



# REVOLUTIONARY WORKER

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25¢

## "DEATH TO U.S. IMPERIALISM"

### IRANIAN PEOPLE DENOUNCE SENATE RESOLUTION

Only days after the U.S. Senate unanimously passed a resolution condemning the continuing executions of former generals, police agents and government officials of the Shah's regime, the Iranian people's own resolution was heard loud and clear.

More than 200,000 Iranians marched on the U.S. Embassy in Tehran on May 25 where they set American flags on fire and hung an Uncle Sam dummy from gallows outside the embassy walls. Chants of "Death to U.S. Imperialism! Death to Carter!" thundered through the streets. As a life-size effigy of Jimmy Carter was passed hand over hand above the crowd, it was torn to shreds.

This powerful outpouring of the Iranian people's hatred for U.S. domination capped nearly a week of demonstrations organized by a broad spectrum of Marxist-Leninist and progressive forces that jammed the streets of cities all over Iran. Should anyone doubt who these demonstrations were aimed at, marchers told Western

reporters that their enemy is "not the American people," but the U.S. government.

It is only now that more than two hundred of their Iranian hired thugs who murdered tens of thousands on their behalf have faced the firing squads that the U.S. imperialists have



Mass demonstrations exploded throughout Iran last week, in response to the Senate resolution condemning executions of the Shah's leading henchmen and torturers. Here they hang Uncle Sam in effigy. (Note the symbols of the Soviet imperialists and Israeli Zionists on the American flag, showing other reactionary powers who have joined the U.S. imperialists in exploiting the Iranian people.)

discovered "shock" and "concern for human rights." While the U.S. Senate struck pious poses in their marbled chambers, a former "interrogator" for SAVAK (the U.S.-trained secret police) appeared on Iranian national television last week to deliver a chilling account of the torture, executions and other atrocities he committed under the Shah's regime. At the end, the an-

nouncer asked, "Now what does the U.S. Senate want us to do with people like this?"

#### More Open Support for Iranian Reactionaries

Since the popular insurrection in February, the U.S. has kept a low profile and has made repeated overtures to

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### Viet Vets Week

## "We Used You Once, We'll Try Again"

A recent National Mayors' Conference stated the goal of the official government sponsored Vietnam Veterans Week as: "To capture the productivity and service of the Vietnam Veterans and fashion a new positive image." Capture the Vietnam vets! With this the government has let a little bit slip out on the insidious and cynical motive behind all the fanfare and so-called honoring Vietnam vets—now the "loyal Americans" as Jimmy Carter wishfully put it in his Vietnam Vets Week Proclamation.

Congressman Bonior let it all hang out when he spoke in the marble halls to his colleagues, saying that if the government doesn't "heal the torment that derives from that service (in the Vietnam War)... then, dear colleagues, we should not be surprised if few answer the clarion's call to the danger next time." Pointing to a study done at Cleveland State University, which

showed that 90% of the Vietnam veterans interviewed said they would refuse to serve in Vietnam again and well over 70% said they would advise their sons not to serve, Bonior said, "That can have a serious impact for the future on our foreign policy."

Rip away the circus tent of pomp and circumstance surrounding the Viet Vets Week events and there is a flashing neon sign which says, GET READY FOR WORLD WAR 3. A very important part of the ruling class' preparations is trying to rally the Vietnam Veterans behind the national flag and prepare them to be cannon fodder together with millions of others in a world war between the U.S. imperialists and the Soviet social-imperialists. After all, they were good cannon fodder before...

To accomplish this the rulers have to try and clean up their act. Since the War in Vietnam, when thousands of GIs

came back to join the anti-war movement, when vets hurled their medals back on the White House steps and exposed the barons of Wall Street and their politicians in Washington as international predators, the ruling class has slandered the vets.

The government and reactionary Veterans organizations like the American Legion have called the Vietnam vets every name in the book from junkies to psychopathic killers. Now, it's mighty hard to rally a man behind the flag when you're calling him a freak and a no-good bum, so the rulers have come out with a new twist. They have tried to blame the masses of people for "turning their backs on the vets," and put over a picture that the vets are finally being "honored" due to the good graces of the government.

Now "Vietnam vets" win Oscars at the Academy Awards. Now the American Legion is offering \$25 to each post that recruits two new Vietnam vets. Vietnam vets are suddenly in demand. Next thing you know it'll be "Have a Vietnam vet over for dinner at the state house" week. They might even cough up a few—not too many—of the benefits that vets have been robbed of.

Vietnam vets are almost one third of the living veterans in the U.S. and the

rulers need them to fight, but more importantly they need to capture the Vietnam vets politically. In this department they have some serious problems. While they need the Vietnam vets, they both hate and fear them

This was very clear in the Vietnam Veterans Week events. Chicago was a case in point. Prune-face Mayor Jane Byrne held a picnic, where she thanked vets for "what you did for your country." The *Chicago Tribune* crowed the hope that we could "reconcile any lingering differences caused by the war." Meanwhile, the park was swarming with undercover cops just in case

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Special  
on  
Nuclear  
War  
see centerfold



## Lesson in Capitalist Dictatorship Rulers Pull Switch on Spenkelnik

On May 25, John Spenkelnik was executed by authority of the state. His execution was preceded by all the time-worn, pious and hypocritical justifications the ruling class pulls out in defense of capital punishment. Sensing that their vile act of legal homicide would not meet with universal approval, the capitalists hastened to explain that Spenkelnik, after all, was a "loser." "A drifter, in and out of trouble from the time he was fourteen." One would think they were putting him out of his misery.

Overall the ruling class was very pleased with the execution. Despite stiff competition from the crash of flight 191 in Chicago, their show did not go unnoticed. Their press made sure we got the point:

"Spenkelink... sat strapped, gagged and hooded in an austere death chamber... as a black-hooded execu-

tioner threw a switch and 2,300 volts of electricity surged through the convicted murderer's body." Very heavy. "I stood in my chair and saw smoke from Spenkelnik's calf. A few inches below the cuff, there was a three-inch wound. It looked as if his skin had split, but there was no blood."

This execution was a political outrage. It was an object lesson in capitalist dictatorship. The ruling class is telling the masses of people, "Look. You think your lives are your own? Think again. If you get out of line, we might just strap you down and boil your blood." And out of the other side of their mouths they claim to be protecting society from "hardened criminals." As if the same class of people whose system of despair and dead-end roads drives people like Spenkelnik into lives of crime is now doing us a favor by executing them!

Many, including Spenkelnik's mother, had appealed to Governor Graham of Florida to consider the "value of human life" and grant clemency to the condemned man. "There are other values of life here," replied the governor, as he signed death warrants for Spenkelnik and another death row inmate, "including the value of the lives that were taken."

What naked hypocrisy! Does he seriously expect anyone to believe that the ruling class cares one iota about the life of the man Spenkelnik killed—a degenerate gangster, rapist and thief? It is only the survival of their class and their oppressive system that concerns them, and determines every move the capitalists make—including the use of the death penalty as a sword of intimidation over the heads of the people.

"Hardened criminals must get the punishment they deserve!" cry the degenerate axe-wielders from their corporate havens and halls of government. Check it out. The week they fried Spenkelnik for killing his "travelling companion," they slapped Dan White on the wrist with a 2-7 year sentence for walking into City Hall in San Francisco and blowing away the Mayor and a city Supervisor. Of course, he was "one of their own"—an ex-cop, a former

Supervisor and well-known reactionary. You have to make allowances.

A few days earlier the government passed a resolution condemning the executions of various generals, government officials and SAVAK agents who had been responsible for incredible carnage and butchery as part of the Shah's regime in Iran. Those executed in Iran were guilty of the most heinous crimes against the Iranian people. If each one of them could be executed ten times, they would still not be getting the "punishment they deserve." Yet the killers of John Spenkelnik are offended by the "injustice" and "inhumanity" of the Iranian government!

Andrew Young, the crusading liberal wimp and apologist for U.S. imperialism around the world, compared Spenkelnik's execution with the executions in Iran. Hogwash. This is no abstract moral question. It is a political question, a question of the interest of different classes. In the U.S. today, capital punishment is nothing but a loaded weapon aimed at the masses of people. In Iran it is a weapon wielded by popular demand against the reactionary butchers who have been overthrown. Here it is unjust; in Iran it is just. How can they be the same thing? ■

## Beverly Hills Murder Case

# Anti-Iranian Propaganda Blitz

May 24. Tucked away under a small headline reading, "Masked Gunman Shoots Three," local press ran the news of Beverly Hills heiress Joanné Cotsen, her son and his friend, being held hostage and shot in the head. (Mrs. Cotsen and the friend later died; the son remains in critical condition.) According to news accounts, witnesses "described the gunman as a Latin... who spoke with a foreign accent."

May 25. "Mother Was Juror in Iranian Student Trial," blazed the headline. The press screamed that the assailant "spoke with a Middle Eastern accent... wore a ski mask..." as reports repeated four times in a single page that "police are investigating possible links to Mrs. Cotsen's service in the trial of an Iranian student arrested during the Beverly Hills anti-Shah riot." They continued that it "may have been the work of a terrorist group... diplomatic sources speculate it's not beyond them (the terrorists)..." Police stopped hundreds of motorists, spreading lies and asking for information.

May 26: Local TV stations included the film clip of Iranian students crashing through the gates of the Shah's sister's Beverly Hills mansion during January's Battle of Beverly Hills as part of their coverage of the Cotsen murder.

Overnight this front-page story had

undergone a slick transformation—from heiress victim to juror victim, from burglary murder to terrorist murder, from Latin assailant to Middle Eastern assailant.

And yet, a city editor of the *L.A. Times* tells the *Revolutionary Worker* that witnesses described the assailant as a "Latin or Puerto Rican..." Both the defense and the prosecuting attorney state that the dead juror was actually the one most sympathetic to the Iranian student on trial. When the reporters and city editor complained about the anti-Iranian slant being put on their stories, the managing editor told them the articles would be run the way he wants them run. Stunning proof that "freedom of the press" under capitalism means the freedom for the capitalists to print lies.

Clearly what actually went down is not important. The wave of anti-Iranian hysteria must be whipped up fast and the "free press" is the perfect medium for the job. Just like in the high-powered TV ads, we are being bombarded with images—Iranian = criminal, Middle Eastern = executioner, revolutionary = murderer of women and children. And the killing of a rich woman in Beverly Hills provides the perfect setting for this poison pen fantasy. ■

In order to whip up public opinion against the people of Iran and the Middle East, the newspapers and TV stations in Los Angeles have even tried to link the recent murder of a Beverly Hills heiress with the powerful demonstration in January of 3,000 Iranian students who stormed the Beverly Hills mansion of the Shah's sister.



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## American Airlines Crash

## 272 Sacrificed to God of Profit

For the 272 people, their families, and millions more who sympathize with them, the fatal crash of American Airlines Flight 191 was a tragedy, a disaster, but it certainly wasn't inevitable.

An army of investigators, inspectors and experts invaded Chicago in the days following the crash, creating the illusion that they were on top of the situation, that they would get down to the bottom of this and that any problems discovered would be corrected so as to avoid such a catastrophe in the future. Fat chance.

As usual, the media has thoroughly examined every grim detail from the flags marking the bodies to the makeshift morgue to the interviews with grieving relatives. And as usual it has focused attention on the "lucky ones" whose fate was altered in one way or another—the crew members transferred at the last minute to a different flight, the woman who decided to save \$11 by flying to Los Angeles the next day on a different airline etc.

The sometimes stated but always implicit message spewn out across the airwaves of America in the days following the worst airplane crash in domestic history was clear: there are forces here at work beyond the control of man; the hand of God has taken those whose time had come and spared those whose time had not.

Of course, at the same time they left the door open for the apparently contradictory idea that human error was to blame, that perhaps some mechanic somewhere was sloughing off and

overlooked a critical detail.

*They are covering their rotten capitalist ass.*

272 people were not killed at the hands of sloppy workers. Nor were they killed at the hand of the lord above. In fact, there is absolutely no question that this crash could have been avoided were it not for the workings of a much higher authority: the god of profit.

It is disgusting how many testimonies to the general safety of air travel are made whenever there is a major jet crash. The Chicago papers offered the following twist on a well worn statistic: "You have a bigger chance of dying in your own bathtub than you do on a jet liner." What they haven't mentioned is that major airline disasters are not becoming less frequent, they're becoming *more* frequent. In the last year there has been a sharp rise in deaths and injuries in domestic airline crashes.

A Continental DC-10 aborted takeoff in March, 1978 at the Los Angeles International Airport when its tires blew out. Two were killed and many injured after the plane burst into flames. Many others narrowly escaped death when escape chutes made of material which melted under the heat collapsed. It was later learned that Continental equips 80% of its planes with *retreads*—thereby saving \$180 per tire.

Last September's wreck of a Pacific Southwest Airliner in San Diego, California, set the record for airplane deaths until last week. 144 were killed after a light plane hit the jetliner causing it to plunge to the earth. While they tried to blame the PSA pilot, it was

American Airlines

Dear Passenger:

American Airlines is doing everything possible to accommodate the unusual demands created by a major carrier's strike.

We regret that we may occasionally be unable to provide our usual fine standard of service and will do our best to minimize any inconvenience which may result.

clear that like the L.A. crash in March, it was profit and not the pilot that was the cause of the disaster.

The airlines have refused to equip their planes with collision avoidance systems even though the technology for

this has been available for years and is presently used on some military aircraft. While they admitted that such a system would have prevented the San Diego crash, PSA and the others are quick to add that installation of this equipment is too costly and would cut into their profit margins.

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## Alabama Demonstration Defended with Arms Decatur Blacks Send Klan Scurrying

Saturday, May 26, about one hundred Blacks marched out of the rundown ghetto in northwest Decatur to protest the conviction of Tommy Lee Hines, a severely retarded Black man who was railroaded into an Alabama prison for 30 years for supposedly raping three white women (a crime he was incapable of)—an outrage that has burned deep in the hearts of Black people in Decatur and all over Alabama.

As they crossed the railroad tracks that separate the shiny buildings of downtown Decatur from the poverty-stricken Black community where the Hines family lives and moved on city hall, they were met by an equal number of rabid KKK scum packing pistols and clubs. These brave dogs had just burned and beaten an effigy of Tommy Lee Hines. They were foaming at the mouth and out for blood.

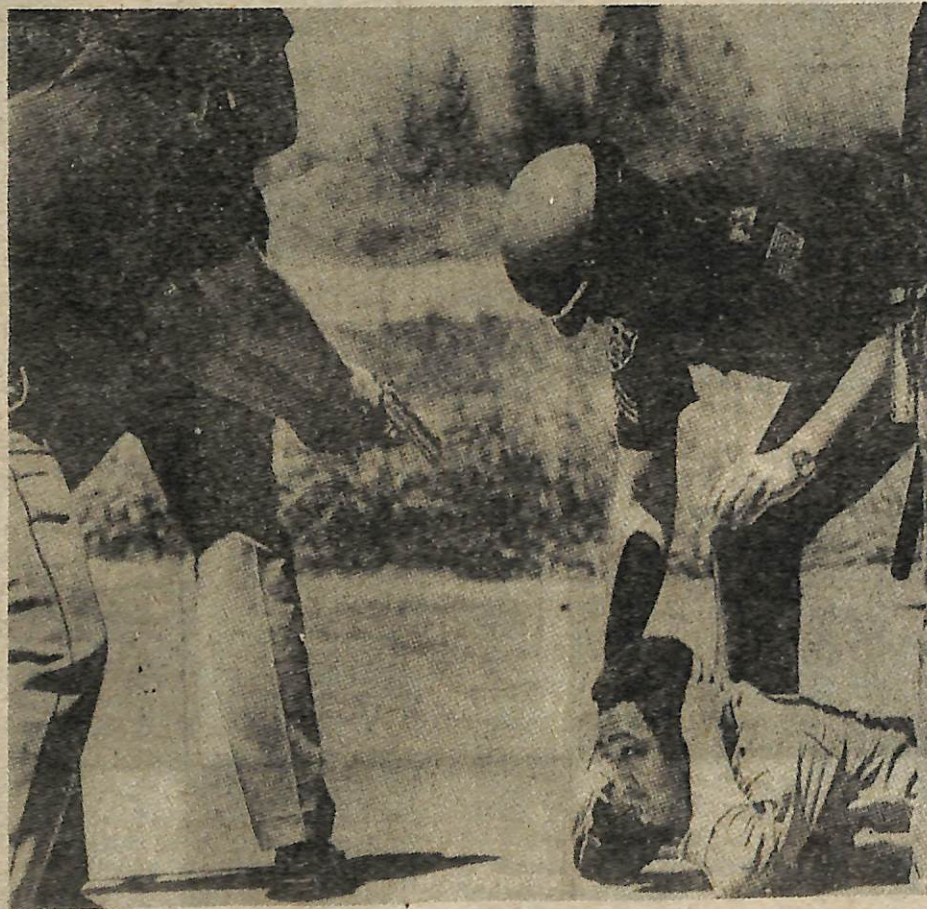
As the Klan began to push through the half-hearted police lines to stop the march, suddenly a volley of 50-100 shots rang out. In an instant the blustering expressions on the faces of these white-robed vermin melted into stark terror as they hit the decks, scurrying like rats for cover. The Klan ranks dissolved into pandemonium as these idiots crawled behind parked cars, stepping on each others' robes and tearing off their precious hoods so they could see what had hit them. Dropping all pretense of impartiality, the cops leaped to their defense, pushing Klansmen to the ground and cringing with guns drawn, looking wildly in all directions.

The KKK had come looking for blood—and they got it right in the streets of Decatur, Alabama. One Klansman got it in the leg, and another—the local imperial lizard—took a bullet in the chest that came inches from putting him where he belongs, six feet under. Two Black marchers also received superficial wounds in

the head and face. As one deputy later said, "It sounded like Vietnam."

The local authorities in Decatur, the mayor and the head pig, are furious that their precious Klan took it on the chin, and they are responding with an investigation to "learn who fired the shots." Though the cops admit shooting came from both sides, they have naturally arrested one Black man,

Curtis Lee Robinson, and charged him with assault with intent to commit murder. These two-bit frontmen for the millionaire capitalist masters have so far allowed the Klan free rein to terrorize Blacks and whip up a storm of racism. The Klan has confronted Black marchers every time they have demonstrated, held armed car caravans through Decatur, and shot into people's



Enraged cops "interrogate" demonstrator after Black people send the KKK scurrying in Decatur, Alabama on May 26. The Klan had attempted to disrupt the demonstration and was clearly out for blood. They got some—their own.

homes. In one incident, with Decatur pigs' full knowledge, Klansmen marched right into the Black community, clearly trying to provoke violence. They got it—one robed man was beaten and shot twice.

The Decatur City Council has passed an ordinance outlawing guns at demonstrations. But it has never been enforced against the Klan. It wasn't intended to be. It was only passed after Blacks began to show up at demonstrations armed and began to take on the Klan with the only language they understand.

Meanwhile, the screens and pages of the media are filled with the Klan scum spouting the most racist and anti-communist poison. The press headlines articles "Shoot-out Between Blacks and Whites," none too subtly reinforcing the Klan's rotten message that their foul-smelling trash speaks for *all* whites. In fact, the majority of whites in Decatur, while not yet conscious of the need to actively support the struggle of the Blacks against a common enemy, do not side with the Klan in any way.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the main force active around the Hines trial, is obviously having a harder time getting over with its line that Black people should passively accept being beaten and shot. SCLC's local head, J.B. Cottonreader, illustrated the organization's position the evening after the demonstration. He said that Black people would be in church the next day praying for the Klan! Later, after the Klan had vowed that Black people wouldn't march in Decatur again, Cottonreader's response was, "We will march again to our City Hall, to our courtroom. We may be stopped. We may be shot down. But the record will show that we have tried."

But the people's hatred for and outrage at the Hines conviction and actions of the low-life in white robes are obviously bursting far beyond the bounds SCLC deems respectable, and SCLC has further exposed itself in the course of this struggle.

As one young Black woman in a Decatur housing project told reporters of the *Revolutionary Worker*, "If it takes war to make things peaceful around here and better for my kids, then that's what it takes—and I'll be there." ■



## 6 Arrested on Reservation

# Feds Counterattack at Red Lake

Red Lake, Minnesota. Follow-up to last week's Special Revolutionary Worker Report:

The ruling class is out to teach the Red Lake Indians a lesson.

Six members of the Red Lake tribe accused of playing a leading role in the armed takeover of the police station here May 19 are now behind bars on charges of assaulting federal employees—the four Bureau of Indian Affairs cops on duty who were taken hostage. Their bail runs from \$10,000 to \$25,000. They are also accused—though not yet formally charged—with conspiracy. Yet more charges are still expected in relation to the armed takeover that was followed by hundreds of tribal members burning down the police station and holding the FBI and other federal authorities off the reservation at gunpoint.

Now "order" has finally been restored on the reservation. Scores of BIA cops armed with automatic weapons continue to occupy the little fort they have set up for themselves in the middle of the reservation. The FBI crawls all over the place, threatening and intimidating, and enraged because nearly everyone they question answers that they know nothing.

Meanwhile, Roger Jourdain, the tribal chairman whose two-bit dictatorship over this reservation was the target of the rebellion, continues to issue orders from a secret location somewhere off the reservation. The men who took over the police station to get rid of this corrupt thief surrendered to the FBI, expecting that although charges might be placed against them, at least the authorities would have to investigate Jourdain and bring him to justice. But the authorities liked things just fine the way they were with their petty despot running things, and they don't intend to see too many changes.

When Red Lake tribe members took up arms to deal with the cops Jourdain had treated like his private army, burned down the hated jailhouse and ran the cops and then Jourdain off the reservation, they didn't think they were doing anything "radical" or "subversive," as one of them later explained. They weren't out to overthrow the government or the system, they just wanted the rights they felt legally belonged to them.

Jourdain, who maintained himself in power as tribal chairman for 21 years, regularly winning reelection through his control of jobs, retirement checks and other sources of income, had allowed business interests to rob the reservation blind while he himself got in on the plunder. The tribal members tried to deal with it within the system, which included getting anti-Jourdain leader Stephanie Hanson elected to the tribal council as treasurer. But no one in

authority listened to her exposures of this thievery, and Jourdain just had her removed from the council.

Now that the federal government has finally intervened in a big way, it has done nothing about Jourdain except to protect his life and property and politely listen to his complaints and charges against the rest of the tribe members. In a move taken to appease the tribe, the local BIA superintendent who had acted as Jourdain's flunkey was replaced by a new acting superintendent, a "friendly face with some authority," something the tribe members aren't used to. But the new man has been able to do little, and informed sources believe that even this crumb may soon be snatched away. The government played it cool and "neutral" until the people put down their guns and the spotlight was no longer on them, then it moved in with a vengeance against them.

### Big Money

What's at stake here is very big money. This is one of the two reserva-

tions left in this country where the tribe still owns the land—660,000 acres of reservation and another 156,000 acres of woodland scattered between the reservation and the Canadian border. The land is thick with aspen, birch and ash trees, valuable timber crops that have just now become mature enough to harvest again, having grown up since the area was last logged over ending around 1920. It is lumber and other natural resources and Indian labor that have the capitalists' mouths watering.

Three of North America's largest lumber monopolies have recently announced plans to set up pressboard plants in the town of Bemidji, 30 miles south of the reservation, where a fourth such plant is already located. Each of these represents a \$20-\$40 million investment. Where will they get the wood to manufacture the pressboard? Some will come from government-owned land—and the tribe members say Jourdain may have sold the government even more than it had stolen already. The rest will come from the reservation itself. The trees will be cut and hauled especially by Indians, and many Indians are expected to work in the processing plants.

Informed municipal sources say, off

the record, that these companies want Indian labor almost as much as they want their trees, because the conditions of life are so poor on the reservation that they expect to have to pay very little, and because this will keep resistance to a minimum. "Low wages, high unemployment and no unions" was what one company said (in private) had attracted it to the area. Local newspapers have called this situation "a bonanza for the wood industry in northern Minnesota." Also eager to get in on this feast is the Control Data Corporation, which is about to set up its own factory in town to suck riches out of Indian and all other labor.

### Oppressing Indian Peoples

The ability of these companies to exploit the workers more here than elsewhere is mainly dependent on the oppression of the Indians, which is the real "bonanza" for the capitalists in northern Minnesota. Through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which "regulates" life on the reservations, the tyranny of the local police and petty dictators like Roger Jourdain, and the general workings of the system, the Indians are kept down in backward economic and social conditions.

They work for very little at logging, in the sawmill, or at commercial fishing, and much of the time they cannot find work. Although the authorities have been "punishing" the tribe by keeping the reservation hospital closed

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## El Salvador

# 5,000 Defy State of Siege

5,000 Salvadoreans raised clenched fists during a funeral and demonstration for people killed near the Venezuelan Embassy May 22. This was in open defiance of the government's 30-day state of siege, ordered after the Education Minister was assassinated in retaliation for the latest murders at the hands of the Romero dictatorship.

El Salvador's rulers issued their decree in a desperate attempt to suppress the rising tide of struggle. It is clear from this demonstration alone that the people will not be stopped from carrying out the verdict the Salvadorean dictatorship has written for itself with the blood of the Salvadorean people.



## .22 Caliber Lynching in St. Louis

St. Louis—The murderer, like 1001 killer cops, claimed that the 14-year-old reached into his pocket—for a weapon, of course. It was simple defense and so William Eggers, a St. Louis gas station attendant shot Ricky Davis in the back as he walked away.

It was shortly after 11 p.m. on one of the first warm nights of May. People were sitting on their porches. Kids were cruising around on their bikes; Ricky Davis and four friends went down to a Clark gas station to get some sodas.

Within minutes, Ricky Davis had been called "nigger," accused of being the type who would steal a soda, then

told to leave, to stay where he was, and finally shot with a .22-calibre rifle as he began to walk away from the trigger-happy maniac.

"Shoot that nigger—don't let them leave," egged on killer Eggers' partner as they pushed Ricky from his bike, according to a witness.

Defiant, head raised, Ricky began getting back up, hands raised above his head. He took note of the .22-calibre rifle barrel he was looking down and of the racist fool behind it. Blam! Into the air. Blam! Into Ricky Davis' back. 14-year-old Ricky Davis died three hours later.

Half crazed, a perfect product of the bourgeoisie's reactionary poison, William Eggers was a fitting choice to guard their precious property. He had certainly swallowed hook, line and sinker their garbage about Black people being the enemy of whites, the cause of society's problems, and just as well dead as alive.

Yes, after 52 years of having his head stuffed with this poison, William Eggers was finally graduated from the capitalist school of race relations. Executing a Black youth for buying a soda—how well they trained him!

"They say there had been trouble in the past," explained the pig investigating the case. "And the kids said they were going to go home and get guns and shoot up the place." Well, say the pigs, the kid was Black, wasn't he? Anything is possible. A 14-year-old on a bicycle is a suspected criminal no matter that the only crime was that he was murdered. After all, sing the pigs, behind every Black face is a potential

criminal mind.

Reading the St. Louis newspapers the day after the murder, we were treated to a capitalist twist of logic that it was Ricky who was the criminal. "Boy Killed in Dispute at Gas Station." In fact, these mouthpieces of the bourgeoisie make it out that the 14-year-old must have been involved in some criminal act, otherwise he wouldn't have been shot.

But as the facts of the outrage came to light, the stench certainly became uncomfortable for them, and they swiftly moved to disassociate themselves from Eggers: police record, a violent temperament, rumored to have fired at other customers, recently jailed for brandishing a deadly weapon.

Clark even shut down the station and posted a 24-hour guard in it in anticipation of further outrage. But try as they might to wipe themselves clean, the blood stains remain on the white shirts of the bourgeoisie. And the powder burns are on their hands. ■



# The 1980 Presidential Try-Outs:



CARTER MIRED LOW IN POLLS. GROWING MOVEMENT TO DRAFT KENNEDY. Headlines. It's not even 1980 yet and the bourgeoisie is already thumping and stumping. Democrats and Republicans alike are climbing onto the bandwagon to exhort the crowd, hawking their favorite brands of presidential snake oil. And make no mistake about it, this time they are searching for a sure-fire tonic, a product they can process, package and really sell.

Their sickly system needs a dose of

powerful medicine, a charismatic leader who can "heal the wounds" and "unify the nation." With the economy tottering on the brink of recession and contention with their Soviet rivals sharpening daily, more than ever they need a man for the times—a president for the 1980s who will be able to preside over the hard times they have in store for us and galvanize the nation behind their moves toward war.

Unfortunately their humble servant Jimmy doesn't seem particularly suited for the job. But it's not as if he didn't

serve his purpose—for a time they needed this "man from nowhere" with his pious poured-in-plastic born again smile. The war in Vietnam, the Watergate exposures of bribery, corruption and dirty tricks had severely damaged the tarnished halo with which they surrounded their cherished "democratic process." Back in '76 he was just the ticket—a folksy, "clean and honest" "un-politician" who could be dangled before the American people to try and restore their dwindling faith that anything could ever be accomplish-

ed through the ballot box. He was the best candidate for that time exactly because he was the least known, the man from nowhere.

But by now Carter is enveloped in the same foul smelling aroma that covers any capitalist politician after they take office. Soaring inflation at record levels, gas lines growing, the economy on the skids, recession on the horizon—disillusionment with Carter is growing, and more and more he is looking like the perfect fall guy.

It is not that Carter couldn't be remolded—his elastic image could possibly be stretched for a few more miles. But this loyal servant of the bourgeoisie is hardly inspiring, hardly playing the part of the "man with a vision" they desperately need. The U.S. rulers know it will take much more than goofy grins to get over with the drastic measures that will be needed to tighten up the economy and challenge the inroads being made by the Soviets onto U.S. imperialist turf.

### "Grassroots" Movement

So suddenly the race is on and *Newsweek* is socking it to us—TEDDY IS COMING ON STRONG!—Mr. Charisma himself! As if on cue, a group of Democratic "liberal" congressmen announce that Jimmy Carter has "betrayed" the party and must be dumped as its standard bearer. At the wave of the baton, an orchestrated "Draft Kennedy" movement instantly materializes in no less than 15 states, springing up from the "grass roots" (a high-sounding term for millionaires, labor hacks, media public opinion makers and the rest of the well-oiled Kennedy machine.) And the airwaves are filled with talk of "draft Kennedy" when everyone knows he already enlisted years ago.

This dyed-in-wool demagogue who has been on the back burner is suddenly chomping at the bit like a racehorse in the pole position waiting for the bell. "There is an important position to be filled, but I am not a candidate to replace Johnny Carson on the Tonight Show," quipped Teddy while all the reporters had a good laugh. It's common knowledge Kennedy has been slinging bull for years about how he has "no intention of running"—no intention, that is, until he knows he can win. And the time may be now as the bourgeoisie is testing the waters, desperately in need of a new "knight in shining armor."

Of course, a Kennedy candidacy  
Continued on page 13

## Boston

# Blacks Stand Up to Run-Amuck-Racists

Boston. Inside the courtroom, a Black man, William Morris, is being arraigned for assault with a dangerous weapon with the intent of murder. His crime? Protecting himself and his family from an attack by racist hoodlums.

Outside on the courthouse steps, four of these white racists are giving interviews to the press. Suddenly this conference is interrupted as nine members of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade are hauled into the courthouse for arraignment. They are arrested on charges of inciting to riot for mobilizing against the cowardly racist attack outside the Hyde Park High School only five blocks from Morris's house. Plainclothes cops patrol the school's halls and motorcycle cops guard the steps. Racial incidents shut it down every couple of months. When the RCYB showed up leafleting and shouting, "Junior klansmen, suckers for the rich—Black and white unite to tear the system down!", the pigs freaked. It's one thing for the Klan to hand out "I love the Klan" bumper stickers at the school; it's obviously something else when communists leaflet.

### Cowardly Racist Attack

The real story of the Morris incident

never made the press. The young apprentice Klansmen did not "just throw a beer bottle on the lawn," as the press reported. They had been harassing the Morris family for months.

Last Sunday night Morris warned them to stop. These cowards waited until it got late enough—3 a.m.—and dark enough, and they were drunk enough, then they attempted again to "drive the niggers out of the neighborhood."

They came into the yard waving tire irons and bats and screaming. Morris came out and warned them to leave. They threw a tire iron through the screen door, wounding Morris, and began charging the house. Morris's wife screamed. He grabbed his shotgun, warned them, then took careful aim and shot one of these suckers in the arm to scare them off.

They ran, beating a quick retreat straight to the cops and courts that protect and promote these attacks every day. Morris now faces charges that can put him behind bars for the "crime" of protecting his family.

If anyone thinks this was just the crazy isolated act of a few creeps, they should think again. It grew right out of the racist ideas and discrimination the ruling class creates and promotes. This incident is also one of a long line of reac-

tionary acts deliberately fomented by racist organizations in direct connection with the government. In Boston one of these organizations is ROAR, now called the South Boston Information Center or the South Boston Marshalls, depending on whether they're trying to be respectable or are carrying out paramilitary actions.

Recently the Information Center organized a series of actions that led to the torching of a Black woman's car and the firebombing of the management office in the project in which the woman, Faith Evans, and her 1 1/2-year-old son are the only Black residents.

The Marshalls didn't take credit for the firebombing, but they didn't have to either. When Faith Evans moved into Southie, James M. Kelly, the führer of the Information Center, was on the scene. She was given around-the-clock "protection" by the Boston pigs and a private security company, and Kelly brazenly commented to the press that Faith's stay in Southie would be very uncomfortable and "hinted" that she would last only as long as the police guard stayed.

But Kelly's prediction didn't come true. The stand that Faith Evans has taken in fighting to remain in the projects has been a slap in the face to the racists, whose rallying cry is "Keep Southie white." It is a courageous stand that has earned her the respect and support of people throughout Boston, including some in Southie. Many in the projects are friendly to Faith, and her son plays with the neighborhood kids.

Kelly, like all his racist brethren, has been able to whip up sharp open and often violent contradictions between white people in Southie and minorities.

These contradictions exist because of the discrimination and inequality that keep Blacks at the bottom and in the ghettos. These racists cry out that if Blacks move into Southie or Hyde Park they will become ghettos, and they have built some base in these communities on the basis of whites defending the slightly better position they have over minorities. And Kelly and his type use terrorism not just against minorities but also against the people in Southie, lest they stand up to Kelly and his divide-and-rule crap. Recently an anonymous group of South Boston merchants got the *Boston Globe* to expose how Kelly was strong-arming money out of them for "donations" to the Information Center.

The actions of Boston's liberal mayor, Kevin White, were just as repugnant as Kelly's during this charade. Not a word about the torching of Faith Evans's car, not a word of support last November in the face of the threat against Faith. Instead he maintains James Kelly on the city's payroll at \$17,500 a year for a job that has no "official" function. White also signed over \$40,000 for a youth program under the Marshall's supervision to train youth to use weapons and judo. Only when it was exposed did White drop this open support to the Marshalls.

Attacks on Blacks by white youth in Southie and Hyde Park are not just spontaneous outbursts, they are the result of open and clandestine organizing by racist organizations like the Marshalls, all with the stamp of approval of the capitalist class. These attacks have been and will more and more be met with resistance.





The voice on the other end of the phone had a ratfaced whine to it, as the vermin on the Nazi hotline recording in Chicago mouthed off about how the upcoming Rock Against Racism was an attack on the Nazis. Damn Straight. And More. Rock Against Racism in Chicago's Lincoln Park on June 9 promises to rattle the windows and shake the walls from the biggest banks on La Salle Street to the giant pig pen on State Street to the Nazi headquarters in Marquette Park.

Chicago—where last year 5000 angry demonstrators protested the spectacle of Frank Collins and his Nazi rat pack rallying on the steps of city hall, protected by hundreds of police under the watchful eye of the Mayor. Chicago—where roving bands of Nazi youth throw rocks at Black people in Marquette Park, screaming "White Power," protected by the "law." Chicago—where Black people have been attacked and beaten in Marquette Park, their homes firebombed, and the authorities said nothing. Chicago—where last year six Black youth were murdered in cold blood by the pigs and the federal courts refused to indict a single cop. It's "Everytown, U.S.A." and Rock Against Racism is right on time.

On June 9, in Lincoln Park, a sound explosion will aim straight at the system that gives rise to the oppression of Black and minority people, the system that breeds racism and scum like the Nazis who attack Black people and thrive on intensifying divisions among the people like rats thrive on garbage. RAR says, "We're Black, we're white, we're dynamite!" And the June 9 concert promises to be a powerful show of unity against racism and the look-out-for-number-one, stay-in-your-own-backyard-and-keep-your-eye-on-your-front-yard ideology promoted by the Nazis, the pigs and their coupon-clipping masters.

RAR stickers and buttons can be seen all around the city—including in Marquette Park where a small but significant number of neighborhood youth have taken up building the Rock Against Racism. Already over 100 bands have volunteered to do benefit concerts or help in other ways to raise money for the June 9 concert.

RAR will go straight up against the music establishment like Linda Ronstadt, with her America right or wrong garbage, and other fat musicians. The music including punk, blues, salsa, reggae and other rock bands is shaping up to be more than just a jam in the park. Tom Robinson Band will be there. Tom Robinson Band has played a powerful role in building RAR in England where it originated to take on the racist attacks of the fascist National Front on immigrants from the West Indies and Pakistan. And the "Rock and Revolt" sound of Prairie Fire, a revolutionary band from San Francisco is sure to deliver a powerful blow with songs like "Overthrow the Government" and "How Does America Spell Relief?"—The answer? "R-E-V-O-L-U-T-I-O-N."

Rock Against Racism, June 9, Lincoln Park, Chicago. How could anyone in the area who wants to take a stand against "the way things are" stay away? Be there.

### Contribute to the Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund

The Revolutionary Communist Party receives many letters and requests for literature from prisoners in the hell-hole torture chambers from Attica to San Quentin. There are thousands more brothers and sisters behind bars who have refused to be beaten down and corrupted in the dungeons of the capitalist class and who thirst for and need the *Revolutionary Worker* and other revolutionary literature. To help make possible getting the Voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party as well as other Party literature and books on Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought behind the prison walls, the *Revolutionary Worker* is establishing a special fund. Contributions should be sent to:

Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund  
Box 3486, Merchandise Mart  
Chicago, IL 60654

## LETTER FROM WALLA WALLA PRISON REBEL

On May 9 three courageous prisoners seized 10 hostages at Washington State Penitentiary while 500 inmates rallied in the prison yard in support. This defiant action, as hundreds stood their ground against guards and state police, ripped the lid off the vicious conditions at the prison and exposed them worldwide.

The authorities, wounded by the rebellion, are hellbent on stamping out the sparks of this uprising and viciously suppressing the resistance of the inmates. On May 24 the arraignment of the three—charged with "hostage-taking" under a special law against prison rebellions—was moved two hours ahead of schedule and switched from the Walla Walla courthouse to the prison, with no notice to anyone, including the press. Present at the "hearing" were the three, the prosecutor, the judge and a court reporter; there were no lawyers for the defendants. We received the following letter from one of the three.

I am writing to you in regards to the May 9th take-over of the Classification and Parole building here in the Washington State Penitentiary.

My name is R. Clyde Washburn and I was one of the three "humans" that took over the building and the hostages in our fight to get human treatment. I believe that in our case—the only way to get the world to sit up and take notice of the inhuman conditions of this place is to shock them. And I believe that what we did had a little bit of shock effect maybe not as much as if we had killed one or two of the hostages—but we need public support—not public lynching for murder. All we are asking for is to be treated like humans and it would have been hard—at this time—to ask for human treatment if we had responded like they—they meaning the public's image of us anyway (criminals)—and killed. So this time around all we wanted was public notice.

I might add that in a sense we have raised a few eyebrows out there—over the past 10 days we have received numerous letters of support.

Now all this is well and good but like in the past—we fear that this will all die down in a matter of weeks and this state will fall right back into the slot it has been stuck in for the past 25 years in regards to human conditions.

These cries for help have been cried before and no one seems to care—especially those who run this world—the capitalist pigs whose only god is the almighty dollar bill. Well I am a human being—not a figure on a budget sheet for allocation of funds—that automatically wind up in some fat slob's pocket.

There are a number of us prisoners in Seg [Isolation] that are fighting for our rights and until they take us out of here in a body bag will continue to fight for our rights.

Our rights to decent food, proper medical care (many have died in this hospital for lack of care), proper housing (we now have 4 men in a cell that was designed for 2), a right to treatment and programs (there is no positive run programs in this joint but academic school.)

Then we come to Seg—where once we are put in here we are subject to—no medical care—improper food handling—and beatings (some fatal) from the pigs that surround us. (Myself—Shane Green—and Carl Harp—the 3 who took over the C & P building have been told that once this dies down—we will be eliminated.) But we knew that that might happen so asked for federal protection from the state. We all live in fear for our lives daily—either by beating—or poisoned thru food. I myself have not eaten for over a week for fear of my life.

We three believe that the only reason we are still alive is because of our upcoming trial for the taking of hostages that will start on May 24th. It would be too hard to explain our disappearance so close to a public trial.

I must say that this upcoming court trial is a god send—for we three have plans on exposing this state for what it is. The Supreme Court stated that every man has the right to protect his own life and mental condition. Anyway he can—so in that regards we did no wrong in the taking of hostages to protect our lives from the psychos on the yard—and the inhuman treatment from the State of Washington. The petty harassment from guards and being provoked into violence. There was no physical violence on May 9th—that is not to say there won't be at another May 9th.

But I appeal to you as fellow human beings who are also involved in the fight and struggle for the common people of the world.

I truly believe that the only time real change will come about in this fight is when the common people take up arms and remove the present government and ideals.

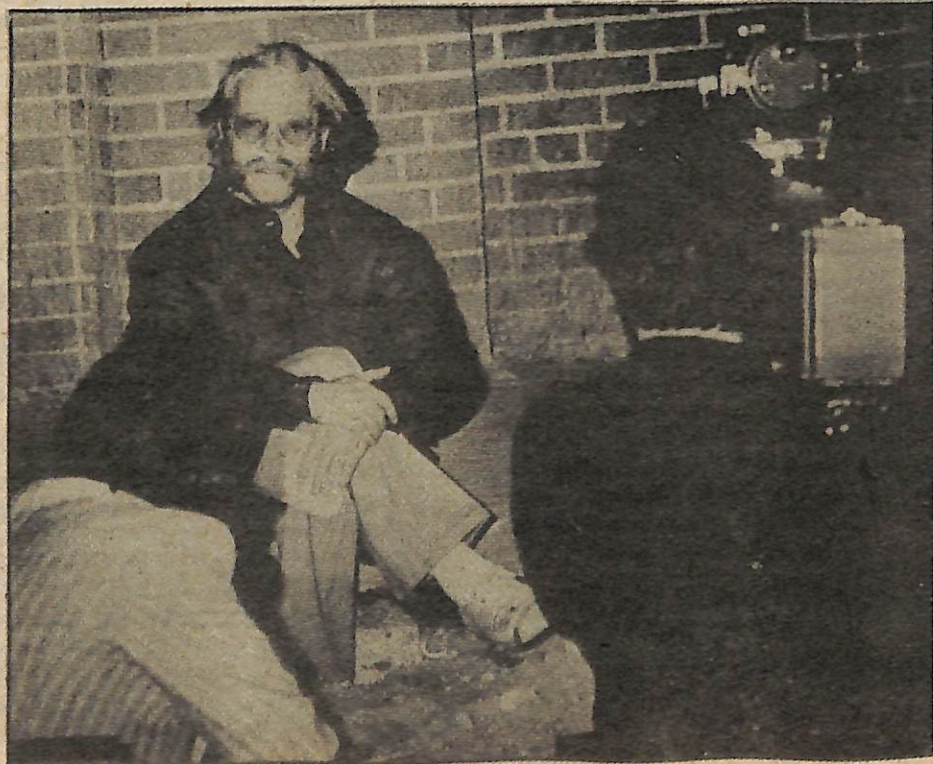
I admit that I am not a political type writer or am well read enough to be sure about who my anger is specifically directed at.

All I know is that my rights are being denied daily thru visits—food—threat of death—and being treated like some animal. And if I die for what is rightfully mine—to be treated at least half human—then so be it—

I can only hope that someone can understand and help—however small—for I have no family or loved ones left alive to help me.

In fight for my life R. Clyde Washburn  
251117  
P.O. Box 520  
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Shane Green, one of three courageous prisoners who seized a building at Walla Walla, denounces prison conditions after authorities agree to demands of a press conference.





# "New" WVO China Line Covers Reformism Old Dog-matists Turn New Tricks

Great storms are gathering on the horizon. With imperialism caught in the throes of a profound economic and political crisis, world war looms ever closer, and earthshaking events are already taking place from the revisionist reversal in China to the revolutionary storms in Iran.

In the face of this growing turmoil many forces, especially among the petty bourgeoisie, calling themselves "revolutionaries" and "communists" seek to take advantage of the situation to promote their own ends and, more importantly, drawn by their own spinelessness and vacillation, they increasingly seek refuge under the wing of the bourgeoisie.

A case in point is the Workers Viewpoint Organization (WVO)—a little dogmatist sect, whose leaders have slinked around pushing a combination of narrow reformism and stultifying dogmatism for years. WVO is able to see far enough ahead to see a new world war between the U.S. and the USSR rapidly approaching. In the face of this their simple reformism just doesn't cut it—it has no future. Instead they have to combine their reformism with more and more openly kissing up to the U.S. imperialists with an openly social-chauvinist (defend the U.S. and its allies against the "real enemy", the USSR—all under the guise of pseudo-"communism") line.

A unique if superficial feature distinguishing WVO from similar types,

*In fact, they end up as loyal opposition to reaction—attacking the revisionism of Teng and Hua in words while actually upholding their actions in service to U.S. imperialism.*

like the Communist Party Marxist-Leninist, is their recent flimsy attempt to wrap themselves in the revolutionary mantle of Mao Tsetung, claiming to be upholders of Mao Tsetung Thought and Mao's jailed revolutionary comrades the so-called "Gang of Four", denouncing Teng Hsiao-ping and Hua Kuo-feng's revisionist coup in China. After long silence they have finally come out openly with this position in the last couple of months.

This turns out to be at best a very shoddy attempt as we shall soon see. They have only gone through this pro-Mao charade to cover their shameless social-chauvinism (of the U.S. brand) and to satisfy the nationalist allegiances among the small number of Chinese-Americans who are part of their base.

Let's face it, to anyone who honestly yearns for revolution, Mao is where it's at. His very name stands for revolution and WVO hopes to capitalize on it. But you don't have to look too far to see just how shallow and phony their opposition is to Teng, Hua, and especially U.S. imperialism.

## "Forgetting" U.S. Imperialism

In their April 1-15, 1979 newspaper they lay out their views on China's foreign policy, the recent China-Vietnam war in particular. This piece very clearly shows their social-

rebuttal of Soviet aggression has the effect of showing the world's peoples and oppressed countries that Soviet social-imperialism can be stopped. It served to puncture the Soviet social-imperialists' arrogance and show that it cannot carry on aggression unopposed."

What a valiant and progressive action China has taken, one would infer! We are presented with a picture of China as an independent "3rd world" country taking the Soviets head on—a righteous blow against imperialism. But conveniently, there is no mention in the entire article of the role of the U.S. in the con-

*Let's face it, to anyone who honestly yearns for revolution, Mao is where it's at. His very name stands for revolution and WVO hopes to capitalize on it.*

flict, whose approval in advance of China's attack was barely disguised.

With a stroke of their pen, WVO has made their argument absurdly simple, and exposed their allegiance to U.S. imperialism at the same time. They attempt to "update" the 1963 Chinese "Proposal Concerning the General Line of the International Communist Movement" saying, "Today with the new alignment of forces due to the rise of Soviet social-imperialism, we would say (the struggle of the people of the world should be aimed—RW) against the two superpowers, the main enemies of the peoples of the world, and the

*Soviet Union being the main danger and main source of war."* (emphasis ours—RW) This is a currently popular line among opportunists, "revolutionaries" eager to safely tail the U.S. capitalists: the real danger, the real source of war comes from the Soviets, not from the clashing drives of both the U.S. and Soviets for world domination. How simple it is to go from this to WVO's summation:

"It is the duty of communists in all countries to be vigilant and not to fall into the trap of supporting Soviet social-imperialism—we must take a clear stand in support of China's counterattack against Soviet backed aggression by Vietnam."

Never mind that China is an underling of U.S. imperialism and that China's Vietnam invasion served U.S. interests. After all they opposed the Soviets. It could be pointed out that the U.S., too, opposes the Soviets. Perhaps we should throw our support behind NATO—after all, it opposes Soviet imperialism. So here we have it—a mere hop and a short step from the sorry picture of so-called "communists" supporting the U.S. war machine. Instant opportunism—a great service to the U.S. bourgeoisie.

And we'd like to ask the twisted "theoreticians" of WVO just how they can justify this "Soviet main danger"

ment no longer holds water. Teng and his buddies keep up the facade of "socialism" in justifying their "Soviet main danger" treachery, but WVO doesn't even care about such details. They just carry on with the business of capitulating to the U.S. So as not to blow their cover, WVO must at least make a show of opposing the Chinese revisionists. Here's what they say:

"So while China is driving a powerful blow against Soviet social-imperialism, it is doing so for different class reasons than proletarian internationalism. It is aimed at strengthening

the national bourgeoisie in power." Just what are these "different class reasons" they're talking about? Aren't they in fact the "class reason" of a Chinese comprador bourgeoisie—a batch of national traitors as well as traitors to socialism—that has currently hitched its wagon to the U.S. imperialists? While, as noted, it is true that regardless of its intentions the bourgeoisie of a "third world" country can objectively oppose imperialism in a particular action or stance, WVO has again totally avoided (conveniently left out) the real role China actually played as a front man for the U.S.

In fact, they end up as loyal opposition to reaction—attacking the revisionism of Teng and Hua in words while actually upholding their actions in service to the U.S. imperialists. They end up with straight up social-chauvinism—using all the phony "socialist" rhetoric they can muster to cover up the actual imperialist maneuvering by the U.S.

The stand they take is similar in many ways to the stand *The Guardian* newspaper (a so-called "independent"

*The masses can't possibly understand such matters as revisionist coups, says WVO. No, they should just be concerned with the bread and butter issues...*

radical weekly) takes toward the Soviet Union (even though there are differences in that the Soviet Union is an imperialist superpower and China is not). *The Guardian* also pretends to criticize the Soviet revisionists while supporting much of what they are all about and covering for their imperialist actions like in Angola. They say that while the Soviets do some bad things, at least they oppose U.S. imperialism. Both *The Guardian* and WVO's logic is the logic of those bent on justifying plunder by any means no matter how blatant.

In the same issue of their newspaper we find another stunning example of WVO's unprincipled pragmatism (whatever seems to work, do it, and don't ask questions). The contortions it must go through to serve its various opportunist aims are downright stunning. They run an article titled "Zimbabwe: This is the year of the people's storm" with the slogan "Victory to the Patriotic Front" across the top of the page.

Now this is interesting indeed. After having been treated to a defense of the "Soviet main danger" crap, here we find no analysis of the role of the Soviets in Africa and certainly no "Soviet main danger" line at all. It's all rah-rah Patriotic Front, no mention that especially Nkomo of ZAPU (part of the Patriotic Front) has been tight with the Soviet imperialists, who offer arms and supplies to the Patriotic Front in an attempt to turn these organizations into pawns in their plans to grab control of Zimbabwe, just as they did in Angola. This convenient omission is made to serve their current kissing up to Black nationalists and Pan-Africanists in order to opportunistically "get" more Blacks around their sect.

## "Vulgar Practical Men"

WVO's pitiful dogma seems reserved for the depths of their inner sanctum. In practice, we find as Mao put it "vulgar practical men" who shamelessly bow to whatever suits their opportunist needs. And for all their attempts to assume the mantle of Mao Tsetung, they certainly were late bloomers in taking a stand against the rightist coup in China against Mao's line.

For months, WVO leaders not only refused to say anything publicly regarding the earthshaking events in China after Mao's death; they upheld China as a socialist country and did absolutely nothing during Teng's visit to the U.S. In fact, they attacked the RCP for exposing Teng's visit and China's en-

listment in the U.S. war bloc—saying instead that normalization was a "victory."

A few months earlier, in the fall of 1978, they had attacked the Revolutionary Communist Party and supporters for holding the Mao Tsetung Memorial Meetings and carrying out a campaign to uphold Mao and his line among the masses. They were outraged that we dared to put up tens of thousands of posters of Mao and in color yet! Why? Because this would only "spread anti-communism", "aid the

Continued on page 14

*The contortions it must go through to serve its various opportunist aims are downright stunning.*

opportunist-chauvinism in support of the U.S. bourgeoisie deliberately attempting to coverup the role of U.S. imperialism in the war. Of course the issue is interspersed with statements upholding Mao Tsetung and denouncing Teng and Hua for the revisionist dogs they are. But when we get to the bottom line around the China-Vietnam war, what do they have to say?

"China's action clearly is against imperialism. This is the immediate and principal aspect of China's successful counter-attack against the Soviet-inspired provocations by Vietnam... China's tactically sharp armed

formulation when the only situation in which it can possibly have any validity at all is if a socialist country (such as China under Mao) is directly threatened by one of the superpowers more than the other. Even there it is wrong to automatically say that this superpower is the main enemy in the world. Mao saw that the Soviets were the main danger to China. But this fact can provide a cover for opportunists inside the socialist country and around the world to rely on and actually cave in to the "lesser" imperialist danger. But now China, as WVO is forced to admit, has been taken over by revisionists. So even this argu-



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## Vietnam Vets Week

Continued from page 1

the honored guests didn't go for the elaborate scam. One vet who had given a clenched fist salute at several times during the day made the mistake of stepping onto the grass. The pigs were on him in seconds, and threw him out of the park. Step out of line—even a little bit—and see what you get.

But the biggest scam of all was the way they made a show of allowing for differences. In some cities they even said that if the Vietnam Veterans Against the War would only sign up as a sponsor of the events, they could participate, VVAW refused, but attended these events with some other things in mind. In San Francisco, this turned into a disaster for the brass when a disabled vet from VVAW blew their whole patriotic scene away. (See article below)

But in Chicago they were able to get a few speakers to mount the stage and play the game of "Freedom and Democracy" with them. Ron Kovic, a well known anti-war vet, played right into their hands saying, "Let us be a nation that learned the difficult lessons once and for all and put this war behind us." Sorry Ron, they're not putting war behind them, they're getting ready for the big one—a war that will make Vietnam look like boot camp. We don't need any more illusions spread around, the bourgeoisie is already doing that.

Another welcome protester on the stage was a leading member of a scab outfit which goes around calling itself VVAW. (This phony organization is politically led by some opportunists who split from the RCP to pursue their

reformist careers). The members of this group were appropriately described by one major news radio station as "now concentrating its efforts on lobbying Congress for more benefits."

They must have loved the contrast between this message and the one VVAW sent Congress during the war when a vet on national TV threw back his medals and said, "The next time we fight it'll be to take these steps."

Some kinds of protest the bourgeoisie can tolerate very well as they attempt to bring the Vietnam vets under their wing, channel the anger of the vets and defuse it. Just don't go against the basic program.

That program was spelled out by the man of the day, Max Cleland, Veterans Administration head, who bowed his head at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and said, "Freedom is not free...the nation must never forget that price, no matter what war we send our troops off to fight." NO MATTER WHAT WAR—the words hang in the air like fallout. Who are they kidding? As the Vietnam Veterans Against the War put it in a leaflet denouncing the Veterans Week charade, "We will not grovel before the 'honor' of Vietnam Vets Week as they prepare to sacrifice millions more on their holy altar of profit. We will not be used again. We are not afraid of war and we are not afraid of sacrifice—but not for them. Our war is against this capitalist system and all the wars and torment it breeds. Our sacrifice will be for us and for our class." ■

### Bob Hope's China Travels

# ON THE ROAD TO WW III

Well, it's time for Ol' Ski Nose to start entertaining the troops again at the bidding of his U.S. war-mongering masters.

As a fitting opening shot, imperialist song and dance man Bob Hope celebrated his 76 big ones on the Navy ship Iwo Jima, koochie-kooing with Charo and a host of capitalist flunkies including Henry Kissinger.

The Navy planned the outing to "honor Hope for his dedication." He's dedicated all right. You could always depend on his bod to be out there—in the field—on the road from Europe to Korea to Vietnam—with his entourage of titillating ladies "boosting morale" and reminding the troops what they were supposed to be fighting for.

And back home you could depend on this master of cheap one-liners to crank out stateside propaganda, calling on the folks to support "our boys over there" and not to forget to "buy U.S. Savings Bonds." Sprinkling all of this, of course, with a few irreverent jabs at his political palsy walsies.

All in all, ol' Bob plays a very important role for his capitalist cronies. People can only take so much high-powered emotionalism (like the "Deer Hunter") designed to psych us up for their inevitable war moves. Enter Bob Hope, stage right, only too glad to laugh us all the way into World War III—along with the rest of the world.

In line with this, guess what road the Palm Springs desert rat will be traveling down in June? The road to China! The jokes will really start rolling as the USO show sets up in Peking to entertain the latest troops to jump on the imperialist bandwagon—those of Teng Hsiao-ping and Co.

Ol' Ski Nose commented that this is a trip he's been wanting to make for a long time, and he is especially ecstatic over the inclusion of native Chinese talent in his show—namely, Chinese dancing bears.

Ah, what unparalleled heights have been achieved in the struggle to "learn from the West" in the sphere of culture since that evil bunch, the "gang of four," were "overthrown."

One serious question remains, however. Will we be able to distinguish between the bears and the other dancing animals on stage when the show airs in this country next fall?

## SF VVAW Ruins Official Ceremony

May 28, San Francisco. The Bay Area chapter of Vietnam Veterans Against the War got the ruling class's Vietnam Veterans Week off to a flying start today, but not exactly the way the bourgeoisie had it planned.

The American Legion had it all set up at San Francisco's Presidio. Let VVAW come. After all, it wouldn't look too good if they axed some of the very people they were "honoring." In fact, they figured, this would be a great touch. After all, no flag-waving, gung-ho Vietnam veterans' organization would have much credibility—but VVAW would. Some token protest, but after all, every family has its disagreements.

Then VVAW marched in chanting "To Hell With Your National Honor, We Won't Be Used Again." A little strong, perhaps—in fact five military police cars roared up—but what could they do? It was all official.

Things started to go downhill fast for the flag wavers. During the Star Spangled Banner, VVAW turned their backs to the flag and gave a clenched-fist salute. Still, these imperial wizards in their military garb tried to put out the fire. Their keynote speaker addressed the deep divisions in U.S. society that Vietnam brought. This was OK, he said, protests were OK. It was just the ones who went to Canada who were the scum, not the ones who fought, especially not the ones who did it in spite of their disagreements.

At this point, though, the program hit a snag it wouldn't recover from. It seems that a lieutenant with only a week left to serve was in charge of the speakers list and he had a few debts to pay back to the military. So at midnight



Sunday, VVAW got a call informing them they were speaking, "to set some warped minds straight," as the caller put it.

Up to the stage went the VVAW representative—a Marine who had lost a leg in combat, flanked by his own honor guard. There must have been a million American flags waving on the platform, along with several generals and other lackeys of U.S. imperialism.

The brother started his speech loud. "You people came here to mock the dead, trying to wash the blood off the hands of U.S. imperialism—we won't stand by silently. . . . Today reactionary

racists like John Wayne are honored with medals for socializing generations of American youth for war. . . . We will not be silent while the blood is washed off the hands of the U.S. war criminals in Washington, D.C. . . . As you dance on the graves of our dead in preparation for another war. . . . as U.S. imperialism rearms itself with draft registration."

You could have heard a pin drop. The MC's mouth dropped open and he looked like he wanted to kill the guy. The Military Police moved closer, but there was nothing they could do. The TV cameras were rolling and there was

a crowd of people around. Their whole jive plan had blown up in their face.

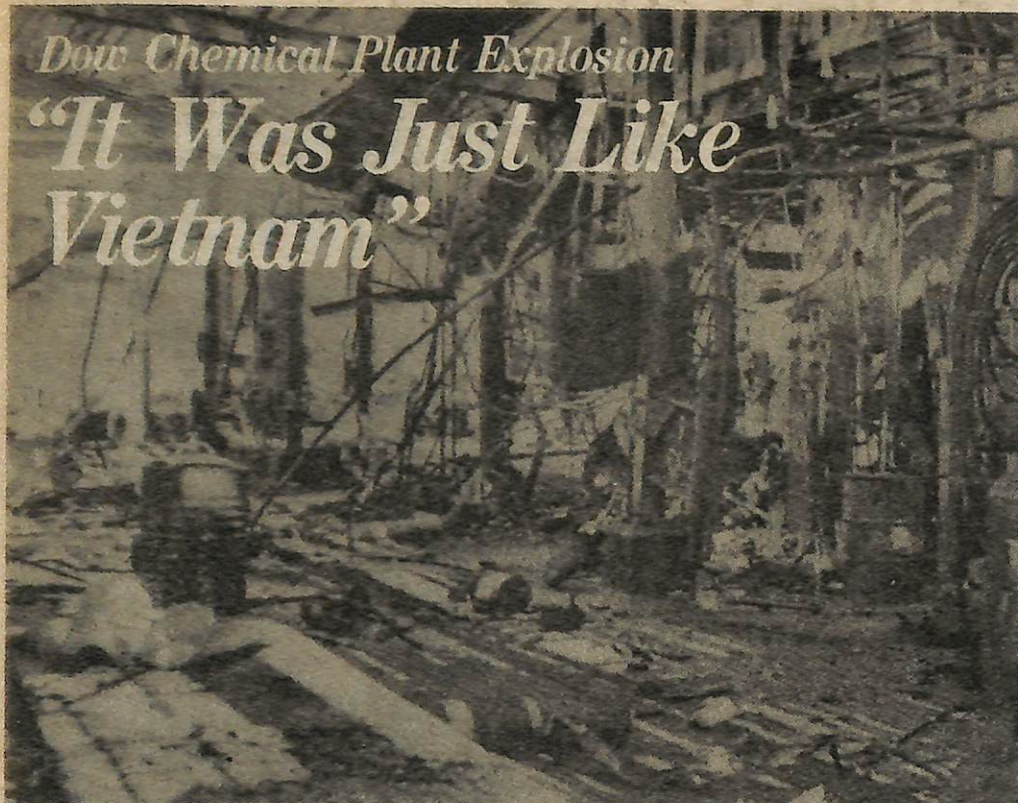
At the end of this speech, the crowd was polarized. Half the people clapped, particularly those on the outside, while the hardcore on the inside of the crowd booed. One hatchet-faced old biddy shouted out, "You're lucky you're in America. In any other country you would have been shot." This to a guy who had been shot, who had lost his leg in Vietnam, forced to fight for the bloody interests of the red, white and blue.

VVAW had marched into enemy territory and won. The brass fought their battle with all the finesse they displayed in 'Nam. But, still, they need the Vietnam vets to help spearhead their World War 3 plans, to help rebuild their crumbling volunteer army, and they're going to keep on fighting to convince them to "come home." The collapse in San Francisco of their highly-touted kickoff to Vietnam Veterans Week was a good shot of what they'll get in the future.

They played Taps near the end of the program and wound it up with a moment of silence. But breaking through the silence with one last bombshell, clenched fists raised, VVAW chanted, "We Won't Forgive and We Won't Forget! Death to U.S. Imperialism!" ■



## Dow Chemical Plant Explosion

**"It Was Just Like Vietnam"**

**Pittsburg, Cal., Saturday, May 26.**—The murdering hand of capital struck again as an explosion ripped through a new facility at the big Dow Chemical plant at 8:30 a.m., killing two workers, hospitalizing 22 and sending 80 others to hospitals for treatment.

A 600-gallon tank in which iron powder and chlorine were being mixed to make ferric chloride, a catalyst in the production of agricultural pesticides, suddenly heated up to 120 degrees above normal. There was no direct alarm from the control room to the table area, so the one inspector on duty went out to investigate.

Within seconds, however, a massive explosion occurred—windows were rattled five miles away and a big cloud of hydrochloric acid shot up into the sky. Inside the place it was bedlam. Men were knocked down, unable to see as the gas spread everywhere. Many were covered by a chemical which looked like black tar. Jack Wright, 48, died instantly and Gabriel Martinez, 64, father of eleven, was burned so badly and inhaled so much gas that he died shortly after. One worker described the scene as being "like Vietnam. There were bodies and debris everywhere. It looked like a mortar had landed on a bunker."

At first, all the company's speeches expressed disbelief when questioned. "We can't see anything from the data that looks wrong." (Overlooking the obvious fact of two dead men and a wrecked plant), said Mike Marinek, project manager. "We think there's something Mother Nature's keeping from us," said Jack Jones, Dow research manager, dryly (a little humor to lighten the moment).

Marinek had guided the press on a March 21 preview tour of the new part of the plant. He praised the plant as "very safe for the workers," and noted that it was a "feather in the cap" of anyone working on the project. He

spoke of how much more safe and efficient (read: cheap) this new process was. Incredibly enough, after the explosion another company spokesman claimed, "The plant was safer than your own home."

The workers at Dow told a different story which shattered the web of lies spun by the company. They told of being pushed hard to complete the project in time to fill insecticide orders for the summer crops. Even as they were working on constructing the area, manufacturing had already begun.

The new process was tried twice; Saturday was the third time (company officials point out that it worked fine until then.) Almost every day, deadly chlorine gas escaped. Four workers were overcome in the last week and rushed for treatment. Dow officials claimed they had a 24-hour virus or had too much heavy clothing on, which led to heat prostration.

In fact, in this safest of all plants, Dow's testimony to their ingenuity, the plant officials have gone to court twice this year in order to prevent any government agencies from inspecting the plant. On Feb. 1, Dow successfully filed suit to prevent the Environmental Protection Agency from taking any aerial photos of the plant in attempts to monitor emissions.

Then, in April, they won again, as the judge ruled that OSHA had to back off from attempts to inspect there. The reason, of course, is there was "no reason to expect anything was unsafe." After all, no one had been killed since the two men who were blown up in another explosion there in 1971. Dow's Pittsburg plant was even commended by the California State Legislature for its safety record.

**Lies and More Lies**

At the press conference after the blast, humility and shocked disbelief

turned quickly to paranoid embarrassment and anger whenever the wrong question was asked. Jack Jones at one point refused to answer the *Revolutionary Worker's* questions because "You don't print the facts," (not that this was a real problem since he didn't give any).

But facts are stubborn things and he couldn't avoid them. A woman reporter from another newspaper repeated the questions asked by the *Revolutionary Worker* reporter when Jones refused to answer. What came out was the fact that the company lackeys were crassly trying to hide the truth of what really counts under capitalism.

Workers had been told there was no danger from the gases at the plant. They were mere "background odors... a concern to employees not familiar with them." Besides, Jones added, "How could anyone breathe it for long? It smells too bad." Meanwhile, another official mistakenly blurted out that the gas people smelled was potentially fatal chlorine gas. At the same time that Jones was lying to the press, at the hospital where the explosion victims were being treated, the workers were handed a xerox sheet stating, among other things, "disaster victims... exposed to chlorinated pyridines... watch for delayed effects. *This is Potentially Fatal.* The official press release said only that employees were treated for burns and lacerations, and mentioned nothing about gas dangers.

The black tar-like substance everyone was covered with was described mildly by company officials as only a skin irritant. In fact, it was such a powerful chemical that every fireman and nurse who came in contact with the injured was ordered to give his clothes to Dow so that they could be burned. One woman whose boyfriend worked there told the *Revolutionary Worker* that at first she was told not to touch him until "he was decontaminated." Later they changed that to until "he was bathed in

minerals." She also said company and union lawyers had already been talking about settlements to the workers.

On top of everything else, Jones emphatically denied that there was ever a danger to the community. The truth was that immediately after the accident, nearby residents were told to go inside and shut their windows. A tennis tournament at Antioch, five miles away, was forced to a halt as several players' eyes began to sting. Police say that normal activity was resumed two hours later when Dow officials (of course) said the fumes were not toxic.

Every statement the company issued tightened the noose around their own neck. Even the "proof" they presented of their concern for safety backfired. Just last week they had staged a disaster drill, complete with ambulances and county sheriffs. The explosion showed why—these bloodsuckers, who are even afraid of the feeble arm of OSHA, weren't protecting the workers—they were protecting their own asses. They were worried something was going to happen, and rather than take the time and money to correct it, they gambled and prepared the morgue in case they drew a losing hand.

The relation between the hospital and Dow was clear as a bell that afternoon. Supervisors patrolled the halls of the hospital making sure that no press got in to see the injured workers, confronting any "civilians" they spied out. One woman, seeing our cameras, approached us and said that if we were the press and wanted to hear the truth, we should take off our press badges and sneak down the halls to where her boyfriend was.

The two workers we talked to, still dotted with black chemicals, confirmed much of the truth that Dow was trying to hide. They had been kept ignorant of dangers, given safety equipment that didn't work, and lied to about the gas leaks. They didn't know what they had been exposed to nor what its long-term effects were.

Continued on page 13

## Prosecutor's Motion vs. Embassy **RULE POLITICS OUT, RULE RAILROAD IN**

As the Embassy 5 trial draws near it becomes even more evident that the government is out for blood—the 5 revolutionaries face felony charges carrying life penalties for a white paint splattering, window breaking incident at the revisionist Chinese Embassy shortly before Teng's U.S. trip.

Attorney for the prosecution, William H. Collins, Jr., an ex-Marine officer has filed a motion to deny any political motivation testimony from being used in the trial. The prosecution says "no politics allowed"—this is a non-political trial. But then every action shows just the opposite.

In his "no politics" motion Collins has linked the Embassy 5 trial with three other political trials where the government was successful at keeping political motivation out of the courtroom. In the Collazo case, during the Truman administration, two Puerto Rican nationalists attacked Blair House—a fancy, U.S. government residence near the White House. A guard and one of the Puerto Ricans were killed. Collazo attempted to bring evidence about the history and politics of Puerto Rico into the trial and it was denied.

In the case of Lolita Lebron and the other Puerto Rican nationalists who attacked Congress, all political motives were denied. And the third case involved the struggle over land grants in northern New Mexico. Chicanos took over a courthouse. The Tierra Amarilla defendants were not allowed to speak to the issue of Spanish land grants. The U.S. government is apparently proud of their history of gagging revolutionary fighters.

Other "funny" stuff has started to surface. When the action happened at the Chinese Embassy the security guard, officer Toriskie, radioed in a report of the incident. The tape of that report, material evidence important to the defendants, has since been erased by the Secret Service.

Why is the ruling class in such a frenzy over some broken glass and white paint at the Chinese embassy? The Embassy 5 themselves recently issued a press release that speaks to this question. It read, in part:

"... It is an outrage that we the Embassy 5 must stand trial for exposing the bloody rule of reaction in China and exposing the war moves that U.S., China normalization represents. It is an outrage for the prosecution to say this is not a political trial but a trial of common vandalism. This is an outright lie. The embassy action and the demonstration on January 29 exposed the Chinese revisionist traitors and the U.S. imperialists' headlong rush into World War III. What could be more political than that? These actions were a monkey-wrench thrown into their efforts to spread their lies about revolution being dead and their hypocritical cries of peace as they march toward war..."

"The U.S. rulers want to railroad the Embassy 5 by limiting the testimony around the motivation. If they get away with this scheme then they will attempt to railroad the 78 Mao defendants arrested on the 29th, including Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, but a battle will be waged during the trial to make sure that the real crimes and the real criminals get exposed..."

**Free the Embassy 5!**

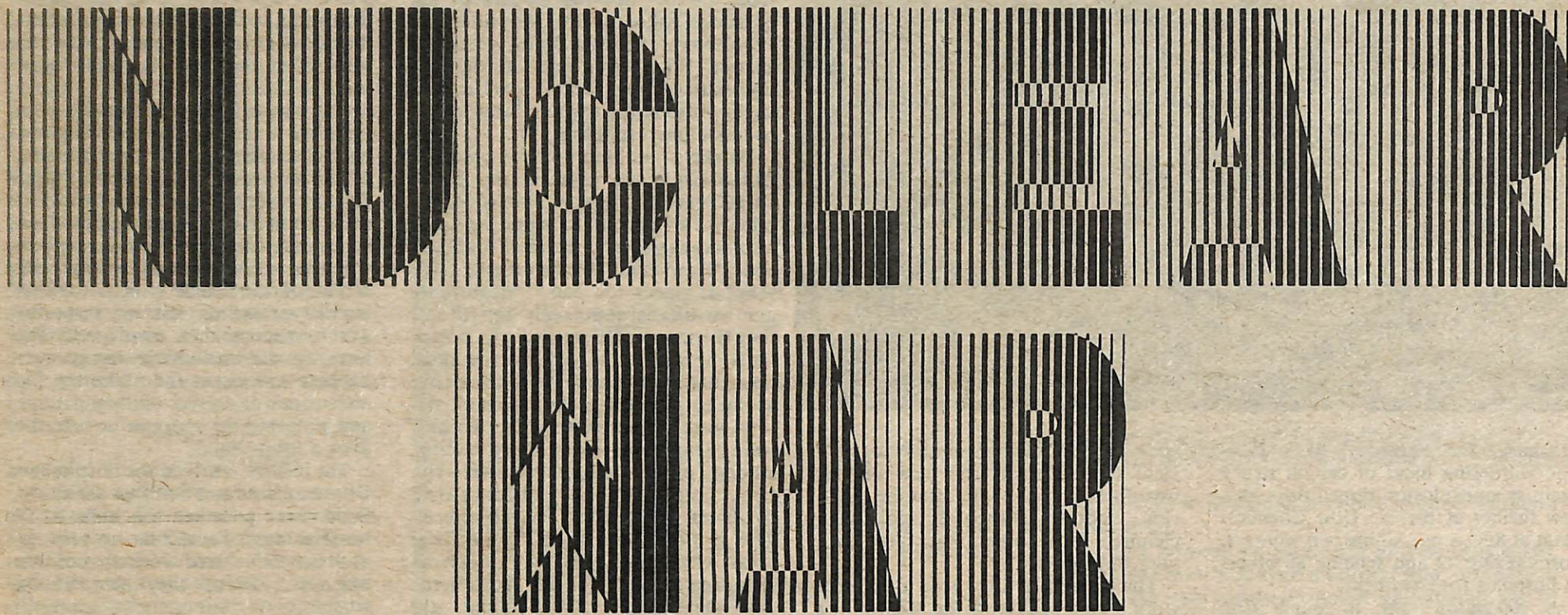
**Free all the Mao Tsetung Defendants!**

**"They were worried something was going to happen, and rather than take the time and money to correct it, they gambled and prepared the morgue in case they drew a losing hand."**

**What is this bigshot worried about? The lives of Dow workers or Dow's blood-soaked profits?**







## Why Wait 'til Afterward to Make Revolution?

Nuclear war is no Dr. Strangelove fantasy. It's something the "best minds," the most sober experts of this country and the Soviet Union are thinking, planning, computing every day. It is not "the un-thinkable."

On May 23, the *New York Times* reported in its back pages yet another Congressional study. "Small A-War Is Called Survivable" ran the headline. Reading deeper you can get the drift. These bastards are no longer yakking about nuclear weapons as "deterrents." They are making plans about how to fight a nuclear war and win. They are calmly discussing holding the lives of millions hostage and then playing them off like pawns.

The *Times* article states, "In an all-out nuclear war, the study concludes 165 million Americans would be killed and almost as many Soviet citizens. The survivors would be forced to live under conditions 'equivalent of the Middle Ages.'"

"However, in a small nuclear exchange, if only the strategic forces and additional key military targets would be attacked, the study says, fewer people would be killed." The basic estimate they run is 20 million.

Then this report gets down to what is termed "discussing the impact" of such a loss. These gentlemen conclude, "The United States has never suffered the loss of millions of people, and it is unlikely that the survivors would simply take it in stride."

**TAKE IT IN STRIDE!!** These sons of bitches are coldly calculating the best way to murder millions and come out on top—and on top of the American people as well as the Russians.

The news of incredibly reactionary plans like this, coming side by side with stories like the Harrisburg nuke melt-down and the rumbling news of sharpening U.S.-Soviet confrontations around the globe—all this is snapping ever greater numbers of people into political awakening, political questioning and into action. This is true again this month of June as people in many different states and even other countries will be demonstrating on

A big question that comes up around the question of war is the possibility of nuclear weapons being involved. This is obviously a big and serious question for people because these weapons have been developed and everybody has the sense that they haven't been developed for no reason. They've been developed not only to threaten the other side, but also if a showdown comes the question is, will they use these weapons? And what will be the consequence if they use these nuclear weapons?

Now some people have mistaken ideas about this from the one side or the other. Some say, "Well they're not really going to use these weapons because they'll just destroy the whole world and they don't want to do that. After all even if they want to be exploiters they've got a certain amount of sense so there's no point in them using all these nuclear weapons. They'd just blow up the whole world and they don't want to do that."

Or else these people say they won't launch a war of any kind, even conventional, because of the danger of nuclear weapons being used. So therefore, even though some of what the RCP says may be true, the danger of nuclear weapons will stay the imperialists' hand, it'll keep them from going to war because they don't want to blow up the whole world. If they want to exploit the people, then they won't use these nuclear weapons.

But this is wrong. We have to look at the cold, hard reality, at the kind of people and more than that the system we are dealing with. A system which has its laws and which drives the class of people who rule this society (and the Soviet Union) to be the worst, the

most murderous gangsters that have yet lived on the planet earth. Because this is the way they prolong their system, and there's nothing they won't do to try to prolong their rule. Of course they want to exploit people, but when it comes down to it if they have to go at each other and even shoot nuclear missiles across the ocean at each other, they will do it in order to try and keep themselves going a little bit longer. And we can't have any illusions about this.

Let's look at some history. Look at the end of World War 2. Now they had the atomic bomb and a lot of people said they won't use the atomic bomb, they don't need to use the atomic bomb. And in fact that was true from a certain angle, because Japan had already offered to surrender. But there were two things that the rulers of this country were thinking about and were more concerned about, which led them to use those atomic bombs on the Japanese cities and incinerate thousands of people, just dissolve these people right into the ground. They didn't blink an eye.

And why did they do it? Because there were two problems. First, Japan was ready to surrender all right but there was a danger it might surrender to the Soviet Union instead of to the U.S. And therefore, the U.S. position coming out of World War 2 might not be as strong as it turned out to be if they couldn't have control in Japan. So they used that bomb on Japan, in large part, to force Japan to surrender right away to them before the Russian Red Army arrived in Japan, which it was rapidly approaching.

Second of all they dropped that bomb to say to people in China who were rising up and not only kicking out the Japanese but were advancing toward making

June 2 against nukes. And in every one of these demonstrations, many will be discussing and debating still broader questions—from war to the whole nature of this system and what to do about it.

In this situation, the Revolutionary Communist Party aims to be out there even more broadly among the people, uniting with these deep concerns and putting forward our stand on all these questions—definitely including war, nuclear war and revolution.

In short, we believe that the very real threat of nuclear war is an enormous crime for which guilt can only be laid right at the doorstep of the capitalist system. We believe the U.S. and Soviets are going to war unless they are stopped by revolution. And this war will be nothing but a war between slavemasters, each fighting for more slaves to exploit.

In a war like this, our stand is very clear. We don't like the so-called "socialist"—actually capitalist—rulers of the Soviet Union any more than we like the rulers of our own country, and vice versa. We want to sweep them both into the garbage can of history where they belong. We intend to work for revolutionary war, civil war, not imperialist war.

We stand for the elimination of war, but in today's world that can only mean opposing unjust wars of oppression and plunder and supporting just wars against this cancerous system. In doing so we will bring closer the final elimination of war—including the monster of nuclear war.

In a forum in Seattle, Washington this past March, the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, Bob Avakian, spoke on these and many other related questions. Before our national newspaper was launched on May 1 this year, we printed some excerpts from this important speech in a number of local papers. But because of the importance of this question, and in time for these June 2 international actions, we are now reprinting the part of his speech that dealt with the question of nuclear war.

revolution completely in their country, and to say to people all over the world, "Look at us. We don't give a damn. If you stand up against us we will wipe you out. We are going to rule this world. This is the American century. We are going to rule it and nobody is going to mess with us. We are going to drop an atomic bomb on your ass."

### Mao: The Bomb Is A Paper Tiger

This is what they were saying to the people of the world. Very loud and clear. It didn't work. People still made revolution. Mao Tsetung drove them crazy. American correspondents would say, "Well, now they got the atomic bomb, doesn't that mean that everything's changed in the world and basically doesn't that mean that you got to give up your idea of revolution?" And Mao would say, No. The atomic bomb is a paper tiger.

And the rulers of the U.S. went up the walls. Because here was this weapon of mass destruction and yet Mao made a correct analysis. Now, he said a paper tiger has got two aspects. It's a tiger and it's paper. That means that on the one hand it could do a lot of destruction like a tiger can. In the short run it does have real teeth. It can do a lot of damage. But in the long run it will dissolve in the wind and the rain and the thunder of the people's struggle and it cannot change the course of history. And it will not succeed in either intimidating or bludgeoning people out of rising up and throwing off their oppression. And it didn't. In China, despite the atomic bomb and the fact that the U.S. was threatening to use it against China, they went



## Human Guinea Pigs

*In the 1950s U.S. soldiers were ordered to climb out of their bunkers and stand watching the blast of U.S. nuclear tests. (See left.) Government officials, fully aware of the danger of radiation exposure since they had already seen the long-term results of their murdering bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, ordered the soldiers to go ahead anyway.*

*Recently a victim of this practice sued the government for the cost of medical care. Robert Jaffee, now 47, said that in 1953 he and other GIs were positioned 2,000 to 3,000 yards from the blast site—with no protective clothing.*

*Jaffee stated in his case, "These servicemen were not advised in advance of the nature of the tests, they were not warned of the dangers involved in participating in these tests and they were given no opportunity to refuse."*

*In the last few years, Jaffee has developed in-operative breast cancer which has spread throughout his body. In his suit, Jaffee sought medical cost compensation for himself and all others involved. He also sought a court order mandating the government to inform these men of the danger.*

*A district court judge dismissed Jaffee's case citing the "sovereign immunity" of the government. Jaffee appealed to the Supreme Court.*

*On May 21, the Highest Justices announced they were letting the lower court ruling stand.*



right ahead and drove that flunkey of the U.S. imperialists, Chiang Kai-shek, right into the sea, and made revolution and continued it on and supported it in other places.

But the reason the U.S. imperialists didn't use the atomic bomb then was not out of any humanitarian concerns. It was because they were afraid it wouldn't stop the tide of revolution anyway and would only further expose and isolate them in that situation. So due to the struggle in their own ranks they tactically decided not to use it against the Chinese people at that time.

### They'll Stop At Nothing

But nevertheless they had indicated in Japan that they will use these weapons. That's what they have them for, that's what they developed them for. This is their final ace in the hole. This is the final thing they pull out when other things don't work. And you can look very concretely at their war plans and what's shaping up and see what they're planning to do, on both sides.

The U.S. is very clear that if it's unable to stop a Soviet thrust, for example, in Western Europe, it will at least seriously consider using nuclear weapons, and I think we have to take it that there's a very good likelihood they will use tactical nuclear weapons against Soviet troop concentrations. And the Soviets are very clear: if nuclear weapons, tactical or otherwise, are used against them, they will respond in kind. So we can't have any illusions thinking this is going to be some nice clean Marquis of Queensbury battle going on between two blood-sucking dinosaurs who are desperately trying to prolong their existence.

And it is the whole imperialist system that produces

all this rot and all this pus. We have to understand the nature of it. That they will stop at nothing to divide up the world. And then they will go about the business of exploiting us and rebuilding it under their own domination, as they did after World War 1 and after World War 2 in all the areas they controlled. They killed off about 50 million people in World War 2, and if they have to kill off 200 or 300 million in this war to try and prolong their existence, then they will do it if they can.

And this, again, is just another outrageous crime of this imperialist system that should increase our determination and our resoluteness to rise up and overthrow them before they can unleash this war and before they can do this. Before they can slaughter 10's, even 100's of millions of people. But if we're not able to do that first and if this war is unleashed, if push comes to shove, there is no guarantee that they won't and a real likelihood that they will use nuclear weapons.

And then some people say in response, "Yeah, that's right—and that's it. So we might as well all go off and disco and have a good time because it's all over. As soon as those nuclear weapons start flying and all that shit, you can forget about all this talk about revolution."

Khrushchev, when he was taking the Soviet Union back down the road to capitalism and kissing up to the U.S. rulers, he said this in a little bit different way. He said that atomic weapons or nuclear weapons don't adhere to any principles, they don't recognize any class, they'll blow up capitalists and workers alike. And this was his excuse for kissing ass to the U.S. ruling class and for not standing up to them and supporting people making revolution in the world. Because

atomic bombs might come down on everybody and blow up the world.

But we have to understand that on the one hand, if they go to war, if we're not able to stop them through revolution—which is the only way to stop them—there is the very real likelihood that they will in fact use these weapons. But on the other hand they will not destroy the world. There are billions of people in the world, and many people will survive this use of nuclear weapons. And as the Chinese Communist Party under Mao's leadership once very powerfully and beautifully put it: In the end, it will not be nuclear weapons that will destroy mankind, but through revolution and advancing society, it will be mankind that will finally destroy nuclear weapons.

This is not just well-wishing or good thinking. It's like Mao said about the atomic bomb. Now nuclear weapons on this level are much more powerful than what they dropped at the end of World War 2. And they can do a lot more destruction. And the imperialists will be held accountable, and there will be a blood debt on their part for everybody who suffers and all the wars that have gone on under their rule, because they're ultimately responsible. And for this war that's shaping up they are also directly responsible. They will be held accountable for all the suffering that they bring down, but nonetheless they cannot succeed in destroying the whole world and all the people in it.

### Intensify Our Determination

But even if they could blow up the whole world and all the people in it, there's nothing we can do in the face of such a prospect except to make revolution. It still comes back to the same thing. All that we should do is once more intensify our determination to rise up and overthrow them and prevent them from doing that.

And Mao Tsetung, once again, just like he said the atomic bomb was a paper tiger, went even further and drove these bourgeois rulers up the wall, in fact, probably over the wall. On the question of whether these capitalists could blow up the whole world with all their atomic weapons, Mao's orientation was very clear: No, there's a lot of people in the world, and even if they do succeed in blowing up a lot there'll still be people left and they'll still make revolution and be even more determined to bury this system once and for all to prevent this from ever happening again, by moving society beyond this stage.

In 1955, Mao was talking to a diplomat from Finland about this question and he said, "Even if the U.S. atom bombs were so powerful that, when dropped on China, they would make a hole right through the earth, or even blow it up, that would hardly mean anything to the universe as a whole, though it might be a major event for the solar system."

Now what he was saying by that was: Look, life goes on and you know that the earth is after all not the center of the whole universe, and it wasn't that some god put it there and made it the center of the universe. It's one little speck in the whole universe. And we have to have a universal attitude towards this thing. And even if there is tremendous destruction brought down on us, it still can't change the course of history and the development of things forward through struggle.

This was an extreme way on his part of saying, Look, you have to maintain the same orientation. And he wasn't somebody who's never been through this stuff, he wasn't just somebody who was talking off the top of his head or someone who never had to deal with it. He was a dude who fought 30 years of revolutionary war and faced down the atomic bomb and everything the imperialists threatened him with or actually threw at him.

And his orientation was correct and it has to be our orientation. We have to work, it's our Party's position and line and dedication and programme and our constant activity, that even if they blow up everybody but 500 people in the world, we know that among those 500 people there's still going to be class struggle, they're still going to struggle about how they're going to organize the society. Given the level where we are at, there's still going to be about 50 people that are going to jump up and say, "Let me run the whole thing and the rest of you work for me." And our Party is going to do all its work so that, even if such a drastic situation developed, we'd have 50 communists organizing the rest of the 450 to rise up and overthrow the system.

Because as long as there are people—even 50 people left or 500 people and even if they do destroy a good part of the technology that's been built up, we have the knowledge and we have the basis to rebuild it, and the question will emerge, as we struggle among people: on what basis is this society going to be organized? Are we gonna let a handful of people once again grab us and put us through the whole nightmare all over again or are we going to advance to another stage?

Now this is an extreme way of making a point that's very important and very fundamental. No matter what destruction they bring down on us, this is only a further exposure and a further indictment of their whole system. It should make us, and must and will make us, even more determined to build up and accelerate the revolutionary movement to expose this system, to rip its mask off, to educate the people to show them where their suffering is coming from, to expose the towering crimes these imperialists have already committed and are further preparing to commit, and to bring closer the day when we can rise up and abolish their system and all its evils once and for all. ■



# Crash

Continued from page 3

And now the Chicago crash has killed 272. As we go to press the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration), forced by circumstances, has grounded all DC-10's in use in this country, stating that severe deficiencies in the engine mounts have been discovered. This has certainly exposed only a small part of the treacherous state of safety precaution taken by the airlines these days and more will no doubt come out as the liability suits come in.

American Airlines will blame McDonnell-Douglas, manufacturer of the DC-10, for shoddy construction. McDonnell-Douglas will blame American Airlines for shoddy maintenance. And, unfortunately for the people who were killed on May 25 in Chicago, as well as those the system has dictated will die the same way in the future, most of the accusations hurled back and forth between these capitalist giants as they try to disassociate themselves from the crash will be true.

## A Little "Corner-Cutting"

Already some of the dirt has started to hang out. The day after the crash, a federal inspector literally stumbled over a 3x3/8 inch bolt which had been left by the plane at the passenger gate. The bolt, a critical component in the engine mount, was broken in half and had been cracked for some time as the investigators admitted.

The DC-10 which crashed had received general maintenance in March and the bolt in question was inspected at that time. According to the *Los Angeles Times*, a simple dye check was done in which only surface cracks could have been detected. The equipment, of course, exists which would detect internal weaknesses, like x-rays and magna-flux, but it wasn't used.

When news of this got out, the same question must have occurred to millions: why didn't they just replace the goddamn bolt?

The answer lies in the very workings of the capitalist system itself. For several years up through 1977, the airlines returned what from their point of view was a dangerously low profit margin—less than five percent. While this has been somewhat erratic in the last two years, they have basically run up against the problem of not generating enough profit to replace their aging fleets of aircraft.

*Fortune*, the slick magazine for businessmen, noted in 1977, "a serious downturn in the economy could leave TWA, Eastern and Pan Am eyeball to eyeball with bankruptcy." Letting the cat out of the bag, *Fortune* inadvertently explained why it is that American doesn't change its bolts, that Continental uses retreads and PSA has avoided collision avoidance systems. "That kind of weakness," *Fortune* admitted in reference to the airlines' low profit margin, "doesn't simply hurt investors and creditors. It can also prompt corner cutting in maintenance and operations...thereby making airplanes less safe."

The driving force behind getting airliners in the air (and crashing them on the ground) is the competition between the airlines for maximum profit return. This means that airlines must be strained to the limit, kept in the air as much as possible, even if it means a little "corner cutting" in maintenance.

American Airlines is literally locked in war with the other airlines and competition is growing increasingly sharp. The dropping of federal pricing regulations last summer underscored this. The larger airlines have cut prices temporarily and driven out and gobbled up several smaller airlines while at the same time going after new markets. Mergers have resulted in a further concentration of capital in fewer hands, leaving the bigger boys to fight it out.

They must maximize profits and not only stay in the running, but improve their position relative to the competition or face ruin. It is the basic law of the capitalist system—expand or die—which operates on a grand scale, and the masses of people are reduced to horsemeat to feed their stinking dog-

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May, 1979

## the COMMUNIST

Theoretical Journal of the Central Committee  
Of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA

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Comments on Enver Hoxha's *Imperialism and the Revolution*
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The bourgeoisie constantly puts forward its theories in a thousand and one forms. These theories have to be hit hard and exposed as the bankrupt trash they are, especially when they come from the mouths of people who claim to be on the side of revolution.

The latest issue of *The Communist* contains a number of articles which represent a valuable contribution to the class struggle on the theoretical front:

- Full reply to Hoxha's wretched attack on Mao Tsetung Thought. When revisionism triumphed, for the moment, in China after Mao's death, many revolutionaries looked to Albania with hope. But now this article shows how Enver Hoxha's new book

is really a stab in the back and betrayal of Marxism and revolution.

- Lenin's *What Is To Be Done?* and its role today. This book of Lenin's played a crucial role, not only in preparing the way for the Russian Revolution, but in other times and places. What Lenin says here has been the subject of debate among revolutionaries throughout the 1970s.

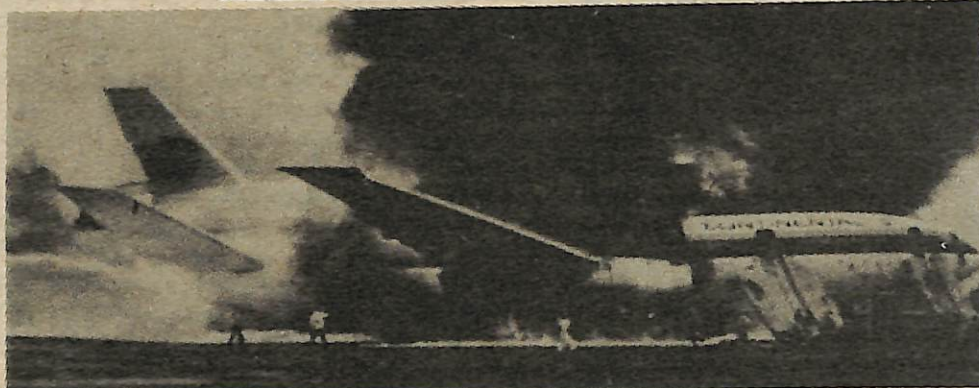
- Plato was an ancient Greek reactionary. But the bourgeoisie still finds him relevant and likes to push him. The proletariat has an interest in discovering the real roots of Plato's thought.

- Charles Bettelheim was the President of the France-China Friendship Association, but quit in protest against the revisionist takeover in China. Now he has written an analysis of the counter-revolution in China. But is his criticism really based on revolutionary Marxism, or not?

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Different crash, same cause. Continental saved \$180 per tire by using retreads. The tires blew and this plane crashed in L.A. in March 1978.

eat-dog way of life.

The most recent victims of this profit war were the people blown up in Chicago on May 25.

### The DC-10 Meatgrinder

One of the most glaring exposures of just how concerned the capitalists are with safety in the air involves the history of the very jet that crashed in Chicago—the DC-10. One newspaper drastically understated the situation by describing the DC-10 as possessing an "unenviable safety record."

The DC-10 was developed in the late 60's as an aircraft specifically saleable to the airlines on a number of counts. McDonnell-Douglas was in a race with its leading competitors, Lockheed and Boeing, to deliver an airplane of this type. In order to beat the others to the punch, McDonnell-Douglas even knocked off 500 hours of flight testing time and delivered the first DC-10's to American Airlines in July of 1971 instead of the originally projected date of October.

The first four American Airlines flight crews that were certified to fly the DC-10 had only an average of one hour and thirty minutes actual flight time in the airplane. According to a trade

magazine, the DC-10 allowed for "significant reduction time in the training of pilots and mechanics...sloughing off much of the in-depth functional indoctrination of the past."

But functional indoctrination was evidently not all that was sloughed off. This became clear over the next three years as major structural defects in the DC-10 began to surface.

In 1972, an American Airlines DC-10 took off from Detroit. As it reached 15,000 feet, a rear cabin door blew off. The result was rapid decompression and collapse of the passenger cabin floor. But the pilot managed to maneuver the plane safely back to Detroit.

After this incident, the staff of the FAA recommended that an airworthiness directive be sent out notifying the airlines of a serious design defect in the DC-10 door. This would have probably grounded all the DC-10's in service, a black eye for the airlines and McDonnell-Douglas, not to speak of the tremendous loss of revenue which would result. The FAA director at the time overruled the recommendation of his own staff and instead, in his own words, made a "gentleman's agreement" with the president of McDonnell-Douglas that included the FAA sending out notices to a few

McDonnell-Douglas customers warning them to repair their doors. Later, the next FAA head explained the impact of such directives, shedding light on his predecessor's decision. "The manufacturer of the airplane doesn't want the whole world to know there's a blemish on his aircraft as a result of the indiscriminate release of information pertaining to its aircraft."

Meanwhile, a DC-10 that was to become famous was sitting on the runway at the McDonnell-Douglas plant in Long Beach, California. After the company certified that the door problem had been corrected, the plane was signed off and sold to Turkish Airlines. This DC-10 crashed over France in 1974, killing 346 people. The authorities determined that the cause of the catastrophe was nothing other than a faulty door which had blown off in flight.

But doors certainly aren't the only problem the DC-10 has encountered. The press reported that engines fail two or three times a month and that the Chicago crash wasn't even the first time an engine has completely fallen off the airplane. A rear engine disintegrated in mid-air over New York in 1975 and two years earlier an engine blew up over New Mexico shattering a window and sucking a passenger out of the plane and to his death.

There are powerful economic forces at work behind these incidents. They are not merely the result of the particularly greedy bastard running McDonnell-Douglas. In fact, nobody summed up the phenomena behind all this better than the president of McDonnell-Douglas himself last year: "Boeing puts planes into the air for half of what we do. Either costs get cut in half, or Douglas will go under."

Thus is revealed the only real disaster the captains of industry are concerned about—financial ruin.



## Woman Jailed at Sentencing Writes: "To All Who Defend the Houston Rebellion"

This letter was written by Gale Bayer, a member of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade, who spoke out in court against the verdict and sentencing of the Moody Park 3. She was dragged before the judge by the pigs and was sentenced right then and there to 6 months in jail for contempt of court.

I'm writing this letter in a 6' x 6' cell in the downtown Houston jail. Last week they put me in the isolation block for my "own" protection. (The other prisoners were digging what I was saying.) Through the narrow slits in the hallway windows I can look and see part of a red-brick building next to Buffalo Bayou. It's the warehouse those six pigs hid behind when they murdered Joe Torres.

They put me in here for standing up at the end of the trial of the Moody Park 3 and saying what everybody was thinking. For three weeks dozens of us sat through this farce, the first political trial of the '80s. We watched the state's witnesses put out their garbage, watched the D.A. insult Chicanos, Mexicanos and Blacks, watched

the judge overrule the truth and sustain the lies—and all this time we were warned not to say a word. After Travis was found "guilty" of felony riot he stood up and shouted, "This is the kind of injustices that people rose up against on Cinco de Mayo." The judge-aroo was outraged! After that she made it real clear anyone else who called this lynching for what it was would be held in contempt.

She was determined that the day the jury sentenced the Moody Park 3, she and the system she served would get the last laugh. I know she was disappointed when that day arrived and the jury didn't give them twenty years like she wanted. But the pro-bated sentences they got were still outrageous attacks on the struggle. They couldn't go unanswered. So I got up and said how this trial just further exposed their rotten system and it wasn't going to stop the struggle. The judge gave me six months for contempt—the maximum sentence. She got it right—contempt for her, her court and the whole stinking system.

My lawyer told me the other day the judge might let me out of here if I apologize. But I'll never kiss the ass of those capitalists. They don't allow me to read political material up here, I hardly even get to read a regular newspaper. No T.V. or radio, just cheap mystery novels. They're trying to lock up my mind along with everything else. That's why the letters many of you have been sending are so important to me. There was even another prisoner who wrote supporting the rebellion after he read about me in the paper. When I read those it lets me know that as much as the capitalists try to isolate me from the struggle they'll never succeed. My being in jail is just one more way the struggle is coming down, one more outrage these bastards will have to pay for.

They want me to regret the action I took. But the capitalist system that put me away for six months is getting closer every day into its grave. If what I did hastens its death by even one second it was damn well worth it.

Signed,  
Gale Bayer

Write c/o Revolutionary Worker, Box 18112, Houston, TX 77023.

## Elections

Continued from page 5

could have its drawbacks. His armor may prove a bit too rusty should the gurgling sound of Chapaquiddik come bubbling to the surface again along with other as yet unearthed dirt from Kennedy's booze-filled private life. But such indiscretions may be no more than minor obstacles when the ruling class considers the advantages of a front runner who will do his utmost to make World War III sound like Camelot revisited. As one of his congressional supporters said: "America needs Ted Kennedy and America needs him now. He offers hope and not neglect... he is someone we can believe in and trust."

And Kennedy is moving quickly to recultivate his image as "keeper of the flame," playing off the growing anger of the American people at the way they are increasingly forced to live. First it was potshots at Carter for decontrolling the price of oil and denouncing his "windfall profits tax" for being a

massive giveaway to the oil companies.

The latest move was Kennedy's grandiose proposal for womb-to-tomb "national health insurance for all Americans," a \$40 billion plan that Kennedy and everyone else knows stands a snowball's chance in hell of passing and which, even if it were to pass, would primarily funnel millions into the coffers of the big health insurance companies. Nevertheless it sounded good as Kennedy made the announcement, surrounded by his "peoples' entourage" of labor lackeys, poverty pimps and Uncle Toms.

### Changing Times

Although his "liberal" image may be of some use to the bourgeoisie, they are not looking for the New Frontier or the Great Society. It's not just that these slogans have been used before (by Teddy's brother and by LBJ). They just don't make it today, period. They were lies when they were first raised, but such images of peace and plenty are even more blatant crap under today's worsening conditions. The vision they

want to inspire us with now more fits the slogan "Expect less, like it more. Tighten your belt, get ready for war." What they need is someone with charisma, a "leader of men" who can unite the country around this inspiring vision!

Linked to this is the mounting criticism of Carter's handling of international affairs. Not that he hasn't been a basically good warhorse for the capitalists—proposing, for example, a budget that cut almost everything else to serve a beefed up war budget. But, again conditions are changing. Things are sharpening up.

What they need now is to abolish any notions of "the limits of U.S. power" which led them to rely a lot on local cops on the beat for U.S. interests like the ex-Shah of Iran, instead of directly on U.S. troops. Of course any such policies did not mean the U.S. had turned into a peaceful lamb. Any degree of "restraint" was forced on them by the defeat in Vietnam, economic crisis and the Soviet rivalry.

But now what is needed is someone

who will pull out and brandish the "big stick" and if necessary lead the good ol' charge up San Juan Hill as the imperialists clamor to return, as *Business Week* magazine puts it, to the "we-will-go-anywhere policies of the Kennedy-Johnson era." A JFK clone—a demagogic blowhard, that is—might fill the bill, as brother John didn't hesitate to bluster up to the Soviets during the Cuban Missile Crisis or send 50,000 U.S. "advisors" to Vietnam. On the other hand, there's Reagan and Connally and General Haig who are waiting in the wings draped in the American flag with their patriotic speeches and a worked out John Wayne line of "My country right or wrong."

Whatever the result, the U.S. rulers are counting on the upcoming Presidential elections to provide them with a leader who can work a little of the "old magic"—as they pull themselves together from the setbacks of the '70s and march out to engage the Soviet imperialists on the battlefield of the '80s. ■

## Surprise Party for Chinese Ambassador Revolutionaries "Greet" Chai Zemin

Boston, Mass.—There was a gala event at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Thursday evening, May 24, a champagne reception for his excellency, Chai Zemin, ambassador of the People's Republic of China. Sponsored by the First National Bank of Boston, famous for its billions invested in South Africa's apartheid regime, and funded by the Hyatt Regency Hotel, owned by the Shah Reza Pahlavi of Iran. An evening to be remembered, an historic event. Anybody who was anybody was there.

But as the first guest walked the long circular driveway towards the entrance, 40 revolutionaries rounded the corner of Huntington Avenue, red flags flying. The quiet drive was suddenly filled with the sound of "Mao Tsetung did not fail, Revolution will prevail!" "Free the Mao Tsetung Defendants!"

A picketline was set up right at the doorstep of the museum. His excellency was forced to enter by the back door, with a carload of plainclothes pigs to protect him from the Maoists.

But entering by the back door doesn't protect a traitor to revolution from the working class. When asked what he thought of China's modernization plans, a champagne waiter remarked, "Well, we've got modernization in this country, and now we're paying \$1 for a gallon of gasoline."

The tapestry room at the museum filled with the sound of champagne toasts and the small talk of the bourgeoisie, then his excellency was introduced and the packed room got quiet. But before he could open his mouth, another voice shot through the air, "You're a traitor to revolution! Death to Teng Hsiao-ping!" Plainclothes cops jumped her, going

straight for her mouth. Chai stood there like a statue with his head down, while another revolutionary jumped up, "Hold high the Red Book of Mao Tsetung, that you have thrown down on the ground and trampled. You can't kill revolution, no matter what you try." After the two were dragged out, someone was heard to say, "Leave it to these Maoists to disrupt things." That's right. As Mao Tsetung said, "If the rightists stage an anti-communist coup d'etat in China, I am sure they will know no peace." ■

## Dow

Continued from page 9

### Dow's Murderous Past

Dow's name has long been synonymous with imperialism and murder. In the 1960s, hundreds of Dow recruiters were chased off campuses by students outraged at the criminals who produced napalm for use in Vietnam.

More recently, Dow's reckless disregard for human life has been brought out in the open by two Trinity County, California women. The two have suffered multiple miscarriages, and one cervical cancer, from the side effects of Dow-manufactured her-

bicides used in nearby forests that seeped into their drinking water and food chain. Two of the chemicals sprayed, 2-4-D, and 2-4-4-T, when combined, form none other than Agent Orange—the deadly poison used to defoliate Vietnam.

Over and above the deaths and immediate injuries, Dow has steered away from the long-term damage that massive exposure could bring on. One company doctor, while discussing (and of course downplaying) the possibility of lung damage, casually mentioned at the end of his statement that one potential side effect is "danger to the central nervous system and eyes."

A county sheriff on the scene said, in a rare burst of insight, that "after Three Mile Island, nobody's going to believe officials when they say the plant is safe." How perceptive! Of course, people see through the transparent lies that Dow told. But it's another step to seeing the political connection between Dow's deadly napalm manufacture and the murders in Pittsburg, and the connection of both to the system that's at the root of them—a system which measures the lives of workers in terms of insurance settlements, explosion damage to machinery, and orders that can't be filled.

P.S. It turns out that Dow officials don't have to worry about their all-important safety record that they boasted so much of. They can still brag about man-hours without injuries. They can still get their awards from the state legislature. To Dow's relief, the accidents don't count against them because the workers who were killed were officially hired by a subcontractor to do the construction work. So when the statistics get made up, Dow will have a clean record. But there is another record being kept. The people will only add the deaths and injuries from the recent explosion to the death toll of this lethal system as yet another indictment. ■

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## Iran

Continued from page 1

the new Iranian government—offering to renegotiate oil contracts and to send in new technical and military advisors to help the Iranian economy and army “get back on their feet” (i.e. feed the Iranian working people back into the profit mill of U.S. banks and companies once again). They have certainly found sympathetic ears in parts of the Islamic government as well as among the old-line reactionaries (previously aligned with the Shah) who are still plotting their comeback.

Thus with this Senate resolution the U.S. is beginning to throw its support more openly than before behind forces in Iran who are determined to bring the revolution to a halt and consolidate a new reactionary regime with ties to the U.S. To carry this out, the brakes must be put on the trials and executions of military officers, government officials and other hated functionaries of the Shah's regime in order to give these reactionary forces an opportunity to regroup and counterattack, especially against the revolutionary Left.

As Iranian Marxist-Leninists have steadily gained influence and strength,

among the workers, students, peasants and oppressed nationalities of Iran, right-wing Moslem groups that are heavily infiltrated by ex-SAVAK agents and other reactionaries have surfaced with the stated goal of “killing every last communist.”

The mysterious *Forghan* group that assassinated a leading member of Khomeini's Revolutionary Council on the evening after the massive left-led May Day marches in Tehran had all the markings of SAVAK activity and CIA “dirty tricks.”

This was an obvious attempt to sabotage the unity developing between Marxist-Leninists and progressive Moslems. And most recently, the government itself has taken over two of Tehran's well-known independent daily papers, *Kayhan* and *Ayandegan*, and purged their staffs of “leftists” and anyone critical of the Islamic government.

### Khomeini's Stand on U.S.

The stand of Ayatollah Khomeini himself on the U.S. has been marked by vacillation and inconsistency. After the U.S. Senate resolution was passed, Khomeini responded with one of his strongest statements, calling the U.S. government “a wounded snake” because “they know what they have

lost—they have lost servants, and such servants.”

Nevertheless, Khomeini's opposition to U.S. domination of Iran has increasingly been more bark than bite, camouflaging the new government's protection of U.S. interests in Iran. For example, instead of nationalizing U.S. corporations and banks, the new Islamic government is telling the two million unemployed workers in Iran today that they must wait “patiently” until these companies start turning a profit again.

At the height of the anti-U.S. demonstrations, Khomeini's Foreign Minister Dr. Yazdi attempted to defuse the situation by stressing that the Senate resolution didn't represent the “official views” of the U.S. government. And at the end of the week, Yazdi apparently forced the resignation of the outspoken head of the Islamic “revolutionary courts,” Ayatollah Khalkhali, who had outraged the U.S. ruling class by calling for the execution of the Shah, his immediate family and the last three Prime Ministers in whatever country they try to run to.

Furthermore, on the same day that Khomeini denounced U.S. interference in Iran, he attacked the Marxist-Leninists and other democratic forces more aggressively than ever, saying,

“Our enemy is anyone whose direction is separate from Islam” and telling his followers they should “struggle with them even more than you did with the Shah.”

Without a doubt, anti-communist tirades such as these helped encourage the attacks launched by small bands of right-wing Moslem fanatics on the May 25 march at the U.S. embassy that was led by the Left.

These developments emphasize why Iran's new Islamic government—at present an uneasy alliance of religious leaders centered around Khomeini and some of Iran's national capitalists—cannot lead the revolution forward. It is only the Iranian working class led by a vanguard communist party (which Iranian Marxist-Leninists are fighting to forge) that can unite the vast majority of the people and lead them forward to completely uproot imperialism and the reactionary big capitalists, landlords and other exploiters of the masses. And as this happens the U.S. Senate and their capitalist masters will grow hoarse passing resolution after resolution condemning the irresistible advance of the Iranian revolution to final victory. ■

## WVO

Continued from page 7

bourgeoisie in attacking socialism,” and “demoralize” the masses, making them lose faith in the possibilities of socialism working.

How upholding Mao as the greatest revolutionary of our time is spreading anti-communism is hard to fathom, especially when the enemy was going wild in attacking him and revolution in general. But actually this is quite consistent for the hopeless reformists of WVO. The masses can't possibly understand such matters as revisionist coups, says WVO. No, they should just be concerned with the bread and butter issues and whatever social-chauvinist drivel WVO spews out in service to the Red, White and Blue. Fortunately, the

masses are a thousand times more able to understand the world and transform it than these self-serving cement-brained hacks in leadership of WVO.

And just to prove there is no limit to their pragmatism, after opposing the Mao Memorials as well as attacking the Party's call to take up the banner of Mao and join the RCP's Mao Tsetung Enrollment; after it turned out that there were actually people out there who dug Mao and came forward to become revolutionaries heeding the Party's call, WVO gives us a fine example of political pickpocketry. We read in their latest newspaper an announcement of their own Mao Tsetung Enrollment!

For all of WVO's attacks on genuine revolutionaries for being pragmatist...pragmatist...pragmatist, it is in fact they who perfectly fill the bill. They have raised this club re-

peatedly—and now “mysteriously” find their own head covered with welts.

There are no doubt many in WVO who are finding it increasingly difficult to reconcile WVO's claims to have the correct line while in practice carrying out a pragmatic, reformist and social-chauvinist line. Behind WVO's thin cover lurks a loyal opposition to the capitalists—reflecting the petty bourgeoisie squeezed by imperialism,

but cringing at the rising revolutionary struggle of the masses of people. To these hacks it is this rising tide that must be channeled down the dead end reformist road. And with world war on the horizon it is the growing struggle that must be harnessed to serve the imperialist aims of the bourgeoisie and provide a shelter for the likes of WVO to hide under. ■

# Superpowers Trade in African Blood

Mouthing support for the liberation struggles of the African people, all the while buying Rhodesian chrome through South Africa in violation of U.N. sanctions—sounds like the U.S. imperialists, right? Right! But latest reports have it that it's also true of the Soviet social-imperialists. Turns out that since 1970 the Soviet Union has been purchasing Rhodesian chrome (as well as tobacco and maize) through South Africa, then reselling it at a big mark-up to other countries (including the U.S.), making a handsome profit in the process!

Evoking high praises for their “socialist” and “internationalist” support the Soviets have made a big deal about supplying the liberation forces of Zimbabwe (the African name for Rhodesia) with guns and military training and have loudly denounced the U.S. for supporting Ian Smith's apartheid government and phony new “black majority rule.”

International pressure from people supporting the revolutionary struggle in Zimbabwe forced the U.N. to invoke economic sanctions against white Rhodesia in 1968, forbidding member countries to trade with Rhodesia. These measures were united with wholeheartedly by the Soviet Union—publicly.

In true imperialist fashion, however, while painstakingly constructing a benevolent front, they were stabbing the people in the back to turn a profit, like the capitalists that they really are—despite their “socialist” front. (Even the “support” the USSR gives is

designed to shackle the people's struggle. See *Revolutionary Worker*, “Africa: Superpowers Dig Claws Deeper,” May 18, 1979.)

The Soviets, of course, have not outdone the U.S. imperialists in volume of business done. After all, three U.S. companies (Union Carbide, Foote Mineral, and Allegheny Ludlow) control production of Rhodesia's chrome (and along with buying chrome, the U.S. continued to sell Rhodesia oil through South Africa and military weapons through Israel.) It wasn't until 1977 that they even bothered pretending to honor the international boycott and already the U.S. Senate is encouraging Carter to scrap the sanctions now that their flunkies have set up a “black majority rule” puppet government. In fact these moves are part of the reason these exposures of Soviet chrome dealings appeared in the U.S. press. They were leaked by a “Western diplomatic source” in the U.N. and obviously meant to add fuel to the fire of U.S. moves to recognize Rhodesia. The pitch clearly is: the Soviets have been cashing in, why shouldn't we? Of course these liars know damn well they've been cashing in all along.

Just as the superpowers contend fiercely for economic, political, and military domination throughout Africa, they run a close contest for staging an elaborate farce of befriending the African people. But both are being more and more exposed for the vicious exploiters and doomed overlords that they truly are. ■



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## Red Lake

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down since the occupation, it never was good for much anyway except performing experiments on Indians. When tribe members leave the reservation in search of cheaper groceries or decent medical care or for whatever reason, the police often hassle and sometimes beat them. So much for the great “privilege” of having special tribal license plates.

The story isn't much different in big cities like Minneapolis, where they face not only constant discrimination but also the forcible separation from their tribe and their traditions. While the capitalists steal their land and grow richer off their labor, they create a situation in which, on or off the reservation, the Indians can't escape from oppression.

This is what lay behind the May 19 rebellion—and although that rebellion was not consciously aimed at the system, the system was threatened by it and moved in to deal with this threat with sugarcoated promises of a change for the better, accompanied by men with guns and arrest warrants and the threat of worse. Capitalism is generous with its lessons—if you don't learn all about its incurably vicious nature the first time, it will gladly slap you down until you do learn. Red Lake tribe members are determined not to have to suffer under these conditions any longer without a struggle. When the capitalists teach these people their brutal lessons, they are training a powerful battalion of the army that will one day overthrow them.

*The Revolutionary Worker created quite a stir on the reservation—so much so that a local newspaper was confronted with the demand that it reprint the Revolutionary Worker article from the May 25 issue.* ■

