

The Assassination of R.P. Piyadasa

Statement by the Central Committee of the Workers League

The Central Committee of the Workers League denounces the brutal murder of Comrade R.P. Piyadasa, member of the Revolutionary Communist League, Sri Lankan section of the International Committee of the Fourth International. All the circumstances surrounding this assassination and the hideous brutality with which it was executed establish irrefutably that Comrade Piyadasa was the victim of a contract killing. The four gangsters who mutilated and murdered Comrade Piyadasa were nothing more than hired hands.

Who did the hiring? We do not believe that it is a mere coincidence that the murder of Cde. Piyadasa on July 17 came only one day before Augustin Violot, a supporter of the Workers League, was shot dead in New York City. Nor can we fail to emphasize that both killings were carried out with the same unrestrained viciousness. Cde. Piyadasa was subjected to multiple wounds with swords and knives. Violot was shot 12 to 15 times and then one of the two assassins dropped a 60 lb. engine block on his body.

In less than two years, since the assassination of Comrade Tom Henahan on October 16, 1977, three



Tom Henahan



Augustin Violot

members and supporters of the International Committee have been assassinated. A fourth, Comrade Jacques Violot, the brother of Augustin, was seriously wounded in the attack that resulted in the death of Comrade Henahan.

We are convinced that all these murders and attacks are the response of the agencies of world imperialism to the International Committee's campaign on 'Security and the Workers League has publicly stated that it

believes that the planning and organization of the assassinations of Tom Henahan and Augustin Violot was the work of FBI and CIA agents in the leadership of the revisionist Socialist Workers Party.

The Central Committee of the Workers League considers it highly probable that the associates of these New York-based agents operating in Sri Lanka were behind the murder of Comrade Piyadasa. The International Committee has already established

that the long-time FBI double agent who led the SWP, Joseph Hansen, set up an international network of police agents over a period of 20 years before his death last January. Among these police agents are Fausto Amador in Central America and Helen Jarvis in Australia. Considering the utter political depravity of the revisionist organizations in Sri Lanka, there is no question but that within its leadership in Colombo are police agents receiving regular instructions from the top police agents inside the SWP



May Day demonstration of the Revolutionary Communist League in Sri Lanka.

national headquarters in New York City.

The assassination of Comrade R.P. Piyadasa is a vicious blow against the oppressed masses of Sri Lanka and the Revolutionary Communist League. But we are confident that all the comrades of the RCL will

answer this brutal political murder by intensifying their struggle to build the mass Trotskyist party in Sri Lanka. The example of Cde. Piyadasa's life must be an example for the youth and workers of Sri Lanka and for the oppressed masses throughout the world.