

WORKERS' POWER

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Cop Confesses - George Jackson

MURDERED!

by Karen Kaye

A former Los Angeles Police special agent, Louis E. Tackwood, admitted in court April 12 that his "last completed assignment" in 1971 was "the assassination of George Jackson."

Jackson, a black revolutionary, was shot in the back August 21, 1971 by a guard at San Quentin where he was imprisoned.

Tackwood's statement came as defense testimony in a trial of six other San Quentin inmates who face charges of murder and conspiracy stemming from the incident in which Jackson died.

The admission confirms what Jackson's defenders have always said: that Jackson was purposely murdered by the authorities.

"As far back as 1970 my assignment was to get George Jackson," Tackwood said.

The state claims that Jackson was attempting escape, armed with a gun they claim he had hidden in an Afro wig.

SAN QUENTIN 6

The San Quentin Six are accused as conspirators in Jackson's alleged "escape attempt" and charged with the murder of three prison guards who died in the melee following Jackson's murder.

The state was out to get Jackson because he was a revolutionary who organized prisoners to stand up for their rights.

Prison made Jackson a revolutionary. In 1960, at the age of 18, George Jackson was arrested for stealing \$70.

He was sentenced to one year to life—an "indeterminate sentence" that means if you don't obey, you never get out.

In 1970 black people and revolutionaries across the country rallied to defend Jackson and two other prisoners who had been framed. They were known as the Soledad Three.

BROTHER KILLED

In August, 1970 Jackson's younger brother Johnathan and three other armed men stormed the Marin County Courthouse demanding the release of the Soledad brothers.

Johnathan and two others were killed in the attempt.

Two thousand people came to the funeral of Johnathan Jackson and



William Christmas. Members of the Black Panther Party served as an honor guard.

Letters from Jackson to Angela Davis revealed that he knew they were out to get him.

As early as June, 1970 he wrote, "I told [my parents] about the lieutenants and the others who propositioned some of the most vicious white convicts in the state: 'Kill Jackson. We'll do you some good.'"

The San Quentin Six are on trial for being black and for allying themselves with George Jackson's revolutionary ideas.

Every day they sit in the court shackled and chained to chairs bolted to the courthouse floor.

George Jackson wrote, "If we fall through fear and lack of aggressive imagination, then the slaves of the future will curse us, as we sometimes curse those of yesterday."

"I don't want to die and leave a few sad songs and a hump in the ground as my only monument."

The San Quentin Six—Fleeta Drumgo, David Johnson, Hugo Pinell, Johnny Spain, Luis Talamantez and Willie Tate, who is out on bail—must go free.

But Holmes is by far a slicker and smarter union politician.

Most likely either Holmes or someone directly under International President Frank Fitzsimmons' control will be running the local from now on.

Whoever it is, his assignment will be simple: destroy the TDC, and return the local to business as usual.

That's the usual business of sell out and capitulation to the employers.

National Rubber Strike Nears

by David Katz

There is every likelihood that the second major industry-wide strike of the month will begin at midnight April 20. Negotiations are going nowhere on a new contract covering 70,000 rubber workers at the four major tire companies.

The most important issue involved is wages. Even more so than the Teamsters, who struck earlier this month, rubber workers have been badly battered by inflation.

Traditionally, the United Rubber Workers' union (URW) has maintained wage parity with auto workers.

But three years ago, in the midst of government wage controls, the URW settled for roughly 6% a year wage increases, with absolutely no cost-of-living allowance.

At the time, URW President Peter Bommarito called it "a tremendous settlement."

DISAGREED

Most rubber workers didn't think so. At Goodyear, 40% of the local union presidents have been voted out of office since 1973.

And in the last three years, rubber production workers have fallen about \$1.45 an hour behind auto production workers. For skilled tradesmen, the loss is about \$2.00.

Consequently, there is tremendous pressure on Bommarito this year. There is no way he can get away with a settlement as low as the last one.

The union is demanding catch-up wage increases, as well as full cost-of-living protection.

In previous years, the URW has chosen a target company from among the Big Four: Goodyear, Firestone, and Uniroyal.

But the companies have been operating under a mutual assistance agreement which helps whichever one is the strike target.

Partly for that reason, the union leadership is talking about a strike against all four companies this year.

There's another reason, too. Last time Goodyear was the target company. After the settlement, Bommarito had a hard time selling the contract to workers at other companies.

There were some wildcat strikes and Bommarito had to strike both Goodrich and Firestone to win a contract slightly improved over the Goodyear pattern.

This year Bommarito knows the contract will have to be more than slightly improved if he's to stand a chance of getting it accepted.



The San Quentin defendants chained by guards. The San Quentin Six have testified that on the day George Jackson was killed, the inmates were "chained like animals, lying naked upon the grass." "We were subjected to all types of physical brutality, beaten with clubs, kicked, tortured with lighted cigarettes, cursed at, spit upon, dragged, stuck with pins."

Teamster Official Goes Fishing - For Good

DETROIT LOCAL PRESIDENT RESIGNS IN WAKE OF STRIKE



Johnson (left) and Holmes. No smiles during the wildcat.

DETROIT—The first head has rolled in the Teamsters Union as the result of Teamsters for a Decent Contract. It belongs to David Johnson, Jimmy Hoffa's hand-picked successor as president of Local 299 here.

Johnson has let it be known that he is resigning his office, effective July 1.

An assistant explained to the Detroit News: "He's 68 and I guess he thinks it's time to quit. He's

got a good pension. He has been spending most of his time in Florida, anyhow, and he likes to fish."

Not many Detroit Teamsters were biting at that story. The fact is that Johnson is being dumped because he's useless to the International leadership.

During the TDC-led two-day wildcat strike here early this month, Johnson proved completely unable to control his membership.

National TV news reports showed him being chased from the stage by 3000 angry Teamsters at the height of the strike.

BAILED OUT

At every critical point during the strike, International Vice President Bobby Holmes was brought in to bail Johnson out. Holmes was in fact chased from the stage along with Johnson.

GARY MUST NOT DIE!

by Red Walker

Gary Tyler is a 17-year-old black man sentenced to death for the murder of a 13-year-old white youth in Louisiana, May 5.

From the very beginning, the case has been a big frame-up.

It began in 1974 when a group of white students were throwing bricks, bottles and other things at a bus of black kids.

Someone shot a gun. A white student was killed.

The cops came and started dragging people off the bus, holding guns on them. They forced the black students to lie on the ground.

The deputy cop that was investi-

gating the case was the cousin of the dead boy.

He immediately started taking kids to the station, insisting that they had seen what happened. After beating a few kids, someone said they saw Gary do it.

Then the cop started beating Gary, asking him, "Nigger, who killed my cousin?"

Gary kept telling him over and over he did not do it.

TRIAL

In a small town in Louisiana where everybody knows each other it's hard to get a fair trial if you're black.

The witness that testified against him has now said she lied.

The gun that was supposed to have been used in the killing could not be found even after they had searched the bus two times. Then the cops said someone gave them a tip that Gary had cut the seat and put the gun under the seat.

That informer has known to be used before to testify for the police.

Since the day of the shooting, the Klan has tried to make this case part of the anti-busing movement.

David Duke, a national leader of the KKK, flew in from Boston to agitate for local racists and cops to convict Gary and increase racist activity against black people.

Gary has only a few weeks to live. People across the United States have to run a major campaign to save Gary. Send contributions to: The Gary Tyler Fund, Account #04-34-163-5, at the

Liberty Bank and Trust Co., 3039 Tulane Ave., New Orleans, La. 70119.

Gary must go free! □



Gary Tyler

They Blew Him Away

On March 27, Richard Dunn, a 19-year-old black man from New Orleans, had just left a fundraising benefit for Gary Tyler.

He and a friend were waiting for a bus outside the benefit hall when two white men pulled up in a car. One of them, armed with a shotgun, fired point blank at Dunn and his companion.

Dunn pushed his friend out of the way before being hit and killed by the blast.

No one has been charged with Dunn's murder. However, in an area where the Ku Klux Klan runs rampant, there is very little doubt as to who was responsible.

On the day after the murder more than 500 people attended a rally demanding freedom for Gary Tyler. Dunn's family was present.

As Dunn's mother Hattie said, "Somebody else's son might be next. Justice must be done for Tyler so that Richard didn't die in vain." □

labor notes

by Jim Woodward

With all the loopholes the rich use to avoid paying income taxes, it's only fair, isn't it, that someone has to make up the difference? That might be what the Internal Revenue Service had in mind when it ruled a group of teachers owed taxes on money they had never been paid. The money in question was a week's pay the teachers were penalized for a strike. Even though they never saw the money, the IRS ruled the teachers had to count it as income.

The United Auto Workers union has filed a suit against the Detroit and Michigan police, charging that the state and city "Red Squads" spied on the union. The suit says that the police turned the information over to the Big Three auto companies. We don't know of anyone who's called Leonard Woodcock a communist recently. But we do think this incident shows again that the purpose of anti-communist hysteria is to weaken a union, a rank and file movement, or any other movement that threatens established interests.

It would be bad publicity for Betty Ford to be seen crossing a picket line, so a federal judge issued an order April 8 requiring NBC technicians to move their picket line. The "First Lady" was to get a "Woman of the Year" award from Ladies' Home Journal. To avoid embarrassment, federal Judge Morris Lasker ordered the pickets to move from the front door to the stage door of the theater where the event was to take place. NBC technicians and newswriters have been locked out by the company in a contract dispute.

A cheap sell-out indeed! California Governor Jerry Brown is running for President. He recently addressed AFL-CIO leaders on the West Coast. One union official quoted in the Los Angeles Times, said afterwards: "Maybe a lot of what he says is just political rhetoric, but it's the kind of rhetoric I like to hear."

Quick quiz—name this employer who's the latest to be charged with illegally spying on its employees, illegally firing union activists, and using other "coercive" tactics to stop an organizing drive. Lockheed? AT&T? General Motors? No, it's another big business—the Catholic Church. In Los Angeles, the Church is fighting an organizing drive by its lay teachers in 26 Catholic high schools. The teachers want union recognition for the American Federation of Teachers.

Add leukemia to the list of occupational hazards. Five workers at the Goodrich plant in Port Neches, Texas have contracted the disease since 1966. Health officials suspect that styrenes may be responsible. Styrenes are chemicals used in manufacturing synthetic rubber.

Last year, T.W. Fauntleroy, president of Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Co., told striking workers that giving wage increases was not in keeping with the "family tradition." Strikers were forced to settle for peanuts, supposedly because the company could not afford adequate wage hikes. This year, Fauntleroy has a postscript to that statement. He says company profits for the first quarter will be "up nicely" from the \$805,231 a year ago.

What's happening where you work? Send items for this column to: Workers' Power, Labor Notes, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203. Or phone 313-869-5964.



Detroit riot police follow path of teargas they shot at angry black youths on Livernois Ave. last July.

Livernois Victims Face Third Trial

DETROIT—James Henderson, Raymond Peoples and Ronald Jordan have been held without bail since last July on a first degree murder rap that no one saw them commit.

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Last summer an 18-year-old black man, Obie Wynn, was murdered in cold blood by a white car owner, Andrew Chinarian.

Chinarian, whose bar is located in a black neighborhood was arrested but quickly released on \$500 bond. His bar was a hang-out for police.

The black community was furious. A crowd gathered and Chinarian's bar was burned down. Bricks and bottles were thrown at police and passing motorists. A white man was fatally beaten.

RECKLESS USE

In February, Chinarian was convicted for reckless use of a firearm. That's not even a felony. He was sentenced to two years, but has yet to set foot in prison. For Henderson, Peoples, and

Jordan the story is a bit different. On Wednesday, April 7, their second trial ended in a hung jury. The first trial, in November, ended the same way.

However, these two trials were not enough to convince the judge, one Joseph A. Gillis, and the prosecutor William Cahalan.

Cahalan demanded another trial and Judge Gillis was most willing to comply. The third trial is set for May 7. The defendants will remain in jail without bond until that time.

While Chinarian, a murderer, is free, three innocent black men remain in jail, waiting on a third trial that will attempt to prove their guilt.

This is the true nature of American justice. It's happening every day to blacks and other minorities all across this country. □

Sellout '76: Vote No!

It will be several more weeks before results of the contract ratification voting in the Teamsters Union are known. Ballots are scheduled to be mailed out by April 21 and 22, unless delayed by court action, and must be returned by May 5. The final result will probably be known by May 7.

Many workers are cynical about the vote. The Department of Labor will be counting the ballots, but few believe that will make the vote any more honest than if Frank Fitzsimmons does it himself.

So many feel that nothing more can be done. One worker at a Cleveland local union meeting refused to take a TDC leaflet, explaining, "I know I got screwed. I don't want to read about it."



The democratic way to vote on a contract: Local 299 members vote to continue their strike, April 5.

Nowhere is the opposition to the contract stronger than in Los Angeles. Officials of the major locals there, 208 and 357, have come out in opposition to the contract because of provisions in the west coast supplement that will

make the work rules more flexible. Opposition to the contract is also widespread in such diverse places as Detroit, Little Rock, and Wheeling, West Virginia.

In a telephone interview, Ken Paff, TDC Secretary, told Workers' Power: "A massive vote against the contract is important for two reasons. First, if the 'no' vote is large enough, they won't be able to ignore it.

"But more important, putting together an organized campaign against ratification is part of the process of building an ongoing rank and file movement in the Teamsters Union. And that's what we need to concentrate on now."

WIDESPREAD OPPOSITION

Nevertheless, across the country there is widespread opposition to the contract. Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC) organizers, who are urging a big "no" vote, report that their literature outlining the contract terms is in hot demand.

"It's the kind of situation," said one, "where someone will call up and say, 'I printed a thousand of these leaflets myself. Can you send me any more?'"

Supplement Suit Filed

One possible roadblock to ratification of the freight contract is a suit filed in federal court. The legal action was initiated by seven members of TDC. It asks for the right to a separate vote on local supplements to the national Master Freight Agreement.

Normally the union conducts only one vote, allowing a "yes" or "no" on the master agreement and all local supplements and riders to that agreement.

This means that a truck driver in Detroit votes on the Central States local supplement, as well as the west coast supplement, the southern states supplement, and supplements for other work groups, such as the steel

haulers or office workers. The local supplements are of enormous importance. They set the terms of local working conditions and practices. The terms of the supplement can dictate whether jobs are lost and can substantially affect pay as well.

But it is virtually impossible to organize a "no" vote for a local supplement because it means the entire national agreement and all other supplements must be rejected as well.

A hearing on the suit will be held in federal court in Pittsburgh, Tuesday, April 20. But its chances of success are slim, as both the union leadership and TEI (the employers association) are opposing it.



Municipal workers picket Candlestick Park.

Fired Drivers Win Back Jobs

PORTLAND, Ore.—Two over the road drivers from Garrett Freightliners won a round in the fight against driving triple tractor trailers in bad weather.

The two were driving triples early in March when a big storm blew up in the Columbia River Gorge.

According to state and OSHA regulations, triples are not supposed to be driven in inclement weather. The two called the dispatcher in Portland and said they did not want to continue.

He said, okay, he would send two other drivers willing to drive through the storm. The next thing they knew, the first two drivers were fired.

They went to the Local 81 hall with 40 supporters from Garrett to complain. They got their jobs back, though they didn't win back pay for the two weeks they were off.

Who's He Kidding?

Frank Fitzsimmons cannot seem to make up his mind.

All along he's attacked socialists in the Teamsters Union, saying they're out to overthrow the government. Workers' Power ran an editorial in reply to the red-baiting.

We said Fitz didn't give a damn that there were people in his union with socialist politics.

What he was concerned about, we maintained, was that these socialists were effectively building a rank and file movement for a decent contract and a fighting union.

Fitz's red-baiting was aimed at destroying that movement.

CONSPIRACY

Now he's proved right. On April 7, he called two represent-

atives from every local union to Chicago to be briefed on the new contract.

During that meeting he said, "The Teamsters for a Decent Contract is backed by Workers' Power, which is in a conspiracy with the federal government."

According to reports, that statement was greeted with laughter. And well it should have been.

If Fitz can't make up his mind whether the socialists are in conspiracy with the government or out to smash the government, it's a sure tip-off that he's not at all concerned about socialism.

He's concerned about TDC and the rank and file movement, and he'll use any lie to destroy it that he thinks people are gullible enough to believe.

San Francisco Strike In Third Week

The San Francisco building trades strike has entered its third week. The craft workers are protesting pending wage and benefit cuts totaling 5.7 million dollars.

Recently the strike escalated as Inland Boatmen refused to cross picket-lines of Golden Gate District Bus Workers.

The picketing has shut down ferry service from the northern suburbs of Marin County.

While the Golden Gate strike is unrelated to the strike of San Francisco craft workers, the two have given each other leverage—in a display of what united action of all city-workers could achieve.

Because of the length of the strike and a tradition of isolation from other city workers, the San Francisco strike has not won much

support from other city workers. It is the San Francisco Labor Council, however, which is mainly responsible for not spreading the strike.

Though the Labor Council has voted to sanction any of its member unions that went out on sympathy strikes, it has made no efforts that make that vote real.

Now the city Board of Supervisors has suggested it might support federal mediation.

If the Labor Council has any intention of living up to its words, it must oppose federal mediation.

The strength of the two simultaneous strikes shows that a general strike in San Francisco would be the way to stop the erosion of city services and living standards of city workers.

Welfare Victim Convicted

PORTLAND, Ore.— Thomas Borsnon was convicted April 1 of kidnapping, assault and robbery.

The 35-year-old father of six had seized a foodstamp office February 6, holding three welfare workers hostage. But the arguments the state used against him show how little real justice there is for working people in this society.

The prosecuting attorney charged that Borsnon was a professional welfare recipient who knows exactly how to soak the system and knows exactly where to go to get free money.

The migrant farmworker has worked from the age of 16 at any job he could get. But when he arrived in Oregon in December he couldn't find work that would support his family.

The prosecutor charged that, "There was no urgent situation. He wanted to make a protest."

"We were out of gas, out of food, out of money," said Borsnon. "My baby was sick. My children were hungry." The prosecutor condemned Borsnon because he wanted to

"experience the power and control" of taking over the office. Apparently he thinks it's a crime for ordinary people to want to feel power and control over their lives.

But Borsnon put it this way. "I'm not saying what I did was right. But I'm saying it wasn't right for me to be put in this position either."

Now he's been convicted by the "justice" system. Where is the justice in a system that lets families starve and then strangles them in red tape?

Curtain Falls On FNLA

You probably remember hearing about an operation called the "National Front for the Liberation of Angola." The FNLA was delicately described by the U.S. government as "our pro-western friends" in the war against the independence movement MPLA in Angola.

Since the end of the war, FNLA has disappeared from the newspapers. But the curtain is still falling on the story of this gang of mercenaries and murderers. As MPLA won the war, FNLA forces fled to the neighboring country of Zaire, whose President Mobutu supplied their funds, arms and political support. A report from there reveals:

WILD WEST REVISITED

"At night-fall the Wild West reigns in Kinshasha (capital city of Zaire). Kinshasha's underworld is being reinforced with deserters from Angola... hundreds of combatants of the pro-western Angolan movement FNLA. In the period between late November and mid-January alone, almost two dozen members of the two hundred member German community (in Kinshasha) were assaulted, beaten up or shot."

The FNLA mercenaries-turned-gangsters have been joined by "an estimated 1500 deserters of the Zairean 'Kamanyola Division,' a unit... that President Mobutu had set up as an emergency reserve for the Angolan war and is now completely demoralized."

This account is not an MPLA press release. It appeared in the largest weekly magazine of West Germany. The West German government was an important source of covert military aid to Mobutu and the FNLA during the Angolan war. □

Socialists Jailed In Guyana

Guyanese revolutionary socialist Moses Bhagwan has just been sentenced to 3 years and 4 months in prison for publishing the anti-government paper "Day Clean." This paper is produced by the Working People's Alliance. The Alliance is a united organization of four revolutionary groups in the small South American country of Guyana.

Strict censorship laws demand that anyone who wants to publish any form of newspaper must give a bond of \$5,000 to the authorities, as well as details about the people involved with the printing and publishing.

This repression comes from a government that calls itself "Co-operative Socialist." The ruling People's National Congress under Prime Minister Forbes Burnham has recently started talking about socialist revolution.

In the meantime he is trying to silence all opposition to the regime, and this includes Marxists who have been fighting for revolution-

Israel's Brutal Face

According to the American government and the press, Israel represents the "great outpost of democracy" in the Middle East. To preserve its power it will get \$2.5 billion in U.S. arms aid this year.

Pictured here is the kind of "democracy" enjoyed by half a million Israeli Arabs, who are 15% of the population. It is very similar to the "democracy" that police hand out when black people defend themselves in the ghettos of Boston, Harlem, Oakland, Chicago, or dozens of other cities in this country.

When Israeli Arabs went on strike a few weeks ago, six young demonstrators were shot down. Hundreds were injured by police clubs in scenes like this all over Galilee.

A street vendor was taken to Beit Jalla Hospital, with all his limbs broken. He died there. The Arab hospital chief, who protested the incident, was deported to Jordan. Several similar cases are reported. Israeli military censorship has suppressed much of the news of further strikes and riots.

The immediate cause of the strike was announcement of plans to seize 2000 acres of Arab Israeli land and turn it into colonies for armed Jewish settlers. Such settlements already exist in Gaza, the Golan, and Jordan River West Bank which was occupied by Israel in 1967.

But the underlying cause is 28 years of vicious anti-Arab discrimination in jobs, education, services, land, culture and politics.

This discrimination and violence will continue so long as Israel is run as a Zionist state that claims exclusive national rights for Jews. But those conditions have also created a powerful Palestinian and Israeli Arab national resistance that threatens the power of Zionism.



Israeli trooper clubbing young Arab demonstrator during protest strikes in Galilee.

UPHEAVAL IN CHINA

by Dan Posen

According to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, last week's anti-government fighting in Peking was a "counter-revolutionary incident" "a

bunch of bad elements" who rampaged in an Men square.

The facts reported in the same Central Committee statement, issued two days after the incident, make one thing obvious. No battle of that scale could have been created by any small "bunch of bad elements."

The report reveals that over 100,000 people fought with thousands of government militia in battles that lasted all day long.

The crowd attacked police and fire brigades who came in to stop the demonstration. A People's Liberation Army barracks on the square was broken into and burnt. A major battle at the Great Hall of the People left over 100 militia men injured.

The whole battle took over 12 hours, from 9:00 am until after 9:30 at night.

Even when only "a handful of counter-revolutionaries" were still demonstrating in the square, it took "tens of thousands of militia men, in coordination with the people's police and PLA (army guards)," to crush and arrest the demonstrators.

DISCONTENT

The fighting represents a new outbreak of faction struggle inside the Communist Party and the bureaucratic ruling class of China.

The massive demonstration in Ten An Mien square was in support of the former high official Teng Hsiao-ping and his ally, the late Chou En-Lai.

The two have powerful support inside layers of the bureaucracy in

factories, city administration and local party committees.

These supporters of Teng and Chou have enough influence to organize a massive demonstration with slogans apparently directed against the top leadership of the central government.

For such a protest to occur, there must be tremendous popular discontent with conditions in China.

The Communist Party does not allow ordinary workers and peasants to discuss these conditions openly.

But when masses of people are organized to support one group of leaders or another, their real feelings of anger are liable to explode.

FACTIONAL STRUGGLE

Teng himself has now been purged of all positions in the party and government. The new Prime Minister Hua Kuo-feng seems to be considered a compromise candidate.

But there is no reason to think his selection will end that struggle.

In over 25 years of power, the ruling class in China has been unable to unify itself or create a powerful national industrial economy. That is why one factional struggle after another racks the party, sometimes spilling over into the masses and creating conditions for violent revolt.

This first became visible in the so-called Cultural Revolution of 1966-67. One section of the Party leadership, Chairman Mao's, did mobilize school children and stu-

dents against its opponents (who included Teng Hsiao-ping).

But as soon as workers entered the struggle, closing down the industrial center of Shanghai in early 1967, the whole Party leadership united to bring the struggle to a quick halt.

Sections of the Chinese bureaucracy may differ violently over issues of policy and personnel. But they all share the fear of a workers movement acting for itself.

The economic and political system in China has nothing to do with socialism.

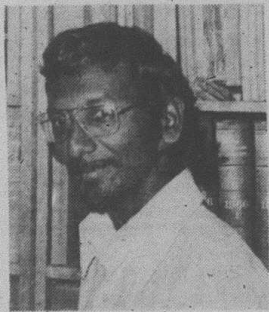
There is no open debate over real issues, no workers' control of industry. There is no information about the real views of yesterday's "people's heroes" like Teng Hsiao-ping or Lin Piao, who are suddenly purged as "counter-revolutionaries."

DECISIONS

The bureaucrats cannot allow masses of Chinese to make the decisions about the future of the politics and economy of China. They are concerned with how to exploit workers and peasants to build up the industry and armed might of the regime.

They have to try to settle their disputes, peacefully or violently, inside the ruling class itself.

Last week's events suggest that those disputes are becoming too bitter to control. And China's workers have demands of their own, as last summer's huge strikes in central China showed. They may soon resume their struggle. □



Moses Bhagwan

ary ideals for years. The huge growth of working class consciousness in Guyana is what Burnham fears most.

Burnham is playing a diplomatic game in which he is trying to get Russia and Cuba to compete with the Chinese over who can give his regime the most "aid."

Despite the difficulties, the now semi-illegal "Day Clean" has continued to appear, and the Working People's Alliance has resolved to step up its fight for real working class socialism. □

Howard Spencer

Running for the White House, they sound the same...

...Racist 'purity' is their game.

by Gay Semel

"Ethnic Purity." Under its banner six million German Jews were exterminated and thousands of American blacks tortured, mutilated and even killed.

Now Jimmy Carter hopes to become President, using the same slogan as part of his campaign.

On April 2, Carter told reporters, "I see nothing wrong with ethnic purity being maintained."

Later at a press conference in South Bend, Indiana, Carter defended his remarks using terms like "intrusion of alien groups," and "diametrically opposite kind of family."

Carter, the current frontrunner in the Democratic Party Presidential primaries, has won the top spot in places as varied as Massachusetts, Illinois, and Florida.

To do this, Carter projected himself as the voice of a new progressive South. He was the anti-racist liberal—a candidate for all

the people.

Before his "ethnic purity" remark he had offered nothing to blacks—he had not threatened them either.

NO ACCIDENT

But, Carter's ethnic purity remarks are no accident. He meant every word. He was just waiting for the right moment to re-release them.

A spot check of his record shows he did not become Governor of the racist state of Georgia for nothing.

• When running for Governor in the Democratic Party primaries, Carter promised to "run as a local Georgia conservative." Georgia whites knew what that meant.

• Carter ran with Lester Maddox, the symbol of southern racism. He stated he was "proud to have Lester Maddox as my running mate."

• Carter's campaign for Govern-

nor was actively supported by Roy Harris, a well known Georgia racist, and head of the local White Citizens Council.

There's much more dirt on Carter's name—but the point's been made.

Carter's remarks represent more than sentiment and intent. They are part of his campaign for the Presidency.

Now that George Wallace is essentially out of the running, Carter is after Wallace's supporters.

The ears of John Birchers and members of the KKK perked up when they heard the slogan "ethnic purity." Racists know how to tell their own kind.

WINKS

A few days later Carter apologized. The racists winked and poked each other in the ribs. "Better to have a slightly apolo-

gic racist in the White House than an arrogant one outside," they thought.

Far more revealing than Carter's remarks has been the response to them.

Leading members of every wing of the Democratic Party rushed to Carter's defense, including many prominent black leaders.

All his defenders know that the Democratic Party isn't going to fight racism in this campaign. They'd rather swim with the tide than fight the party.

The Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr., forgave Carter. He said, "I want to find that man who has lived so perfect that he has never made a mistake. I know I have. But if a man apologizes, this nation has no choice but to accept it."

Detroit's black mayor, Coleman Young, who recently endorsed Carter, said the whole thing had become "overblown."

Leading white Democratic Party

liberals also apologized for Carter.

Henry Reuss (Democrat—Wisc.), a Udall supporter, said Carter "is not, never was, and never will be a racist."

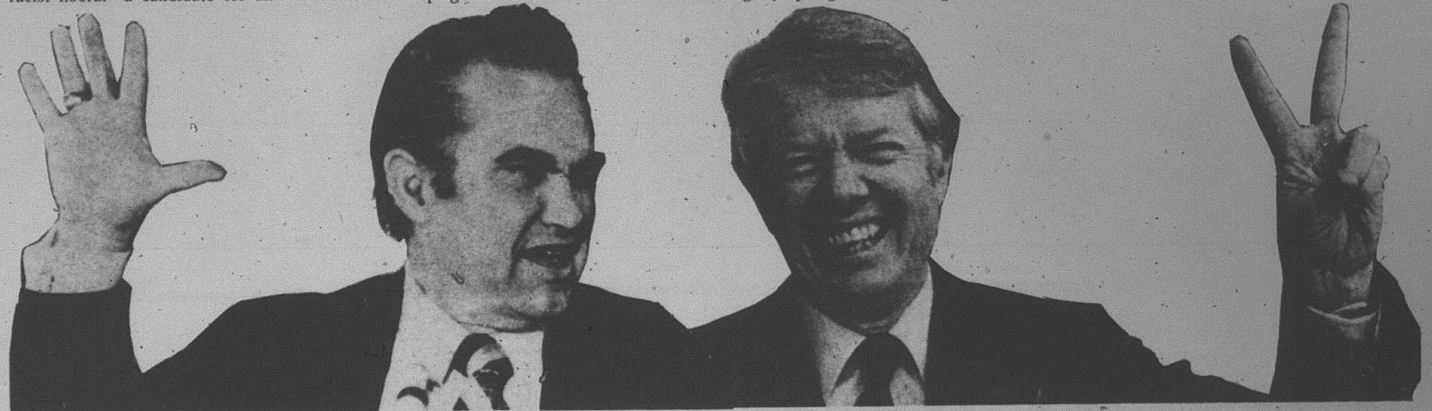
BANDWAGON

Even President Ford got into the act. He, however, did not apologize, but jumped on the racist bandwagon.

Ford stated he was for preserving the nation's "ethnic heritage,"—just in case any ex-Wallaceites wanted to switch parties.

The only one who was honest about the whole incident was Carter's old running mate Lester Maddox.

Maddox is famous for having run blacks out of his restaurant with an ax handle. Following Carter's remarks, Maddox offered him an ax handle of his own. □



UAW-CANADA HEAD THREATENS GENERAL STRIKE

by Jack Weinberg

United Auto Workers Union Vice President and Canadian Regional Director, Dennis McDermott, has begun talking general strike.

Toronto papers reported last Monday that McDermott said general strike is a distinct possibility as a climax to labor's protest against Canada's wage controls.

McDermott said he had been wrong last January when he opposed the concept of a general strike.

At that time, he did not believe that the unions had the capacity to stage such a walkout.

McDermott now proclaims he has changed his mind: "The pendulum has swung. We now have the capability and before this is over, the general strike is a distinct possibility."

He went on to say that labor will have to choose carefully the time and circumstances of a general strike, and he warned against any rash actions.

WAGE CONTROLS

Since last November, Canadian workers have been subject to very strict wage controls imposed by the liberal Pierre Trudeau government.

They are part of an effort to hold down the wages of Canadian

workers in order to create a better business climate in Canada.

The Canadian unions have publicly opposed these controls with demonstrations in most industrial cities and with a mass demonstration of 30,000 workers in the Canadian capital, Ottawa, March 22.

In referring to the effect of that demonstration on Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau, McDermott has been publicly quoted as saying, "The trade union movement has demonstrated to that son of a bitch on Sussex Drive that we mean business."

The massive response to the March demonstration surprised the union organizers and convinced McDermott that a general strike is possible.

But if the Canadian unions really do mean business, it will be necessary to prove that the threat of a general strike is more than hot air.

A date will have to be set, and organizing must begin.

PRESSURE

McDermott's militant statements reflect the strong pressure he is under. If the wage controls remain in force, just continuing the present 1973 UAW agreements with no improvements would ex-

ceed and violate the guidelines.

If controls stay in effect, Canadian workers will get lower wages than workers in the states.

This would break the wage parity concept that the UAW has fought for over the years.

Both the Canadian government and the companies would like to break parity.

It would be an incentive to temporarily shift car production from the U.S. to Canada to take advantage of the lower labor costs.

The companies would then use this to blackmail U.S. workers into accepting lower wages.

McDermott knows that if this effort succeeds, it would generate a pressure that would tear the UAW apart.

Finally, the results of a break in wage parity would end McDermott's career. You can bet he is concerned.

ORGANIZE

Despite McDermott's militant talk, organizing and mobilizing the membership violates all of his past experience in running the union according to standard UAW-bureaucratic practices.

If the battle is to be won, the backbone will have to come from the membership. It is the members who really suffer if parity is broken. □

Pickets Hit Dems' \$75-A-Plate Feed

by Elissa Clarke

DETROIT—While George Wallace, Jimmy Carter and Morris Udall ate sirloin strip with Detroit's black mayor, Coleman Young, UAW President Leonard Woodcock and 2,500 supporters of the Democratic Party, a demonstration was held outside.

"Wallace! Carter! What's in a name? Racist Democrats, all the same!" shouted the demonstrators.

Seventy-five supporters of Workers' Power and the Red Tide attended the demonstration. Members of Women Against Racism were there too.

A spokesperson for the demonstration said, "We think that the fact that Wallace is a featured speaker at this dinner reveals the racism of the Democratic Party."

"Wallace was invited here because he won the Democratic primary in 1972; it doesn't matter to them what he stands for."

Four years ago the Michigan Democratic Party held a similar fundraising dinner. Coleman

Young threatened to boycott the dinner if Wallace were invited. Wallace was not invited.

HELD RALLY

Instead, Wallace held a rally at the state fairgrounds that attracted 20,000 supporters.

Times have changed. This year Wallace also booked the fairgrounds.

But he cancelled at the last minute and met with his supporters at the Ramada Inn near the airport. Only 500 people showed.

However, this year Coleman Young was on hand to greet Wallace at the fancy, \$75-a-couple gala.

Coleman Young has also come out in support of Jimmy Carter, who one week ago made the most racist remark yet of the presidential primaries.

A headline in the Detroit Free Press said, "Democrats Make Strange Bedfellows." But they seem quite comfortable now that they've agreed to ignore the question of racism. □

The recent death of multimillionaire Howard Hughes brought the mysterious tycoon once again into the limelight.

Nobody seems to know anything for sure about there are a lot of stories. It has been reported the recluse who disappeared from the public eye 20 Kleenex boxes on his feet.

That he had a beard reaching to his knees. That he was a fanatic about germs, refusing to shake hands, and wiping the doorknobs in his room after a visitor left. It has also been said that his fingernails and toenails measured six to eight inches.

But there is one fact about Howard Hughes that everyone knows—he was one of the richest and most powerful men on earth.

And whatever his eccentricities were, he was typical of that small group of people who own big corporations.

His love of secrecy served one very useful purpose: to hide from the public the fact that his financial empire was built on bought politicians (including Presidents), favors to governmental agencies, and evasion of taxes.

A look at Hughes' history shows how the super-rich really operate.

Hughes had to hide his illegal

doings. But not because he feared being brought to justice. People like him rarely end up in prison, whatever they do.

Instead, it's because they rich don't want the rest of us to know that the government is their government, that it is there to keep their businesses making profits.

The famous shroud of mystery that Howard Hughes covered himself in, was created by Hughes and maintained by the U.S. government solely for their own mutual benefit.



Since 1965 Hughes' companies, primarily Hughes Aircraft Inc. have received more than \$6 billion in contracts from different agencies of the U.S. government.

This money is all supplied by the American taxpayer, who supports Hughes' financial ventures to the tune of 11.6 million dollars per week. That's more than is paid to any other privately owned corporation in the world.

Taxpayer's money is doled out by the government to Hughes for a variety of projects. The vast majority of the money goes for defense contracts.

But work by the Hughes' corporations have ranged from development of missile systems to proposals for ways of dealing with mass

demonstrations (in which sophisticated equipment for tracking demonstrators is proposed).

Totally dependent on the American tax dollar for his livelihood, Hughes seemed to be completely independent of any public accounting of how efficiently or wisely he used it.

Investigative agencies, designed by the government to keep an eye on how tax money is used, have not been able to find out, or would not reveal, what goes on in the Hughes empire—what his businesses are worth; how much profit his companies have made.

Agencies designed to investigate such things, suspended the rules when it came to investigating Hughes.

And the courts, when its orders were ignored by Hughes, accepted Hughes' refusal to cooperate.

TACTICS

Some examples of Hughes' and the government's tactics include:

Government refusal to release information.

Eighty percent of Hughes' defense contracts were awarded without competitive bidding.

That is, contracts were awarded to Hughes without considering other, possibly lower bids, from other companies.

The financial data surrounding those deals, including how much profit Hughes made, and the actual

costs of the contracts to the government are reported to be unavailable for reasons of "national security."

Hughes has had several contracts with the CIA, one of which included trying to recover a sunken, Russian submarine with secret documents on board.

Costs of that operation are estimated at \$250-400 million dollars.

Exact figures, including the actual cost to the taxpayer, and Hughes' profits are again not available for reasons of "national security."

Federal agencies cut the red tape for Hughes.

Howard Hughes Medical Institute is the sole stockholder of the

HOWARD HUGHES

The Man Behind The Money

Hughes Aircraft Inc. It is tax-exempt because it is a "charitable" institution.

Hughes Helicopters Division annual gross \$80 million

Hughes Airwest Assets \$160 million

Hughes & The Government - Silent Partners

Hughes' method of conducting business deals is best illustrated by his dealings with the Civil Aeronautics Board in 1968, when he wanted to acquire a small west coast airline, Air West.

Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) approval is required for anyone who wants to control an air carrier and so Hughes applied.

The basic question the CAB had to decide in this case was whether the proposed Hughes takeover was in the public interest.

REFUSED

To determine this, Hughes Tool Co. (Toolco)—the actual company making the application—was asked to outline its plans for Air West and its financial capacity to assist the carrier. Hughes was not cooperative.

Hughes refused to provide detailed financial reports on Toolco which the CAB requested to determine the company's ability to assist and manage Air West.

Hughes also refused to furnish a plan for how Toolco would manage and finance Air West, which at that point was in bad financial trouble.

Hughes wouldn't furnish a detailed schedule, showing what cities Air West would serve under Toolco's supervision.

He also refused to discuss why Toolco wanted Air West. Nor would he disclose the name of the Hughes executive who would head Air West, if Toolco took over.

Amazingly, neither the CAB hearing examiner, who presided over the case, or the board itself ever in any way applied pressure to Hughes to give up the

information.

When Toolco filed a motion to withhold the company's financial documents, arguing that withholding the documents would be "in the public interest," the CAB meekly agreed.

In the end the CAB approved the acquisition of the airline without major restrictions. They also attached a multi-million dollar subsidy, given to small airlines to encourage service to small towns.

Did Toolco serve the "public interest" by acquiring Air West? After the CAB approval several facts came to light that suggest it did not.

RECORD PROFITS

The CAB approved the Hughes takeover because it was believed that with more stable management the government subsidy could be reduced.

In fact, while the airline has received an average of nine million dollars per year in subsidies (all taxpayers' money), the airline has also been turning record profits.

Further, while receiving the subsidy, Hughes cut back on the small town service the subsidy is supposed to help maintain.

It is not known what favors Hughes distributed to pull off the Air West deal. Maybe none were distributed directly.

It really doesn't matter, because when a man becomes as rich and powerful as Howard Hughes was, it is in government's best interests to bend the law in his favor.

—This guy who doesn't pay his speeding tickets—well, you can put him in jail.

But Howard Hughes—if you don't play his game, he might just take his millions somewhere else.

Hughes Aircraft Inc. It is tax-exempt because it is a "charitable" institution.

IRS requirements placed on other private charities are not enforced on the Medical Institute which rakes in all of the profits of Hughes Aircraft, Inc. Who owns the Medical Institute? Howard Hughes.

A license was granted to Hughes organization to operate KLAS-TV in Las Vegas even though Hughes did not make a mandatory appearance required of all applicants before the regulatory agency which issues licenses.

During the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) hearings over control of a west coast airline, the CAB said Hughes did not have to appear before the board even though Hughes' opposition had subpoenaed him. Hughes was granted control of the airline.

Non-compliance with court orders. Hughes consistently:

- Lied, or refused to give information about such basic matters as his address.
- Refused to appear in court.
- Refused to supply court ordered documents.

Nevertheless, he never spent a day in jail.

High cost of gaining information from the government.

Must of the information on business dealings between private industry and government is in computer information banks in many different agencies across the country.

The cost of retrieving this information can run from \$1,000 to over \$5,000.

As a result, much of the information about Hughes remains hidden, because individuals cannot afford to purchase it.

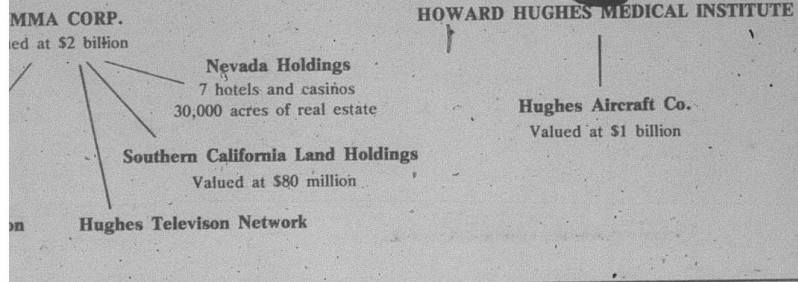
Howard Hughes; but
at the billionaire
years ago, wore

HOWARD HUGHES - The Myth, And Power

by Valerie Dixon



HUGHES EMPIRE



Why was it so easy for Hughes to obtain profitable government contracts, not pay taxes, acquire whatever property he wished, and refuse to cooperate with investigations into his business dealings—when most of us would go to jail for not paying a few parking tickets? Hughes bought off politicians on such a grand scale that there was no one left to challenge him. He always made lavish contributions to both Democrats and Republicans at all levels of government. Nixon's staff at one point considered exposing the connections between the Democratic Party and Hughes. But they couldn't do it without leaving themselves wide open to the same charges, so they dropped the idea. Hughes understood that it is not who you give the money to, but how much you give, that keeps those defense contracts rolling in, that keeps the IRS polite and the nose courts off your back. Some examples of Hughes political "contributions" include the following: • Roosevelt. During World War II, Hughes received many defense contracts worth millions. In addition, he wanted, and got, exclusive rights to fly to certain European cities for TWA, which he then owned. In exchange, Hughes, who was also a movie maker at the time, stocked parties with movie stars and actresses to mingle with military brass. He also performed small services like flying Roosevelt's son and bride-to-be to the Grand Canyon for free and buying gifts on Roosevelt's behalf. • Kennedy. Hughes bought several \$10,000 tickets to Kennedy's inaugural and threw a lavish banquet at a famous Washington

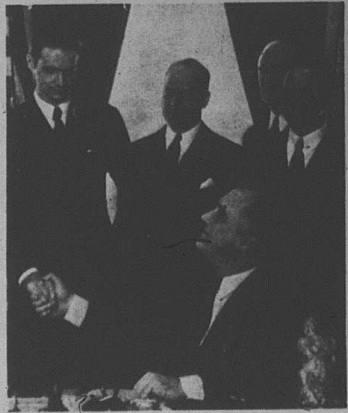
restaurant. • Willie Johnson was vice-president. Hughes was involved in a legal battle over control of TWA. He asked the vice-president to suggest a law firm to help out. In return he offered to support any candidate for political office that Johnson was interested in. Johnson suggested John Connally, who was running for governor of Texas. A contribution was duly made. • Nixon: In 1968 \$100,000 was given by Hughes to Nixon through Nixon's friend Bebe Rebozo. Hughes took out insurance, though. He also gave \$50,000 to Hubert Humphrey and \$25,000 to Robert F. Kennedy. In addition, Hughes has sponsored airborne coyote hunts in Texas for Pentagon officials who used Hughes' helicopters and cars. He maintained an apartment at Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach, California and a 60-foot sport fishing craft for use by politicians and government leaders. He sponsored barge cruises up the Chesapeake and Ohio canal for politicians. **LINKS** Hughes' links with government were strengthened by the fact that Hughes' own employees have been steadily drawn from governmental agencies he sought to influence. These include the Defense and Justice Departments, the Postal Service, the IRS, CIA, FBI, and Civil Aeronautics Board. Between 1971 and 1973, 52 civilian and military defense officials went to work for Hughes. These were all people who had, in one way or another, been involved in awarding contracts to Hughes. Hughes also used the same

lawyers and public relations firms that the politicians use. For example, Nixon's lawyer Kalmbach is in a law firm serving Del Ray investors, a partnership formed by the executives of Hughes Aircraft. One day this law firm served Nixon, who had received money from Hughes—the next day it worked for Hughes executives. After a while, with all the shuffling of personnel, it gets hard to tell the interests of one from the other. **COZY DEAL** Hughes got himself a cozy deal. He bribed and gave favors to politicians. He offered governmental officials high paying jobs when they got out of public service. In return, he got immunity from prosecution, became one of the richest men in the world, and was guaranteed secrecy for all his dealings. He was happy, the government was happy: one big happy family. And that's exactly what it was—for Hughes, and for many large corporations just like his. Hughes' empire is not unique. Lockheed, Boeing, McDonald Douglas and all the other major defense contractors are doing just the same. They are entertaining politicians and government officials, contributing to their campaigns and putting them on the payroll. In return they are being given contracts and secret deals. That's how government is run in this country—and in every other country. The large corporations tell the government what to do and it jumps, because it knows it's the Howard Hughes of this world that keeps it in business. □

Working For Howard Hughes

One short block from the U.S. border in the Mexican city of Mexicali, is a subsidiary plant of Hughes Aircraft, Inc. It employs 655 young people, mostly women between the ages of 18 and 22. They bend over long tables, carefully piecing together tiny electronic components. Hughes began his operation in Mexico, according to the plant manager, because of the availability of cheap labor. Women are considered especially good for the job. "A young woman is lucky to get a job," the plant manager said. "Their minds are not cluttered like they are in the U.S. In the U.S. they have predetermined ideas. "Here they accept what you teach them. They are not clock watchers." Hughes corporations, like other corporations in the U.S., make money not only by making deals with the government, but off the backs of its workers. While Hughes debated between living in his penthouse in Las Vegas or his resort hotel in the Bahamas or his hotel in Vancouver, this plant pays its workers only \$34 a week. It can get away with it because the workers are female and Mexican. Hughes, again like other corporations, located his plant in this place expressly for the purpose of exploiting these workers.

While the Hughes Aircraft corporation is perfectly willing to hire and exploit third world and women workers in Mexico, when it comes to the U.S., it's another story. **RACISM** A lawsuit was filed against Hughes Aircraft, Inc.'s large Culber City operation, charging that it hired too few women, and women were overlooked when it came to promotions. A copy of Hughes' 1974 Affirmative Action Plan was requested. Affirmative action plans usually discuss minority hiring, firing and promotion practices of a company. Hughes filed suit to block the release of the plan, charging "the company would be subject to vexacious and unwarranted litigation and there would be a substantial risk to the company's goodwill." The lawsuit is still pending. As for Hughes' personal feelings about minority groups, he spelled these out in a confidential memorandum to a chief aide: "...I can summarize my attitude about employing more Negroes very simply—I think it is a wonderful idea for somebody else. I know this is not a very praiseworthy point of view, but I feel Negroes have already made enough progress to last the next 100 years and there is such a thing as overdoing it." □



Hughes, who never voted in an election, influenced all U.S. presidents, starting with Franklin Roosevelt.

Behind the Scenes - The Hand of Racism

For the last ten years of his life, Hughes communicated with his aides mainly by memos. In this one Hughes reveals his ability to shape events too "hot" for politicians to handle. (The spelling is Hughes' own.) "I know this is a hot potato, and I am not asking you to form a new chapter of the K.K.K. Just let's try to do what you can without too many people getting upset about it. I don't want to become known as a Negro-hater or anything like that. But I am not running for election and therefore we don't have to curry favor with the NAACP either!"

POSTAL LAYOFFS MOUNT

by Paul Ryan
 Postmaster Benjamin Franklin Bailar is touring the country promoting his new austerity program for the U.S. Postal Service (USPS).

The program includes service cuts, rate hikes, and productivity increases.

You'd think it would be a hard program to win support for. Everyone is fed up with postal rate increases and service cutbacks.

But any service cuts and rate hikes that go through will be selected carefully to avoid undermining the basic function of USPS as a service for big business.

For example, the elimination of Saturday deliveries might be acceptable because banks and most offices are closed on Saturdays.

And USPS may devise a way to charge more for irregular individual letters than for zip-coded mail that can be sorted by machine.

In a major speech at the Detroit Economic Club on March 8, Bailar said that the postal service must conform to new "economic reality" or be destroyed. The Detroit Economic Club is the gathering place for the rich and powerful in Motor City.

Bailar's warnings about service cuts and postage rate hikes are aimed primarily at Congress and big business. The threats are a lever to extract more subsidies out of Congress.

On March 29, Bailar told the Senate Post Office Committee that the postal service would go bankrupt without an additional \$1.5 billion per year in subsidies.

CONVINCE CONGRESS

Bailar's campaign is also designed to convince Congress to co-operate with the growing attack on wages and working conditions of postal workers.

Rather than see the "public," (meaning big business) hurt by service cuts, Congress will welcome and promote a productivity campaign in postal operations.

The move toward greater "efficiency" is well under way. Carrier routes are being lengthened in many cities, despite the fact that the Kokomo speedup plan is still in arbitration.

Hours for low-seniority workers are being cut as low as 20 per week.

Standard job descriptions are thrown out the window in order to squeeze more out of the workforce, especially in the new bulk mail centers.

For the average postal worker, the campaign means living hell on and off the job.

One clerk in Seattle said that his friends are "pale from overwork, lack of personal livelihood and ill health. There is a epidemic of divorces, nervous breakdowns, and heart attacks."

"Management pushes for production on speed up monster machines, and employees are required to work longer hours under relentless hassling."

PITIFUL UNION RESPONSE

The response of the postal union leaders has been pitiful.

After pressure from local presidents, the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) finally stopped praising Bailar's attacks.

They launched a media campaign to convince the public that mismanagement, not the postal workforce, was to blame for the decline in services.

To finance this campaign, they are using the entire "contingency" fund of one-half million dollars. This fund had been unofficially

earmarked as a strike fund.

The APWU's one-half million dollars cannot even begin to counteract the millions available to postal management and its business friends to sell their program.

In the face of the growing

attacks, a national protest strike is the only real weapon postal workers have. Draining the strike fund was a signal from the union leaders that they are totally unwilling and unable to meet the crisis head on.

While union officials flounder,

there is evidence that rank and file postal workers are starting to organize a defense. On March 21, in San Diego, 1,000 postal workers from three unions rallied to protest job cutbacks.

And a new monthly newspaper,

the Rank and File Postal Worker, is being distributed in post offices throughout the country. The paper stands for a militant response to the Postmaster's attacks, and a fight to return the postal unions to control of the rank and file. □

Militant Framed, Fired As UPS Sets To Break Strike

DETROIT—Management of United Parcel Service has taken its first step to break the strike that everyone expects May 1. They have fired Stephanie Batey, an activist in UPSurge, the UPS workers' rank and file movement.

Detroit has one of the best-organized and strongest UPSurge groups. On March 20, the group held a rally which attracted 500 UPS workers from Detroit and the surrounding area—close to half of the company's work force here. The theme of the rally was clear—ready to strike for a decent contract.

By firing an UPSurge activist two weeks before the strike, UPS wants to weaken and demoralize the organization.

The facts surrounding Batey's firing make this conclusion unavoidable. She was accused of

stealing \$9.94 COD money. In fact, the \$9.94 was missing simply because a delivery tag was misplaced. UPS supervisors saw this for themselves when the tag was later found in the dirty clothes locker.

For more information on the Central States UPS contract and how UPSurge is organizing for a strike May 1, see page 12.

The "theft" was simply a mistake—a common error because of the tremendous speed and pressure UPS drivers are under. Other drivers who made this mistake are simply issued a notice that they are either "shut" or "let." Batey received no notice,

because UPS had more in mind than \$9.94. She was summarily dismissed.

Workers' Power talked to Batey about the case. "I believe I was fired for my UPSurge and union activity," she said. "There has been a consistent policy of harassing me from the beginning."

"I've received two warning notices for absenteeism even though I had valid doctor's notes. I won a grievance on one, but it took five months."

"I've been pretty active at my center passing out TDC and

UPSurge material. I was given a verbal warning not to put up UPSurge and TDC notices on the bulletin board even though people have non-union notices, like for sale signs, on that board since I worked there," Batey added.

"Firing me is UPS' way of warning other people not to get involved with UPSurge. Our response is to demand that Local 243 get an immediate hearing on this case. And we are organizing to inform all UPS employees of what has happened through leaflets and informational picketing." □



COAL BOSSES STEP UP DRIVE TO SMASH RANKS

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — The West Virginia Coal Operators, backed by Federal courts, are continuing their drive to break the fighting spirit of the rank and file miners' movement here in central and southern West Virginia.

A federal jury has held the United Mine Workers union, UMW District 17, and three UMW locals liable for \$736,000 in damages. They result from unauthorized (wildcat) strikes against the Carbon Fuel Co., a unit of Carbon

Industries of Charleston. This suit is just one of the many the companies and courts are now pressing. Their intent is to force the UMW to discipline rank and file miners, or to financially wreck the union.

U.S. Steel now has a similar suit filed against the UMWA for \$10 million.

MASS ACTIONS

The jury held UMW Locals 6572, 7626, and 2236, located in central West Virginia, liable for walkouts caused by mass actions of members. The disputes took place between 1968 and 1971.

The jury also held that the UMW had not used "all reasonable means" to get miners back to work once they had been notified of work stoppages.

The specific fines were \$206,000 from the International union, \$245,000 from District 17, \$416,000 from Local 2236, \$250,000 from Local 6572, and \$70,000 from Local 7626.

James Haviland, the attorney for the UMW, says that the union is now asking for a new trial. Failing that, the union will appeal the verdict to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia. □

GE STRIKE DATE SET

Management was hot to lower labor costs at the GE refrigerator plant in Bloomington, Indiana. They were speeding up piecework rates. But they were cooled off temporarily when workers wildcatted here in March.

Now the union, IBEW Local 2249, has taken steps towards an official strike.

The wildcat was a result of widespread rank and file anger over pressure from management. The company had been hiring off the streets rather than upgrading employees. The wildcat ended with a

promise of no firings. It was seen by most as a partial but significant victory and resulted in the growth of union membership.

Two weeks ago, local officials called a special union meeting. Their proposal for a strike over three grievances which had earlier been deadlocked passed overwhelmingly.

STRIKE DATE

Midnight Monday, April 19, is the strike date if the grievances continue unsettled. Man-

agement has reportedly come across on one, however.

The national contract is up soon, and as one worker put it, "They want refrigerators right now, real bad," for a stockpile.

This continued pressure should have two effects beyond the specific grievances at issue. One is to help the ranks get ready for the national contract.

The other effect is to force management to take seriously the ad hoc negotiating committee on grievances which they agreed to in order to end the wildcat. □

Letters

to

Workers' Power

It's Not Just You They're Killing...

Dear Workers' Power:

"Rise in Birth Defects Laid to Job Hazards" was the headline of an article I recently read.

The article explains that there are many known chemicals that women and men get exposed to at work that cause genetic damage, problems with reproductive organs, birth defects, and stillbirths.

All of these job hazards could be eliminated with some research, money and technical improvements.

But millionaire bosses prefer to

line their own greedy pockets with more gold, at a cost of dooming young children to live out their lives with ruined brains, retarded minds, and deformed bodies.

This is your "free enterprise" for the rich—a free license to maim and kill for profit.

And for the working class?—there is the "freedom" to have deformed babies because we work for a living in their wretchedly unsafe factories.

C.M.
Pittsburgh

BOSSSES DON'T LIKE THIS PAPER!

Dear Workers' Power:

Workers' Power sellers have been meeting some resistance from management and their flunkies here.

At UPS, two stupidvisors stood alongside the Workers' Power seller to intimidate the workers. The following week, a stupidvisor kept the Workers' Power seller company for two hours!

What are they afraid of? Their resistance only increases the militancy of the ranks.

Roadway sent a rent-a-cop out to harass us. We saw him stooping down to get our license number. He suspected it was a stolen car.

Consolidated Freight called the police to protect their drivers from Workers' Power.

We were warned that we were "obstructing traffic" and would have to leave.

Since CF is the last firm on a dead end street with trucks coming out one or two at a time, it was obvious that obstruction was not the issue.

The policeman explained that CF had recently used the obstruction tactic to break up a picket line.

Who do the laws protect?

Judy
Cincinnati

The City Giveth, The City Taketh Away

Dear Workers' Power:

I am a member of District Council 37, AFSCME, and a New York City worker.

On April 9 I am supposed to get a \$110 lump sum cost-of-living adjustment. By June I am supposed to get an increase in my weekly check.

That's how long it takes the statisticians to count on their fingers and figure out how much the raise is.



Now, on April 9 the city also stops paying into our pension fund. This will amount to a 2% cut in take-home pay.

The union decided that it would look bad for its members to get smaller checks when they were expecting an increase!

In order to make it look like we're not getting a cut, they are spreading out the \$110 lump sum over eight weeks, until the raise goes into effect.

It was so cleverly written up in our union paper that they really had us fooled for a while.

But they real kicker is that in June our union dues are going up to pay the salaries of these geniuses who can turn nothing into something.

This will just about wipe out the whole increase.

My only question is: If these guys are so smart, how come they can't figure out a way to stop layoffs and pay-cuts and keep our pension funds from going broke?

A.S.
New York

Crisis Hits NY Cabbies

Dear Workers' Power:

I am a cab driver in New York. I thought you might be interested to know one way New York City has been handling their financial crisis and our bosses have been handling theirs.

Last summer the city raised the license fees—to get a hack license, renew it, replace a lost one.

It used to cost \$10 for an original and \$5 for a duplicate or

renewal. It's now \$50 and \$20.

Now to add insult to injury, they just raised the fines for riding flag-up (a.k.a. making it for yourself or stealing). It used to be \$25 for a first offense.

Now it's \$100 plus the boss suspends you for 10 working days, so it can cost a driver as much as \$600.

None of these jokers (the bosses and their friends on the Taxi and Limousine Commission)

care that drivers don't "steal" for the fun of it.

They do it because what used to be a relatively well-paying job has gotten worse and worse.

Even cab drivers have to eat and pay the rent, and most of us would rather do it by ripping off the boss than by ripping off the public.

Anne Quill
New York

Will FBI Murder Leonard Peltier?

Dear Workers' Power:

American Indian Movement (AIM) activist Leonard Peltier is facing extradition to the United States as part of the FBI campaign to destroy AIM.

The FBI is trying to make certain that native people give up their struggle for survival.

Since the 1973 siege of Wounded Knee in South Dakota, over 280 AIM members have been murdered by American police and local goon squads.

Many more are being framed on false charges of murder. Leonard is one of these.

The FBI will not give Leonard a fair trial. If he is extradited, he faces certain death.

Working class and progressive people in Canada and America must join the struggle to save Leonard's life.

We must act now—his extradition hearing is on May 3 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Money contributions should be sent to: Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, 1855 Vine Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, (604) 736-8944.

Readers are also urged to write letters to Leonard. He has been kept in chains and shackles in solitary confinement and needs



Leonard Peltier being hauled off to prison in Canada by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

our support from the outside.

Letters should be sent to: Leonard Peltier, Drawer "O," Burnaby, British Columbia V5H, 3N4.

Leonard is just one of the many victims of racial genocide by the corporate capitalists on the North

American continent.

But Leonard's life can be saved—if we act quickly. Please give what you can.

Sam Jackson
Native American
Support Committee
Seattle

Let's Expose The Blood Suckers

Dear Workers' Power:

Please do advertise the salaries, incomes, and the positions of the highest executives in industry, labor, and politics.

Such publicity or advertising is worth thousands of words.

Such extreme profits of our so-called leaders sucking the lifeline (money) of our economy: only socialism will be the solution.

Exposing the above salaries should be an annual report to the people.

Enclosed is a \$5.00 contribution.

Samuel Slyman
New Kensington, Pa.

How Dumb Do They Think We Are?

Dear Workers' Power:

I pulled this down from an office bulletin board at the warehouse where I work.

I always get a kick out of it when the bosses show themselves up as fools.

Who do they think they're dealing with?

Donn K.
St. Louis

LOVE ME ALWAYS.....

You say you love me but sometimes you don't show it. In the beginning, you couldn't do enough for me. Now you seem to take me for granted... some days I even wonder if I mean anything at all to you.

Maybe when I'm gone, you'll appreciate me and all the things I do for you. I'm responsible for getting the food on your table, for your clean shirt, for the welfare of your children... a thousand and one things you want and need.

Why, if it weren't for me you wouldn't even have a car. I've kept quiet and waited to see how long it would take for you to realize how much you really need me.

Cherish me... take care of me and I'll continue to take good care of you... Who am I? I am your job.

Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You

What you like about the paper—and what you don't. What you think of the political ideas we present, and your comments on problems facing working people. But please be brief.

Write to: Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203.

HOW TEAMSTERS SHOWED THE WAY

The International Socialists are sponsoring a series of public meetings across the country on the lessons of the 1976 Teamsters strike over the Master Freight Agreement.

Teamsters will speak about how

the rank and file organized to force the first national Teamster strike in history.

They will tell how Teamsters for a Decent Contract was organized last August, and grew into a national movement that shook up

the IBT officials and made a real impact on negotiations.

And they will tell why workers in other industries can organize to make an impact in the contracts that will expire through the rest of this year.

I.S. Teamster members played important roles in building TDC from its beginning.

SPEAKERS

The speakers at these meetings are all members of TDC, and played important roles in the strike itself.

Ken Paff is national secretary of TDC and a leading member of Cleveland Local 407 TDC.

Steve Kindred, a member of Local 407, is a national organizer for TDC and was present in Detroit during the 299 wildcat.

Dan LaBotz is a leading member of TDC in the Chicago Truck Drivers Union and wrote the popular pamphlet, *Conspiracy in the Trucking Industry*.

Sharon Cottrell is a leading member of TDC in the Long Beach Local 692.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

These meetings will show how it strengthens rank and file workers to have a national organization.

The speakers will tell what Teamsters won, and what needs to be done now to make the Teamsters union the fighting organization it used to be.

UAW MEMBERS

United Auto Worker members especially ought to check these meetings out. Their contract expires in less than five months. The victories and defeats of each contract expiration affect the next. Come to these meetings and discuss with workers from other industries and unions where to go from here.

Together we can turn the employers' offensive around to a workers' offensive that begins to get us what we really need.

For details on when and where the meetings will be, contact your Workers' Power seller or the I.S. branch in your city.

Off To A Good Start

I.S. meetings on the strike have already been held in New York and Los Angeles.

Fifty people attended a meeting in New York on the importance of the strike for rank and file workers on April 9.

Speakers included Teamsters from Local 851 in New Jersey and Local 156 in Philadelphia, and a member of Communication Workers of America in New York.

Schedule

BAY AREA: Sharon Cottrell Friday, April 23

CHICAGO: Speaker to be announced Sunday, April 25

CLEVELAND: Ken Paff Sunday April 25

DETROIT: Steve Kindred Saturday, April 24

INDIANAPOLIS: Dan LaBotz Friday, April 23

PITTSBURGH: Steve Kindred Sunday, May 2

PORTLAND: Sharon Cottrell Sunday, May 2

Where We Stand

WE OPPOSE

• Capitalist Exploitation

We live under the capitalist system. The wealth produced by working people is stolen from us by private employers. They prosper from our labor.

• Capitalist Control

Capitalists use their profits only to make more profits. When they need fewer workers, they create unemployment. When they need more money, they speed up work, downgrade safety conditions and raise prices. The capitalist system spends little on health care, a clean environment, or social services, because these things make no profit.

• Oppression

Capitalism needs inequality—because it needs profits, it can't provide enough for all. So it gives some groups of people worse jobs and lower pay, and labels them inferior. In particular, capitalism locks black people into the bottom of society, and spreads racist ideas to keep them there and justify it. Capitalism keeps women responsible for taking care of the workforce when it is not at work, including children, who are too young to work. Women who work for wages have two jobs.

• Capitalist Government

The government serves the capitalist class. Its only purpose is to protect the private profit system. It protects its interests abroad through economic control of other countries, spying and wars.

• Bureaucratic Communism

Russia, China and the countries with economies like theirs are also oppressive class societies, run by a privileged ruling class of bureaucrats. They are not socialist and must be overthrown by the working classes of those countries.

WE SUPPORT

• The Rank and File Movement

The unions protect workers from their employers. But today's unions are run by privileged officials who sell out because they support the capitalist system. They want labor peace not labor power. We support the struggle for rank and file control of the unions.

• Liberation From Oppression

We support the struggles of every oppressed group to end its oppression: the struggle for equality and justice by blacks, women, gays, latinos, native Americans, and all oppressed people. Support from the entire working class movement will make both these struggles, and that movement stronger.

• Socialism

Society should be run by the working class. The wealth produced by those who work should go to fill people's needs, not to private gain.

• Workers' Revolution

But the capitalist class will not give up their rule and profits voluntarily. Socialism can be created only when the working class seizes control of the factories and makes their own government. The working class will rule democratically because it can own society's wealth only together.

• Internationalism

The struggle for socialism is world wide. Nations fighting to throw out foreign rulers must have the support of the international working class as in Angola today. So must every struggle of working people to end their oppression, as in Portugal today, and in Russia and Eastern Europe.

• Revolutionary Party

The most class conscious members of the working class have the responsibility to lead the struggle toward socialist revolution. To do this they must build an organization to put their consciousness into action and make their leadership effective.

• International Socialists

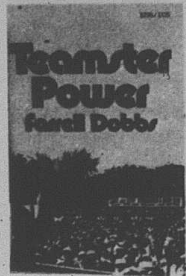
The I.S. is an organization of revolutionary socialist workers. We are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member to achieve them. Join with us to build the I.S. into a revolutionary party, to build the movement to end exploitation and oppression and to create a socialist world.



Ken Paff



Dan LaBotz



How over-the-road drivers were organized in the Central States. Takes up the story where Teamster Rebellion ended.

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JOIN US

If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and would like more information, or, would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to: INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.

Name

Address

Union

The Handshake That Carved Up The World

by Milton Fisk

Last Thursday night NBC-TV presented a special drama "Truman at Potsdam." It was a dramatic re-creation of the July, 1945 conference that set up the boundaries and "spheres of influence" for the post-war world.

"Truman at Potsdam" was certainly a step in the right direction for understanding Potsdam and World War II. After thirty years, it exploded some of the old myths about the start of the Cold War, just by going back to the actual record of who said what.

The show portrayed the "Big Three"—President Truman, British Prime Minister Churchill, and Russia's Joseph Stalin as horse traders, hoping to make gains at the expense of the others' slips and weaknesses.

But neither the show nor the book that inspired it [Meeting at Potsdam, by Charles L. Mee, Jr.] explains why this horse-trading went on, or why no peace resulted from it.

After the defeat of Germany, and

just prior to the atomic destruction of Hiroshima, these Allied leaders met outside Berlin in Potsdam, Germany.

Did the Potsdam conference aim to create a world of peace? If so, it was a clear failure. But for the Big Three, the goal was not peace—but measuring one another's intentions in preparation for struggles to expand their own economic, political and military influence.

That's why, when the Potsdam



Churchill, Truman, and Stalin. Buddies in 1945.

conference ended, the Cold War began in earnest.

The central topic of discussion at Potsdam was Germany. Stalin wanted to continue Russia's industrial growth with machinery and materials taken from Germany, as well as from Eastern Europe.

The U.S., however, wanted an industrialized Germany that would provide it with a market.

Despite the conference deal was possible Germany was divided. In the western zone, the U.S. had its market, and the Russians then had a free hand in the eastern sector to rip off whole factories, and deport German workers as slave laborers to Russia.

The meaning of Potsdam was imperialist rivalry. German and Japanese imperialism had been swept away. Now it was time for the winners to get clear about the starting point for another round of imperialist confrontations.

For Stalin, there was to be no interference with Russia in Eastern Europe. Truman was going to tolerate no interference with the U.S. in the Pacific.

Truman was indeed committed enough to the U.S. sphere of influence in the Pacific to sacrifice hundreds of thousands of Japanese civilians in an atomic holocaust to keep the Russians from claiming influence in China or Japan.

Stalin was indeed willing to fix the fate of millions by drawing a line across a European map.

FORCE DECIDES

It was the clash between these imperialists and not the clash between dirty horse trades that made the agreements at Potsdam so shaky.

U.S. capital was not going to be constricted by artificial spheres of influence; yet Stalin was equally determined to put a stop to the expansion of U.S. capital. Only force would make the spheres of influence genuine.

Trotter's Life Saved

Desmond Trotter will not die on the gallows.

The young revolutionary in Dominica was scheduled to be hanged on April 8. Mass demonstrations in Dominica, on the island of Martinique, and a flood of telegrams to Premier Patrick John forced the government to commute his sentence.

Trotter now remains in jail on a life sentence. The only witness who testified against him in a murder trial two years ago has retracted her testimony.

Trotter is confined under unbelievable conditions which are destroying his health. In a recent interview he revealed he is suffering from gastritis and various infections.

The international movement in his defense is stepping up its campaign to win his freedom. □

DON'T SHOP CHILD WORLD

BOSTON—A striker at Child World, a toy distribution chain in nearby Avon, was hospitalized after the company Vice-President drove his car through the picket line while police stood by.

Robert Denver, the injured striker, is a member of Teamster Local 653. The drivers and loaders have been locked out since March 3. They are demanding a two-year contract, cost-of-living, and benefits.

"Every day scabs are called in and told we have no union," Denver reported. "The company would like to see a non-union shop again."

Employees have called a boycott of Child World, a multi-million dollar enterprise with stores in New England, New York, New Jersey and Ohio.

The company refuses to bargain and has obtained an injunction to remove pickets from the warehouse.

The Teamsters are now concentrating on the boycott and plan to support the store clerks when their contract expires. □

Ann Foster

THE PAMPHLET THOUSANDS OF TEAMSTERS ARE TALKING ABOUT

CONSPIRACY

IN THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY

IN THE WORDS OF ONE UPS WORKER:

"This'll blow your mind. I bought 100 of these goddamn books myself because I read it and I'm so clearly impressed with the facts behind this booklet. It tells you about [UPS Chairman] Jim Casey making three-quarters of a million dollars last year. It tells you about TDC and UPSurge. It is current. It tells you about the profit margins of the trucking companies, how they're screwing their employees. Interlocking directorships, how everything is controlled by a few. You buddy, you're really screwed. This'll open up your eyes."

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WORKERS' POWER

Ready To Strike At UPS!

by Jim Woodward

CHICAGO—One hundred twenty-five representatives of UPSurge gathered here April 10, ready for a strike May 1. That's when the Central States contract between the Teamsters Union and the United Parcel Service (UPS) expires.

The members of UPSurge, the rank and file UPS workers' organization, are confident and ready for the fight. Vince Meredith, chief Louisville steward, expressed that confidence:

"I feel like ever since the birth of UPSurge we've been performing an exorcism on United Parcel Service. And I think on May 1 on the picket line we're going to initiate the final rites.

"I think the demons are going to be jumping so fast out of UPS that the devil's going to have to put a sign on the gates of hell that says 'No vacancies—reserved for management personnel only.'"

—UPSurge Activist Fired—
See page 8.

After a brief rally at UPS' Jefferson Hub, the group moved to a nearby hotel. There Anne Mackie, editor of the UPSurge newspaper, outlined a "battle plan" that the UPSurge steering committee had drawn up.

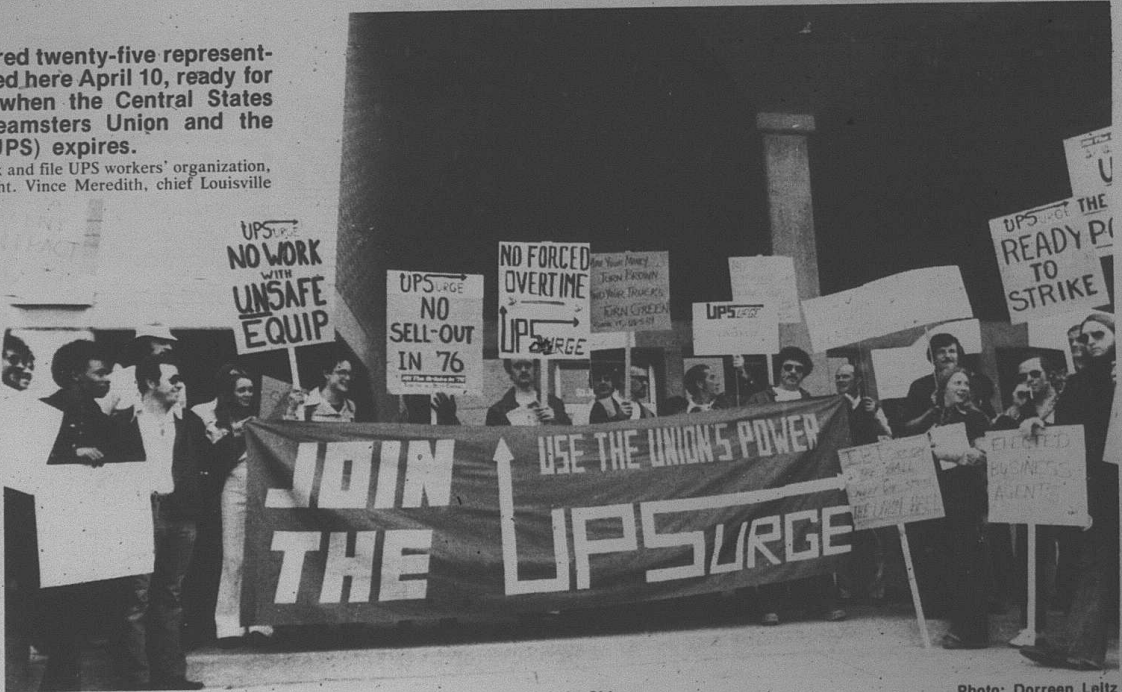
The UPSurge plan is based on the virtual certainty that there will be no acceptable contract by May 1.

Several UPSurge members met earlier in the day with Dan Darrow head of the Teamsters' UPS negotiating team.

They reported back that no progress had been made in the negotiations, and that the company is taking a tough line.

In an interview with Workers' Power, Laura Hodge, a Chicago UPSurge steering committee member, explained why: "The company seems to think it'll be able to get us coming back crawling. And their strategy is to provoke a strike.

"That's why they haven't given an inch. They're provoking a strike



Over 100 UPS workers rallied in front of the company's Jefferson Hub in Chicago.

Photo: Dorreen Leitz

with the idea of smashing UPSurge and setting the union back even farther than it was before UPSurge was around."

RANK & FILE CONTROL

To combat UPS' strategy, UPSurge is emphasizing strong rank and file control over the strike.

"We aren't going to sit back and let the union officials try to run this strike like they ran that two-day strike in freight!" declared Mackie. "We don't want a repeat of that

sellout."

UPSurge's next step will be to take a series of motions into union meetings scheduled for April 24-25. The meetings are being held to take strike votes. In addition to urging "yes" votes on the strike, UPSurge activists will propose:

- Elected rank and file committees to run the strike.
- Union meetings twice a week during the strike. Mackie promised that "if there aren't sanctioned union meetings twice a week during the strike, UPSurge will hold the meetings."

• Locals outside the central states will be urged to pass resolutions that they will not handle struck goods from the central states.

• Contract ratification meetings before any return to work. No mail ballots. No interim agreements.

Mackie also said that UPSurge will hold meetings for part-timers in every city possible in the next two weeks.

UPS has been spreading the lie that UPSurge wants part-timers to lose their jobs.

The UPSurge meetings with part-timers are to present the real story: that UPSurge is demanding equal pay, equal benefits, and equal rights for part-time workers, as well as the opportunity to move up to full-time jobs if they want to.

PREPARED

The mood of the meeting was that everyone is prepared.

Meredith put it this way: "Go back to your centers, and all I want to hear from you is 'Strike! Strike! Strike!'"

"We've got three weeks. Live it up. Shout a little bit. Scream a little bit.

"And holler a lot of 'A-men's brother.' Let's put the big brown machine down where it belongs!"

FORD WORKERS DEMAND ACTION

by Milt Fisk

DETROIT—"Ford is a Thief," chanted the angry Engine Plant workers from the Ford Rouge complex.

On April 13, security men barred the workers from the lobby of the giant Ford administrative headquarters in Dearborn.

The picketers marched in a tight circle in front of the main entrance.

Henry Ford II had announced earlier in the day that there could be no guarantee of jobs for the 1,500 who are to be moved out of the Engine Plant in July.

The Dearborn Engine Plant makes truck engines. Light engine 390 and engine 360 will no longer be produced in the plant, but will be produced in Windsor and Cleveland.

The Dearborn plant will continue to produce only two heavy engines.

But it is rumored that within a year the entire Dearborn Engine Plant will be shut down.

High union officials are saying that nothing can be done to save the jobs of those who will be moved out of the Engine Plant.

SPEED-UP, TOO

On April 5, the line speed at the Engine Plant went up from 154 to 183 per hour. Ford wants the last drop of blood from those who will soon be dismissed.

The layoffs could affect people

with from 10 to 15 years seniority.

Workers at Detroit plants supplying parts to the Engine Plant will also suffer heavy layoffs.

The union's slogan at the April 4 meeting of Local 600, which discussed the layoffs, was "Henry, Have A Heart!"

At this demonstration, that slogan was turned into the charge: "Henry's Heart is in his Pocket!"

There was universal agreement that coming to the administration building to picket was going to do no good since it wouldn't affect Ford profits.

Many of the workers in the Engine Plant talk openly about the necessity of a strike before July to guarantee jobs in the Rouge complex for the displaced workers.

A strike in September when the contract expires has been suggested by the union. But that would be too late to help those going onto the streets in July.

UAW officials knew two years ago that the Engine Plant was to be partly shut down. They waited till three months before the layoffs to mobilize the ranks to go to the administration building.

The futility of this action brought the complaint from many of the picketers that the company and the union were the same thing.

It is clear to them that the only action that Ford will understand is stopping production at the Rouge complex.

WHY THEY'RE GOING OUT

Every UPS worker could give a long list of reasons why there will be a strike May 1. Here's what one Chicago UPSer had to say at the UPSurge rally:

I started working here about three years ago. I thought I had a pretty good job because they were paying me a big buck for working part-time.

But then certain things started happening that changed my mind.

First, I remember there was a man working full time. He was working eight and a half hours and he was sick and he was tired. He asked the supervisor if he could go home.

The supervisor said he could not go home, so I started changing my mind right there about UPS.

And I remember I was working as fast as I could one day and the supervisor came up to me and he said, 'Work harder.' But I already was working as hard as I could.

Then there was a layoff at Christmas time. But I soon realized that they weren't following the seniority rule when

people were being laid off. There were people being laid off that had more seniority than other people that were staying.

A DEATH

Then there was the case of a man that died because a box fell on his head.

I inquired about that and the supervisors told me that the box weighed only two pounds so it couldn't have been the box. But I heard another story from the people he worked with.

And I asked, well, can I be on the safety committee? They said, sure, you can be on the safety committee.

But I soon found out that they weren't holding safety committee meetings any more.

Then other things started happening. I got sick a couple times, and I felt like a criminal every time I got sick.

I had to make up a big story every time I got sick. I had to come to the place even though I was sick and had a fever.

They wouldn't believe me if I told them I had a fever. So I want sick days in the new contract.