

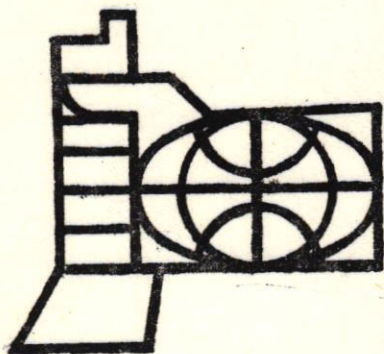
The Week

A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS

6^D

Volume 8. No 4. July 27th 1967

Newark
“race riot”
myth



SOLIDARITY
with O.L.A.S.

71 Onslow Gardens, London, N.10.

Subscription : £2 per annum or pro rata

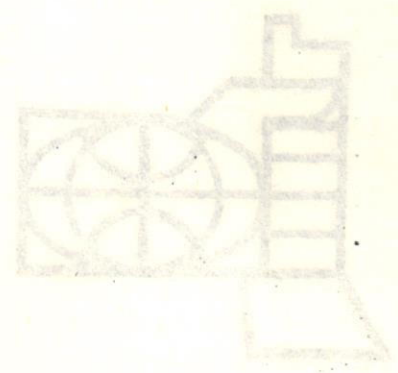
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A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR MEMBERS

Volume 6, No. 4, July 27th 1967

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GREETINGS TO O.L.A.S.!

The O.L.A.S. conference which opens this coming Friday, July 28th, in Havana is of historic importance. We have explained elsewhere in this issue the aims of this conference, but we wish to stress editorially that we support this conference to the full. We consider that international counter-revolution headed by U.S. imperialism which has inflicted some defeats on the movement in the last few years (Congo, Indonesia, Ghana, the African coups, etc.) needs to be met by a co-ordinated anti-imperialist strategy. The O.L.A.S. conference represents an effort along these lines which deserves the support of all progressives. We are particularly proud of the fact that one of our founding editors, Ken Coates, will be representing the British anti-imperialist forces at O.L.A.S. We pledge our support for the endeavours of O.L.A.S. and will do all we can to assist the publicising of the ideas and plans of the conference. We urge all our readers to do likewise. We will be helping to organise a series of meetings to that end. Full details will be given in our coming issues.

MARGARET HERBISON RESIGNS

The resignation of Margaret Herbison from the Government is yet another sign that Wilson's policies are a disaster for Labour. No one would accuse Miss Herbison of being a left-winger - her letter of resignation shows that she does not, at present, oppose the general policies of the Government. Yet she felt compelled to resign. Her letter of resignation gave no hint of what coming measures disturbed her so much; neither did it indicate that she was going to campaign against the Cabinet's betrayal of the poor and needy. That is a pity, but her principled act in resigning - so much in contrast with the behaviour of some who still style themselves left - is bound to stimulate rank and file resistance.

THE "NEVER AGAIN" MANIFESTO

Insofar as this document throws down a challenge to Wilson and the Cabinet, it is an extremely valuable move. The ideas it puts forward are worthy of very serious examination and analysis - we hope to use the column of The Week for this purpose. However, we must note that the main immediate step proposed - devaluation - would be, in the absence of a fundamental anti-capitalist offensive, one which would cause great hardship to the people of Britain. It would represent merely an alternative capitalist strategy for transferring the burden of British imperialism sickness on to the backs of the workers. It is also to be noted that the supporters of the manifesto did not follow up their challenge in the columns of Tribune with a challenge in the House of Commons. This is no way to mobilise opinion for an alternative programme. What is needed now to break the present impasse is action.

Konni Zilliacus was one of the first sponsors of The Week. His death is a loss to the whole left, which is by it deprived of a staunch partisan, who never failed to speak the truth as he saw it. He cannot easily be replaced. Hunted out of the Labour Party by its cold war warriors of the late 'forties, he was frequently abused as a 'crypto-communist' in the rather loathsome terminology of the Daily Telegraph. But while his McCarthyite detractors were smearing his name with such appellations, at the same time he found himself cited in the Slansky show-trial, in Prague in 1952, as an arm of British intelligence. During these trials, many people who had been glad enough to know him in his League of Nations days were quick to forsake him. His transparent honesty had to be linked with considerable courage in those times.

I often disagreed with him. In particular, I felt that his concern with the letter of the diplomatic law sometimes rendered him blind to the convulsive social processes which were unwinding beneath it. He was always on the side of the poor, the disinherited, but I felt he gave too much weight to the good faith of their adversaries. Naturally, this divergence of view was at its sharpest on the evaluation of the United Nations, which seemed to me to be increasingly overtly an arm of the imperial powers against their clients and subjects.

However sharp his disagreements were, Konni Zilliacus knew very clearly who his worst enemy was, and displayed to his colleagues on the left as much co-operative tolerance as he showed scorn to his opponents on the right. After my expulsion from the Labour Party, he went out of his way to show his solidarity, and he could not have been kinder and more encouraging, or more vigorously active in his public efforts on my behalf, if I had agreed with every word he ever said. He had been suffering from a very painful foot complaint when I visited him, and he had to sit with his foot hoist in the air all the time we talked. We swapped experiences about our respective expulsions, and he told me that he had no doubt that I would be back, although it might take a year or two. Later, at the Brighton Conference last year, he was very sharp with some left-wing M.Ps who expressed doubts as to whether I might not be too hot a potato to hold. I think perhaps this had something to do with his own experiences, a decade before.

Zilly was deeply distressed by the overall course of the Wilson administration, and he incessantly voiced his complaints. Most of his strongest aspirations were betrayed, yet again, by the second post-war Labour Government. I think he may well have died broken-hearted. Unpopular though he often was, throughout his life, I am quite sure he will be remembered with affection long after Harold Wilson is an object of universal contempt.

INTERNATIONAL VIETNAM PROTEST - October 21 - 22.

The Vietnam Solidarity Campaign is holding a meeting at 49 Rivington St., London, E.C.2. (nearest tube is Old St.) on Tuesday August 1 at 7.30pm. Representatives from all groups protesting against the Vietnam war have been invited to attend to discuss our mobilization in October in support of the March on Washington. If you can help please come with ideas.

The recent initiative of the Government in sending the Tory Lord Alport to Rhodesia to once again sound out the views of the fascist 'Government' in Salisbury shows once again the determination of Wilson to get shot of the 'problem' of Rhodesia, and if necessary sell out almost completely to Smith.

In the Observer of 23/7/67 their Commonwealth Correspondent wrote

"So far Mr. Wilson seems to have convinced even the critical members of his Government that he has no intention of eroding his commitment not to give independence before majority rule unless there is convincing evidence of changes in the personnel and ideas of the Smith regime".

Surely the P.M. and his Government are aware by now of the nature of Smith and his Rhodesia Front party? their principles and policies make it very clear. Item 3 says "The Party will ensure that the Government of Southern Rhodesia will remain in responsible hands".

You know what that means to Smith and his cronies, don't you Mr. Wilson? Item 6: "Recognising the different customs and modes of living of the various communities in Southern Rhodesia, the Party opposes compulsory integration and recognises the right of government at all levels to provide separate facilities and amenities for the various groups to enable them to preserve their customs and ways of life". In other words apartheid.

Later on in the Front's principles they affirm their belief in the infamous Land Apportionment Act, which has allocated 44 million acres of land to 3,600,000 Africans, and 36 million acres to 220,000 Europeans. This means that the Europeans have fourteen times more land per head.

Towards the end of 1964 a document entitled "The Dilemma of the White Rhodesian. A new look at the vote. Can we afford to be constitutional", was circulated among members of the Rhodesian Front.

This document shows very clearly the fears of the 'settler regime' and also the way it can be overthrown. Part 1 takes three hypothetical situations

- A. White Government. African no vote, no rifle. Result:
 - i) Prosperity
 - ii) Peace and a degree of sabotage
- B. White Government. African no vote, but armed with 10,000 rifles. Result:
 - i) Trouble for six months during which period they are disarmed.
 - ii) Peace and prosperity return and the Government remains white.
- C. White Government. African armed with 10,000 votes and no rifle. Result:
 - i) Immediate overthrow of white regime.
 - ii) No peace or prosperity.

It is patently obvious from this that the present regime in Salisbury is not going to allow their privileged position to disappear with NIBMAR. So in order to achieve a settlement Wilson would have to drop this demand.

It is therefore quite clear that no just settlement can be achieved by negotiations. But lets look again at item B in the abovementioned document, what if the British Government put its Secret Service to good use for once, and had them organise and train a liberation army, armed with all the necessary weapons to overthrow Smith's fascist band? I am sure that Zambia would be only too pleased to assist by allowing the operation to be organised from their territory, thus ensuring that the period in which the present sanctions hit her economy is considerably shortened. It may as item B suggests be all over in six months, but not in their favour.

Bank Employees Consider Strike Action.

Bank staff in West Wales have discussed industrial action at branch meetings in readiness for a rally to be held at Carmarthen on July 27 to consider pay and conditions. Oswald Davies, an Ammanford bank manager who will preside over the rally said: "Bank staff have come to the end of their tether. They want to discuss what action they should take. We have received information that at several branch meetings the possible forms of action discussed have included industrial action. This may receive a further discussion at the meeting on Thursday, and there is every likelihood that there will be an aggressive resolution before the rally."

The union's South Wales regional organiser, John James, said last Monday that bank staffs generally had not received an increase since April 1955 although senior staff had increases last July and January. The 2½ per cent increase offered was "deplorable" he added.

Threat to Trawlermen's Holidays.

Concern is growing among Britain's 12,000 trawlermen that the Ministry of Labour may try to stop an agreement for them to have longer holidays with pay which has already been passed by the TUC wage-vetting committee. At present they have 26 paid days holiday a year, but early last month a sliding scale was agreed between the owners and the T&GWU for between 31 and 46 days a year depending on the number of days spent at sea. There were calls for a strike from Hull and Grimsby, the two largest trawling ports, before this agreement was reached.

Trawlermen are recognised as having to suffer among the worst conditions of any industry and resent the fact that the Ministry seems to think the agreement may not be allowable under the incomes policy. The union claims that there would be increased productivity because second crews could take the trawlers out when the first were ashore, thus ensuring that maximum use was made of the ships.

Carpenters' Leader Reinstated.

Jack Rusca has been reinstated as London district secretary by the "lay" general council of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers. Rusca was removed from office in May by the union's executive council, seven full-time officials, for supporting A.S.W. members on strike at the Myton and Sunley sites.

It is believed that the general council, considering his appeal against the executive, substituted a three-month suspension which means that Jack Rusca will be able to resume his duties early next month.

Trade Union Rally. ---- Sunday July 30th, 3pm.

Meeting on trade union rights in relation to CBR lockout.
Speakers include Dennis Hobden, MP, and Tom Jackson, Post Office Union.
Meeting is at Peace Statue, Seafront, Brighton/Hove Boundary; 3pm, July 30.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES - continued.

Gunter Yields to Union Pressure

Ray Gunter Minister of Labour, decided last Monday not to use his statutory powers to defer a wage agreement covering 800,000 white-collar workers in the engineering industry. This means that those earning less than £18.10.0 a week will immediately receive increases ranging from 15s to 17s 6d a week for men and up to 15s a week for women.

In a letter to the Engineering Employers Federation Ray Gunter made it clear that he has taken this course reluctantly after being told by the Federation and the three unions involved that they were willing neither to limit the increases to those earning less than £15 a week nor to await a report which the Prices and Incomes Board is preparing. The employers and unions argued that the settlements related to claims originally advanced before the pay freeze started a year ago and therefore there was "an element of commitment which could and should be met." now the period of severe restraint had ended. Both sides impressed the Minister with the force of their arguments and he finally agreed that the special circumstances did not justify him using his delaying powers..

The Ministry of Labour does not consider, however, that allowing these rises for those earning under £18 10 Od sets that figure as a new low-paid standard for white-collar workers, since it does not regard this as an agreement for low-paid workers. Stressing the snail-like pace of the Government's withdrawal from the pay freeze Ray Gunter said he hopes that other pay claims will not be made on the basis of this settlement.

"Railway Dockers" Strike

Unofficial one-day strikes by members of the NUR yesterday hit three of the twenty-two ports operated by the British Transport Docks Board. Action was taken at Southampton, Newport, Mon., and Hull because the dockers are dissatisfied with the 5 per cent pay increase for all the 10,500 employees of the Board agreed by management and unions last week. Cargo ships at Southampton were made idle by one-day strikes on Monday of both last week and this. Six hundred dockers took part in this week's stoppage, which also affected three passenger liners. The Southampton men have also threatened a series of lightning strikes in support of their claim for a 17 per cent pay increase.

At Lowestoft, the only other port affected by last week's strike, 90 NUR men decided to stay at work and await the views of men in other ports on the five per cent increase offered by the Board. The movement of shipping at Newport docks was halted when 350 "railway dockers", including shunters, tugmen and lock-gate men, stopped work. They are demanding a 9½ per cent increase and have decided to stage a repeat walk-out next Monday. Movement of cargo by rail from the dock was at a standstill.

NUR men at Hull docks went on strike after 12 ships had berthed without difficulty. Quayside cranes were idle, but some dockers continued to work using ships' cranes and ship movements were not affected.

South Africa is second biggest export customer

Lord Walston, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of trade, disclosed recently that provisional trade figures for the first six months of this year showed that South Africa had moved into second place after the United States as Britain's biggest export customer. In a luncheon speech he revealed that UK exports to South Africa increased by 33% to £114 million while South African exports to Britain had increased by 12% to £115 million. Commenting on the figures Lord Walston said that Britain aimed to boost trade with South Africa even further. Although the government might regard certain South African racial policies as misconcieved, he urged that this view should not be allowed to effect trade between the two countries. On account of Lord Walston being a representative of the government, it is quite clear that whatever the government has said about - misconcieved racial policies - in South Africa, is so much waffle. If the labour government is going to increase trade with the white apartheid dictatorship in South Africa it is going to strengthen this regime's privileged position at the expense of the exploited and discrimated Africans. Such a statement by a representative of the government can be regarded as nothing other than the abandonment of a moral principal for the sake of greater trade profits.

Spanish miners in five day underground protest vigil

In the Llori mines at Mieres, a 33 man shift went down on thursday, refused to work and threatened to stay underground until the owner promised to pay the 70 man staff three months wages that have not yet been paid. An official who went down the mine with an offer of £7,200 (half the amount owed to the miners) was told the men would stay until their demand was fully met. At the near-by Dominica mines the entire 100 man staff went on strike in solidarity with their comrades at Mieres.

The Liberal party claims not to be capitalist

A piece in the Liberal news commentary of July 25th explains, under a heading of 'Liberal not capitalist', the party's disassociation from capitalism. "the term 'capitalist' is normally taken as meaning the existing British system of capital owned by the few, with power reserved to the owners of capital. The Liberal party violently opposes this system; it is to be hoped that Jeremy Thorpe's article will be taken as a final denial of the 'capitalist' tag placed on the party.

The piece goes even further to rap the Labour governments' Conservative tradition! "...it is particularly important that the Liberal's hostility to the Conservative tradition, adopted by the Labour government should not be obscured by the use of words like 'capitalist', whose interpretation is open to doubt".

Family allowances "insult to many thousands of mothers"

On July 24th the Child Poverty Action Group made the following statement about the family allowances:..... "The miserable increase in family allowances this October is an insult to many thousands of mothers who have been struggling year after year in steadily worsening poverty. It does not even make up for price increases since the present rates were introduced."

(continued)

Political notes continued

"Even the April increases are only half what is needed to raise the poor families up to national assistance level.

"To defer the full increases until April is only justifiable if they are to be balanced by a cut in tax relief. But if that is to be done, much bigger increases will be possible at a relatively smaller cost.

"We welcome the very sensible decision to give free school meals and welfare milk to the larger families. But most poor families have only two or three children. For them the increased charges of school meals and welfare milk could be disastrous."

THE THINGS THEY SAY ABOUT US!!

"THE WEEK" LOST LABOUR THE G.L.C. ELECTIONS

A certain Regional Labour Party organiser shocked a meeting of the executive of a West London C.L.P. by waving a copy of The Week, claiming that the paper had, by organising factions inside Labour Parties, lost the G.L.C. elections for Labour. The constituency, which had prior to the last elections been considered a safe Labour seat, did not take this statement too dramatically: it went on to reject a call from a right-wing branch to expel people who had supported one plank of The Week's programme, support for the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign.

"THE WEEK" RESPONSIBLE FOR WORKERS ON STEEL BOARD DECISION

According to Freedom, the weekly anarchist newspaper, this journal can claim part of the credit for the decision to have steel workers on the boards of the nationalised steel undertakings. It said, in its issue dated July 22: "The decision to have steel workers on the steel boards is no doubt a result of the pressure exerted by some left-wing M.Ps and organisations such as The Week and the Voice of the Unions. However, even the Corporation's proposals fall a long way short of what these organisations had campaigned for

STOKELY'S MESSAGE TO OLAS

TO MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE STRUGGLE,

We are coming to join you in your celebration, because we feel your victory is a victory for us. We are coming to join you in your celebration because your undaunted courage inspires us. We are coming to join you in your celebration because Che's messages have real meaning for us. We are coming to join you in your celebration because the African-American in the U.S. is part of the Third World and you are our brothers.

FOR THE LIBERATION OF ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLES

STOKELY CARMICHAEL

SNCC

THE NEWARK REBELLION - A FIRST-HAND REPORT based on Militant (U.S.A.) report

We have reproduced the following report because of the extreme importance of the socialist movement in this country understanding the real nature of the so-called race riots in the U.S.A. The article is by Lawrence Stewart who has lived in the Newark ghetto for the past 25 years. He wrote this report while the rebellion was still going on.

NEWARK - It is now 2 a.m. Monday morning. I was last on the streets 7 p.m. Sunday night. The street where we live is quiet now. But from time to time shots, like fire crackers, puncture the air; singly and sometimes in series. They seem to come mostly from Hawthorne Avenue and Clinton Place, a business area. I've moved the table at which I'm typing away from the window to the center of the room. My wife and son are in bed ... asleep? I don't know.

"A City's Shame." That was the heading on a Newark News editorial. But black people aren't buying that line. Our racist governor managed to get one thing straight when he said it's like people laughing at a funeral. There's a feeling of elation at having struck back at the criminal, hypocritical power structure that has ground us down for so long. Last Thursday night, without knowing it, I was about six blocks away from where it all started. A black cab driver was arrested over some trivial business of following too close behind a squad car. The police were seen to brutally beat him and drag him to the Fourth Precinct a few blocks away. Any number of people testified to this.

Some of the local "Negro leaders" appeared and attempted to calm the people who gathered at the station house. Most of them were from the big Hayes Project which is just across the street. The "leaders" weren't successful and the people attacked the precinct with rocks and bottles and whatever else they could lay hands on. It was the climax of a long series of insanely brutal acts by the cops. The "riot" was on.

That night was bedlam. There was widespread burning of buildings owned by white businessmen. Molotov cocktails were used. All kinds of stores were smashed to hell and were looted. Snipers holed up in abandoned buildings and opened fire on the hated cops. In my neighbourhood sirens screamed and the police cars were constantly on the move. On Friday morning I drove as close to the center of the outbreak as I could get. At Belmont and Avon Avenues I pulled over behind a car with the trunk lid open. Two men were loading it with an assortment of goods from one of the ravaged stores. At first I thought the owner was selling things at a discount because of damage. But it soon became apparent the men were appropriating the goods. They were quite casual about it. I got out and asked if they weren't worried about being arrested or shot at by the cops. They replied "F... the cops".

I stopped in at a tavern. The order for closing hadn't been made official yet and the place was crowded. The owner was selling whiskey like a Saturday night. He meant to make all he could before closing. Then too, he didn't know but what these same customers might wreck the place later on. Of course everyone was discussing the riot. There was a real feeling of elation. They were making their presence as human beings felt by the "white bastards" who run things.

/Cont'd.....

THE NEWARK REBELLION (Cont'd.)

One fellow said to me: "Hell, they rob us every day we live and breathe". A middle-aged woman said: "With all the Toms in soft political jobs and thousands of kids have nothing except to go to Vietnam and come back in boxes, what do you expect?". She added: "I don't approve of rioting, but what do you expect?" What do you expect? She put her finger on it. The whites are deaf. How else can you make them hear? Her friend chimed in: "I don't understand all this talk about 'looting'. They rob us every day. They rob us on the rent! They rob us on food, on the job! They rob our kids of education! Everything! What in hell do they expect!". "They're worried about their pocketbooks", she said. "It's just too bad our people have to get shot and killed!".

Friday the National Guard moved in. It was a long night of hell. Automatic fire rent the air from all directions. People stayed under their beds, in bathtubs, cellars - any place where they thought they'd be safe from the wild, steady fire from the weapons of the clean-cut American boys from the suburbs upholding "law and order". The volume of sniping increased. Also the "self-service" from the smashed store fronts. All black-owned business places had signs reading "soul brother" or "black owned". A lot of those had their windows smashed in by the gun butts of white guardsmen.

The so-called leaders are at least correct in their demand that the Guard get out. They're full of Klan and Birchite elements. Driving around the city I saw just two black guardsmen. Meanwhile the Mayor and Governor have been busy saying it was all the fault of "criminals", "hoodlums", "black insurrectionists who hate America".

At the beginning some of the Mayor's people said the whole thing was started by Stokely Carmichael, who they insisted was in the city. Later he was reported to be in London, England. But this doesn't dampen their efforts to find scapegoats - "outside agitators". Now they're reporting "carloads of Negroes" arriving with guns from New York, Detroit, Philadelphia, everywhere. Addonizio has insulated himself with a coterie of self-seeking Negro politicians who do what they're told. Saturday they and the preachers were out with leaflets and loudspeakers urging the people to "cool it" and shake the hands of the cops and guardsmen in the spirit of true Christian charity, to help restore "peace" and "order".

Negro-Owned Business

But as of Sunday most people showed little confidence in them. Damned few accepted their leaflets. Some of the Negro-owned businesses got it too. On Clinton Avenue, above Bergen Street, there is a real estate office which used to have as part of its window display a beautiful white model house of dollhouse size. Until recently, one of the names on the window of that office was of the woman who was Addonizio's secretary when he was a congressman. Now she's in charge of the City Welfare Department. That nice real-estate office was smashed.

/Cont'd.....

I remarked to someone that I was surprised that it would happen to a colored-owned place. He said: "I ain't". Someone else said: "Those niggers down in City Hall think they're better than us. They've been taking us for years". Practically everyone could see this thing coming. But when it came no one could believe it, that it was really happening. And people reacted in ways you couldn't expect. One fellow I know called me up. He was a charter member of CORE but dropped out because it was too "conservative". He was always talking about Black Power, Black Action, direct action with gun in hand. When he called up he told me the people are "only hurting themselves". On the other hand people who you would think of as completely brainwashed - who you would expect to consider direct action and riots as "self-defeating" have been showing reactions that would do credit to Marxists.

Sunday morning I walked down to the corner of Alpine Street and Elizabeth Avenue where a group of people were talking about the latest happenings. A couple of guardsmen were posted there. A late model Cadillac came down the street with some Uncle Tom preacher blasting through a loudspeaker against opponents of peace and Christianity. A fellow said, "He's right. Rioting don't get you no place". A couple of people nodded wisely in agreement. The speaker was putting it on for the benefit of the guardsmen. But one little guy couldn't take it, even that way. He glanced at the soldier boys and said: "It's not a matter of whether you're for or against rioting. Hell, who wants to get shot by a bunch of peckerwoods!".

He glanced at the guardsmen again and went on: "God damn it, what else can we do! We've prayed, preached and protested long enough. It ain't done no good. And finks like that Tom in the Caddy help them. If there's any snipers around, I hope they get him too!". Black people have been delivered into the hands of landlords and leeches. There is cruelty, degradation and death. The responsibility for Newark and all the other Newarks rests squarely on White America.

STOKELY CALLS FOR NEGRO GUERRILLAS IN U.S. based upon Reuters report

HAVANA, July 25 (Reuters).- American "Black Power" advocate Stokely Carmichael arrived in Cuba today with a clarion call for the organization of Negro guerrilla groups in U.S. cities. Mr. Carmichael arrived by air from Prague as an observer to the Latin American Peoples' Solidarity Conference of Revolutionary Forces in Havana. He is expected to see Premier Fidel Castro during his stay.

Just before Mr. Carmichael's arrival, the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina published an interview with him in London in which he was quoted as saying: "In Newark, we are applying the tactics of guerrilla warfare. We are preparing groups of urban guerrillas for our defense in the cities. This struggle is not going to be a mere street meeting. It is going to be a struggle to the death". He likened the racial disturbances in the United States as "real rebellions" and said the Cuban revolution was an inspiration to Negroes.

HAVANA GREETS THE LATIN-AMERICAN SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE

from a special correspondent

On July 28th until August 5th, the Organisation of Latin-American Solidarity (OLAS) is to hold its inaugural conference in Havana, and for weeks the city has been festooned with posters, flags and banners welcoming OLAS and proclaiming the necessity for armed struggle. OLAS was born at the Tricontinental Conference held in Havana in January 1966, when it was formed by the twenty-six Latin-American groups attending the conference.

In its summons to the conference, OLAS declares its aim as "not to hold yet another formal gathering to express our relative discontent, but to face the global strategy of imperialism with a bold strategy of the peoples." It rightly equates the prerogative of people to face, with revolutionary violence, the violence of imperialism and reaction. Such a summons echoes the call of Che Guevara's recent letter to the Tricontinental, in which he characterised the Vietnam war as the centre of confrontation between imperialism and the colonial countries, and called for "more Vietnams" in Latin America as a means, not just of helping the Vietnamese revolution, but of assisting the cause of the Latin-American countries themselves.

The delegates to OLAS will find not only the Cuban leadership but the entire Cuban nation firmly committed to the armed struggle. Che's portrait accompanies Fidel's on every street corner, and over the entrance to the Habana Libre Hotel a massive poster portrays Fidel and his comrades, with guns in hands, bearing the slogan from the declaration of the Tricontinental: "It is the duty of revolutionists to make the revolution." With such commitments so firmly expressed, the OLAS Conference promises to be a pivot point in the alignment of forces in Latin America.

RAUL CASTRO UPHOLDS CUBA'S REVOLUTIONARY ROLE IN LATIN AMERICA

On the eve of the OLAS Conference, Cuba's Vice-Premier Raul Castro has reiterated Cuba's right to work for the revolutionary struggle throughout Latin America. He also commented sharply upon U.S. Vice-President Humphrey's recent speech to military school graduates, alleging that the Soviet Premier had used the occasion of last month's visit to Cuba for the purpose of pressurising the leadership into softening its revolutionary line in the Latin-American continent. Senor Castro made it clear that relations between Cuba and the Soviet Union "exist only on the basis of the strictest mutual respect and absolute independence". "We do not have a daddy, Mister Imperialists. I do not know who has informed Mr. Humphrey nor what they informed him, but it is evident that he is suffering from infantile illusions."

Of the revolutionary situation now prevalent throughout the continent he said that the sole cause of uprising was the misery, malnutrition, exploitation and poverty which had been imposed upon the area by American imperialism.



GREETINGS to CHE GUEVARA **solidarity meeting with:** **VIETNAM, CUBA, and the** **OLAS—organisation of** **Latin American Solidarity**

FRIDAY—JULY 28 — 7.30
mahatma gandhi hall, 41 fitzroy sq
nearest tubes: Warren St., Gt. Portland St.

speakers: **ROBIN BLACKBURN** (New Left Review)
ERNEST ROBERTS (A.E.U.) (in his personal capacity)
RUSSELL STETLER (Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation)
PAUL SWEETZ (Monthly Review)
SANTIAGO DIAZ (from Cuba)

chairman: **PAT JORDAN** (The Week)

FILMS: Guerrilla war in Venezuela & Progress in Cuba.



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