



REVOLUTIONARY WORKER

Voice of the
Revolutionary Communist
Party, U.S.A.

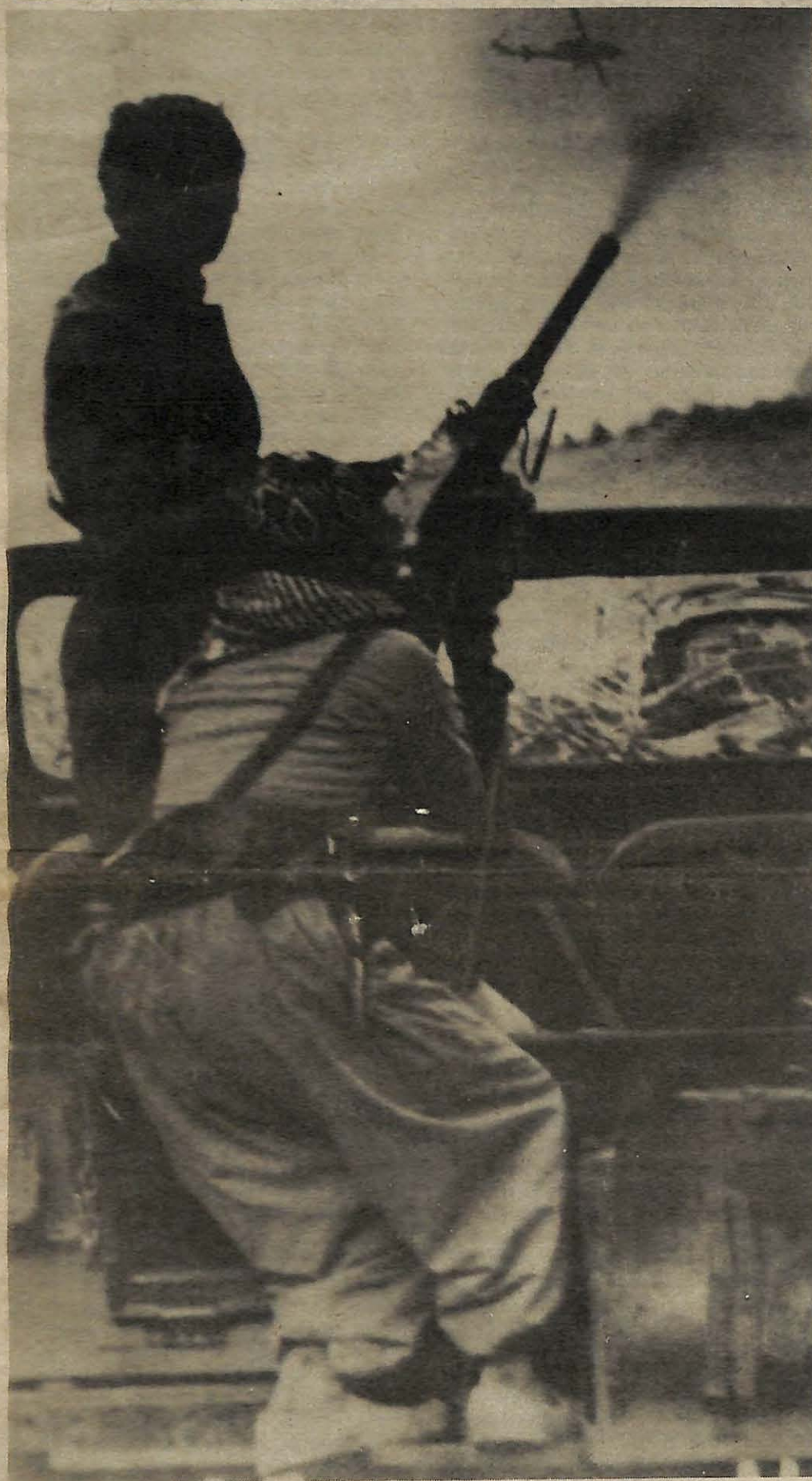
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Kurdish revolutionary fires on government helicopter.

Iran: Continuing the Revolution

KURDS BATTLE GOV'T ATTACKS

For the last two weeks, the sounds of gunfire and explosions have echoed throughout Kurdistan, the mountainous, rough area of western Iran. The Khomeini-Bazargan government has launched its most massive and savage attacks to date on the just struggle of Iran's 4 million Kurds for political autonomy and democratic rights. At the same time the government has closed down the public headquarters of all revolutionary organizations in Iran, driving them underground once more.

These as well as other recent actions taken by the self-proclaimed "revolutionary" government—a label which the U.S. press is also glad to use in order to spread confusion about who are the *real* revolutionary forces in Iran—demonstrate that it has become a reactionary government which is desperately attempting to stop the masses from finishing the job they started when they overthrew the Shah's hated regime in February. Iran's rulers have basically stopped turning the force of the state against the old reactionaries and imperialism. Instead they are in-

creasingly using these forces against those who demand continuing revolution.

The fruits of the revolution have been seized by an unstable alliance of conservative religious leaders, big and middle capitalists, landlords, government bureaucrats and military officers who fear losing their positions of privilege and power to the developing revolutionary struggle of the workers, peasants and millions of other oppressed. In this life-and-death struggle shaping up, the heroic Kurdish people are fighting at the front lines.

A new wave of struggle in Kurdistan began on August 16 when 2000 armed Kurdish fighters overpowered 200 government militiamen stationed in Paveh in the southern part of Kurdistan, and took control of the town for several days.

Back in February, after the Kurds had run the Shah's troops out of town, one of Khomeini's "revolutionary komitehs" had been appointed to take over the city. But there was nothing revolutionary about this komiteh, for it

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N.Y. Police Murder Sparks Street Fighting

On Wednesday night, August 22, Luis Baez was savagely executed by the New York City police. Baez, a 29-year-old mentally retarded Puerto Rican man, was surrounded by five cops and shot 24 times. These murdering bastards fired at Luis from less than two feet away. And some of them even emptied their guns, reloaded and fired again. When the shooting was over, Luis was dead and the pigs were smiling and joking among themselves.

An already explosive situation blew wide open with the murder of Luis Baez. How many others had been gunned down at the hands of these but-

chers? And now, as the bloody details of this killing spread like wildfire through the city, each of the 24 shots that tore through Luis Baez, pounded home the same message: Puerto Rican or Black, people of minority nationalities are the extra-favorite targets of the pig's bullets.

The ruling class and its press ran out the usual justification and promises of investigations. But people weren't buying it. People had seen how investigation after investigation stamped approval on the police murder of Arthur Miller one year ago. And just recently, the courts had freed the cop that

murdered 15-year-old Randy Evans in 1976, freed him from his brief vacation in a mental hospital. Nothing that could be said or done would soothe the people's anger.

An overwhelming sense of outrage swept New York. The Baez murder was

hotly debated in every neighborhood, in subways, bars and factories. WBLS, the most popular Black station in New York City, agitated around the murder all day Thursday. Station editorials called the police out for what they

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Special to the Revolutionary Worker

In the Streets with Page 12
Iran's Revolutionaries

KKK Attacks Oakland Revolutionary Workers Center



Over 100 demonstrators confront 19 sewer rats in Barnegut, NJ on August 12.

Oakland, California—On August 18, the Revolutionary Worker Center (RWC) here was attacked. Spray painting "Gooks get out" and breaking all the remaining windows, the vandals left their calling card—a hooded Ku Klux Klan figure painted on the front of the center. It was no coincidence that this attack came on the eve of a much publicized Klan rally in nearby Castro Valley, the first open KKK activity in the Bay Area in some time.

The following day, as the Klukers held their small rally, members and supporters of the Revolutionary Communist Party went into the community around the center selling the *Revolutionary Worker* and talking about this racist and counter-revolutionary attack on the center, home of the RCP's activities. All day long, agitation went out over the bullhorns and into the streets about the KKK and how the rulers of this country are behind and promote these reactionaries. An effigy of Uncle Sam was hung out in front of the center, with a dagger in his heart and a KKK cone on his head.

Hundreds of people came by to check out the scene as the news carried rapidly throughout the predominantly Black neighborhood. It was hard to believe and everyone wanted to see for themselves—did the Klan really dare to step into Oakland, a city 60% Black? And why had they attacked the center?

But any illusions people held that the KKK and other sewer rats like them wouldn't surface were shattered as the day developed. A dinner was planned for that evening to raise money to defend and support the RWC. As people began arriving and the dinner got under way, a handful of these reactionaries showed up. As they approached the Uncle Sam effigy and began spewing out their patriotic anti-communist and racist garbage, people came out from the center and started exposing these dogs to the neighborhood. They were warned that if they dared to touch the effigy or anything or anyone concerned with the center, they would be dealt with accordingly. As community people gathered around, some crossing the street to stand on the side of the center, the KKK'ers had little choice but to crawl back into the sewers. And in case they had any ideas they might want to try and crawl out in the middle of the night and attack the center again, supporters defended the RWC all night.

It's clear this confrontation was immediately meant to scare people off from attending the dinner, but even more importantly, it was a feeble attempt to try to stop the growing influence of the *Revolutionary Worker* in the community. For a year now, the *Revolutionary Worker* (and its predecessor, *The Worker*) has been taken out weekly to the neighborhoods around the center, to downtown Oakland, to Jingo Town (the Spanish-speaking section of Oakland), and to some of the projects in Oakland.

The effect of the Klan's attack has been more the opposite than what they hoped. In fact, right after these reactionaries crawled away, one older Black man stepped forward. He was so proud that people were standing not only against the Klan, but against the rich, he just had to shake hands with one of the people who had been speaking. He also told the story of how he helped defend the center one night recently when he chased out the man who was ready to throw a brick through the center's window.

All week long, the center has been jumping with people from the community and all over town stopping by to find out what's going on. Discussions go on all day around sharp questions like: Is this just a white vs. Black or Asian thing, or is there really more going on? Why has the RCP and its center been targeted? And why is it crucial to defend and support it? Even more, people from the center got into why people must step forward and take up the weapon of the *Revolutionary Worker*.

It turns out that a number of community residents have been reading the newspaper for quite some time. It has had a real impact. This has been a surprise to many who have been selling the paper in the area. One day a family stopped by and said they had been reading the newspaper for six months, but didn't know there was a center until this whole thing went down. They explained how every day they read two articles and then discussed them with their friends and invited people from the center to come join their talks.

Although this most recent attack is the sharpest, it is not the first. In the past few months, as the influence of the *Revolutionary Worker* has grown, reactionaries of all types have jumped out to attack the center. From the KKK to some gun-toting gangsters to the cops (who unsuccessfully tried to bust into the center last weekend for a "security check"), they have smashed windows, spray-painted ("KKK rules"), broken into the building, and made threats.

This Klan incident has also unleashed reactionary ideology among some others, exposing further why the rulers of this country promote and protect them. Since last Sunday's occurrence, several youths became "inspired" by the KKK. Every day they have been around the center, carrying such signs as "America, love it or leave it" and "Commies get out." Blinded by a reactionary and racist outlook, one young Filipino was proudly walking around with a "gooks get out" sign! (This racist "gooks" slander is in reference to the Chinese, Filipino and Japanese revolutionaries who use the center and participate in its activities). A Japanese woman began challenging him. Several Black youths who caught this scene could only comment, "Hey, that's as crazy as if I were carrying a 'nigger get out' sign!" Every day these reactionary youth are earning the dislike of more and more of the neighborhood people, so much so that they are being openly challenged on their racist garbage. The appearance of these creeps has sharpened people's hatred for the poison they are spewing out.

There's no question about it, there hasn't been a buzz like this in the community for a long time. As one man put it who attended the dinner last Sunday night, he really looks forward to the *Revolutionary Worker* every week and was thinking about checking out the activities of the center. But he wasn't sure if he could trust these revolutionaries. He asked his friend who worked in a nearby store what he thought of the *Revolutionary Worker* and the center. His friend replied, "These guys are standing against oppression, what they're doing is good, and we've got to support them." When the Klan attacked, it brought the pages of the *Revolutionary Worker* alive and sharpened up to him what the newspaper and the RCP stands for and who its enemies are. So he came down to the center because he didn't want the KKK to stop him from doing what he was planning on doing—going to find out more about revolution in this country. ■

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U.S. Diplomatic Scheming in Middle East

The Carter administration Middle East policy in disarray? The U.S. leaning towards recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)? In the wake of the Andrew Young UN-PLO flap there seemed to be new turmoil in the U.S. strategy for maintaining its control of the Middle East. Behind this apparent turmoil, however, which focused on Young's meeting with the PLO and the UN resolution proposed by Kuwait, there are some calculated moves by the U.S. ruling class.

The centerpiece of U.S. Middle East policy remains securing its hegemony in the region and blocking any Soviet inroads. Key to this strategy is the U.S. efforts to gain Arab recognition of Israel. The Camp David accords and the Egypt-Israel "peace pact" was a major breakthrough on this front. But it has become increasingly clear to the U.S. ruling class that their strategic aims cannot be accomplished merely through absolute and unqualified support of all the demands and territorial claims of their Zionist frontmen. Some way must be found to deal with the Palestinians.

This orientation was reflected in the various statements made by the Carter administration over the past two years that the Palestinians must have "some say in determining their own destiny." But this does not change for a minute the fact that the main effort of the U.S. imperialists has been to try to crush the Palestinian liberation struggle, and failing that to break it and bring it to heel, to force the Palestinian people to abandon their revolutionary goal of regaining their homeland and accepting a settlement satisfactory to the U.S. and Israel. To this end they have used both the military attacks of the Israelis on the Palestinian camps and the sabotage and betrayal of the reactionary Arab governments.

This settlement of "the Palestinian problem" on U.S. terms is the main objective of the second stage of the Egypt-Israel negotiations: to arrive at a formula for some form of Palestinian "autonomy" in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Since it has been demonstrated conclusively, and is

recognized by all, Israel, the U.S. and the Arab states, that the Palestinians will not go away, that the Palestine liberation struggle has developed such strength, despite many setbacks, that it cannot be ignored, they have got to come up with something that pretends to recognize the rights of the Palestinian people.

It has become very clear that many of the Arab states are willing to go along with recognition of the Israeli state. The question is, on what terms will this recognition be granted. Precisely because of the determination of the Palestinian struggle and the support it enjoys from the masses of Arab people, the Arab rulers are forced to hold out for some "acceptable solution" to the so-called Palestinian question. For them this boils down to a Palestinian "mini-state" in the West Bank and

Gaza.

The Israelis fear and remain adamantly opposed to a settlement on such terms. They are determined that the *maximum* settlement be restricted to some meaningless form of Palestinian "autonomy" in the West Bank and Gaza that will leave their control of these areas intact. The U.S., for its part, remains determined not to jeopardize Israeli *security* or to accept a solution that in the future could threaten its principle outpost in the region. Particularly with the Shah gone, the U.S. is unwilling to accept anything that might weaken or undermine this "other pillar" of its Middle East domination. Hence it has continued to search for a way to force the Palestinians into accepting a settlement short of statehood.

Both these positions, of the Arab states and of the U.S., were to be seen

in the controversy over the UN resolution put forward by Kuwait and the aborted alternate resolution for which the U.S. failed to win support from Israel and Egypt in recent weeks. The Kuwait resolution accepted UN resolution 242, which recognizes the right of Israel to exist on the occupied Palestinian homeland. But it also went further than 242 in calling for Palestinian statehood. The U.S. admitted that this was a very "moderate" resolution. But they also recognized that Israel would not go along with the call for Palestinian statehood. So they tried to come up with something that would embody resolution 242 but mute the call for a Palestinian state.

None of this is particularly new. What is a newer and fuller development in the recent events is the seeming PLO

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Federal Court Upholds Penalty for Mixed Dating

Alexandria, Va.— "Reverse discrimination?" No, this time "freedom of religion" is the bogus issue being raised to cover for new attacks on Black people and to promote the foulest racist ideology.

Replacing Allen Bakke and Brian Weber as the front man this time is Alec Lee Bledsoe, "born-again" fundamentalist minister and principal of Marumsc Christian School in Woodbridge, Virginia.

For a number of years, Bledsoe tried to give his school and church the image of Jimmy Carter's "new South." There were a few Black students and even a Black teacher, but this January, Bledsoe totally blew his "non-discrimination" cool at the sight of one of his students, Melissa Fiedler, holding hands with one of the Black students, Rufus Bostic III. This would have to stop immediately!!! He told Bostic's sister his reasoning, "The sex drive is

greater in Black men than in white men."

When the girl refused to follow this reactionary's "counseling," the principal expelled her. On hearing that Fiedler and her father planned to fight this outrage, Bledsoe expelled Melissa's younger sister as well.

The Fiedlers, and the family of the Black student as well, have received all sorts of intimidation. The threatening letters, phone calls and finally a dead cat in their mailbox have forced the Fiedlers to leave the county. Still the Fiedlers have continued to press their lawsuit against the school.

Obviously many people, even within Bledsoe's own school and congregation, have reacted with outrage and disgust as Bledsoe has come out more boldly with his "purity of the white race" poison. Church attendance has dropped from 200 in January to less than 60 today.

When the case finally appeared in federal court in Alexandria, the Fiedlers found themselves in front of a judge and a system with an obvious fondness for Bledsoe and his reactionary activities. Feeling that a jury might not be too favorable to Bledsoe's racist outpourings, a way was found to eliminate a jury trial. Bledsoe's school filed for bankruptcy *one hour* before the trial was set to begin. (This, despite the fact that court documents revealed the church and school have about \$1.58 million in assets and liabilities of only about \$945,800—hardly "bankrupt"-sounding.)

Federal judge Owen R. Lewis quickly jumped to use this ploy, ruling that because of the bankruptcy petition, *he* and not a jury would decide this case. The courtroom scene was reminiscent of the historic "Scopes trial" where William Jennings Bryan tried to uphold the firing of a biology teacher for teaching evolution. It was straight-up fire and brimstone with quotes and more quotes from the bible filling the courtroom. Bledsoe's defense was not just his, but also the will of God. Quoting the Book of Genesis, Bledsoe said the lines "God created firmaments and water" was a call for racial separation. According to Bledsoe, Moses invoked problems for the "children of Israel" because he married an Ethiopian woman.

Many in the courtroom laughed in outrage and disbelief at the ridiculous spectacle unfolding before their eyes. The judge was furious and threatened the Fiedlers' attorney, warning that he would not have his courtroom made a mockery of. He constantly hounded the Fiedlers' lawyer during his cross-

examination of Bledsoe. And Judge Lewis' decision heaped praise on Bledsoe, "The Marumsc Baptist Church is composed of born-again Christians who, on account of that fact, believe that they have the duty to know the teachings of the Bible as the infallible word of God and to follow Jesus Christ as their personal savior in their daily lives." Obviously Bledsoe and the judge speak the same language. On August 24, Judge Lewis ruled to deny the Fiedlers' suit and upheld Bledsoe's expulsion of Fiedler as "freedom of religion." The case is being appealed, and many expect it to go all the way to the Supreme Court.

How very convenient—"freedom of religion must be protected." When the Nazis crawl out from the sewer to spew their filth, they are protected by row upon row of cops who are "protecting their freedom of speech." When the bourgeoisie wants to maintain and expand discrimination in hiring, it's "we must look after the rights of white people too." How long will it be before cross burnings are ruled "a legitimate form of expression protected by the right to free speech"—and why not lynchings, too?

Of course, the only freedom the government is really talking about in all this is their freedom to promote and perpetuate every form of oppression of Blacks and other minorities. Religion has always been a very important way of promoting racist ideas. A large part of the ideology of slavery was preached by religions like Bledsoe's. In fact, these very fundamentalist religions have been directly tied up with the continuation of the outlook of the slaveowners up to this day, lynchings and all.

This well planned and orchestrated attempt by the federal government to resurrect the most backward and reactionary racist ideology, the putrid religious trash left over from the days of slavery and now spread by the KKK and their ilk, puts the lie to all their bull that now everyone is equal and the racist old days are gone. It shows exactly what they're up to with the Bakke and Weber decisions. The rulers of this country are very systematically working to fortify and expand their system of oppression of Blacks and other minorities in every sphere, and they are leaving no stone unturned in doing so. To those who have closed their eyes to this or believed all the pious talk of "equality and human rights," this case should be ample proof that behind both the black robes and the white robes lurks the same decadent and rotten class of oppressors. ■

New Pamphlet

**Break The Chains!
Unleash the Fury of Women
As a Mighty Force For
Revolution**

by the
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From speeches delivered at International Women's Day, 1979. And a solidarity message from the League of Fighting Women of Iran.

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After years of "neglecting" to cover the activities of the Revolutionary Communist Party, the *Los Angeles Times* finally printed an article on Bob Avakian on August 19 and, through it, joined with the government's attacks on the RCP. Appearing under the headline, "Red Seeks \$1 Million to Crush Capitalism," the article contains a completely fabricated quote which the *Times* attributes to the Party Chairman's speech, August 5, at the L.A. Convention Center.

They claim he said, "I mean, we won't kill some dumb jerk just because he jumped us for passing out our paper," Avakian qualified, "he can probably be re-educated. But it's another story with these hired thugs and killers, like the police... and the leaders of this country, like Mr. Carter!" Bob Avakian never made this statement or anything resembling it in his speech.

Due to the serious nature of this complete lie the RCP immediately demanded a retraction from the *Times*. An attorney, acting on behalf of Bob Avakian, delivered a letter to the newspaper which pointed out that the federal government would no doubt welcome the chance to use the article as "evidence" of a crime of "threatening the life of the president," a serious felony under federal law. A tape of the speech was offered to prove the fact that the Party Chairman had made no such statement. All of this has been met with off-hand dismissals by the *Times*' Noel Greenwood, the article's editor, and a refusal to take any action. Greenwood has become more defiant in tone as days have gone by, without offering a shred of defense of the quote. Can you guess how fast the *Times* would have moved to correct themselves if they had quoted Carter or one of their boys wrong?

The RCP stands for the armed overthrow of the capitalist system in this country by the uprising of the masses in their millions. The work of the Party today is to raise the masses' political consciousness in order to prepare for this. The Party's strategy has never included the assassination of individuals,

L.A. Times Joins Frame Up of Bob Avakian

and specifically we have not called and do not call for the assassination of the president. All this is very clear from any half-way serious observation of the Party's or its Chairman's words and actions.

While it comes as no surprise that the ruling class's press would distort the truth to slander revolutionaries (in fact there are several other distortions in the article), this particular misquote falls into the category of a frame-up. The FBI is keeping close tabs on the RCP—"active investigation" as they officially call it. Bob Avakian and 16 other Mao Tsetung Defendants already face 25 felonies each and 241 years in prison as the targets of an outrageous railroad in Washington, D.C. Not only could the federal government use this article to pile on another felony indictment, it could also attempt to revoke Bob Avakian's bail, disrupt his current national speaking tour or introduce this lie as evidence in his pending trial.

Aware of the seriousness of the federal government's attacks on the RCP, and keeping in mind as well that we have been misquoted, the Party had contacted the *Times* reporter prior to the article's publication requesting to go over its content. The purpose was not to try to change the author's interpretations and impressions, but to review the accuracy of any quotes attributed to the Party or its Chairman.

The reporter refused to cooperate in this. Still, the reporter had her own tape of the speech and two weeks to prepare the article. This is not a case of one reporter's fuzzy memory.

"Threatening the life of the president" has been used before in the government's conscious and vicious repression of revolutionaries. It was not that long ago that this very law was used to bust David Hilliard of the Black Panther Party as part of the government's concerted campaign to shoot, jail and smash the Panthers.

Within a matter of days at the end of 1969, they indicted Hilliard, murdered Fred Hampton and Mark Clark in their sleep in Chicago, and launched an armed assault on the Panther headquarters in L.A. The charges against Hilliard were used in a public opinion campaign against the "crazy" Panthers as a cover for the government's murderous repression. And long after the case against Hilliard was dismissed (due to an illegal wiretap), his statement was used as "evidence" to deny him bail in another case. Whether or not the government proceeds in all these cases is purely a political question.

A Pattern of Repression

In all this, the *L.A. Times* has its role to play as public relations representative for the capitalist class. While they have consistently "missed" coverage of

cases of police repression (such as the brutal murder of a 39-year-old Black woman, Eula Love, by the L.A. police) and have consistently "neglected" to mention the RCP (even as other newspapers were covering some of its activities), they have faithfully joined in the attacks on Bob Avakian and the RCP with this article's publication.

This is nothing new. The news media have often played this role in the past. According to the FBI's own documents, their COINTELPRO program actively used friendly and cooperative sources in the news media to attack the Revolutionary Union, forerunner of the RCP. (No current documents on the RCP are available even under the Freedom of Information Act because to release them would be a "dangerous security breach" according to government sources—see *RW*, August 3.)

Even if the *Times* eventually prints a small retraction, they will have done their service well. They will, with their "mistake," have helped create the impression that the RCP is a bunch of Squeaky Fromme-type idiots—not a serious revolutionary Party.

At a press conference on August 29, the RCP publicly announced it was demanding a printed retraction from the *L.A. Times*, and was proceeding to sue the newspaper for libel. In addition, a suit is being filed in federal court to enjoin the federal government from proceeding against Bob Avakian on the basis of the fabricated quote. The day of the press conference, a *Revolutionary Worker* reporter pushed the *Times* for an answer as to why they had refused to retract. He got no comment except finally the following remark from a man named Dave Rosenzweig of the city desk: "We've written our story. You can exercise your First Amendment rights if you wish. I think that speaks for itself." Then he hung up.

Despite their claims to "freedom of the press," it's clear that the *Times* remains ever the faithful servant of the ruling class. The question of how willing they are to have this fact become even more exposed to the masses of people will be answered in the coming weeks. ■

UAW Runs Oil Con-Game On Members

The country's auto workers were offered a ride down a dead-end street August 22, as United Auto Workers president, Doug Fraser, orchestrated a "write-in" campaign, supposedly to "stop the energy ripoff." While it could never do that, it did manage to stop some of the auto assembly lines, but even that lasted only six minutes—just long enough for UAW members to sign a few cards addressed to Jimmy Carter and the Congress.

The postcards read, "I am fed up with being ripped off by the oil companies and OPEC, and the lack of an effective energy program. When Congress returns to session, I want them to: 1. Assure the basic needs for gasoline, heating oil, natural gas and electricity can be met at reasonable prices; 2. Enact a strong windfall profits tax; 3. Take control of oil imports, and 4. Create a public corporation to produce oil and gas on Federal lands to provide competition for the oil monopolies."

The write-in was described as the first step in a broad national campaign for lower energy prices coordinated by the Progressive Alliance, a social-democratic organization of labor, civil rights and consumer groups also headed by Doug Fraser. These activities are to culminate in a Big Oil Protest Day on Oct. 17.

The energy crisis is itself a windfall for social-democrats like Fraser, who put on a progressive, even "radical" mask, and seek to build their political careers on the backs of workers. The inability of the government to pull the economy out of its tailspin has left an opening for these forces to put out their program as an alternative. In fact, it's no alternative at all—it is the same tired

line of blaming layoffs (in this case in auto) on the energy crisis (a practical approach for sucking in angry auto workers), and blaming the energy crisis and the country's economic problems in general on OPEC and the oil monopolies.

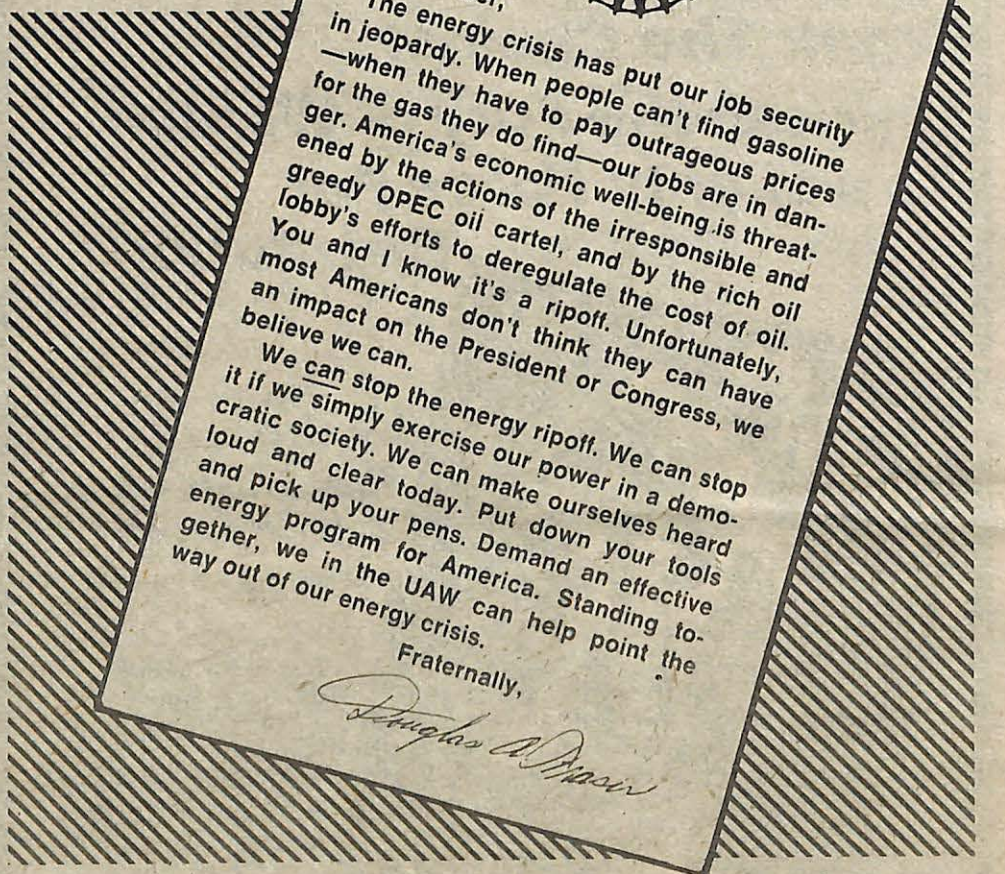
Of course, Fraser and company have been forced to speak to the rising anger among people at the oil monopolies. But a little anti-big business sentiment is certainly within the limits when it works to obscure the true reactionary nature of Fraser's campaign. And the bottom line of it is that OPEC is offered up as a scapegoat.

There is no fundamental difference between this and the present line of the ruling class, as put forward by Carter. And, interestingly enough, Fraser came up with his energy program shortly after he met with Jimmy Carter at the Camp David "domestic summit" in July (see *RW*, July 13). The chauvinist crap Fraser is dumping on UAW members has been taken almost word for word (with a few tactical changes and modifications) from Carter's pitiful "Say something good about America and fuck OPEC" speech the week after the summit.

Leaflets leading up to the write-in called for "fighting for our interests as Americans." They demanded an "American energy program" and were emblazoned with the American flag. In a message to the UAW members that accompanied the postcards, Fraser said, "We can stop the energy rip-off... if we simply exercise our power in a democratic society."

Is it any wonder that most of the small employers of UAW members were sympathetic to the write-in and supported the short work stoppage?

Fraser's "write-in," while it had a "progressive" cover, was reactionary flag-waving to the core.



Even the Big Three auto giants were in basic agreement with Fraser's line. Their only objection was that the write-in disrupted production. They knew it wasn't aimed at them. It wasn't even aimed at the President or Congress. The real target was the UAW members themselves. The purpose of the write-in was to whip up patriotism and anti-Arab sentiment, and to turn the grow-

ing discontent of the workers into an asset, rather than a threat, to the bourgeoisie.

In general, the attitude of the workers who signed the cards was that, while it probably wouldn't help things, "at least it can't hurt." That was fine with Fraser. He had offered his membership a big spoonful of patriotic poison and many of them swallowed. ■

ONE ON ONE WITH

BOB AVAKIAN



Revolutionary Worker

From August 18 to 27, Bob Avakian, Chairman of the RCP Central Committee, was in the middle part of the country, speaking in Chicago, Detroit, Cincinnati and in two places in West Virginia. Around the time of these speeches, he also spoke in every city to smaller groups of people about the Party, their lives and revolution.

One such stop was Logan County, West Virginia. Logan County is in the heart of the mountainous coalfields in southern West Virginia. Logan is a grimy town a few blocks long, boasting only a few stores and a couple of banks, but it is the county seat and political center for a large part of this area's millionaires and petty politicians.

Approaching town from almost every direction you are struck by how unsettled the whole area looks. The mines that *honeycomb the tree covered hills* can't be seen from the surface. Down in the *hollows you see the soot and dinginess* of the coal camps scattered along polluted creeks, old company houses, trailers and a church or two. The camps, the long coaltrains, the coal cleaning plants, the slag heaps, these are the signs that you're in mining country.

As you drive to Logan from the north, on the side of a green-wooded mountain, one of these slag heaps—a huge mound of waste left over from the cleaning of the coal—smolders. It burns continually, an ugly brown and grey, a testimony to the profits wrung from the miners of the region.

In this isolated part of the country, Bob Avakian spoke, in part, about the whole world revolution: "We have to understand what's going on in the world. We have to understand the broadest picture of the world. We're here today in Logan, West Virginia in the same spirit as I read about in our paper, where a peasant in the backward areas of Iran—an area called Kurdistan, said, 'Don't think we are just concerned about the problems of this one village. No. We are concerned about the struggle of people in every country of the world against imperialism.' That peasant's stand is our stand.

"Now I know a lot of people never heard of Kurdistan, Iran, but that's alright. The people of Kurdistan, Iran never heard of Logan, West Virginia, until now. 'Cause right now, there's communists and revolutionaries in those villages and all these backward areas going out, taking the picture of the whole world—not just the immediate fight in the village to get land and to overthrow the landlord—but the fight of the whole country and the whole world. There are peasants in Kurdistan today, reading about our struggle right here in this country and the work of the RCP even in Logan, West Virginia."

Lots of people in Logan wear a T-shirt that says, "Where the Hell is Logan, West Virginia?" Bob said afterwards, "Where the Hell is Logan? They're going to be talking about it—that's where the communists

meet.' "

After the Chairman's speech in Logan, people left the school and wound their way out of town to a run down—mostly Black—coal camp. In a house at the end of a muddy dirt road, people crammed into a couple of rooms. Everybody was very excited after hearing the Chairman speak. They were eager to ask him questions and to discuss everything on their minds. One guy put his hand to his chest, "What you talked about tonight, you talked about what my life is all about. This is what I think about every night, how can we get out of this madness."

Logan has a fairly large Black population and a number of Black people there spoke of their bitterness and outrage at their treatment by the local cops. This discussion followed:

Someone says: I got one of the best jobs and they still mess with me.

Bob: Have you ever seen them do this—they'll put you out of the squad car, tell you to run and shoot you?

Someone says: They take the handcuffs off you in the elevator and beat you.

Someone else: Yeah, I was selling the *Revolutionary Worker* in Logan one day. I got to talking with a white woman about the cops. She pointed out how you can see the marks in the elevator where they beat guys going in.

Someone says: You can see the dried blood.

Someone else: They'll beat my head and yours too. And then they'll get you to fight each other and they'll tell the whites, "Why don't a few of you get together and drop some bricks on their heads."

Bob: What do you think's going to change it?

Someone: Drop bricks on their heads. [Everybody laughs]

Someone says: I know a few of these cops. They quit school in the sixth grade.

Bob: They don't care about them having an education.

Someone says: They don't care as long as they give them a pistol or a billy club.

Someone says: It ain't only Blacks, it's poor people on the bottom.

Someone else: The poor whites get it just as bad.

Bob: They'll tell you "at least you're not a nigger"... that's why you need a Party around—to wake people up. It's like a monster. A whole lot of people have to be made aware that a whole lot of people are being treated unfairly, a whole lot of people are living in pain.

Someone says: We need a movement to wake people up.

Someone says: You're not going to wake up a whole lot of whites.

Bob: We had white people there too [at the meeting]. Some of them were digging it. Some of them hadn't heard it before.

Someone else: I can see what you're talking about. I live it everyday.

There was a discussion about war and then a man wearing a cross asked:

Bob, on this religion thing. You don't

think there is a superior being?

Bob: Yeah. I think this idea was invented by man. If you go back to history, you'll find people worshipping lightning and rain because they were something beyond their control. But when they learned all about these things, when they learned they could take water and harness it, they didn't worship it. Religion came out of people's fear and a search for some kind of help out of their misery. This world is so crazy and miserable that there must be something better—a guy in Detroit, his dad came back from the war and was sent to a mental hospital three times, and then he killed himself. His mother cleaned for very rich people. When he was nine years old he wanted to slit god's throat. Later he learned that it was the capitalists. Life can't be this mean and miserable for no reason.

Someone says: So you don't believe in a supreme being.

Bob: No. I'm an atheist. The bible is a brainwasher.

Someone else: The bible is a brainwasher?

Someone says: How do you get up that motherfucker's ladder to slit his throat?

Bob: When you have a Party then you can get an idea of what's happening and then you can do something about it.

You read the *Revolutionary Worker*

you can get a picture that it's one system. It operates on one principle: Cop it at any cost.

Someone says: I just want some ideas like you said that paper will help me, 'cause how I see it, the picture is so small I want to study science and see that motherfucker so I can slit his throat.

Following the discussion, Comrade Avakian's visit in the coalfields was over. The meeting had been threatened by reactionaries, so people mobilized a caravan of twelve cars. Miners and others escorted him out of Logan for the 2 mile trip to Charleston because people understood how important Bob Avakian is for the revolutionary struggle in this country and for our future.

In Chicago

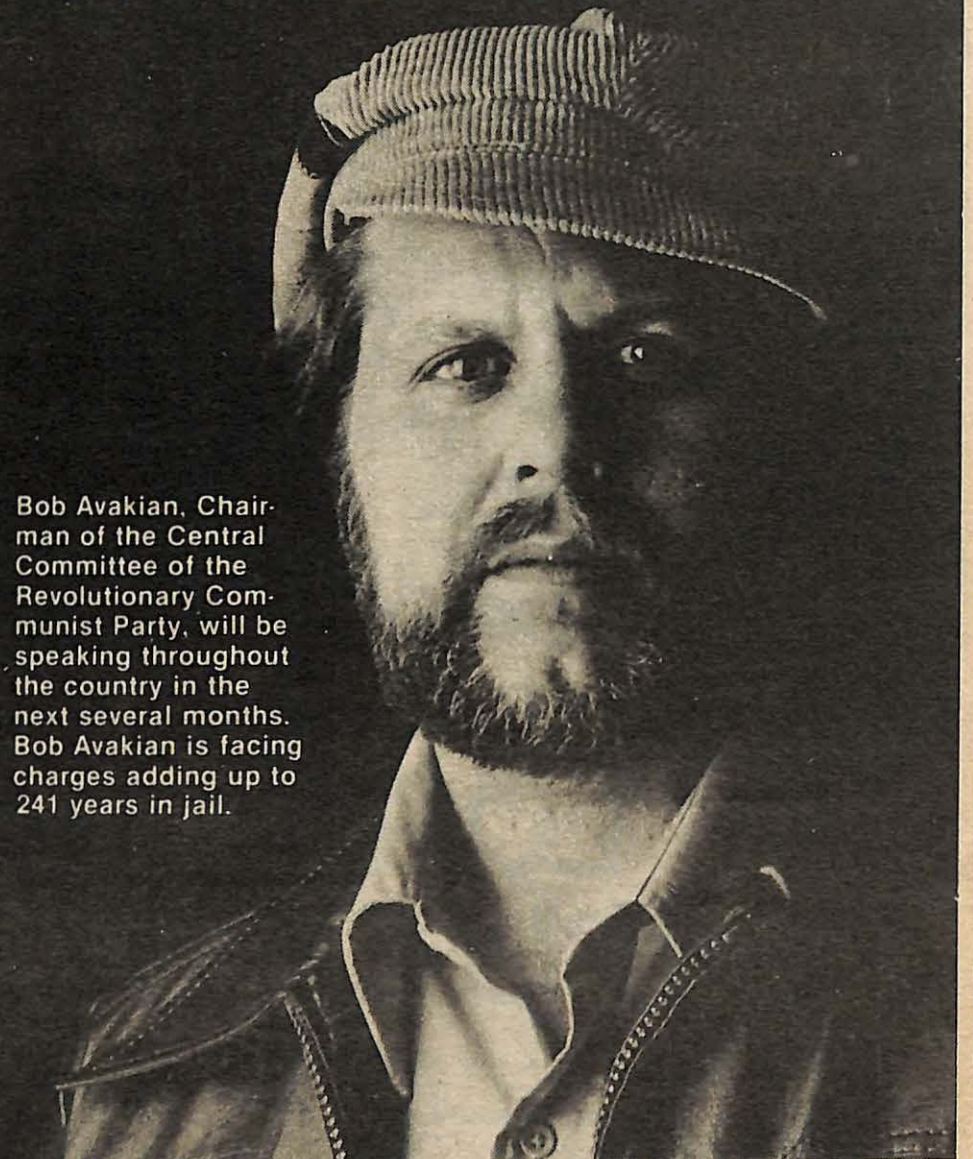
Artists and Revolution

A Middle Aged Man (X): I've got my whole family here. This is my son, my other son. Here's the other part of the family, my wife and daughter... We're musicians. We're playing with the symphony in [a midwestern city]. My question is, after the revolution a world-renowned artist, someone who's devoted his whole life to art, where will he fit in? Could he devote his complete

Continued on page 14

Major Speaking Tour by Party Chairman

"To All Those Who Refuse To Live and To Die On Your Knees!"



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

This is your chance to hear the leader of the only organization in this country seriously working for revolution, the organization the government is viciously attacking and declares to be the most dangerous revolutionary organization in this country.

Don't Miss The Chance To Hear Bob Avakian Speak & To Get Down With The RCP! It Will Change Your Whole Life!

When you hear Bob Avakian speak you will know why those who rule this country are desperate to put him away and to stop the RCP. And why those who hate this whole criminal system and government are rallying more and more to the RCP!

For more information, contact the RCP in your local area, or write to: PO Box 3486, Chicago, IL 60654.

U.S. Spills Jingoism On Mexico

The largest oil spill in history is presently covering over 40,000 square miles in the Gulf of Mexico and is still growing. On June 13, Petróleos Mexicanos (Pemex), Mexico's nationalized oil company, blew out 150 feet below water off the shore of Mexico and began spewing 30,000 barrels/day of crude oil. Even Red Adair, the top U.S. expert on controlling blowouts, was unable to cap this one after three weeks, though they have managed to slow down the flow to 10,000 barrels/day. Predictions are it will not be capped until October or later. Meanwhile millions of dollars worth of damage has already been done along the coast of Mexico and south Texas.

Throughout June and most of July, the spill was given little attention in the U.S.

press mainly because at that time it was Mexico's problem. However, as it became apparent that the oil was seeping into U.S. territory, the media and various politicians quickly gave it their attention and in the process began spilling out their own brand of pollution: anti-Mexican slander. Daily reports from the southern beaches of Texas became front page news in Texas. Tar balls that regularly wash up on the shore from the numerous U.S. oil tankers in the area were suddenly labeled the first sign of the Mexican menace. The Mexican oil was "attacking U.S. beaches," the biggest threat since the sensational killer bee.

In editorials and cartoons the slick was compared with illegal aliens—"another disgusting residue seeping in from an in-

ferior country." One syndicated cartoon showed a Mexican laughing across the ocean at a helpless, oil-soaked Texan, telling him not to complain because he's getting Mexican oil at a discount. Texas Attorney General Mark White threatened to file an international law suit against Mexico even before the slick arrived. Later the U.S. government publicly demanded that Mexico pay for the damages, and when it refused, a new barrage of insults and outrage at this "un-neighborly" behavior gushed out.

But surely it is the height of hypocrisy for the U.S.—the number 1 polluter in history—to call Mexico out for a crime at which the U.S. is universally acknowledged to be the world's champion. Leaving aside the devastation caused by U.S. bombs and other weapons of imperialism, the U.S. has dumped far more oil (4 million barrels annually) and other chemicals than any other country. According to Dr. Rudolfo Ramirez, of Politecnico Nacional in Mexico City, the U.S. "is responsible for 70% of the contamination in international waters in which it dumps chemical, atomic, and industrial waste." And as far as this country's water, air and land is concerned, U.S. corporations routinely spit out toxic waste by the ton every day, poisoning whole cities and committing no less than industrial mass murder!

The second largest oil spill in history, from the supertanker Amoco Cadiz, covered the coast of France with U.S. oil in 1978, and the U.S. hardly blinked an eye. Although some law suits were filed against the ship's owners, the U.S. wiggled out of any responsibility. Mexican officials, countering the U.S. demands for liability, have cited numerous incidents in which the U.S. has polluted Mexico. In one case, \$100,000,000 worth of damage was done in Baja California, when farmers were unable to irrigate

their lands on the Colorado River thanks to the pesticides that had run off from the U.S. farms upstream.

The U.S. rulers' hysteria about this oil spill is just one more cynical attempt to whip up hatred against the Mexican people, just as they whip up hatred of the Arabs and other peoples to get the American people behind their plunder of these countries and their enslavement of the people. But despite all their public posturing, the U.S. government has no intention of holding the Mexican government accountable for this "unfortunate" incident. With the security of their oil supply from the Mideast being called into question, and with war on the horizon, Mexican oil is precious. Carter recently hustled off to Mexico to call in their U.S. markers by leaning on them to commit four to five million barrels a day of their recently discovered vast oil reserves—potential grease for the wheels of the U.S. war machine.

Of course, the U.S. is trying to make the spill seem to be the result of inferior Mexican technology. *Texas Monthly* magazine characterized the handling of the spill as a "keystone cops" operation and claims the U.S. should have been called in earlier. All this is nothing but a flimsy excuse for the U.S. to sink its claws even deeper into Mexican oil under the guise of "progress" and "helping" the Mexican people, who are "hopelessly backward."

But the ultimate irony is that Pemex is already practically an American operation. The U.S. has long had its hands in the operation of this well, as well as other Pemex operations, from the start. Pemex's technology, equipment and training schools are overwhelmingly owned and operated by U.S. corporations like Brown and Root, Pullman, Kellogg, and Bechtel, and supervised by American technical advisors. The U.S. imperialists have laid out millions in loans to Pemex for the privilege of siphoning off Mexican oil and in anticipation of draining off the lion's share.

Of course, what we don't hear about this "Mexican oil spill" is that the equipment for the rig in question, right down to the valve that blew out, was leased to Pemex by the U.S. corporation SEDCO, owned by none other than Bill Clemons, the Governor of Texas. But the fact is, despite their shabby pretense of horror at this ecological disaster, the U.S. imperialists don't give a damn about a few thousand tons of oil dumped on the beaches of Texas. And the tons of reactionary propaganda they are pumping out around this rivals the pollution record set by the blowout in the Gulf of Mexico. ■



The "Exploding Lord" in better days: Mountbatten gives rousing pep-talk to England's imperial troops from atop rum barrel in Rangoon, Burma, 1946.

LORD EXPLODES

Lord Louis Mountbatten of Britain was killed August 27 when his fishing yacht was blown apart by a bomb off the coast of Ireland. He was praised by the bourgeois press as "one of the noblest of this Earth's warrior-statesmen"—the ruling-class way of saying that he had a long career as a loyal instrument of British imperialism. And it was as an imperialist symbol that he was killed by the Provisional wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which is fighting to free northern Ireland from the domination of British imperialism. While terrorism and

political assassination are not the correct strategy for revolutionary struggle, we shed no tears for Mountbatten. There can be no doubt that the struggle in northern Ireland is one for national liberation from British imperialism, and that Lord Mountbatten was an eminently fitting symbol of that imperialism.

Mountbatten was born into an aristocratic family (his father was Austrian-born Prince Louis of Battenberg and his mother was Princess Victoria, granddaughter of the British Queen Victoria), and he made a career

in the British navy, holding a series of posts that finally culminated in his becoming First Sea Lord, or head of the Royal Navy, in the mid-'50s. In the late '40s he was the last British Viceroy to the British colony of India, presiding over the granting of formal independence to India and Pakistan in 1947. What this meant was the passage of these countries from being outright colonies to becoming neo-colonies, still subject to imperialist domination and exploitation—a status symbolized by the fact that even after formal "independence," Mountbatten stayed on as India's first Governor General, a post he held until June 1948. The fact that India is even today still caught up in neo-colonial relations is vividly illustrated by the fact that the Indian government ordered a week of official mourning, with flags at half mast, in honor of the imperialist who had "granted" India a supposed independence 32 years ago.

Thus Mountbatten's life is a record of service to British imperialism. It also illustrates a special feature of capitalism in Britain: the "marriage of convenience" between the old feudal aristocracy and the bourgeoisie which replaced feudalism with capitalism. Mountbatten was born into an aristocratic family and was related to most of the royal families of Europe, including that of Nicholas, the bloody Czar of Russia, who was overthrown by the Russian Revolution. He married the multimillionaire granddaughter of a banker and went on to his appointed place as a member of the ruling class of imperialist Britain.

Besides his career in the military and the government, he made a string of inventions: a cure for lameness in horses, a torpedo sight, and a more efficient polo mallet. He was listed in the *Guinness Book of World Records* for having the most honorary initials after his name of anyone in the world, and was said to have been awarded more governmental medals than any other living Briton. A very distinguished career, according to the ruling class. But for the proletariat and the masses of people the world over, all those letters after his name should be rearranged to spell out the following epitaph: *servant of a decadent system which will one day be as dead as you are.* ■

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Soviet missiles on parade in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan.



Afghan guerrilla using captured Soviet weapon.

Afghanistan Revolution vs. Soviets

Story Told by
Iranian Communists

Afghanistan is being rocked by revolt. The current Soviet-dominated government is seriously threatened by armed struggle involving large sections of Afghani people. Recently, the Union of Iranian Communists (UIC), a leading communist organization in Iran, has made an important analysis of the struggles currently sweeping Afghanistan, which borders Iran. In the mid-June issue of their newspaper Truth, the UIC published an article which analyzes the present situation, as well as the history of events which led to the Soviet-backed coup of Noor-Mohammed Taraki in April of 1978. The article exposes the role of the Soviet Union as well as the lies echoed by the pro-Soviet Tudeh Party in Iran. It condemns the U.S. and Western bloc for attempting to take over the Afghani people's anti-Soviet struggle through

various local reactionaries, but states clearly that the U.S. has not succeeded in its dirty work, and the Afghani people's struggle against the Soviets is a popular, massive and just one. What follows is a slightly edited translation of the article from Truth.

The revolutionary crisis in our neighboring country Afghanistan has drastically limited the rule of the traitorous social-fascist clique of Taraki-Amin. The press recently reported that Noor-Mohammad Taraki, the chief spy and ringleader of the April 27, 1978 coup, has fled from the capital, Kabool, to a military barracks outside the city. He had previously sent his family to his Soviet masters.

The just national struggle and armed uprisings of the Afghani people has engulfed all of Afghanistan, burning the

servant lackies of foreigners and Soviet aggressors in its blazing fire. The workers, peasants, shopkeepers, progressive clergy, Shiite and Sunni (Moslems), all revolutionaries, communists and true patriots are courageously struggling to overthrow the bloodthirsty Taraki and Soviet imperialism in their homeland. The decadent and bloody rule of the Soviet imperialist dependent clique's days are numbered.

The puppet regime of the coup in Kabool, which is deceitfully claiming to be the result of a revolution, is desperately trying to justify its countless crimes and the sellout of the country by portraying the mass uprisings and the armed struggles of the heroic Afghani people as U.S. imperialist intrigues and plots.

The Moscow radio propaganda and

the Soviet newspapers have all focused their attention on twisting the indisputable facts about Afghanistan, spreading lies and fabricating news about the National Liberation movement in Afghanistan. The reason is clear. The expansionist and charlatan Moscow clique, who wear the cloaks of the Russian Tsars and betrayed the working class in the Soviet Union, are today facing the loss of their interests and their puppets.

In Iran, the servants of the Soviet policies like the Tudeh Party have risen up to aid their shameless Afghani cohorts in Kabool by spreading lies about the uprisings of the people of Afghanistan in order to destroy the anti-imperialist and anti-social imperialist solidarity of the Iranian and Afghani peoples.

An article entitled "To Cloud the Relationship Between Iran and Afghanistan Is Not In The Interest of the Iranian Revolution" (*People*, the organ of the Central Committee of the Tudeh Party dated June 10, 1978) stated, "Since the victory of the revolution in Afghanistan a year ago, the government of the Democratic

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Opportunists Run Amuck at MEChA Convention

"Chicanos and police working together." "Love the people but don't hate the enemy." "Chicanos walk for spiritual unity carrying banners of the Virgin of Guadalupe." Are these the latest proposals of the community relations unit of the Houston police department? Perhaps the latest papal encyclical on the solution to the Chicano people's oppression? No, these sentiments represent the latest trends being led and promoted by some pitiful excuses for communists, the Communist Party Marxist-Leninist (CPML) and the League of Revolutionary Struggle within MEChA, a Chicano student organization.

With these revisionists in the center ring, the California MEChA conference at East Los Angeles Community College was turned into an opportunist circus. As proudly proclaimed in the July 27 issue of *Unity* (the League's paper), the conference concluded by passing a resolution condemning the Revolutionary Communist Party for its supposed history of trying to wreck the MEChA's and the Chicano movement. The statewide MEChA organization pledged not to work in any capacity with the RCP or its affiliate groups.

MEChA's are Chicano student organizations located on a number of college and high school campuses. They gained a reputation in the period of the late '60s and early '70s as militant fighters against the oppression of the Chicano people through their participation in the Los Angeles Chicano Moratorium and the fight for Chicano studies programs and open admissions to colleges and universities. In the mass upsurge of oppressed nationalities and students that characterized the period, MEChA's often played an important role in advancing the struggle.

But today, the CPML and the League, operating largely behind the scenes, are on a mad dash to turn this historically progressive organization into a show-piece for their reformism and counter-revolution. In particular they are hoping that passing this resolution will help them drive a wedge between the struggle of the Chicano people and the revolutionary movement.

Unity With What?

The groundwork for their spectacle had been laid in April when the South Bay San Jose chapter of MEChA, a chapter totally dominated by these revisionists, passed the same resolution. According to the chapter's newsletter, the RCP, as well as the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade and the Committee to Defend the Houston Rebellion, "have shown to be in disunity with the work of MEChA..." and "disrupt our activities..." After slandering the Houston Rebellion by portraying it as a peaceful protest, the South Bay newsletter spells out the real "unity" that the RCP is disrupting.

On March 24, these little League revisionists joined with some more self-admitted reformers to organize a "Chicano spiritual walk" under the overall theme of "love the people, don't hate the enemy." Funded by the San Jose city council, this walk featured banners of the Virgin of Guadalupe (who may just be to the left of these so-called "communists" of the CPML and League). There were also scenes of "Chicanos and police working together" (according to the caption under one of the pictures in the newsletter). When revolutionaries appeared on the scene calling on people to fan the flames like those set in the Houston Rebellion and defend the arrested



"Love the people—don't hate the enemy." This was the theme of the March 24th "Chicano spiritual walk" promoted by—would you believe—the League of "Revolutionary Struggle" and the "Communist" Party, M-L!

Houston revolutionaries, the Moody Park 3, the leaders of the walk (including CPML and the League members) were seen directing the police to make sure they didn't get too close. Here were the real touching "working together" scenes.

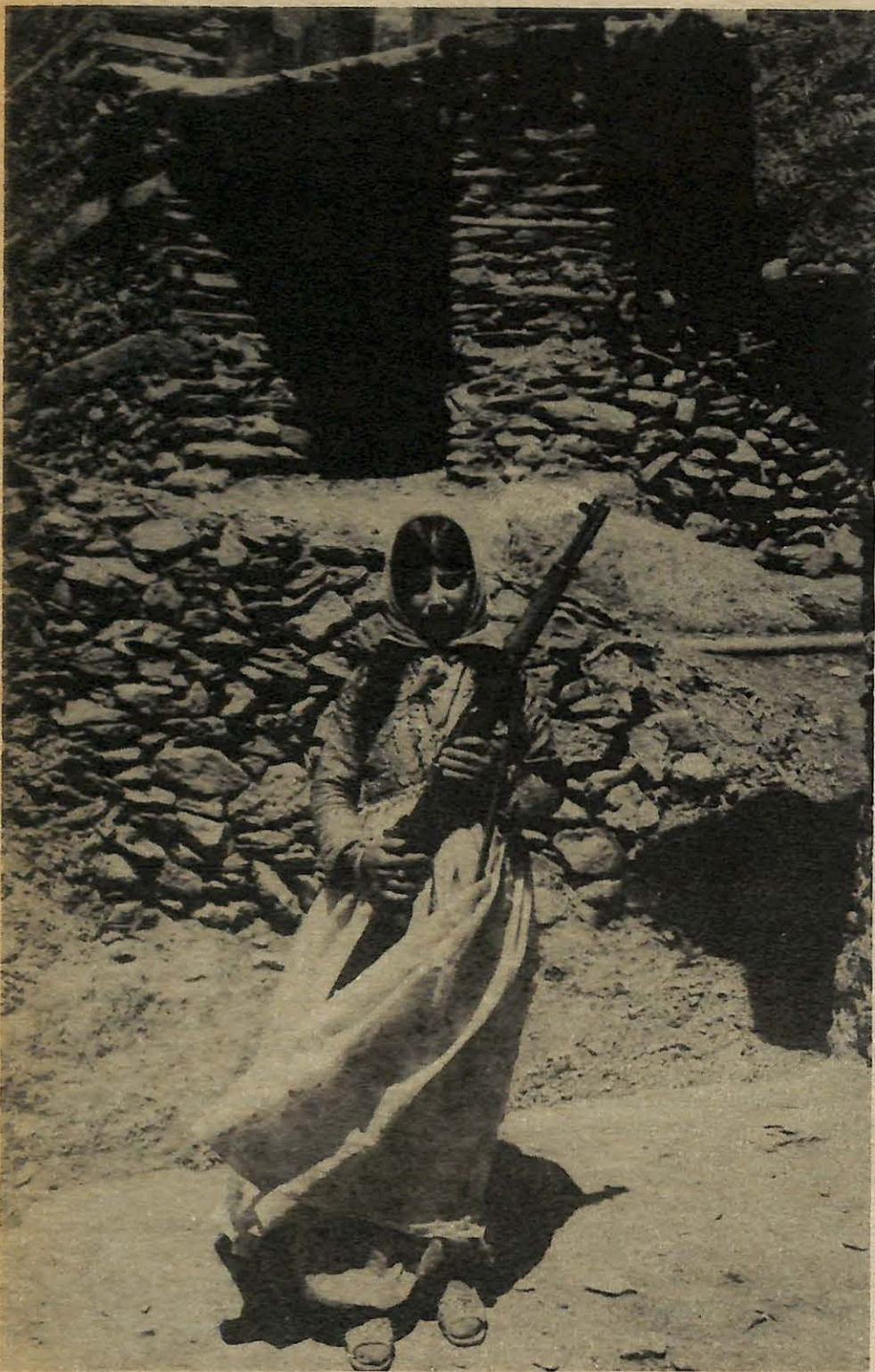
This love for the enemy is the unity the RCP is accused of disrupting, a charge to which we proudly plead guilty. Ten months before, 3,000 Chicanos had torched the bonds of oppression in Houston, overturning and burning police cars and kicking the police out of the community for two days, consciously rejecting the dead-end illusion of reform. Now, these self-appointed "guardians" of the Chicano people

were promoting this love—in direct and conscious opposition to the advanced stand taken by the masses in Houston.

For those who have been observing the line of the CPML and the League develop from lower to still lower forms of opportunism, this walk and the resolution that followed it should come as no surprise. While they couldn't openly attack the Houston Rebellion, like the ruling class' official politicians did, they covered for them by portraying the masses as downtrodden and helpless people who, due to their oppression, get "out of hand" at times.

Especially, they united with the capitalists in attacking the three revolu-

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Kurdish woman prepares.

Kurds

Continued from page 1

maintained most of the repressive policies of the Shah's regime. The Kurds' language and culture were banned in the schools, TV and radio. Central government forces were stationed within Kurdistan which attempted to bully the people and aided landlords who wanted to grab back "their" land from newly formed peasant associations. In recent months, there were numerous demonstrations in Paveh against the komiteh, demanding Kurdish rule over the town.

Government Strikes With U.S. Planes

The central government reacted immediately to the news from Paveh by sending in F-4 Phantom jets and U.S. Bell helicopter gunships to bomb and strafe the town. But the Kurds dug in deeper in the surrounding hills and shot down a jet and a gunship. After sending reinforcements to Paveh, Defense Minister Gen. Taghi Riahi complained that "due to the region's ruggedness and the fact that mountain passes leading to the region are in control of Kurds, these units have not been able to reach there yet."

Open dissension was erupting in the ranks of many army units stationed in Kurdistan about whether they should fight the Kurds or not. In a show of solidarity with the struggle in Paveh, thousands of people staged a sit-in in Sanandaj, the provincial capital, surrounding the garrison to prevent the army from moving out or sending arms out either.

As the rebellion in Kurdistan grew in size, Khomeini declared himself commander-in-chief of the armed forces and "supreme religious leader" of Iran. Khomeini blasted the military for not showing enough "revolutionary zeal" in crushing the Kurds and ordered a nationwide mobilization of army units and "revolutionary guards" (the government's Islamic militiamen). The state radio canceled its regular programs to drum up anti-Kurdish hysteria and recruit volunteers to fight in Paveh.

Right-wing *falangists* (fanatical pro-Khomeini thugs, named after the fascist party set up in Spain under Gen. Franco's rule) held a rally in Tehran demanding suppression of the Kurds and death for the Kurdish progressive religious leader, Sheik Ezzedin Hosseini, who Khomeini had called a "corrupt element" the day before.

At the height of the fighting in Paveh, in response to the government's slanders that the Kurdish fighters are "separatists" and "agents of America and SAVAK," Hosseini answered, "We say again to the masses of Iran that the Kurdish people will fight for their basic rights in a united Iran and will not stop the fight even for a moment." He placed the responsibility for the fighting squarely on the government, charging that it is "moving towards a new dictatorship" and that remnants of the Shah's regime are still active in the government.

Within days, a large force of "revolutionary guards" and non-Kurdish army units converged on Paveh. Eighteen revolutionary fighters who were captured when the government forces retook Paveh were quickly tried by special "revolutionary courts" and executed for "waging war on God and his representatives."

The battle then shifted to Saiqez, a strategically located town of 40,000 north of Sanandaj. Using captured 106mm recoilless rifles, mortars and submachine guns, 2000 Kurds were keeping the army garrison on the edge of town under siege. A relief column from Sanandaj was ambushed on its way to Saiqez, leaving 15 government soldiers dead, including the commander of the 28th Infantry Division! Then, after three days of intense fighting, a column of tanks and artillery supported by helicopter gunships fought its way into Saiqez, while the Kurdish fighters again melted away into the hills.

Fighting Intensifies

According to the latest reports, the whole road north of Saiqez up to the Kurdish stronghold of Mehabad was in the hands of armed guerrillas who were digging in on both sides of the road. At

And You Ask Me Why...

This poem was read at a testimonial dinner for the \$1,000,000 Fund Drive in Seattle, Washington. It was written by an Okinawan woman to her mother.

Brown young woman of fifteen walking through fields of sugar cane.
Over head planes roar and in the distance an artificial thunder surrounds this small South Pacific Island.

World War II and the Imperial Japanese Army kidnaps young Okinawan boys.
As you hide in caves watching the hot coals...

Survival depends on no sleep tonight.

Weeks pass since the rice bowl has rested at your mother's table.
Her hair and nails begin to fall.

And you ask me why I'm involved in this revolutionary stuff?

The dust settles as these gangsters of days past polish their trophies with your home now occupied by U.S. troops.

You sell yourself as a maid to the officers, as your sister sells her body to the young GIs in the local bars.

Twisted with rage over foreign occupation local men took your sister to a deserted shack.

They found her three days later, hands and legs tied to the bedpost.

UGLY YES! IMPERIALISM U.S. STYLE

I can't believe you're asking me why I'm involved?

Refusing to go down, you married an American hoping for a better life for your children.

Only to find Iowa in-laws thinking that because your children's skin was brown somehow that meant unclean.

Twenty years of mashed potatoes as you unlearned the Japanese.

Why do you keep asking why I'm a revolutionary?

Two tours in Vietnam turned your husband, my father's hair white.
SOMETHING HAPPENED!

I know John Wayne went down a notch as his favorite star.

I don't think it's hard to figure why I'm a communist!

Boeing busted in '71 along with your marriage.

You hit the welfare and sewing factory line as he hit the bottle with another woman.

You never had time for a proper nervous breakdown,
That had to be squeezed in after work or weekends.

CAPITALISM STABBED YOU IN THE BACK!

Now some may say... Gee what a sad poem, but this poem is not through.
Your battles, mother, won and lost are my strengths.

The question isn't why I'm a revolutionary,
but how long will you remain on the sidelines?

press time, there are clearly the makings of a major battle in the area around Mehabad, one of Kurdistan's main cities and a traditional center of Kurdish resistance.

Though some forces started up efforts to arrange a cease-fire and a permanent settlement towards the end of August, the Kurdish revolutionary fighters have shown no signs of backing down before this virtual invasion of Kurdistan. The central government has demonstrated its attitude towards the Kurds by continuing to execute captured fighters (bringing the current total to well over 50). Among those executed recently are non-Kurdish revolutionaries who have joined the struggle and soldiers accused of "desertion"—courageously refusing to fight against their Kurdish brothers.

While the struggle in Kurdistan continued to heat up, Khomeini further tore the veil off his so-called "revolutionary" Islamic Republic by closing down the public headquarters of all revolutionary and progressive organizations. According to a representative of the League of Fighting Women, their Tehran headquarters was shut down last week by "revolutionary guards." Under the new censorship law, 22 more previously legal publications were also shut down, including the Fedayeen's newspaper. Iran's revolutionary Marxist-Leninist forces had already been publishing their newspapers underground for some time, clearly anticipating this new reactionary move of the government.

Khomeini's Role

Now that he has openly taken the reins of government, commander-in-chief Khomeini's attacks on the Kurdish people and outlawing of the revolutionary and democratic press is costing him dearly. While he continues to have a large following, his support is starting to fall away as rapidly as it grew last year. A year ago, Ayatollah Khomeini became a rallying point for

the struggle against the Shah's fascist regime because he was uncompromising in demanding that the Shah must be overthrown and because he took a strong stand against U.S. imperialism's support for the regime.

However, a major reason for his widespread popularity was the relative weakness of the Marxist-Leninists and revolutionary forces in the mass movement at that time. In fact, Khomeini never led the Iranian people's revolutionary struggle forward, but rather at most approved and publicized the actions taken by the masses themselves. And even while he stood with the people's struggle against the Shah, Khomeini's fundamentalist Islamic ideology could only allow him to view the goals of the revolution in an extremely narrow and ultimately reactionary way.

As he rode the crest of the mighty Iranian revolution to power in early 1979 and proceeded to ally himself with the national bourgeoisie and important sections of the landlord class, Khomeini's previous democratic, anti-imperialist positions were within a few months transformed into their opposite. From executing reactionary murderers for the Shah's regime—and even then in a half-stepping way, not mobilizing the masses—he has taken to killing revolutionaries, particularly the Kurds.

While the new "revolutionary" government has had some contradictions with the imperialists, it cannot decisively break the grip of imperialism and feudalism on Iran because its own class interests call for rebuilding the economy on a capitalist basis. This places the government squarely in opposition to the demands of millions of oppressed Iranian peasants for land. And it means falling back on foreign investment, technicians and "aid" to make industry "profitable."

In industry after industry, the government is trying to get the old factory owners, many of whom fled the country during the revolution, to come

CPML on Iran: Too Much Revolution Is A Dangerous Thing

In keeping with their past practice, the Communist Party Marxist-Leninist (CPML) has rushed forward lately to champion the suppression of those who are fighting to push the Iranian revolution forward. When the Shah was in power, the CPML called him "an important force for stability in the Middle East" and did their best to support him while trying not to appear too openly counter-revolutionary. They backed him all the way up to the eve of his downfall. It wasn't long before they stopped questioning Khomeini and became staunch supporters of the Khomeini-Bazargan government once it was clear that it was lining up with the U.S. The current government has suddenly become the new "force for stability and national unity in Iran," and now the CPML is even more comfortable and open in its support of reactionary rulers in Iran since the government parades around as a "revolutionary" one.

Check out their recent two-part "exclusive" report from Iran in the pages of *The Call* (7/30 and 8/20), written by one David Kline. Even this devoted fan of the Ayatollah is forced to admit that "...no one can deny that a political crisis—a crisis of national unity—exists in Iran." But is this because of the government's attacks on the revolutionary left or its campaign to crush the struggles of Iran's oppressed nationalities through force of arms? No, it is because "some powerful forces, in an effort to monopolize power, have allowed internal contradictions to overshadow the fight against imperialism. Their sectarian and undemocratic policies have brought the country to the brink of a national split."

And just what powerful forces does the CPML mean? This "sectarianism," we are informed, "has not only come from the religious right." Oh no, it is also the revolutionary left (transparently labeled "petty-bourgeois left and Trotskyites") who have "shown a willingness to sacrifice national unity in the pursuit of their own narrow aims." How "narrow," "sectarian" and "undemocratic" for the masses to continue the revolution to uproot U.S. imperialism in Iran, including its compradors and other flunkies who have been allowed to worm their way back into the government! Why, this might "overshadow the fight against imperialism" (here they mean the Soviet Union, not Iran's main enemy—the U.S.)!

The real problem of "unity," *The*

Call tells us, is that the Khomeini forces and the Bazargan government must heal their "power split" and unite more firmly to "bring order out of the chaotic post-revolutionary period." After all, CPML reports, "Khomeini recognized that the big capitalists, with their greater political and economic experience, could better run the affairs of state." How strange for these "communists" to declare the revolution over—especially since the government is utilizing the "great experience" of ex-SAVAK agents and many of the Shah's former military commanders to stomp on the struggle of the Iranian masses for the completion of the revolution's anti-imperialist and democratic tasks!

This pitiful call for "unity" against the revolutionary aspirations of the Iranian people stands in pathetic contrast to the powerful declaration of progressive Kurdish religious leader Sheik Ezzedin Hosseini who said in a statement from the city of Mehabad: "The Kurdish people will fight for its basic rights in a united Iran and will not stop the fight even for a moment." And what does the CPML have to say about the just struggle of the Kurdish people for autonomy within the Iranian state? Nothing—except, of course, to dismiss it as all a plot inspired by Moscow which is "fanning violence" in minority regions.

And what is CPML's response to the shutdown of progressive newspapers and the jailing of writers who have dared to criticize the Iranian government's growing reactionary actions?—"Most people feel the government should protect itself against its enemies." "Abstract concepts of freedom," we are told, "cannot overshadow the fact that the first genuinely popular government in 2,500 years is fighting for its very survival against a host of enemies." Yet in the very same article, these hypocrites have the gall to blabber on about "the literal explosion of books and newspapers of every political leaning" and to print a picture of an Iranian newspaper vendor with the caption: "Newspaper and book sellers dot the streets, an example of the new freedom in Iran"!!!

And just who among the Iranian "masses" has the CPML's hack Kline sought out for authoritative advice on the Iranian people's struggle for freedom and unity? No less than Foreign Minister Yazdi of the Bazargan government, who was trained at Baylor University and is little more than a U.S. agent in Iran. This same Yazdi is

While these military discussions were going on, the U.S. State Department made it clear that it wanted to see the "authority and effectiveness" of the government strengthened. But while the U.S. imperialists certainly support the Khomeini government's efforts to crush the Marxist-Leninist and other revolutionary forces, they can't rely on his somewhat unpredictable and fanatical Islamic forces to bring back their lost paradise of exploitation. And to accomplish this goal, the U.S. imperialists are hoping to utilize the growing dissatisfaction with the Khomeini regime to pull back together the reactionary pro-U.S. forces, particularly centered in the army, in order to get into a position to launch a coup at some point in the future if it seems necessary and possible.

The battle lines are clearly shaping up. If the current popular uprising in Kurdistan continues to grow in strength and revolutionary determination, it could well become a liberated base area for the revolutionary struggle throughout Iran. As the struggle unfolds, the rest of Iran is carefully gauging its development and drawing inspiration from the relentless determination of the Kurdish people to win their freedom from all oppression.



Call reporter chats with reactionary Foreign Minister Yazdi, while thousands of Iranians daily march chanting "Yazdi Go Home".

presently negotiating with the U.S. for new training programs for the Iranian military and for a resumption of arms shipments ordered by the Shah—more fighters, tanks and helicopter gunships to strengthen U.S. influence in Iran and to be used against the Kurdish people and others fighting for their democratic rights against the present regime! No wonder progressive forces throughout Iran are frequently heard to chant: "Yazdi go home!" *The Call* article features a picture of Kline proudly posing with Yazdi.

Who else did Kline seek out? Naturally the CPML's revisionist twin brother in Iran, the so-called Revolutionary Organization, who they are fond of painting as "prominent among the martyrs of the revolution." But the only thing prominent about this puny counter-revolutionary organization is that they have long been banned from the activities of the revolutionary left for first indirectly supporting the Shah,

and now for heaping praise on Khomeini even as he attacks the genuine Left. The "Revolutionary Organization" is now busying itself seeking cushy positions in the current government.

No matter how thinly CPML tries to cover its ass, they are always to be found opposing revolution (particularly in countries coveted by the U.S. imperialists!) and siding with reaction. They eagerly quote Foreign Minister Yazdi as bragging that because so few criminals of the old regime were executed, the Iranian revolution has been "the cleanest in world history..." And for CPML it is becoming even cleaner—clean with the blood of revolutionaries and of the Kurdish freedom fighters lined up against the wall and shot by Khomeini's "revolutionary guards." Obviously, for these filthy defenders of reaction, it would no doubt be far cleaner if there were no revolution at all.

Iran

Continued from page 13

clothes who had been provocateurs during the demonstration. They were laughing and yelling, "Long live communism—Death to Islam." They had been chanting this and other slogans in their efforts to instigate fighting between the Left forces and Moslem forces that were opposed to the current regime. One said, "I fought on both sides today," and then shouted "Javid Shah (long live the Shah). We can use this to help bring back the Shah."

During the march, many people were discouraged that the Khomeini-Bazargan government and the forces it represents, who had opposed the Shah, had become so reactionary so soon, but even stronger was their determination to carry forward the revolution in new circumstances.

The Marxist-Leninist forces, whose numbers and influence had grown 100 times during the last two years, had expected and prepared for these attacks, knowing that only with communist leadership could the working class and masses of peasants successfully lead the revolution forward. And far from weakening the Left, the attacks of the reactionaries were driving many people

closer to their side. "I hope the communists take over," one woman wearing a chador said, "they're the only ones that can do something about making a real revolution."

As many suspected, this demonstration became the spark for a series of well-planned attacks on revolutionary organizations. The Fedayeen building was shut down; offices of revolutionary student groups such as Vanguard Students and Fighting Students were attacked and burned. Interestingly enough at this time, the revisionist pro-Soviet Union Tudeh Party headquarters were untouched, as revolutionaries saw members of this reactionary and treacherous group leading the falangists to the location of the office of the Fighting Students.

The government and the reaction in Iran were trying to violently stomp out any breath of resistance to their regime. But in the course of Iran's continuing revolution, communist forces have grown too much in breadth, have deepened their roots among the masses too much, and have increased their political and ideological understanding too greatly to be easily stomped out. The revolution in Iran will go through many twists and turns and there is much sharp struggle ahead.

Kurds

Continued from page 8

back and take management posts again in "their" companies. And because of the depth of the economic crisis faced by the regime (unemployment stands at over 40%) which only genuine revolutionary measures that mobilized the masses of workers and peasants could begin to solve, and because of the growing mass struggle against its reactionary policies, the Khomeini-Bazargan government has begun to turn more openly than ever to the old master for help—the U.S. imperialists.

Moves Toward U.S.A

At the end of August, the government represented by Foreign Minister Yazdi announced that it was holding discussions with the U.S. military about resuming large shipments of equipment to the Iranian armed forces, especially the spare parts, ammunition and other supplies they need to get their army combat-ready for action in Kurdistan or wherever else revolutionary and progressive forces must be beaten down. For months now they have been regularly receiving spare military parts from the U.S., and the Iranian military still has at least 100 officers in training at U.S. military bases.

Austin Brown Berets Shoot Up Anti-Police Rally

Austin, Texas—The penalty 41-year-old Gril Couch paid for being Black was to be strangled to death by two plainclothes pigs on the streets of Austin on August 1. The murder took place in broad daylight in full view of people on the street who watched in outrage. One eyewitness described what happened: "One of the pigs held the Black man by the arm and another had him by the throat. I saw the guy go limp—he wasn't struggling." A uniformed cop arrived on the scene, and while handcuffing the dead man remarked that, "There isn't anything wrong with him," and laughed. "It was too cold," remarked a bystander.

This crime has blown apart the "serenity" of this university town with its reputation for being "laid back and mellow." People from the Black and Chicano sections of town were outraged at this latest police murder, and many wanted to do something about it. As usual, police spokesmen have been falling all over each other trying to justify this death. "There is no evidence to in-

dicade that the officer's stranglehold was fatal. The officers probably acted with a good deal of restraint," oinked the Chief of Police, even though the county medical examiner ruled death by "fractured larynx" during the struggle between Couch and the cops.

Recognizing the widespread outrage among the people of Austin, the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade (RCYB) began to go out among the people with revolutionary agitation pointing to the source of this killing. Especially in the rat-trap projects on the mainly Black east side, people began to unite with the line of the Brigade. Realizing the possibility of trouble around the case, the cops moved to stop RCYB activities. Three RCYB'ers were busted while leafleting in downtown Austin, the charges ranging from treason, harassment and panhandling to unlawful soliciting of funds since the leaflet had a statement urging people to contribute to the RCP's million dollar drive.

At the same time, two local *vendido*

(sell-out) organizations stepped into the action to cool things out and channel people's anger into a dead end. The local Brown Berets (there are many organizations called Brown Berets around the country, not all the same—*RW*), a Chicano organization that, despite its militant front and claim to be the defenders of the Chicano people, has worked hand in hand with the city's rulers for a long time, was one. They, along with another reformist group, the Black Citizens Task Force, began having daily vigils calling for removal of the police chief and city manager, creation of a citizens' review board, and dissolution of the police association. They were trying to cool things out to channel people's anger into a dead-end.

But they really showed their true colors when the Brown Berets viciously attacked a rally called by the RCYB at a park on the east side on Sunday, August 26 that was to feature Travis Morales, one of the Moody Park 3, as a speaker. As the rally was about to

begin, 20 Brown Beret goons armed with baseball bats and guns attacked the rally, shooting over people's heads, holding a gun to one RCYB member's head, and smashing people's car windows. They went wild looking for Travis Morales. All the while, half a dozen pig cars sat by watching, as these punks did their dirty work.

These Brown Berets, who like to pose as champions of the poor and oppressed, went on a rampage, attacking everyone in sight. Some carloads of legal observers pulled up and were immediately set on by the bat-wielding goons. A Brigade member was thrown off a bridge by several of the Brown Berets, and handguns were fired, the bullets whistling right over people's heads. A reporter from the *Austin Daily* was also beaten by the Berets.

Afterwards, they set up a picket line downtown, saying they wanted "communists and the CIA" out of Austin and that they attacked the march because they knew the police wouldn't. And this is exactly the case. They didn't want to add fuel to the people's anger, so they sat back and let the Brown Berets do the job.

The people of Austin have gotten a valuable lesson that pigs come in all colors and can even wear brown berets and put out a nice-sounding rap yet still be directly serving the rulers of this country. The Brown Berets have shown that, like the killers of Gril Couch, the thing they fear the most is the growing struggle of the masses of people of all nationalities, and they will do anything to smash it. ■

Citizens for Energy, Freedom & Nuclear Reaction

Take a stand, Americans! Don't fall prey to the ridiculous notion that nuclear power plants and bombs are in some way detrimental to society!

This was the basic theme of, yes, a pro-nuclear energy rally which took place at the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant in Colorado, on August 26. The plant, run by Rockwell International, produces plutonium components for bombs and has been a frequent target for anti-nuke demonstrators. It was thus chosen as the site of a "pro-nuke" rally by an "organization" called Citizens for Energy and Freedom.

The story goes that ever since thousands of anti-nuke demonstrators marched on Rocky Flats last April, employees of the bomb factory have pleaded with Rockwell to tell the "other side" of the story. Here was a suggestion that Rockwell could get behind.

The Citizens for Energy and Freedom was born, funded by Rockwell money. Art Benjamin, chairman of the group and, incidentally, director of plant operations at Rocky Flats, stated its purpose, "We have taken on the role of putting the pro-side of the nuclear debate to the public so the public can decide the real facts about the nuclear energy part and the nuclear weapons part."

But Rockwell hasn't been alone in this commitment to all-sidedness! Joining with it has been the United Steel Workers Union at the Rocky Flats plant as well as "other nuclear energy supporters" according to the press. The union organized the rally and Rockwell financed it. And, it appears that more than a few people in the area, including many workers at the weapons plant, have been infected by something besides radioactivity because the crowd was estimated at over 8,000.

The rally's message was that nukes are good for the country, good for the economy and good for you. The keynote speaker was none other than Peter Brennan, former Secretary of Labor under Nixon, who led the famous "hard hat" attack on anti-war demonstrators in the '60s. As the crowd cheered and appropriately waved little American flags, Brennan noted that the "kooks" who demonstrate against nukes "want everyone to go along with their fantasies." He warned the people not to let "the kooks take your jobs away."

That's right, Pete! We may have cancer. Our kids may be born deformed. And we may even get blown away by bombs like the ones built at Rockwell. But god damn it, at least we have a job! ■



This book, more than anything else now available, provides the theoretical basis for understanding how, 20 years after the revolution was betrayed in the Soviet Union, revisionists were able to seize power in China. The book was born in the throes of bitter struggle in the RCP against those who sought to drag the Party down the road to hell in the footsteps of the traitors Teng and Hua in China.

The revolutionaries in the RCP ruthlessly exposed exactly how the revisionists in China were reversing the socialist revolution, restoring capitalism and moving inevitably towards capitulation to imperialism. On the basis of its Marxist-Leninist line, the Party analyzed exactly what the developments in China would be—an analysis confirmed a thousand times over in the last year and more. But more, this book provides a continuing basis for going yet more deeply into the course of capitalist restoration in China and its international implications.

It doesn't just provide the theoretical basis to understand what *happened*. Using Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought it provides a basis to advance off this defeat in China to greater victories in the future. For it is precisely in the struggle against opportunism and bourgeois ideology that the international working class movement has strengthened and consolidated its unity and marched forward to deal new defeats to the bourgeoisie and reactionaries everywhere.

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China Official Urges "Raid"

On U.S. Revolution

On August 18, an unusually high-level delegation from China arrived in Hawaii to begin a month long tour of the U.S. The delegation was invited by the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association, an organization originally formed to promote socialist China under Mao's leadership, but which is now nothing but a travel agency and lobbying group for the new revisionist rulers of China.

Delegation leader, Wang Bingnan, gave an interview to the Honolulu *Star Bulletin* that was almost as revealing as it was disgusting. Wang said that, "Not only were the young people of China poisoned (by the so-called Gang of Four), but also, it appears, were some foreigners." So, this leading revisionist dropped previous claims that the Four were "isolated from the masses" and admitted they had influence over an entire generation in China!

Wang also chose the interview to give some "advice" to the U.S. ruling class. The *Star Bulletin* writes, "Groups like the RCP, Wang said, have an 'erroneous view' of modern China, adding that such groups might benefit from the 'campaign of disinfection' begun in China after the Gang of Four was 'finished' in 1977." And how were the Gang of Four "disinfected"? By ar-

resting them and holding them in solitary confinement for three years now, while unleashing a reign of terror against revolutionaries throughout China, who wanted to carry the revolution forward along the road chartered by Mao Tsetung before his death. Coming at a time when Bob Avakian and 16 other members of the Party are facing 241 years in jail for opposing Teng Hsiao-ping's visit to the U.S. last January, and when the Chinese government is spreading rumors that it plans to try the Four and perhaps even execute them, it is obvious what Wang was calling for. Is it possible that Wang is demanding the head of Comrade Avakian and other U.S. Maoists in return for China's continued "friendship" with the U.S. ruling class?

In any event, Wang Bingnan's interview certainly belies the claim of the U.S. government that their prosecution of the Mao Tsetung Defendants has nothing to do with politics!

The response of the RCP was quick in coming. Two days later a cozy banquet for the Chinese delegation, attended by millionaires and top politicians in Hawaii, was thrown into disarray when supporters of the RCP stood up and denounced the Chinese revisionists' attempt to "disinfect China of revolu-

tionaries." In San Francisco, 25 supporters of the Party confronted the delegation and issued a challenge in English and Chinese for a public debate over what is going on in China.

An interesting sidenote shows just how deep opposition to the Chinese revisionist traitors goes. While in San Francisco's Chinatown, the delegation was drinking it up with the mayor of San Francisco. As they were leaving, they were confronted by a young woman lawyer who had visited China several years ago (before the revisionist

takeover) on a delegation from the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association. She recognized the interpreters as the same people who had interpreted for her delegation. She told them, "I'm no longer with the Friendship Association," and the Chinese replied, "Yes, we know." But as the revisionist delegation was boarding the bus this woman called out, "I just wanted you to know that I support Mao Tsetung and I know people all over the world who do and we know what you're doing in China!"

7 Jailed From '77 Auto Wildcat

Trenton, Michigan—A week in jail for fighting the company's attempts to force workers to slave in temperatures reaching 130°. That's justice? That's capitalist justice!

The Trenton 7, seven auto workers from Chrysler's Trenton, Michigan engine plant, have served their one-week jail sentence. A few weeks ago, Judge John Feikens had found them guilty of criminal contempt of the strike-breaking injunction he issued during the Trenton wildcat of August 1977. A heat walk-out that shut down the engine plant for four and a half days and also inspired other workers to stand and fight at that time. In his arguments for reaching a guilty verdict (he had turned down a jury trial), Feikens sighted the "irreparable harm" that the wildcat would cause Chrysler.

"Normally" after a strike or wildcat, any injunctions issued are thrown out, or at most those cited receive petty fines. But these are not "normal" times

for the rulers here, and in the case of the Trenton 7 it gives the capitalists a chance to drive this message home. Detroit papers splashed the jail-term news on the front page. Mark Stepp, head of the UAW's Chrysler department, was quoted as giving the following warning to the workers: "If the workers had only followed the grievance procedure." They wanted to be sure everyone got the message—"It's not nice to mess with us and we are prepared to punish you if you do."

With Chrysler, the auto industry, and the capitalist system as a whole facing a deepening crisis, the companies are becoming increasingly concerned with keeping "their" workers in line and ready to accept worsening conditions and intensified exploitation in the plants. More, they want us politically in line for the war and upheaval ahead. The Trenton 7 jailing is part of their preparations for the struggles ahead, and a sign of great turmoil on the horizon.

"Away with all pests"

Mao Tsetung



Hunger Strike at Walpole Prison

Monday, August 27, Walpole Prison, Massachusetts. Miguel Santiago, one of the prisoners in the segregation unit, the notorious 10 Block, was served shit on his lunch tray. He threw it back at the guard and was dragged from his cell, beaten and kicked. Now he's in the hospital.

While this beating was going on, one of the men in 10 Block managed to call out to inmates in A Block, the minimum security section at Walpole, who immediately organized a work stoppage. By 3:00 a complete lockup was clamped on the whole prison.

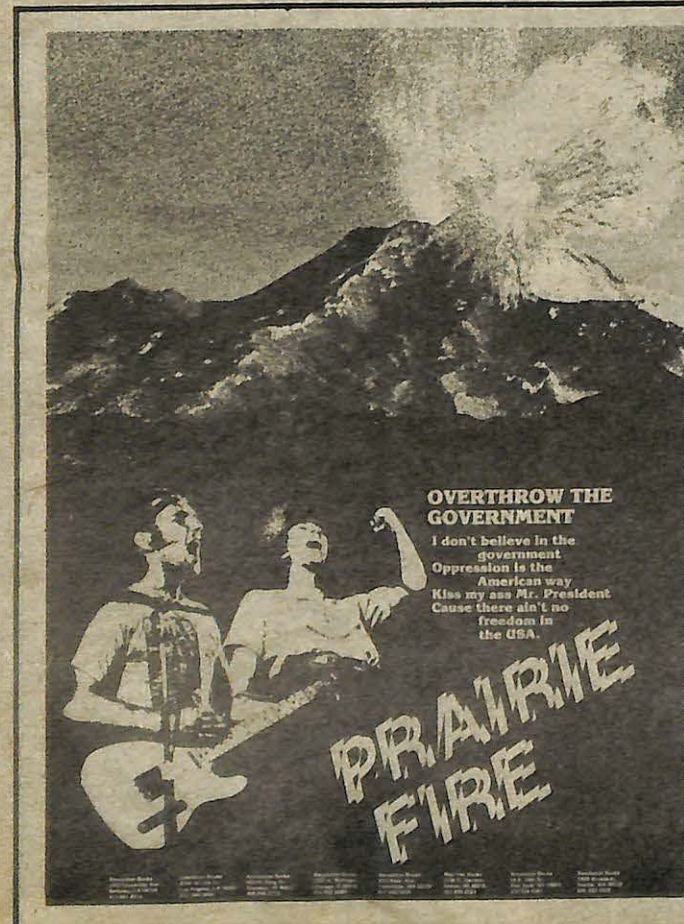
Walpole has been seething with the frustration and rage of the prisoners. Earlier this month (see *RW*, August 10), prisoners in Block 9 seized 5 hostages, including the prison superintendent. Last week, 18 men in 10 Block started a hunger strike in protest of their being locked up behind steel doors with only a six-inch square for "ventilation," with the guards randomly shutting off their

water and lights. Miguel had been without lights for three days.

Sunday, one visitor saw the guards at the prison collecting up all books and reading materials in a garbage bag. The men have no cigarettes or matches, and have no canteen privileges.

After the beating of Miguel, 12 more 10 Block prisoners joined the hunger strike—almost the entire segregation unit. 10 Block is where the Massachusetts prison system puts its "troublemakers"—men who have fought back against the system, its guards, and other flunkies.

The state of war existing between prisoners and the guards and administration is daily bursting into open struggle. These brothers are waging a defiant battle, and the more the pigs lock up, torture, and rip away, the clearer it becomes that the men have nothing to lose in fighting back. Every attack is like throwing gasoline on a fire.



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IN THE STREETS WITH IRAN'S REVOLUTIONARIES

Bob Saibel, a revolutionary activist and writer, has just returned from a two-month stay in Iran. He was a first-hand witness to the work and ideas of the Iranian Left. He was in the thick of the developing revolutionary struggle of the people of Iran from Tehran to Kurdistan. He is now writing a book based on his trip which will be published in a few months. The following on-the-spot account is the first of a number of first-hand stories from Bob that will appear in the Revolutionary Worker. It is an inside view of the storm of protest that followed the press censorship law passed by the Khomeini-Bazargan regime a few weeks ago, when 100,000 people took to the streets in Tehran on August 12.

Tehran, August 12

When we got to the demonstration on Sunday, the battle was already beginning. The mood of the people was one of total outrage that the attacks from the government had gone too far, and that the fruits of the revolution were not going to be easily snatched from them. They were determined to go to battle and not cave in to reaction. As usual the right-wing falangists or Hesbollahi (Party of God) had gotten there early

and were gathering near the gate of Tehran University, marching and chanting, "Death to Communism! Death to *Ayandegan* (the newspaper just closed down by the government)!" They were there to disrupt the rally and to try to create reactionary contradictions among the people. "There is no party but God's party and its leader is Khomeini," they chanted. They had come with two truckloads of rocks.

But the people were also gathering in the streets and inside Tehran University and beginning to form up to march to the Prime Minister's office. Soon over 50,000 progressive people and revolutionaries were in the streets near the university, determined to hold the demonstration. The crowd burned with anger remembering the thousands who had shed their blood and sacrificed so much to topple the fascist Shah, and now all the hard won victories were being snatched away.

Since the February insurrection the masses have had a yearning for understanding. There has been a profusion of progressive and left literature, from pamphlets and books to newspapers and movies. But the Khomeini-Bazargan government could

not tolerate this for very long. The ideas spread by these publications threatened their rule.

The leftists I had been talking with knew that for some time the government had been preparing a reactionary press law that would give them virtually complete control over any and all publications. And it came. "Article 20: Any person who through the media of the press insults or disparages Islam or any other official religion in the country will face an imprisonment term of 6 months to 2 years. Article 21: In cases where an article is published which has no basis in fact and can damage or disparage the reputation of religious leaders, both the writer of the article or the manager of the publications are liable and can face an imprisonment term of one to three years. Article 22: Any publication which insults the leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran will be closed down from one to six months."

Then it happened. *Ayandegan* was seized by "Revolutionary Guards" and over 40 progressive writers and editors were jailed. The government's excuse? That *Ayandegan* was "opposed to the interests of the Islamic society and the government of the Islamic Republic," that it has "published diversionary ideologies and cooperated with elements opposed to the Islamic Republic" and that it "attempted to create dissent and disunity among Moslem groups." All this for fighting to continue the revolution. Everyone knew these charges were a sham. If the government wanted to look for and weed out SAVAK, CIA agents and Israeli intelligence, they should have cleaned out their own government and armed forces first.

Ayandegan had by far the biggest circulation of any paper in Iran, about four to five hundred thousand a day. Being one that fought to expose imperialism and reaction and push the revolution forward, it consistently told the truth about the struggles of the oppressed nationalities, such as the Kurds, and exposed imperialist elements in the armed forces. *Ayandegan* was one of the only papers to support and report on the strike of Air Force *homafars* (jr. officers), aimed at driving pro-



Revolutionary Worker

imperialist elements from the armed forces.

As one small incident shows, hundreds of thousands of people depended on *Ayandegan* and newspapers like it for a progressive analysis of the daily events. When one young newspaper seller was attacked for selling *Ayandegan*, *Ahangar*, *Pegamemrouz*, as well as other left and democratic newspapers, he responded with "I've sold hundreds of these in a single day, but of the twenty *Jomhuri Islamie* [the official newspaper of Khomeini's Islamic Republican Party—RW] newspapers I have, I still have 12 left."



Revolutionary Worker

(Above) A street in Tehran blanketed by revolutionary Marxist and progressive literature which had been flourishing since the February insurrection. The Khomeini-Bazargan government could not tolerate this for very long. (Right) Mojahadeen headquarters now occupied by reactionaries who seized it in the recent wave of attacks on the Left.



Revolutionary Worker



(Left) Bob Saibel (standing second from right) with Kurdish revolutionaries.

(Above) August 12, 100,000 march from Tehran University to Bazargan's office.

(Right) Pitched battle with reactionaries who attacked the demonstration.

Revolutionary Worker



Revolutionary Worker

The line of the left was that this was indeed a sharp attack and a reactionary attack. At the same time they felt it important that revolutionaries should clearly understand the need to go beyond struggle over democratic rights and to deepen the revolution by integrating with the workers and peasants and demanding fundamentally that imperialism and feudalism be ripped out of Iran.

Fighting As Demonstration Starts

At six, when the march was to start, the battle began. The falangists were 400 to 500 strong. They were in the street in front of the University, trying to prevent the march from even happening. But people were determined that it should. In the past, progressive forces had not wanted to make the main target of the struggle the battle with the falangists and had tried to avoid incidents that the government could use to further repress revolutionaries. But now people were disgusted with these reactionary groups and were determined that they weren't going to allow them to prevent this demonstration, regardless of how much fighting it took to break through.

The fighting started. Thousands in waves of struggle, back and forth, first the revolutionaries surging forward, then being temporarily driven back by the bricks and stones, knives and sticks of the reactionaries. But the people were determined to take this attack head on. One revolutionary woman on top of a car kicked one of the falange in the face, charging everyone around her with excitement and inspiring a fresh push forward. The taste of striking back at these dogs was good in people's mouths. We then broke through and the march towards the Prime Minister's office began, with tens of thousands pouring down the street marching side by side, taking up the entire street with chants of "Down with imperialism! Down with reaction! Down with Zionism! Free the Revolutionary Journalists!"

The attacks by the falangists continued on and off. They would gather at the rear of the march and attack, temporarily scattering people, but the marchers would quickly regroup. As we neared the Prime Minister's office, the government's "Revolutionary Guards" appeared on the scene, following their usual tactic of letting the falangists attack the demonstration, then trying to break up the demonstration in the name of "keeping the peace"—trying to accomplish with different tactics what the

falangists tried to do.

Fires Burning All Over

Suddenly, fires were burning all over, piles of rubbish in the street were on fire, people were holding burning newspapers in their hands and the air had a sting to it. The Guards, who were shouting to the people to go home, had fired tear gas. But the march went on. On the corner near the Prime Minister's office, these reactionaries tried to prevent the demonstration from reaching its objective, but hundreds formed a barricade and fought tit for tat, rock for rock with them, utilizing anything they could pick up off the street from paving stones to rocks to bricks, and protecting themselves with cardboard shields. Some elements in the demonstration said, "We don't want to fight with them," but the anger and determination ran too high and the rocks flew back and forth for over half an hour.

After assembling at the Prime Minister's office and denouncing Bazargan, with the chants "Bazargan, our blood is on your hands!" and "Bazargan, is this our freedom?", the march headed towards the police station and Tehran University.

As the crowd headed back to Tehran, the reactionaries attacked once more, injuring over 400 people with rocks and knives. As we were running towards the alleys, my friend was hit with a stone and momentarily went down. I grabbed him and we struggled to rejoin the demonstration and keep going. Time and time again, when we were either cut off from the main body of the demonstration, or it was unclear which route the march should follow, people gathered and struggled together to develop a plan.

On the spot, people who had never

seen each other before united in struggle and discussion to push the demonstration and the struggle overall forward. The atmosphere was politically charged. Whenever a small group gathered, it was like a magnet drawing together 30 or 40 people listening and debating tactics and politics. There was an intense spirit of unity and determined struggle surrounding us; I felt part of these great revolutionary people in Iran.

Stench of U.S. Influence

Throughout the battle, the presence of U.S. imperialism was unmistakable. The falangist gangs stink of U.S. influence, being a near carbon copy, with Islamic slogans, of the gangs unleashed by the U.S. prior to the Shah's coup in 1953, and similar to the pro-Shah gangs of pre-revolution days. These gangs are also closely connected with the "Revolutionary Guards" and the Islamic Republican Party, among whose leaders are the notoriously pro-U.S. foreign minister Ibrahim Yazdi and the reactionary director of radio and TV, Ghobseleh. Because Yazdi speaks Farsi [main language in Iran—RW] with a Texas accent and because of his obvious pro-U.S. leaning (many are convinced he's a CIA agent), progressive people have creatively developed an old slogan making it "Yazdi go home!"

The government is riddled with pro-U.S., even pro-Shah, elements. The pro-Shah elements have been taking advantage of the current situation and actively working to attack the revolution, trying to bring the Shah back. After the demonstration, a friend of ours had to take someone that was hurt to the police station. At the station he saw 5 or 10 off-duty policemen in their street

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Why shouldn't I sell *Ayandegan* instead of *Jomhuri Islamie*?"

The day after *Ayandegan* was closed down, there was immediate outrage among the masses. On the spot, a demonstration of 5,000 people gathered to defend *Ayandegan* and the progressive writers that were arrested. Soon afterwards, the demonstration today was called by a democratic organization, the National Democratic Front. And with the new "Islamic mandate" that the government possessed, it was clear that the class struggle would escalate and that it would be a sharp battle to hold this demonstration.



Middle East

Continued from page 3

willingness to go along with recognition of Israel, as signified by their support for the Kuwait resolution, and a U.S. shift to some willingness to consider a Palestinian mini-state in the West Bank and Gaza. This latter move is still violently opposed by Israel, but the Andy Young negotiations with the PLO—which he was obviously put up to by U.S. policy makers—can certainly be seen as preparing the groundwork for such a move.

This is not to say that the U.S. is now opting for a Palestinian mini-state. Quite the contrary, they are still looking for a way to blackmail the Palestinians into accepting some meaningless “autonomy”—which is the purpose of the current Israel-Egypt negotiations. But the U.S. is also under great pressure, and cannot stake all of its cards on absolute support for Israel's maximum demands, i.e., no Palestinian state and no recognition of the PLO.

This pressure on the U.S. comes from several sources, and was summed up by *Time* magazine this week in the following way: “Beyond the Israeli-Egyptian dispute, the U.S. confronts profound changes in the larger Mideast political scene. Since the fall of the Shah, Iran has become unstable. There is also a simmering Marxist belligerency in

South Yemen. The surrounding turmoil has made Saudi Arabia—a vital source of U.S. oil—increasingly insecure. Thus, argue some State Department officials, the U.S. should recognize that there is a sharp divergence between American and Israeli interests in the Mideast—and that American interests require some progress on the Palestinian question.”

Now a lot of the *Time* analysis is just plain gobbledygook and b.s. But the point is that the old U.S. strategy of unqualified support for Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Arab land, and the use of the U.S.-supplied Israeli military as a leashed dog—which they were quite willing to unleash to keep the Arab states in line—is seen by the U.S. ruling class as needing some modification, although not fundamental change.

In the past this strategy has allowed the U.S. to maintain its hegemony in the area by proclaiming itself the “mediator” that could talk to both sides. But this sword has another edge to it. The continuing struggle in the Middle East offers opportunities for the Soviets to fish in troubled waters and to make inroads. Secondly, the depth of support for the Palestinians in the Arab states has made it impossible for the Arab rulers, like the Saudis, to openly stab the Palestinians in the back by a recognition of Israel without a settlement acceptable to the Palestinians.

This could lead to even further turmoil and contribute greatly to popular struggle in their own countries that could send them packing to join the Shah in exile. For this reason the other Arab governments have hesitated to go along with Egypt's Sadat in capitulating to Israel and the U.S. and has led them to keep up some pressure on the U.S. to negotiate directly with the Palestinians.

Finally, some of the U.S. allies in Europe are extremely nervous about the current situation and fear that Soviet gains in the Middle East, or Arab use of oil as a weapon to force the kind of solution they see as most acceptable could have much greater negative consequences for them than would be entailed in forcing the Israelis to trim some of their demands. As a result, several western European countries have shown a new openness to the PLO, as was seen in the recent meetings between PLO leader Yasser Arafat and Austrian president Kriesky and West Germany's Willy Brandt in Vienna.

What is at issue here for the rulers of the U.S. and the other capitalist countries of the West, as well as for the Arab feudal lords, is not the rights of the Palestinian people who have been driven from their homeland into the misery and squalor of refugee camps. The key question is which superpower is going to dominate the region, and within that how to deal with the Palesti-

nians, whose struggle they have not been able to crush.

In this light, Andy Young's antics at the UN around the PLO can be seen for what they are. In fact, it is very similar to the role he was assigned to play in Africa. While the U.S. has continued its support for the Smith regime and its puppet Muzorewa in Zimbabwe, Young was given the task of negotiating with and trying to cool out the liberation war being waged by the Patriotic Front. The U.S. imperialists have used “outspoken Andy” as a bridge to the liberation forces in an effort to get them to abandon their revolutionary struggle and as a “progressive” spokesman for U.S. imperialism to counter Soviet influence among the national liberation forces.

The flap around Young and the PLO at the UN has also served the purpose of preparing public opinion and breaking with some of the hegemony of the straight pro-Zionist sentiment the ruling class has long worked to create in this country, steps that they see as necessary to give them more maneuvering room in dealing with the PLO and bringing it under U.S. control. For all of his fiery talk and militant, “independent” dissent from public U.S. policy of not negotiating with the PLO, Young is not diverging one bit from what the U.S. is trying to pull off. In fact he has been doing a very fine job for U.S. imperialism.

One on One

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time, his full life to his instruments or would he have to fit in and do something else?

Bob: I think the question that will confront everybody when you're trying to build a completely different kind of society that doesn't rest on dividing the people into queen bees and drones, the question we'll struggle with everybody to take up is how can they make a contribution to building the new society and pushing the revolution forward. If they have developed certain abilities and skills and practical experience and so on, then the question becomes how can they use those to benefit the revolution. But we want to instill people with the idea that wherever they can make the best contribution is where they should make sacrifices and work.

X: In other words, if a person has talents, he could use that, he wouldn't necessarily have to work as a worker part of his time?

Bob: I think that the artists, too, have to carry on regular productive labor. And also they have to get involved in the political movements that the masses are waging, because they need to change their thinking. Everybody does, but especially the people who have a little bit more privileged position.

In any society some people produce the food and the things that people have, including the instruments you use, and that's the working class. That provides the material basis for you to be a musician. And the question is, since you're being fed and clothed by the working class, why shouldn't you use your abilities to serve the working class? And in order to do that you have to know them. You have to understand their feelings, and you have to know what kind of art and what kind of music will serve them.

X: You can't isolate yourself as an artist.

Bob: Right! You've got to be in the thick of the struggle. And this is true for doctors. For example, doctors in this society—what do they know about what a person working in a factory actually goes through and what their health problems are, if they sit up in the doctor's office. They can prescribe all kinds of medicine, but if they have no sense of what that human body is really going through, how are they going to be able to really treat that person medically.

A lot of doctors fall into pragmatism: “Prescribe this, prescribe that; if this doesn't work, try that.” And they kill a lot of people in the process, even if they don't mean to. Or they say, “Listen, why don't you take it easy.” And the person's got a family that has to live, they can't take it easy. They've got to work hard. And the doctor says, “Why

don't you get a light job.” But the capitalists are not going to let you have a light job. The same thing is true under socialism—people still have to work... the body goes through physical processes, and the doctor can't sit in an office all day.

And the same thing is true of musicians. If you want to produce music that is inspiring to people and that takes the various forms and imbues them with content and even develops forms that take people's highest aspirations and concentrates and directs them toward changing the world and criticizing and challenging things, then you have to know the people.

“Shitwork”

Y (white dude, middle twenties): I just wanted to ask you, after we fight the revolution, after it's all over, how will you choose, how will you put everyone in their class? I mean, how will you choose to have people do the shit jobs? Because everybody will want the good jobs. How will you get people to do the shitwork?

Bob: Well, I think one thing we'll have to do is start breaking down the divisions, so that people aren't just stuck with one job all the time. But there will be things like, for example you might have a sewer system that backs up and runs all over the place. OK. You're going to have to get the communists to step into the forefront and go out and clean that up.

Y: What about the Rockefellers, why not them?

Bob: No, we're going to have to get the communists to do it. You know why? Because otherwise everybody's going to say, “Shit, I'm not gonna do that. Let somebody else do it.” And you're going to have to mobilize first the people who have the highest consciousness and can see that this has got to get done. And by them stepping forward, then we'll be able to mobilize other people to say, “Look, we've got to do this job not because we like it but because this society belongs to our class now, and if it's gonna get cleaned up, we're gonna have to clean it up. If it's gonna get changed, we're gonna have to change it.”

Of course you can drag some of the old exploiters down and make them do that, but you certainly can't rely on them. A communist has to be willing to go wherever the situation is the most difficult because otherwise you can't break out of the bourgeois thing of, “Well hell, I've had it rough all my life, let somebody else do it.” And then you get all the arguments about who's had it harder and you can't resolve that. You're going to have to bring forward the most class-conscious people to go to the forefront. And then people say, “Hey, these communists are different. They don't just sit around and say, “Let everyone else do the hard work.” Then people will come forward and see

this really is going to be something different.

The whole task of building the communist society is a long struggle. It involves relying on the masses of people to take up every sphere and to transform it consciously in their interests. But in order to do that the most advanced people are going to have to step to the forefront with the most difficult things.

Under capitalism the capitalists always say “You go out and do that, and we'll give the orders.” The people have to see that this really is different and we've got to get in on it because if things are going to get changed, we're gonna have to change them. We're gonna take the places like the slums and other things that are the worst and we'll have to fix them up first. If we don't do that, then we're not going to be able to unite and move forward. People will say, “This revolution is no different than before. I'm still on the bottom where I've always been. And the people that got it a little bit better are still getting more.”

Under capitalism it's dog-eat-dog,

MEChA

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tionaries, the Moody Park 3, who had upheld the rebellion as a glorious day in the history of the Chicano people and paid for this stand with heavy charges. These opportunists went so far as to pass around a letter from the *Houston District Attorney* which claimed the three were “isolated” in the community! This letter accused the three of “causing” the rebellion. As thousands nationwide were being won to support the 3 and the stand of the rebellion, the opportunists saw a real threat to their dreams of leading a new Chicano movement down the “safe” reformist road-to-nowhere which was blasted by the rebellion. They lashed out, passing the resolution in San Jose and sending copies to selected chapters all around the state, at the same time as the opening of the trial of the Moody Park 3. Once again these “communists” found themselves in very close unity with the U.S. ruling class and its aims.

Chicano Capitalism?

It is quite appropriate that the same editorial page of this South Bay MEChA newsletter in which the attack on the RCP occurs also contains an article entitled “Moving on Up—Hispanics Gaining Dollar and Cents Power.” This article states now that the “anti-establishment movement...” seems to have disappeared, it's time for “striving for economic cohesiveness and bounding forward monetarily.” How is this supposed to take place? By patronizing Chicano businesses, building up Chicano capitalists, who will, of

everybody against everybody else, and that reinforces the me-first ideology. Under socialism you start things by taking away the capitalist system of ownership and their ability to force everybody to scramble just to work for them. But you've still got all these differences that are left over, so you've got to bring the communists to the forefront of the struggle, and they'll set an example of self-sacrifice in breaking down this me-first stuff, and fighting for the future.

And there's going to be struggle among the communists, too. Some are going to say, “Man, we fought in the revolution, you know, I got my arm shot off and everything else. Let somebody else, let some of these others who stayed in the back for ten years while I was getting shot at, spit at, cursed and everything else. They were throwing shit at me when I was out selling the paper five years ago—let them go out and dig up the goddam sewers.”

And you have to say “no” because if we fall into that, it's just going to be everyone for himself and after a while we'll be right back to capitalism. ■

course, “once business is going strong... (put) people of Latino blood to work.”

This theory is given the name “Razanomics” but it's nothing new. The call for Chicano capitalism had its counterpart in the now discredited answer of “Black capitalism,” as well as in Houston where various politicians and reformers called for more Chicano judges, more Chicano pigs, rely on the system—all the dead-end solutions the masses rejected with the rebellion in Moody Park.

But it does speak to a certain phenomenon in society, especially within the movements of the oppressed nationalities. Some of those who were able to ride the crest of the people's struggle in the '60s to a more privileged position have taken to outright opposition to the struggle against oppression. Claiming to be “guardians” of the Chicano people, they are in fact dedicated to guarding their own positions. And the ruling class is demanding more and more that they play the role of firemen, put out the flames of rebellion, and keep things cool.

It is these forces that opportunist political groups like the CPML and League latch onto, tail after and promote. Of course revolutionaries, especially the RCP, must be attacked, lest they upset the reformist plans of these condescending saviors to “guard” the Chicano people from getting the idea the capitalist system is rotten and needs to be overthrown.

No Struggle Allowed

At the California conference itself, no debate or discussion on the resolution or the line it represented was allowed.

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Aurora, Illinois

Cops Shield Anti-Black Sniper

Aurora, Illinois. "I think the Black man has become so pacified since the death of Martin Luther King—he's waiting for something to happen to him personally before he gets involved... The police is more like the Gestapo these days... Innocent until proven guilty is more like a comic book or a fairy tale... *We have no rights...*" These ideas were tossed back and forth in casual conversation as six friends sat on the lawn eating pizza and talking in front of the YMCA hotel where four of these Black men were living on August 10.

Suddenly the midnight quiet of the residential neighborhood was broken as a shotgun blast ripped through the group. Before they could take cover a second round tore into the men's faces and chests. Four of the men managed to make their way to shelter in a house down the block. The other two took cover behind a car. The events that followed were like an instant replay of the words just uttered, as the mask of American democracy and justice was torn away by this terroristic attack by racist dogs in sheets and blue uniforms.

The cops were clearly in cahoots with this cold-blooded attack. They were called immediately and told that a sniper was shooting from the YMCA and had already wounded six men. Yet 15 minutes passed before they managed to travel nine blocks from the street to the Y, and even then they parked at the corner and waited—letting the six men bleed while the attacker got away.

From the street the wounded men saw a van pull into the YMCA parking lot and pick up a white man who had exited from a double-locked side door (a door which only Y employees have access to). It was only after the van pulled away that the pigs drove up to the front of the building where the wounded men still crouched behind a car. The cops knew they had nothing to fear from *this* sniper, as they brazenly paraded their backs to the windows where the shots had been fired.

The only pretense of an investigation by these cops was to single out one "suspect" and search his car and room—the Black man who had called the police to report the shooting! But they refused to search the rest of the rooms, saying it would "disturb" the tenants at that hour of the morning.

Their concern did not carry over to the victims of the shooting, however, as these uniformed dogs flatly refused to transport the wounded men to the hospital, even though one man was wounded seriously enough to require surgery.

Another man may lose an eye because Copley Hospital refused to do more than give tetanus shots to five of the victims, telling them to see their family doctor if they wanted the pellets removed.

This callous disregard for six Black men gunned down did not end there. The local *Beacon News* did not see fit to report the shooting at all until the story was picked up by the Chicago papers. The following Sunday they ran an insignificant and factually incorrect 2-paragraph article on the *obituary* page—a gesture interpreted by the victims as either wishful thinking or a threat by the reactionaries who own and run the paper. The front page that weekend was reserved for banner headlines and pictures of the KKK marching in Alabama.

But it should come as no surprise that these editors found promoting the Klan more newsworthy than exposing how these racist scum unleash terror against

Black people. Aurora, a highly industrialized city of 85,000, located 40 miles from Chicago, has a history of Klan activity that undoubtedly extends into the highest circles of the city fathers. Only two years ago the KKK launched an open recruiting drive, distributing membership cards in downtown restaurants. Protests by Blacks were answered with burning crosses in front of their churches. Mexican-Americans, who make up one-third of the population, have also received hate mail and threats from the Klan, who posted signs at the city limits saying "Welcome to wetback city."

In the weeks following this shotgun attack, harassment and threats against the victims have continued. Several have received phone calls and knocks on the door of their rooms at the Y, followed by shouts of, "We're going to get you again." One victim found spent shotgun shells in front of his door and "KKK" scrawled on the walls.

But as events show, it's not just the Klan rearing its redneck in Aurora; it's the whole power structure working to terrorize Blacks and keep them in "their place." The Klan-hearted scum in blue uniforms are stepping up their systematic brutality in Aurora's Black community. Only three months ago a 26-year-old Black man, Lewis Jones, was riddled with six police bullets during a scuffle with his own brother. Later the murdering pig was publicly praised for "saving the life" of Lewis' brother! Recent harassment prompted a Baptist minister to comment, "When a Black man walks down the street, the police cars slow down and the cops start talking into their radios."

In the face of this, the men who were shot have no illusions that the dog who sprayed them with shotgun pellets will be apprehended by the authorities. As one victim said, "How can you expect the pigs to solve the problem? They are the problem." ■

N.Y. Police Murder

Continued from page 1

are—"cold blooded murderers" and "perverted oppressors." Listeners constantly called in to express their anger and these calls were taped and replayed throughout the next couple of days.

On Friday morning, the NYPD announced that the killing of Luis Baez was *justified!* The cops involved would not be suspended nor taken off the streets. A demonstration was held in front of the police station and about a hundred people tried to storm the front door of the station. After a brief fight with club swinging cops, the demonstrators were repelled but hundreds continued to come down to the precinct after hearing about the action on the radio. A massive demonstration was called for on Monday night at 6:00 p.m.

Throughout the weekend, the tension and anger continued to build up. By Monday afternoon, the sentiment of the masses was clear. As one Black man said, "Too many people have been killed—it never stops, it just gets worse. I'm ready to go down with these bastards." By 3:00 p.m., there were already 300 people gathered in front of the police station. As 200 riot equipped cops stood guard, chants echoed in the street, "Luis Baez Dead, Cops Go Free. That's What the Rich Call Democracy." An effigy of a cop draped in an American flag burnt in the street.



RAGE! Hundreds storm 79th Precinct station in Brooklyn after the brutal killing of Luis Baez, shot 24 times by 5 N.Y. pigs.

By 5:00 p.m. the crowd had swelled to over a thousand people, mainly Black and Puerto Rican. When the hearse bearing Luis Baez's casket pulled up in front of the police station, a tremendous roar of anger arose out of the crowd. As the hearse pulled out, people lined up behind it and marched through the neighborhood. A banner which said, "Pigs—the murder of Luis Baez will be paid for in blood," brought by the RCP and RCYB (Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade), was taken by the people to the head of the march.

At the end of the march, a rally called by the Black United Front (BUF), a reformist organization, was held in the park across the street from the police station. But as the rally went on, it became clear to many that the BUF was unwilling to and incapable of leading people anywhere but back in the same old direction. Speaker after speaker called for Black voting power, more Black politicians and more investigations. In opposition to this, a contingent of 50 Black youth marched through the park chanting, "No more rapping, let's get scrapping!"

Throughout the rally, a sharp struggle took place over whether or not to take the rally across the street to the police station. As the rally ended, the BUF let loose with a pathetic speech designed to scare people into going home and not back to the station. They said that the police were too powerful and the people too weak to do anything else. But many people had come forward to stand with the RCP and others in arguing for a march back to the precinct. By the time the rally had ended, more than 200 people had returned to the police station. The BUF-led march went "safely" away in another

direction—safely, that is, until cops attacked it too, as people marched arm-in-arm.

The atmosphere in front of the station was tense. Everyone knew that something was going to break. Groups of youth stood in the street taunting the pigs, daring them to cross the barricades. The 200 cops were nervous and scared. Suddenly a bottle crashed at their feet, then another and another. A few minutes later 10 bottles crashed in their midst, some cops getting hit. Then it broke. The pigs started picking up bottles and throwing them back at the people. For a while a full scale battle raged as hundreds of people threw bottles, rocks and bricks at the cops. Finally the cops were able to charge the crowd and disperse them by clubbing anyone they could reach and arresting five people. Most people disappeared into the neighborhood but returned within 15 minutes. People broke up into little groups and continued throwing bottles and rocks at the cops until well after midnight. The cops brought in reinforcements, but every time a patrol car stopped to attack someone, it was met with a hail of bricks and cinder blocks from the rooftops of different buildings. Several patrol cars were trashed and five cops were injured. As the battle wound down, people vowed to continue the fight. The murder of Luis Baez would never be forgotten. As one youth shouted after firing off a bottle at the pigs, "We'll be back motherfuckers. This is just the beginning. We're gonna revolutionize this situation."

Flash—As we go to press, another night of street fighting has broken out in Bedford-Stuyvesant. This time, Molotov cocktails flew at cops and garbage lining the ghetto streets was set afire.

MEChA

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ed. The only literature permitted, aside from MEChA newsletters, were the *Call* and *Unity*. Members of the RCP, RCYB and Committee (including one of the Moody Park 3, Travis Morales) came to the site of the conference to distribute *both* the South Bay MEChA newsletter and a reply from the three organizations. They came to struggle with the students there over the two opposing lines, an action called trying to "force its way in and disrupt the conference" in the *Unity* article.

Apparently any political struggle would disrupt their tidy little schemes for the conference. A MEChA security force—consisting almost entirely of members of the League—blocked their path and forbade them from passing out any literature, including MEChA's own newsletter. When the revolutionaries pointed out these people had united with the ruling class to attack the struggle of the Chicano people, and were walking arm and arm with the pigs, one of their little tin soldiers cried, "We didn't do that." These four words represented too much political struggle for the leaders of this operation to allow; in true pig fashion, they tried to end it by amassing force and ordering an attack. These politically beleaguered and oh-so "open and above board" opportunists then covered all this up in

their *Unity* article, reporting simply: RCP disruption.

Meanwhile inside the conference the 300 students who had shown up were told the RCP were police agents who had tried to bust in with baseball bats. Of course, some might ask, if they were police why were they attacked rather than invited in to "work together"?

Sparse Crowd Votes

By the time the South Bay resolution came up for a vote of the conference as a whole, 85% of the delegates to the conference had left. Disgusted with the bureaucratic infighting and lack of serious attempt to deal with the political issues dealing with the Chicano people's struggle, most of the MEChistas packed up and headed home, allowing the CPML and the League to adopt the resolution with no discussion.

While the fact that most of the people left the conference undoubtedly did not please the opportunists, still their main goals were achieved. Now they can parade around under the cover of "representatives of Chicano students" while they join the ruling class' attacks on the RCP. ■



Afghanistan Revolution

Continued from page 7

Republic of Afghanistan has made successful strides in reconstructing the social and economic life and reviving and establishing the democratic rights and freedoms." And that "it is natural that these steps, and especially efforts on land reform which are beneficial to a vast number of landless peasants or peasants with very little land would arouse the anger of big landowners and feudals and other oppressor classes."

People maliciously and purposely slanders the armed uprising of the Afghan people as the work of "world imperialism and reactionary circles" who "are supporting and provoking the anti-revolutionary and reactionary forces and elements" and uses this to viciously attack the Afghan people.

Only a handful of traitors such as the leadership of the Tudeh Party would bill a Moscow financed, planned and instigated coup as a revolution and would portray the true revolution of the people as "plots and terrorist acts by feudals and reactionaries."

These same filthy traitors also followed Soviet policy 16 years ago and portrayed the heroic uprisings of the Iranian people in Tehran and other cities the same way when the people opposed the so-called land reforms of the traitorous Shah. The Tudeh Party became staunch supporters of the U.S.-Shah "white revolution" [an "economic revolution" and "land reform" which left the peasants worse off than before—*ed.*] The anti-revolutionary and criminal acts of the Kabul lackeys would naturally be called a revolution by these traitors.

But regardless of what the Tudeh Party and its paper say there is no "common ground" whatsoever between the anti-autocratic and anti-imperialist revolution of the Iranian people, and the Shah and the rotten "revolution" of the traitorous Taraki-Amin in Afghanistan. On the other hand there exists a lot of common ground between the Moscow ordered so-called revolution in Afghanistan and the U.S. ordered "white revolution" in Iran.

Two Decades of Soviet Expansionism

The reactionary coup of Noor Mohammad Taraki and his cohorts was the direct result of over two decades of expansionist policies of Soviet social-imperialism in Afghanistan. With the seizure of power by the Khrushchev-Brezhnev clique in the Soviet Union and the changes in the Soviet policies against the interest of world revolution, strong tendencies grew among the reactionary circles in different countries to normalize relations [with the Soviet Union] and begin the period of friendship.

Such was the case in Afghanistan. The feudal government of Mohammad Zaher Shah, while deeply dependent on U.S. imperialism and the Western bourgeoisie, still hailed and welcomed the success of anti-communists and revisionists in the Soviet Union, called them "partners," "friends" and "brothers" and attempted to devise a policy of developing political and economic relations with them. They invited Khrushchev to visit Afghanistan.

The newly established capitalist government of Russia which was making an all out attempt to revive the colonialist policies of Tsarist Russia, immediately armed the feudal army of Zaher Shah with Russian equipment, artillery and supplies. In return, the Afghan government and Zaher Shah gave full rights to the Russians to explore and sell natural gas for one-third of the international market value for 20 years. That is how the Russian government began its penetration and involvement in Afghanistan.

Following the natural gas deal, the Zaher Shah government signed a 20-year treaty giving the Soviet Union control of agriculture... The Soviet Union also succeeded in getting the Zaher Shah government's approval to build the Saalnak cross-country highway. This was an important move,

economically, strategically and militarily to the newly risen Soviet imperialists. Eventually, many Soviet agents arrived in Afghanistan as experts and military advisors. At the same time, they gained influence in the political and economic fields.

About this time, a company of Afghan traitors and agents of the Imperial Court—like Noor Mohammad Taraki, who has been accused of working for Britain and the United States, and Babrak Karmel, the famous bootlicker of the Imperial Court—began getting active.

They established the so-called "People's Party." This party immediately exposed its true nature. It was the result of courtship and marriage between the Soviet revisionists and reactionary elements from the Afghan Imperial Court, the powerful local autocrats, spies and mercenaries, and was born with the KGB (Soviet Intelligence Service) acting as midwife.

The "People's Party" became one of the pillars of reactionaries and spies against the oppressed Afghan people and became the organized tool of the Soviet Union to expand its penetration even more within the Imperial Court and the Afghan government.

Taraki—Kissing Imperialism's Hands

Taraki, this rotten Afghan "leader of revolution," was at that time in competition with his "People's Party" cohorts in attaching himself to the Imperial family and portraying himself as a great follower of Shah. When Zaher Shah was returning from the Soviet Union, Taraki very excitedly welcomed the "above all classes" Shah and kissed his bloody hands.

[The *Truth* article here explained that Mohammad Zaher Shah's government was overthrown in July of 1973 in a coup led by Mohammad Davoud Kahn. The coup took place with the joint co-operation of U.S. and Soviet intelligence agencies—*editor.*]

Mohammad Davoud Khan, a feudal dictator and one of the most famous and distinguished members of the Royal family, put the "Republic" hat on and continued to run the same old reactionary system. The only difference was this new government even destroyed the last vestiges of democracy and tightened the rule of fascism, terror and oppression throughout Afghanistan.

Even though Mohammad Davoud Khan was deeply dependent on the United States and the Western world, he gave many economic, political and military concessions to the Soviet imperialists, and at the onset, began closely cooperating with Taraki and Co. and the rest of the Soviet agents and servants.

The Soviet government was the first to officially recognize the Davoud Khan government and began to paint this brutal, butcherous member of the Royal family as otherwise to the people of the world. All of the Soviet-prone parties and organizations around the world including the Iranian Tudeh Party's Central Committee clique welcomed the Davoud Khan coup with the utmost joy and branded it as a revolution in Afghan society.

Today, Taraki and Co. say that they have saved the country "from the decadent and anti-people government, the spy network of the worn-out imperial regime, and its distinguished representative Mohammad Davoud Khan." But they are the same people who earlier defended Davoud Khan more than anyone else. They portrayed him as a beloved "left" element and a "progressive, democrat and nationalist" distinguished personality.

Taraki and Co., and their masters in Moscow, defended the massacre by Davoud Khan of defenseless people in Zamindavar, Ghandhaar, Hazarehdaat and other places and defended his statements and the traitorous performance of his government.

Needed—A Total Lackey

Davoud Khan, however, had used up the services of Taraki and Co. and he

no longer required their assistance. His deepening relations with U.S. imperialism, his trip to Saudi Arabia, his visit with Egypt's Sadat and the Shah of Iran as well as his developing cooperation with other U.S. puppet regimes in the region, was viewed by the Kremlin as an anti-Soviet move.

Even though the Soviet Union had deeply penetrated the Davoud Khan government, the Soviet Union was not able to bring Afghanistan totally within its sphere of influence. Moreover, they were unable to execute their plan of "Asian Peace Accord" whose purpose was to strengthen the Soviet sphere of influence by forcing the Asian countries to sign a series of political, economic and military accords against the hegemonic plans of the United States.

This, in turn, forced the Soviet Union to take direct action in the internal affairs of some of these countries, including planning coups among other things. Based on this situation Taraki and Co., following direct orders from Moscow and aided by KGB agents and Soviet advisers, staged a coup d'etat in Afghanistan on April 27, 1978.

From the day after the victory of the coup, the Soviet KGB agents, economic advisors and military experts and officers began pouring into Afghanistan like an army of ants. Many traitorous deals and highly profitable plans were awarded to the Soviet Union. Soviet capital investments in Afghanistan increased. Today, the Soviet Union controls oil, gas, coal, copper and the rest of the natural resources in Afghanistan.

But regardless of the threats of expulsion against them and even imprisonment, the white and blue collar workers in Afghanistan have been continually exposing the plundering of their natural resources by the Soviet Union and the sellout of the country by the traitorous Taraki regime and have risen to fight against them.

This running dog of Soviet social-imperialism, Taraki, has sold out all of Afghanistan to his masters in Moscow and has established an unprecedented regime of terror and oppression in that country. This is the entire content of the so-called "revolution" that the customers of Soviet policies and Soviet agents in different countries, such as the Central Committee of the Tudeh Party in Iran, are praising so much.

The courageous Afghan people have been struggling from the start against Taraki and the vast plundering and interference from the Soviet Union. Today all of Afghanistan is an arena of workers' and peasants' massive strikes and uprisings to oust the Soviet social-imperialists from their homeland and to overthrow the fascist dictatorial Taraki regime.

Armed Uprisings

Exactly one year after the coup d'etat, the armed uprisings of the heroic people of the city of Haraat and the surrounding villages revealed the true nature of Taraki and his Soviet masters' rotten "revolution." Tens of thousands of people from Haraat and the surrounding countryside rose and attacked the government buildings and military centers of the city with fists, axes, sickles, sticks, swords and some old guns. The people attacked the Soviet tanks with their bare hands and mutilated over 300 army members who were mostly Russian.

The office of the social-fascist ruling party was quickly taken over and its officers killed. The massive onslaught of people forced the city's military barracks to surrender. They then took over the guns and ammunition storage depots and distributed the guns among the people. With anti-Soviet and anti-government slogans, the people demanded the country be freed from the yoke of Soviet social-imperialism, the freedom of political prisoners, and the overthrow of the fascist dictatorial regime of the traitorous Taraki.

The butcher regime, immensely frightened by the Haraat uprising, ordered the bombing of the city. Afghan pilots refused to commit this awesome genocide, so Soviet pilots flew the planes and bombed the city of Haraat and its surroundings. Over 15,000 men, women and children were martyred in that bombing. Yet, despite

this massive slaughter, the heroic uprising of Haraat was not defeated and the armed resistance in the city and surrounding area still continues.

In the armed uprising of the people of Dareh-Soof, coal miners and peasants victoriously defeated the government's Soviet-led military forces. Where is a single thread of evidence to back up Moscow's claims and those of its lackeys in Iran that the Kabul regime enjoys the full support of workers and peasants?

Western Agents' Role

The reactionary Taraki clique and the Soviet agents in Iran and other countries are attempting to connect the national liberation movement in Afghanistan to the activities of U.S. imperialist agents and Western countries. By raising examples of some reactionary elements and groups who are dependent on the Western imperialist countries, the revisionists and Soviet lackeys attack and condemn the just and anti-imperialist struggles of the workers, peasants and masses of Afghanistan and justify the crimes of the Soviet imperialist aggressors. They bring up, for example, the Akhavan El Moslem ("Moslem Brothers"), who are calling these mass uprisings a "movement against Marxism" and are trying to place themselves at the head of the movement and direct it away from its aims.

But the activities of such groups as Moslem Brothers, who are dressed in the clothes of the clergy and are misusing the religious tendencies of the people to divert the content and the real aims of the people's struggles, is completely separate from the struggles of the revolutionary masses, patriots and progressive clergy.

In the glorious Haraat uprising and many other political and armed struggles of the people, the Moslem Brothers and other foreign dependent elements had no role whatsoever. This fact is a heavy blow to the propaganda of Soviet lackeys and foreign agents.

At the moment there are more than 60,000 political prisoners in the dungeons of this so-called "Democrat Republic" of Taraki-Amin. Among them are some Moslem clergy of Shiite Sect while some others have been forced to leave the country.

The government's "land reform," which is a carbon copy of Mohammad Reza Shah's "white revolution," is faced with immense resistance from the peasants. The condition for land distribution is that the peasants join the government-owned agricultural cooperative institutions. But the peasants are not willing to be forced by the government and are not willing to accept the rule of anti-revolutionary bureaucracy.

In order to defeat the peoples' uprisings and create discord and contradiction among different nationalities and religious sects, the Taraki government uses a devious tactic of religious and national chauvinism. For example, the regime propagandists try their utmost to turn the Phastoon nationality against the Hazaareh nationality and the Sunni sect against the Shiite sect.

The Soviets and their local lackeys continue mass execution of defenseless people, destroying their homes, bombing villages and farms and so on. After the current Iranian government expelled 5,000 Afghan workers from Iran, upon their return to their homeland, the Taraki government executed all of them under the pretext that there may be dangerous elements among them. How can this great genocide of innocent people be justified?

The growing resistance and uprisings by the Afghan people will finally end the rule of a few traitorous elements and the open aggressions of Soviet imperialism. The Iranian working class and people who shook the pillars of all reactionaries in the region by their anti-autocratic and anti-imperialist revolution, will no doubt remain the great supporters of our brother Afghan people in their great struggle for the liberation of their country and political freedom.

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