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TURN D.C. UPSIDE— DOWN!

...To go straight up against this system and rock this country at its very foundation. This is a call for volunteers to join the front lines of the battle in Washington, D.C.

The trial of Bob Avakian and the 16 other Mao Tsetung Defendants is scheduled to begin November 19. This trial itself is an outrage and a further glaring exposure of the criminal hypocrisy of the rulers of this country and the vicious dictatorship that lurks behind their glittering but fading facade of democracy. It is not only an attack on the Revolutionary Communist Party and its Chairman, Bob Avakian; it is more fundamentally an attack on the working class and the millions of others whose lives and spirits are also mangled and tormented in this "greatest of all countries"—an attack on their ability to have a vanguard capable of leading them to overthrow and abolish the madness that is "daily life" in capitalist society and the even more monstrous evils, including world war, that the U.S.

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They've Thrown Down the Gauntlet—A Deadly Serious Challenge, and a Truly Great Opportunity . . .

The Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party is issuing a call, throughout this land, to Party members and all others who are willing and determined to make the necessary sacrifices to take their stand with the Party—to volunteer to go to Washington, D.C., beginning a few weeks before the trial starts, and continuing to its conclusion; to join the front lines of the battle to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants and Stop the Railroad of Bob Avakian; to gather their combined force where the trial is to be held, in the very political capital of our imperialist rulers, and through their united efforts to take the issue of this trial, and the crucial political questions it concentrates, out to hundreds of thousands of people in the Washington, D.C. area, so that by the time the trial starts, and even more so through the course of it, this will become the major political question in that area and indeed throughout the country, known of and talked about on a daily basis by masses of people. We aim at nothing less than turning that area into a major political battleground, and in so doing and through the support built in every major area, to rock this whole country to its foundation. . . . Two hundred "picked troops" will be selected and sent, political organizers who will fan out across D.C. on a daily basis, educating and activating many times their number.



French Stage Palace Coup in Central Africa

France shifted gears in the Central African Republic last week, replacing the hated Emperor/butcher Jean-Bedel Bokassa with his cousin, David Dacko, in a bloodless *coup d'etat* on September 20. The coup ended fourteen years of brutal dictatorship under Bokassa, but the new man hardly represented a revolution, since during the last three years of Bokassa's rule, David Dacko had been acting as Bokassa's personal advisor.

Dacko's own career has had its ups and downs over the years. He became the first president of the Central African Republic after it gained nominal independence from France in 1960, and he kept that position until he was overthrown by cousin Bokassa in 1965. Bokassa jailed Dacko, who remained either in prison or under house arrest for a total of 11 years. He was then released and appointed special counselor to the emperor!

The government of the Central African Republic (renamed the "Central African Empire" by Bokassa) has thus remained "in the family," so to speak, from the very beginning. But more fundamental is the fact that both Dacko and Bokassa have been willing servants and faithful lapdogs of French imperialism from the time their country was first granted "independence." None of the back and forth changes in government has ever meant genuine freedom and independence for the people of that country. Indeed, the terms of the Central African Republic's independence required that it be bound hand and foot to France.

During the period of the late '50s and early '60s, especially as the result of its defeat in Vietnam and its losing war with Algeria, France began to see the handwriting on the wall. Before any strong liberation movements were able to develop in most of its African colonies, France offered them a "choice." They could either be what the French termed "completely independent," or they could be "independent" members of a Franco-African federation.

The economies of France's African colonies were thoroughly dependent upon French monopoly capital, and the "offer" of complete independence was nothing but an undisguised threat to pull out all capital investment and dismantle all plants and equipment, a threat aimed particularly at the stratum of bourgeois lackeys built up by France to aid in the administration of the colonies. Only a genuine people's revolution could and would develop an economy free of foreign capitalism. This stratum subservient to French in-

terests would constitute the governing circles of those countries which chose to accept federation with France in return for nominal independence.

With the exception of Algeria, which waged a successful war of liberation against France, all the French colonies in Africa but Guinea agreed to neo-colonial domination in the guise of "federation." France subsequently showed everyone how magnanimous its offer of complete independence had been in the case of Guinea by removing everything but the landscape when it left. The French imperialists literally took all the phones and even unscrewed all the lightbulbs from the hospitals when they left Guinea!

Countries which chose federation, like Senegal, the Ivory Coast, Chad, Gabon and the Central African Republic, were able to keep their phones and lightbulbs, but their switches were pulled in France. Their economies and governments have remained thoroughly French dominated. And the U.S. has cashed in on the deal, too. France has drained them of their wealth (much of which is in natural resources such as diamonds and uranium) and kept them impoverished to the extent that they are among the poorest countries on earth.

French Troops

In order to maintain its stranglehold (and, more recently, to counter the growing presence of Cuban troops in Africa), France maintains military bases with more than 12,000 combat troops in a number of its neo-colonies. They have recently seen action in Chad and Zaire, and now in the Central African Republic, where they flew in with Dacko to pull off the coup. There are currently over a thousand French troops there. As one U.S. newspaper report put it quite candidly, "The French have been involved in many overt and covert military operations in their former empire, but this was the first time French forces overthrew a government that Paris recognized diplomatically."

The French imperialists have tried unsuccessfully to give the impression that they orchestrated the coup out of some "humanitarian" concern for the people of the Central African Republic. In justifying the coup, they cite the fact that Bokassa has admitted recently presiding over the cold-blooded execution of as many as 200 students while they were locked in jail cells, and that he even killed some of them himself. The students had supposedly been jailed for refusing to buy expensive school uniforms manufactured in a plant own-



1977 photo of Bokassa on his throne—the French replaced this turkey with a bird of very similar feathers.

ed by one of Bokassa's relatives. Reports of the executions are, of course, true, but butchery is not what caused France to turn on Bokassa. In fact, it's why they hired him in the first place.

Bokassa's latest atrocity is nothing new. Horror stories have been filtering out of the Central African "Empire"

ever since Bokassa took power. Hundreds of political prisoners have been tortured, murdered and disposed of without a trace, and France has not only known about it but tried its best to keep it quiet. Despite the savage nature of the Bokassa regime, it has been a favorite of the last three presidents of

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NOTICE TO OUR READERS

The exclusive series of reports from the streets of Iran, by revolutionary journalist Bob Saibel, will continue next week.

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Gold Soars Higher, Imperialism Sinks Lower

One day in mid-September the price of gold on the New York market rose by \$31 an ounce. This one day's price jump almost equalled the total price of gold only about 10 years ago, when it used to be officially set at \$35/ounce. Last week the price soared to \$386/ounce at one point—a price rise of over 1000% in a decade.

The ruling class tries to pretend that this "gold fever" is a fit of irrational speculation having little or no real relation to the U.S. economy. "What we're looking at is a case of commodity speculation pure and simple," said one of Carter's top economic aides. "Gold no longer plays a central role in the world monetary system, and it has no implications for our economy." This statement is a pure and simple attempt to substitute a bourgeois fantasy for reality. There is speculation in gold going on, but it's not just something irrational and inexplicable; rather, it is a symptom of real economic contradictions. And these contradictions are very close to home; far from having "no implications for our economy," the soaring gold price has everything to do with the economy of U.S. imperialism. And this is because, whatever the desires of the U.S. ruling class to the contrary, gold still does play the basic role of money in the international capitalist economy.

Thus the feverish speculation in gold that has pushed its price to such unprecedented heights is a symptom of a deep disorder.

U.S. Dollar No Longer "As Good as Gold"

Up until the late 1960s the U.S. could set the price of gold, and all other countries agreed or submitted. The dollar was quite literally "as good as gold"—a reflection of the top-dog position of U.S. imperialism following World War 2. But those days are gone. U.S. imperialism is wracked by political and economic crisis, in a downward spiral and moving toward world war as its only "solution," and the gyrations of gold and the dollar reflect this new reality.

The immediate background to these recent gyrations involves the measures taken by the U.S. to escape from the recession of 1974-75. Essentially, these measures were expansionary and inflationary; crudely put, the U.S. got out of the recession by printing dollars. But this increase in the money supply only fueled the already existing inflation. Overseas, the inflated dollar continued to fall against other currencies—and against gold. This fall of the dollar began to reach crisis proportions, and last November the U.S. launched a major program to "rescue the dollar," involving the sale of gold by the U.S. to halt the dollar's fall on international money markets and an "austerity" program at home, including Carter's wage-price guidelines, which was supposed to curb inflation.

However, although these moves did temporarily stabilize the dollar, particularly in relation to other Western-bloc currencies, they did not fundamentally change the situation. Once again the dollar began to fall against gold—or in other words, the price of gold, as expressed in dollars, began to rise: after having been rolled back to \$195 in December 1978 (from \$234 in October 1978), it has now shot up to more than \$380.

Private investors, speculators, big banks, etc.—all are buying gold. With the demand going up, and with a limited supply of the stuff, the price of gold, like that of any other commodity in this situation, goes up. Once an up-

ward price trend becomes established, the old capitalist game of speculation can be played—buying big today, betting that prices will be even higher tomorrow, and so on, with this speculation itself pushing the price even higher, until at some point the bubble bursts and the price plummets. But this rush to buy gold is not just speculation; it indicates a distrust of the dollar, and of the other Western-bloc currencies, a desire to have gold—"the real thing"—rather than paper backed by a promise from the U.S. government. It is not that these banks and capitalists, these gold-buyers, distrust the good faith of the U.S. bourgeois state; but they do not trust the U.S. economy—and they have good reason not to.

The capitalist economy of the United States has been in grave and fairly obvious trouble since the late 1960s—a combination of unstoppable inflation and periodic recessions—and this has been reflected in the relation of the dollar to gold. Already in 1965 the 25% gold backing of bank reserves in the U.S. was eliminated as this country's gold supply fell. By 1968 the U.S. also pushed aside the requirement that 25% of its currency be backed by gold, and concurrently there was the falling apart of the "Gold Pool," an arrangement whereby Western European countries pledged their gold reserves to support the official price of the precious metal at \$35/ounce. A two-tier system was

substituted, with gold transactions between governments continuing to be held at \$35, while those in the private market were left to fluctuate. Finally in 1971 the "New Economic Policy" announced by Nixon—really the open confession by the U.S. bourgeoisie of their system's crisis—included the rejection by the U.S. of any obligation to give gold for dollars. The price of gold expressed in dollars has steadily risen (with various ups and downs) since then, culminating in the present unprecedented peaks.

U.S. Attempts to Restore the "Dollar Standard"

Thus gold has been intimately related to the crisis of U.S. imperialism—and this is not an accident, nor is it due to some sort of fetish around this yellow metal, nor to the mysterious machinations of the gold and currency traders. Gold is still the most basic international reserve and transaction currency. It is the fundamental international currency. So when a national currency like the dollar falls in value relative to gold (when it takes more dollars to buy a certain amount of gold), this generally means that the value of the national currency is falling.

But the imperialist rulers of the United States do not want to recognize this fact. They want to see the monetary function of gold as a fetish, a superstition, and they are full of schemes to

"demonetize" gold, to banish its role as an international currency. Fundamentally these schemes have been attempts to make the dollar take the place of gold as the international currency.

Although this is impossible, it's not just a wild idea on the imperialists' part, but a vain dream of vanished glory. In the Bretton Woods agreements of 1944, setting up the postwar international monetary system for Western capitalism, the price of gold was set in dollars (\$35/ounce), and both gold and dollars were agreed upon as equally valid international reserve and transaction currencies. Article IV of the treaty establishing the International Monetary Fund, written at that time, specifies: "The par value of the currency of each member shall be expressed in terms of gold as a common denominator or in terms of the United States dollar..." Thus the dollar was

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The first week in October, Mr. Karol Wojtyla ("Pope John Paul II") is coming to the U.S. by way of Ireland. "To Ireland I go as a pilgrim, the way I did to Mexico and Poland." But the real pilgrimage of Wojtyla, the most political Pope of recent times, is to Washington, D.C., the holy city of Western imperialism. Having worked his "magic" in Poland, Wojtyla hopes to peddle the same brand of pro-Western "God and Country" emotionalism here in the U.S. as the ruling class seeks to tighten up its grip on the masses in preparation for world war. Already stores are filled with red, white and blue "Popeabilia."

Before leaving Rome, Wojtyla called for prayers for the success of his journey "so that I can successfully fulfill this, my great service, on the soils of Washington and to the greater glory of God and Mankind." Since he is the single most important religious leader in the world, having him in their hip pocket is no small matter to the war makers in Washington. And in fact building him up along with other religious charlatans who have rallied around the flag in this hour of crisis is seen as pretty damn important. Thus on a recent edition of the TV program "60 Minutes" Billy Graham, the fundamentalist Protestant, suggested that the Pope should convene an international conference to settle the Middle East crisis. When Wojtyla comes to Chicago, among the religious dignitaries who will attend him will be Wallace D. Muhammed, leader of World Community of Islam in the West (formerly the Black Muslims), who has already rushed to wrap himself in the flag of the oppressor and preach "patriotism." And among the soldiers, where it really counts when things go down, the Defense Department has called for simultaneous prayer services on military bases around the country October 1, at the hour of the Pope's arrival.



Coming soon in the *Revolutionary Worker*—in depth exposure of the Pope.

Mao Tsetung Defendants

Prosecution Stonewalls Defense Motions

Last week the prosecution responded to pre-trial motions filed at the end of August by defense attorneys in the case of the RCP Chairman, Bob Avakian, and the 16 other Mao Tsetung Defendants. While the judge has yet to rule on these motions, the prosecution's reply—an absolutely stone wall—is very revealing about their bloodthirsty motivations in this case. It's more than just that they said, "No. No. No. No." to all defense motions. The very "arguments," "facts" and "points of law" contained in the government's replies are a new advanced level of ridiculous factual logic and blatant illegalities. Yet the government's intent here is far from silly—just the opposite is the case. The avalanche of fool's logic and illegality represented by these documents are yet another message to the Party and the people: "To hell with you. We intend to railroad over everything, even our own law, to get Bob Avakian and carry this attack through to the bitter end."

This is most obviously demonstrated in the government's opposition to Defendants' Motion to Suppress Identification Testimony. The defense motion pointed out it is *illegal* when people are arrested in a mass, dragnet arrest without any particular evidence against any of them, and this first illegality was followed by preliminary hearings where absolutely *no* attempt was made to show "probable cause" that each particular defendant was linked to the particular

criminal act with which he was charged. With this as a legal basis, the defense motion charged that the identifications that resulted from line-ups ordered by the court at these hearings and from photo displays made up of arrest photographs are clearly illegal and must be suppressed (i.e., prevented from being presented to the jury).

The government doesn't even deny the arrests took place in a mass dragnet method—where any cop grabbed whomever he could (beat the hell out of them) and arrested many. The scene as the government describes it was: "The police moved in to cut off escape routes, contain those who were apprehended against the wall, and then transport arrestees from the scene. There was not an individual arresting officer for the defendant in the way there usually is for arrests made after single crimes." And this is all fine, as they see it, because "the legal niceties of individual arrests are not required in mob scenes!"

Legal niceties? What happened to the sanctity of their so-called Constitutional rights? The nature of such constitutional rights is made clear in the government's opposition—they are *in fact* "niceties" to be stripped away when it serves the authorities' interests. In other words, the arrests did not happen illegally because the government says they didn't. Why? Because their "law" doesn't apply in this case. (As for the preliminary hearing—now the

tangled web of deceit is spinning faster. Once the principle is laid down that you can arrest someone whether any witness saw them commit any illegal act or not, it is just a short jump to adding that you can run them through a preliminary hearing and find probable cause to bind each over to the grand jury whether any evidence is offered to connect them to particular crimes or not.) As the government sums it all up: "It is clear from the facts that there was probable cause to arrest all the defendants even though it may not be possible to specify exactly what each defendant did individually," (i.e., if anything they claim was done at all).

And on this lynchpin rests the whole of the government's ever-expanding fabrication of charges against the defendants. If it is possible to arrest and indict demonstrators and expand their charges to 26 counts without saying specifically that any of them committed any criminal acts, then it should follow (and does from the "legal" strategy contained in the prosecution's theory here) that it is possible to CONVICT these defendants without ever specifying exactly what any of these defendants did against the law. The point? For openers—Bob Avakian—still not identified by *any* witness as even having been at the scene of the 26 "crimes" he is charged with—is none the less guilty as charged!

The same kind of twisted logic is applied to the government's arguments about the nature of the line-ups and photo I.D. procedures themselves. So what if 10 out of 12 persons in every line-up were defendants? So what if 41 photos out of 49 displayed on a board for making I.D.'s were defendants? The government's reasoning: "If a person has been robbed, he is likely to be shown a series of photographs of persons previously arrested for robbery. If a woman has been raped, she is likely to be shown a series of photographs of persons previously arrested for sex offenses. If a person is accosted by someone who calls himself 'Rabbit' he is likely to be shown an array of photographs of persons known to the police by that nickname."

But the 78 defendants who went through the illegal line-ups and photo display procedures weren't charged with robbing, raping or calling themselves "Rabbit." They were all charged with the *same* crime—assaulting the same three police officers. They were all put in the same line-up and all their pictures were put on the same board. When reviewing the line-up and photo displays to pick out someone connected with these specific crimes, you get odds on hitting someone that Jimmy the Greek would never go against. But the government protests, "no officer was prepped as to which photograph on the board he should choose. Prior to the line-up, no suggestions were given to any officer as to who he should identify." Come on Uncle Sam, who are you kidding—if you put ten ears of corn and two concrete blocks in a pig trough—how unlikely do you think it is that the pigs will get something to eat?

Won't Reveal Spying

In the government's response to Defendants' Motion for Disclosure of Electronic or Other Surveillance and to Suppress Evidence, the government offers as the flimsy excuse for not "searching their files" for the records of any illegal electronic surveillance conducted against the RCP, the defendants or their lawyers, the charge that the defense motion doesn't make a specific enough request for what is wanted. The defense request, says the government, "does not even provide the government with the particular time, dates and locations to permit a meaningful file search."

The astute reader may inquire: If the defense *knew* "times, dates, and loca-

tions" of all illegally conducted surveillance—what would be the point in asking for the records? But if the government needs help in locating these records, we have a suggestion: start looking on top of the big desk in the Oval Office of Pennsylvania Avenue. If the files aren't there—try over at the Chinese Embassy on Connecticut Avenue, where translations are ready for transmission overseas. Look on top of all the big desks in all the biggest buildings in Washington—just look for the fat files on top marked, "Priority—Railroad of Bob Avakian and 16 Others." We have confidence in you—if you look on your face, you'll find your nose. And if you look in your hands, you'll find those files.

In this same document, the government also refuses to reveal information collected through other surveillance sources (i.e. informants, provocateurs, etc). The government's argument is that "actions or conversations seen or overheard without the aid of wiretaps and without an illegal entry into a private place need not be disclosed." To make their point still clearer, the word "now" must be added—need not be disclosed *now*. For when the government goes on to say that "statements made by the defendants to persons *known by them* as police officers *have been disclosed* during informal discovery," the implication is clear—statements made by the defendant to those *not known* by them to be cops have *not* yet been disclosed.

Clearly the prosecution is busy reeling in its many lines of investigation on this front, cast out by its faithful core of informants and provocateurs to see if any "fish" were hooked. Surely among the broad numbers of these low-life scum that serve it, the government will find many ready, willing and able to take the stand at the trial, to lie, distort, or *invent* "evidence" against the defendants. It is clear from the hard line taken by the government in this document against revealing any of this that these plans figure into their trial strategy in a significant way.

Vindictiveness

"There has been no prosecutorial vindictiveness," states the government in the Government's Opposition to Defense's Motion to Dismiss the Indictments on the grounds of prosecutorial vindictiveness. Only a vampire could have shown more political blood lust than the U.S. government. The vindictive nature of the police assaults on those encircled by hundreds of officers, which put 47 demonstrators in the hospital, has nothing to do with the prosecution being carried out now, does it? The appearance of former U.S. Attorney and top Watergate prosecutor Earl Silbert in the courtroom twelve hours after these police attacks to demand \$10,000 bail each for those arrested did not reflect vindictiveness, did it? The raising of the charges in the same 12 hours from misdemeanor riot to felony assaults on police officers could not have contained an element of vindictiveness, could it? The mushrooming of the charges to 12 to 15 felonies leveled against the 17 indicted in June did not reflect a mushrooming of vindictiveness, did it?

And clearly when the defendants who were originally indicted in two separate groups on two separate indictments back in June, moved to have the cases joined to one—the fact that the U.S. Attorney made a move of her own and had all defendants re-indicted (adding to each group the other group's charges), so that all ended up with 25 felonies—clearly this contained no "prosecutorial vindictiveness."

No—hear how the government explains this "vindictive-free" process: "For what the government had thought would be convenient packaging for trial, the government initially chose to hold one group accountable for one set of assaults and another (accountable for the other—RW) set of assaults. However, when the defendants asked for joinder so that they could emphasize their common ground and put on a common defense to all charges, *the government gave them what they asked for.*" Thank you—that explains it all. We gave them what they asked for. Vin-

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White Racists Under Black Robes



A recent survey of federal judges has revealed that more than half of these supposed champions of equality belong to all-white social clubs. The survey found that in the eleven southern states 58% of the judges were members; in L.A. 57%; in Chicago 52%; in Baltimore 50% and in St. Louis 34%. Add to this former Attorney General Griffin Bell and this list of racists reads like who's who in law enforcement. After all, who could be better suited to uphold the legal system, a big part of which is aimed at enforcing the oppression of Blacks, Chicanos, and other minorities. Of the 450,000 people who've been shuttled off to prison, half are minorities.

Yet it certainly doesn't look very good for the honorable men in black

robes to be so upfront. The survey of judges concludes that because of the widespread membership in segregated clubs, "the federal judiciary is in fact in jeopardy of losing its most vital elements—the appearance and reality of justice."

The government's concern is clearly for the appearance. As part of cleaning up the image, more than a dozen nominees for federal judgeships have recently agreed, under pressure from the senate judiciary committee, to resign from their lily-white clubs.

However, others true to their principles and the very principles the justice system was founded on, have refused to quit. As one such federal judge in L.A. declared, "It's still a free country." ■

Chilean Revolutionary To Tour U.S.

This October, the national speaking tour by Chilean revolutionary Jorge Palacios represents an extraordinary opportunity for the people in many cities in this country.

Throughout Latin America, the U.S.

is known as "el pulpo"—the octopus—an imperialist beast whose tentacles hold nations and whole continents. Yet most of us who live in the belly of this beast know far too little about other countries, especially about

the revolutionary struggles of other peoples which are attacking our own ruling class.

The Palacios tour will be an important part of breaking the blockade of ignorance which this country's ruling

class has tried to build to imprison the minds of the workers and masses of American people. It will be a chance to hear and speak with a Latin American revolutionary leader whose party, the Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile, has won respect all over the world for the role it is playing in developing the Chilean people's resistance to the U.S.-imposed dictatorship which rules Chile, and for its stubborn defense of revolutionary principles. The RCP of Chile has fought to defend Marxism-Leninism, together with Mao Tsetung's contributions, both in the face of the pro-Soviet revisionists in Chile, who dominated the Allende government in Chile from 1970-1973 and helped prepare the way for the current fascist regime, and in the face of the reversal of the revolution in China and the attacks on Mao Tsetung that have thrown many revolutionaries all over the world into confusion.

This tour is being sponsored nationally by the Frente del Pueblo, a mass organization of the Chilean resistance. The Revolutionary Communist Party, USA, is helping to build the tour nationwide, and many other individuals and organizations have also lent their support.

Palacios is the author of *Chile: An Attempt at Historic Compromise—The Real Story of the Allende Years*. (See review in last week's *Revolutionary Worker*.) He will expose why the U.S. overthrew Allende—and what was the real role of the Chilean Communist Party and the USSR which made it possible for the U.S. to carry out this crime. He will also bring news about the people's struggle in Chile today, and lay out how, by drawing the correct lessons from what happened, the Chilean people will move forward to revolution, to real liberation and socialism. Palacios' book has already been published in three different editions, and the publication of a U.S. edition by Banner Press will make his important analysis of the events in Chile available broadly to revolutionary-minded people in this country as well.

Palacios will speak in Boston; New York; Washington, D.C.; Detroit; Ann Arbor, Michigan; Chicago; Madison, Wisconsin; Los Angeles; and the San Francisco Bay Area. In each of these areas he will give at least one major city-wide presentation, in addition to other appearances at many universities, some neighborhoods and smaller gatherings. Comrade Palacios will speak in Spanish; the major programs and many others will be bilingual. In both the major programs and in other ways there will be ample opportunities for questions and discussion.

For more information about Palacios' speaking tour in your area, contact the local Party bookstore or Revolutionary Worker Center. ■

Demonstrations Defy Chilean Junta

On September 11, the Chilean people confronted the sixth anniversary of the coup by fighting the dictatorship. Since the beginning of September, various activities have been carried out against the dictatorship, like the street demonstration of 4000 on September 5, the ten-day hunger strike by the families of the disappeared political prisoners, and the distribution of much anti-fascist underground propaganda.

On September 11 itself, various spon-

aneous rallies were held in downtown Santiago. One of these was in front of "La Moneda," where the demonstrators left red flowers on the walls. ("La Moneda" is the former presidential palace, which was destroyed by the fascists.) There were other rallies at the offices of the Telephone and Telegraph Company on Morande Street, at the Plaza de Armas, and in front of the San Francisco Church. The police arrested various people. Also, in Valparaiso,

there were demonstrations against the dictatorship. Hundreds of workers and students held a demonstration at the cemetery of Viña del Mar, in homage to those assassinated by the Pinochet dictatorship. 35 people were arrested by the police. (*Dispatch from ANCHA, overseas news agency of the Frente del Pueblo, a mass organization of the Chilean resistance.*) ■



CHILE

Chile was aflame with the fight for liberation.
The CIA drenched it in blood.

In the face of this attack, the Chilean people
had their hands tied behind their backs.

How did this happen? Was it inevitable?

How, six years later, are the Chilean people
fighting to overthrow fascism?

How can the people free themselves through revolution?

U.S. Speaking Tour

Jorge Palacios

Chilean Revolutionary Leader
(Revolutionary Communist Party of Chile)
Author: "Chile: An Attempt at Historic Compromise"

Sponsored by el Frente del Pueblo
a mass organization of Chilean resistance

Speaking in: Boston / New York / Washington D.C. / Ann Arbor / Detroit

Chicago / Madison / Los Angeles / S.F. Bay Area

Jorge Palacios

Appearing in Boston
Friday, October 5, 7pm
Blackstone Community
School
50 W. Brookline St.

For more information about
other appearances in the Boston
area, call Revolution Books,
11-6pm, (617) 492-9016.

Appearing next in New York
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MEET

by R. Gare

Detroit—Many are calling them the “world’s greatest rock and roll band.” But it’s a whole lot more than that. The group is the Clash, and the name is no joke. They played in Detroit, September 17, part of a current cross country tour, a follow-up to their “Pearl Harbor 79” earlier this year.

The Clash are from Britain, coming out of the original punk explosion in rock music a couple years back. They come from the more politically aware of the British working class youth, and their music is an open challenge to wake up and deal with the truth.

For example, when the West Indian people exploded in rebellion in the West End of London, the Clash responded with: *Black man gotta lot of problems/But they don’t mind throwing a brick/White people going to school, Where they teach you how to be thick/An’ everybody’s doin’/Just what they’re told to/And nobody wants to go to jail./White riot, I wanna riot/White riot, a riot of my own;/All the power’s in the hands/Of people rich enough to buy it/While we walk the streets/Too chicken to even try it/And everybody does what they’re told to/And everybody’s eatin’ supermarket soul food.*

Not everyone likes them—certainly not their record companies, which refused to release their first LP in this country for over two years. Certainly not most radio stations, who have kept most of their great music off the airwaves. Certainly not one certain “rock critic” for the *Detroit News*, who complained, “They don’t like our country, they don’t like their country. They’re certainly not wild about the work ethic, authority figures, war, racial conflict—they even sing a song ridiculing their record label.”

What he didn’t notice was that the Clash love the working class and oppressed people. He then compared another performer to the Clash, calling him a “fragrant lilac” as compared to a “bramble patch.”

Great. Let this Sominexed sentinel of garbage can culture sniff lilacs til he o.d.’s. For those of us living in the bramble patch the Clash are just fine. “Guns On The Roof” from their se-

THE CLASH



cond album, *Give 'Em Enough Rope*, puts it like this: *A system built by the sweat of the many/creates assassins to kill off the few;/Take any place and call it a courthouse,/This is a place where no judge can stand.*

And in person they were truly incredible. It’s not just the great music, the great songs, the stage act. Hell, they’re great performers, but this was more than an act. They were saying here’s where we’re coming from, here’s what we’re about, and they challenged the audience to deal with it. The power,

the anger, the dreams for liberation of millions of English youth—and of millions in this country—exploding with fury and conviction on stage. That’s what makes the Clash so great and so special.

Me, I’m an autoworker from Detroit. That’s no big deal, but in a way that’s the whole point. Because what I saw in the band, and especially in the face and vocals of Joe Strummer, was a concentration of all the pain and outrage this system has lodged in my gut. Feelings that get dulled and locked up all too much by the rut of everyday life. Seeing this group transformed these feelings into pride and determination, thinking,

“Hey, that’s me onstage, me and all these others.” I know the armed insurrection will be a lot better, but for now seeing the Clash is pretty damned good.

They cut in from the beginning with “I’m So Bored With the USA.” *Yankee Dollar talk to the dictators of the world,/In fact it’s giving orders, and they can’t afford to miss a word;/Yankee detectives are always on the t.v./Cos killers in America work 7 days a week;/Never mind the stars and stripes,/Let’s print the Watergate tapes,/I’ll salute the new wave, and I hope nobody escapes;/I’m so bored with the U...S...A... I’m bored with the U...S...A... But what can I do?*

And they rarely let up, ending some 17 songs later with “Career Opportunities”—*The ones that never knock.* In between we got “We’re Not Working For the Clampdown” (I think those are the words), a working (non-working?) kind of song that was great for this wage slave’s tired blood. “Complete Control.” “Police and Thieves.” “Garage-land”—*I don’t wanna know about what the rich are doing,/I don’t wanna go to where the rich are going,/They think they’re so clever, They think they’re so*



Face to Face

We went backstage after the Detroit show. An interview proved to be impossible at that time, ‘cause the band was understandably pissed at what had gone down at the concert. Some of the intensity of the band, the responsibility that they feel towards what they’re doing came through as, for example, Joe Strummer was summing up the response. He was disappointed the band hadn’t done better—saying how the night before in Chicago the crowd was right up there with the band and how that helped carry them to greater heights. Tonight he said the crowd wasn’t responding like that, “and that’s when I should come across ten times stronger.” He was very helpful in set-

ting up an interview for the next day and finally the next morning we came face to face, microphone in hand, with Joe Strummer of the Clash.

R.W.: *Could you describe some of the reasons for the whole original punk explosion?*

J.S.: Well, back in ’76 in London this group started out, the Sex Pistols, and they set the scene on its head. Because in London it was really dead. It was all full of big groups that were playing the big places. It cost a lot of money to get in and a whole section of youth found themselves without any, you know, they didn’t look up to the rock and roll “heroes.” Everybody just sort of went,

“That’s a pile of shit” and “we’re going to do it our own way,” and that’s how it started. And within 3 months there was about a 1000 groups pumping away in London and it kind of exploded from there. We came out of that, and we managed to hang together.

A lot of our peer groups have broken up, like the Pistols have split up. We’ve felt quite often like giving up, because you know how groups do, they argue and all that ego shit. We get our share of that. We just decided that when the Pistols split up, we couldn’t and we’d have to try and hang together and tour over here, you know? And say every other night, we do a show and we see two thousand people maybe—that

potential audience, you get a chance to say something concrete or constructive about a state of affairs, and that’s what we’re taking the opportunity to do. We get invited to radio stations. We get our records maybe sometime on the radio. Everywhere we go we try and use the time that we’ve got to use it constructively and not just wank off, you know.

Like a lot of the heavy rock group thing is just a posing and a strutting with the guitars and being all macho and like we’re totally against that, that’s nothing like where we’re coming from. We’d rather be totally creative and also have a bit of humility as well, you know what I mean? We don’t see no reason—like rock and roll you’re supposed to get all stuck up and get all pompous and have bodyguards and all this or that. I think that’s the kiss of death really.

All these groups I see, going out to Los Angeles and living there and that’s it. They’ve never done a thing since. It destroys their creativity. And we’re very

CHICAGO CLASH

By Kit Kain



Photo from album inner sleeve: Clash with Bolshevik backdrop.

right, /But the truth is only known by guttersnipes, /We're a garage band, /We come from garageland..."

The music ranged from brilliant, slashing rock and roll to the best reggae I've heard from any rock band. Every song in concert totally obliterated the recorded versions. It was one of those rare times that there was a band on stage to go completely mad about without some idiot shouting "Let's boogie!"

Maybe that's what troubled some of the crowd, though. The much acclaimed "Detroit rock audience," having in the past shared in such crimes as launching bands like Kiss and Ted Nugent to national stardom, sensed that something different was going on with the Clash. There was none of the usual rock-star narcissism—no "We love you and God bless" condescension from the stage, with rock "heroes" strutting around in "look at me, I'm wonderful" arrogance.

No, the Clash were different, challenging and being for real like only a band from garageland could. Much of the crowd wasn't from no garage. Instead they were kids from better-off

families there to check out the "next big thing." The "next big thing" turned out to be something with a difference that mattered. So a lot of minds got blown for real, for a change.

Meanwhile, in the streets outside the concert hall (in a depressed inner city area), a lot of Black people had expressed excitement when, walking by, they were told what the band was all about, that it wasn't just another rock concert—most of them saying they wished they would have known earlier, 'cause they didn't have the cash to get in. And in most other spots around the country where the band is playing, they're getting more the kind of crowds that are their due.

Hey, like Bruce Springsteen says in "Badlands," *You spend your whole life waiting for that moment that just don't come, /Don't waste your time waiting.* The Clash ain't wasting their time, or anyone else's. As one English rock writer put it, "It would be a shame if the impending World War kept you from seeing this group." I agree—the Clash is more than great entertainment, they're part of getting ready. ■

Are you taking over—or are you taking orders?

Are you going backwards—or are you going forwards?

At last! The Clash was finally comin' to Chicago, so me an' other Clash fans made plans to queue early at the Aragon Ballroom on the day of their concert so we could get up close. Well, as soon as we got there the promoters' hired goons had penned off folks waiting since early that morning behind saw horses in the alley. Now this production outfit is notorious for treating people like cattle no matter who's playing, but they were clearly taken aback by this crowd 'cause there was a lot more hostile resistance to their ridiculous rules and bullying.

F'instance, when some of these would-be Hitlers attacked a coupl'a punkers just for giving free beer to the crowd, many started chanting and cheering when beer bottles were tossed at these security pigs. At other times defiant refrains sung by the crowd of "I fought the law and the law won" (a Clash single) reverberated down the alley, aimed at the gestapo-like security. An older Black man walkin' down the alley put out his foot and tripped one of the gorillas. Fine. So by the time the show started, we were restless and ready for the Clash, or so we thought.

"It's a clash against things that are going on." (Paul Simonon, bass player)

The Clash crashed Chicago's "Arrogant" Ballroom and got a lotta people all shook up. The second they seized the stage, apathy was overthrown and suddenly you had to act on which side are you on. I found myself along with over a thousand others standing on my chair throughout the show, my eyes riveted to the stage, determined to see, hear, experience it ALL and not miss a single beat. It was like you couldn't afford to just observe and be cool 'cause you sensed there was too much at stake here. This was not yer usual rock concert where you could sit back, enjoy, let-them-entertain-you, and take yer mind off this god-awful reality.

Hell, the Clash ripped right into what's really happening, relentlessly, furiously, exuberantly challenging us to take sides.

Joe Strummer, Mick Jones, Paul Simonon, Nicky Topper Headon. Yeah,

individually they're just 4 blokes from England who go to the laundromat just like the rest of us, and they're right to fight being treated like superstar gods who know all the answers. But as a band, the Clash LIVE demonstrate why they rank on the frontlines in music today. Just as they've been influenced by the more progressive tendencies in rock, they're influencing not only tens of thousands of fans but other musicians to produce more relevant, rebellious music.

An' if I close my eyes they will not go away

You have to deal with it

It is the currency... HATE AND WAR

They started in high gear and never let up, the accelerator pedal blasted to smithereens by their 2nd song, "Bored with the USA." Flashing before you was a sweeping, fast 'n' furious panorama of a life that sucks under capitalism—unsettling, unpredictable, constantly in motion—but out of the strife and violence is our chance to change it. Not in the daily struggle of "staying alive" à la Bee Gees pap, but in the worldwide struggle to free all the oppressed working masses. There is no salvation in personal suckcess ("Career Opportunities") or in rock 'n' roll stardom ("Cheapskates") or in relying on others to do it for us.

Proceeding from the real obstacles holding people back from more conscious struggle, the picture they painted wasn't one-dimensional, bleak-and-dismal black nor rosy red, but all the colors in their true hues—vibrant and bold—a whole collage of earth-shaking events rocked by us as the stage lights enhanced the whole effect. (Even in the clothes they wear on stage—that night Strummer was wearing a bright blue shirt vibrating against the multi-flag mural which is their way of saying international solidarity.)

Their performance and music unleashed a torrent of feelings—anger, joy, humor—everything intensely concentrated in Strummer's facial expressions and vocals. Everything is taken to the limit, as they strain and go for it, they urge us on to do the same. We are lifted up from the daily grind where weekends are just "48 Hours" seeking cheap thrills while "Monday is like a jail on wheels," and we're taken to a

Continued on page 15

with

Joe

Strummer

much concerned with blowing it, 'cause it's so easy to blow. We want to do it without running into those kind of fuck-ups, because somebody's got to say the truth and it's a hard job to say the truth. Especially in a rock and roll area, because everybody kind of misrepresents you. They think, wait a minute, what are these guys trying to do, are they just trying to get rich on it—people think it's just some kind of gimmick but I don't really... I think once we've done our bit, we'll just blow, you know, and any dough that we might ever get, which we ain't got yet, we got a lot of plans to use it in London, 'cause London's our home town and you got to look after your own, you know.

There's no use me coming over here and telling you what a load of shit America is, because I've got a lot of shit back home I haven't dealt with yet, so we can only just come here and sing, you know. That's why I don't want to get into—through the microphone at

the show, you could just get into going "America's just full of shit," but there's no point in saying that 'cause everybody already knows that. I think all these people coming to the show, they know that already and that's some of the reason they're there, so I want to say something more constructive, like going about attacking the radio stations and just getting in there everywhere we can.

I don't want to sort of pounce around America like some of our groups in England, they kind of slag off on the American scene by saying that Americans have got smaller brains than Europeans. No seriously, I mean this punk thing, this new wave thing is a wide spectrum—not only have you got people like us, you've got people like the Strangers who say things like that. They believe Americans have got smaller brains. I think that's a bit master race-ish, you know. That's why I'm saying that some punk rock is good and some of it's bad, just like

everything in life, we've got our good sides and bad sides.

R.W.: *Could you describe more on the social conditions, what you were responding to, cause it wasn't just the thing with rock music, it was that the music wasn't real in terms of their lives, and what was going on with their lives that gave forth to this stuff?*

J.S.: Right, well you see, here you are in London in '76 and everybody's been living in these councils, what you call projects here, we call them council estates at home, and loads of youth been living on these council estates which had just been put up since the war. And they've just come of age now, and so, all of a sudden everybody was kind of turning around to each other and going, "Hey, this is really shitty." And that feeling wasn't being echoed anywhere—y'know, I couldn't go out and get me a record that made me feel any better, because they (rock groups) were talking about cocaine, or they was talking about hotels, or they was talk-

ing about something completely alien to us, and everyone just turned around and it was feeding a sense of inferiority as well.

I remember this very clearly when I first started rocking in London, the thought that a journalist—in Britain there's a lot of music papers—and the thought that a journalist would actually be interested in what I was doing in London just never occurred to me. 'Cause they were always writing about all the big groups, and it was kind of a feeling of inferiority like that. Suddenly that feeling was questioned, you know what I mean, and Johnny Rotten stood up and said, "Wait a minute, we're just as fuckin' good as they are, in fact we're fuckin' ten times better" and that was a new thought for me, and I thought hey, that's right, I don't got to suck these guys... y'know.

R.W.: *What kind of treatment have you got from the record company—they never released the first*

Continued on page 14

Kennedy: Warhorse in the Making

Teddy Kennedy, the undeclared, unannounced and largely unbelievably "non-candidate" finally let what everyone already knew out of the bag. With his recent statement that he "has not ruled out the possibility of a candidacy," Kennedy virtually declared himself off and running and waltzed out into the presidential spotlight as a well orchestrated media chorus proclaimed what has long been unbearably obvious.

"Ready or not, here he comes!" screamed *Newsweek*. "Kennedy: Ready, Set...Go!" teased *Time* magazine. The lead photo in *Time*'s feature spread portrayed a forceful Teddy looking intently into the readers' eyes and pointing his finger directly at the camera. The message was unmistakable: Uncle Ted wants you!

All the hoopla was, of course, to be expected. What was hardly surprising a month or two ago was even less surprising now. At a luncheon date with the President the week before, Kennedy had already told Carter to start packing his toothbrush and pajamas. Though pundits described the President as "feisty," even Carter heaved a sigh of resignation as he ordered the inevitable Secret Service protection for his "undeclared" rival.

Moments later, Teddy cynically announced that he would form an "exploratory" campaign committee in early November. Scoop Jackson got into the act, solemnly informing the press in

a slip of the tongue that: "I have not yet endorsed President Kennedy." Meanwhile the twenty or so "Draft Kennedy" movements around the country prepared to leap into action, waiting impatiently for the word from starship command—"energize!"

The fact that the rulers of this country have been forced to play the Kennedy card is a sure sign of just how seriously they view their intensifying economic and political crisis. For years they have been saving this prefabricated demagogue for only the most dire of emergencies. He is their very best possibility. Who else has Kennedy's shot at "getting the nation to unite behind new leadership" when they really need it the most?

The carefully cultivated Carter image has been reduced to that of a pathetic fool whose empty promises and insipid speeches have sent public confidence plummeting to record lows. No other politicians in the "public eye" possess anything resembling the "Kennedy mystique."

What is needed, of course, is a powerful injection of "leadership." Someone halfway "inspiring" who might be able to "unite the nation" behind him and rally the people round the red, white and blue for the big storms and stress that are coming up on the horizon. Thus the newspapers and magazines are filled with articles building the Kennedy image and a saccharine "sense of Camelot" around his

campaign.

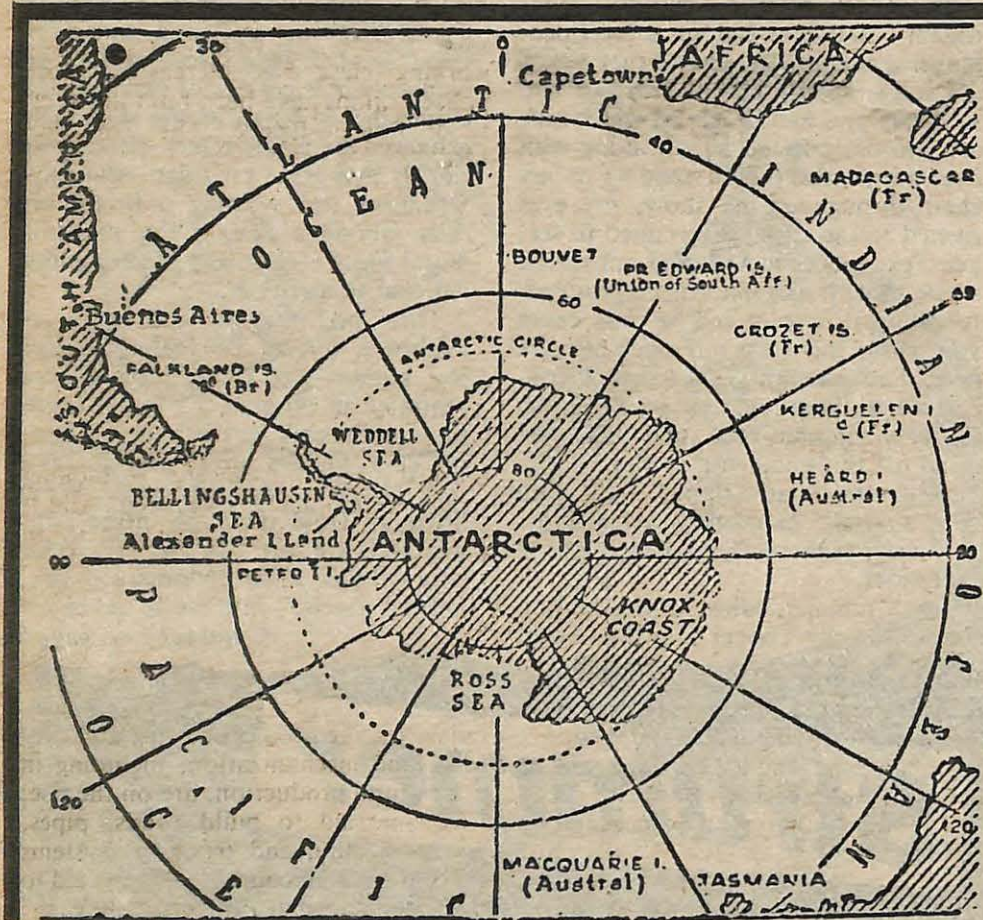
But the hollowness of this whole affair and the political bankruptcy of the bourgeoisie is readily apparent in the fact that Teddy has nothing to offer except himself. There is hardly even a pretense of conjuring up "new solutions" to the nations' problems as the imperialists just don't have any. Kennedy openly admits that his views differ little from Carter's. He has taken great pains to shed the image of the flaming, big-spending liberal (slashing his flamboyant health care proposal from \$200 billion to \$30 billion) to bring himself in tune with a decaying economy which is incapable of mustering even the slightest inkling of a "Great Society" or a "New Frontier."

It was Kennedy who best summed up the present needs of the ruling class in a flood of interviews that have inundated the press. "The American people will respond to leadership, direction... They understand there are no magic wands, no simple, easy solutions. But they do expect leadership." Americans, he said, "need confidence in their leaders to be able to deal with the problems they are going to face in the 1980s." They need a president who can "articulate goals and lead... who will set out the goals and aspirations of this country and challenge the American people to come to grips with their problems."

In other words, we need a president—Kennedy himself—who will

articulate the "goals and aspirations" of the country's rulers and galvanize the masses to come to grips with the belt-tightening, bullet-biting measures they have in store for us. This, we are told, is "the spirit of Camelot the nation needs and hungers for." As one newspaper put it, "Under a Kennedy Presidency, the nation will be able to march, instead of wander, into the future." Indeed, the American people will be expected to do considerably more marching in the coming decade as the U.S. imperialists prepare to throw millions into battle against their Soviet rivals to see who will dominate the world.

There are some, however, who claim that Chappaquiddick may still present a problem for Ted. But with buddy Bert Lance on trial and Hamilton Jordan caught snorting coke, at least Carter won't make much of a fuss. It has also been suggested that the myth of Camelot—Sir Teddy clad in shining armor come back to save the realm—would "play rather badly in the harsh climate of the 1980s." But this is just the kind of cornball romantic image the bourgeoisie is looking for to spread new illusions of hope and promise in times of turmoil and impending war. In this respect, Son of Camelot, or some variation thereof is just what the doctor ordered—even if, unfortunately, it is all just a little bit stale. ■



This is an article from the September 10, *People's Voice*, the weekly newspaper of the Communist Party of New Zealand. It has been shortened slightly for publication.

The major imperialist powers are becoming very edgy over the future of Antarctica. Each is desperate for total individual control of the 5.5 million square miles of mineral rich territory. Even though the imperialist powers have pledged that "it is in the interest of all mankind that Antarctica shall continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord," they would have no hesitation in grabbing the continent by war means if other means fail.

New Zealand is placed in a special position in regard to Antarctica because of its closeness. Already the United States uses this country as a major staging route to the continent, having a big base in Christchurch. In fact the New

Zealand establishment works hand in glove with the United States military, navy and air force in their "Operation Deepfreeze"....

And New Zealand is not only a logical staging post to Antarctica, but also has access through its claim to the Ross Sea Dependency to one third of the continent's exposed rock. This is very important because elsewhere the ice ranges from one to three miles in thickness. This makes the Ross Sea an important area in which to search for and exploit the vast range of minerals. Drilling for oil has already taken place in the waters off the Ross Dependency.

Already discovered are such minerals as coal, iron, manganese, copper, nickel, cobalt, chromium, lead, zinc, gold, molybdenum, aluminium, graphite, silver, and diamonds. It is reported that there is also oil and such important strategic materials as uranium, thorium and plutonium....

The search for uranium is a priority



in the Antarctic and it is known that both the U.S. and the Japanese have already had a limited success in this. But there are other things as well. The Russians have found what has been described as a "mountain of iron" in the Prince Charles mountains. Copper is expected in great quantities (the Antarctic Peninsula is a continuation of the copper-rich Andes) and other metals have been proved in quantities... wars have been fought for much less.

U.S. Ambitions

It is to exploit these riches that the imperialist powers are getting increasingly anxious to establish a foothold in Antarctica. The New Zealand ruling class and its politicians are actively assisting the United States in its claim for total control of the continent. And this same ruling class will not think twice in assisting other powers in the west to exploit the natural resources if they think they can share in some of the wealth gained.

The United States knows full well that it has a battle on its hands if it wants to get full control of Antarctica. In a publicity handout during a "Deep Freeze Open Day," it said that "A major question of the future concerns Antarctica's mineral deposits and their possible exploitation."...

A major link in the supply chain between the United States and McMurdo Station (in Antarctica—RW) is Detachment Delta of the U.S. Naval Support Force Antarctica. Delta is located at Christchurch, New Zealand and is the advance staging base for virtually all U.S. Antarctic operations. The officer in charge of Delta is the main liaison between the U.S. Naval support force and the New Zealand government.

In addition to Delta, there are three other military units located at Christ-

church. There is a Naval Communications unit, the U.S. Airforce and the 61st Military Airlift Wing. The total military population stationed at Christchurch on a year-round basis is about 60.

The Soviet Union has established many bases in Antarctica. There are five big bases and seven exploration stations in the northern part of Filchner Shelf Ice and the coast of the Weddell Sea are under way.

Rocket Base

The Soviet Union has even built a rocket launching ground in Antarctica. Marine and meteorological research ships are regularly sent to the Antarctic Ocean.

In all there are 19 nations involved in the Antarctic. Thirty stations are manned all year round by 10 nations.

The United States and Soviet Union have made no claims and do not recognize the claims of others. This leaves them free to claim the whole territory and to wage war to hold it....

But this is far from the minds of the New Zealand monopolies which pick up the juicy contracts to supply their products to the Americans on the Antarctic. One monopoly is on to a good thing. It supplies motor mowers to the Americans. They use them to cut holes in the ice. Thus the monopoly is assured of continuing orders as the ocean floor beneath the ice becomes cluttered up with motor mowers.

This is just as sensible as the imperialist policy of trying to grab the natural resources of one of the world's richest mineral bearing areas. This wealth is exploited solely for profit. It is not used to develop the well being of the world's people. And so it will remain as long as imperialism exists. ■

Haiti: U.S. Island Hellhole

In mid-August, a vessel harboring Haitian immigrants came within a quarter mile of the coast of Florida. On shore a police spotlight shone across the water, sending the operators of the human smuggling ring into a frenzy. Rather than get caught, they ordered 18 Haitian immigrants overboard at the point of a gun. When they refused to jump into the water, their children were tossed into the sea as the screams of their mothers were heard on land. They jumped in to save their kids and were caught up by the sea themselves. When daylight broke, bodies were found washed ashore. Five children, aged 4 to 11, were discovered floating face down at sea. The survivors were herded off to detention centers.

The brutal incident has blown the lid off the situation facing Haitian immigrants. Unlike refugees from Cuba or those who fled with Anastasio Somoza from Nicaragua, Haitian immigrants are not welcomed to the U.S. with open arms. Many of the thousands (10 to 15,000 in Florida alone) who are forced to come here are immediately jailed and deported back to Haiti at an unprecedented rate of up to 150 per day. Pregnant women who escape deportation are refused medical care until after birth, when the child is then a U.S. citizen. Translators, suspected of working with the Haitian government, ask the refugees if they seek work in the United States. When they reply yes, they are willing to work here, they are automatically denied asylum since it is only granted on the basis of political persecution. One immigration official was quoted as saying, "Starvation is not a political issue."

It seems that the U.S. is quite flexible when it comes to deciding when refugees are a political issue and when they aren't. They parade about as the saviors of the Vietnamese "boat people" because they have the opportunity to score some points against Vietnam and the Soviet Union, but the Haitian immigrants are quite another matter. No pious concern here. No big tears are shed for the TV cameras, because the Haitian "boat people" are a source of political embarrassment for the U.S. Just why are people fleeing Haiti? The answer to that reveals the controlling arm of U.S. imperialism that props up and backs one of the most repressive dictatorships in the world.

The arm of repression from the Duvalier regime in Haiti stretches into the sands of the tropical island. Beneath Duvalier's presidential palace (which bears a striking resemblance to the White House) are underground prison chambers. Anyone who dares to defy the rule of the dictatorship and the domination of the U.S. is routinely tortured and killed. Many who come here are lost to their families. One group of prisoners survived starvation only by eating undigested peas pried loose from other prisoners' feces.

Haiti is one in a string of Caribbean islands controlled by U.S. imperialism. These islands—the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, and Hispaniola (which contains both Haiti and its neighbor, the Dominican Republic), are a source of natural resources and cash crops such as sugar, and a pool of cheap labor in which millions in superprofits are wrung from the pores of the peasants and workers. It is the bridge to U.S. political hegemony, from the North American continent to Latin America.

Haiti itself is an immediate buffer to the one island the U.S. no longer controls—Cuba. And since Castro has become the eyes, ears, and mouth for the revisionist rival of the U.S., the USSR, Haiti and the other islands have grown increasingly important to the U.S.

In 1915, the U.S. Marines landed in Haiti and stayed for 20 years. The head of the U.S. occupation force earned the hatred of the Haitian people, not only for the use of arms against them but for his "charitable" habit of dropping gold coins to the poor people in the streets of Port-au-Prince, the capital of Haiti. But the U.S. moved for a better solution to control the situation in Haiti and



A picturesque scene from Haiti? National Geographic, since the 1800s a propaganda piece documenting imperialist domination of the world, blithely captioned this picture, "No burden too heavy but there's a man to pull it."

pulled out its troops. It set up puppet regimes to rule in its place, the best and most notorious of which was Francois Duvalier, better known as Papa Doc.

Before Papa Doc took power in 1957, six successive governments had come to power in 10 months. Not a good situation for the imperialists. Duvalier took control of the situation and unleashed a massive wave of reaction throughout the country. Thousands were killed by Duvalier with the full backing and help of the United States. "A Nazi is a sure anti-Communist," one American author wrote of Duvalier. The U.S. trained his army; many of its best military men were trained at West Point. The U.S. sent in army experts in 1958 to separate the police from the armed forces. The army was reorganized as a team that specialized in crushing revolts. A secret police force came to be known as the Ton Ton Macoutes, who spied on the population and took care of any troublemakers. In 1969, the CIA directed and took part in an all-out hunt for communists which resulted in the death of hundreds more. And Papa Doc promoted both the Catholic Church and the superstitions of voodoo in order to keep an ideological hold on the Haitian people.

When Papa Doc died in 1971, his presidency for life was quickly transferred to his son, Jean Claude ("Baby Doc"). U.S. Navy ships off the coast of Haiti sat tight, making sure the transition of power was smooth. The 22-year stability of the Duvalier regime has proved to be a more important climate for U.S. concerns than the sun and warm air. Kennecott controls copper mining in the northern mountains. Reynolds Metals strip mines bauxite. Where fer-

tile land exists, Haitian landowners lease or sell outright to the U.S., so the growth of cotton, coffee, sisal, and recently foods like tomatoes and pineapples are for export and not for the consumption of the Haitian people. As the U.S. expands its domination, the Haitian government carries out a "recuperation of government land," in other words, driving small and middle peasants off the land and into the ranks of the destitute, or back onto the very same land as laborers. The peasantry itself has been kept in such an enforced state of backwardness that for the growth of their own food, the use of a plow is virtually unheard of.

In Haiti's cities such as Port-au-Prince, sweatshops turn out products for the world market. Papa Doc kept his word to Nelson Rockefeller (they were photographed together arm-in-arm during Rocky's visit in 1969): "Haiti is capable of being a great reservoir of manpower for Americans, establishing industries for re-exportation, closer, surer, and easier than Hong Kong." In small factories, workers produce baseballs, garments and tape cassettes, all for export. A sector of Haiti's ruling class has grown fat off overseeing this market for the U.S., with many of them managing these factories for U.S. owners. One American exporter bought up a stock of 48-starred American flags after Alaska became a state. He then resold them to Haiti to be used for clothing!

The enforced subjugation of Haiti's people is so bad that periodically the U.S. and Duvalier talk about a liberalization taking place inside the country. The *N.Y. Times* wrote on August 27, reporting on the formation

of three new political parties in Haiti, that, "The ground for these parties has been prepared by the increasingly free Haitian radio and press, which over the last four years have capitalized on the 'liberalization' policy that was announced by the younger Duvalier at the time he took office, and on factional splits within the Presidential palace."

The U.S. would certainly like to prettify up the image of the Duvalier regime and its own role in keeping it intact, particularly at a time when American investment is increasing in Haiti. But there is no liberalization going on for the masses of people. The explosive conditions inside the country, particularly the most outspoken demands of the petty bourgeoisie for reform, have exerted some pressure on the government. It has responded with a few meaningless changes, such as allowing the election of an "opposition candidate," Alexandre Lerouge, to office. After his victory at the polls, Lerouge said he would accept a cabinet position if offered one by Duvalier.

The formation of political parties and the publication of newspapers critical of the government merely reflect the various sectors of the ruling class's vying for a dominant position. But even this cannot go too far. It was only one week after the *Times* reported the formation of these parties that the leaders of two of them were arrested. While various sections of the ruling class need mechanisms to work out their differences, they cannot afford to let this liberalization for them get out of hand. Nor can the U.S. If the stability of the regime is threatened, even by members of Haiti's bourgeoisie, it has to be stopped, lest it unleash the revolutionary potential of the Haitian people.

In fact, with all its talk about liberalization, the government's repression against the peasantry and the working class has increased. More police stations have been built in the city of Port-au-Prince. The Ton Ton Macoutes, by one account, have been sent into the countryside, and their function replaced in the cities by the more sophisticated "Leopards," a new special police force trained by former Marine Corps non-commissioned officers. Peasant resistance to land evictions is met with bloody terror. Strikes by workers, some of whom dared to take their demands to the steps of the Presidential palace last year, were crushed. Laws formerly forbidding strikes were quickly re-enacted. And it is still impossible to become a doctor in Haiti, a rarity in any case, without swearing allegiance to the Duvalier regime.

The only change that the U.S. would like to see is to have more sweatshops dotting Haiti's coastline. Investment in industries like food processing and canning, and mechanization, including in agricultural production, are on the rise. Economic aid to build roads, pipes, communication and transport systems is going into the country. But the aid to the people comes in forms like the "food for work" program, whereby Haitian laborers break their backs digging out mountain roads for the American government in return for two bowls of corn meal.

It is conditions like these that force thousands of Haitians to flee to other countries. The U.S. wants to bury this whole mess and cover over its bloody rule over Haiti. They want to send the immigrants back to where they came from and end the matter. But their actions toward the Haitian boat people have only exposed them all the more. "Starvation isn't political"; neither is imprisonment, torture, and death in "Baby Doc" Duvalier's U.S.-subsidized dungeons for opposing his despotic rule, or a life of enslavement in a U.S.-owned sweatshop. No, none of this is "political," they say. Well, if none of this is political enough for them, they should just wait a little while. When the people of Haiti rise up to throw out the U.S. and their puppets, this will indeed be more politics than the imperialists bargained for.

"FREE THE MAO TSETUNG DEFENDANTS"

Disrupts Carter's Town Meeting

The latest in President Carter's series of town meetings took place on September 25, at a college campus in Queens, New York City. Every precaution had been taken to insure that Carter would be met with "tough, a little hostile, but overall concerned questions." Only 1800 tickets were given out and then once inside only 24 handpicked people were allowed to speak.

Hundreds of New York City cops and secret service agents were positioned at the entrance door as well as the rooftops of every building in the area. The Revolutionary Communist Party and the Committee to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants, as well as anti-nuke demonstrators and others, agitated outside the auditorium as people went in. None of these people were allowed inside, after all they didn't have tickets. Carter's security people were positive there would be no embarrassing moments that night.

Suddenly, in the middle of one of Carter's answers, a man jumped up in the middle of the crowd and held up a poster of Bob Avakian. Carter stopped his speech and for two minutes the man

shouted at Carter, "The Revolutionary Communist Party says stop the railroad of Bob Avakian, Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants." As the secret service men "removed the disrupter," Carter resumed his talk about democracy in the U.S. A few minutes later another man jumped up and held up the same poster while denouncing the railroad of Bob Avakian and the Mao Tsetung Defendants. He too was escorted out of the auditorium. A short while later a third supporter of the RCP stood up and disrupted the speech.

As the third disrupter was escorted out of the auditorium, an embarrassed secret service agent was heard to say, "How the hell did they get in here?" Despite all their precautions, the ruling class was not able to prevent people who had tickets and heard the agitation going on in front of the auditorium from giving them to supporters of the RCP and the Mao Defendants because they wanted people to get inside and give the ruling class hell for their attempts to rip away the revolutionary leadership of the people. ■

Government Plot to Kill Leonard Peltier

"It is Peltier's life or yours," the stranger told the prisoner. "If you betray us you will die, if you perform honorably you will be rewarded." This is not a scene from an old Jimmy Cagney movie. What took place in the penitentiary at Marion, Illinois just last year was deadly serious. The "honorable" performance demanded was the assassination of Indian freedom fighter Leonard Peltier.

The government has long been out to crush the struggle of Native Americans and activists like Peltier. In 1975 when over twenty government agents opened fire on an Indian encampment on the Pine Ridge, Peltier was one of the staunch defenders of the camp. One Indian and two FBI agents were killed in the shoot-out. Peltier was railroaded for the agents' deaths and was sentenced to two consecutive life terms. From his cell he continued to speak out. In 1978 he issued a call to all Indians, "As warriors of our nation we must show our people the spirit of Crazy Horse so they may rise off their knees... Rise up with me and resist the terrorist attacks and genocide against our nation." In 1979 he busted his way out of their lock-up. Because he has not backed down in the face of repeated attempts to crush him, Leonard Peltier has become a symbol of Indian resistance—and the target of repeated government attacks.

This new government murder plot was brought to light September 18 when Peltier's attorneys went to federal court with a sworn affidavit of another Indian prisoner, Standing Deer, also known as Robert Hugh Wilson. Early in 1978, while a prisoner at Marion, Illinois, Standing Deer was refused treatment for a serious back ailment and told by the prison doctors that he would get no medical help until he agreed to work with the authorities to deal with Peltier. He was grabbed from his wheelchair and thrown into the "hole" until he agreed to cooperate.

Then the bigshots paid him a visit. The door to his cell was unlocked by the chief correctional supervisor of the penitentiary, R.M. Carey. According to Standing Deer, "Carey was accompanied by a well-dressed stranger in a light

brown suit and diagonal-striped tie... (with) very erect posture. The stranger said that if I would cooperate in 'neutralizing Leonard Peltier' he would see to it that I received immediate medical treatment, and after I cooperated with him he would get me paroled from the federal prison system... I asked the stranger who he represented and what he meant by 'neutralizing Leonard Peltier.' He replied that he was a person who had the power to do what he promised. As to what he meant by 'neutralizing Leonard Peltier' he said that I would have to weigh that for myself but according to my record I was not adverse to 'going all the way' when faced with a desperate situation... The stranger said: 'I have the power to end your miserable life... I also have the power to have all seven charges (he faced trial in Oklahoma—RW) dismissed.'"

Standing Deer agreed to their blackmail on the condition that the stranger show him proof of his "power." The same day the prisoner was taken to the hospital and given intensive medical treatment for his back ailment. Within a week, all his Oklahoma charges, including shooting a policeman, had been dropped.

The stranger had a "simple procedure" for him to follow. First, Standing Deer was to help form an Indian cultural group in the prison in order to win Peltier's confidence. Then, he was to set up an escape attempt in which Peltier would be killed.

But unlike others used by the enemy to do their dirty work, Standing Deer told Peltier what the authorities were up to and then made up excuses about why the contract hadn't been carried out. Late in 1978 the "stranger" pulled Standing Deer aside and told him that "they were just about out of time and so was I." Standing Deer was angrily told that Peltier would be transferred to a minimum security prison in California where setting up an ambush would be more believable. Standing Deer would follow after they had situated another Indian in Lompoc to help him "neutralize" Peltier. "He said the Indian I would meet in Lompoc enjoyed their complete trust and he would also

Runaway Slave Faces Extradition

Portland, Oregon. Carl Bass is a Black Vietnam veteran. His legs cut off by prison butcher-doctors after an attempted escape, he is scheduled to be sent back to jail in Alabama for the third time and maybe the last. The nightmare began in 1974.

Bass was home on furlough, just returned from Vietnam. He was just driving his car down a Birmingham, Alabama street when the cops pulled him over and busted him. "Birmingham is 65 to 70 percent Black and there aren't very many Black people that aren't suspected for something. They get busted and they have a record. This is how I got picked up. But I was lucky, I was 26 years old before I got arrested." But this was no routine bust. Carl was charged with first degree murder. The authorities got a ten-year-old boy to identify him as the "tall Black man with an afro" he had seen commit a robbery-murder three months earlier. Another man who had been identified by three witnesses was mysteriously released. After ten months of fabricating a case against Carl Bass, the capitalists railroaded him through their courts and sent him off to one of their dungeons to rot his life away.

But Bass refused to accept this. "I couldn't adjust to prison life knowing I was an innocent person. So I attempted to escape." In December 1974, he made his first attempt. He was captured three

days later with his legs stuck in quicksand, suffering from exposure. He was taken to a prison butcher shop where a doctor said there was "nothing seriously wrong." His legs were covered over with bandages. Two weeks later his legs were amputated. "That's what you get for running away," said a prison doctor. Like Kunta Kinte, who had his foot cut by his master in *Roots* for attempting escape, Carl Bass had been punished by his modern day slave masters. But according to the federal court that heard his case, this was "neither barbarous nor shocking." Just standard operating procedure in a capitalist torture chamber.

"After my amputation, they tried to make me work. I had just had my artificial limbs for two weeks. I couldn't even walk really. They wanted me to squat and shell peas and corn. They wouldn't even let me have a chair. They said, 'What are you, something special?' This led to my segregation. They put me in segregation for 6 months for refusing to work. It's a hole really, just a little room. I couldn't even walk in it."

While in prison, Bass joined up with a group of other prisoners to try to get something done about the conditions. "The system said we were a radical group. They came in and locked most of the people up. Gunned them down and locked them up. So what can you say? How can you be safe in a place like that. The officials, if they don't kill you, they will hire inmates to kill you. They kill you in some form or another. I felt it was time to break loose while I did have a little life left."

His second escape took him to Oregon, where he lived for a year before he was captured again. The dogs moved quickly to send him back to jail in Alabama, where Carl faces certain death or torture. He's defied them again and again. He has refused to be broken or bow down. His jailers are out for blood.

Oregon Governor Atiyeh has arrogantly refused to stay his extradition. "The man had his day in court," said Atiyeh. The prisons have cleaned up their act, said the Governor, who would have loved to have been in Rockefeller's chair when he gave the order to massacre the rebel prisoners at Attica. The new Alabama commissioner of prisons appointed by Governor James, was forced to leave Arkansas when his personal involvement in the beating of prisoners was exposed. You can imagine what awaits Carl Bass on his return to jail in Alabama.

The capitalists are shamelessly moving ahead with their plans to put Bass back in jail in Alabama. September 26 is the date they've set to go through the legal motions before they reincarcerate him. Carl Bass ran to Oregon only to find that as a Black man in capitalist America he was still a slave. ■

be watching me to be sure I performed."

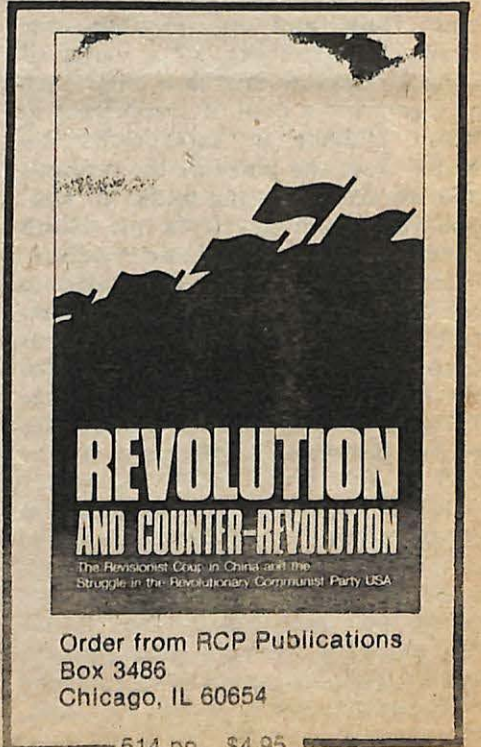
Standing Deer was sent to Leavenworth and given a cushy job as a clerk to the chief superintendent while waiting to be moved; Leonard Peltier was transferred to Lompoc. A short time later another Indian from the Pine Ridge reservation, Charles Richards, was also transferred to Lompoc. Richards had been a member of the goon squad organized by Pine Ridge tribal chief Dick Wilson to aid the FBI to get rid of any militant fighters on the reservation.

On July 20, 1979, Leonard Peltier and two others, Bobby Garcia and Dallas Thundershield, busted out of Lompoc. Thundershield was killed, and Bobby Garcia captured just outside the fence. Peltier was caught a few days later. The day of the escape, Standing Deer, his services no longer needed, was fired from his clerk job and returned to the general prison population.

The escape trial is scheduled for early November, with the defendants facing up to 20 years in sentences. Already one of the defendants has been told he will spend the next five years in the Control Unit at Marion—five years in segregation, in a program that includes experimental use of drugs, sensory deprivation, and even surgery to mold prisoners who don't "conform to prison life."

The judge in this case has refused to allow Standing Deer to testify, saying his testimony about the plot on Peltier's life is "not relevant." This is practically a re-run of Peltier's previous trial where the judge declared "the FBI is not on trial here" and kept out all evidence of FBI terror on the reservation, from their opening fire on the encampment to their later murder of one of the witnesses.

After his affidavit was filed in court, Standing Deer was put in "protective custody" at Leavenworth. For all the insidious intrigue and despicable secret plotting by the greatest experts on premeditated murder of individuals and of millions of people (U.S. imperialism), it is quite obvious who is really being protected and why during this trial. ■



REVOLUTION AND COUNTER-REVOLUTION
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'60s Activists Check Out the '80s

Asian American Reunion

They once stood shoulder to shoulder in the same demonstrations, had the same dreams of changing the world, sometimes they even lived out of the same suitcases. They wanted their lives to count for something. What happened to these people—Asian American activists—to their aspirations? Why did some stick by revolutionary activity, even becoming members of the Revolutionary Communist Party, and others drop out? Why did Keith Kojimoto, who spoke that night, a *Revolutionary Worker* reporter who was an activist in the Berkeley campus Third World Strike, wave a Red Book in Teng Hsiaping's face last January on the White House lawn? The RCP was calling this reunion for Asian American radicals to step forward, learn and relearn those proud times. Not to just look back. But to look forward, to understand why some had advanced, some fallen back, where the world was heading; and why they must all come forward and take a stand by defending the Party and supporting the Million Dollar Fund Drive.

One hundred people, many of them leaders in the Asian movement, came September 8, to the "Bench and Bar" in Oakland. Everyone was excited and quite a few were surprised. "I didn't think so many would come." One Filipino woman, a Third World Strike leader, came all the way from Los Angeles.

One Asian activist had jokingly said that before the massive Third World Strike and the anti-war movement of the '60s, "You could put all the Asian radicals in a telephone booth and still have room for a big telephone book." One leader in the Central Committee of the Third World Liberation Front



(Bottom) Asian contingent at 1971 demonstration in San Francisco against Ky's visit to the U.S.

(Top right) Poster done by revolutionary Asian American artist, who is a veteran of the struggles of the '60s.

(formed to lead the strike for an ethnic studies college on the Berkeley campus in 1969) described what propelled so many into action in those years:

"I remember every day at noon, there were demonstrations. Long lines of political literature tables and people arguing, debating. Bobby Seale of the Black Panthers sold Mao's Red Book there. I remember hearing George Murray of the Panthers talk about how the Man always suppressed our culture, hid our history. And we can't liberate

ourselves unless we know where we came from and where we must go. We wanted skills to help our people. When we demanded a Third World College, we were saying we weren't little passive machines; be glad to get out of Chinatown ghettos, or close our eyes to the killing in Vietnam, our parents dying slowly, twelve hours a day in sweat shops and restaurants. Why were we called chinks, told we looked and talked funny? I asked myself, 'what am I doing? Be part of this set up and serve it,

be a passive yellow Uncle Tom like the system says we are?"

"We had huge rallies. Three, four thousand packed Sproul. We had strike lines every morning at eight, blocking Sather Gate and talking with people not to go to class. Hundreds of cops came out—sheriffs, highway patrol; the plain clothes pigs grabbed people and beat their heads with blackjacks. Drawing guns on people. They'd charge and we'd regroup. We'd snake dance up the hill, luring the cops behind us, then our people on top would let 'em have it with rocks. They shot tear gas and we'd pick it up with barbecue cooking gloves and toss it back. Things got heavier. They even kidnapped people at night. They took one guy to the basement of Sproul Hall, used brass knuckles and beat the shit out of him. You couldn't recognize his face. But he was out there on that strike line the next day.

"People exploded. It wasn't just a few but thousands. Not a single glass window was untouched. Everything you ever hated. You felt you had the power to go up against them. It felt good. The strike escalated. Those three months were like three years. We lived at strike headquarters. Our heads were going through heavy changes, making up our minds about what the hell kind of society this was."

10 Years Later

It's been ten years. Looking just at the Third World Strike activists here tonight, there was a bus driver, teachers, a health planner, postal workers and revolutionaries, members and supporters of the RCP. Many had settled into a job but their life was still unsettled. They still hate the way things are. The realities of 1979, the looming war and crisis, and Mao's revolutionary China, which inspired so many, being reversed; all this demanded answers.

But before the way forward could be answered, some old thinking had to be destroyed. For many, tonight's reunion was a start. Building for it had really turned some people on and had fired up some struggle. One long-time revolutionary, newly won to supporting the RCP, argued with an old friend about making a contribution to the Party. He resisted, "Was it all worth it? After all—we tried to make revolution once before (in the '60s) and look—nothing's changed! In fact—things are worse now. I-Hotel tenants got evicted, the community programs we won are all bought off."

Continued on page 14

Veteran Worker Lays It On The Line

Red Wages at I.H.

The following letter, written by a veteran worker at the International Harvester plant in Chicago, was handed out to workers at IH as part of building for a "Red Wages Day" at the plant. Workers were asked to contribute a day's pay to the RCP's Million Dollar Fund Drive.

TO MY FELLOW WORKERS AT INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER:

Today I join with my friends in the Revolutionary Communist Party asking you to donate one day's wages to the Million Dollar Fund Drive of the RCP.

I have walked in and out of the gates of this plant for 30 years. Can you imagine—before many of you reading this today were even born. I have an eighth grade education. My whole lifetime I thought the reason I worked in a factory was because I wasn't educated enough to do any better and I blamed myself. I grew up the hard way in the South and lived in the West Side ghetto since, and believe me, many times I thought that was because of whites. That's what this system teaches us—blame ourselves, blame each other, blame the foreigners—blame anybody, but don't blame the capitalists. Don't blame the real enemy. But I learned different.

When I first heard of the Revolutionary Communist Party, I thought they were stupid. I said to myself, these people are crazy. But after I continued to listen to what they were saying, I thought I was the one that had been stupid. In this country, the rich brainwash us from the day we are born. They own the TV stations, the newspapers, the schools and they only let us hear and see what they want us to because they want to train us to be on their side.

Now some people say, "Revolution?"

Never, not in the U.S. Look what happened in the '60s. Where did it go?" I think revolution is possible and I think it is absolutely necessary because I think it's the only way to straighten these capitalists out, if you know what I mean. I mean you couldn't tell the slavemaster not to crack the whip so hard or to please loosen the chains. You had to get rid of the slavemaster, overthrow him. Likewise, you can't tell the capitalists not to exploit the workers so much because that is the system. Exploitation and oppression is what the system is built on, you've got to do away with them. Then we, the working and poor people in this country can get on with the job of building a society that we need and want.

In the '60s the Blacks were telling the man, but they were telling him with a book of matches. Come the revolution, he'll be getting the message, but with guns. We, the working people, aren't crazy about violence—but hey—violence is as American as cherry pie. That's what H. Rap Brown said and he was on the money. Just turn on your TV set, just walk down the streets of the ghetto and see the men of violence in their blue uniforms. They're the violent ones, and they teach us very well, even now as they get us ready for World War 3. But while they use guns to enslave and oppress the people, we'll use guns to liberate and free the people.

I heard Bob Avakian, Chairman of the RCP, speak. Now I know why the government wants to railroad him in jail for 241 years. That man is saying something. Bob is exposing their rotten system. He doesn't tell you what you want to hear like Jesse Jackson or somebody. He tells you what you have to hear. He tells you what you don't hear from other people, from the TV or

newspapers. He opens up your mind and makes you realize that you aren't the only one that thinks like this. In fact, there are thousands and millions that know that something is rotten here. He is one hell of a dangerous man in their eyes and one hell of a great man for us. We need to work to keep Bob out of jail and if he comes to speak in Cook County again, you can bet I'll be there.

I think we make good money at IH. In fact, I used to think I was tearing up Harvester by making \$9.00 an hour. We are making good money all right. We're making good money for the company...BILLIONS. They take our labor, human labor of the working class, our muscles and backs, and they twist it into private profit for themselves. They don't even make tractors, we make them. They just make profit.

I think the RCP is great, they really opened my eyes to what the working class did. The food on our tables, the clothes on our backs, the factories, schools, hospitals, streets, we've built them all. We make this society run, we should, can, and will run this society. Who needs the capitalists? What did they ever give us? Dope, pornography, exploitation, oppression and misery. Who wants it? They gave it to us and they can take it with them when they go.

I gave \$100 to the fund drive. I believe that if more people would take the time to listen to the RCP and read its newspaper, the *Revolutionary Worker*, they too would give money to the fund drive, and maybe more than I did. We need the RCP and its Chairman.

A Wage Slave for 30 years at IH

Chairman answers questions on USSR

WHY WE CALL IT SOCIAL IMPERIALISM

The following discussion between Bob Avakian and some African students took place after the Chairman's speech in Madison, Wisconsin. Both the questions and answers have been edited, with some small changes made for clarity.

Q: I was provoked when you mentioned the question of the so-called social imperialism of the Soviet Union. And as far as I am concerned, I still take the Leninist definition of imperialism as being the highest stage of capitalism, and I associate imperialism with economic exploitation. By that definition, I still don't see exactly how the Soviet Union, however expansionist their policy has been, has been able to entrench itself economically. In other words, when I look at such countries like Angola, like Vietnam, etc., I don't see the multinational corporations from the Russian sector like we see them from the capitalist western areas which promote the cause of imperialism.

And secondly, for a long time we have associated the Soviet people as having sided with the liberation movements in Africa. While the western camp was arming the Vorster/Smith regimes it was only Soviet people and the Soviet govern-

ment that came to aid the liberation struggle until today. Now we find this orchestrated cry about Soviet social-imperialism as having been a dividing influence among the rank and file of the communist movement, especially among the working class and the people who are still trying to liberate themselves.

Now can you clarify this issue? In other words, how do you see these two imperialisms as being characteristically different from each other?

B.A.: Well, first of all we did a whole book on this, it's called *How Capitalism Has Been Restored in the Soviet Union and What This Means for the World Struggle*. In this book we analysed Soviet imperialism both from the internal and international aspects. Basically I would say that the Leninist analysis of imperialism does apply to the Soviet Union; however, there are some particular features, given that this came from a formerly socialist economic base and a socialist superstructure and then reverted to capitalism. And so in the main, though not entirely, the form of monopoly capitalism and imperialism in the Soviet Union is through the state. It's not in the form of private capital, in the sense

of different corporations, but what you do have increasingly is basically the same analogies.

All capitalist corporations are collective bodies; they are not under the private ownership of one person; there are banks and blocks of capital interlocking in these things, so that—in fact Lenin pointed this out in his book, *Imperialism*—you get these corporations and banks that are straining against the limits of private ownership but are still on that foundation. And the Soviet Union has production associations as well as different ministries basically occupying the same role as the large corporations and banks, cartels, trusts and so on, in the Western countries. And the decisive thing is that the Soviet planning and Soviet economic ministry, as they call it, have restored the law of value and in particular the law of accumulating surplus value—profit—as the guiding principle of the economy, in other words, now, the same way they're doing in China.

In fact, when the central ministry or bank decides whether or not investments will be made or a loan will be made to a particular ministry, it makes it on the leading criterion of profitability of that particular industry or enterprise or venture. So this accounts for the fact that Soviet agriculture, for example, in the past number of years has been increasingly lagging behind other sectors of the Soviet economy. While Soviet agriculture is deteriorating and in a more and more woeful state, Soviet investments are going overseas, just like they do here. Just like Lenin said, imperialism would not be imperialism if the money were re-invested in the home country to develop agriculture, to raise the standard of living of the people. That takes socialism. But in the Soviet Union, agriculture is allowed to lag further and further behind while capital is taken, driven by profit, and invested in Iran, in India, etc.

Let's take Iran. What happened to the Soviet Union when the Iranian revolution came along? They had this deal with the Shah whereby they were buying natural gas at a certain price, supplying a certain amount at fixed rates to the Comecon countries (Soviet economic bloc), (often at a price greatly above the world market), and then also selling a certain amount of this oil to other parts of the world. And this was all on a basis not much different from other imperialist countries—the Soviets supplied Iran a certain amount of technology and machinery and equipment and so on. On that basis they were sucking off the natural gas from Iran, really basically living off the surplus value of the Iranian workers.

When the Iranian revolution came along, it threw a lot of chaos into the whole of Comecon. Or the same thing is done with India—Soviet-built steel mills in India. Often the form of the Soviet export of capital comes through a bookkeeping arrangement whereby unequal trade is set up so that in exchange for the Soviets supplying technology, or what have you, the Soviets receive a certain amount of the finished product or some other product at a reduced price. In turn what the Soviets provide is paid for at inflated prices. It appears to be just a trade arrangement when in fact the Soviet Union is exporting capital and exploiting the people of those countries.

And in relation to countries like Vietnam, Cuba, what have you, the Soviet Union practices a policy like U.S. imperialism. The Soviet Union is willing to lose some money in a particular area of the world for a political reason. In order to build up Cuba, for example, as a fifth column it is willing to lose some money—though it also makes money

off Cuba. Just like the United States, when it fought in Vietnam. It was losing more money than it was making in Vietnam, but it was doing it for political reasons.

On the last point you made about the Soviet Union supporting struggles, you have to draw a distinction between different kinds of "support." What in fact is the nature of that support and what does it lead to? In Angola, in Cuba, in Vietnam, the price is Soviet domination, where the people of those countries don't even have control over the technology that's supplied to them. And remember U.S. imperialism, especially after WWII when British and French or Japanese imperialism were being forced to retreat. The U.S. often came in, posing, as the Soviet Union does now, as an ally of the oppressed, like they did in the Philippines in 1900, and they did it again in 1945. In Suez when British and French imperialism and Zionism went up against Nasser, the U.S. went in under the guise of supporting Nasser and opposing imperialism to tighten its own hold over the Mideast. So you have to look at the nature of support; it is something that has to be analysed, what is the content of the support and what does it lead to.

Q: I understand, but this puts us in a straitjacket. Here we are fighting a war against an entrenched capitalist or colonial system, whichever it is, in southern Africa. The West cannot arm us because they are arming the other side. Here is the man who can arm us but you are telling me that he is going to entrench and dominate you. In other words what you are saying is, since I cannot fight with a stick, I can neither turn to the West because they are arming my enemy, but I cannot go to the Soviet bloc or the socialist countries because they will dominate me after my independence so you are forcing me...

B.A.: What's wrong with the way Mao did it?

Q: What?

B.A.: What's wrong with the way Mao did it? When Mao...

Q: Well, of course they had a strong backing by Stalin.

B.A.: Well, look what happened. In 1946, in fact not only did Stalin not back Mao but Stalin continued to send military aid to Chiang Kai-shek; so did the U.S. who sent him several million dollars of military aid. In fact Stalin told Mao not to try to overthrow Chiang Kai-shek in 1946. And he had certain military agreements and political agreements with Chiang Kai-shek established during WWII which Stalin continued to honor all during that period and there were many in China who argued basically what you're arguing that because of all that, "There's no way we can win." And Mao defeated them and that's why the Chinese revolution went on to victory because he said we don't have to rely on imperialism and we don't have to rely even on the Soviet Union. We can do it by fighting on the basis of self-reliance and that's what they did.

Q: We have reached a stage where it is impossible to fight a war with a knife. It is impossible to confront a rocket with a knife. And the only man who can give me rockets is the Soviet Union.

B.A.: Well, wait a minute. You see, some principles have to be drawn. We have to get our facts straight first. The question is: is the Soviet Union imperialist or not? If it is imperialist, it is the duty of revolutionaries to expose it as such. Now if the Soviet Union is not imperialist, that's another matter. But if it is, then it's the duty of revolutionaries to expose it.

And since the Soviets are imperialists, even the kind of military aid they give is basically more suited to im-

Major Speaking Tour by Party Chairman

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Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, will be speaking throughout the country in the next several months. Bob Avakian is facing charges adding up to 241 years in jail.

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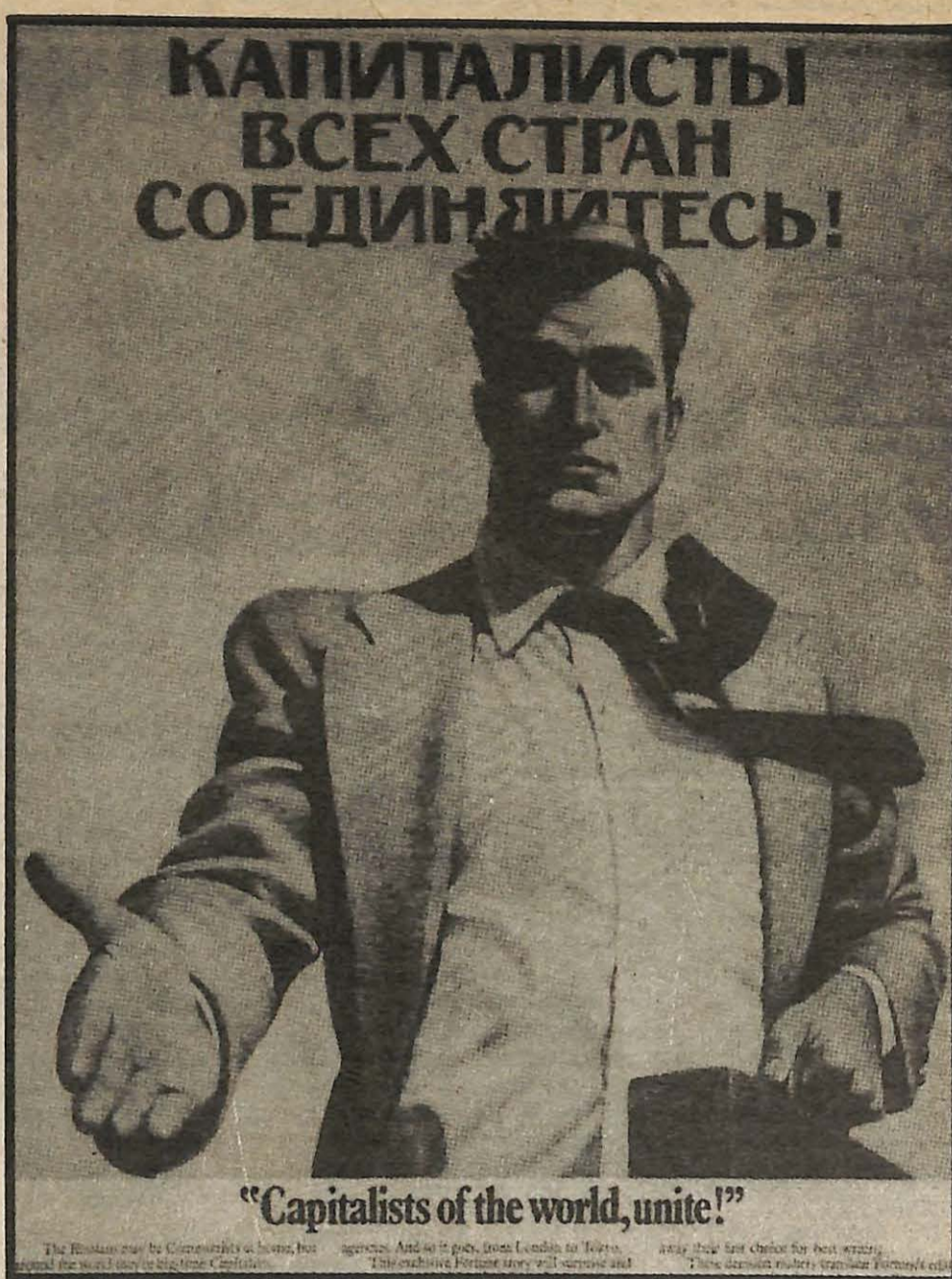
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(Above) Except for the picture of Lenin, this might well be a Wall Street businessman's luncheon club, but these are Soviet businessmen and the photo is from the USSR, as the Russian labels on their Pepsi bottles indicate. (Right) Promotional ad for Fortune magazine—U.S. imperialists know the nature of who they are dealing with in the Soviet ruling class.



perialist than to revolutionary aims. They don't concentrate on supplying weapons that the people can use in a people's revolutionary war. They give big modern weapons that require Soviet "experts" and are suited to conventional war. That's what they did in Vietnam and it's what they try to do everywhere. They don't want to see the masses really mobilized in people's war, because then when the U.S. got whipped they'd be prepared to deal with the Soviets, too. The Soviets demand a price for their aid. If the price of taking the guns is to cover up the nature of the Soviet Union then you're disarming the people and how are they then ever going to be in a position to stand up to Soviet domination? Because you're telling them that a potential enemy who is only assisting them for its own imperialist interests is actually a friend. That's precisely what happened, for example, in the Philippines, when they had a struggle back in 1900. You know the U.S. aided the movement to a certain degree, then assassinated the leader of it and you know what they did in the Philippines—they destroyed a whole revolutionary movement because the leadership then was bourgeois and they didn't understand the nature of imperialism and they thought the U.S. would actually assist them and it assisted them to get out from under Spain in order to come in themselves. And today the people of the Philippines, 80 years later, are still struggling against U.S. imperialism.

Q: *The Soviet Bloc has often said that since capitalism has taken a global aspect, you cannot confront it unless communism also takes a global perspective. In other words, if U.S. imperialism, backed up by western countries, is encroaching across the world, then the only way to counter such a move is for the communist bloc also to push, in the same way. In other words, what you call social imperialism is international struggle against them.*

B.A.: But you know that's hypocrisy. Because when Soviet revisionism triumphed and Khrushchev came on the scene the first thing he did was to tell people all over the world *not* to struggle against U.S. imperialism; and he said it was too dangerous, coming up with a revisionist thesis that it was possible to have peaceful transition to socialism and that it was not necessary any longer for people to wage an armed struggle. And the reason that happened was at that time the Soviet Union, having just restored capitalism, was not in a position or did not feel confident or was not in a mature position to challenge the U.S.

Look what the Soviet Union did in the Congo. They collaborated with the U.S. to get rid of Lumumba and to suppress the struggle of the Congolese people. They did the same thing in Algeria. All over the world, they worked with the U.S. imperialists until the Soviet

Union got to the point where it felt it was strong enough, on an imperialist basis, to challenge the U.S. Then all of a sudden it started talking more militantly, supplying more guns and attempting to use the revolutionary struggles around the world but only as a battering ram to knock the U.S. out of the way and get the Soviet Union in.

I believe the way Mao says, that if you're going to fight imperialism worldwide, it's what Lenin said too, you should rely on the strength of the people. The socialist countries should support the people. But it is *not* support for the people when the Soviet Navy is contending with the U.S. Navy for control of the Mediterranean. That's just imperialist, superpower politics. That's got nothing to do with the struggle of the people.

Why, you know, when China was revolutionary it supported the revolutionary struggle and they didn't have any troops outside of China but they were internationalists. But they weren't international gangsters, they didn't send some navy all over the world, they didn't send their army all over these other countries and then say, we're doing it to fight imperialism, so it's okay. But where do the people in these countries figure in then. Where do the people of the Middle East, where do the people of Africa, where do the people of Latin America figure in if it's just going to be superpower contention between the Soviet and the U.S. bloc? And what of the people under the Soviet rule. For example, why did the Soviet Union do what it did in Czechoslovakia? Why did it have to rely on armed invasion?

Q: *But Czechoslovakia's been revisionist for a long time.*

B.A.: Sure Czechoslovakia's been revisionist for a long time. But who is the Soviet Union to say somebody's going revisionist? That's like a murderer when it sees someone stealing a purse, shooting them and saying I did it because they're a thief. The Soviet Union is the biggest revisionist in the whole world and you don't believe that they're going to come down on Czechoslovakia for being revisionist! They just came down on Czechoslovakia to make sure it stayed under their domination instead of going under the U.S. But how could one be better than the other?

You see what the Soviet Union has done is very interesting. This is why they have to go to war now. The Soviet Union when they went revisionist, wrecked the economic base of their country and the material base by going for profit in command and so on through a series of reforms. They recognized that the only way they could deal with the world as it was and buy some time and deal with their own internal economic crisis was if they put a tremendous amount into military expenditures in order to build up the basis to go to war. So they have a very

lopsided economy with a tremendous amount of armaments production on an industrial base about half that of the U.S. But their military production is at least as large. So they have even invited Japan, West Germany and the U.S. to come in and make profit investing in the Soviet Union for one simple reason:

they are calculating that they are going to go to war, and they're going to win the war, and on that basis they can force a readjustment of all these relations. But that's precisely why they have to go to war, because they have such a lopsided economy. Their agri-

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Region Wide Conferences On Two Issues Most Vital to Our Class

At the end of September and the beginning of October, hundreds of workers, veterans, youth and others will gather in each of several locales to come to grips with some serious questions facing the working class. They will discuss and debate and make preparations to really get into motion and get out the word about two decisive battles that will be developing in the months ahead:

**Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants!
Stop the Railroad of Bob Avakian!**
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May Day 1980

- East Coast**—Washington D.C., Saturday, Sept. 29 (212) 924-4387
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- Hawaii**—Honolulu, 9am Sunday, Sept. 30, Kalihi-Palama Library (808) 845-2733
- Northwest**—Seattle, 11am Sunday, Sept. 30, Jefferson Park Community Center, 3801 Beacon Ave. S., (206) 723-8439
- South**—Birmingham, noon, Saturday, Oct. 6, Miles College Student Union
- Midwest-Great Lakes Area**—Cincinnati, 1pm Saturday, Oct. 6 (513) 542-5124 U.C. Medical School Auditorium

For more information, call above phone numbers or your local *Revolutionary Worker* (see listing on page 2).

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Strummer

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album in the states, when we call the radio station to request your stuff we get the run-around, and finally one person from the station told us, look, we have orders not to play this stuff.

J.S.: We was talking to this American group called the Dead Boys. I was talking to Stiv Bators, who's the singer with them, and he was saying that over at Warner Bros. that they had a directive from really high up saying that some groups were okay, but other groups were not to be pushed, and they made a first record and it sold something like 30,000 LPs and they got a bit of push from Warner Bros., and then they made a second LP and it sold 60,000 and they were expecting to get twice as much promotion from Warners and like they got nothing at all. So they created a lot of stink until finally someone they knew in Warners told them that they'd had a directive from higher up to leave it out on this group. When I heard that I figured, well yeah, that's what they're gonna pull on us. If they're gonna pull it on the Dead Boys they're gonna pull it on us. And I begin to wonder when I see, like America seems to be buying a lot of English records of Joe Jackson, Elvis Costello, the Police and its kind of the tamest, the very, very tamest side of the new wave, the very, very acceptable, and I think, "That's funny," maybe it's just the tastes, you know, the middle of the road taste, but to me that seems pretty funny.

R.W.: Over here, they're just starting to get Rock Against Racism going, a lot of it coming off the stuff that happened in Britain. What's been the effect of the whole thing over there?

J.S.: Well, in England, Rock Against Racism, it started a couple of years back and it done a load of good, 'cause we got the National Front, which is sort of a sub-Nazi thing, very right-wing, and they're coming on in England and they're trading on the —there's a bit of economic chaos—things getting worse, just like it is here, I suppose. But it's further down the road there, and

they're trading on that to recruit people. Like "Let's blame the Blacks, let's blame the West Indians, let's blame the Pakistanis." They're kind of trading on that, and Rock Against Racism did provide the opportunity for large numbers of youth to come together and say, "Bollocks," y'know. Everybody together, people unite, Black and white and not how the N.F. wanted it which was, y'know, we kill Blacks and beat up the Pakis and it just seems like they're providing sport for people with nothing better to do. Rock Against Racism done a lot of good things for that and I think it might of swayed a lot of young people from joining the N.F., because they're (the N.F.) making it kind of attractive. They put out the flag, it's very patriotic. It's just like the Nazi thing in Germany. I've worried about that and it's exactly the same. They make it very attractive for some of the youth, like in the East end of London, they make it like a club to join, you know, you get your badge, your black shirt and you go out and beat up people. It's kind of attractive for certain people, and Rock Against Racism has done a lot of good in changing people's minds, and I hope you can get it going here. It's a really good excuse for a day out, you get a lot of groups and everybody gets together and has some fun, I think it's great.

R.W.: What kind of tour support are you getting from the record company this time?

J.S.: At the moment what they're saying is that we got to re-release our first LP in England if they're going to pay us any tour support for over here. They figure they can recoup their money by re-releasing our first LP in England but we don't want to do that because we believe in our supporters. We don't want to gyp them or rip them off any, and we don't want the company to re-release our first LP in some jazzy new package because their (our supporters') hard-earned money is going to be spent on that, and they've already got it. We don't want that kind of thing, so our line is that we're gonna go home. If we don't get no tour support, we're gonna go home and work it out another way. Because they'll just push you around, and once they start, they're just never going to stop, y'know? ■

the dollar still functions as the major reserve currency today. Every country that trades with other countries needs to have a reserve of currency for use in paying for foreign goods. The role of the dollar in the postwar world was to be, equally with gold, a currency automatically exchangeable with all others. Now, although the conditions which made this economically feasible are falling apart, the U.S. dollar still accounts for about 80% of the foreign exchange reserves of the world's other countries. This means that the downward fall of the dollar is not just a U.S. affair, but threatens the whole Western monetary system. That is why the fate of the dollar is of such grave concern, particularly, to the other imperialist members of the U.S. bloc (Germany, Japan, Britain, etc.).

The recent "flight of gold" represents a movement by some capitalists toward a medium of exchange with real value, indicating a dark pessimism about the dollar's fate—and, by extension, that of all the Western-bloc currencies. It is a symptom of the grave contradictions within the economy of Western imperialism.

The imperialists can scramble, they can vainly try to recreate the past, they can patch together some measures that may stave things off and give them temporary respite. But fundamentally U.S. imperialism is in a downward spiral, and these robbers know that they cannot escape to the past. The only escape, from the imperialist standpoint, is a new redivision of the world, new areas to exploit and suck dry. Thus for U.S. imperialism, the main problem is not to hold on to what it has in the face of the rivalry of Soviet social-imperialism. Rather, these imperialists no less than their Soviet rivals demand a whole new redivision of booty, an expanded sphere of operation—making them the top dog exploiters in the world. And this can only come about through war. ■

Activists

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"That's what I call wanting petty-bourgeois immediate gratification!" snapped the revolutionary activist. "I myself have never thought of making revolution overnight. But I'm very excited right now! In the next few years the roof's gonna fall in on this system, and people will be fighting in the streets like we never saw in the '60s. But the real difference is that the working class has real revolutionary leadership now—the RCP. That's why I'm here today and that's why you've got to contribute."

The '60s propelled many Asian Americans to look to revolution. But the politics of the Asian American movement of the '60s was limited too. The "Asian first" narrow nationalism of the period (sometimes combined with a "rainbow coalition", each nationality organizing separately) along with the ebb of struggle during the '70s, influenced many in the Asian movement to get jobs in community social service agencies. While progressive in rejecting the "me first" brainwash of capitalism—the Chinatowns are still there, along with all the things the movement fought against and brought people into motion around 10 years ago.

One social worker donated \$250.00 to the RCP \$1,000,000 drive the night of the program. She said: "I see 300 families a year, getting pretty close to some of them. But they face so many problems. I just fix them up to face the same things again. I really began to ask myself, what am I doing? I think we should support the RCP." Another woman that night gave \$500.

The artist who designed the reunion poster put it another way, "I met a lot of Chinatown youths coming through. I knew those gangs in the Golden Dragon massacre (an incident in a Chinatown restaurant where gang members came after a rival gang with automatic weapons and killed several people). When I see them murdering each other, I start to ask what my art is for." Now he feels that his art must be more political to open people's eyes.

This reunion not only affected those who came, it jolted the hundreds contacted. Some were hesitant and wanted to avoid it. But said, "I haven't thought about this kind of stuff for years."

Africa

Continued from page 2

France. Bokassa was fond of referring to Charles De Gaulle as "Papa," and current French president Giscard d'Estaing has greeted Bokassa affectionately as "my dear relative."

About the time the British-based humanitarian organization Amnesty International disclosed Bokassa's execution of the students, French officials began to squirm publicly. But they had begun to sweat much earlier, not because of Bokassa's atrocities, but because of the growing reaction of the Central African people to his bloody regime. For over a year now there have been violent student uprisings which have developed into an ongoing resistance movement against the government. In one such rebellion last January aimed at avenging the deaths of students at the hands of the government, about 100 soldiers of the Imperial Guard were killed by students firing poisoned arrows.

The Soviets also have some influence among forces opposed to the Bokassa regime. One of Bokassa's former prime ministers, Ange Patasse, has reportedly been receiving arms from the Soviet Union and has been organizing a military force in the northwestern part of the country. Another such group is said to be headed by a Central African exile known as Ngumba, who has Cuban support.

After the coup, French officials maintained that Dacko was a "liberal, moderate, intelligent man" who would restore justice and democracy to the people. The fact remains that, for the last three years, Dacko has been Bokassa's chief confidante. His credibility was stretched to the limit

They wanted to hear what the RCP had to say. Many, inspired by Mao's revolutionary China, were haunted by events there since his death. They respected the RCP's bold stand in denouncing the capitalists in power in China today. Still more had heard countless slanders about the RCP from movement groups, but the last year had made it increasingly clear that no one else was out on the front lines—and no one was being so heavily attacked by the government—like the RCP. No matter what you thought, this had to give you pause.

Tonight these people clustered in groups. Besides the usual kids and family stories, discussing and debating about revolution, the questions here were those raised by the hundreds contacted. Is the RCP really the Party? How can the working-class lead with so many Archie Bunker ideas among whites?

Keith Kojimoto spoke about the meaning of Mao and the science of revolution. "We lived out of our suitcases. We'd be street fighting with cops all day, go to a meeting at night, and still find time to open up Mao's Red Book."

An Asian woman, speaking for the RCP hit on what many felt and also challenged stubborn thinking, "All the anger and hatred that got me involved could only take me so far. I was a revolutionary nationalist. Like other Asians, I had misdirected a lot of my anger towards white people in general or tourists in Chinatown. I remember reading Mao and kept wondering who were these two guys Marx and Lenin he kept referring to. Taking up Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought was a major turning point for me. The RU (forerunner of the RCP) was a big influence. I had to go beyond nationalism and see the class basis for uniting different nationalities behind the leadership of the working class to overthrow capitalism." Asian people, she said, can't be free unless the working class and ultimately all mankind is free.

After the program, one person came up to an RCP supporter and said, "I don't think I can sleep tonight. Listening to you guys made me feel like I haven't been doing much with my life." Contributions are still coming in after the reunion. The system that once brought them into the street ten years ago is not only still there—it's threatening far greater turmoil. This night was a sign of where many of these people from the '60s will be.

when, after allegedly freeing all the remaining political prisoners in the country, he said, "There were only 20 left... God knows where the others have disappeared, but there were hundreds of them over the years." And his loyalties were made clear September 24 when he announced that he would extend Bokassa's "private links" with the racist white settler regime of South Africa into full diplomatic relations. According to a Reuters press release, quoted in the *N.Y. Times*, Dacko "said that if South Africa was the best country to develop his country's natural resources, diamonds and uranium, there was no reason why he should not call on them."

Meanwhile, Bokassa, unable to gain asylum in France because of the undue "embarrassment" he would cause the French government, has been offered a home in a former French colony, the Ivory Coast. France worked overtime to find a safe place for d'Estaing's "dear relative" to stay. The Ivory Coast's president, Felix Houphouët-Boigny, said he was granting Bokassa asylum as an act of "Christian charity." "It is not for us to judge the acts of our unfortunate guest," he said. "God will take care of that."

France's move in engineering the coup was clearly designed to prevent either a popular revolution or a Soviet-backed coup in the Central African Republic, and to reinforce western imperialist interests on the continent. While the U.S. has more or less watched the latest developments from the sidelines, letting France "take care of business," State Department official Hodding Carter III summed up the U.S.'s position succinctly. When asked about the coup, he replied, "Vive la France!" ■

Gold

Continued from page 3

literally as good as gold.

Domination of Dollar Dependent U.S. Hegemony

But the possibility of making this equation of gold and dollars was the product of definite conditions at the time—conditions which no longer hold. First, there was the undisputed hegemony of the U.S. within the post-war capitalist world. Second, there was the far superior productivity of the economy of the U.S., which, alone among imperialist countries, had come out of the war unscathed, with its productive apparatus not only intact but immensely strengthened. And finally, the U.S. had the gold. In the latter part of the 1930s, capital, money seeking profitable investments, fled from war-threatened Europe to find a haven in the U.S., which seemed relatively safe from political, economic and military instability. As war began to break out, this was followed by large orders from the belligerent countries for armaments and other war materials, orders often paid for in gold. By the end of the war, in 1945, the U.S. held 59% of the world's gold reserves, and by 1948 these had been increased to 72%. There could be no question of distrusting the strength of the dollar, or the ability of the U.S. to convert dollars to gold on demand.

But this imperialist "heaven" would not last forever. The U.S. spent, in almost every year since then, far more overseas than it took in, resulting in a massive outflow of dollars and eventually of gold. The U.S. came no longer to hold the majority of the world's gold, and, all the while, the contradictions within its economy, within U.S. imperialism, grew.

Yet the legacy of this history is that

Cops Take Aim in "Georgia's Bullseye"

Macon, Georgia, population 123,000, third largest city in the state, a place where "Southern Charm meets New South progress"—this is how Macon's tourist industry describes the city, nicknamed "Georgia's bullseye" because of its strategic location at the intersection of 6 highways in the geographic center of the state but the tourist brochures don't tell you the target the guns are aimed at is the city's large (40%) Black population which constitutes the bulk of Macon's industrial (garment, textile, and tobacco) work force.

On Sunday, September 2, Leon "Smokey" Groce became the latest recipient of Macon's "Southern Charm". Groce, a 28-year-old Black resident of Macon's Tindall Heights housing project was brutally shot from behind and killed by a cop who jumped out of his patrol car and fired away with no word of warning. This incident piled on top of other recent outrageous abuses has moved the Black community in Macon to angry protests as nothing else in years.

According to numerous eyewitnesses in Tindall Heights, Smokey Groce, who lived here with his wife and 2-year-old daughter, was driving in his car near his apartment when a Black cop, Brady Fields, stopped him with gun drawn and ordered him out of his car to be frisked. According to a witness, "He began to harass Smokey, hitting him behind the head. They struggled for about 2 to 3 minutes when a white cop (David Rice) came up Elizabeth Street. The cop jumped out of his car, saying nothing, and fired twice, killing him dead."

This cold-blooded murder was just one incident in the ongoing police terror in Macon's Black community. Murders, beatings, and arrests are regular occurrences. Recently 12 Tindall Heights residents were busted by cruising patrol cars for the "crime" of assembling in a group on the very same corner where Groce was murdered.

The Black community in Macon was already seething when "Smokey" was gunned down. Only a few weeks earlier, 60-year-old Bernice Turk was killed by a speeding cop car which didn't even stop after slamming into her and spewing parts of her body all over the street. Police claimed that she was drunk and ran into the path of the car even though its lights were flashing and its siren was

screaming. Of course, the Bibb County coroner's jury cleared the police department of any wrong doing.

Groce's murder was the last straw. Hundreds rallied at the sight of the shooting and jeered at the pigs who poured into the Tindall Heights projects along with Bibb County Sheriff's deputies.

Following the murder Macon Police Chief Travis Lynch gave Fields and Rice a vacation with pay (officially termed a "suspension"). No doubt these boys were quite proud of themselves for admirably following in the footsteps of the former mayor (1967-1975) and current mayoral candidate Ronnie "Machine Gun" Thompson who got his name from an incident in which he personally fired a carbine at Blacks suspected of "rioting." During his term he also issued a "shoot to kill" order to city police against "armed robbers, arsonists, and looters" in a very thinly veiled declaration of open season on Macon's Blacks. Along with this he handed out tiny model machine gun tie clips as part of his "war on crime."

The outrage and uproar in the Black community caused a scramble among Macon's rulers and the city's self-proclaimed Black "leadership" to appear like they were doing something about the murder and cool out the mounting struggle of the people. This was especially the case with the city Democratic elections only a week away.

Hundreds of Blacks, including many who witnessed the murder, overflowed the city council chambers at their regular meeting on Tuesday, September 4, pouring out their anger. In their usual effort to steer this righteous indignation into bounds acceptable to Macon's rulers, several so-called leaders from the NAACP, SCLC and others proposed that the council establish a "blue ribbon panel" to investigate the killing, stating that the city council (which has 5 Black members), needs to re-establish the people's con-

fidence in the council, police, and the inquest led by the coroner. In line with this move, council president Eugene Dunwoody proposed a biracial commission be created to "present policies and guidelines for the city of Macon to promote more harmonious relations."

All this of course was just the standard bullshit talk to get the people to quiet down and forget about the murders and disarm them in the face of growing police attacks on the Black community. Even if some sort of investigation was held the result was already known—"justifiable homicide". But just to be sure nothing was in doubt, Mayor Buck Melton promised the cops he would veto any bi-racial commission with legal powers and only allow a panel to review "alleged" injustices.

In a move that should be enough to convince anyone of the total bootlicking role of the various Black sellout organizations like the NAACP and SCLC, the Afro-American Law Enforcement League (AAEL) joined with the Fraternal Order of Police and the Macon Police Association to oppose setting up any kind of investigation outside of the Macon police department. This organization is a total mouthpiece and tool of the police chief and is directly linked with the city's "Black leaders." It was formed just 4 1/2 months ago as an arm of the Macon police department to make it easier to keep Black people in line and submit to the terror at the hands of the white and Black pigs.

Charles Dudley, head of the AAEL, confirmed that its purpose is "to change the image of the police department because of the way people have been brutalized by police officers. Blacks feel harassed. We want to educate people, to have classes, so that they know they're supposed to go when arrested, instead of resisting. There are proper channels to go through. There is a black officer on Internal Affairs who people should feel comfortable with. People don't realize what it's all about. They don't understand these procedures." (Translation: Keep your head bowed, know your place, and if you get blown away it's your own damn fault. However, if anyone complains, a Black pig will be glad to tell them to get lost.)

Despite a few words of embarrass-

M.U.S.E. VS. NUKES

For five days in New York City, September 19 to 23, thousands attended a series of anti-nuke benefit concerts which led up to a rally of 200,000 on Sunday. The concerts put on by Musicians United for Safe Energy (MUSE) featured such master rebel poets as Bruce Springsteen and Gil Scott-Heron, reggae artist Peter Tosh, rock 'n' rollers Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, Bonny Raitt, Jackson Browne and many others. Gil Scott-Heron spoke for many when he said, prefacing his song "Winter in America" at the Sunday rally, "Many of us have felt a kind of political paralysis over the last few years; a feeling that we had no power to change things. What we didn't realize was that we have all the power." And he went on to point to the 200,000 there as an example of what's to come on the scene in this country. And this was clear from the thousands of young people who came out to these events, for many the first political activity they had been involved in. It was also clear from the musicians who stepped out to play the benefits aimed to raise money to oppose the nuclear power and weapons industry. It was the biggest demonstration in this country since the anti-war movement.

So the winter of the '70s is starting to thaw. But watch out. The bourgeoisie is taking note. They've got their snowmen out there trying to turn people's anger into capital for them. And these types were definitely in evidence at the MUSE events. The September 23rd Rally Committee made a show of keeping the event non-political. What they meant was keeping it very respectable and bourgeois, as a reformist road show dominated the speakers' platform, and they turned up the snow blowers full blast. Bella Abzug exhorted the audience, "Singing and rallying is not enough. You must become a political force." Just what kind of political force Bella had in mind is clear from the statement of Congressman Markey from Massachusetts (who did not speak at the rally but spoke to the press). He put it right out there that "We have to learn the lessons of the '60s, which were that people abdicated their responsibilities in the electoral process." The statement of the coordinator of the rally, David K. Ross, was "On May 6th, 1979, 100,000 people marched on Washington to tell President Carter, 'No more Harrisburgs.' Today even more people are here to tell the President, 'Phase out nuclear power now.' And if he doesn't listen, he'll face us at the polls. No politician who favors nuclear power will be elected President in 1980." Definitely the vibes were heavy in favor of Jerry Brown. And Teddy Kennedy's image was lurking in the wings. It was a bald attempt to enlist the minds and bucks of young people into dead ends to "keep our system alive."

An interesting note: A week before the MUSE events, the *New York Times* ran an article on the concerts. The first half of the article was all about how, what with the Federal Election Commission Act of 1974 which limited individual contributions to political campaigns, music benefits are a great source of campaign funding. "What's valuable about rock concerts is not just the money itself, but that they attract a whole new source of money that would otherwise be untapped by traditional fundraising devices," the *Times* quotes Robert A. Neuman of the Democratic National Committee. The *Times* was uptight about these developments—allowing what they termed "politically unsophisticated artists such apparently disproportionate power in our politics." But they also appeared confident in the "responsible" (read: harmless) activities of some like Jackson Browne, who said, "It's a lot easier for me to put together a concert than it is to sit down and write a letter to a congressman."

1980. Signs of Spring in America. But look out, the abominable snowmen are definitely on the prowl. Makes you ponder on the meaning of "melt-down."

ment with the AAEL, the Macon Black "leaders" are all tied up with it and the city government as well. Reverend Henry Ficklin, president of the local SCLC chapter and a member of AAEL as well as the city council, told the *Revolutionary Worker*, "There have been cases of police brutality in the past, but we don't know about this incident (the murder of Smokey Groce)...I don't think we'll ever know the truth about this incident. A person (the cop who murdered Groce-RW) is assumed innocent until proven guilty."

Not to be outdone Leroy Thomas, president of the Macon NAACP said, "There are just as many good Black police officers as there are police officers down there (at the Macon police department). I can understand what he (officer Charles Dudley) is saying. He's got to protect his members. One of the cops (who was involved in Groce's murder) was Black."

So much for all the pious speeches and pleas from these "champions" of Black people. From the beginning they had exactly the same intentions as the city's white rulers, to whitewash the latest murders just like all the rest. Even the talk of holding an investigation, which would have been a sham anyway, was mainly intended to be just talk. In fact, to this day this has not even happened.

Meanwhile, the local KKK chapter along with the Columbus, Georgia chapter is planning a march in Macon to "support the Macon police". Of course the city government made clear that there would be no discrimination announcing that they would "treat (the Klan's permit request—RW) as we would any other request." No doubt the Macon NAACP and SCLC support this too. After all, they support the Macon police too and have done whatever they possibly could to help them do their job—murdering and terrorizing Black people.

In the current issue of *Revolution*:



Organ of the Central Committee of the RCP

Enver Hoxha's *Imperialism and the Revolution: An "Error" from Beginning to End*—

This article analyzes Hoxha's book, which besides attacking Mao Tsetung as a "revisionist", puts forward Hoxha's own revisionist line on questions such as imperialist war, the revolutionary struggle in the oppressed nations, the tasks of communists in the imperialist countries, and more.

The Revolutionary Kernel of the I.W.W.—

Here the revolutionary heritage of the Industrial Workers of the World (or Wobblies, who were at their high point in the 1910s), as well as the wrong positions which led to their collapse, are summed up.

Social-Democratic Stirrings—

This article looks into recent efforts to develop a reformist, social-democratic tendency in the U.S.—from the UAW President Doug Fraser's "Progressive Alliance" to the new "Citizens Party."

Chilean Communist Analyzes Allende Years—

A review of the important book, *Chile: An Attempt at Historic Compromise*, by Jorge Palacios, the American edition of which will be released in October.

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Clash

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higher plane to seek the truth, the bigger picture. Not to escape reality but to face it, confront it, head on. And more, to transform it. In their music they hold out the promise of a bright future if we dare to take it and make it.

The band never rests complacent on stage; in fact they seem to relish taking on arising contradictions. First encore: *A lotta people ain't gonna get no justice tonight/A lotta people gonna have to stand up and fight*. Reggae. Joe Strummer comes out with a flashlight tucked under his chin and he's shining it on people in the audience, himself and the other members of Clash. It's up to you and me...it's really up to us to do it. There's no escape.

They're used to having bottles, bricks and bags of vomit hurled at them in England, but you could tell they "never took no shit from no one," as Mick Jones sings in "Stay Free," 'cause they encourage people to act on what they think and take responsibility for it. In Chicago most of the crowd was definitely with the Clash. By the end of the program after three encores culminating in "White Riot" I'd been turned upside down, inside out and rightside up again. (I could rave on, but taking a tip from the Clash, don't take my word for it, go see 'em for yourself. But if yer looking for a nice quiet nite on the town, don't go to a Clash concert. It ain't a safe place to be.)

D.C. Continued from page 1

imperialists and their monopoly capitalist counterparts in the Soviet Union are preparing to unleash.

The response of the Revolutionary Communist Party in the face of this attack has been clear and uncompromising. Over the past 8 months the Party has not only refused to back down, it has intensified and expanded its revolutionary work—launching the crucial weapon of the *Revolutionary Worker* as a national weekly paper and working to extend its distribution; calling and beginning to build for May Day 1980; proclaiming and carrying out the battle of the Million Dollar Fund Drive; and taking the battle to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants and Stop the Railroad of Bob Avakian out to broad masses of the people. And in recent months the Party has taken yet another bold step—building the nationwide speaking tour of Chairman Bob Avakian, which in over 15 cities so far has already inspired and moved forward the thousands who have attended, and has influenced tens, perhaps hundreds, of thousands more who have begun to see more clearly, or possibly for the first time, that there is in fact a leadership dedicated to and capable of seeing the struggle all the way through to the destruction of the old world and the creation of the new.

All this has not gone unnoticed by the government of this country and those it serves and protects. To the capitalists, as well as to the growing numbers of the oppressed, it has become much clearer that the RCP represents nothing less than the abolition of capitalism and all it stands for.

By now the government, from the highest levels on down, has removed any ground for doubt that they are out for blood, with the sharp point of their spear focused now on the upcoming trial of the Mao Tsetung Defendants. Since the original police assault on the demonstration against Teng Hsiao-ping's visit, they have both concentrated their attack, especially on Bob Avakian, and repeatedly escalated the terms of the battle—from the misdemeanor arrests of the 78 to the indictment of Bob Avakian and 16 others on multiple felony charges to their indictment on 26 counts, carrying a maximum sentence of 241 years.

Out of one side of its mouth the government still claims that this is merely a "legal matter." But these indictments and their whole "legal case" are a blatant farce. In fact, they hardly make even a pretense of "evidence" against Bob Avakian in particular, and yet it is precisely and only by including

Stonewalls

Continued from page 4

dictively, the government asserts "there has been no prosecutorial vindictiveness."

The government's response to the same Motion to Dismiss the Indictments includes a response to the defense charge of conflict of interest, based on the fact that the U.S. Attorney in this case, Mary Ellen Abrecht, is a former D.C. cop and her husband is currently a captain on the D.C. police force. The government charges that "the defendants' claim... is frivolous, without foundation in fact, common sense or law." Perhaps the government might have a point, if they merely substituted Mary Ellen's name for the words "the defendants' claim."

Listen to Abrecht's argument. "Under the reasoning used by the defendants, there can be no conflict-free prosecutors unless they were selected at birth and raised in isolation. A prosecutor who previously worked in a bank could not prosecute bank robberies; a prosecutor who previously taught in a school couldn't prosecute a school burglary; and no parent could prosecute a child abuse case. A prosecutor who worked in a store could not prosecute shop lifters; and a prosecutor who owns a car could not prosecute anyone for unauthorized use of a vehicle." You missed the point, D.A. It's your blatant ties to the execution squad you used to work for that exposed so blatantly in your case what is

him in this case and going after him as a revolutionary leader that they have been able to keep this farce alive and build it up to such proportions. In this way, and by flaunting such an open sham and crudely mocking their own "legal procedures," the ruling class is making obvious the intensely political nature of this case. They are delivering a very clear political statement: we are out to cripple and crush the Revolutionary Communist Party and its leadership, and anyone who dares to stand with the RCP is hereby warned that we have the same fate in mind for them.

To the RCP they are stating in deadly earnest: "You have dared to expose and disrupt our dirty business with Teng Hsiao-ping; you have defied and punctured our proclamation that revolution is dead and buried; and more, you have determined to go deeper among the ranks of our slaves, to arouse and rile them up, to give conscious expression and organized direction to their growing discontent and outrage, to pierce our lies, shining an unflickering light on our guilt and on our desperate calculations of future crime, calling on the oppressed to prepare and then to rise up in revolution when the time ripens. Very well, then, no more of this! Since you have called us out for what we are, we will make you an example of what we are capable of, and be on notice, if legal persecution does not cause you to crack and break, then we will not stop there, we will stop at nothing."

To all those who hunger for a way out of this hell-hole and are awakening to the possibility of revolution and beginning to rally to the only serious revolutionary organization in this country, the Revolutionary Communist Party, the ruling class is directly taunting and threatening: "Here is your Party, the highest expression of your hopes, the embodiment of your striving for a way out of the nightmare we have you chained in and the worse horror we have in store—we will dash all this to the ground; resist if you will, but be aware that now that we have recognized the threat and decided to stamp it out, your resistance will be in vain and you will remain leaderless and powerless, paying a high price for your defiance."

Is all this the sign of awesome, unconquerable strength? No, it is the action of a wounded giant, whose very lashing out is a sign of his growing vulnerability and should inspire us to strike back with intensified blows, re-enforce our strength and hasten the time when we can deliver the final massive thrust to finish him off at long last.

As for the Revolutionary Communist Party, all class-conscious workers and all others who recognize what is at

always the case: the hand and glove that work together when "neutral prosecutor" joins "objective" cop witness before the "honorable court" to serve their bourgeois master. (As for prosecutor Abrecht's claim that she has "no close personal relationships with any of the assaulted officers"—the defense didn't charge this. But if that's what you meant, Mary Ellen, by the title of your book *The Making of a Woman Cop*...)

But the preparations being made by the prosecution for the trial, November 19th, which is reflected in these government responses is far from "frivolous"—it is quite serious. It is the reflection of the deadly—and growing—seriousness with which those in the highest ruling circles of this country's government are making ready for the battle ahead. These documents underscore the fact that what on the surface can appear to be simply legal jabs between defense and prosecution are actually part of the much bigger struggle between classes, which is beginning to rage over the case of the Mao Tsetung Defendants.

The arguments of the prosecution may appear to be ridiculously empty of legal, even common sense, substance, but really that's just the prosecution's point: "Legal niceties, to hell with them, we aim to stop at nothing and get these revolutionaries." It's not that bourgeois democracy and "the American way" has "failed" to work in the case of the Mao Tsetung Defendants, but that it is working overtime. ■

stake, our response is and must be clear: we are firmly resolved that, no matter what the ruling class does, no matter what attacks it unleashes, despite all its efforts to rob us of revolutionary leadership and wound the head of our movement, we will not back down, we will never sink to our knees, we will spread and strengthen our movement, we will not let any attack go unanswered, and we will defend our Party and its leadership. If they think they can use this trial to shatter and destroy our Party and all it represents, they will be proven wrong. But, on the other hand, we have the chance, by beating back this attack, by preventing them from convicting the Mao Tsetung Defendants and carrying through the railroad of Bob Avakian, to strike a tremendous blow against them, arousing and inspiring hundreds of thousands, even millions, of people whose hearts will leap with joy at such a victory, and thousands of whom can be brought forward to the front ranks as activists for the cause of revolution.

It is for all these reasons that the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party is issuing a call, throughout this land, to Party members and all others who are willing and determined to make the necessary sacrifices to take their stand with the Party—to volunteer to go to Washington, D.C., beginning a few weeks before the trial starts, and continuing to its conclusion; to join the front lines of the battle to Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants and Stop the Railroad of Bob Avakian; to gather their combined force where the trial is to be held, in the very political capital of our imperialist rulers, and through their united efforts to take the issue of this trial, and the crucial political questions it concentrates, out to hundreds of thousands of people in the Washington, D.C. area, so that by the time the trial starts, and even more so through the course of it, this will become the major political question in that area and indeed throughout the country, known of and talked about on a daily basis by masses of people. We aim at nothing less than turning that area into a major political battleground, and in so doing and through the support built in every major area, to rock this whole country to its foundation.

Through this massive mobilization, we will be waging a powerful political battle against the imperialists right in their own nerve center and sending shock waves throughout the U.S., and indeed even the rest of the world. This is our most crucial battle today. And this will greatly accelerate revolutionary work on every front. In particular, while it must be actively built in its own right during this same period, the crea-

Chairman answers questions on USSR

Continued from page 13

culture is stagnating and they have a tremendously parasitic military expenditure on top of a not very strong industrial base. Unless they redivide the world fairly quickly and get more areas under their control, more areas to exploit, their thing is going to come apart completely at the seams. There are also reasons that the U.S. has to go to war against the Soviet bloc territory. But the Soviet Union made a calculated gamble.

Khrushchev's had a role in this. His role was to carry out the transition from destroying the socialist system to more or less bringing about the restoration of capitalism. Then Brezhnev and Kosygin, recognizing that the basis had been laid, wanted to start reaching out more aggressively and came into conflict with Khrushchev. That's why Khrushchev got it (although they didn't kill him so it wasn't all that antagonistic). Then Brezhnev and Kosygin started going to Vietnam and other places to start implementing a slightly different policy of acting a little tougher in the face of the U.S. They figured now they could stand up to the U.S. a little more. Whereas when Khrushchev was in there, they figured they had no basis to stand up to the U.S. That's why they backed off every place and Khrushchev openly said what you're saying in a more straight-

tion of public opinion around May Day 1980 and preparation for this historic event will be tremendously strengthened and deepened through this battle around the trial. So, too, will the distribution and impact of the *Revolutionary Worker* be increased many times over, not only in Washington, D.C. but around the country, as a part of this battle. Truly it can be said, this country, and the relative strength of the two opposing camps—the capitalist exploiters and the revolutionary movement of the working class and its allies against this exploiting system—will be significantly changed through this battle, and a real leap will be made toward the goal of revolution.

Further, this mass mobilization will not only mean the waging of this fight on a tremendous scale, it will also be an unprecedented training ground for those who take part in it, especially on the front lines in Washington. Through and as a decisive part of this battle, those who are mobilized to D.C. will be trained in the heat of struggle as agitators and propagandists and, most fundamentally, in the organized, systematic study and application of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought, drawing many hundreds, perhaps even thousands, more into all these tasks, through many different forms.

Only a small part of those who will come forward to volunteer for the front lines of this struggle will be able to be chosen for the front. Many fighters are needed in other areas to carry forward this battle and to continue and step up revolutionary work overall. But to marshal and position our forces most powerfully, we must make a major concentration at the key point now, around the battle centered in Washington, D.C.; and to do this, we must see who among our ranks are most resolved and ready to join the front lines now. Two hundred "picked troops" will be selected and sent, political organizers who will fan out across D.C. on a daily basis, educating and activating many times their number.

Therefore, let the call be answered, let those who are prepared to meet the challenge and seize the opportunity, step forward to volunteer, proclaiming their determination to place themselves in the thick of this great and decisive battle!

To volunteer to be selected by the Party to serve on this battlefield, contact the address nearest you listed on page 2.

Corrections

September 21, 1979 issue. In the article, "Dragging Dirt into Daylight" on page 9, reference is made to testimony by the Honolulu Chief of Police. In fact the Chief refused to testify and this testimony came from the former head of his TAC (SWAT) force.

On page 10, col. 1, reference is made to "Workers and Tenant Farmers Against Evictions in Waihole/Waikane." There is no such organization, and the speaker was an individual tenant.

up form. He said the atomic bomb will kill everybody, worker and capitalist alike, and *Pravda* put it straight out: what good are principles if one's head is going to be cut off? We might as well keep capitulating to imperialism because they'll blow us up anyway if we don't. And then they further made the argument, what's the use of building and working to develop your economy if it's just going to be blown up anyway? And these were their arguments at the time; and you can read them, about why they had to capitulate to the U.S.

They did it to buy time. They didn't do it for a long-term strategy of capitulation. They did it to get into position where they're ready to confront the U.S. as a world power themselves, that's what they're doing now. ■