

Death merchant Ford peddles F-16

NATO meeting is cover for huge U.S. arms sale

Inside



Ten thousand city workers crowded into the Wall Street financial district of New York June 4 to demonstrate in front of the First National City Bank. The workers denounced the big banks for conspiring to gain enormous profits at the expense of municipal employees' jobs. WW photo: Julio

Wall St. echoes to city workers' demands: "Cut profits, save our jobs!"

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, June 4—At noon, today, 10,000 city workers facing layoffs demonstrated their anger at the insatiable greed of Wall Street's money bosses. The workers protested for over an hour in front of the headquarters of the First National City Bank at 111 Wall Street, condemning the bankers' brutal ultimatum instructing Mayor Beame to fire tens of thousands of municipal employees and drastically cut back social services.

BANKS DEMAND \$2 BILLION

Seven big banking houses have threatened to strangle New York financially if Beame does not carry out the firings and service cuts, claiming that the city's interest payments to them must take

precedence over all other municipal expenses, including the payment of workers. This year New York City is being asked to shell out \$2 billion in tax-free interest on bonds held by the banks.

The First National City Bank has branches in 103 foreign countries and assets of \$58 billion.

Wall Street has never before seen a demonstration like today's. Well-dressed finance capitalists, grim-eyed and tight-mouthed, watched from the sidewalks as thousands of workers poured into the streets in the very heart of their lair. Chants of "Make the bosses take the losses," "Beame gets paid off, we get laid off," and "Jobs now!" reverberated off the canyon-like walls of the United States Trust Company, Bank of New York, Brown Brothers

Harriman, and the Citibank.

The thousands of firemen, sanitation workers, teachers, hospital workers, and other city employees who had taken over the streets, who had dared to raise their voices so loud that they could be heard inside the carpeted offices where normally the only sound is the quiet rustle of money, these Black and white and Asian and Latin workers who live in overpriced and deteriorating housing, who send their children to dilapidated schools, who try to raise families in communities that lack proper garbage collection, enough good hospitals and adequate fire protection, these workers had come to give Wall Street a message: We won't sacrifice any more for your profits.

The demonstrators, who carried

union signs and placards that said "Down with the banks," "Cut debt service, NOT social service," and "Make jobs, not profits," were in a mood far more militant than the union officials who called the action.

A woman member of Local 371 of the Social Service Employees Union told *Workers World*, "We should have a general strike. No one would be fired. This demonstration shows that we've got some power." A member of District Council 37 (AFSCME) said, "This is a terrific thing. It should give the banks something to think about because they live off the working person."

"It shows we mean business," added a worker from Teamster Local 237. "People with families are really hurting, but these banks

got lots of money," he stated bitterly.

Despite the fact that Beame is sending layoff pink slips to 30,000 city workers this week, the leaders of the municipal unions tried to give the Wall Street rally a pro-Beame coloration. Many workers, however, while recognizing that the banks are the main enemy, also see Beame as an agent for these powerful financial institutions.

After the rally 2,000 people, following the lead of the Center for United Labor Action and the NYC Emergency Relief Committee, marched from Wall Street to the City Hall area where budget hearings were in progress. The marchers demanded that Beame stop the layoffs and end the interest payments that have driven the city into bankruptcy.

Inventions and millionaires

World's wealth belongs to all of us

By V. COPELAND

MAY 31—We noted last week that the original American Bell Company—now the Rockefeller-controlled AT&T monopoly—had to contend with no less than 600 patent suits by various inventors, many of whom were highly deserving of recognition, perhaps even more than Alexander Graham Bell himself.

But what about all the inventors and builders already dead, some of them for centuries, who invented, built, and created the basis for the telephone—any telephone—in the first place?

And what about the millions upon millions of descendants of those inventors and builders, who now grow hungry while the Rockefellers and other capitalists grow richer?

Just what rights does anybody, anywhere, have to claim individual ownership of the telephone company or any big company?

We mentioned that a forgotten man named Obed Hussey invented the reaper before Cyrus McCormick, and it was a better one, by all accounts.

But there were 45 different reapers invented before either of these inventors made it, including 24 foreign machines and 21 American ones. This was in the 19th century.

GOES BACK TO THE GAULS

Pliny the Elder, a Roman writer of the first century A.D., remarked that the Gauls used a box on two wheels with a kind of metal comb attached to reap their grain. The whole contraption was pushed by an ox.

The modern reaper, incidentally, was pulled by 2 horses for the first century of its existence. And these horses were the product of thousands of years of care,

An early switchboard. Every invention is preceded by hundreds of others that contribute to its creation, and every inventor learns from the creativity and labor of all humankind.

breeding, and development by human beings—the earliest horse raisers having undoubtedly been mangled or killed with great regularity by their animals.

In an earlier chapter, we showed that Christopher Sholes, the admitted inventor of the first commercially usable typewriter (1873), laid the first mechanical basis for the \$12-billion IBM company's empire, himself dying in genteel poverty.

But there had been 34 U.S. typewriter patents before Sholes'—for less workable machines, to be sure, but Sholes must have known about one or another of them.

Without steel, of course, and

reasonably large quantities of modern spring steel, the typewriter could never have been made at all, much less made in mass production.

But steel is a product whose first origins and invention are lost in the mists of antiquity.

BEFORE THE TYPEWRITER

Obviously, too, the printing machine had to predate the typewriter or the "writing machine"—by producing movable type.

But the first effective European printing press (leaving out the much older Chinese model) was made 500 years ago. What a debt

the typewriter and the IBM, Underwood-Olivetti, Smith-Corona, Remington, etc., companies owe to the inventors and developers of printing!

The newspapers, magazines, book publishers, and all the literate and educated people in the world also owe such a debt. And printing had to be predated by writing, which can be traced back thousands of years in Europe, Asia, and Africa (the mother continents of all races).

Just as any grade in school requires the scholar to go through the previous grade, just as the most complex propositions of science rest on the simpler propositions, so there is no invention or "discovery" under the sun that does not owe 99 percent of its foundation to the previous creativity, struggle, and plain hard work of the whole human race.

We have shown that the average inventor, and even inventors of the most famous and fabulous things, have never gained the profits that most uncreative and parasitic capitalists have gained.

—And we have shown that inventors and discoverers of things are rarely motivated by the desire to get rich, and consequently would do at least as well for humanity if the capitalist exploiters were eliminated and the working class ruled the world.

If all the great inventions are based on other inventions and discoveries of previous centuries and milleniums, who are the real logical owners of all the factories and industrial technology of modern times?

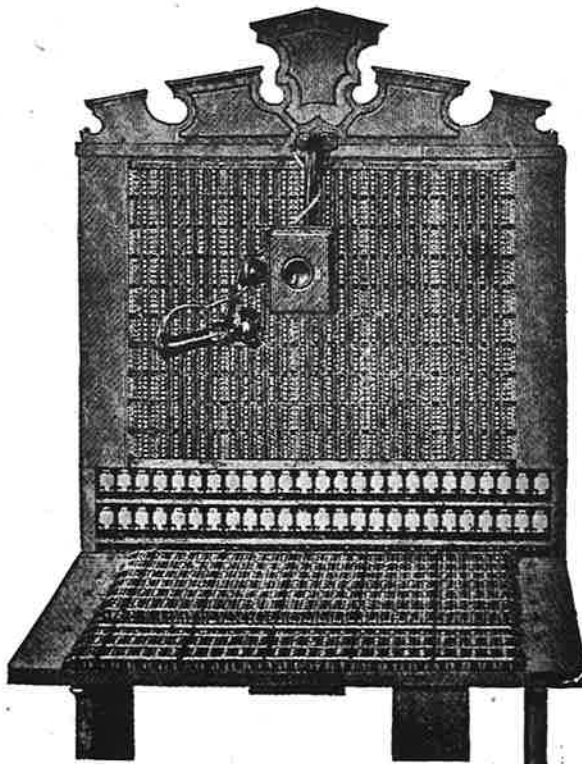
REAL OWNERS OF THE WORLD

Let us assume that only 10 people, about 2,000 years ago, developed the process of extracting iron from its ore. (There were really thousands.)

If these 10 people married 10 others and had only 20 children—that is, merely reproduced themselves—and those 20 married 20 others and these 40 had 40 children, and this happened every 30 years since 25 BC, there would be over a billion trillion descendants from the original 10 today.

Since there are actually less than 4 billion people in the world, this means there has been a great deal of cross-breeding (marrying 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th cousins, including the cousins of all continents).

And since the human race is not 2,000 years old, but 4 million years old and the struggle to improve our existence began before the first human picked up a stick, can it not be logically proven that we all own this great, productive, and potentially wonderful world equally?



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Delegates from 41 unions travel to Atlanta**1,200 attend CBTU convention**

Special to WORKERS WORLD
 ATLANTA, Ga., May 26—Some 1,200 Black rank-and-file workers and union officials met here over the Memorial Day weekend for the fourth annual convention of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) headed by Bill Lucy (Secretary-Treasurer, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees), Charles Hayes (Vice President, Chicago Meatcutters Union), and Cleveland Robinson (New York President, Distributive Workers of America).

Delegates from the Northeast, the Midwest, the South, and the West Coast, representing 41 unions and virtually every industry

traveled to Atlanta to discuss the effects of the economic situation on Black workers.

The convention considered and passed a number of resolutions, including support for full employment legislation in Congress, emergency relief for the unemployed, desegregation of Boston schools, and economic and cultural boycott of South Africa, and denunciations of George Wallace and the KKK. A special resolution demanded freedom for Joanne Little, Ben Chavis, and the Wilmington 10.

Union activists along with unemployed delegates brought pressure upon the CBTU leader-

ship to take a strong position against the seniority system as practiced by the labor movement in general, which results in discrimination against minority and women workers, since they have traditionally been the last hired and first fired. CBTU officials, reluctant to take a position on this critical issue for Black workers out of fear of reprisals from the white leadership of organized labor, consented only to study the seniority system.

The convention was addressed by a host of Black elected officials and other prominent Black figures, including special guest speaker, Mrs. Coretta King.

DECLINE AND FALL**BAD TIMES ARE GOOD TIMES**

Moneysworth, May 9:

"Thanks to the recession, the nation's private detectives are in the midst of a boom.

"The three leading national 'security' service companies, Pinkerton's, Burns and Wackenhut, are reporting record profits and demand. The three firms did over \$420 million in business last year.

"At the core, it's a question of economics.

'Bad times are good times,' says one detective. 'People are more apt to steal.'"

STATUS SHOCKS AND MISSING BLOODBATHS

New York Post, May 27:

"CAMP PENDLETON, Cal.—If a plane were to leave for Saigon today, half this camp would be empty," says Hoang Van Duc, a Vietnamese physician.

"... Many face the frustration of 'status shock' as they enter a lower stratum of American society than they occupied in

Vietnamese life.

"'There is much despair here,' Duc said in discussing the refugees' feelings with a reporter.

"One of the things that makes a return to Vietnam so tempting to many of the refugees is the absence of any real evidence of a Communist 'bloodbath.'"

IN ALABAMA GOD IS STILL WHITE

United Press International, April 13:

"About 30 black students from the University of Alabama were refused admittance to a white church today and the police were called to maintain order.

"The Rev. Dorsey Blake said he had accompanied the members of his college class in the 'Black Religious Experience in America' to the Alberta Baptist Church as

'part of my program to supplement classroom experience with authentic experience.'

"Mr. Blake said that his group had been told by a man, apparently an usher, 'that the church did not seat colored, and there was a n— church around the corner.'"

HUMILIATION FOR PAY

Parade, May 11:

"Department store owners in Toronto have discovered a new way to discourage shoplifting. For \$100 a day they hire a student or an actor who permits himself to be caught stealing various items.

"The rent-a-thief thereupon is bullied and abused by a store detective who roughly escorts him out of the establishment, all the time threatening arrest. This scene of public humiliation is designed to dishearten all potential shoplifters."

City 'owes' banks \$1.75 billion in interest alone

Banks' extortion breaking NYC

By T. MITCHELL

NEW YORK, June 2—For want of credit from the big Wall Street banks, New York City Mayor Abraham Beame has announced layoffs totalling 51,097 city workers, a 15 percent reduction in staff, drastically cutting all city services:

+ Fire response time will double and inspection will be virtually nonexistent.

+ Garbage collection will be cut 10 percent, leaving an estimated 250,000 tons of refuse in the streets by September.

+ Several hospitals are being closed altogether and all will have their operations sharply cut back.

+ Public school kindergarten will be eliminated and average class sizes will be 55 students for each teacher. City University open admission programs will be denied funds.

+ Daycare centers and centers for the aged will be closed and cut back.

And the "horror list" goes on and on.

The huge police department payroll is also on the list for a trim in personnel, but most of this turns out to be merely not hiring extra police. And the "service" they provide when they're not on their behinds—protecting business property and harassing Black, Latin, Asian, and poor people—will scarcely be missed.

However, the overall impact of the massive firings of city workers will be nothing short of disaster for the 8 million city residents.

WILD EXTRAVAGANCE?

Beame announced the wholesale layoffs at the bidding of the "Big 7" Wall Street banks who have refused to advance the city \$641 million needed to balance the budget. But the city is in a chronic deficit because of the insatiable appetite of those same banks that gorge off the city treasury.

City debt service payments last year amounted to \$1,751 million, nearly three times the entire deficit, and it is estimated that the banks will collect another \$5.8 billion over the next 3 years.

New York State Governor Hugh Carey has appointed four rich men—a federal judge, an investment bank chairman, the chairman of Macy's, and the chief executive of Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. with tremendous real estate holdings in the city—to come up with a plan to rule the New York City treasury.

All the editorial writers and establishment spokesmen say the problem is that New York City has been "living beyond its means" and making "wildly extravagant" expenditures on social services. But it is obvious to the most casual observer that almost every section of the city is badly run down and dilapidated and that most people have but meager possessions while many are literally living and begging in the street.

Certainly the people of the city have not been enjoying any such wild extravagance. And while more than one million people are subsisting on welfare payments, the total city spending on all welfare and Medicaid subsidies last year was \$857 million, only half of what the banks raked into their vaults of usury.

It is the banks who have put the city into bankruptcy with wildly extravagant interest charges as the city debt has more than doubled in the past 6 years and these loan sharks have multiplied

their tax-free unearned income from the city treasury.

BANKERS RULE THE CITY

The big New York City banks—Chase, Citibank, Morgan, Manufacturers Hanover, Chemical, Bankers Trust, and the Irving—constitute an incredible concentration of wealth and power. These banks hold controlling blocks of shares in all the giant industrial corporations and bank directors sit on the board of every major corporation. At least half of the entire U.S. economy is under their direction.

In short, it's not only your money that works for these banks; most likely you work for them, too!

New York City, with a budget

even bigger than any single state government, cannot function without credit from the banks. But now it is all coming due, and the banks that are the city's main creditors are openly calling the shots. Mayor Beame is a complete captive puppet of their bidding.

If the financiers would allow it, Beame could easily raise \$500 million a year just by taxing each share sold on Wall Street merely 10 cents. The financiers, however, refuse to consider even the most minor sacrifices and instead demand disastrous city layoffs.

DECLARATION OF WAR

The banks have attacked. In the end, the workers will be fighting them in order to end all unemployment, but right now it is a fight

Ford's real role in Europe visit

Salesman for merchants of death

By MOLLY CHARBONEAU

NEW YORK, June 2—As President Ford, Henry Kissinger, and a bevy of U.S. officials were landing in Belgium last week for "talks" with NATO nations, the real reason for their European trip, as far as many billion-dollar U.S. corporations were concerned, was doing barrel rolls and maneuvers in the skies of Paris.

The U.S.-made F-16 lightweight fighter plane appeared at the Paris Air show, which began May 29, in an air display aimed at winning billions in sales to NATO nations.

THE BIGGEST SHOW IN TOWN

Designed to give imperialist rulers the best choice of airborne military hardware to wage wars with, the 1975 Paris Air Show featured a wide range of planes from France, Sweden, and the

U.S., all competing for sales to NATO countries.

At a time of shrinking world markets for U.S. imperialism, as well as for European capitalist countries, arms and military sales constitute the most lucrative means of returning a profit.

Untold billions found their way into U.S. corporate tills during the wars against Korea and Vietnam through arms and military equipment sales.

Now that the war-clouded eyes of U.S. and European imperialism are turned toward the oil of the Middle East, toward turning back the revolutionary process in Portugal, and, as always, toward the socialist countries, whose planned economies are flourishing, military sales to NATO nations are on the order of the day for giant U.S. and European corporations.

The monetary stakes at the Paris Air Show easily made it the biggest show in town for these war

to exist, to survive.

The banks are not just trying to break the city unions—they are trying to break the city itself. The budget cuts represent a reactionary rollback of all progressive programs won through past struggle, and if the city workers are laid off by strict seniority, almost half the layoffs will hit people of color.

The June 4 demonstration on Wall Street against Citibank by the city workers will only be the first move in the battle of the people of the city against the bankers' greed. There should be 100,000 pickets there to assault the edifice of a system that is destroying the lives of its people, and there will be that many before the struggle is over.

The banks are planning to make

an "object lesson" of New York City, and already a smear campaign has begun calling it "sin city" and "crime city" and asking if New York is really part of the U.S. But the number one location for crimes against the people is in the board rooms of the giant banks and corporations and the government offices that manage the social administration of their system.

The people of New York City and in other cities across the U.S. that are being hit with drastic cutbacks in city services will learn the lesson and know their enemy well. Then they will teach the bankers and bosses a lesson the hard way, once and for all removing them from control of our lives.

13 killed protesting mass arrests

Racist Rhodesia cops gun down Africans

NEW YORK, June 2—Racist Rhodesian police shot into a crowd of Africans in Salisbury yesterday, killing 13 people and wounding 28. In the aftermath of these blatant murders, the cops arrested 37 people.

A government official claimed that the "police dog handlers were

forced to open fire" on the 2,000 Africans in front of a building where the African National Council (ANC) was meeting "when it became obvious that they would be overwhelmed by a mob." This is a standard lie employed by the racist regime to justify its brutal repression of the country's op-

pressed Black African majority.

Part of the reason for this latest racial atrocity was the cop's anger at the demonstrators' chants of "Zimbabwe shall be free" (Zimbabwe is the African and correct name for "Rhodesia").

LIKE SHARPEVILLE MASSACRE

And certainly this mass killing, so reminiscent of the notorious Sharpeville slaughter where South African security forces mowed down over 60 peaceful protesters, was intended by "Rhodesia's" Ian Smith regime to intimidate the liberation movement and force the African National Council to agree to attend a constitutional conference on the terms that he dictates. The racists would like to wreck the meeting of the ANC through the massive use of police terror before the organization can present its demands for a transfer of power to the African majority on a one person one vote basis.

Zimbabwe has 255,000 whites out of a population of 5.8 million.

U.S. SUPPORTS RACISTS

It is also expected that the ANC will call for the immediate removal of the 4,000 South African Army troops sent to suppress the

guerrilla freedom fighters in Zimbabwe.

The demonstrators murdered yesterday had gathered to protest the mass arrest of over 600 people last weekend in the "African section" of Salisbury. These arrests, followed by the mass murders, clearly show that despite its pretensions of wanting a "dialogue" with the African majority, the Smith clique is as determined as ever to preserve minority rule through force and violence. Abel Muzorewa, the president of the Zimbabwe African National Council, called the killings "cold-blooded murder," adding that the people could never "be forced to negotiate by ultimatums, police dogs, or massacres."

Although the majority of people in Zimbabwe are very poor, the country itself is quite rich, particularly in minerals. The country's chrome mines are completely owned by the Union Carbide Company, a U.S. firm.

In March 1968, the United Nations imposed a trade embargo on Rhodesia because of its policy of white supremacy. The U.S. has supported the racists by ignoring the boycott.



Rhodesian police with guns and dogs attack 2,000 Blacks outside the building in Salisbury where the African National Council was meeting. Thirteen Blacks were murdered, 28 wounded.

2,000 demand freedom for Wilmington 10,

Joanne Little



Joanne Little in front of a Prisoners Solidarity Committee banner at Washington, D.C. march sponsored by the National Alliance Against Racism and Repression. WW photo: Gregory

By TOM GARDNER
WASHINGTON, D.C., May 31—Close to 2,000 people gathered here today in a demonstration called by the National Alliance Against Racism and Political Repression (NAARPR) to demand freedom for the Wilmington 10 and Joanne Little. The march, led by spirited Black youth from North Carolina, circled the Justice Department and then rallied at Lafayette Square across the street from the White House.

Participating in the march were NAARPR chapters from major cities, the Connecticut Coalition to Defend the Charlotte 3, the Winston-Salem Black Panther Party, Youth Against War & Fascism, and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party. Chants ranged from "Justice, justice" to "Free Joanne and the Wilmington 10, the people united are going to win" and "Jail Rocky, jail Ford, jail the rich, free the poor!"

Joanne Little, a young Black woman charged with the murder of a white North Carolina jailer who tried to rape her, spoke at the rally. She expressed support for the Wilmington 10 and all political prisoners, and asked people to attend her trial in Raleigh, N.C., beginning July 14.

Other speakers included Ben Chavis and Ann Shepard of the Wilmington 10, Angela Davis of the National Alliance, Larry Little of the Winston-Salem Black Panther Party, and Cleveland Robinson of

the Distributive Workers of America. A letter from Jim Grant of the Charlotte 3 was read.

Brother Robinson drew loud applause when he proclaimed, "We will not rest until racism and economic oppression has been eliminated from this glorious land. We will not rest till Sister Little, the Wilmington 10, and all political prisoners are set free and the real criminals, like Nixon, Rockefeller, and the FBI, are put behind bars where they belong."

The Facts Behind the Frame-Up

NORFOLK, Va., May 22—The Wilmington 10 are nine Black men and one white woman who face a total of 282 years in the North Carolina prison system because of their political beliefs and activities. Presently appealing convictions on frame-up charges of arson and conspiracy after racist attacks on the Black community of Wilmington, N.C., in 1971 were answered with self-defense tactics, they are all currently out of prison on a total \$400,000 bail.

The attacks by armed Ku Klux Klansmen and Wilmington police were the racists' response to massive protests led by Black students, who had just been "integrated" into the all-white schools after the Black school was closed. They were demanding an

(Continued on page 11)

Madrid visit aimed at crushing Iberian revolution

Ford embraces Franco fascism

By ANDY STAPP

NEW YORK, June 1—On May 30 Gerald Ford traveled to Madrid for a friendly visit with the only European head of state who still calls himself a fascist—Generalissimo Francisco Franco.

So universally hated is this butcher that, with but four exceptions over the last 36 years, no government has dared to provoke the anger of the world's people by entering into an alliance with the Franco regime. The four exceptions are pacts signed by Franco with Hitler, with Mussolini, with the now-defunct Portuguese Fascist government, and, starting in 1953, with the U.S.

Under these agreements, the Pentagon operates three airbases on Spanish soil at Moron, Zaragoza, and Torrejon, plus a huge naval installation at Rota. The overthrow of the Greek and Portuguese dictatorships in 1974 weakened the U.S. military position in those two NATO countries and greatly enhanced the role of these Spanish bases in the eyes of Wall Street.

This is Ford's second visit to Spain. In December 1973 Nixon sent him to Madrid for the funeral of Carrero Blanco, a sadistic monster whose cruel record as Franco's secret police boss earned him both the appellation of "the Himmler of Spain" and death from a bomb planted beneath his limousine by leftist Basque freedom fighters.

REGIME BUILT ON CORPSES

The pillars of Franco's repressive government (besides Ford who on Saturday characterized this old Nazi as a "friend and partner") are his huge army, the priesthood, and various banking and business interests. In the first 4 years after he assumed total power following his defeat of the Spanish Republic in the 1936-39 civil war, Franco had 480,000 liberals, socialists, and communists killed.

Typical of these drumhead executions was the shooting by firing squad of the prisoner Manuel Recasens Agusti for his refusal to kneel during a compulsory church mass at the prison in Castellon de la Plana.

Today the Spanish government continues to outlaw any expression of public ideas opposed to the principles of Franco's "National

Movement," all strikes, instigation of strikes, or even defending the right to strike, all criticism in any manner whatsoever of the conduct of the government, and the holding of political meetings not approved beforehand by the police.

Fascist regimentation has brought Spanish workers one of the lowest standards of living in Europe. The per capita income is \$719 per year!

Big U.S. firms like Chrysler, taking advantage of government-enforced starvation wages, have invested over \$2 billion in Spain. This super-exploitation of the Spanish working class has caused such bitterness among the people that, fearing Ford's visit would trigger anti-U.S. outbursts, Franco's cops raided workers' homes on the night of May 29 and made hundreds of arrests to remove possible "trouble makers" from the scene.

PORTUGAL ON AGENDA?

Neither government has made public what Ford and Franco discussed at their closely guarded meeting inside the Moncloa Palace, but certainly Portugal was high on the list. The Friday before he left Washington for the NATO conference in Brussels, Ford had openly expressed his alarm at what he termed "the communist element and its influence in Portugal."

Under the mutual assistance treaty concluded between Spain and Portugal in 1939 when they were both fascist states, either government has "the right" to intervene in the other country to prevent a revolt. Franco has never renounced this pact, a fact certainly not lost on Ford who is undoubtedly counting heavily on the Madrid regime to help crush any socialist revolution on the Iberian Peninsula.

Yesterday's wirephotos flashed around the world of Ford and Franco roaring down the Avenida De Jose Antonio in the dictator's Rolls-Royce brutally symbolize this insane determination of the U.S. ruling class to prop up every reactionary, corrupt, and anti-human regime left on the globe in a desperate attempt to slow the advance of world socialism.

Despite its surface appearance of stability, however, the Franco government is actually very weak. Leftist parties have continued to

function underground throughout the long night of fascist rule and in recent years their authority has grown enormously among the workers and poor peasants. Franco's rule has been like a lid screwed tight on a pressure cooker, holding down the discontent boiling underneath but ultimately only making far greater the inevitable social explosion that will come.

Same old racist Wallace finds new campaign loophole

By MAI WONG

NEW YORK, June 1—Election year 1976 is on the horizon, and once again, candidates from the two major capitalist parties are starting up their electioneering bandwagon in high-pitched attempts to try to drum up support and money. A third entry into the race is Alabama governor George Wallace, whose wounding during the 1972 Presidential election assured Nixon's victory.

Although paralyzed, Wallace survived to emerge once more as a candidate for President on a third party slate, receiving the backing of ultra-right wingers dissatisfied with the Republicans and Democrats.

Wallace's latest attempts at getting financial backing and support have been spearheaded by Richard A. Viguerie, himself an established right-winger. Viguerie, a one-time executive secretary of the ultra-right Young Americans for Freedom, has helped such causes and clients as the anti-desegregation forces and Senator Strom Thurmond. His latest project is to try to promote a political marriage between Ronald Reagan and George Wallace for the 1976 Presidential ticket.

LOOPHOLES IN CONTRIBUTIONS LAW

It was reported in the New York Times recently that from 1972 to the present, the Wallace campaign has been able to bring in \$3.2 million—more than the five Democratic candidates put together—largely through the maneuvering of Viguerie, who has

shrewdly made use of loopholes in the new campaign contributions law.

This law, in effect since January 1975, forbids loans to candidates in excess of \$1,000 from any source. However, it is not quite specific about "credit" from corporations.

Viguerie is president of the Viguerie Company, which specializes in fund-raising for conservative candidates. He has, through the corporation, been extending vast amounts of credit to Wallace by mailing out to large lists of people (incurring hundreds of thousands of dollars in mailing expenses) on a deferred payment basis. With this "mail now, pay later" plan, Viguerie is actually extending loans to Wallace amounting to more than \$200,000, which is clearly illegal. But by calling these loans "credit," he is able to slip them through. Past evidence has shown that the Viguerie Co. also "absorbs" any losses which are left over from the campaign. Is there any doubt that this is a contribution?

Another loophole in the new law is that the federal government is supposed to match, dollar for dollar, small private contributions. This means that candidates can take a loss on mailings but still come out ahead (e.g., spend \$2 million on mailings, get back \$1.5 million in contributions, get \$1.5 million from the government—and be \$1 million richer).

RIGHT-WING RALLIES TO WALLACE

The really significant thing about all this, however, is not so

much the loopholes in the campaign spending law—because we know it was designed that way. It is that Wallace, who at one time would not have been considered a viable contender for the presidency, is now precisely that. Within the last 5 years, he has gained the backing of a significant portion of the right-wing of the ruling class, which is prone to extreme views because of imperialism's defeats. Wallace stands for "law and order" (ruthless repression against poor and working peoples), segregation (racism), and a hard-line (reckless imperialist) foreign policy. Viguerie embodies that support which is trying to fuse together all the ultra-right elements into a third capitalist party—in actuality a neo-fascist force. But the majority of the ruling class still wants to retain the semblance of "democracy" and moderation and does not support Wallace at this time.

Of course, Wallace has little support among the working people as a whole. But he still must be fought and exposed at every opportunity.

Although he is the worst of the lot, none of the capitalist candidates represents the interests of workers. The government, supposedly of the people, by the people, and for the people is really of the rich, by the rich, and for the rich. As the crisis of capitalism deepens, it will become clearer that the only way forward is a struggle for a government and economy of the workers, by the workers, and for the workers.

Palestinians and Lebanese progressives unite

U.S.-backed rightists set back in Lebanon

By JOHN C. OTTO
NEW YORK, June 2—For the second time since early April, heavy fighting has broken out in the streets of Beirut, punctuated by machine gun and anti-tank fire. Palestinian guerrillas have set up barricades to protect their enclaves from the right-wing Falangist Party's armed detachments.

Since the initial attack by Falangists on a bus full of unarmed Palestinians on April 13, 300 people have died in Lebanon in the clashes. The government has fallen, and for the first time in 30 years a military government was briefly called into power by President Suleiman Franjeh.

High officers in the military are sympathetic to the right-wing Falangists, who in turn supported the military cabinet. The Palestinians and progressive Lebanese knew that the army could be turned upon them, much as the Hussein regime in Jordan turned upon the Palestinians in 1970.

Palestinian and Lebanese progressive organizations united to combat the common right-wing foe. With pressure against the military government mounting from Lebanon's workers and poor, President Franjeh on May 30 named a new civilian premier, Rashid Karami, to attempt to form a government. First reports said that calm had returned to Beirut and that the workers' strikes had ended, as Karami, a wealthy landholder and premier 8 times, had the confidence both of the Falangists and the Palestinians. By May 30, however, some street fighting had begun again.

ROOTS OF STRUGGLE

The Falangist Party, representing middle class and wealthy Lebanese, and the closest thing to a fascist party in the country, has long demanded the suppression of the Palestinian movement in Lebanon. It sees the Palestinian presence not only as a

provocation to the Israeli state, but also as a left-wing threat to its members' property and privileged position.

The battle within Lebanon has lined up somewhat along religious lines, with the population of 3 million divided between 60 percent Moslem and 40 percent Christian. This is a heritage of the French colonial period, during which the Christians held a somewhat favored position, and the French utilized religious differences to maintain their rule.

Currently, the poor peasants and workers and the completely im-

poverished Palestinians, who number 300,000, are mostly Moslem. The middle class and the merchants are mainly Christian. When the April fighting broke out, trade unions sympathetic to the Palestinians held general strikes in Tripoli and Sidon, two of the larger cities outside Beirut.

ROLE OF U.S. AND ISRAEL

On May 25, while the military cabinet was in charge in Lebanon, Israeli military units carried out their biggest assault against Lebanon in 3 years, directing the

attack mainly against the Palestinians.

The U.S. made its last direct military invasion of the Mideast in Lebanon in 1958 with 5,000 marines, and has always maintained contact with right-wing Lebanese through many business and government links. The Falangists were one group in Lebanon that called for U.S. military intervention in 1958. And it is well known that many of the U.S.-owned businesses in Lebanon are run by Falangist members.

As this paper said in an editorial last week, "There can be no doubt

that the hand of the U.S. imperialists guides the actions of both the Falange assassins and the Tel Aviv expansionists." In fact Ghanim, "the strong man" in the short-lived military cabinet, had recently served in the office of the military attache for Lebanon in Washington, D.C.

While the conflict is certainly not completely settled in Lebanon, there is no doubt that the first round has ended with a setback to the plans of the right-wing Falangists and their U.S. imperialist backers.

Growing U.S. role in Iran stirs resistance

By KEY MARTIN

NEW YORK, May 31—The Iranian people's struggle was brought to world attention last week when two U.S. Army colonels were killed by urban guerrillas in downtown Teheran, the capital. This act of resistance dramatized the fact that U.S. business and military interests run the Shah's government and army for their own benefit—to defend the vast economic interests of the oil monopolies and other huge corporations with investments in the area.

There are over 20,000 Americans in Iran, many of them "advisors" and their dependents. The two dead officers were part of the 200-member Military Advisory and Assistance Group (MAAG), a high-level military organization similar to the MAAG which the U.S. set up in Vietnam in the late fifties and early sixties and which marked the beginning of direct U.S. intervention there.

EXTENT OF PENTAGON CONTROL

While they are called "advisors," they are, in reality, part of the top policy-making and command structure of the Iranian military. The MAAG is but the tip of the iceberg of U.S. domination

and control of the country. There are also 800 members of the Technical Assistance Field Team, another group of military "advisors," as well as thousands of Americans technically called civilians but who, as in Vietnam after the Peace Treaty, are hired by "private" war corporations, dummy front corporations, the CIA, etc., in an attempt to hide the U.S. government's role. However, they play the same military and police role they would if they were in uniform.

This number is expected to rise to 50,000 in a few years and includes people such as Grumman Aerospace "advisors" who will equip the Iranian Air Force with the latest jet fighter-bombers.

Last week's guerrilla action was part of a growing resistance movement that has developed under the very difficult conditions of the Shah's fascist police state. In 1972 an American general was wounded and in 1973 an army colonel was killed. There have been several "security officials" executed, including the head of the SAVAK, the U.S.-organized state political police, who was killed in front of his house in broad daylight just two blocks from the Shah's

palace and across the street from the former Saigon Embassy.

The guerrillas at that time held a street meeting explaining their action and distributed leaflets in English and Persian before departing. There have been a growing number of skirmishes between militants and government forces and industrialists in factory and residential districts.

POLITICAL PRISONERS

There are tens of thousands of political prisoners in Iran and torture and executions are a regular part of the repressive apparatus of the SAVAK. The guerrilla movement in the cities is growing up on a wave of increasing dissent and protest against the repression and also against the terrible poverty and exploitation the police state enforces on the population in order to maintain a cheap labor force and attract foreign capital.

In April, nine revolutionaries were tortured and murdered by the government. They were serving 8- to 15-year sentences after being arrested for anti-Shah activities in early 1968 following the murder of an Olympic wrestling champion who was a popular opponent of the Shah. Earlier this year the SAVAK

had tortured them to force them to go on TV and denounce the guerrilla movement. They were murdered when they refused.

This event triggered widespread protests all over the world by Iranian students abroad and their supporters. One such demonstration against the Shah's visit to Washington, D.C., on May 15 brought out almost a thousand Iranians with masked faces to protect their identity from the police.

The recent large-scale and rapid capitalist and industrial development of Iran has also given rise to an embryonic workers' movement in which the urban guerrillas are seeking to base themselves. This most recent act of resistance, as well as many others recently, was carried out by the Organization of Iranian People's Fedayee Guerrillas, a Marxist group, and the Iranian People's Combatants Organization, an Islamic socialist organization.

The tightening grip of U.S. imperialism is being met with growing resistance throughout the Middle East. And its operatives can no longer move around with impunity as they go about their death-dealing work.

U.S. imperialism and the Korean 'question,' Part I

Korea 1945-50: the road to war

By ANDY STAPP
NEW YORK, June 2—For 30 years now, the Korean people, whose history as a nation goes back 2,500 years, have been separated from one another by a heavily guarded border that cuts like a knife through the center of their country, dividing north from south.

In the southern part of Korea, a fascist dictatorship, notorious throughout the world for its bloody repression of the poor farmers, workers, and progressive intellectuals, holds the political power. In the north the people have built a modern, industrial, socialist society with all its accompanying benefits of free medical care, a high level of education, good inexpensive housing, full employment, and national dignity.

How did this abnormal situation of a national split occur?

U.S. LANDING IN 1945

On September 8, 1945, a few days after the surrender of Japan, the U.S. Army landed in Korea, thus fulfilling the imperialist ambition first openly expressed almost 100

years before by U.S. Secretary of State William Seward, who said, "We are confronted with an era necessitating a liaison point or something like a colonial territory on the Asian Continent."

From the day of the landing of U.S. forces, the Pentagon brass made it clear to the Koreans that the U.S. soldiers had come as conquerors. In "Proclamation No. 1 to the people of Korea," General Douglas MacArthur, the commander-in-chief of all U.S. Army forces in the Pacific, instructed his Korean subjects that, "All powers of government over the territory of Korea south of 38 degrees north latitude and the people thereof will be for the present exercised under my authority. Persons will obey my orders and orders under my authority. Acts of resistance to the occupying forces will be punished severely. For all purposes during the military control, English will be the official language."

This arrogant proclamation was quickly followed by U.S. Military Government Ordinances Number 55 and 72, which stipulated that a

gathering of three or more Koreans would be considered "an illegal political activity."

SOCIALIST NORTH

In the northern part of Korea, the situation was entirely different. There, with the defeat of the Japanese Occupation Army at the hands of a combined force of Soviet troops and of Korean guerrillas led by Kim Il Sung, a democratic republic was established, land reform realized, women enfranchised, child labor abolished, factories nationalized, an 8-hour day declared, and control of the liberated territory was exercised by the Korean people themselves. All foreign troops were withdrawn.

In south Korea, however, the U.S. stayed on to prop up the puppet government, made up of big landlords, Japanese collaborators, and rich capitalists, they had put over the Korean people. In December 1945, MacArthur set up the Military English School and started building up a satellite army comprised of former Korean



A Korean youth about to be executed by U.S.-backed Syngman Rhee butchers.

members of the Japanese-trained police and Korean cadre who had served in the Japanese Manchukuo command. Over the next 3 years, thousands of people were systematically arrested and executed for opposing either the U.S. military government or its quisling followers among the Korean politicians and businessmen.

U.S.-CONTROLLED "ELECTION"

In 1948 the U.S. organized elections for a separate "South Korean Government," thereby taking a major step toward splitting Korea in half. The eyewitness description of James Roper, an American reporter who covered these "elections" for the

(Continued on page 10)

Crisis in the colony, Part I

Depression hits workers in Puerto Rico the hardest

By JULIO GHILOTTY
(The author just spent a month in Puerto Rico, visiting San Juan, Ponce, and Cabo Rojo, where he grew up.)

NEW YORK, June 2—One of the major aspects of the capitalist system today is that the conflict between classes is sharper and more easily discernible in those nations economically dominated by the imperialists. When the industrially advanced capitalist world is gripped by a widespread economic crisis, such as the one we're in now, those nations under the imperialist yoke are the first to feel the disruption of the existing social fabric as already sharp contradictions are stretched to the limit.

Puerto Rico, politically as well as economically under the yoke of U.S. imperialism, is experiencing to a much higher degree the same economic crisis as the U.S. Not being able to make independent trade pacts with other nations—just one of the many restrictions written into the "free associated state" constitution of 1952—only further aggravates the crisis in the colony. Essentially, the colonial government must wait for authorization from the U.S. Congress before passing any meaningful legislation to deal with the crisis.

CRISIS BURDEN OF WORKING CLASS

Inevitably, it is the workers who are burdened with the load of the

crisis as the capitalists try to keep profits rising in a shrinking market and even take back gains won through hard struggle by laying off workers.

In a letter addressed to Senator Edmund Muskie (D. Maine) asking for the inclusion of Puerto Rico in a bill asking federal aid for states hardest hit by the economic crisis, colonial governor Rafael Hernandez Colon said unemployment in Puerto Rico had reached 17 percent.

That figure is from the Labor Department and does not include workers who have given up looking for work, whose benefits have run out, new workers entering the job market now, housewives, or students.

In fact, the number of people considered workers by the Labor Department seems to be shrinking as layoffs increase. For example, the number of people considered to be in the "worker group" and counted in the statistics shrank by 10,000 during the month of April—a month which coincidentally showed a drop of 1/2 of 1 percent in the official unemployment rate.

In the southern half of the island, unemployment has reached 50 percent. Seventy-one percent of all island families are on the food stamp program. Sixty percent live on incomes lower than the U.S. poverty level. Yet, Puerto Rico is the fifth largest market of the U.S. and its cost of living is 20 percent higher.

CLASS BATTLE LINES DRAWN

More layoffs and cutbacks in services are planned by the colonial government in the coming months, especially in public utilities and education.

These provocations have sparked the resurgence of a militant, class-conscious labor movement. North American unions such as the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and AFL-CIO affiliates which play a reactionary role in Puerto Rico are

Union leader from Puerto Rico speaks in Buffalo

BUFFALO, May 22—Pedro Grant, Secretary-Treasurer of the Boilermaker's Union in Puerto Rico and Coordinator of the United Workers Movement (MOU) was in Buffalo yesterday and today as part of his U.S. tour to draw attention to the oppressive conditions workers are facing in Puerto Rico today.

His engagements here, sponsored by the local chapter of the Puerto Rican Solidarity Committee—a group of individuals and members of local progressive organizations, including Workers World Party—were highlighted when he addressed a crowd of about 100 on May 21 at a hall in the Puerto Rican community.

In addition to the showing of an informative slide show about the plans of U.S. big business to build a petrochemical superport in Puerto Rico, Pedro Grant spoke on the political history of the Puerto Rican trade union movement and the current struggles in which the MOU is involved.

In his prepared talk and in the



Pedro Grant. Photo: Claridad

Grant made clear the need for workers here in the U.S. to know about and support, within and outside the organized labor movement, our working class sisters and brothers struggling in Puerto Rico today.



Puerto Rico's colonial situation leads to the most heart-breaking poverty. Angel Gonzalez, above, worked 15 years for a brewery, now is dying of liver disease with no assistance but his neighbors' generosity. Photo: Claridad



A sign in Ponce reads: "Support the striking workers at the cement strike."

facing defeat after defeat from independent Puerto Rican-led unions. These unions have a relatively young leadership; they are militant and dedicated to the working class.

For the last 6 years, these independent unions have been gaining strength and the confidence of the workers. Now the struggle has intensified and the repression has kept step with the economic crisis. A report by the Civil Rights Commission on the investigation of charges of brutality made against the colonial police by individual citizens came to the conclusion that the police have "resorted with more frequency than ever before to the violation of the civil rights" of people with whom they deal.

The continuing crisis has thus sharply drawn the class battle lines in Puerto Rico—the capitalists' profits against the workers' livelihood. And the front lines of the class battle go through Ponce and the Telephone Authority.

STRIKES AND REPRESSION

The strike against the Ferre-owned Puerto Rican Cement Company by the Cement Industry Operators and Quarry Workers Union in Ponce and the Independent Telephone Workers Union (UIET) strike throughout the island against the Telephone Authority, headed by ex-Chief of Police Salvador Rodriguez Aponte, have become the testing ground for the class forces.

Both bosses have tried to make these strikes "examples" for the working class of what they are capable of doing to continue increasing profits.

The colonial police have been used to escort strikebreakers, harass the striking workers, and provoke violence. The police have remained passive while hired strikebreakers from the Security Associates firm fire at the cement workers' picket lines and physically attack them. A scab with a pistol was allowed on the picket line by police, where he threatened to kill Efrain Fernandez, president of the union.

Meanwhile, striking telephone workers are arrested for allegedly sabotaging telephone equipment; cement workers are arrested for allegedly planting bombs and destroying Puerto Rican Cement Company equipment. None of these cases has yet to be proven. Yet, both bosses use them for prime time propaganda in the media.

(Next: The Puerto Rican cement strike.)

CASA national organization

California

LOS ANGELES, May 23—Stepping up a campaign of harassment and intimidation against undocumented workers, the state has waged another attack on the Mexican community here.

On May 20 following an anti-deportation rally in front of Los Angeles' City Hall, a well-known anti-deportation activist and national organizer for CASA (General Brotherhood of Workers) was arrested by the FBI, accompanied by armed agents of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and the Los Angeles Police Department.

Raul Rodriguez was then taken to the Parker Center where he was interrogated about his political activities in the U.S. and as a student in Mexico. He was threatened with immediate deportation and held without bail. After being held and in-

Partial victory in Ma

Senecas

By BRAD KANE
BUFFALO, May 29—Marlene Cornfield Kennedy, a young Seneca Traditionalist mother will reappear in the Town of Brant courthouse on June 2 where it is expected that the State of New York will reduce felony charges against her of attempted murder and reckless endangerment. The Seneca Traditionalists see this as only a limited victory, since the state has no right to charge Marlene Kennedy or any Seneca Traditionalist with any crime, according to Indian treaty rights.

The charges stem from a confrontation on January 9 between Traditional Senecas on the Cattaraugus Reservation south of this city and Niagara Mohawk Power Co. officials who were escorted onto Indian land by New York State Police in clear violation of treaty rights.

UNPAID BILLS TEST QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY

The power company came to shut off the power to the homes of the Traditionals, who have refused to pay their utility bills in order to test their right to negotiate contracts with the company as a sovereign nation. After turning off the electricity to Marlene's home, 18 carloads of undercover State

OBREROS EN
A. DE CEMENTO
ES DEL PUEBLO



ment plant. This is the people's
Photo: Claridad

anizer seized

a steps up racist deportations

terrogated for two days, Rodriguez was brought before a kangaroo court of the INS, where only an INS investigator was allowed to testify and no cross examination was allowed.

The only evidence presented against Rodriguez was testimony by the INS that Rodriguez was being sought by Mexican officials. The INS tried to back up its claims by presenting a booking slip dated 1969, but Rodriguez has already served time for these charges and was released with amnesty by the Mexican government.

Even though the government was unable to meet its burden of proof for Rodriguez' arrest, the judge stated that Rodriguez was just one of 100,000 "illegal aliens" who should be put behind bars, and called for a deportation hearing May 29.

This action clearly demonstrates

Marlene Kennedy case

s press sovereignty rights

Police in hunting jackets surrounded her house trailer armed with high-power rifles. After repeated requests by Marlene for the men to identify themselves, she fired three warning shots in the air, which were greeted by a barrage of bullets from the police.

The Traditionals and their legal advisor, Meredith Quinn, have dug deep into the treaties signed by the U.S. government and Indian nations. The U.S. imposed an "elective" form of government on the Senecas on a trial basis way back in 1848. When the Seneca chiefs a few years later rejected this form of government, the U.S. ignored their wishes, saying their requests were not in writing.

Over 100 years later, on September 17, 1973, the Senecas issued a formal document stating they had rejected the elective form of government and were returning to the Traditional form of rule. This action removed all federal, state, and local jurisdiction over the reservation. Thus, the actions by the State Police and the charges placed against Marlene are clear violations of Seneca sovereignty.

As a result, Seneca Traditionals, helped by members and friends of Workers World Party, formed the Marlene Indian Defense Committee (MIDC) to organize the

Ten workers wounded, including union organizer

Boss shoots striking farmworkers

By JOANNE GAVIN
HIDALGO COUNTY, Texas, May 28—The Rio Grande Valley Organizing Committee has been organizing harvesters in the Rio Grande Valley in the far south of Texas, where the heat comes early and brings in the melon crop in May.

Monday was Memorial Day, and a holiday for many workers north of the border. But for the melon workers it was another work day—except for those who were trying to organize a union to get decent wages for the pickers of the juicy melons that so many other people were enjoying at holiday tables and picnics.

SOLIDARITY WITH MEXICAN WORKERS

The Renosa International Bridge links the county to Mexico and brings many migrant farm workers into the valley. The

number of the strikers, including workers from both sides of the Rio Grande River, had been growing, for many Mexican workers had joined the strike when they found out about it.

Monday morning about 1,600 workers had demonstrated at the bridge. Then some of the organizers and strikers went to get more workers out of the fields. Lacking transportation, they walked the mile-and-a-half or so to the 1,600-acre El Tejato Ranch, where they stood along a levee and talked to workers at the ends of the rows of melons.

Most of the workers responded to the strike appeal and began to walk off. One of the ranch's owners, a Mr. Moore, appeared on the scene and began to talk to the people. The organizers pointed out that they were within their rights and that the workers had a right to strike. There were city policemen on the

scene, though they had no real business out there in the county, and they made no attempt to interfere.

BOSS SHOTS 10 WORKERS!

Then Moore's partner, C.L. Miller, Jr., came out in a car, nearly running down some of the strikers. He jumped from the car and began spraying them with buckshot from an automatic shotgun. Ten of the strikers and one worker who had remained in the field were hit. The city policemen did not arrest Miller. In fact, told him he was within his rights in defending private property!

The wounded were taken to the hospital. Two of them are seriously injured: one man has an eye injury, the extent of which will not be determined for some time and one has a severe leg injury which could cause permanent damage.

For many hours Miller was not arrested, and went about boasting to news media and others that "You can tell who was the leader, 'cause I got him full in the face." He presumably referred to Jesus Luna of the organizing committee. The other wounded were all Mexican nationals who had just joined the strike.

Finally, after a campaign of telegrams and phone calls to the sheriff, and the swearing out of ten warrants by the farm workers, Miller was arrested—and promptly released on \$15,000 bond!

ANGRY MARCH

The next day, Tuesday, the El Tejano Ranch was almost empty of workers. Three thousand strikers and supporters gathered at the international bridge and held an angry march to the ranch. After the march, some people stayed on to organize the remaining workers to strike.

At this point, Sheriff Claudio Casteneda, who is up for reelection this year, decided to send a mediator to the ranch. Finally the sheriff himself arrived and decided it would be OK for four or five organizers to go onto the ranch property to talk to the workers, and, in fact, escorted them on himself! This was a real victory for the militancy of the workers.

But on Wednesday bosses Miller and Moore obtained an injunction prohibiting anyone connected with the Organizing Committee from setting foot on their property. Moore was seen on national television tonight boasting that "maybe there would be a little bloodshed" but his melons would be harvested. They were his

melons, he said, and none of them union people had anything to do with them.

The workers say that the same law that granted the injunction also provides that union elections be held within 20 days and that a neutral ground be provided for the organizers and workers to meet and for the holding of the election. They intend to see this part of the law implemented.

A real danger does exist that the Governor (who is under pressure from the agribusiness giants in the area and is himself one of the state's largest landowners) may send in the notorious strike-breaking, Mexican-and-Indian-killing Texas Rangers. Twenty-three state legislators, led by five Chicano and Black lawmakers, have introduced a resolution to keep the Rangers out. Several ranches have ties to conglomerates like Tenneco and to millionaire Orthall Brand, who has extensive holdings in trucking and food processing.

Heavy rains in the valley today destroyed a large part of the melon crop, much of which would have been picked if the growers had recognized the farm workers. The remaining crop has a very short lifespan. According to Domingo Gonzalez of the Rio Grande Valley Organizing Committee, at least half the melon crop will be lost thanks to the greed of the growers, who expect workers to pick the melons for starvation wages.

NEED HELP

The organizers are hindered from following the crop northward by lack of funds for transportation. (The few cars they have are often abandoned when they run out of gas.) And the strikers are hungry. Contributions are urgently needed and should be sent to the Rio Grande Valley Organizing Committee, Rural Route 1, Box 1498, Alamo, Texas 78516.

Support actions are planned in many cities this weekend. Many messages of solidarity have been received by the organizing committee. One from the Center for United Labor Action in Houston said in part, "If the bosses think they can scare us and stop the forward motion of our struggle, they have learned very little from our history. Episodes like this only teach us in the clearest possible way that we must organize, because only in union do we have any strength to resist the greed and inhumanity of the bosses."

Victory to the farm workers' struggle!



Farmworkers, striking for union recognition, rest during picketing of Texas melon farm. The boss shot and wounded 11 strikers and let his crop go to ruin rather than talk to the workers.

the state's use of federal and local officials and laws against the Mexican community. Rodriguez' arrest comes at a time when the INS in collusion with the LAPD has arrested more than 2,000 workers here in just one week—making a total of over 10,000 since January here in Los Angeles alone.

On May 16, at the Beltline Company of California, located in the Los Angeles garment district, the INS swooped in with 16 vans, 4 buses, and 50 armed agents and arrested over 500 workers, 70 percent of whom were women. This action was supervised and supported by the LAPD who came in patrol cars and helicopters. The same week, Zeno Table Company and Mazda Car plant were targets of the same gestapo tactics.

Mexicanos are being used as scapegoats for the economic crisis

which exists in the U.S. today. U.S. imperialism has forced the people of Mexico and other Latin American countries to migrate out of economic necessity to the U.S., where they are subjected to police brutality, low wages, high prices, unemployment, forced sterilizations, drug traffic, and mass deportations.

Workers, regardless of nationality, color, or legal status do not create economic crises. On the contrary, workers contribute to the economy of this country, creating all wealth through their labor.

CASA denounced the gestapo tactics of the FBI, INS and local authorities and answered it and will continue to wage a campaign against such actions and will continue to struggle for the transformation to a new society.

defense so necessary to free Marlene and force the government to recognize Seneca sovereignty.

Two weeks ago, the MIDC took the case to Washington, D.C. in order to pressure Congress to hear the case and formally recognize the Traditionals as a sovereign nation. This reporter was present when Meredith Quinn attempted to cut through the red tape which holds back the Indian from being heard on the question of sovereignty in Congress. At each step of the way, we were confronted by reluctant Federal officials, who could clearly see the ramifications this case could have on a national basis if the demand for sovereignty were formerly recognized.

If Marlene and the Senecas won, wouldn't every impoverished Indian reservation in the country file for sovereignty as well?

On Thursday, May 22, Marlene Kennedy, Meredith Quinn, and Philip Berrigan explained the issue at a public meeting in Washington. Meredith Quinn described how Indian people historically have been victims of a genocidal war waged by the U.S. He also explained how the Indians have been victimized by fraud and deception into giving up their land and their rights.

Philip Berrigan, one of the Harrisburg 7 who spent 39 months in prison for opposing the Indochina war, compared the struggle of the Vietnamese to that of the Senecas and expressed his solidarity with Marlene Kennedy.

Marlene Kennedy explained her life-and-death struggle with the powerful utility companies and the State Police, giving a moving account of how she defended her children and land. She also explained that the move to revert back to a Traditional form of government was the only way her family and her people could presently free themselves from the terror and exploitation of the U.S. and the giant corporations which reap millions of dollars each year off Indian land.

Marlene's supporters plan to have a large presence in court on June 2 when the defense will ask for a postponement. Marlene has pledged, as have her supporters, to continue the struggle until the U.S. government meets the demand for sovereignty and the Senecas can live in peace free from U.S. interference and exploitation. Funds are urgently needed to continue to wage this important battle in defense of Indian rights, and can be sent to MIDC, 730 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14202 (716-855-3055).

The Cambodian revolution

By SAM MARCY

NEW YORK, June 2—This June 25 will mark the 25th anniversary of the Korean war. When the outbreak occurred, it evoked a tidal wave of hysteria and chauvinism in the U.S. which took its toll of hundreds of thousands of liberals and progressives who overnight were engulfed in the stream of reaction and taken in tow by the Truman-Acheson Cold War strategy of anti-communism.

For the Socialist Workers Party (SWP), the U.S. aggression in Korea was to be another August 1914 in miniature. Like the Social Democracy under Kautsky, the SWP abandoned its hitherto revolutionary position on the national liberation movements and in defense of the workers' states. In its next issue, the SWP paper "Militant" characterized the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea and the Syngman Rhee regime as puppets of the larger powers. It thereby renounced revolutionary defense of the national liberation movement of Korea. It did this by taking a so-called "third camp" position of a "plague on both your houses," a position which Trotsky had vigorously condemned as "the position of the petty bourgeoisie" and a cover for imperialism. He did this in 1939 in a brilliant theoretical exposition against a right-wing group in the SWP which challenged Trotsky on the proletarian class character of the USSR.

The SWP subsequently reversed its position under pressure from some of the leading cadre of the party—who are no longer with them. However, the outlook which motivated the party's original position on Korea has remained to this day the legacy of the SWP. This outlook, a veiled anti-communist animus, runs like a red thread through all the fundamental positions of the SWP, whether it is their class characterization of the Chinese Revolution, the criticisms of the Vietnam peace treaty, or their defense of Solzhenitsyn, Sakharov, and their ilk under the guise of proletarian democracy.

It should be, therefore, no surprise that the SWP would fall afoul

"With the outbreak of the Korean war, the SWP abandoned its hitherto revolutionary position on the national liberation movements and in defense of the workers' states."

of the Cambodian Revolution, a remarkable development of truly historic proportions which not only defeated the Pentagon-Wall Street colossus, but has undertaken a radical reconstruction of society along democratic, socialist lines.

Their headline in the May 30, 1975, Militant on "The forced evacuation of Cambodia's cities" aptly sums up the SWP evaluation of the Cambodian Revolution, which, incidentally, is identical with that of the bourgeois view.

The adjective "forced" is a tricky, fraudulent one which we should, by this time, be fully acquainted with on the basis of such familiar phrases as "forced busing" and "forced integration," the stock in trade of the politician and the capitalist press. It is never "forced unemployment," "forced



The war begun by the invasion of U.S. troops in 1970 caused 1 3/4 million Cambodians to flee their village homes and flood into Phnom Penh. It was necessary for the Revolutionary Government to reorganize the city after liberation and to return the people to the countryside.

to be on welfare," "forced payroll taxes," "forced sales taxes." All this is "voluntary," supposedly, just as wage slavery itself is characterized as voluntary free labor.

SWP RELIES ON SCHANBERG ARTICLE

But to get back to Cambodia. The Militant dishes up the Sydney Schanberg article in the New York Times of May 9, quoting liberally from everything that is slanted, prejudiced, and false—without even including the few facts which he does report. His article is the sole basis for the SWP's evaluation of the events following the

revolutionary takeover in Cambodia.

"A once-thriving city (Phnom Penh) became an echo chamber of silent streets lined with abandoned cars and gaping empty shops. Streetlights burned eerily for a population that was no longer there."

The tone of this quote from Schanberg, repeated in the Militant, clearly harks back to the days when the bourgeois journalists shed crocodile tears about the "dying" cities of Shanghai and Canton, or in earlier days of St. Petersburg and Moscow—and, not so long ago, about the death of the "bustling and light-hearted city of Havana."

But leave it to the Militant to dwell on this and cry out against the exodus from the city and about

a "high cost in human suffering." "Why wasn't it" (the Militant means the "forced" evacuation) "explained to the populace? Why weren't they given more time? Why weren't they consulted and brought into the planning? Why were they handled like enemies?"

And earlier they bemoan, "Consider the class composition of the cities and towns. The very thin layer of capitalists, or would-be capitalists, left Cambodia before the collapse of Lon Nol. About 5,000 or 6,000 persons were involved. While a few individual traitors decided to remain and take their chances, they no longer constitute a serious danger. The fact is that the bulk of the city population in Cambodia consists of workers and artisans and their families."

This is a new slant for the SWP. In the case of China and Vietnam, the SWP violently attacked them for "class collaboration." But here they chide the Cambodians for presumably treating the workers as "enemies" (for which there is no evidence). And they reduce the Cambodian situation to a few individual traitors and "a very thin layer of capitalists," as though that was the issue, which was not at all what prompted the Cambodian leaders to carry out the evacuation. Bringing this in is strictly a red herring.

The city of Phnom Penh, until the flood of refugees from the fighting engulfed it in recent years, had 600,000 people. Even with that it was an overcrowded and congested city with little industry and commerce, geared mainly to imperialist needs and the comprador bourgeois class. Aside from all the other ills that befall such a city, it was basically an administrative center and by no means a proletarian citadel, as the Militant tries to convey.

That was before Nixon embarked upon his murderous invasion. In the space of a few years,

and particularly in the last 2 years, the city population (as Schanberg admits) swelled to over 2 million—about 3 1/2 times its original size! With less food! With destruction of municipal facilities! And with death and disease a daily occurrence and fires raging in and around the environs of the city.

How did it get that way?

"In its article dwelling on the 'forced' evacuation of Phnom Penh, the Militant puts an equal sign between the despotism of Asian feudalism and the struggle of the Cambodian workers and peasants of today."

The merciless saturation bombing and barbarous attacks by the U.S.-Lon Nol clique literally uprooted millions from the countryside and drove them into the cities, particularly Phnom Penh. Out of a population of 7 million Cambodians, 30 percent of them were in Phnom Penh at the time of the revolutionary takeover—without food. And the countryside, where food could be produced, was ravaged by the militarist marauders of the Pentagon.

EVACUATION NECESSARY

Does it take too much acumen to know, even without first-hand information, that an evacuation of some dimension would be absolutely necessary? It had to be done, for no other reason than to get the people back to their homes and commence the ordinary day-to-day work to make the country livable again.

Add to this that such a vital necessity as the water purification plant, to which Schanberg referred (even if the Militant didn't), was damaged. Moreover, a city so vastly congested, with more than

1 1/2 million from outside Phnom Penh, was an easy target for bombing. By no stretch of the imagination could the new revolutionary government take for granted that the war was over—witness what happened with the Mayaguez provocation! The city and port of Sihanoukville were severely damaged by the murderous and unprovoked bombings, causing, according to Cambodian officials, "very grave losses in human lives."

Remember that on the eve of the Christmas bombing, the cities of Hanoi and Haiphong had begun an evacuation.

Finally, it should be added that latest reports state that an orderly return is now in process. Also it should be noted that Ho Chi Minh City, where the surrender was more orderly, is also overcrowded with masses of people uprooted from the countryside and a more limited evacuation is taking place there as well.

But the crux of the SWP's imperialist apologetics live in its assertion that it was all so very "undemocratic," and that the people weren't "consulted" or "brought into the planning."

NATIONAL CONGRESS MET IN PHNOM PENH

Weren't they, really? How would the Militant scribes ever have known? Even if they had as much as carefully read the Schanberg report, they would have noticed what literally shines out like a beacon, that, from April 25 to April 27, the new Revolutionary Government convened a special National Congress with over 300 delegates right in Phnom Penh to consider precisely the multitude of questions arising out of the imminent revolutionary takeover. Unquestionably, the issue of whether to evacuate the cities was

not only discussed but planned on the basis of the concrete realities of the day. Is it not conceivable that it was explained to the cadres and from them to the people?

The allegation about the evacuation involving "high cost in human suffering" is nothing but a canard, lacking a scintilla of documentary evidence or credible witnesses.

What frightened the bourgeoisie here and its apologists was not the alleged high cost in human suffering of the evacuation, but the possibility that such a swift, innovative plan to reconstruct the devastated country in the spirit of democratic, socialist cooperation might once again, as was done in China, the Soviet Union, and other countries like Cuba, prove the superiority of socialist planned construction over capitalist, imperialist chaos.

Of course it is possible that the evacuation, in light of the military consideration of imminent U.S. attack, might have been hasty. But this is a purely organizational, military-technical decision and lends itself to correction most

-Cambodia & SWP

(Continued from page 8)

easily. Wholesale lies and exaggerations, without any real proof except one article by Schanberg, are calculated to overshadow the monumental fact of a new, victorious revolution where the leadership has embarked upon a socialist reconstruction course.

CONJURE UP STALINISM

What motivated the SWP's article was not, as they say, "concern over the program that is being followed," which they claim is "not a communist program." The writer let the cat out of the bag when he lined up the Cambodian Revolution as a "Chinese variant of Stalinist bureaucratism." The "forced evacuation" the Militant sets up is supposed to conjure up in the mind of the reader the truly forced collectivization of Stalin, which did so much to damage the cause of the Russian Revolution. The purpose of the Militant article is to smear the Cambodian Revolution and the Chinese Revolution as well by claiming they are using the same repressive, anti-working class maneuvers employed by Stalin during his tenure. But the historical situation in both those countries as well as the leaderships are altogether different.

Having assumed the evacuation in Cambodia was forced and repressive, the SWP then goes on to find an explanation for this in the pattern of the Cambodian Revolution where, they say, as in China, "the most massive force is composed of rebel peasants. Again, as in China, this force created an army in the countryside. The peasant army, in turn, created a command structure.

"Here we find," says the Militant, "the key element. In former times, the commanders led similar peasant armies against a corrupt, decaying regime. Toppling the old regime and carrying out a number of progressive measures, permitting a new expansion of agriculture, the army command would mark the beginning of a new dynasty.

"This ancient Asian pattern helped shape the revolutionary process that brought Mao to power. In modern times, of course, the command structure of a peasant army created in this way is subject to international influences that block the old pattern from being merely repeated."

THE RUSE OF ORIENTAL DESPOTISM

And so we have it at last. Good old Oriental despotism has, according to the SWP, been reborn in modern times as a Chinese (and Cambodian) "variant of Stalinist bureaucratism."

What a sly way of trying to discredit the socialist character of the Chinese and Cambodian revolutions! The SWP thinks that by wrapping its offering in the pages of the New York Times, it can dish out the malodorous theories of Karl Wittfogel, a long-time renegade from communism who first tried to foist the label of "Oriental despotism" on the Russian, and then the Chinese, revolutions. The unfortunate reader who partakes of this heady dish is supposed to put an equal sign between the despotism of Asian feudalism and the struggle of the workers and peasants of today.

The SWP pretends to speak in the name of Trotsky, yet this is a garbled, distorted, and completely falsified version of what Trotsky wrote about ancient China, as well

as his views of the Chinese Revolution of 1925-27. Trotsky explained that in ancient feudal times, successive peasant rebellions installed new peasant regimes. But because of the feudal structure of society and the fact that there was no revolutionary working class as there is in the contemporary world, the rebellions were fated to become new dynasties. There was no revolutionary class capable of reconstructing society on a new, higher level.

How different from today, when the proletariat not only exists worldwide but has liberated 35 percent of the world's people from capitalist rule!

PERMANENT REVOLUTION

The revolutionary overturn in Cambodia is not the result, as the writer of the Militant article claims, of "peasant armies" repeating the "ancient Asian pattern." Rather it is a confirmation, as he should know well, of Trotsky's thesis on permanent revolution, which explained how in the epoch of imperialism the bourgeoisies in the oppressed countries are incapable of carrying out the democratic tasks of earlier bourgeois revolutions. Nor can the peasantry alone transform society, as we have said.

Only the proletariat, in alliance with the peasantry, can smash the reactionary rule of the imperialists and their comprador capitalist agents and thoroughly carry through the democratic reforms while at the same time beginning the reorganization of production on a socialist basis.

What we have just seen in Cambodia, to repeat, was not "peasant armies" trapped in an "ancient Asian pattern," but peasants and workers in a national liberation struggle to smash the vestiges of feudalism, the comprador capitalists, and the imperialists.

THE REAL DESPOTS

Of course, all the Asian revolutionary leaders, from Mao, to Ho Chi Minh, to Kim Il Sung, to the Cambodian Khmer Rouge, must of necessity base themselves on the concrete socio-economic and historical conditions of their countries, no less than we must do here. But they are not the inheritors of the "ancient Asian patterns"! No, the heritage of Oriental despotism leads directly to the Chiang Kai-sheks, the Lon Nols, and the General Thieus!

Whatever the exigencies and the vicissitudes of the Cambodian Revolution, and there unquestionably will be many—no real social revolution is immune from errors and false turns—one thing is certain. The new revolutionary regime has brought about a tremendous historic victory. It seems to us, especially in the light of the Mayaguez provocation and the paucity of information which has reached us here in the few short weeks since the revolutionary takeover, that the least we in this country can do is show "a decent respect to the opinions" of that portion of humanity which is embattled Cambodia and its revolutionary leadership.

The Khmer Rouge official who extended "thanks and gratitude to the American people for their contribution to the struggle to free Cambodia from imperialist tutelage" shows that these leaders have more revolutionary internationalism in their fingernails than exists in the entire leadership of the SWP.



As Lisbon military govt. suppresses MRPP

U.S., NATO plot against Portugal

By P. MEISNER

NEW YORK, June 1—The forces of international as well as domestic reaction are bearing down heavily against the revolutionary ferment of Portugal's working class. In fact, the most recent meetings of NATO and the European Common Market were largely preoccupied with the Portugal "problem."

Of course, the bulwark of Western capitalist reaction is U.S. imperialism. And no sooner did Ford arrive in Brussels for the NATO conference than he made a statement virtually demanding that Portugal be thrown out of NATO—unless the "swing towards communism" was reversed.

When asked by the press if the CIA had intervened in the recent elections in Portugal, Ford ducked the question and hypocritically stated that he "welcomed" the results (which gave the Socialist Party 38 percent of the vote, while the Communist Party got 13 percent). But in the long years of fascist rule in Portugal, when did the U.S. ever support socialists there?

The threat of a U.S.-NATO intervention in Portugal became more ominous when Ford visited fascist Spain's Franco and asked NATO to consider Spain as a new member of that organization. Ford claimed that Spain would be a more "reliable" ally than "communist-leaning" Portugal. However, the rest of NATO's

members could not support Ford's maneuver, since Europe's masses would never accept their governments' rubber-stamping of Franco's fascism.

Meanwhile, at the Common Market meeting in Dublin, Ireland, the West German government pushed for a policy that would tie special economic aid to Portugal to the maintenance of "democracy" (translated: capitalism). In an editorial published on May 29, the New York Times, the "liberal" mouthpiece for U.S. imperialism, cheered the West German imperialists on: "The Common Market has offered substantial aid to Portugal on condition that movement toward democracy resumes."

ECONOMIC BOYCOTT CHARGED

The NATO and Common Market threats were all too clear even to the military leaders of Portugal's government. Premier Vasco dos Santos Goncalves charged that Western countries were preparing an economic boycott of Portugal. The Minister of Planning and Economic Coordination, Mario Murteira, also warned of an economic blockade around Portugal. Portugal is presently suffering from an economic crisis which includes a high rate of inflation, increasing unemployment, and a rapid loss in foreign exchange, now running at \$100

million a month. Resistance from Portuguese capitalists and foreign imperialist monopolies has already put a stranglehold on the post-fascist Portuguese economy.

The pendulum of bourgeois reaction also plagues the military rulers, who seem to swing between the Socialist Party and the Communist Party. But in reality, this pendulum reflects a split between those who back capitalism and those who back genuine socialism. How else could Premier Goncalves' statement, at the NATO conference be interpreted: "Portugal was a loyal European state and intends to remain a loyal NATO member."

REPRESSION OF MRPP

The military rulers, with the backing of the Communist Party, also aided bourgeois reaction by raiding the headquarters of the Maoist MRPP, arresting dozens of its members and confiscating documents and leaflets. This repressive action completed the banning of the MRPP and was largely designed to stop the MRPP's protest of Portugal's participation in NATO.

While the revisionist Communist Party leadership believes this action will put an end to the MRPP's "ultra-leftism" and consolidate its factional ties with the military, the truth is that regardless of the wisdom of the MRPP's policies, only the most reactionary elements both inside and outside the Armed Forces Movement can gain from this repressive act, which could in the near future be applied against the CP itself. Moreover, the most class-conscious workers, and even those most loyal to the CP, will find it hard to identify with a pro-NATO collaborationist policy.

Total dependence on the Portuguese military (as we remember all too well in Chile) can be suicidal for any party that claims to represent the Portuguese working class. No vanguard party could ever support a pro-NATO government policy nor a policy of repression against other left-wing parties, regardless of their ideological failings.

Buffalo gay visibility

BUFFALO, May 30—"Three Weeks of Gay Visibility" are planned in Buffalo this year and will extend from May 28 to June 15. The period will include as planned activities a play presentation about the oppression of gay people, various workshops, dances, and games.

A guest speaker from New York City Youth Against War & Fascism

will present her experiences as a transsexual at one workshop. The YAWF Gay Caucus is also sponsoring a workshop on the history of gay oppression. For more information contact the Gay Community Services Center, 1350 Main Street, Buffalo, New York (716 881-5335) or the YAWF Gay Caucus, 730 Main Street, Buffalo (716 855-3055).

U.S. 'art loving' ruling class steals ancient works from Vietnamese

By V. COPELAND
NEW YORK, June 3—A few months ago the front pages of U.S. newspapers showed a Soviet bulldozer running over the paintings of several individuals at an outdoor art exhibition near Moscow. This was an insensitive, but hardly murderous, treatment of people who had obviously become friends of the capitalist West.

Among most educated and literate people, the question of art is always an important one. So in spite of the obvious overplaying of the above news (U.S. tanks riding over human beings in Vietnam and Cambodia seldom got such front-page news), there was a more or less genuine hue and cry about it— from some quarters.

Art, however, is a class issue, just like almost everything else in

class society.

And so, the news of the theft of a whole shipload of the historic art treasures of Vietnam did not hit the front pages of the U.S. newspapers, although it was duly reported—in much smaller headlines—by some of them.

According to an Associated Press dispatch of May 27, part of this shipload carried art objects wrapped in newspapers dated 1967 and 1968, when the National Museum at Hue was robbed, probably by Saigon troops.

LOOT, NOT "REFUGEES"

The news agency of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam said that a ship carrying "refugees" to Guam on May 15 had a cargo that was "looted from the National Archives in Saigon and the Imperial Palace at Hue" and demanded that the U.S. return it.

With all the appreciation of Indochinese art (remember the outcry about the Temples of Ankor?), there is not likely to be a movement of U.S. art lovers to restore these art treasures to the nation that owns them. There are no cries of wounded artistic sensibilities arising from the art



centers of the United States.

On the other hand, middle-class art lovers are not to be blamed for this as much as the ruling class art owners and art appropriators (i.e., thieves). The latter manipulate art critics as they manipulate artists—in the interest of their class and to the detriment of the working class.

The ancient art works of Vietnam were on the whole meant to glorify ancient ruling classes, of course. But they are also a product of the ages. They represent the best talent of many generations of Vietnamese and in that sense they are a national possession like language and land.

They are the self-expression, not of a few individuals, but of a whole nation. It is thus a hundred times more important—from a purely artistic point of view—to defend the right of the Vietnamese people

to enjoy these art works than it is to defend the right of Soviet artists to imitate U.S. artists, assuming that that were even desirable.

-Korea

(Continued from page 5)

United Press International, gives the flavor of imperialist "democracy" in action.

"American reconnaissance planes," wrote correspondent Roper, "flew overhead and the polling stations were strictly guarded by members of the 'Hyangbodan' (a para-military right-wing terrorist organization with 50,000 members—A.S.) carrying baseball bats. In Seoul thousands of policemen and specially appointed civilians, with the backing of U.S. troops, set up barricades at major points and intersections and constabularies were posted at each entrance of back alleys. Civilian guards carried axe handles, baseball bats and clubs, and the Korean police were armed with U.S. carbines. The atmosphere resembled that of a city under martial law."

Despite this reign of terror, only 31 members of the first "national assembly" controlled by puppet dictator Syngman Rhee were returned to office and according to a 1950 report of the United Nations Commission then in Korea, the two leading pro-U.S. parties suffered "a heavy defeat, losing 70 percent of their strength in the Assembly. Out of 210 members, 133 were elected as independents."

Despite his stinging rebuff at the polls in an election he himself had fixed, Syngman Rhee held on to the presidency, propped up by American bayonets. As the U.S. "dean of journalists," Walter Lippman, would say later, the elections were not the source of Rhee's power anyway. "The Republic of Korea," wrote Lippman, "was rigged up by the armed forces of the United States and owes its strength to the United States."

The outbreak of war on the Korean peninsula in 1950 would show just how true Lippman's words were.

(Next: The Korean War.)



At the movies:

Antonioni trudges leftward

By B. LAPIDES

The Passenger, Michelangelo Antonioni's latest film, has, in its first scene, the makings of a strong story. It opens with terrific visual excitement, drawing upon the startling physical beauty of the African desert and upon the drama of a lone man in an endlessly open space, the single constant (not counting the sand itself) in a continually shifting perspective.

A slouching, self-indulgent TV reporter, Jack Nicholson is somewhere in the Sahara, trying to make contact with revolutionary guerrillas. He fails, but the film establishes that they are there. His jeep runs into sand, and, stranded far from help, he begins trudging through the blazing heat. We have the sense here that Antonioni has at last made his long preoccupation with desert imagery—the arid sterility of the Italian upper classes (L'Avventura and La Notte), the Red Desert of industrial capitalism, the Death Valley of contemporary America (Zabriskie Point)—serve a more radical vision. We will be only half-wrong.

The title may refer to Maria Schneider, the nameless architecture student, a would-be

builder, who comes along on Nicholson's ride, persuading him to make a commitment, to follow through on the choice he's made, even if made accidentally. More likely, it refers to him, in that having changed passports and passport photos back in the Sahara with an Englishman dead in the room next to his, a man who turns out to have been a gun-runner for the guerrillas—in changing identities, Nicholson becomes a passenger, an easy rider, on the life of someone genuinely committed to an important and difficult cause. But on a deeper level, the Passenger is Antonioni himself.

Nicholson is a disguised stand-in for the director without a cause. This character, unlike Antonioni, is an establishment hack. (Because Nicholson refused to challenge his remarks, a filmed interview with the president of the country in question amounted to a public relations handout.) He is crass. (During another filmed interview, a witch doctor-turned-revolutionary rebukes Nicholson for the ignorance and implied insults of his questions.) Above all, the boring, pedestrian videotapes Nicholson produces are opposite in

style from Antonioni's films. (We are shown Nicholson directing his cameraman.) But, like Antonioni, the character has achieved some reputation and with it some power—and yet is committed to little beyond himself.

It's almost ten years since Antonioni began this discussion, with the photographer in Blow-Up who, lacking all moral perspective, was unable to respond to the world except visually, as a spectator through his camera. It's a sign of the director's development, of course, that his moral reference point has changed. In Blow-Up it was a never-explained murder, unwittingly photographed by the amoral hero. In The Passenger it is revolutionary politics. And if Nicholson fails to respond appropriately to what he has seen all too knowingly as a reporter, the film—that is, Antonioni—is clearly sympathetic to the guerrillas.

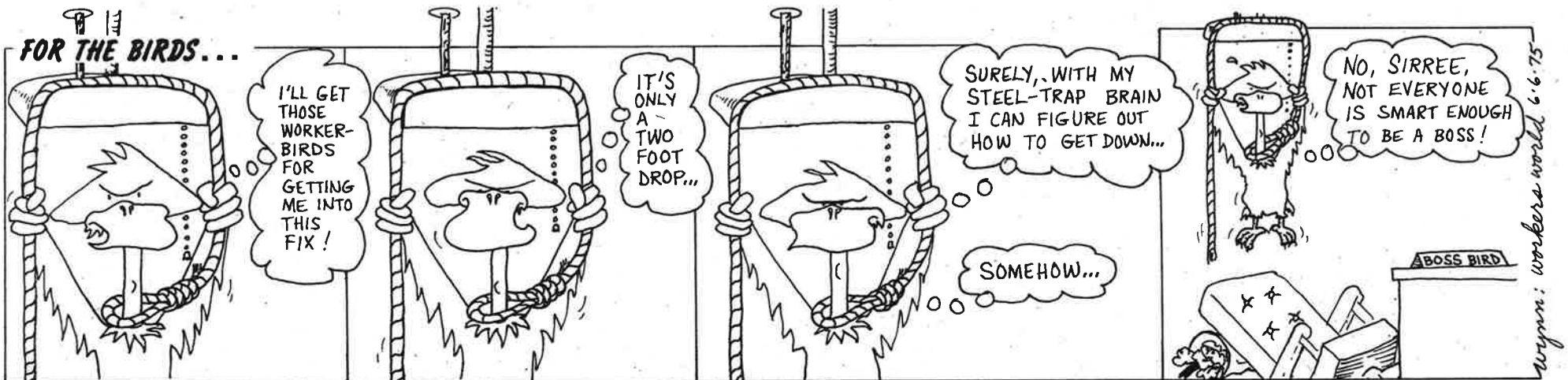
And if consciousness grows, can conscience lag behind? Well, in Antonioni's case, the unfortunate answer is yes, and this gap between knowledge and action is both the crux of the film and its weakness.

At the heart of any movie is its conflict, expressed as a struggle

between characters, a contrast between images, a tension between actions, moods, perspectives, subordinate themes. Although what we focus on, the plot, the story line, is just the skeleton on which the conflict in all its guises is draped, it is usually through the action that the conflict is developed and, maybe, resolved.

In this film, however, the skeleton almost completely dissolves—leaving the audience largely frustrated by the brilliant cinematography. Movements, spatial relations, images allude to one another. The ending is a chilling variation on the beginning. The busy interior of a German baroque church and the smooth flamboyance of certain Barcelona buildings offer suggestive contrasts. Coincidences reverberate. But there is no development.

The film's visual beauty alone makes it worth seeing, but as a vehicle for getting Nicholson from choice to serious commitment, for getting Antonioni from occasional recognition to purposeful action, for getting the audience from there to here, it's like that jeep in the first scene, its wheels still spinning in the desert, going nowhere—the heat getting worse, and the beauty of it all beside the point.



POLITICAL PRISONERS



ATTICA FRAME-UP COMING APART

By BRAD KANE

BUFFALO, May 29—The trial of Attica Brother Shango Bahiti Kakawana (aka Bernard Stroble) began on May 20 after Judge Joseph Mattina denied a motion to dismiss the charges that argued prosecutorial misconduct. Shango has been charged in three indictments with the kidnaping and murder of two inmates, Kenneth Hess and Barry Schwartz, during the 1971 Attica rebellion.

The defense had argued that the prosecution illegally failed to present to the grand jury information from witnesses which would have cleared Shango.

The defense proceeded to name four witnesses whose statements could have cleared Shango. These names had been turned over to the court by the prosecution but were withheld from the grand jury. Despite this gross miscarriage of justice at the hands of the state, the trial was ordered to begin.

STATE'S CASE EXPOSED

The defense stated in its opening remarks that the prosecution falsely accused Shango of crimes because of his role in the rebellion. It also cited the state-

ments of several witnesses who had seen inmate Tommy Hicks kill Schwartz. (Hicks was killed in the assault on the prisoners by state troopers.)

The defense contended that, in order to sustain the false charges, the prosecution manipulated witnesses by offers of early parole and that through threats and acts of physical and psychological abuse it coerced inmates into testifying. This type of activity was exposed earlier in the case when "Flip" Crowley testified in court that he had given false testimony to state investigators after continuous torture by state officials. Crowley said at the time that he would have implicated his own mother to stop the tortures.

KEY WITNESS IDENTIFIES WRONG MAN

Although a number of prosecution witnesses have taken the stand, not one has yet identified Shango and most have given testimony irrelevant to the case. Even Judge Mattina chastised the prosecution for introducing extraneous material which might confuse the jury.

When the prosecution presented key witness George Kirk, a former inmate, with a photograph

which Kirk was ordered to identify, he responded that the man in the picture was Shango. The photograph, in fact, was that of Eric "Jomo" Thompson, another indicted Attica Brother. Kirk's sole purpose in testifying had been to identify Shango, and his inability to do so left the prosecution stunned.

DEATH OF ELDERLY WOMAN

In a related development, an elderly woman died here as a result of burns she received in a fire that gutted the former home of Mary Jo Cook, an ex-FBI informant who testified about illegal FBI surveillance of the Attica defense. The arson occurred the day before Cook's testimony, and it is believed that it was set by person(s) connected with the state in an attempt to intimidate her.

As more crimes by the state are unraveled, increasing elements of the population are becoming opposed to the state's handling of the Attica cases. Even the bourgeois Courier-Express, one of Buffalo's two major newspapers, is currently running a series of articles on the cover-up of crimes committed by state officials in putting down the rebellion.

—WILMINGTON 10, JOANNE LITTLE

(Continued from page 4)

end to racial discrimination in discipline and the hiring and firing of teachers and staff, and the right to organize a Black Student Union.

After several protest marches of over 1,000 Black students and adult supporters were staged at the Gregory Congregational United Church of Christ in the Black community, Klansmen began to pour into Wilmington from the surrounding Klan-infested eastern North Carolina counties. Wilmington police either stood by or joined in as the racists began to shoot at Black youths and harass and threaten the meetings at the church.

THE WILMINGTON SIEGE

Finally, in February 1971, people attending the church rallies were forced to erect barricades around the church and organize for their self-defense. The Wilmington police, working hand-in-hand with the Klan, laid siege to the church, firing on the people inside for 4 days.

The burning down of a white-owned grocery store near the church was used to trump up an arson charge against the Wilmington 10 a year later. The conspiracy charge alleges that the 10 conspired to attack the cops and firemen on the scene.

The same night the store burned, Steve Mitchell, a 17-year-old Black student leader, left the church. He was ambushed and shot down by Wilmington police, who then dragged him 20 yards to a police car. Nobody was charged with his murder.

The following day, a white man who drove his truck into the barricades in an armed assault on the church was shot and killed in the heavy crossfire from the racist vigilantes surrounding the church.

While Steve Mitchell's murder drew no official concern, the death of Harvey Cumber, the white

truckdriver, was used as a pretext for a National Guard assault on the church. Fortunately, the students evacuated the church before the attack. A judge later commented from the bench, "Maybe we should have brought in Lt. Calley to clean the place up."

RACIST TERROR

A reign of terror continued against the Black community of Wilmington. Leroy Gibson, an ex-Marine-lifer, proclaimed that his organization, the Rights of White People (ROWP), would shoot down Black people in the streets "like rabbits." The Wilmington Journal, one of the nation's oldest Black-owned newspapers, was bombed after it editorialized against the racist repression in Wilmington. The bombing was identical to the bombing of a progressive GI bookstore in Jacksonville, N.C., attributed to Gibson and ROWP.

COMMUNITY FIGHTS BACK

The Black community of Wilmington organized political and armed self-defense. As their armed self-defense began to lessen the terrorist attacks by ROWP and the Klan, their political defense began to put an embarrassing spotlight on Wilmington. A constant state of war not being good for business, Wilmington's city fathers shifted their attacks to the courts.

In September 1972, a Pender County jury of 10 whites and 2 Blacks convicted all 10 defendants on both the arson and conspiracy charges, even though no evidence was presented connecting any of them with the burning of the grocery store. Rev. Ben Chavis was sentenced to 34 years; Marvin Patrick, Connie Tindell, and Jerry Jacobs got 31 years each; James McCoy, Reginald Epps, Wayne Moore, Joe Wright, and William Earl Vereen all got 29 years; and

Ann Shepard was sentenced to 10 years.

WATERGATE VICTIMS

It has been learned recently by the defense that the frame-up of the Wilmington 10, particularly that of Ben Chavis who has faced 30 arrests in the last 14 years of organizing work in North Carolina, was inspired at the national level by Nixon's fellow Watergate crooks.

Three months before the Wilmington 10 were indicted, the North Carolina Attorney General received memos from Robert Mardian, one of Nixon's gestapo chiefs, suggesting that they and other activists in the state be framed up. Mardian headed the Internal Security section of the Justice Department and, in cahoots with the FBI, he orchestrated a national campaign to systematically frame up militants, particularly in the Black liberation struggle, and either imprison them, run them out of the country, or assassinate them.

It has also been learned that the only two "witnesses" against the Wilmington 10 were paid government agent-provocateurs. The same two were used in the frame-up of the Charlotte 3 who were sentenced to 29 years in 1972 for supposedly burning a stable in 1968.

The appeal of the Wilmington 10's conviction was turned down recently by the North Carolina Supreme Court in a formal one-page denial. The court, said to have two avowed Klansmen on it, responded "appeal denied," without addressing any of the issues raised by defense attorneys.

The frame-up of the Wilmington 10 is an attack on the entire movement against oppression. It must be fought and stopped. Free the Wilmington 10 and all political prisoners!

Get in the struggle with
Youth Against War & Fascism
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Farm workers in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas continue their organizing despite the shooting of 10 strikers. Page 7.

Buffalo 'no' vote follows petition drive

ACWA ranks nix wage cut plan



Garment workers have traditionally been low-paid. Now they are being told they must give up a raise won a year ago. Photo: LNS

Workers win stronger vinyl chloride standards

Job safety is a right

By JOAN MARQUARDT
BUFFALO, May 27—The U.S. Supreme Court today declined to review new standards limiting the use of liver cancer-causing vinyl chloride, thus letting stand a decision of the U.S. Circuit Court of New York upholding the standards of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) which went into effect April 1.

Before April, a temporary OSHA standard had allowed 50 parts of vinyl chloride per million parts of air. The new standard allows only 1 part per million.

NO SAFE LEVEL

Many cancer scientists question whether any exposure to vinyl chloride can be "safe." At a conference on occupationally related cancer sponsored by the N.Y. Academy of Science in late March of this year, Dr. Irving Selikoff of the Mount Sinai Laboratory questioned whether exposure to asbestos, vinyl chloride, and other cancer-causing substances means a "worker's fate is sealed." He cited examples which clearly showed that early detection of industrially caused cancer did not prevent the death of many workers once the exposure occurred—regardless of how early the cancer was detected. Some 6,500 workers are exposed daily to vinyl chloride alone.

KNOWN DEATHS

In Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3 workers have died from liver

cancer after working in the vinyl chloride-producing Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. for 28 years. Across the country, 11 manufacturing plant workers and 2 fabrication plant workers have died from vinyl chloride exposure.

It was interesting to note that the very day the Wall Street Journal printed the Supreme Court decision, an accompanying article entitled "Goodrich Drops Plan to End Some Output of Polyvinyl Chloride" announced the development of a new material for plastic food and beverage bottles which "doesn't transmit detectable levels of vinyl chloride in food or drink packaged in containers made from the compounds." The implication is that the plastic bottles previously produced by them did transmit detectable levels of vinyl chloride!

NO PROTECTION WITHOUT A FIGHT

The workers and their unions are responsible for the stronger standards ruled on today in Washington. And it went all the way to the Supreme Court only because the profit-hungry companies—Union Carbide Corp., Firestone Plastics Co. (a division of Firestone Tire & Rubber Co.), and the Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc.—challenged every court decision on the matter.

Workers are currently protected from very little—on the job or in the community—due to lack of laws. Companies can use virtually

any substance in the production process until it is actually proven to be harmful—with several deaths as "evidence." When a standard is finally set, workers and their unions then have to fight to have the protective law enforced.

INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM

To avoid the safety standards on the use of vinyl chloride in the U.S., companies are expanding operations abroad. Companies like Dow Chemical and B.F. Goodrich, which together produce over one-third of the total U.S. output of vinyl chloride, are currently investing \$212 million in polyvinyl chloride operations in New Zealand and south Korea. Other companies are expanding their operations into Chile, Brazil, India, Iran, Pakistan, Puerto Rico, New Zealand, south Korea, the Philippines, Venezuela, Taiwan, and Australia.

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled on the vinyl chloride safety limit—but how about the plastic bottles in our homes? When will we know whether or not they are exposing us to cancer-causing agents?

Only the efforts of working people—those whose lives are spent laboring for profit-hungry corporations—demanding safety on the job will bring any real protection. And vinyl chloride-caused cancer of the liver will be but a very bad memory when workers unite and demand what is rightfully ours.

By E.B. HARRISON

BUFFALO, May 22—There's long wait between a strike for higher wages and that first paycheck where you actually see the increase in your wages. Usually, because of the constant rise of the cost of living, the money's spent before you ever see it, but then, every little bit counts.

But what do you do if the company says it "can't afford to pay you the increase," and you can't afford to live without it?

This is the question now facing over 100,000 members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America (ACWA), a union made up of 85 percent women and a large majority of Third World workers, after their 10-day strike last June.

BOSSSES' ROBBERY SCHEME

The Clothing Manufacturers Association, representing management of the clothing firms, has been demanding that the ACWA workers forego a 31.5-cent increase won during last year's strike and scheduled to go into effect June 2.

The CMA says it wants to use the workers' money for a welfare fund covering hospital, surgical, and disability benefits. The clothing firms claim the fund, currently owned and financed jointly by the CMA and the union, is running out of money because of large layoffs and plant closings during the current economic crisis. Of course, the CMA wants the workers to take the burden of replacing the depleting funds.

Yet, Buffalo rank-and-file ACWA members recently voted down the management proposal—originally agreed upon by the union "leadership."

The vote came after a rank-and-file petition campaign was launched in protest of an ACWA Joint Board decision to yield to the

CMA demands that the workers give up the wage increase.

WHAT PETITION DEMANDED

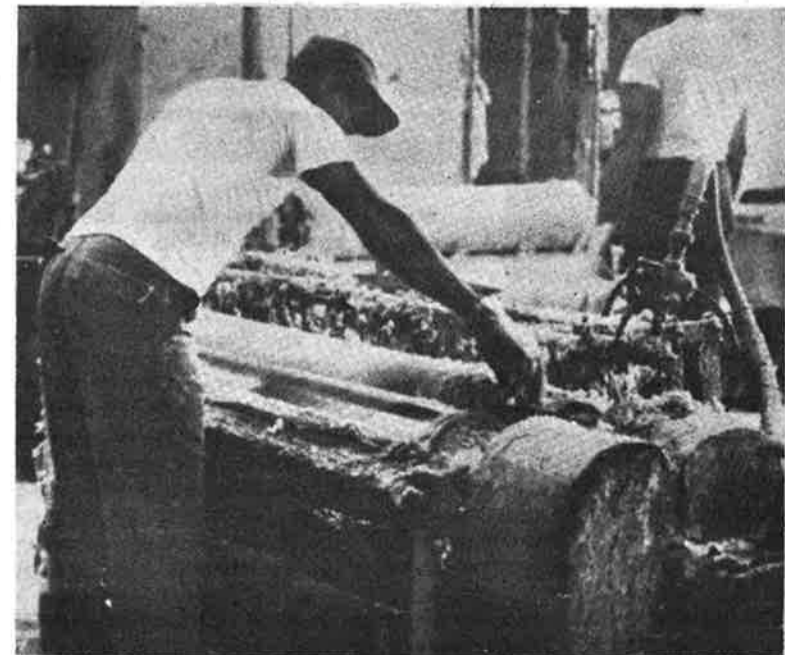
The petition called for opening the books of the insurance company handling funds in the welfare program. It demanded that the union joint board recognize the inadequacy of information available at the time of its vote to accept the proposal and that the vote be struck from the records. In addition, the petition called for a full membership meeting to discuss the situation, a referendum vote, and appropriate action.

Pointing out that the contract had to be ratified by a full membership vote, the petition also demanded that any new agreement in regard to where rank-and-file wages should go be made available to and voted on by the entire membership.

Rank-and-file union members in Philadelphia, Baltimore, and elsewhere have also responded strongly and rejected the companies' proposals. These workers have pointed out that management should and can take care of the entire welfare fund.

The successful petition campaign and struggle of the Buffalo rank-and-file workers was supported by other unionists, including members of the Buffalo Center for United Labor Action, who distributed a leaflet in four languages to reach the multinational work force in the area, encouraging workers to fight back.

The fighting example of these clothing workers and the support they received from other workers point to the direction all workers must take to turn around the wage cuts, layoffs, and union-busting tactics of the companies. United, in a strong and militant fight for our rights, we will win!



Worker at asbestos-covered machine. Workers have had to fight even for the few safety regulations that protect them against disease-causing chemicals.