

# WORKERS' VOICE

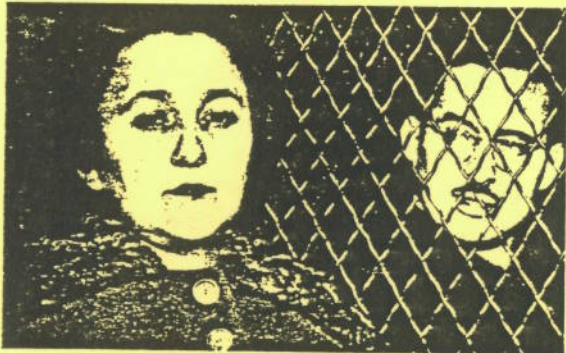
may, 1985

## RESIST GOVERNMENT REPRESSION

WILMINGTON 10



CHARLOTTE 3



N.Y. 8



FREE THE RNA 11 NOW

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"LET US NOT FORGET THAT IN THE WHOLE HISTORY OF MANKIND OFTEN THE BEST MEN HAVE PASSED THROUGH PRISON. THIS APPLIES WITH GREATER FORCE TO OUR TIMES, BECAUSE WE ARE LIVING THROUGH A PARTICULARLY STORMY AND RESTLESS EPOCH. THE STRUGGLE FOR A GREAT IDEAL HAS ALWAYS INVOLVED SACRIFICES. IT WAS SO ONCE WITH CHRISTIANITY; IT WAS so WITH GALILEO, GIORDANO BRUNO, HUSS, COPERNICUS, THOMAS MUNZEN AND A GREAT NUMBER OF MEN OF SCIENCE AND POLITICS; IT WAS SO WITH THE BOURGEOIS REVOLUTIONS AND THE DIFFERENT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, PARTICULARLY WITH THE RUSSIAN OCTOBER REVOLUTION! IT IS SO NOW WITH THE COMMUNIST TOO."

GEORGI DIMITROV, 1933  
BULGARIAN COMMUNIST  
AWAITING TRIAL IN NAZI JAIL

There is a wave of repression and government inspired terror that is beginning to sweep the country and is having serious consequences for the working class and oppressed nationalities. Some progressives and revolutionaries are fully aware of this and have been or are starting to deal with this in earnest. The working class and masses of oppressed nationality people have not yet gained a full understanding of how this will effect their day to day struggles against the capitalist and imperialist rulers. This is in part due to the ideological onslaught by the ruling class media and institutions which i have confused and mislead people. The majority of trade union officials and Afro-American, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Native American and other national minority middle class leaders who line up with the Democratic Party have helped to make the situation even worse.

## **REAGAN AND FASCISM**

The movement for the conservatives and fascist to control the White House did not begin with the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980. It started in a big way after the 1964 defeat of Republican Barry Goldwater, gained with the Nixon victory in 1968, lost some ground after t.he Watergate scandal and regained momentum during the last part of the 1970's. In other words, it was not a sudden rise to power but a well planned tactical advance to the Presidency and control of the Senate.

Reagan's election in 1980 represented not a fascist take over of the Federal government, but the result of two different but similar tendencies within the bourgeoisie coming together and electing a candidate. The fascist elements of the ruling class, most readily identified by the Coors and Hunt families, would support more stringent economic measures and repressive political practices for dealing with the capitalist crisis and any resistance on the part of the masses. The more "mode-

rate grouping does not rule out these tactics and therefore is willing to compromise with the fascist sections.

With these elements firmly in contrrol, and the liberals trying to find new ways to reform the system without changing it, Reagan has established the legal basis for fascism in the U.S. Under the banners of "law and order","protect the victims of crime","secure our borders from illigal aliens", and " stop terrorism", legislation has passed and court decisions have been rendered that would allow the state to squash and imprison any and all opposition forces. Violence on the picket line is a felony, no matter who starts or provokes it. The rules of evidence for search and seizure have been reduced meaning a warrant can be issued with virtually no proof of criminal activity. Law enforcement officials do not have to read people their rights when arrested. People can be incarcerated indefinetly under preventitive detention statues the; way it is done in South Africa. And, the historically anti-people, anti-working class grand jury process has been stepped up as a political weapon and given the authority to prosecute under "rackerteering"laws. These are but a few of the legal ways the bourgeoisie intends to fight the opposition forces.

## **REAGAN'S RE-ELECTION**

Reagan's re-election is being interpreted as a people's mandate for his policies. This, of course, is not true. While Reagan is said to have won by a landslide, the figures say otherwise. Only 47% of the eligible voters showed up at the polls. This means that only 31%of the people voted for him. His supporters were overwhelmingly white. The large number of white workers that supported him, voted against their own class interest in favor of a reactionary patriotism coupled with racist and chauvinist sentiments.

With this fabricated mandate, Reagan has declared that he will continue the "conservative revolution". This means an all out effort to crush the opposition forces before they gain anymore strength. There is domestic opposition to U.S. imperialism's intervention in Central America. Specifically, the U.S. government's support of the rightist in El Salvador and the contras in Nicaragua. These increasing opposition forces oppose sending working class and oppressed nationality youth to fight, and probably die, in unjust wars against their class brothers and sisters. There is also opposition to the invasion and continued occupation of Grenada. In addition, a growing number of forces are challenging the U.S. role in the Middle East and Southern Africa.

And then, there are the militant and revolutionary trade union activist who are struggling to reclaim the unions from the bureaucrats and sell-out leadership. They want to make the unions democratic worker's organizations that fight for workers on every question. They are organizing the unorganized workers, and struggling against the take backs and concessions being accepted by the union leadership. These forces are organizing against union busting that comes from the White House, union busting law firms, and the Klu Klux Klan among others. And because they are internationalist, they fight tooth and nail against the "anti-imports" line that blames plant closings and layoffs on foreign workers. Their efforts have resulted in the organizing of Afro-American workers into workers organizations to take up a more fighting and class conscious role in the workers movement and a leading role in the Black liberation movement. Clearly, the capitalist and politicians cannot allow these activities to proceed without interference.

Opposition to police terror is also escalating. Police brutality and murders are rampant in the Black Belt South as well as the Northern national minority areas.

Like the police violence that triggered many of the rebellions of the 1960's, recent police attacks in Miami New Orleans and New York City are bringing people to the brink. They are learning through their own experience that more minority police, Black police chiefs, and Civilian Review Boards will not end police terror or even reduce it in any significant way. They are learning that it's not racist or "Uncle Tom" cops alone that are responsible, but the role of the state as an instrument of repression for the ruling class, and as an "army of occupation" in the Afro-American national territory and other Black communities. On the one hand, mass action is calling for jailing killer cops. And on the other, self-defense and community patrols are being formed all over the country to defend the oppressed nationality communities from repression and crimes committed by the lumpen proletariat and other counter revolutionary elements.

What concerns the ruling class is that these oftentimes separate opposition movements are becoming more and more conscious of the connection of these problems and the need for total change or revolution to resolve them. This change is being linked to the need for socialism and national liberation for the various oppressed nations. As for the revolutionaries they are beginning to give more and better leadership to some of these struggles. Although it is embryonic, a small degree of fusion is taking place between the working class and oppressed nationalities on the one hand and Marxist-Leninist and some other revolutionary forces on the other. As a result, the government must and is aiming at both the revolutionaries and the masses. Both must fight back and be defended as the fusion continues.



## THE FASCIST MOVEMENT

The election has promoted the growth and activity of the organized fascist. Groups such as the Aryan Nation, The Order, Posse Comitatus and others have intensified their activity. They have contradictions with the present bourgeois rulers because they want to seize power and establish a fascist white supremacist state in North America. Even with this contention for state power, the current rulers take advantage of the right-wing terror and ideological work that these groups do. They denounce it publicly and use the results to advance their own work. The recent claims by the F.B.I. that they have smashed this so-called neo-Nazi network are not to be taken seriously. No matter how much damage this last round of confrontations did to them we will certainly see and hear from them again.



## TERRORISM CHARGE

The ruling class is constantly using the threat or charge of terror to justify its' repressive and reactionary behavior at home and abroad. For one, they distort what terrorism really is. They do not consider: Israeli actions in Lebanon, contra activity in Nicaragua, police murders, fascist violence, abortion clinic bombings or the general conditions of national oppression as terror. They are the real terrorists. When people justifiably resort to the use of armed struggle to defend themselves from tyranny, exploitation and imperialist domination, they are considered terrorists by the rulers, in reality they are freedom fighters.

The rulers also try to distort the principled and revolutionary use of armed struggle. Armed struggle is always the action of the masses, the working class and oppressed nations, to defend themselves or to end the rule of the exploiters. This is one form of struggle that must be connected to other forms such as demonstrations, strikes, building takeovers, etc. The legitimate use of armed struggle is never the act of individuals and it must serve and be subordinate to the political struggle, except at certain key times.

## THE "N.Y. 8"

"The N.Y.8 has now been caught in this bourgeois hysteria about terrorist threats. The real deal is that they, as revolutionaries have deep and long histories in the Afro-American freedom movement. Linking up the day to day struggles against capitalism with a revolutionary outlook terrifies the rulers. This what they consider a crime but since they cannot be charged with it, they are accused of what can only be described as "thought crimes". That is the level of harassment and repression we are dealing with.

This fascist attack also seeks to criminalize the mass struggles and opposition movements. By using Racketeering statues, they want to give the impression that these are criminal groupings and not political movements. This will make it easier for them to move on different forces, but moreso, confuse the masses who may not yet be clear on this type of deception. Again, we have a case of the real criminals calling those who resist oppression criminals.

### RESIST THE GRAND JURY

The individuals and organizations that are being attacked have taken an exemplary position like the supporters of Puerto Rican Independence and the revolutionary nationalist before them. Refusal to cooperate with the authorities or testify before a Grand Jury is the correct and principled stand being taken by the spouses and associates of "The N.Y.8" and other activist. They have been jailed and are making this sacrifice in defense of the Afro-American liberation movement. Refusing to testify before a Grand Jury does not mean that you are a member of an organization that various defendants are part of or that you have the same views that they have. It simply shows respect for the general movement of which people are a part of and demonstrates our hatred for the government and its history of crimes against the people.

## SELF-CRITICISM

We have always held that the Marxist-Leninist stand on the state dictates no cooperation with any organs of the state as they carry out their work in support of capitalism and against those who fight against it. This stand was reaffirmed in our study of the "N.Y.8" case and support for their struggle against government repression. However, in November, we learned that our understanding of the state was superficial. At that time, one of our comrades was contacted by the F.B.I. The comrade refused to talk to them. They then contacted employers and neighbors. As a way to deal with this harassment, an attorney indicated to the F.B.I, that the comrade had nothing to say to them and did not want to be harassed. The authorities indicated that they wanted to ask questions about an investigation in Ohio. We did not know the individuals or have anything in common with them politically.

From this we developed an erroneous tactic. On the one hand we informed contacts and others about the harassment and told them to be prepared not to cooperate with the authorities. We wanted to demonstrate to people that we were being harassed because of our mass work and political views and that we had done nothing. This last point was based on the view that the authorities were probably aware that we had no relationship to the individuals or the politics. Even this was a poor assumption.

On the other hand, the comrade, through an attorney, refused to answer any questions and would only state that the individual named was not known to the comrade. This was the extent of the contact. The two tactics, it was thought, would better enable us to mount an offensive against the harassment and repression.

While no damage was done we think it was a serious political error. Rather than representing the revolutionary stand of Marxist-Leninist in regards to the state, it imitated the liberal and petty bourgeois outlook of compromise and reconcili-

ation. No matter what is said to the F.B.I., beyond closing the door in their faces, it is a form of cooperation no matter how harmless or well intentioned.

We cannot forget their role and history as a vicious group of political police who have attempted to disrupt every movement for social change since its inception. They use any tactics, including murder and psychological warfare to stop even the most reform minded members of the opposition. Every move they make is aimed at provocation. By rumors, allegations and falsification, they seek to create confusion and distrust among the revolutionary forces and their supporters. To have

any contact with them is to ignore their fascist role.

Once again, there are excellent examples that we must follow and encourage the masses to follow. The Grand Jury Resisters from the Black Liberation Movement, the Puerto Rican Independence Movement and the Anglo-American Anti-Imperialist Movement have all been solid. Their principled stand around resistance is very important. Even though it is not wide spread, there are some sections of the masses that have a basic understanding of this stand. An Afro-American cab driver in a Black Belt city recently commented on Nelson Mandela's refusal to come out of prison if he agreed to conditions set out by the South African government. He said, "that's what we need for our revolution, leaders willing to stay in jail rather than give up their principles". His views are well taken.

We will redouble our efforts in the fight against government repression and agitate more and more on this question as a way of rectifying our mistakes. Support for the victims of government repression and educating the masses as to their role in this fight will be part of this process.

## MASSES KEY TO RESISTANCE

The forces leading the fight against government repression must make the utmost effort not to let this struggle be limited to a sm-ii grouping of advanced forces. This type of isolation is precisely what the government wants and is sometimes government inspired.

Information and mobilization cannot be aimed at just the advanced and revolutionary forces. A broad front or popular front must include all of the democratic forces from the various classes, ideological views and organizations. Clearly, the revolutionary forces will take the lead in this work, but it must be conducted broadly.

The masses will be won over when we show them that these are not just attacks on a few people, but on the masses themselves at the workplace and in the community. We must help them draw out how they have been victims of this repression directly or indirectly. In this way they will see that they are concretely connected to the forces that have been jailed, indicted or harassed. And finally, we must encourage them to resist where they are on a daily basis. In the long run, it is the powerful and massive resistance of the rank and file that will force the fascist to lighten up on their attacks. It is also this resistance, under the leadership of a revolutionary workers party that will topple the owners of capital, put the working class in power and win the right to self-determination for the oppressed nations.



AMILGAR CABRAL/PAUL ROBESON COLLECTIVE (M-L)