascist.

These events have shocked the left; and there is much talk of a repetition of the bitter experiences of the late twenties and early thirties.

However, the response of the left to the danger has been pitifully weak so far. A demonstration called by the Young Communist League on April 28, the Sunday following Powell's speech, which had been plugged every day by the Morning Star, the daily newspaper of the Communist Party, attracted only 2,000 youth. Despite the large number of factory militants in the Communist Party there was not one single trade-union banner in the demonstration.

Part of the explanation for the lack of response lies in the political line put forward—calling upon the Labour government to impeach Powell.

In fact, by concentrating their fire on Powell, the Communist Party and other segments of the left are in a certain way covering up for Wilson. Without doubt the main responsibility for the growth of racialism in the British working class lies with Wilson, particularly because his government continually capitulates to racialism.

The last time Powell went on the warpath—over the fact that Kenyan Asians could enter

Britain without restriction because they had British passports—the Wilson administration ended up adopting his policy. They pushed through a bill which specifically discriminates against people of non-British origin.

The next major responsibility lies with the traditional left in Britain which abandoned the fight to reverse Labour's official racist policy. This disgraceful behaviour, which was just one facet of their general failure to fight Wilsonism, has meant that racialism has become the policy of the Labour Party by default.

The reception given Powell's speech may be explained by the anxieties felt by millions of workers over their jobs, living standards, housing conditions and general standard of living. Because the official left has failed to fight on these issues, they see no alternative to Wilson; therefore, when somebody speaks out in a firm, clear voice there is a response. The dockers said to themselves: "At last someone has spoken out about what was worrying us."

Because the traditional left has failed, the duty of responding to the dangerous situation has been placed upon the shoulders of small groups of Marxists.

One such grouping, which formerly published *The Week*, distributed a leaflet in the name of its new monthly journal, *International*. It said in part:

"Enoch Powell's racist speech in Birmingham last weekend and the subsequent support for his policies, are symptoms of the total rotteness, corruption and instability of British capitalism in its present economic impasse. . . .

"The response to Powell's speech—especially among dockers—should be regarded by all socialists with alarm: it is the first time in decades that the reactionary wing of the ruling class has won the support of an organised section of the working class, even if only temporarily.

"These developments should be a warning to those 'left' M.P.s who have justified their restraint in fighting Wilson with the argument that they did not wish to see him re-

placed by the Tories. . . .

"For the right-wing Tories, the field is open. In order to counter them, it is absolutely essential that trade unionists and socialists make no compromise whatsoever to prejudice and reactionary moods. The left must make the maximum effort to mobilise support outside Parliament to isolate the racists and render them ineffective. Mass demonstrations—all over the country—are very important in this.

"All socialists should declare as a first priority their defence of the immigrant community against right-wing attacks. This means open condemnation of racialists, especially those in the working-class movement. It can be expected that the racist propaganda of today will be followed by rightist hooliganism against the immigrants tomorrow. Socialists should support those immigrants who create their own organs of struggle and defence—they should reject that propaganda coming from some 'lefts' that Black Power equals white racism. If it is necessary to crack a few heads to ensure the proper defence of the immigrants, then it must be done.

"Already frightening comparisons are being made with Germany during the rise of fascism. The conclusions are obvious: Britain's coloured immigrants can serve the same function for the British ruling class as did the Jews for the German capitalist class. There is nothing these people love better than a scapegoat with which to divide and destroy the trade unions. . . .

"Full responsibility for this ugly upsurge rests with the Wilson Government. . . . It is



Harold Wilson

entirely to blame if dockers and others follow in the wake. If its record is anything to go by we can expect it to give in again under the pressure generated by Powell's speech."

The sponsors of the leaflet played a key part in launching the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign (VSC) which has scored resounding successes in mobilizing the antiwar movement in Britain. They are confident that a united front against the growth of racialism can be built.

Big Student Strike in Japan Backs U.S. Antiwar Action

There was a large and militant response in Japan to the appeal by the Student Mobilization Committee in the U.S. for an International Student Strike against the Vietnam war April 26. The April 27 Japan Times reported that classes were boycotted at 16 universities. According to the Times, universities participating in the strike included Hokkaido, Kyoto, Kyushu, and a number of private schools.

No figures were given for the number of students boycotting classes, but police estimated those participating in rallies at 15,000. The Times said that there were "antiwar rallies and marches held in 64 places in 33 prefectures." Police arrested 129 students during the demonstrations.

The Japan Times described the demonstrations in Tokyo where 3,300 reportedly took part:

"One unidentified coed, believed to be a Waseda University student, was hospitalized with broken ribs and facial bruises.

"About 2,000 militant students of the Sampa Rengo (Three Faction Alliance) group of Zengakuren gathered at Meiji Park in the afternoon and marched toward the Defense Agency at Ichigaya, Shinjuku Ward. Of this group, about 800 Shagakudo (Socialist Students' League) students charged into a cordon of riot police who had taken their positions at the Kitaaooyama 1-chome intersection to block the students' march.

"The students . . . were turned back after a pitched battle lasting an hour."

Elsewhere in Tokyo more than 1,000 students assembled at Hibiya Park at 4 p.m. and marched to the U.S. embassy where they staged a sit-in that lasted until 6 p.m. when they were driven out by police.

A group of 90 Americans living in Japan also demonstrated against U.S. intervention in Vietnam April 26.

About half of them were women, coming from International Christian University, Sophia University, and Waseda University. Dr. Hallam Shorrock, vice dean of ICU, urged the group in an address to stand up for peace. "Shorrock, a former U.S. Navy officer," said the Japan Times, "told the gathering that the American war efforts in Vietnam could not be justified from historical, legal, military, political, economic and moral standpoints."

Supporters of Arab Revolution Picket In Phila.

PHILADELPHIA—Sixty students picketed outside the University of Pennsylvania's Palestra April 29 to protest the appearance of Israeli ambassador Yitzhak Rabin. The demonstration was called by the Arab Student Association, and was joined by members of the Young Socialist Alliance. The demonstrators carried such signs as, "Rabin, Johnson, Withdraw Troops Now," "De-Zionize Israel," "Support the Arab Women of Jerusalem," "Self-determination: Sinai and Saigon," "Defend the Arab Revolution."

Several thousand people came to hear the representative of the Zionist state and greeted the pickets with hate stares and racist comments about Arabs. The demonstration was quiet and dignified despite several attempts by hecklers to provoke fights.

Black Liberation Notes

A partial listing of campuses where black students have taken over buildings during past weeks would include the following:

Predominantly black schools such as Delaware State College in Dover, Del.; Bowie College in Annapolis, Md.; Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Ala.; Howard University in Washington, D. C.; Fayetteville (N. C.) State Teachers College and Virginia State College in Petersburg, Va.

Predominantly white schools including Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio; Cornell University in Ithaca, N. Y.; Boston University; Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.; Colgate University in Hamilton, N. Y. (this included a majority of white students but was led by black students); Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich., and of course, Columbia, in New York.

Besides the actions where black students occupied campus buildings, there were hundreds of protests and demonstrations on other campuses. News of many of these never reached the press. For example, at New York University black students were immediately

successful in winning a set of demands they made during the Columbia rebellion. The University administration didn't want NYU, to turn into another Columbia.

The Minneapolis public schools will commemorate the birthday of Malcolm X with a holiday from school for all students who get their parents' permission.

Malcolm's birthdate, May 19, falls on a Sunday. The school holiday will be on Monday, May 20.

In a 4-2 vote, the school board adopted the holiday under pressure from the United Southside, a federation of organizations and churches in Minneapolis.

The school board also agreed to a federation request that all social studies teachers be required to attend a training program in Afro-American history.

Black high school students in Cincinnati united in "sit-in" and "walk-out" demonstrations at six different high schools recently.

About 1,200 students took part in the actions which protested the transfer of four black high school seniors from the school they were attending to a "center for problem youths."

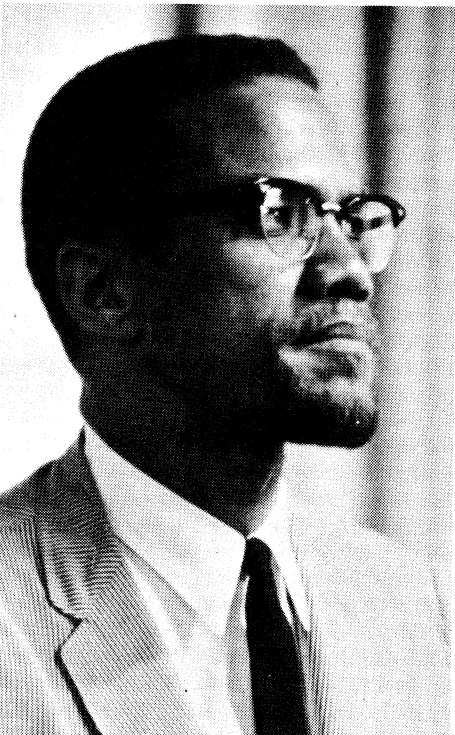
A black veteran who has been active in the antiwar movement in Chicago has been sent to Vietnam as a correspondant for the Chicago Defender, an Afro-American daily.

Donald Mosby, who recently arrived in Vietnam, had his first article printed in the May 6 issue. He reports that, "The white man has done well in carrying his message of white supremacy and black inferiority to the Vietnamese people. Very often when a black soldier walks down the street with a Vietnamese girl, passers-by will stop and notice with disapproval."

Mosby says, "The appalling thing is that the white soldier oftimes becomes closely attached to blacks when on the field. The general attitude is one of unification. 'It's us against them,' many of them say, 'and we have to stick together.'"

"It's ironic, though," Mosby adds, that "the battlefield really represents, 'Land of the Free' to the black soldier. The only problem is that you can get killed enjoying it."

— Elizabeth Barnes



Malcolm X

In the May-June

RADICAL AMERICA

Gorz' Strategy for Labor and its Marxian roots • Overview/analysis of New Left development, 1960-65 • STAUGHTON LYND on the radicals' use of history • Reminiscence of '50s student Left • Review of *Revolutionary Poetry: An Anthology*. 50c or \$3/yr (6 issues).

1237 Spaight St.

Madison, Wis. 53703

Venezuelan Guerrilla Struggle —

By Harry Ring

Cuba's solidarity with the Latin American revolution makes it possible to obtain information there about the Latin American revolutionary movements that is not available in the United States. For example, the National Liberation Front-Armed Forces of Venezuela (FLN-FALN) of Venezuela maintains a permanent mission in Havana which enjoys the formal recognition of the Cuban government.

While in Havana I was able to obtain the following interview with Commandante Francisco Prada, political secretary of the FLN-FALN.

Because of the complexities of the political situation in Venezuela, he requested that I submit written questions, and he in turn provided written answers to all the questions I submitted. The translation of his answers is by The Militant.

Q. Could you tell me something about yourself?

A. I was born in Escuque, a small Andean village in Trujillo state. My parents were small traders of peasant origin. I finished elementary school in the village and went to Rafael Rangel High School in the same area. In 1954 I entered the Central University of Caracas, studying sociology and anthropology and graduating in 1958.

I worked with the Indian population as an employe of the Indian Affairs Commission, a branch of the Venezuelan Ministry of Justice. When the armed struggle began I held the post of Director of the Coordinating Center for Indian Affairs in Apure state, located in the southern plains.

Was Imprisoned

I began my political activity in Valera (Trujillo state) while in high school as a sympathizer of the Young Communists, which I joined in 1954. In 1957 I was jailed by the Perez Jimenez dictatorship. During my stay in the southern plains area in contact with the Indian masses, I realized the importance of the area for the development of guerrilla struggle, given the high degree of explosiveness of the plains people.

In 1963 I was again arrested. In 1964, after various tries, we established the Plains Guerrilla Front. In 1966, after the split between the PCV [Communist Party of Venezuela] and the revolutionary sector, the officers and men of the Plains Guerrilla Front unanimously affiliated with the FALN, forming part of the Jose Antonio Paez detachment, and I was named political secretary of the general staff.

Q. Could you sketch the principal lines of development of the Venezuelan guerrilla movement?

A. In Venezuela, the armed movement as a whole has gone through several stages. At first the urban and suburban activities

predominated, with a tendency toward the immediate, sensational effect of a measure: kidnappings (D'Estefano, French paintings, Yankee military chiefs, capture of boats and planes, etc.), financial confiscations (attacking banks, official payrolls and those of private enterprises, etc.), seizure of arms in military and police installations and, in some cases, in the homes of soldiers and police. (The most important of these was the Mamo Nautical School, where 120 rifles and 20,000 bullets were captured.)

In this period two important military insurrections took place: The men of Carupano and Puerto Cabello naval bases rose up, armed the people, and advanced a nationalist program. Eight hundred casualties resulted from the Puerto Cabello uprising which was crushed after the Betancourt government mobilized 6,000 men, together with planes, heavy artillery and tanks. (Gen. Alfredo Monch was directly responsible for this genocide.) The revolutionary political parties participated together with the patriotic sectors of the Armed Forces in these revolts.

During this first period great mass mobilizations with insurrectionist overtones take place in which workers and students participate. The rural guerrillas are born, some "focos" are dispersed, others manage to stabilize their situation and grow. They reach broad sectors of the peasant mass, familiarizing themselves with the terrain, obtaining the first military experience as the first of many peasants join the guerrillas. This stage ends with the revolutionary strike of November and the electoral defeat of December 1963.

Rural Guerrillas

After these events a new period begins in which the rural guerrillas begin to acquire their true strategic importance. The first important desertions in the revolutionary camp take place. Domingo Alberto Rangel, the then secretary general of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] and some other leaders call for giving up the armed struggle. The enemy increases its attacks against the revolutionary movement, especially against the guerrillas, managing to deliver some hard blows.

The mass movement declines and defeatism spreads. The number of military operations in the city declines sharply. The leadership calls a unilateral truce. The government takes advantage of this to launch the biggest political-military offensive yet, the so-called "Operation Suction," planned directly by the U. S. military mission.

The enemy combines repression with flattery, blackmail with bribery. It deals with some revolutionaries differently than with others, tolerating and encouraging those who call for or suggest the need of "rectification" and murdering those who remain firm.

In the leadership of the Communist Party the conciliatory thesis gains strength, placing the entire movement in serious crisis. They demand that the guerrillas in the country and in the city retreat, suspending all operations indefinitely.

At the same time the role of the guerrillas in confronting this position also takes shape as measures are taken to save the armed groups from destruction. This includes organizing the FALN General Staff, representing the most developed cadres formed in the war, into a unified political-military leadership; taking the necessary measures to reorganize the revolutionary movement and all its organizations and instruments.

The leadership of the CP, openly waving the flag of betrayal, condemns those who insist on the need for continuing the war, calling them Nazis, Trotskyites and anarcho-adventurists.

Regroupment of Forces

The ranks of the true revolutionaries are regrouped. Uniting closely, they begin to carry out plans for facing the enemy, beginning a new stage characterized by military operations of a greater content and impact. Ambushing the army on large roads, reorganizing the guerrillas in detachments operating in large zones with great mobility, carrying the message of liberation to broad sectors of the peasant mass. The revolutionary leadership moves to the mountains. Politically, we can sum up each of the stages in the following way:

First: Great political and ideological dispersion—elements of protracted war are combined with insurrectionalism, coupism with elections. The war is used as an instrument of pressure for political gains and the struggle is seen as having a short-term solution.

Second: Differences appear in the revolutionary movement and a true revolutionary leadership comes to the fore.

Third: Summing up. Combining military and political struggles, formulating the tactical and strategic principles of the Venezuelan Revolution, in accordance with the protracted nature of our struggle. Development of the FALN as the basic instrument for the seizure of power.

Q. What is the present situation of the movement and what are its general activities in the city and in the countryside?

A. The armed movement is definitely consolidated and growing. We are aiming at a qualitative leap in the struggle, enabling us to secure the participation of broad sectors of the people in the many tasks of national liberation. Today, after six years of armed struggle, we have a great deal of experience, close ties with the people, and a detailed knowledge of large areas in which we are operating. Together with a true revolutionary leadership determined to carry the struggle of the war to its highest stage, this constitutes the best guarantee for our people to transform the socioeconomic structure of the country to obtain control of our national resources and create a sovereign and independent state.

In the cities, together with military operations we organize the masses in the framework of the National Liberation Front, waging struggles for their immediate needs and linking them with support for the war.

In the mountains we wage military operations of a new type, annihilation ambushes, whose effects are already being seen in the enemy military machine. At the same time we organize the people in their struggle for land, against landlords, and other forms of rural exploitation, and to end repression and the antipeasant military extermination offensive.

Seek Broad Front

In the struggle against repression and hunger and for the defeat of the oligarchy-imperialist groups, the efforts of the armed movement converge with those of the patriotic and democratic sectors, laying the basis for a broad front to overthrow the puppet Leoni government and to form a government of progressive classes. Our role is to strengthen the FALN and develop the war, spreading it to new areas of the country, waging more operations, and obtaining the active participation of the people in the struggle.

Q. How do you see the perspective of the Venezuelan liberation movement?

A. The betrayal of the rightist leadership of the PCV led the movement to the brink of destruction. Naturally, the deep roots on which the war of liberation in our country is based are the surest guarantee that any weakness or betrayal would only increase the sacrifices and lengthen the struggle. The



MOUNTAIN INTERVIEW. Douglas Bravo, commander-in-chief of the Venezuelan Army, in an interview with editor of Mexican magazine, *Successos*. At right, a Venezuelan Army claims may have been killed. (See story below.)

enemy is responsible for the war. Genuine revolutionaries have no other choice except struggle, and those who weaken along the way will undoubtedly be smashed by history.

The perspectives are forever greater sharpening of the contradictions dividing the Venezuelan nation from the Yankee imperialist-local oligarchy duo; of a constant increase in the revolutionary consciousness of our people leading to greater support to revolutionary vanguards and participation in various areas of struggle.

The revolutionaries are now uniting various democratic sectors and the image of a broad liberation front begins to become apparent. The pseudorevolutionaries that were before a brake on the struggle expose themselves as going over to the other side. The ranks of liberation grow in political and ideological cohesion, making clearer the elements of a unified strategy and tactic for this stage of the struggle. A genuine revolutionary leadership is consolidated, developing and maturing in the course of the struggle itself.

A great fight awaits our people. Military operations will raise the quality of the general struggle. Armed struggle will spread to other areas and sectors of the country. All other forms of struggle will little by little become subordinate to it. The same holds true for organizations (trade unions, parties, etc.).

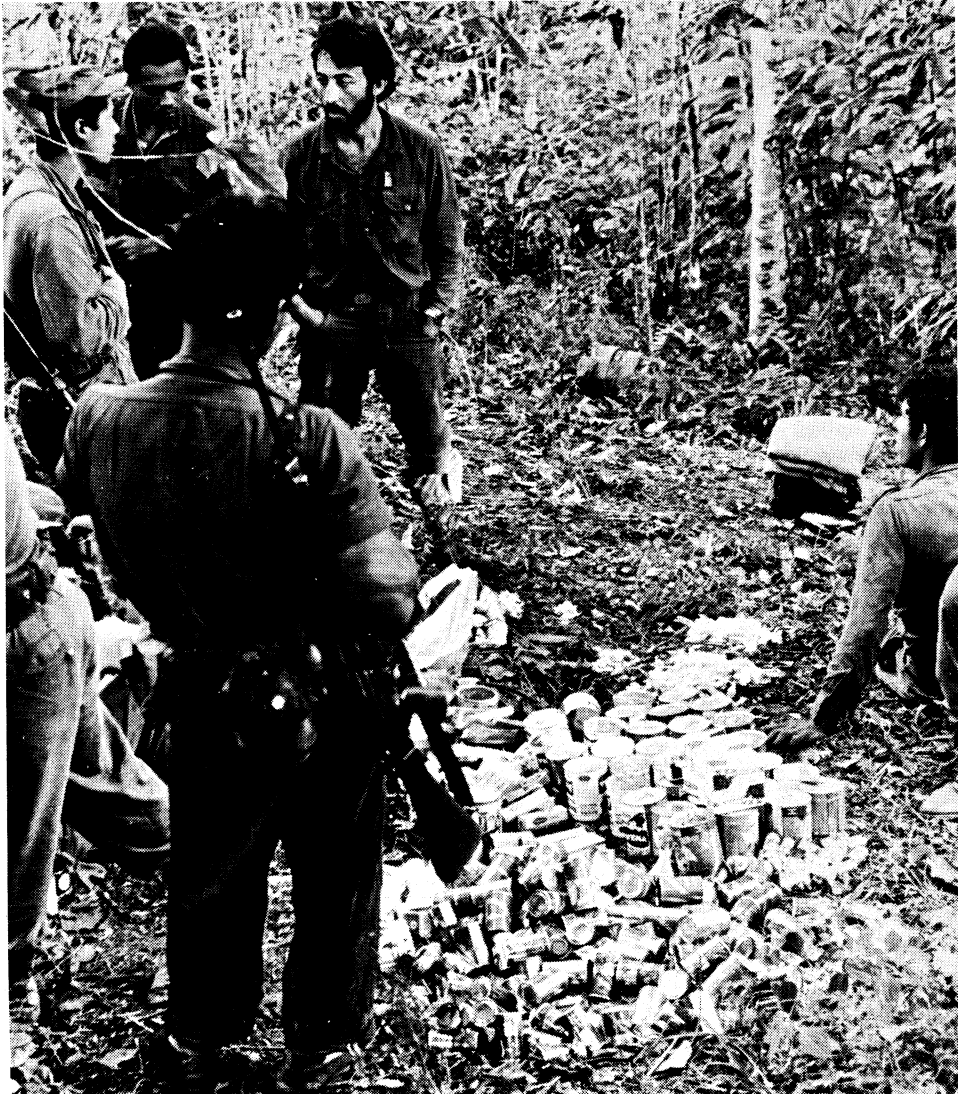
A Long War

We face great sacrifices, all layers of the population will face the cost of an inevitable war for a long time. At the end we will obtain victory. Nothing nor nobody can block the people's victory. The way to bring victory nearer is to build a powerful military instrument of the revolution, striking hard at the enemy's machine, organizing the masses and having them participate in the war.

Q. How does the Venezuelan struggle relate to that of the rest of the continent?

A. We believe our revolution is part of a vast Latin American liberation movement which is a regional expression of the worldwide awakening of the colonial and exploited peoples against local and foreign oppression. With a different historical background, the struggle of our country and all Latin America will resemble the colonial liberation war against Spain. The vanguards are becoming aware of this and are uniting their forces in an anti-imperialist front representing the armed movements of Bolivia, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Colombia, and Venezuela, who will be joined by the movements that appear in other countries.

Cuba is the first great liberated area of the continent and its fate is closely linked to that of Latin America as a whole. It will be the clash between two great armies: that of the powerful exploiters led by the Yankees and that of the oppressed and exploited peoples whose vanguard is Cuba; a clash that will be waged in that immense country which is Latin America. For a long time skirmishes and battles will be fought; new areas will be freed. This confrontation began in the Sierra Maestra and will not end until the last bastion of Yankee imperialism is swept from Latin America. To make this



CHOW TIME. Venezuelan guerrillas take time out for tinned rations from supply on ground.

e — An Interview



vo, commander-in-chief of Venezuelan FLN (left), during taped interview with Successos. At right Luben Petkoff, second-in-command, whom interviewed. (See story below.)

a practical reality is the order of the day for revolutionaries and this will be accomplished as the struggle develops.

Q. Do you have any information on the reaction in Venezuela to the death of Che?

A. It is interesting to know the reaction in Venezuela to the death of Major Ernesto Che Guevara as a means of analyzing the crisis of the revolutionary movement. Everyone knows that on a world scale even his worst enemies paid respectful tribute to a world figure. The same thing happened in Venezuela. Faced by the news, genuine revolutionaries were deeply moved. We felt an irreplaceable loss and reaffirmed our determination to continue forward. We know that his death will result in thousands of new fighters and his work will be carried on.

CPers Attack Che

On the other hand, those who deserted the revolution use his death to justify their cowardly line, to justify betrayal. Recently we received news that a picture of Che had been kicked, broken and desecrated by youth brigades of the rightist PCV and a pamphlet called "As Such," written by Caupolican Ovalles who follows the line of this organization, had said: "Che . . . was at his death a mistaken hero. Che's death in Bolivia closes the second act of a tragedy which began with Debray's arrest. One represents the impotence of will, and the other the heroic failure."

Q. What is the specific role of U.S. imperialism economically, politically and militarily in Venezuela?

A. Venezuela is the country in Latin America with the highest degree of imperialist penetration. Sixty percent of all investments in Latin America are located in Venezuela, where it obtains high profits and great benefits, up to 42 percent in the oil industry.

They control our import and export markets. Our country also provides oil, steel and aluminum for the Yankee war machine.

From this economic control their tentacles spread to every aspect of our national life. It dictates the policy we must follow at home and abroad, deforms our national culture, corrupts our social life, and absorbs sectors of the national industry and agriculture. In the military field they place all their experience at the service of the antiguerrilla campaign, organizing the special detachments of the army. A large military mission also organizes espionage and repression.

The military mission first entered Venezuela in 1954 during the first term of Romulo Betancourt. Between 1954 and 1964 more than 1,600 officers and noncommissioned officers were given counterinsurgency training, according to Pentagon figures. Today several hundred Yankee officers train and advise the antiguerrilla detachments of the puppet army. They directly plan the antiguerrilla struggle through the Joint Operations Command (COC). Vietnam veterans teach the soldiers tactics of genocide.

It is clear to us that we are in the first stage of a new escalation. So we educate our fighters and the people in the idea that one day they will have a direct imperialist aggression. The example of Vietnam inspires us and we are absolutely sure that our people can defeat the aggression and obtain victory.

Message to U. S. Youth

Q. Would you wish to make any statement to the many young people of North America who are becoming involved in the struggle against the U.S. ruling class and who are developing an awareness of the liberation struggle in Latin America, particularly since the death of Che?

A. To the youth of the U.S. we send our message of solidarity. Their struggles are ours because they aim at the same enemy. The development of their struggle in the heart of the monster is the greatest contribution they can make to the struggle of our people and all people. We are sure that the day will come when we will all live in a community of free people and that North American youth together with Latin American youth, free of exploiters, will establish ties of true friendship uniting our peoples. The road is long and hard but we have already begun to travel it and we shall not stop until we reach total victory.

Q. What is the present role of the Venezuelan Communist Party leadership in relation to the armed struggle in Venezuela?

A. Today the rightist leadership of the PCV is a brake on the development of armed struggle in our country and our task is fighting it as an enemy of the revolution. When it creates illusions as to a "change" without destroying the military-political apparatus of the ruling class, it is serving the reactionaries who are stubbornly intent on maintaining the status quo.

Its participation in the electoral fraud being prepared by the oligarchy and imperialism, besides legalizing and legitimizing it, serves to delay the acquiring of revolutionary consciousness on the part of our people and their participation in the task of the revolution. History will inescapably condemn the betrayal of the rightist leaders of the PCV.

Possible Death of Guerrilla Claimed by Venezuela Gov't

Increased guerrilla activity, including a sharp clash between a detachment of the National Liberation Armed Forces [Fuerzas Armadas de Liberacion Nacional—FALN] and government troops has been reported in Venezuela.

Following new guerrilla actions, such as sabotage of a Standard Oil pipeline, the Leoni government announced that on April 17 its troops may have killed Luben Petkoff.

According to Leoni's minister of defense, General Florencio Gomez, Petkoff, one of the principal FALN leaders along with Douglas Bravo, was presumed dead in a clash with a guerrilla force of 18 in the Yaracuy mountains 250 miles west of Caracas. Gomez claimed that five guerrillas—one of whom appeared to be Petkoff, although he was not positively identified—were killed while attempting to escape a government encircling operation and seek refuge in the mountains of the state of Falcon to the west.

Hundreds of specially trained counterinsur-

gency troops supported by bombers and helicopters were employed in this campaign, Gomez said. He admitted also that U.S. "Green Berets" had played a role in the government action.

Since the approaching elections will be a key test both for the pro-imperialist regime and those forces of the left—chiefly the Communist Party—which have committed themselves to the electoral road despite the prevailing repression, the guerrilla actions take on special importance.

The report of Luben Petkoff's death is particularly significant in this context, since his brother Teodor is a member of the right-wing Communist Party central committee which has been denounced by Fidel Castro for betraying the Venezuelan revolution. In fact, one of the more prominent pieces of CP pro-electoral propaganda consists of an open letter by Teodor to Luben denouncing the guerrilla struggle as a hopeless adventure and calling on him to give up the fight.



TAKING BREAK. Venezuelan liberation fighter takes breather during meal break.

Q. Would you wish to comment on the attack leveled against you personally by the French CP paper, L'Humanite?

A. On several occasions we have been called militarist, adventurers, anarchist, and . . . Nazis. Castroist or Castro-communist is the label now in fashion. Also attempts have been made to present us as national spokesmen for the great tendencies into which the socialist world is divided. We say that if the efforts and energies of the socialist camp are directed towards the support of the third world's wars of liberation, in accordance with militant proletarian internationalism, regardless of differences, the basis for a true unity of the socialist and anti-imperialist camp will have been laid. We try to learn the valid lessons from the revolutionary struggles of all peoples, applying them in a creative manner to our national reality. We formulate our own political line, our own strategy and tactics based in the first place on the situation of our struggle. We learn the lessons of our history and thus develop our own road, a road that will take us to victory. We are Marxist-Leninist and at the same time Bolivarian.

Mission in Cuba

Q. What is the formal status of the FLN Mission in Cuba? Is it the same as that of the Vietnamese NLF?

A. The Permanent Mission of the FLN officially represents the Venezuelan revolutionary movement in Cuba. The People's Democratic Republic of Korea and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam have also recognized the Venezuelan armed movement. We have also approached Algeria and People's China for this purpose. To closely link our struggle with that of the third world revolutionary movement and the socialist and nationalist states is part of our foreign policy.

Q. Do you think that the break in Guatemala between the Rebel Armed Forces [FAR] and the Guatemalan Workers [Communist] Party indicates that what happened in Venezuela was not a local problem but a continental one?

A. Venezuelan revolutionaries are not surprised by what happened in Guatemala and here and now express their support for the decisive step taken by Guatemalan revolutionaries. Essentially it is the same problem as in Venezuela and which will occur in Colombia between the FARC [Colombian Rebel Armed Forces] and the CPC [Communist Party of Colombia]. Clearly we are dealing with a general problem for all Latin America. While the seizure of power by the oppressed was not on the agenda and socialism was an alien utopia, the old Communist Parties and other self-styled Marxist organizations could play a vanguard role. The struggle for democratic freedoms, free elections, friendship, trade and diplomatic relations with the socialist camp, anti-imperialist agitation, etc.—many of these demands were backed by the bourgeoisie or petty bourgeoisie as part of their program and are being carried out by some of the bourgeois governments. None of these demands generates a head-on clash of class interest. None of them in any way threatens the "democratic system"; on the contrary, they strengthen it.

In the sharp crisis that today shakes all

Latin America their indecision has been exposed in the face of the people's violent determination. On more than one occasion they have played the role of firemen. This is for us clear evidence that the leaders of these parties have been penetrated by nonrevolutionary ideology, coexisting with proletarian and genuinely revolutionary elements.

This multiclass interest, ideology and politics, are expressed in a duality of tactics and strategy. When the question of state power for the oppressed is raised and the people begin traveling the only road that can lead them towards it (people's war), the military instruments are created and the need is realized for violently destroying the reactionary military machine. This is indispensable to eliminate the bourgeoisie and build socialism and communism.

Sharpening of Struggle

This becomes real as the revolutionary army grows and develops. At this stage it is inevitable that the friction erupts, that the splits occur, and that genuinely revolutionary forces differentiate themselves politically, organizationally and ideologically. This develops into an acute crisis in the traditionally revolutionary organizations. It is simply the sharpening of class struggle as the people become aware of their true interest and the hesitation of the intermediate classes. That is when the presence of nonrevolutionary class elements in these parties is clearly shown in its true depths. They give only verbal support or do not support armed struggle; and in some cases, where circumstances and/or opportunism has led them to participate, they are a brake, trying to twist, distort, and derail, and, in the final analysis, destroy the struggle. The revolutionary sectors, led by the guerrillas, have the historical responsibility of denouncing and exposing these people and blocking their aims; preserving and developing the instruments of mass power—in the first place, the revolutionary army. Going resolutely forward, developing people's war, organizing the masses, unifying all democratic and nationalist sectors, fighting until victory. This has happened in Venezuela and Guatemala; it will happen in Colombia and in every Latin American country where liberation war breaks out. The cleansing of the revolutionary camp will mean great strides forward and victory for the people.

Strike in Brazil

Fifteen thousand workers in Brazil added their weight to that of recent student demonstrations by staging a nine-day strike at the end of April in defiance of the military regime.

The strike began April 16 when two metal plants went out at Belo Horizonte, 200 miles north of Rio de Janeiro. Soon 19 factories had joined the strike.

The workers demanded a 50 percent increase in the minimum wage to offset skyrocketing inflation. The military government, which had authorized a 23-percent increase, quickly produced another 10 percent. Troops were brought out after workers voted unanimously to reject the offer. They returned to the job on April 25 under threat of arrest and trial by court-martial.

Guerrilla Struggle — An Interview

In the leadership of the Communist Party the conciliatory thesis gains strength, placing the entire movement in serious crisis. They demand that the guerrillas in the country and in the city retreat, suspending all operations indefinitely.

At the same time the role of the guerrillas in confronting this position also takes shape as measures are taken to save the armed groups from destruction. This includes organizing the FALN General Staff, representing the most developed cadres formed in the war, into a unified political-military leadership; taking the necessary measures to reorganize the revolutionary movement and all its organizations and instruments.

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Regroupment of Forces

The ranks of the true revolutionaries are regrouped. Uniting closely, they begin to carry out plans for facing the enemy, beginning a new stage characterized by military operations of a greater content and impact. Ambushing the army on large roads, reorganizing the guerrillas in detachments operating in large zones with great mobility, carrying the message of liberation to broad sectors of the peasant mass. The revolutionary leadership moves to the mountains. Politically, we can sum up each of the stages



MOUNTAIN INTERVIEW. Douglas Bravo, commander-in-chief of Venezuelan FLN (left), during taped interview with editor of Mexican magazine, *Successos*. At right Luben Petkoff, second-in-command, whom Venezuelan Army claims may have been killed. (See story below.)

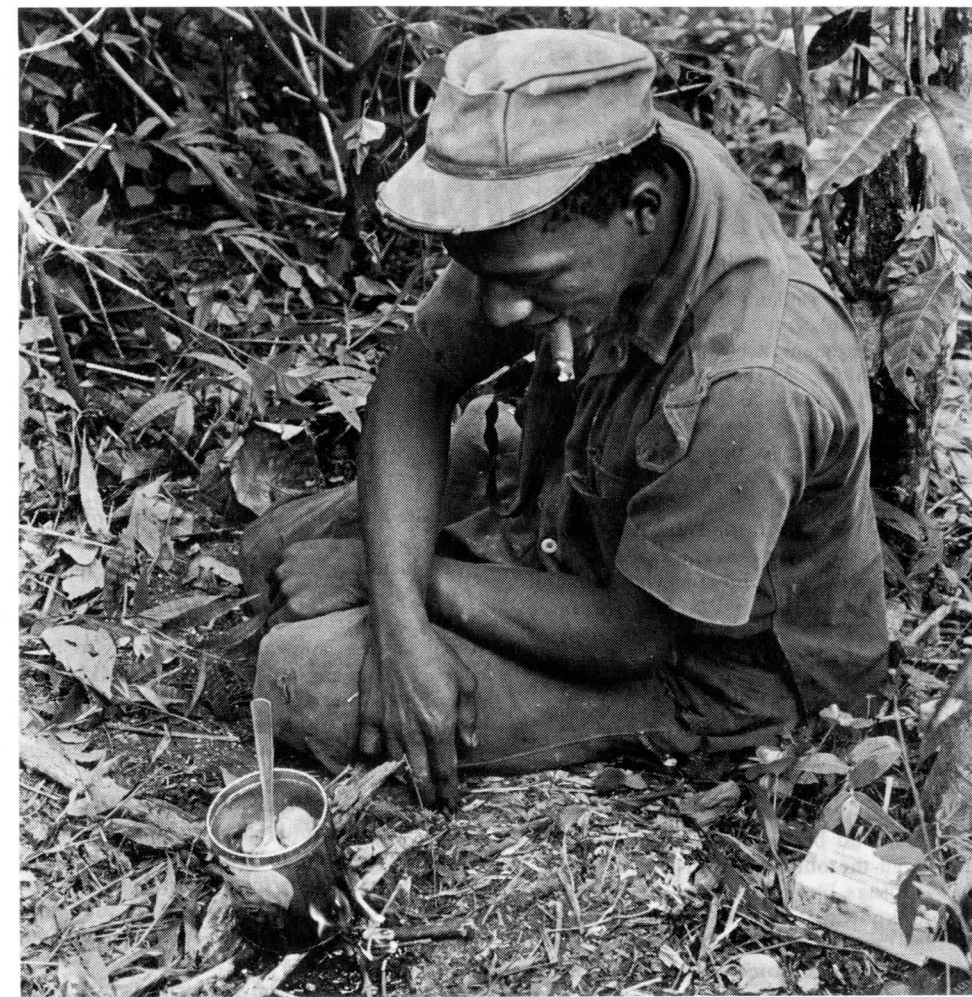
They control our import and export markets. Our country also provides oil, steel and aluminum for the Yankee war machine.

From this economic control their tentacles spread to every aspect of our national life. It dictates the policy we must follow at home and abroad, deforms our national culture, corrupts our social life, and absorbs sectors of the national industry and agriculture. In the military field they place all their experience at the service of the antiguerrilla campaign, organizing the special detachments of the army. A large military mission also organizes espionage and repression.

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Union Brass Pushes For OK of Phone Pact

The so-called settlement of the telephone strike and swift vote of ratification on the tentative agreement arrived at between the Communications Workers of America and the vast Bell Systems last weekend is another example of the angry mood of workers today, their unwillingness to buy a pig in a poke just because their "leaders" tell them they are getting a bargain.

The CWA negotiators and the Bell System representatives arrived at an agreement on May 2, providing a 19.59 percent wage and fringe benefit boost for 200,000 telephone workers over a three year contract. One of the terms of that contract was retroactive pay boosts to April 1 if the contract was ratified immediately, with all workers returning to their posts by May 6.

On Sunday May 5, hurriedly-called meetings voted. The results were a 5 to 3 majority for ratification. But—23,000 Western Electric installers, who began the strike on April 18, challenged the outcome, charged "irregularities"—things like many local unions voting without knowing what was in the package; the fact that less than half of the 200,000 strikers did vote, some because they could

The National Picketline

not; the additional fact that 8,000 installers could not vote, or chose not to.

The installers announced that so far as they were concerned, the strike was still on. On May 6, their picket lines were honored by other non-management employes in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Michigan, all of New England except Connecticut, parts of northern California, Nevada, most of New York City and its suburbs, and parts of Illinois.

After two days, Beirne and his CWA executive board capitulated. They agreed that there had been some irregularities in the vote. They promised the installers a new vote on ratification within two weeks if that unit would lift its picket lines and go back to work.

So as this is written, the strike is over. But after these workers have had time to study the package Mr. Beirne might find himself in more hot water. Who knows?

Cost of Living Still Climbing

The Consumer Price Index rose another four-tenths of one percent in March, following the pattern for the past six months. That brings the annual rate of increase to a full four percent, the highest since 1951.

The Bureau's report shows that the average breadwinner lost six cents a week in purchasing power. Thus the price increases more than wipe out the average pay gains of a cent an hour won last month by American workers. The average pay was \$104.43 per week.

Memphis Janitors Win Recognition

The Memphis Board of Education agreed on May 1 to recognize a maintenance union as bargaining agent for school janitors. The 115 janitors involved, all black, have been "off work for two days to negotiate with the board."

The Board made its decision after the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees had attempted to organize the men. A spokesman for the maintenance union (unnamed) said that an agreement has been reached between itself and AFSCME to allow the federation to represent other nonacademic school board employes.

Insurance Workers Win Pay Increase

The Insurance Workers International Union has won a two-day strike against the Metropolitan Insurance Co., covering 11,000 insurance-agent members.

The new pact provides pay increases of \$13 a week, a maintenance-of-membership provision, increased expense allowances, higher commission rates and the assumption by the company of fringe benefit costs.

"Outside Influence?"

Not so says official of San Quentin, California's state prison. Disturbances at the prison do not need any outsiders to foment them—the prisoners earn from 2 to 16 cents per hour for factory work, depending on experience.

Campaign News

by Caroline Lund

It's interesting to leaf through the bundle of mail that comes into the national Halstead-Boutelle campaign office on an average day. On May 6 this is what came in:

Three people ordered copies of "The Truth About the McCarthy Campaign." One of these, a supporter from West Orange, N.J., wrote, "Not that I need any convincing, but I would like to show it to some people who believe him to be a 'peace' candidate." The campaign office has been receiving an average of five requests for the McCarthy pamphlet each day. That's besides bundle orders.

From Lancaster, South Carolina, we received this letter: "Please send me some information on your party. Any leaflets, books, subscription offers, etc."

"I recently wrote the Socialist Labor Party and received information from them. I was unsatisfied with their party, although I did subscribe to their magazine out of curiosity only."

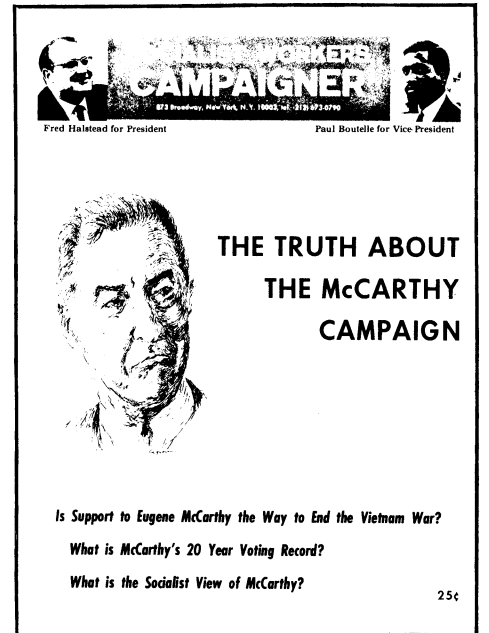
Mrs. Allen Gillett from Troy, N.Y., who belongs to the Newtonville Society for Marxist Studies, sent her endorsement of the Halstead-Boutelle campaign and wrote that she couldn't send a donation yet because, "We are short of funds now, but we hope to start a fund raising drive."

Susan Ierardi, a student from Spelman College in Atlanta, sent in the coupon from the CHOICE 68 Militant (a special issue published by the SWP Campaign Committee for distribution before the voting in the campus CHOICE 68 elections). She endorsed the socialist nominees and volunteered to help petition to get the SWP on the ballot in Connecticut, which is her home.

A supporter from the Connecticut College for Women writes, "Would you please send us some 'Black Control of Black Community' stickers—we'll be glad to reimburse you."

Six new endorser cards came in from Portland, Ore., five from Berkeley, Calif., and one from Carbondale, Ill.

A clipping of a front-page story on Fred Halstead's speech to students at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill was sent in by a campaigner. As a result of this meeting there is now a supporters' group of 12 students at the University of N. Carolina.



A supporter in New Jersey sent in a \$5 contribution to Fred Halstead's trip to Saigon and Japan in August.

A contribution of \$111 came in from the Minnesota SWP Campaign Committee. The campaign treasurer wrote: "The Twin Cities Campaign Committee sponsored a book bazaar to raise money for our election work. Since, however, we have our bills paid up, we decided to send the proceeds of the book bazaar to the special fund set up for Fred Halstead's trip to Saigon. We raised a clear \$111 from this book bazaar, which was organized in a very short time and was far more successful than we thought possible."

Eric Poulos, chairman of a high school SDS group in Long Island City, N.Y., wrote in to endorse the Halstead-Boutelle ticket.

And finally, a Brother from Saint Raphael's Friary in Lafayette, N.J. wrote: "We are attempting to put some teeth into the young religious of our day. We want them to be 'in the middle of life.' Information concerning your candidates will help us toward our goal. Do you have information available?" We do.

CALENDAR

BOSTON

THE COLUMBIA STUDENT REVOLT—A Firsthand Report by Paula Reimers, a participant in the student strike. Friday, May 17, 8:15 p.m. 295 Huntington Ave., rm. 307 (one block from Mass. Ave.). A usp. Militant Labor Forum.

CHICAGO

BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL WARFARE. Speaker: Dr. Theodor Rosebury, professor of Bacteriology, Washington Univ. Friday, May 17, 8 p.m. 302 S. Canal. Contrib. 75 cents. A usp. Militant Labor Forum.

CLEVELAND

CUBA TODAY—AN EYEWITNESS. Speaker: Harry Ring, staff writer for The Militant. Saturday, May 25, 8 p.m. 9801 Euclid Ave. Contrib. \$1. A usp. Militant Forum.

LOS ANGELES

BIWEEKLY RADIO COMMENTARY over KPFK (90.6 FM) by Theodore Edwards, Southern Calif. chairman, Socialist Workers Party. Monday, May 20 and June 3, at 6:15 p.m.; repeated Tuesday, May 21 and June 4, at 9:45 a.m.

NEW YORK

WHY WE STRIKE: A Symposium of Columbia Students. Panelists include: Ed Hyman, Steering Committee member, Students for a Democratic Society (SDS); Patricia Grogan, Barnard student and member, Young Socialist Alliance; and Juan Gonzalez, member of Strike Steering Committee.

Friday, May 17, 8:30 p.m. 873 Broadway, near 18th St. Contrib. \$1 A usp. Militant Labor Forum.

TWIN CITIES

BLACK NATIONALISM AND THE STRUGGLE FOR A SOCIALIST AMERICA. Speaker: Derrick Morrison, member of the National Executive Committee, Young Socialist Alliance. Friday, May 17, 8:30 p.m., 704 Hennepin, hall 240, Minneapolis. A usp. Twin Cities Socialist Forum.

----- clip and mail -----

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Socialist Conference Is Held in Berkeley

by Derrel Myers

BERKELEY, Calif.—Well over 200 West Coasters attended a spirited Socialist Educational Weekend here May 3-5. The weekend, sponsored by Young Socialists for Halstead and Boutelle, followed a period of intense campaigning when YSHB trailblazers thumped 125 campuses building support for the April 26 and 27 antiwar actions and the Socialist campaign.

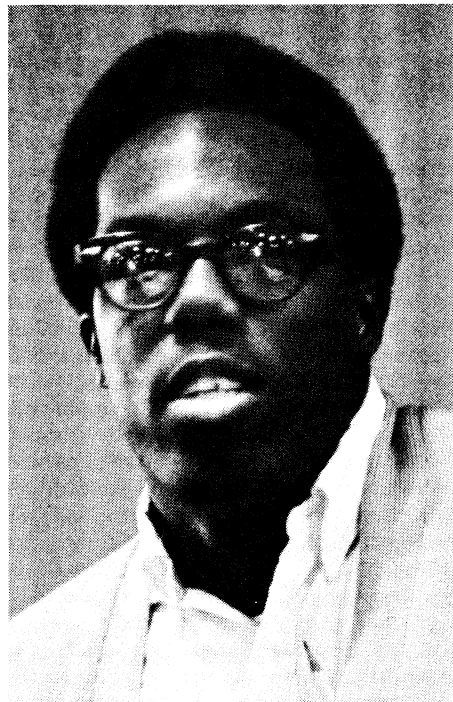
The weekend, surpassing expectations of its organizers, attracted youth from places as far away as Seattle, Wash.; Eugene, Ore.; and Los Angeles. They came from more than 20 college campuses, eight high schools and one military base.

The educational program included Fred Halstead, Socialist Workers Party candidate for President, Howard Petrick, Derrick Morrison, John Gray and Peter Camejo. Petrick is an antiwar GI who was recently given an undesirable discharge from the

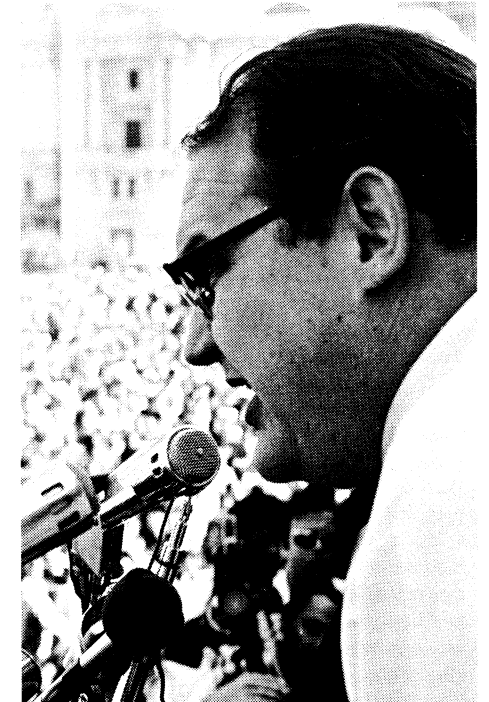
Army for his antiwar and socialist views. Derrick Morrison is a member of the national committee of the Young Socialist Alliance and a founder of the National Black Anti-War Anti-Draft Union. Gray is Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in Los Angeles. Peter Camejo is the SWP candidate for U. S. Senate from California and a leader of the antiwar movement on the Berkeley campus.

The program began with a lively debate between Halstead and representatives of the Kennedy and McCarthy campaigns. It included presentations and workshops on the Vietnam war, antiwar sentiment among GIs, Black Power, and independent political action.

The educational portion of the weekend ended on an enthusiastic note when Ralph Schoenman, personal secretary to Bertrand Russell, unexpectedly addressed the young audience and explained the importance of building the socialist movement.



Derrick Morrison



Fred Halstead

Detroit Newspaper Strike in 6th Month

By Sarah Lovell

DETROIT, May 5—It seems almost as difficult to get negotiations going here in the strike and lockout of the newspaper workers at the News and the Free Press as it is in Vietnam. Governor Romney, after his intervention here, apparently is now convinced that his efforts to compel negotiations and settlement are washed up. The newspaper shutdown will reach the six-month mark May 16, the longest newspaper blackout in any sizeable city in the history of this country.

At a press conference here April 26, Romney expressed displeasure and impatience with the continuing strike and stepped in as mediator. He called a meeting of the publishers and the international presidents of the striking unions and the teamsters to take place at his office in Lansing on April 30, and stated that refusal to appear would be met with issuance of subpoenas.

The participants were to stay there until an agreement was reached. If they could not agree within 10 days, Romney, in collaboration with the State Senate Huber Committee, an anti-labor, pro-publisher committee which already had conducted an investigation into the strike, would introduce an emergency bill providing for compulsory arbitration.

On that same day, in response to Romney, the printers and the mailers held a mass picket line at the Free Press and News buildings, headed by International Typographical Union President John J. Pilch, who, coincidentally, was in Detroit. At the spirited rally following the picketing, Pilch took strong objection to Romney's dictatorial method and expressed complete opposition to compulsory arbitration.

Pilch agreed, however, in the interest of showing his desire to promote negotiations, to appear in Lansing if the publishers did.

Publisher Refuses

However, Peter B. Clark, publisher of the News, said he wouldn't attend such a meeting. He said that the efforts to settle the strike with state and city mediators were bearing fruit and negotiations were proceeding properly. A subpoena was issued to compel his appearance.

Instead of appearing, Clark obtained a federal injunction restraining the governor and the state committee from further interference in the News' negotiations.

Meantime, and probably for the duration, the parties to the dispute are back in Detroit, in the offices of the mayor, and continuous negotiations are being scheduled.

The most important part of the report of the events in Lansing as far as the strikers are concerned was the following. While Romney was holding a meeting with employer representatives from the Free Press and local union officers, a telephone call was received by the printers. This call, from a reliable source, informed them that the News was about to operate the plant with strikebreakers.

They left the meeting immediately and rushed back to Detroit. After a complete check, they concluded that the report was groundless. Nevertheless, this rumor has added a new dimension of concern and vigilance.

Long Strike Expected

The workers have prepared for a long strike. They have gotten extra jobs to sup-

plement strike benefits. Members of the family are helping out. Picketing weather is getting better every day. Pickets at the News have had the company of women pickets across the road at Bell Telephone. And across from the Free Press are the striking construction workers.

But bringing in strikebreakers is another story. The rumor persists that the publishers

may attempt this. There seems no other explanation for their behavior. But the attempt is sure to provoke a showdown here because more is at stake than the printing industry. Detroit is the home base of the auto union and unionists here are sure that an attempt to introduce the open shop in the printing industry would rally the auto union to the support of the printing trades.



A FIT PAIR. Michigan's Gov. Romney (right), during his tenure as president of American Motors, receiving award for "excellence in management" from none other than "Dear Grayson" Kirk, the cop-loving president of Columbia University whose private correspondence files revealed he's on a first-name basis with quite a few of the country's top business moguls.

The Great Society

Precisely Spoken—William Petersen, a Wall Street banker who is chairman of the board of trustees of Columbia University, expressed the hope that the school would "get back to business quickly."

Enthusiast—The April 29 Sports Illustrated reported that ranking generals often play tennis to keep fit. "One such," the magazine said, "is Gen. William Westmoreland who managed to play twice a week through most of the Vietnam campaign." Smashing the old tennis ball around in Hawaii recently, he observed: "When I'm on the court everything goes out of my mind but tennis. I concentrate on only one thing, winning. If my skill matched my enthusiasm, I could be a good player." Sounds like the same problem he had in his work.

The Unequaled Society—A May 6 New York Times editorial stated: "Millions of children, too poor to pay for their lunch in school, must watch daily as their more affluent classmates eat. Millions of others go hungry 'only' a few days a week while they wait for their turn to come again in an absurd and inhumane system that allows them only two or three free lunches a week. And many of those who are included in the National School Lunch Program are subjected to the humiliation of having to wait at the end of the line until the paying customers have been fed." But we thought that "ability to pay" was an essential ingredient of the free enterprise system which the New York Times so fervently supports.

So That's the Problem!—America, says LBJ, "is made up of Harry Trumans."

Changing Mores?—We remember as a youth the shady looking characters who would sidle into the local poolroom offering shoelaces, razor blades and —out of the side of his mouth—"sundries." Now in India, mailmen are being stocked to sell American-made contraceptives while making their rounds. It's part of the government effort to "curb" population growth.

Sporting Life—Not all wealthy Americans are tightfisted. The New York Times finds that African safaris are now the in thing with the jet set. A round trip can be organized for \$8,000, including a hunting staff of 15 African "boys." But sometimes there are extra expenses. For instance, Robert Lee, an enthusiast who sells safari equipment, tells of one couple who took along 20 boxes of kleenex and wired for 60 more a week later because the lady had hay fever. The extra tissue was flown in for \$1,000.

But, like they used to say, When you gotta blow, you gotta blow.

Virgin Mary Moves—Twelve clergymen of the Coptic Orthodox Church in the United Arab Republic affirmed at a press conference their acceptance of reports of the appearances of the Virgin Mary in Cairo. Newsmen were given a press release headed, "Virgin Mary Appears Daily in Cairo." One Cairo newspaper commented: "Another Palestinian refugee. She could not stand it in Jerusalem after the Israeli occupation."

Spartans—There are 153 individuals in the U.S. who are "worth" more than \$100 million, according to Fortune magazine. Like good Americans, they live modestly. "Many of the super rich," the magazine reports, "are as frugal as any middle class suburbanite, getting by with a couple of cars, a house and perhaps a summer cottage with a boat."

Probably Get to Be General—"I'm particularly anxious to take the eye test," says Harold Krents, a Harvard law student whose draft board back in Mt. Vernon, N. Y., insists that he appear for a physical. Krents is blind.

Dep't of Journalistic Objectivity—Pittsburgh residents generally take it for granted that the town is owned by the Mellon family, whose interests embrace banks, steel mills, newspapers, railroads, etc. Their holdings in common stocks alone were recently estimated at \$4.2 billion. Thus it was refreshing to see the absence of sensationalism in the Wall Street Journal's recent reference to Paul Mellon as a man whose "family interests include several business enterprises."

How Humanistic Can You Get?—A May 3 UPI dispatch from Washington reported: "The Navy is willing to make a submarine rescue service available to any country that asks for it, including Communist nations, officials said today." We assume, however, that before anyone is removed from a trapped submarine he will sign a pledge not to engage in subversive activity while aboard a Free World vessel.

Rocking the Cradle—Baby doctor Benjamin Spock is not only "subverting" draft-age youth, but is responsible for the whole generation of teen-age rebels. Newsweek magazine reported: "The Democratic National Committee is issuing wholesale reprints of a sermon by Norman Vincent Peale . . . blaming today's uproar on the campuses and in the streets on Dr. Benjamin Spock's 'permissive child-rearing advice.'" — Harry Ring

SOCIALIST FUND

Bucking the Image-Makers

By Evelyn Reed
Fund Director

Running for office today is "a rich man's business," said William Bernbach on a TV program last week. As chairman of one of the top 10 advertising agencies in the country, he should know. His firm has made millions fabricating the right "image" for peddling various kinds of merchandise, from cosmetics to candidates for high office. This includes the Presidency.

"The most important element in successful merchandising is getting believed," he said. This job is not so easy for the Democratic aspirants, whose credible images have suffered wear and tear.

Take Hubert Humphrey, whose campaign is being financed by some of the nation's richest men. He was once the liberal's liberal and then became Johnson's pet war-hawk. To reprettify his image he proclaims himself "the Happy Warrior." H. H. H. expects to roll up to the White House on the three wheels of "happy, heart and hope."

Wealthy Bobby Kennedy has to do some fast and fancy footwork to switch from one

image to another, depending on where he is campaigning at the moment. He talks like a conservative in Indiana, a liberal in New York, and a radical in Berkeley.

McCarthy plays a similar fast-change role. He wore an "I have a dream" button in Gary, Ind., as part of his costume while campaigning among the black voters there. As soon as he passed over into the lily-white area, he discarded that dream decoration.

The Socialist Workers Party candidates for President and Vice-President don't have to adopt any masquerades or change from one pose into its opposite. Both Fred Halstead and Paul Boutelle are honest working men presenting a straightforward set of demands for the working people as part of their socialist alternative to capitalist politics.

You can help them expose the fake images of Kennedy, Humphrey and McCarthy by contributing to the \$26,000 SWP Spring Fund. Use the coupon on this page and send us your donation today.

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Public Support Mounts For Oakland Panthers

By Susan Harris

New forces are rallying to the defense of the Oakland, Calif., Black Panther Party in the face of recent intensified attacks against them.

A group of prominent individuals including James Baldwin, Ossie Davis, Oscar Lewis, Norman Mailer and Susan Sontag sent a letter to the New York Times May 6 condemning the murder of Panther Party treasurer Bobby James Hutton "as yet another act of racism against persons who take a militant stand on the rights of black people to determine the conditions of their lives, as yet another effort to destroy this nation's black leadership."

A group of faculty members at four Bay Area colleges have issued a statement demanding that "the California Attorney General immediately step in to determine which policemen fired the shots that killed Bobby Hutton, and to lodge murder charges against the appropriate policemen."

Immediately after the murder of Bobby James Hutton, 8,500 people marched from the Berkeley campus of the University of California to the Alameda County Courthouse in Oakland to protest the assassination and to demand that Black Panther leaders Huey P. Newton and Eldridge Cleaver be freed.

On Thursday, April 11, Professor Harry Edwards of San Jose State College, organizer of the Olympic games boycott, announced that he was joining the Black Panther Party and urged all black people to do likewise.

On Friday, April 12, a large memorial meeting for Bobby Hutton was held in Mer-



James Baldwin

ritt Park in Oakland.

A number of prominent writers including Nat Hentoff, Murray Kempton, LeRoi Jones, Terry Southern and Andrew Kopkind have signed a statement urging people to support the defense fund to defend the Black Panther Party.

Those wishing to aid the defense of the Panthers should send contributions to the Eldridge Cleaver Defense Fund, c/o Cathleen Cleaver, 2860 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, Calif. 94705.

Big March Answers Daley's Police Attack

CHICAGO—The antiwar movement here achieved a victory May 4 as nearly 4,000 people reaffirmed their right to demonstrate at Chicago's Civic Center—renamed DuSable Plaza by the marchers in honor of the first settler in Chicago, Jean Batiste DuSable, a black man. A march was held from the University of Illinois to the Plaza and was followed by a rally.

A mood of victory and optimism permeated the crowd. Only a week before, on April 27, the police had brutally dispersed an antiwar march of 10,000 people. Today's march, which occurred without incident, was called in response to the previous week's events and rallied considerable support for the antiwar movement's right to protest.

In the course of the last week, Chicagoans of many political persuasions expressed their shock and indignation at the police attack on the April 27 demonstration. Nearly 80 people were arrested and scores injured in Mayor Richard "Shoot-to-Kill" Daley's show of force last week.

At least half of those arrested were maced after being taken into police custody. Some were taken into the Civic Center building and clubbed and maced in an elevator. Others were maced in police wagons. Injuries were widespread. Even today it was reported to the demonstration that one person was still in the hospital with possible brain damage.

One demonstrator's report was typical. "The police were pushing the crowd. I got hit by a club; then the cops grabbed me and maced me. They dragged me on my stomach into the Civic Center. I was hit by them inside the building. They threw me into the elevator, where they kicked and punched me. The police didn't wear their badges. The operator of the elevator was a policeman. They didn't let me make a phone call."

Another demonstrator reported that "tear gas was coming through the vents in the cell in the Civic Center for about two hours."

Refusing to be intimidated, the antiwar

movement rallied to turn out for today's demonstration, called by the Ad Hoc May 4th Committee.

Newspapers and radio shows received numerous letters and telephone calls expressing shock at the police brutality.

The American Civil Liberties Union rallied to the defense of the proposed march. Jay Miller, executive director of the Illinois ACLU, blasted the "arbitrary denial of facilities and the extreme use of undisciplined force against citizens." He said that the ACLU would assist in the formation of a committee of prominent citizens to look into the events of April 27 and report its findings to the people of Chicago.

On the citizens' commission are: Dr. Edgar H.S. Chandler, executive director of the Church Federation of Greater Chicago; Dr. Edward Sparling, president emeritus of Roosevelt University; and Professor Harry Kalven of the University of Chicago Law School. Others will be added.

This type of broad response forced the city to keep hands off the May 4 demonstration. The Sun-Times, in a May 3 editorial entitled "Keep It Cool Tomorrow," said "seldom in recent years have we received as many complaints, by mail and telephone, about the behavior of the police as we have about this incident April 27."

The march May 4 was overwhelmingly youthful, as last Saturday's. But the broad support that today's march received enabled it to succeed—which contains a lesson that antiwar activists are learning.

Speakers at DuSable Plaza included two militants, Mary Nelson of SDS and Mrs. Henry of the Garfield Organization, as well as Alderman William Cousins and Rev. Victor Obenhaus of the Chicago Theological Seminary.

The antiwar movement is continuing its defense and publicity efforts around the events of April 27.

CP Says It Plans Presidential Bid

by Doug Jenness

NEW YORK—The Communist Party announced it intends to field a presidential ticket this November. A statement by Party chairman Henry Winston, published on page 2 of the May 7 Worker, said a recent meeting of the Party's National Executive Board made the decision to enter the presidential race and that nominations for President and Vice-President would be made at a special Fourth of July convention.

Winston said the party would seek ballot status "wherever possible" and run write-in campaigns elsewhere. He did not indicate how extensive an effort would be made to win state ballot places. By July 4 it will be too late to get on the ballot in a number of important states including Pennsylvania, Michigan and New Jersey.

If the CP does enter the presidential race it will be the first time it has done so since 1940.

Since 1936, the CP has engaged in one or another form of capitalist "coalition" politics. In 1936, the party nominated Earl Browder but actually campaigned for Franklin Roosevelt under the slogan of "defeat Landon (his Republican opponent) at all costs."

In the 1967 book, "As We Saw the 30s," Browder explained that the campaign was conducted in such a way as to "assure Roosevelt all votes under our influence except the die-hard opponents of all 'capitalist' candidates who, without a Communist candidate, would switch to Norman Thomas or even the Socialist Labor Party."

In 1940, during the Stalin-Hitler pact, the party switched its line and, while running Browder for the last time, gave left-handed support to Republican Wendell Wilkie.

In 1944, the party faithfully reversed field again as a result of the World War II alliance between U.S., French and British imperialism and the USSR. This time they abandoned the pretense of an independent campaign and went all out for Roosevelt.

In 1948, at the opening of the cold war, the CP backed Henry Wallace, the millionaire who ran as the "peace" candidate of the Progressive Party, a third capitalist party formation. (In 1950, Wallace supported the U.S. war of aggression in Korea.)

In 1952, the CP gave formal support to the nomination of Vincent Hallinan by the Progressive Party but actually knifed his campaign, with many party members campaigning for the Democrat, Adlai Stevenson.

By 1956, the party tops had decided the Progressive Party experience had been an "ultra left adventure" and concentrated on unofficial but active support for Stevenson in his second bid.

In 1960, party supporters were told Richard Nixon was the "main enemy," the signal to hustle votes for John F. Kennedy.

Supported Johnson

By the time it came to the 1964 contest, the party was almost hysterical in its pronouncements about the "ultra-right menace" of Goldwater and hailed Johnson's election as a "peoples" victory for peace.

While the party leadership now apparently feels some pressure to at least talk of fielding a presidential ticket, it has already made clear that such an action does not mean they are ready to break with their ruinous policy of support to "lesser evil" capitalist candidates.



WILLING. CP secretary Gus Hall has indicated he's available for a presidential draft.

Black Pa. College Students Occupy Administration Bldg.

by Joel Aber

CHEYNEY, Pa., May 6—For the second time in a month and a half, students at Cheyney State College, which is 85 percent black, have occupied the administration building here to dramatize their demands for a more decent education and for more control over their curriculum. In March, the Cheyney administration responded to their demands by closing the school and sending everyone home for an "extended Spring vacation."

Pennsylvania Governor Raymond Shafer had promised to appoint a committee to "investigate conditions" at Cheyney. More than a month has passed, and nothing has changed here, so the students decided that it was necessary to once again dramatize the inferior education that they are receiving.

Third of Campus Took Part

Today at 11 a.m., 400 students, about one third of the campus, moved into the administration building and are occupying it until a committee of the state legislature agrees to hear their grievances. Recently a black power slate overwhelmingly defeated a slate of Uncle Toms and white students in the student government election, and the spokesman for the students during this demonstration is the president of the student government.

On the scene of the demonstration, I could not get the opportunity to speak to any of the students because the doors to the building were barricaded. Outside, the campus is swarming with reporters from the white capitalist press who are apparently waiting in anticipation of some action by Pennsylvania state troopers stationed near the campus.

The scene here is quite peaceful. Food is periodically brought in to the students. A Black Liberation flag flies from the building. Every window and every entrance is guarded by students, who are obviously quite disciplined and organized. Only authorized press releases are given to reporters.

Thus far the governor's only response to student demands has been a statement that "I won't permit students to take over the campus." Student leaders have responded with the statement that, "We haven't taken over anything. All we are doing is sitting in this building until a legislative committee listens to our just grievances."

Antiwar Students Stage Protest at Boston Common

BOSTON, Mass.—More than 1,500 people assembled April 27 on the Boston Common for an antiwar rally held in solidarity with the international day of protest. GIs and veterans opposed to the war, and high school students were prominent at the demonstration.

The rally, organized in a single week, was sponsored by 16 organizations representing a broad spectrum of student and adult antiwar groups.

The call to the demonstration demanded the immediate withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam; black control of black communities; and support to the demands of the United Front, a coalition recently formed to achieve black control of the Roxbury area community.

Following the performance of a one-act "guerrilla" play by the Caravan Theater, the rally heard a number of speakers, including Russell Johnson of the American Friends Service Committee; Howard Petrick, a member of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance recently given an undesirable discharge from the Army because of his socialist and antiwar views; Joe Kugelmas of New England Resistance; Ken Cloke of the American Lawyers Guild; and a representative of the United Front.