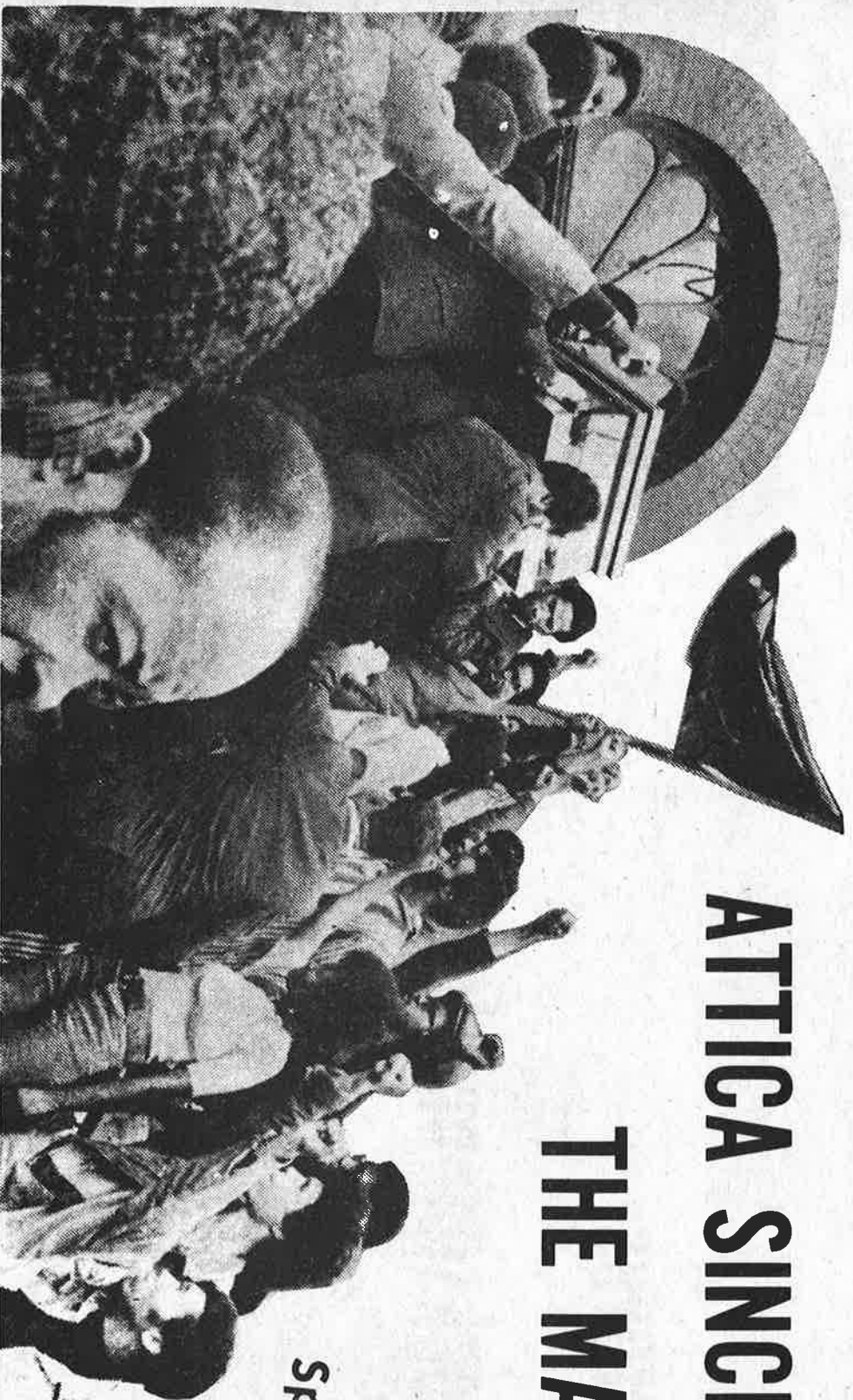




ATTICA SINCE THE MASSACRE

Special 8-page
supplement

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite

WORKERS WORLD

Vol. 13, No. 18

September 30, 1971

25¢

**Prisoners
reveal:**

Terror goes on

see centerfold



Autopsy proves Jackson murdered

by ALICE ROBINSON

Everyone is aware that the prison and state officials lied to the public about Attica. During the seizure of the prison by rebelling inmates, the prison authorities said hostages had been mutilated and their throats slit by the inmates. But one day later, the truth came out. The prisoners had not killed the hostages; the authorities had lied in order to whip up a racist hysteria to cover their massacre of the inmates.

Just as they lied about what went on in Attica, so they've lied and made up all kinds of conflicting and constantly changing stories concerning the death of George Jackson, who was murdered in San Quentin prison on August 21. But the recent coroner's report released this past week on the cause of Jackson's death shows how phony their stories have been.

This second report, as described in the New York Times of September 21, presents a completely opposite explanation of the cause of death than the first report. The first report, as released on August 23, two days after the murder, said Jackson died of a bullet which entered his head and exited through the lower region of his back. The newest report states the exact opposite: that the bullet entered his lower back, traveled up through his body, and exited through his skull. Of course, the authorities are now hard at work trying to give credence to this new report. They are offering all sorts of explanations as to how this new report is possible in relation to their initial phony story that Jackson was running across the yard toward a wall when

shot from a guard tower.

These sudden, abrupt switches can only reveal to all the world that the government and its prison officials have been lying and trying to conceal the facts from the very moment Jackson's death was first announced to the public. They have refused to let both Jackson's relatives and representatives of the community into the prison to investigate for themselves what happened. The government fears the people's reaction when they learn that the prison authorities murdered Jackson in cold-blood.

Mrs. Georgia Jackson, George's mother, is starting a petition campaign to get the United Nations to investigate her son's death. She announced this in a press conference held in New York City on September 22. During that conference she said, "I knew they were out to get George for a long time. George wouldn't crawl or accept their insults. He was a leader inside that prison, and he was teaching the men about why they were in jail. The officials couldn't stand for that, and they killed him."

Mrs. Jackson also pointed out that for a long time the prison officials had been trying to hire other prisoners to kill George. But, "The other prisoners respected him too much. Black and white alike. So I guess the guards had to do their dirty work themselves."

Jackson has become known internationally as a spokesman for oppressed Black people in this country. He articulated for thousands of Black, Puerto Rican, and Chicano prisoners the barbarous conditions in the prisons of this country. Mrs. Jackson explained a little of the



(LNS)

conditions in the prisons and how the inmates are exploited by the government. She said, "Prisons in this country aren't fit for human beings. There aren't any such things as rehabilitation programs—the things prisoners make in the prisons get sold on the outside for a profit, and all the money goes to the state. ... The government could change

the prisons if it wanted to, but they don't want to. To change the prisons you have to change the powers that be."

To obtain copies of the petition, write to Mrs. Georgia Jackson, Penny Jackson, and Edward Bell, Esq., at P.O. Box 68, Berkeley, California, 94701.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

October 1, 4-6 p.m. Demonstration against the wage freeze, Foley Square, downtown Manhattan. Sponsored by Local 1199.

October 1, 5-11 p.m. Dinner, films, etc., in celebration of the Chinese National Day, the 22nd anniversary of the Chinese Revolution, Rutgers Community Center, Madison St. between Rutgers and Allen Streets.

October 2, Saturday. Carlos Feliciano Block Party, 117th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenues, Manhattan.

October 2, Saturday. Marches on the Prisons. Danbury, Conn.; Sing Sing (Ossining), N.Y.; Alderson, West Va.; Buffalo, N.Y.; Cook County Jail, Chicago, Ill.; Springfield, Mo.; San Quentin, Calif.; Terminal Island, Los Angeles, Calif.; Los Angeles County Jail; and many other places.

October 6, Wednesday. Demonstration against State Commissioner of Corrections Oswald who will be the principal speaker at a John Jay School of Criminal Justice gathering. George Washington Hotel, 23rd St. and Lexington Ave., at noon. Sponsored by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee.

October 9, March against the wage freeze at the White House. Sponsored by the Center for United Labor Action and Mother Blood Collective, Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C., noon.

October 14, Thursday. Governor Rockefeller will receive the Humanitarian Award at the Hilton Hotel this evening. PSC will hold a demonstration.

October 17, Tribunal: Indictment of Rockefeller for mass murder at Attica. St. George Hotel, Brooklyn, 2 p.m. Sponsored by the Black Panther Party, co-sponsored by many other organizations.

Davis rally draws thousands

NEW YORK, September 25—Central Park was the scene this afternoon of a large outpouring of support for Angela Davis. Several thousand people gathered to demand bail for Angela, who has been held without bail by Marin County authorities for over eleven months.

The event was sponsored by a large number of organizations that work within the United Coalition for Angela Davis Day. Youth Against

War & Fascism and the Prisoners Solidarity Committee organized a contingent of people with banners and literature supporting Angela, Ruchell Magee, and the struggle of the prisoners at Attica. Many of the speakers at the rally were fairly moderate. The mood of the crowd was very militant, however, and was clearly in support of all prisoners in the U.S. prison-concentration camp system.



Labor group draws lessons from Attica

THE RIGHT TO STRIKE—
THE RIGHT TO REBEL

Attica, like all state prisons, is a sweatshop. The average pay is 40 cents a day, making mattresses, shoes, and license plates, working from dawn until night where the foreman-guard has a club in hand. And then even the 40 cents is taken away by the commissary. On top of that, the prisoners are fed hardly enough low-grade food to stay alive, refused medical care, and beaten and locked up in solitary for making the slightest complaint. This is not a bygone slave plantation; this is not a bygone company town; this is Attica 1971!

Wouldn't you strike against these working conditions? That's just what they did in Attica, but in prison a strike is a rebellion—it has to be!

SUPER-OPPRESSED —IN A SUPER-SWEATSHOP

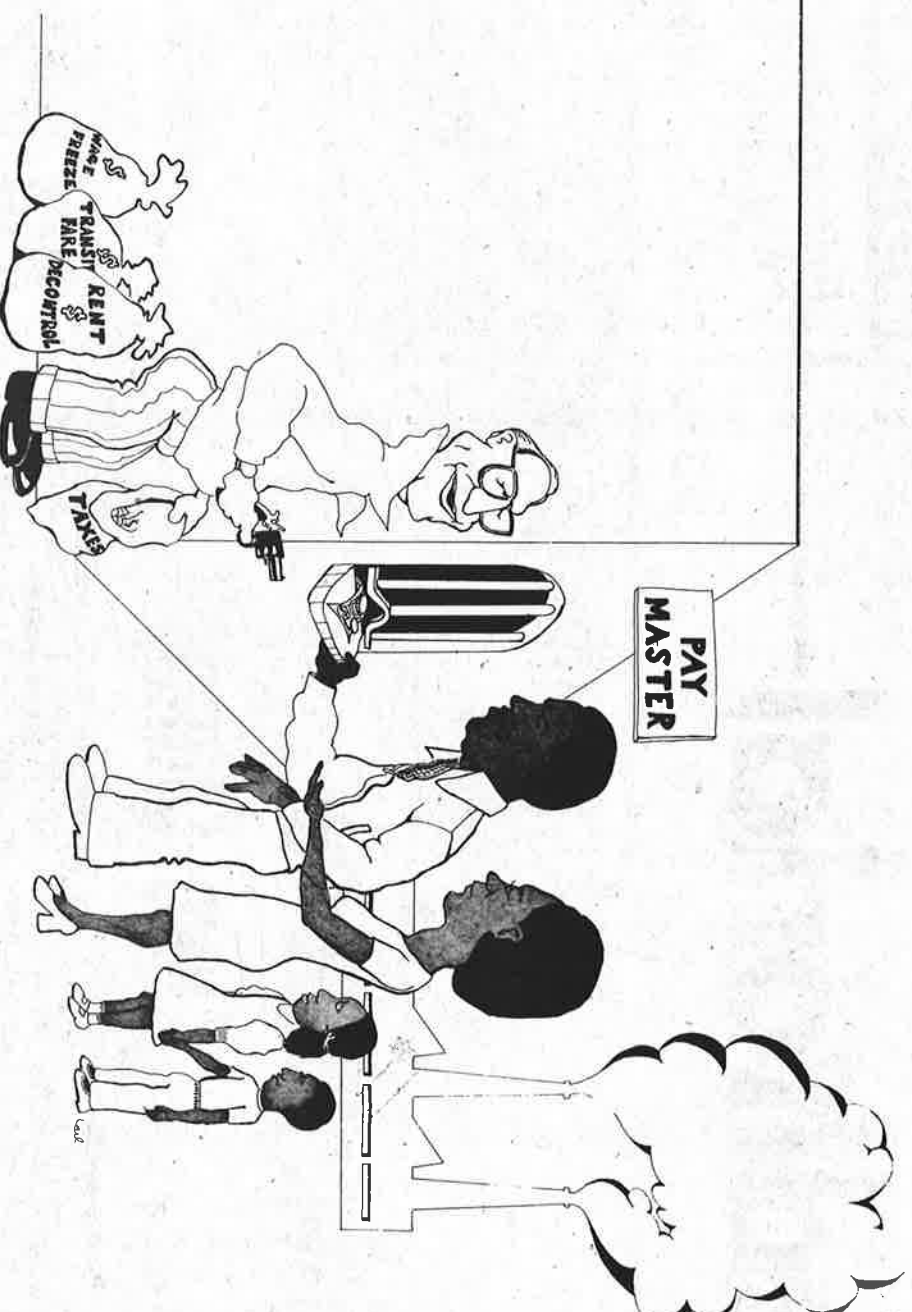
There are now more than 2 million prisoners in the USA, and the number is growing as more and more workers, especially Blacks and Puerto Ricans, are laid off permanently. Rockefeller has condemned hundreds of thousands of unemployed into welfare slave labor outside of prison. And Rockefeller runs the state prisons as forced labor camps for poor people accused of stealing (just to survive), using prison slave labor to undercut wages and take jobs away from "free"

workers. Prisons are concentration camps and super-sweatshops for the Black and Puerto Rican nationalities.

Blacks and Puerto Ricans are oppressed as nationalities; it is their right to fight back! In Attica 85 percent of the prisoners are Black or Puerto Rican. Their struggle for freedom benefits all poor and working people. The demands made by the Black and Puerto Rican prisoners at Attica were to improve the conditions of all. That is why the white prisoners supported the rebellion, without reservation, to the end.

FOR THESE UNION DEMANDS THEY DIED!

Among the demands of the Attica prisoners were basic labor demands. They called for the minimum wage, the right to join or form labor unions, workmen's compensation for work-related accidents, working conditions in the prison to be brought up to the New York State code, an 8-hour day, industries to be allowed into the prisons to employ inmates at union scale wages, etc. The prisoners pointed out that this way they could support themselves and their families, instead of having their families submitted to the humiliation and misery of welfare.



The Attica prisoners knew that the prison authorities, just like the bosses on the outside, try to maintain their control by using racism to divide the prisoners. Therefore, the prisoners demanded an end to the authorities' policy of provoking racial incidents among the inmates.

On the outside, the bosses do the same thing. To keep their profits coming in, they promote divisions among the workers to make them fight each other instead of uniting against the boss. They make super-profits by paying Black and Puerto Rican workers less than white workers.

Their crucial demand was for amnesty—for no reprisals. That demand is the same as strikers holding out for everyone to be rehired in good standing after a strike. But Rockefeller ordered the prisoners massacred, just like his father and grandfather massacred the copper workers, the steel workers, and the miners in the West for demanding the 8-hour day and the right to form unions.

THE NATIONAL GUARD AND WORKING PEOPLE

The courts, cops, and prisons are the bosses' weapons against you when you go on strike. When there is a really sharp workers' struggle, the bosses get the government to call out the National Guard to break the strike, like with the

postal strike last year. The National Guard unit that murdered the students at Kent State had been called out to protect scabs against the Teamster's strike in Ohio. All told, the National Guard was called out a total of 324 times between January 1968 and May 1970. It was this same National Guard, the uniformed gunmen of the bosses, that Rockefeller called out to crush the Attica rebellion.

The prisoners' struggle for freedom is part of the fight of all working people for higher pay and better working conditions.

For more information about Attica and the prison system, contact the PSC at 58 West 25 Street, New York, N.Y. 10010. Telephone 989-3932 or 242-9225.

The above statement was issued by the Center for United Labor Action, 167 West 21 Street, New York, N.Y.

The Center for United Labor Action is composed of militant rank-and-file men and women from a number of labor unions. The aim of the group is to revive and resuscitate the labor movement as a progressive, multi-national force with full equality for all its members—and also to carry the fight for better wages and working conditions to a higher level, with or without the cooperation of the present top union leadership. The organization also plays a leading role in fighting for the unemployed and those on welfare.

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WORKERS WORLD

46 West 21 Street

New York, N.Y. 10010

Sept. 30, 1971

editorial

Nixon promotes

"two Chinas" . . .

For over twenty years, the U.S. has kept a puppet government in the UN occupying the seat that rightfully belonged to the People's Republic of China. It has used every type of maneuver to keep the question of seating China from the agenda, and then to require a two-thirds majority vote.

Now, in a new but similarly motivated maneuver (that is, to benefit the interests of the giant U.S. monopolies), the Nixon government is proposing a resolution that would suddenly create "two Chinas." Nixon and Ambassador Bush talk as though the U.S. were a model of generosity for "recognizing" the existence of the People's Republic of China! Actually, what they are doing is trying to equate the 800,000,000 people of China with the Chiang Kai-shek clique that has ruled Taiwan on the strength of U.S. arms and the 7th Fleet.

The ridiculous fiction that Chiang represented China was kept alive in the UN only because his puppet regime was buoyed up by the most powerful imperialist nation. Now the U.S. wants the world to accept another fiction—that there are two Chinas, when only yesterday they were insisting there was one!

Regardless of the motives of the U.S. for modifying its position on China, the People's Republic has every right to membership in the UN. Any organization that claims to be a world body and then excludes one quarter of humanity from membership is ipso facto invalid. Likewise, there is no validity for claiming a seat for the Chiang Kai-shek clique. They themselves have argued for years that Taiwan is part of China; if the real China is to be recognized, therefore, only the most outrageous liars can now claim a separate status for Taiwan, or the existence of a second "Chinese" government.

Chiang Kai-shek represents China as much as Fulgencio Batista, now living in Spain, represents Cuba, or Kerensky represented Russia from his professor's chair at Stanford University.

"Peace" organization elects mass murderer

by DEIRDRE GRISWOLD

NEW YORK, Sept. 25—When Adam Malik took office this week as President of the 26th session of the UN General Assembly, the establishment press hailed him as a "man of peace." This was necessary, from their point of view, both to improve his blood-stained image, and to reinforce the view that the United Nations itself is an organization to preserve international harmony.

The truth is that the accession of Malik, Foreign Minister of Indonesia, to this important UN post says a whole lot about the UN—and none of it is good.

Adam Malik is one of a triumvirate, with General Nasution and Sultan Hamengku Buwono, who have ruled Indonesia since 1965. In October of that year, a right-wing military group aided clandestinely by the U.S., seized power from the left-nationalist Sukarno government.

(Malik boasted to a Milwaukee columnist several years ago that it was his close personal contact with Hubert Humphrey, then vice-president, that made the right-wing victory possible.) These "men of peace" went on to exterminate 600,000 people (according to conservative esti-

Prison bans

WW

According to the New York Times of September 26, Wallkill Prison, the only medium-security prison in New York State, "bans such publications as Workers World and the Black Panther. As Acting Superintendent Nelson Otis explained, 'They're real militant and we're not going to have them here now.'"

and bombs North Vietnam

The recent U.S. air strikes deep into North Vietnam are further proof (if any is needed) that the war goes on. Despite endless talk all the way from Nixon to the liberals that the "phasing out" of some combat troops is in reality a way of bringing the war to an end, the thousands of tons of bombs dropped prove just the opposite.

Washington has not abandoned its long-range strategic objectives: to cripple and retard the socialist development of North Vietnam, and prevent the liberation of the south. The unbelievable capacity of the Vietnamese to resist and, when conditions are ripe, go over to the offensive, has forced the U.S. brass hats and banker-politicians to abandon, at least temporarily, their ambition of conquering Vietnam, north and south, with the greatest show of force in history. But while they may have a somewhat more realistic view than ten years ago, they are still not only willing, but committed, to continue the war in one way or another.

The reduction of ground troops in Vietnam and the brief lapse in the draft lulled and somewhat disoriented many in the anti-war movement. And the focus of attention is now on U.S. imperialism's new crisis in the economy and its repercussions for the working class. However, this should not make us lose sight of the fact that behind the economic crisis is the gigantic debt incurred by the vast U.S. military machine, so much of which has been zeroed in on Southeast Asia. Now is the time to bring the message of struggle against the war to the broad masses of workers and oppressed, because never before have the effects of the war been felt at home as keenly as now.

It is most disturbing that the vote for Malik was almost unanimous. (One delegation, unnamed since voting was by secret ballot, didn't go along. It submitted the name of D.N. Aidit, the Communist Party leader executed by the military coup.) Yet it confirms that, despite the large membership of socialist countries and newly independent nations, the UN has not changed its basic character since it was used as a military arm of U.S. imperialism in Korea, or since UN troops paved the way for Lumumba's assassination in the Congo. It was, and remains, a cover for imperialism's most aggressive moves, as Sukarno so rightly said when he withdrew his country from the UN nearly ten years ago.

The more-than-symbolic location of the UN in Manhattan, the composition of the Security Council, its financial dependence on the U.S., the bankers' club atmosphere—all are but the public, visible proofs of what goes on privately in its corridors, offices, and plush lounges.

On a few memorable occasions, a revolutionary leader has used the General Assembly as a microphone to speak to the oppressed peoples of the world. But these were the exceptions. The other 364 days of the year, the UN functions as a smoke-screen for U.S. aggression. Isn't it truly remarkable that this "peacemaking" organization has done nothing to stop the brutal U.S. war in Indochina, even though the overwhelming majority of its members say they are utterly opposed to the war? Such is the power that Washington wields, both through political blackmail and the marketing of business deals under the guise of "aid" and "development."

The U.S. has hoped that by promoting Malik to this exalted UN post, its newest Asian puppet regime will be given credibility both for "independence" and "humanity." But what this neat little trick really proves is that the UN is dominated by those who massacre the people for the benefit of monopoly capital.

WORKERS WORLD

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Prisoners Solidarity Committee

Second 8-page newsletter on Attica

Letters
from

Attica

pp.4-5



Attica
executions,
terror,
continue

Over a week after the Attica massacre, word has leaked out (both through inmates and lawyers) that not all the prisoners who died were killed during the assault on the prison September 13. It is now known that several men who were leaders of the rebellion were alive after the assault, only to be executed and reported dead several days later. According to Tom Soto of the Pri-

Attica since the massacre



soners Solidarity Committee, who was in Attica during the rebellion at the request of the prisoners, Assemblyman Arthur O. Eve, State Senator Garcia, and Representative Herman Badillo all reported privately that they saw Elliot Barkley alive after the police assault.

"They told me," said Soto, "that when they were taken into D Block by Assistant Commissioner of Corrections Dunbar on the Monday morning of the massacre, they saw four inmates lying naked, face down on the ground. One of them was Barkley, and Eve said he was alive. Dunbar told them that these were the prisoners who had done the throat-slashing and castrating of the hostages (later to be exposed as a complete lie)."

The questions now remain: When was Elliot Barkley murdered and by whom?

(continued on PSC 3)

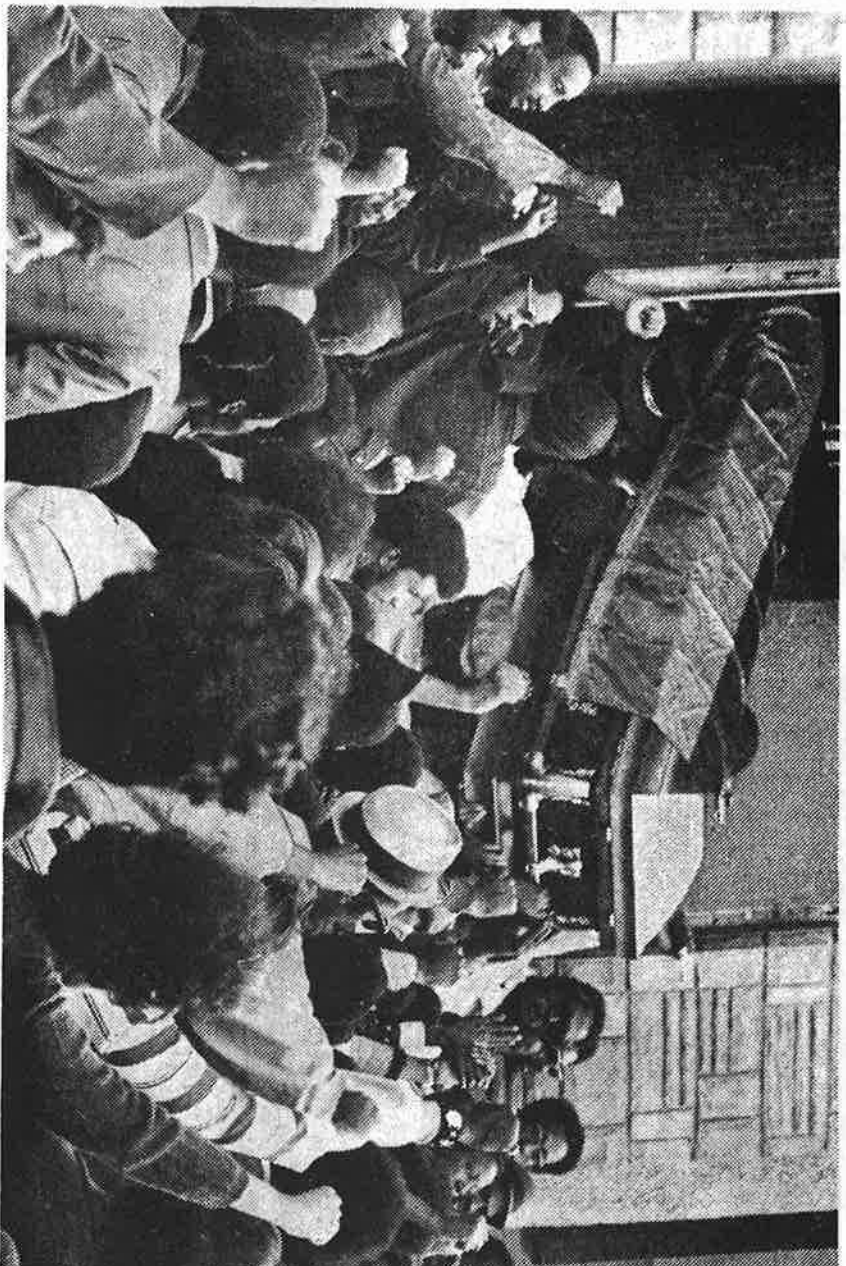
Oppressed bury their Attica dead

by JOHN DIAZ

NEW YORK, Sept. 25—A funeral march and rally were held in Brooklyn today sponsored by a coalition of about twenty-two groups, among them the New York and New Jersey Chapters of the Black Panther Party, the Young Lords Party, Black Liberation Party, Committee against Attica Massacre, Republic of New Africa, and many others. The march, held in honor of six of the murdered brothers of Attica, also contained a contingent from the Prisoners Solidarity Committee.

On Friday, Sept. 24, the day before the march, the caskets of the murdered prisoners were taken from a funeral home in Manhattan and brought to the Summer Armory in Brooklyn after the relatives forced their way in. The funeral services originally were to be held at the Summer Armory, but this had to be changed to the Cornerstone Baptist Church on the corner of Madison and Lewis, because Rockefeller, even after murdering the prisoners, wouldn't allow their families to use the Armory.

On Saturday, the caskets were to be driven from the church to Fulton and Flatbush for the funeral march. At about 12:30 the cars arrived with the caskets. People lined up along the sidewalk with their clenched fists raised in solidarity as the cars slowly moved past them. One could



People raise fists in solidarity with slain prisoners.

Harlem honors Attica

by JOHN DIAZ

NEW YORK, Sept. 18—Ever since the heroic rebellion at Attica and the brutal massacre that followed on September 13, there have been demonstrations, protests, marches, and rallies all over the country. One of these was a protest march and rally which took place in Harlem today. The demonstration was sponsored by about 40 Third World organizations and was one of the largest protests that Harlem has seen in recent years.

The march started from two different points, one at 138th Street and the other at 110th Street and converged at 125th Street and 7th Avenue into a massive rally. About 600 people began marching from 110th Street. Brightly colored banners of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and the Third World Caucus of Youth Against War & Fascism were visible for passersby to see. They read "Prisons are concentration camps for the poor," and "Free all political prisoners." As the march grew, angry demonstrators chanted: "Remember Attica!" and "1, 2, 3, 4, open up the prison doors!" People from

the community gathered on the sidewalks all along the way and responded with shouts of "Right on!" and with clenched fists. Their solidarity was so great that large numbers of them joined us in the march, and by the time it reached 125th Street, the march had grown to about 1,500 people.

The rally commenced with a speech given by Tom Soto of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, who had been on the observers' committee in Attica during the rebellion. The crowd loudly applauded as Tom said, "I went to Attica as a representative of the PSC at the request of the brothers in Attica. My sole purpose there was to articulate their demands and to unconditionally support them. I was not there to compromise their demands or their lives."

Waiting to speak after Soto was Basil Patterson, a Black politician who ran for lieutenant governor on the Democratic Party ticket in 1970. As he climbed onto the platform, however, the crowd greeted him by chanting "No politicians, no politicians!" A vote was taken and the people voted against having

notice great sorrow on the almost expressionless faces of the people, but it was also evident that they were very angry because of the Attica massacre.

As the last car drove by, the people fell in behind it to begin their march through Bedford-Stuyvesant to the church. The marchers moved on, clapping and chanting "Remember the massacre—Remember Attica," while people from the community gathered along the sidewalks raising their clenched fists in solidarity. Many joined us in the march.

Just before arriving at the church, the caskets were removed from the cars and carried the rest of the way. Five of the caskets were covered with the Black Liberation flag and one with the Puerto Rican flag. They were set up on the altar in front of a speaking platform. Brothers and Sisters from the Panther Party were stationed around the altar on security, with rifles and Black Liberation flags.

At one point the church was packed with about two thousand people, with at least another thousand outside. Some of the speakers were relatives of the brothers who died in the Attica rebellion.

BODY MIXUP

Thomas Hicks was supposedly one of the slain brothers of Attica. But his immediate family said that the body Rockefeller's government had sent as Tom Hicks was not Hicks at all. Tom had been shot in the mouth a few years back by a pig. As a result he had two front teeth missing. He also had a pierced ear.

But the body which had been sent had all its teeth and no pierced ear. So the question is, where is Tom Hicks? and who is this dead brother? To add to the mystery, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee received a letter on Saturday, Sept. 25, from a brother in Attica who was involved in the rebellion (we won't mention his name for fear of reprisals against him). He had heard that Tom Hicks was on the list of dead, but had seen Tom Hicks alive after the assault in Attica had taken place. He also saw him alive, in the custody of guards, one hour after they had been locked up in their cells. So we ask again, where is Tom Hicks?

After the rally at the church ended, the caskets were put back on the cars. Three of them had to be taken to a medical examiner to be fingerprinted to try to get proper and positive identification of them. The other three were taken to Frederick Douglass Cemetery on Staten Island where they were buried. The six slain brothers were: John Barnes, Harold Thomas, Rafael Vasquez, Manuel Johnson, Frank Williams, and an unknown brother who was supposed to be Thomas Hicks.

AVENGE ATTICA—TEAR THE PRISONS DOWN!



Harlem marchers condemn Rockefeller.

any politicians speak at the rally.

After the no-politicians vote was taken, Hassan Sharief El-Shabazz spoke. Hassan, a former inmate at Auburn and Attica and a member of the PSC, is the only brother from the Auburn 6 who is out on bail. (The Auburn 6 are six prisoners framed up on assault charges following a rebellion in Auburn prison last November.) Carmene Garriga, the wife of an Attica inmate, followed Hassan with a brief talk. Among the other speakers were William Kunstler, Juan Pi Ortiz from the Young Lords Party, and Kinshasa from the New

LNS Women's Graphics

York 21,

The rally lasted a few hours. The people had come out in large numbers and their interest, their anger, their unity, their awareness, and their class solidarity were clearly visible in the speeches, in the people's chants, in their comments, and especially in their militancy. They made it clear that the heroic struggle of the brothers in Attica would never be forgotten and that the day will come when we will tear the prisons down.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!
REMEMBER ATTICA!

Prison rebellions erupt nationwide

In the wake of the Attica massacre, prison rebellions spread like wildfire across the United States, as the country's 200,000 prisoners expressed their solidarity with the Attica rebellion. The 13 reported rebellions since the Attica massacre doubles the total number of reported prison rebellions since the beginning of this year.

▲ At Parish Prison in New Orleans, La., 267 inmates broke cell doors, damaged plumbing, and set fires in protest over Attica and their own imprisonment. One floor of the prison was held by 54 inmates for over 18 hours.

▲ At Norfolk Prison in Massachusetts, 400 prisoners went on strike against the prison's factories on September 27 in support of 22 demands for reforms and amnesty. After a three-hour meeting with state officials, Lester Richards, chairman of the inmate council, announced that the grievances were being handled by negotiating committees. An inmate spokesman said, however, that the prisoners "were just about to explode

if something isn't done."

▲ At Walpole State Prison in Massachusetts, about 200 inmates also staged a day-long strike against the prison factories on September 27.

▲ At Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary, prisoners went on strike against the prison's factories.

▲ The prison at Atlanta, Georgia, was also the scene of a protest strike against the Attica massacre and similar conditions prevailing there. In Terre Haute, Indiana, prisoners launched another protest strike.

▲ At Wayne County Jail in Detroit, over one hundred police armed with shotguns and tear gas surrounded the prison on September 13 in anticipation of a rumored rebellion planned to protest Attica. Inside, a "shake-down" was carried on.

▲ At the Women's Prison in Alderson, West Virginia, 37 women, "the more vocal, revolutionary types," as one prison official put it,

rebelled against being transferred to maximum security prisons, until finally subdued by pepper gas.

Throughout New York State, billionaire Gov. Rockefeller ordered all prisoners kept under tight security restrictions. Nevertheless, prison rebellions continued:

▲ At Clinton Prison in Dannemora, N.Y., 250 prisoners, some wearing black armbands, tried to march on the mess hall on September 15 after hearing about Attica, before being turned back by shotgun-carrying prison guards and state troopers.

▲ At the Great Meadow Prison in Comstock, New York, about 75 inmates rebelled for three hours on September 15, throwing bottles and setting fires.

▲ At Elmira Prison, New York, about 200 prisoners staged a protest of several hours on September 14, chanting slogans in their cells expressing solidarity with Attica inmates.

Chicago responds to Attica

CHICAGO, Sept. 18—Rockefeller's brutal massacre at Attica Prison prompted the Chicago Prisoners Solidarity Committee to sponsor a demonstration at 12:00 noon Saturday at the Federal Building. A picket line was started with approximately 150 people and soon grew to a crowd of close to 400.

Chanting loudly, the militant group marched out of the Federal Building and through the Loop (which is always bustling with shoppers on Saturdays). A lot of the onlookers were young and Black, but even the old and the white responded with cheers, Right On!, etc., as demonstrators marched down State Street chanting "Attica's Blood on Rockefeller's Hands"; "Support Heroes of Attica—To Rebel Is Justified"; "Hey Hey—To Rebel Is Justified"; "Hey Hey—Ho Ho, Racist Prisons Got to Go."

After marching around the Civic Center once, the crowd gathered there for a rally. The speakers included representatives from Rising Up Angry, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, the Iranian Students, and the Black Panther Party. Jeff

Charles spoke for the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and gave a report on Tom Soto's observations and experiences after spending a night with the prisoners in Attica. He ended by saying the prison cells are already overcrowded, but "we should use these cells to lock up the few billionaires who make up the American ruling class."

Harold Bell of the Black Panther Party directed his speech against the Progressive Labor Party, which had been very disruptive at the demonstration. Bell pointed out that Bobby Seale was requested by the prisoners to be on the negotiating committee and that PL had received no such request. He looked at the PL contingent when he announced that "we don't need any reactionary criticism in the Black community."

The Chicago Prisoners Solidarity Committee views this demonstration as only the first step in the long struggle against the fascist prison system.

Tear Down the Jails!
All Power to the People!



Rally of 2000 at Capital steps in Albany hear Tom Soto of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee tell of Attica atrocities.

-Terror continues

(continued from PSC 1)

Several reports from Attica indicate that others were also summarily executed inside Attica's walls after the Monday attack. A letter from an Attica inmate to the Prisoners Solidarity Committee (see centerfold for full text of the letter) reveals that Tom Hicks was also alive Monday morning one hour after the takeover of the prison—"I know," wrote this prisoner, "I seen him."

The reign of terror in Attica continues. "I'm still awaiting my turn to die," wrote the above prisoner to the PSC. "My brothers and I (how many I can't say) who are in segregation are branded as leaders (chalked X on our backs)."

Still another prisoner who was recently transferred from Attica told a relative that after the police and troopers took control of D Block, inmates from C Block who

were in solitary confinement during the rebellion were taken into the yard, stripped naked, and used as target practice. (Although those in solitary did not take part in the rebellion, many of them are known to the prison authorities as militant and political.) One inmate saw a guard with a rifle aimed at another prisoner. When he stepped in front of the brother, he himself was shot and killed.

Lawyers who have been allowed to interview Attica prisoners have reported that the men told them of the torture and beatings they have endured since the retaking of the prison. The guards forced the men to crawl around naked, as they were being kicked in the faces, burned with cigarettes, and jabbed with clubs. The men were forced to run a gauntlet of guards who clubbed them in a racist frenzy.

It appears now that the list of dead inmates was not immediately released because the prison authorities wanted to cover up the executions later on. "The story about inmates hiding in tunnels," said Soto, "made it possible for the guards to torture and murder more prisoners without their families or supporters knowing what happened to them."

Statement of

Attica Liberation Faction

Following are extensive excerpts from a statement drawn up by the inmates of Attica prison in the week following the massacre. It was given to lawyers who were able to get into the prison to see the inmates. The statement was released September 22.

ATTICA, New York (LNS) — We are making this statement to expose the vicious political machine that exists in all New York State prisons. We at this time intend to clog the wheels of that machine....

We are not criminals, nor are we enemies of the people. Government and public institutions are established to serve and promote the needs and welfare of the people. Why must they subjugate and exploit us through the labor process and oppress the people of America through increasing taxes, paying for emergency health care, transportation, housing, food, etc., when everything is "pay on the spot" or credit with interest. Looking at this objectively, this capitalist system creates opposing tendencies among ourselves; examples: racial, religious, and class biases. Our job as concerned people is to expose the system, which is really run by approximately 400 families (DuPonts, Rockefellers, Fords, Mellons, etc.) and show that these people, a minority, are only a breed infected by money and have no concern whatever for the people in general. True, we have truthful representatives in our government. However, they are puppets whose strings are pulled by that monopoly of families.

We have discovered, as Madame Binh no doubt knows, the frustration of negotiating with a political system bent on genocide. Killings are being committed not only in Viet Nam, but in Bengla Desh, Africa, and South America. Is it not so that our Declaration of Independence provides that when a government oppresses the people, they have a right to abolish it and create a new government? And we at "Attica" and all revolutionaries across the nation are exercising that right! The time is now that all third world people acknowledge the true oppressor and expose him to the world!!!

Fascist control has been instituted through various devious means in all concentration camps here in Attica and all through New York State. For instance: even though Black and Puerto Rican brothers number conservatively 85 percent of the total population of these contemporary plantations, we are collectively allotted only 1 percent of the controlling inmate positions.

Just as Hitler instilled fear in his concentration camps, so has Rockefeller, allowing and sanctioning the same tactics to be perpetrated here: the Fascists deal with fear and psychological control, such as not allowing grown men to talk when we walk down the halls; marching us to and from each meal; segregations of facilities, such as black and white ice!

The fascist regime can only exist when fear is the controlling factor. But when intelligence is used, then the fascist pigs must resort to violence to cover up their atrocities against the poor people.

In conclusion; those brothers whose lives were taken by Rockefeller and his agents did not die in vain. Why?

Because the uprising in Attica did not start here nor will it end here! Moreover, the storm trooper-like tactics of Rockefeller's gestapos again proves to the third world that the Nazi element in this racist system will stop at nothing to eliminate the forces who are the oppressed masses, who are struggling for human recognition and are crying out for Freedom, Justice, and Equality.

In Solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the human communities,

In Peace/Power and Brotherhood
ATTICA



Letters from impr

The following letter, sent out of Attica during the rebellion, is from prisoner Sam Melville. Melville, accused of many political bombings in New York City, was murdered when D Block was retaken by state troopers.

Agincourt, Sept. 10, '71
Evening (around the campfire)

ATTICA

Power People!

We are strong, we are together, we are growing. We love you all, we need your continuing love & support. Brother Huey is on his way and Counselor Kunstler, too. YAWF is storming the walls. What shall we do? Cha Cha Cha.

Ho Ho Chi Minh

Please inform our next of kin

Sam Melville

CLINTON

Please give our greetings of Peace and Power to all our hard working comrades dedicated in our common struggle for Liberation....

We are now fifteen (15) along with eight (8) other brothers which is a total of twenty-four (24) are in a very dangerous situation, as we are not receiving any outside mail from our attorneys. They just beat up brother almost to death as he came from visiting his mother. They also beat up (another) brother before he went back to Rikers Island.... They are getting ready to kill us and you must come up immediately with newspaper reporters and with a court order....

They are trying to put fear into us for our political beliefs by beating us one by one and it's a very precarious position we are in, in regards to the Attica massacre. There is a connection and they are trying to justify their criminal acts by doing something awful to us. You must do something as they have stopped all outgoing and incoming mail.

Power!

P.S. As a result of what happened to we refuse to submit to shackles, chaining us.

LEWISBURG

Greetings to the PSC:

The superheroic uprising at Attica prison, New York State's maximum security dungeon, has already established itself as a milestone in the history of the revolution which is exploding in this country, the very citadel of world imperialism and the arsenal of global reaction.

The inmates overcame seemingly impossible obstacles and rose up,

held out, and fought for four days around the clock, knowing that, in the end, death, immediately—or slowly—would almost certainly overtake them.

That fact alone proves, beyond even a shadow of a doubt, that the conditions in the house of bondage made life unbearable. The slave drivers, smeared with blood, forced things to the breaking point.

Governor Rockefeller, member of the billionaire dynasty which plunders seven continents and chokes the seven seas, blamed "militant revolutionaries" for the bloodshed, while he and his cronies rigidly dictated the mass murder of the prisoners

Following is an interview with Hassan Sharief El-Shabazz, one of the Auburn 6 indicted on charges stemming from the Auburn prison rebellion of November 4, 1970. Hassan was recently bailed out by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee. The PSC is currently organizing the legal defense of the Auburn 6 as well as building public support for their case.

* * * * *

Hassan of Auburn 6" speaks

PSC: What do you feel caused the Auburn rebellion? Hassan: The Auburn rebellion was caused by the same conditions that prevailed at Attica. Some of those conditions are: drugs being rampant in the prison, sold by the pig guards, forced homosexuality, brutality by the guards, and racism perpetrated by the administration.

But the demands to end these conditions were only some of the demands. The main demands of the Auburn rebellion were for freedom to control our own destinies, the freedom not to be treated like animals, not to be turned into mindless, spineless robots. Just as the students at Kent State rebelled for the same purpose, to control their own destiny, the same demands prevailed in Auburn. The men were tired of the many promises that were made and broken, the

imprisoned brothers

CLINTON

Brothers and Sisters I greet you....These sub-pigs beat me and gas me. It looks like the only way I am going to be free is to die. I, , thank you for your time and consideration, and understanding of our situation. It is understandable that you tried to help and look out for the welfare of us up here. Any news that you could send on anything, please do so. We need news up here. How long must our People be cooped up in these concentration camps?

Your Brother at arms

COMSTOCK

All Power to the People!

I sit here in this box trying to organize my thoughts and whip the thought of Attica from my mind, not the incredible slaughter, but the repercussions it will cause behind the walls of doom, repercussions that have already begun to form, that may create more killing.

I will use this concentration camp as (proof) for my (statement). First, when the reports of the assassination of Brother George Jackson (came out) all articles that were in the newspapers and magazines were cut out. The explanation that was given for this oppressive act was that the articles were inflammatory! Then came the attack at Attica and the taking of lives. Here, before the news reports were broadcast, the administration ordered that all inmates were to be kept in their boxes.

When the news was released here, head pig Cowboy (J.P. Conboy) placed the prison under a "State of Emergency." The explanation that was given to the press was for "reasons of security."

... As I write today, the first day anyone has been allowed out of their cell, the state trooper who has been placed on a tower in front of my window is standing, looking into the yard with his gun out so all can see it. They have created a condition here that is horrifying and dangerous. There is nothing that is more a threat to security than pigs standing over men with guns. There is no reason for men to have to live under dehumanizing conditions and be treated as animals. . . .

and the sacrifice of his gestapo-hirelings.

Just like in Vietnam, helicopters sprayed gas on the already unarmed convicts, so as to render them totally defenseless. Then came the cowardly armed bands of the state to pump lead into their bodies, immediately killing twenty-eight, and, according to NBC News, wounding over one hundred, "most of whom are not expected to live," especially after the medical hacks get through treating them.

The NBC News tried to jerk public tears with their cheap old trick of showing the wives and children of the dead or wounded storm troopers.

many lies that had been told to us. The system caused the rebellion at Auburn.

PSC: Hassan, how did you come in contact with the Prisoners Solidarity Committee?

Hassan: After the rebellion at Auburn, we wrote Youth Against War & Fascism for assistance and as a result, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee was formed. They supported us tremendously. We (the Auburn 6) had a federal hearing at the insistence of the PSC to protest the fact that our lives were in danger at Auburn. We wanted to be removed from Auburn. As a matter of fact, we still haven't received a decision from that hearing. That goes to show that in this racist, capitalist society, life is not worth a damn, only property. And that's what the laws are made to protect. At any rate, it was through the support and efforts of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee that myself and five other members of the Auburn 6 are alive today.

PSC: You were in Attica. Can you tell us what Attica is like?

Hassan: Attica is really like any other concentration camp. It has a little more harsh security than most, but in general the conditions are the

"I saw Tom Hicks alive"

ATTICA

To: Prisoners Solidarity Committee
Tom Soto and staff
Brothers and Sisters:

As a revolutionary fighting for self-determination for all oppressed people, what can I say for the hermanos whose lives were sacrificed for our struggle. And about those whose behavior patterns are not conditioned as ours. However, they believed in what we were doing. Many are now hostile — vigilant towards the "pigs," but had to get shot, wounded, beaten, looked and scowled upon like animals which we're not, to make this imperialist-racist government here in AmeriKKa see that we are still struggling while we're physically incarcerated in a concentration camp.

Brothers, sisters — others, for the time being I'm still alive. How or why, are questions which I can't answer logically.... Nevertheless, my brothers and I (how many I can't say) who are in segregation are branded as leaders (chalked X on our backs). Even hermanos who were wounded (shot) are here with "minor" medical attention, and in pain.

To tell you of that disastrous day 9/13 — it's like telling you about My Lai and bloody massacres of Vietnamese people under the yoke and subjugation of U.S. militia teams — munition which they used — 45 sub-machine guns, 12-gauge shotguns, 357 mags, hi-powered scoped '30-'30's, 30.06's, M-14's, CN gas, helicopters — state troopers, pepper gas and even concussion grenades were used. That day, 9/13, to the pigs everybody was a nigger — Black-white-Spanish — the aged, shot, wounded, sick, the beaten, everyone had to crawl the length of 'A' block yard without rising our glutinous maximus and hands on our heads, face in the ground and nakedly runned through two lines of troopers — correction pigs, etc. Not only that, Tom Hicks (inmate) was alive during the security of the institution in the hands of the pigs, and the Lawyers Guild reported him dead. He was alive one hour after take-in — I know, I seen him. To add to that I still heard shots that afternoon. I'm still awaiting my turn to die; however, as a revolutionary, that does not mean to be executed by the pigs, to plant fear in the oppressed people who'll take similar procedure such as us. And before they do that I'll sacrifice my own life, for my beloved oppressed people's success.

My job until my death, is to expose the system, re-educate the people and establish a government which promotes and serves their needs. I'm enclosing this letter with the revolutionary spirit of the times.

Power/Venceremos

ATTICA LIBERATION FACTION

talist class, momentarily interrupted his campaign for economic fascism to telephone "congratulations" to Rockefeller for his tactics.

The money men who own the governments and prisons of the United States are swinging to fascism to save their profits.

They are fanning up racism to a genocidal heat. They are transforming the prisons to extermination centers, especially for the Third World peoples. Time is running out.

There is only one way to defeat fascism. The would-be fascists must be shown, in no uncertain terms that if they want to wage war against the oppressed, they will not wage it the way they want, in which only the fascists are armed.

No, they will get civil war and they

will lose. The imperialist army will collapse from within, as its enlisted men and draftees turn their guns against their real enemy, the war lord officer caste and the banker generals.

Attica is only the beginning. There will be much more of the same, and much bigger, in every prison, in every city, in every factory, in every mine, in every place where a slave confronts a master.

It must be a solidarity in deeds — a truly tangible solidarity. Across the country, and especially now in Attica, this is the greatest hour of need for anything that can relieve the atrocious conditions that make life unbearable and, even more urgently, to prevent the genocide program from being put into practice.

conscious is dead. In a sense, he's physically walking around, but mentally he's in a state of what I would call limbo. A prisoner who walks around, who bends to the will of the guards, a man who lets himself be led, instead of leading, a man who takes everything and does not fight back, is in effect a dead man.

In prisons today, prisoners have become aware of their heritages and their cultures, and here I'm speaking mainly of the Black and Puerto Rican brothers. The white prisoners are also becoming aware of the fact that the administrations mainly direct their rule of death, brutality, and fascist might against the Black and Puerto Rican prisoners, and, in effect, this heightens the political consciousness of the white prisoners. In view of this, solidarity is born, as you can see from the Attica rebellion. Therefore, as I said, political consciousness is definitely a trend in prisons today and it will continue to be a trend. What I'm really saying is that there are going to be more Atticas, not only in Babylon, but across the world, until people are treated like human beings and not animals.

The old lie about prison reform

by JERRY ZILG

In a large smoke-filled auditorium in Manhattan, sour-faced politicians counted the votes between yawns. On the floor, their partners mulled about noisily, not even bothering to listen or pretend interest. Then the presiding committee of this Democratic Party state convention announced that the resolution on prison reform had been overwhelmingly endorsed as part of the party's electoral platform.

"Our prisoners are housed in buildings that are unsanitary and out of repair," the platform read. "They are employed with meager instruction upon inadequate machinery of obsolete type, lacking safeguards required by law in factories. Opportunities for education are almost totally lacking." Instead, the platform held the promise that the prisoners would be "usefully employed" and taught "trades."

The Democratic politicians were not happy about admitting that such conditions existed, but they had no choice. It had been a year of prison rebellions, attempted escapes, mass political arrests, and exposes on cruelty to prisoners that had already caused a public uproar, too much publicity.

The year was 1920, and New York's governor was Alfred E. Smith, later to be the 1928 presidential candidate and still later, in the thirties, a wooer of Nazi Germany. But 1920 was a year that Smith had to be a wooer of the people instead, confusing them with rhetoric about prison reform.

WOMEN PRISONERS REVOLT

On January 3, just one day after U.S. Attorney General Mitchell Palmer launched his night-time raid on thousands of workers and other "subversives" across the country, a rebellion broke out at the Reformatory for Women at Bedford, N.Y. Touched off by the prison administration's denial of recreation for the women, the outburst was only the end result of a long series of cruel abuses inflicted on the prisoners. These atrocities included torturing the women by forcing their heads under water until they almost drowned, stringing up inmates by their arms while they were handcuffed behind their backs, poor food and degrading treatment by prison matrons and guards.

It took a full day for prison officials to put down the rebellion. The women had armed themselves with sticks and pipes, but in the end prison guards armed with guns overwhelmed them, and many were thrown into solitary confinement. The prison officials refused to comment on the number of women injured by the police assault. Enough of a battle had been put up, however, to capture publicity on conditions inside



MILWAUKEE, Sept. 21 — Police viciously attacked a demonstration protesting the Attica massacre here today, arresting and beating six people. The target of the police assault was the Prisoners Solidarity Committee which, along with several other groups, called today's rally and march.

After the rally at the Civic Center Plaza, a march of about 150 people moved to Wisconsin Avenue along the sidewalk. At 4th Street, under the pretext of giving a jaywalking ticket to Jim Miller, a PSC leader,

police attacked the demonstration. They particularly sought out active PSC members for arrest. In addition, a Black photographer, Harold Hampton, was jumped and beaten by racist cops. He was later charged with obstructing an officer and resisting arrest.

Among the six arrested were Jim Miller, who was beaten by two cops and then charged with resisting arrest, and Benita Orozco, another PSC leader. She was charged with battery to a peace officer and resisting arrest. Bill Colangelo of Youth Against War & Fascism was charged with

resisting arrest.

In a press release issued today, the Prisoners Solidarity Committee in Milwaukee has strongly condemned this attack and charged that it was part of a trend toward repression of political opposition to racism and fascism in this country. "The same repressive system that caused the bloodbath at Attica is behind this attack, and the racism of the police department is clearly seen in the cases of Hampton and Orozco," the statement read. Benita Orozco has been active in many struggles in the Latin community

the prison.

The floodgate had been opened and a tidal wave of protests followed. On January 23, the National Civil Liberties Bureau in a detailed report accused Alcatraz's warden, Col. R.D. Johnson, of cruel treatment of conscientious objectors (to World War I). The next day, Secretary of War Newton Baker promised he would investigate. He never did. Instead, the issue was ignored and the brutality went on.

So did the criticisms. Before the month was over, it was revealed that influenza had swept through New York and New Jersey prisons and that sick inmates were not getting adequate medical care. Later, in North Carolina, the Prisoners Relief Society issued a report on the deplorable prison conditions in that state, and was promptly barred from the state's prisons by the governor.

SLAVE LABOR IS THE ANSWER

In response to these exposes, the federal government proposed its version of prison reform. On May 3, 1920, the National Commission on Prisons and Prison Labor proposed the industrialization of the country's prisons to end the "idleness and boredom" of prison, train inmates in skills, and, by exploiting their labor, make them produce profits that would not only pay for their own maintenance, but also provide a surplus for state treasuries.

Not surprisingly, New York, the country's front-runner in many things, including number of prisoners, was the first to heartily adopt the federal proposal. In fact, according to an economic report on March 8, New York's prisoners had already generated over \$60,000 in profits for the state treasury in six months. This represented an increase of 25 percent in the inmates' productivity over the previous year — in other words, speed-up. "Even higher returns can be expected next year," boasted the report.

New York State's Prison Survey Committee made other recommendations, including "fair" wages, allowing support of relatives, and the abolishing of Sing Sing as a prison, transforming it into a clearinghouse for newer prisons. Everything will be improved, promised the committee, promised the Governor, promised the Democratic Party platform, promised the federal government. The year 1920 closed with Attorney General Mitchell Palmer sending personal greetings of Christmas cheer to the country's trapped prisoners. Meanwhile, at Dannemora Prison, two inmates died after being served poisoned salmon, and at Auburn, prison officials chalked up one dead prisoner, seven wounded in attempted escapes that year from a living hell.

PRISONS STILL THE SAME

Half a century later, Sing Sing prison still stands as a monument to continued oppression by a rich ruling class. Auburn still stands also, and the murders, beatings, bad food, and degradation still go on. But one thing has changed — the prisoners.

Most of them today are members of oppressed nations — nations that are struggling for liberation. As in Auburn and now Attica, men and women are standing up to their tormentors and fighting back, armed with a political consciousness and unity of determination never before attained, responding to the beat of revolutionary drums, deaf to the plea of false fifty-year-old promises. It is time, they say, that the walls come down.

here against police brutality. The statement continued:

"The movement on the outside to support the prisoners has been growing. Such groups as the Prisoners Solidarity Committee and the Wisconsin Inmates Peoples Union have begun to both educate the American people as to the true nature of those prisons and have begun programs to concretely aid prisoners and their relatives. The role of prisons as concentration camps for poor and oppressed people is being exposed more and more each day.

"The Prisoners Solidarity Committee will have a meeting on Monday, September 27, at 7 p.m. at the Rhubarb Bookstore, 1618 W. Wells to plan future activities. All interested in building the necessary link of solidarity to the prisoners inside are invited to come. Contact the Prisoners Solidarity Committee at 150 E. Juneau, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202."

Police attack Attica pickets

Ludlow, Colorado, 1914

ROCKEFELLER'S OTHER MASSACRE

It looked like a tent city. Hundreds were huddled under makeshift shelters to protect themselves from the cold. All around the encampment national guards with rifles and machine guns stood ready.

The sun was just rising when the assault began. When it was over, the camp was a mass of charred debris. The dead and wounded were strewn on the ground. The New York Times expressed measured, neutral horror at the bloody scene. But Rockefeller had given the order — end the strike!

No, it wasn't Attica. And it wasn't Governor Nelson D. Rockefeller who ordered the assault then. But it was a similar scene — another Rockefeller massacre — only at that time the blood was on the hands of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Nelson's father. Like money, massacres of working and oppressed people run in the Rockefeller family.

The place was Ludlow, Colorado; the time, April 20, 1914. Hundreds of miners were on strike, struggling to get the Rockefeller-owned Colorado Fuel and Iron Company to recognize and negotiate with their union, the United Mine Workers of America. The company met the workers' strike with brutal reprisals. First, the miners were evicted from their company-owned homes in Ludlow to face the freezing Colorado winter. The company got court injunctions and indictments to stop the strike. Then Rockefeller imported gunmen from the Baldwin-Felts Detective Agency. These goons rode around in an armored car, shooting down strikers on sight. Finally, the National Guard was mobilized to protect Rockefeller's profits.

The miners fought back against this reign of terror. They set up a tent city in Ludlow, determined to carry on the battle for a union, decent wages, and working conditions. Then Rockefeller ordered the attack.

On the morning of April 20, 1914, while the miners and their families were still sleeping, company-hired goons and national guardsmen drenched their tents with oil and ignited them. When the dazed victims ran out of their flaming shelters, they were machine-gunned down. Many women and children who were hiding in holes dug to protect them against rifle fire were burned alive or suffocated in underground furnaces. Nineteen people were murdered and scores were wounded. Over two-thirds of the dead were women and children.

FROM LUDLOW TO ATTICA

It's a long way from Attica to Ludlow, both in distance and time. But a bond of struggle

200 hear inside report on Attica

BUFFALO, Sept. 19 — About 200 people, mainly from the local Puerto Rican and working class community, filled a meeting hall here tonight to protest the Attica massacre. Many who gathered had relatives and friends inside Attica and heard reports from those who were inside the prison during the rebellion.

The meeting, called by the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, BUILD (a Black community organization), Black Student Union, El Comité (a Puerto Rican community organization), PODER (a Puerto Rican student group), and Youth Against War & Fascism, was held under

revolutionary banners proclaiming "Attica, Auburn, the Tombs, San Quentin — Nada Que Perder — Solo Candenda!" (Nothing to lose but their chains!). Behind the speakers' platform, a Puerto Rican flag was pasted over the symbol of oppression, the U.S. flag.

The meeting was chaired by Joan Marquardt from the Prisoners Solidarity Committee (PSC) and Evelyn Rodriguez from PODER. Tom Connor, an ex-prisoner and member of the PSC, told how the committee has been trying to inspect Erie County Jail despite government resistance. Then Sharon Chin, from the national office of the Prisoners

Solidarity Committee, spoke of how the Committee has supported the struggles of prisoners since its formation around the rebellion at Auburn Prison. At this point, an ex-prisoner from many of New York State's dungeons, who cannot be named because he is on parole, exposed how the prison authorities use any vile means to divide prisoners by racial background and other false barriers.

Tom Soto, also from the national office of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, Alberto Cappas, and Domingo Rodriguez spoke. They had all been inside Attica during the rebellion, supporting the just de-

senting an empire of wealth that was built on the sweat and blood of miners and other workers. In Attica, the boss was a Rockefeller again, this time carrying out the slaughter not for his own personal profits, but in the interest of his entire class of billionaire rulers. Rockefeller explained away the murders by saying he did it to safeguard "the very essence of our free society." In 1914 it was the same story — the strike was called illegal and the strikers "criminals." Therefore a massacre was "justified."

But words have different meanings for the oppressed and the Rockefellers. Who is a criminal and what is illegal?

BILLIONAIRE ROBBERS MAKE THE LAWS

In the U.S. today, as in 1914, it's the Rockefellers and their rich pals who define these terms and make the laws. They say it is illegal for the poor to steal in order to live, but legal for Rockefeller to steal from workers; they say it is illegal for prisoners to take hostages, but legal for the government to hold vast numbers of Black and Puerto Rican people hostage in prisons; they say it is illegal for prisoners to rebel (just like they used to say that strikes were illegal), but legal to run concentration camps for the poor, based on racism and brutal terror.

against a common enemy unites the two events. In Ludlow it was the exploited workers, mostly white, who were fighting for a decent life; in Attica it was the oppressed prisoners, mostly Black and Puerto Rican who rose up. Yet their demands had a similar thread — demands for a union, an end to slave wages, and better working conditions.

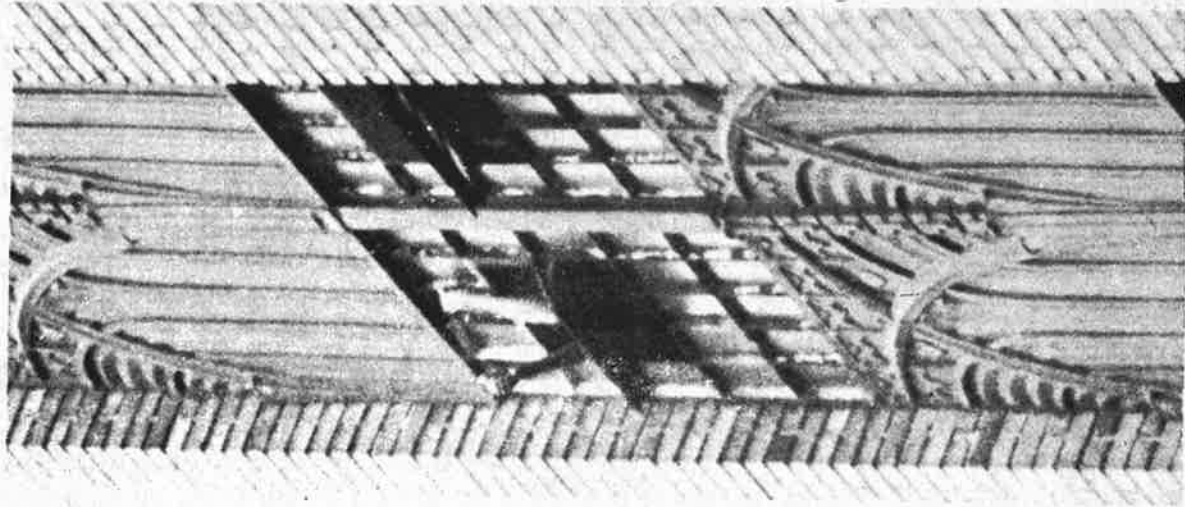
In Ludlow the boss, the enemy who had the workers shot down, was a Rockefeller, repre-



mands of the prisoners. In Spanish and English, they described the concentration camp conditions inside and the tremendous unity, courage, and determination of the prisoners fighting back against Rockefeller and Oswald.

During the questions and discussion at the end, an ex-prisoner in the audience asked how we were going to be sure that the struggle would be continued and how prisons were really going to be changed. Tom Soto answered that prisons are a part of this system — the same system run by Rockefeller and Co. which exploits working people every day and maintains concentration camps to oppress Black, Puerto Rican, and poor people. Those concentration camps will only be abolished when the workers take over outside as the prisoners are doing inside, and the whole system is changed.

PRISONS ARE CONCENTRATION CAMPS FOR THE POOR!
TEAR DOWN THE WALLS!



Sisters extend fists from old Women's House of Detention.

Bail fund women aid imprisoned sisters

by VERONICA GOLOS, Women's Bail Fund

The Women's Bail Fund was organized to aid and draw attention to women prisoners, who suffer under conditions just as brutal as those in Attica or San Quentin.

Through demonstrations, leaflets, and especially by bailing women out of the Women's House of Detention in New York City, the Bail Fund has focused on the imprisoned sisters. It has also organized many militant demonstrations outside of the prison to let the sisters inside know that they were not alone.

Recently, the House of D was moved from Greenwich Village to the city's penal colony on Rikers Island. When the move was announced, a whole campaign was launched to expose the Rikers concentration camp for what it was. And on the day of the move, hundreds of women gathered outside the jail at dawn to protest the transfer to an island where the women would be more isolated than ever.

In the new, "improved" prison, each woman is in a tiny cell. She is punished for the slightest infraction of rules that she is never informed about, and forced to undergo horrible internal searches which frequently result in vaginal infections. The women have no access to

the new facilities that are supposed to be for their benefit. Sentenced women are forced to work at prison industries that pay 3 to 10 cents an hour.

Everything is done to frighten and demoralize the women. Lights are kept on 24 hours a day, forcing prisoners to lie under their beds to be able to get any sleep. There are no clean clothes, no food fit to eat, no medical care when it is needed. Women who speak Spanish find it is impossible to get whatever few rights they might have because the staff does not speak their language. Women are extremely isolated, both from each other and from their family or friends. They are denied any news of what is happening on the outside that might affect their lives. Most of the sisters suffering under these conditions have not even been convicted of a crime — they are awaiting trial in jail because they are too poor to raise bail of even fifty or a hundred dollars.

The racist system which puts such a large percentage of Black, Puerto Rican, and poor people in jail, which only builds more jails and refuses to meet any of the prisoners' most basic demands, and resorts to blooded massacres when its ordi-

nary brutality fails to crush the spirit of the prisoners — that system has no right to judge the actions of people trying to find a way to survive.

The plight of our sisters in prisons across the country has not been dramatized by large rebellions like the one in Attica. The women, nevertheless, suffer the same kind of racism and terror that male prisoners suffer. They, too, are jailed primarily because they are poor and oppressed. The Women's Bail Fund, recognizing the special oppression that women in this society bear, is dedicated to exposing the conditions in women's prisons and helping to free the victims of this concentration camp system.

* * * * *

(The Prisoners Solidarity Committee would like to extend special thanks to the Women's Bail Fund for their contribution to the PSC transportation fund. This fund is used to transport prisoners' relatives to prisons. Most of the relatives are too poor to pay for visits to the prisons which are situated in remote areas, often hundreds of miles from the prisoners' homes.)

When 37 women refused to be transferred, tear gas was used to force them onto a bus. A spokesman for the prison called the sisters, "the type who take things in their own hands... sparkplugs in this sort of thing, the more vocal, more outspoken, more revolutionary types."

His description was meant as an insult to the sisters, but it is really a tribute to strong and courageous women who dared to honor the dead of Attica and defied their own prison-keepers.

The 66 women were sent to the Federal Youth Center where they will be "screened" and shipped out to maximum security prisons. The government has contracts under which it pays state and county jails to house federal prisoners. The Alderson rebels will be sent to these institutions where conditions are extremely bad. Often there are no facilities at all for women prisoners. They spend 24 hours, day and night, crammed into their cells while the county collects a large fee.

Maryann Weissman of Youth Against War &

Fascism and the Prisoners Solidarity Committee served a 6-month sentence, partly in Alderson and then in Passaic County Jail, which received \$22.50 a day for keeping her under the contract system.

"After a week in Southern county jails with double bars, Alderson looked much like an all-girl campus," she recalled. "There is sunlight, grass, trees, the beauty of the West Virginia mountains... I could hardly wait for the freedom of moving out of a locked cell, without my hands cuffed and locked to a chain around my waist...."

"But their basic principle for 'reforming criminals' is still to dehumanize you. The favorite game of the cops is to find out what you want and then not let you have it."

The small rebellion at Alderson in response to the Attica massacre gives the lie to the theory that newer and better jails are a solution. The women at this "model" prison identified with the Attica rebels because they, too, are the poor, the Black and Puerto Rican people who fill all the U.S. jails for the "crime" of being poor.

Women prisoners rebel in West Virginia

by ELLEN PIERCE

The county, state, and federal jails that dot the map of the USA are filled with women prisoners as well as men. Alderson Federal Reformatory for Women in West Virginia is the showcase of these women's concentration camps. There are "cottages" instead of cells and surrounding mountains instead of bars at this minimum security jail.

But the prisoner struggles which have swept the concentration camp system have touched Alderson too. Women there held a memorial service for the murdered Attica inmates. Prison authorities responded by transferring 66 "ring-leaders" — ten percent of the population — to maximum security jails.

A transfer doesn't just mean a change of scenery. It means being condemned to do time in terrible state and county jails. Although county jails can legally be used only for short-term prisoners, the women transferred out of Alderson could be forced to serve their sentences, no matter how long, under inhuman county jail conditions.

Are you interested in supporting the prisoners?

Please return form to: PRISONERS SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE
58 West 25th Street
New York, N.Y. 10010

Anyone wishing to help in the work of the PSC should also contact us at the following chapters:

NEW YORK CITY
58 West 25 Street (212) 989-3932

BUFFALO, NEW YORK
939 Main Street (716) 882-1112

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK
69 Rohr Street

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK
120 Dell Street (315) 474-5551 474-5551

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
P.O. Box 8875 (617) 661-0345

CLEVELAND, OHIO
Box 2576, East Cleveland (216) 231-8456

DETROIT, MICHIGAN
2515 Woodward (313) 962-4979

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
150 E. Juneau Avenue (414) 273-8089

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE
P.O. Box 972 (302) 656-8451

Arabs march against U.S.-backed oppression in Palestine

by BILL DOARES

NEW YORK, Sept. 19—Arab workers and students took to the streets here today in solidarity with their brothers and sisters in Jordan and Palestine who are under the gun of U.S. imperialism.

The demonstration focused in particular on the Gaza Strip where Israeli occupation forces are carrying out a Nazi-style campaign of terror against the civilian population, with mass arrests, week-long curfews, wholesale evictions, and torture of suspects. The protesters also attacked the repression being carried out in Jordan by the U.S. puppet Hussein against the Pales-

tinian people and called for freedom for Jordanian political prisoners.

The action began with a motor caravan from Jersey City, where there is a large working class Arab community, to the Israeli Mission at 70th Street and Fifth Avenue where a militant picket line was set up. After picketing for half an hour, the demonstrators drove to the United Nations. Along the way, despite police attempts at intimidation, they tied up Fifth Avenue traffic with their cars and allowed hundreds of passers-by to see the signs and Palestinian flags flying from their

car windows. One taxi driver turned out to be a Palestinian and joined in the procession. A number of pedestrians gave clenched fists and V-signs.

At the UN another picket line was set up, followed by a march to the Jordanian Mission where a rally was held. Sponsoring groups were the Arab Clubs of New Jersey, the Progressive Arab Students, and the

Committee to Support Middle East Liberation. Mohammad Saleh of the Arab Students spoke, pointing out that Hussein and Israel had become equal partners in the genocide of the Palestinians. This reporter, of CSMEI, spoke about the U.S. role, pointing out that the Rockefeller who murdered the prisoners at Attica was the same Rockefeller whose family controls the Standard Oil Co. and got rich off the backs of the Arab people.

The demonstration numbered over 100 people, mostly Arabs, but including a strong delegation from CSMEI, which carried two banners. The slogans of the demonstration included "Gaza: Rockefeller's Attica in the Middle East" and "Nixon, Hussein, Dayan—My Lai, Amman, Gaza."



EAST CLEVELAND, Sept. 22—Over 250 people, predominantly Third World, gathered at People's Church here today to protest the Attica massacre. They heard a representative of the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, Tom Soto, who went to Attica at the request of the prisoners. Soto described the oppressive conditions in the prison, the solidarity of all the prisoners, regardless of race, and their determination to fight to change the conditions which led them to revolt.

The PSC speaker said that the demands of Attica reflect the miserable living conditions, the dehumanization and brutality of the prison system. There were no actual negotiations with the prisoners, he said. The negotiating committee was used as a smokescreen to hide the planning by the authorities for the massacre.

Soto also spoke about the callous-

ness of the authorities in denying adequate emergency medical treatment to the prisoners after the attack, thereby continuing the massacre.

The crowd of people who came to hear Tom Soto speak was sympathetic and concerned about the oppression of prisoners. They showed that their solidarity was with those who led the rebellion.

Other co-sponsors of the meeting, in addition to the Prisoners Solidarity Committee, were the Black Panther Party, which expressed solidarity with the Attica prisoners; a representative of People's Church, who read letters from other prisoners; and the Medical Committee for Human Rights, which showed how medicine was used as a political weapon by the authorities against the oppressed inmates. Also sponsoring the rally was Bread, Peace, and Land.

Shah

by AHMAD VATANDOOST

The Shah of Iran ("King of Kings," "Light of the Aryans," "Shadow of the God"), kicked out of the country by the Iranian people in 1953 and brought back to the throne with the help of the C.I.A. in the same year, is staging a giant show for the "glorification" of 2500 years of monarchial rule in Iran this coming October.

The regime is placing so much importance on this public-relations gimmick that it is spending (by its own estimate) several hundred million dollars on it. Guests of honor will include such reactionary rulers as Selassie of Ethiopia, Hussein of Jordan, Hassan of Morocco, and possibly Nixon. But there is a reason for this show.

After the 1953 overthrow of Mossadegh's progressive government (which nationalized the oil), the economic and political situation deteriorated. Because the Iranian economy was so weakened and the discontent of the people so heightened, the Shah became increasingly dependent on American imperialism to shore up his position. In return, his military regime assumed the role of watchdog for Western imperialism in the volatile Persian Gulf area as well as a support base for Israel and the U.S. against the Arab and Iranian people.

The New York Times of July 25, 1971 reported that, "Iran's military power on land, in the air, and on the sea is being built-up in the Middle East under a billion dollar defense program quietly undertaken by the United States and Britain in preparation for the British withdrawal from the Persian Gulf later this year."

However, the new wave of people's struggle in Iran since early 1970 (including the appearance of guerrilla units in the northern provinces of Iran in 1971) has been a heavy blow to the Shah's claim that Iran is "an island of stability and peace," an image he has used to attract imperialist investments from around the world. Of course, with all these imperialist investments, the people have been robbed of their wealth and the Iranian ruling class has been given a share of the profit pie.

The rapid succession in which the monarchial

(The Iranian Students Assn. is organizing a nationwide demonstration against the Shah's repression to be held October 15 in both San Francisco and Washington, D.C.)

nurtures fascism

in Iran

regimes around the world have been overturned in the past two decades has made the Shah panicked. To consolidate his position and to show that he is the best and the most powerful lackey that U.S. imperialism can find and also to convince the imperialist investors that Iran is a safe and stable country, the Shah is especially eager to celebrate the 2500 years of disgusting monarchial rule in Iran.

On the national scene he is trying to promote his contention that monarchy is the natural form of government and that the Shah is the rightful heir and direct descendant of the kings of the past. He is advocating nationalchauvinism and racism only identifiable with the Nazis; this can be seen from his latest talks about the "purity of the Aryan race."

However, he can not disguise the true unpopularity of his regime. The unprecedented level of repression in Iran in the last few years can be compared with the repression in Greece, Taiwan, South Korea, and similar chained nations. Thousands have been arrested in various strikes since February 1970 and hundreds imprisoned, tortured, and executed. (For example, 13 patriots were executed by firing-squad in January, 1971; forty workers were shot to death while on strike in May, 1971.) The universities in Iran have been closed by the regime since last February because of student protests against the celebrations. During the closing of the University of Tehran, five students were killed and 500 arrested. Indications are that the universities will remain closed until after the celebrations in an effort to avert the development of further opposition on the campuses. In a further attempt to curb opposition, the Shah has outlawed the Confederation of Iranian Students (the organization of politically active Iranian students outside Iran), and has sentenced members of this Confederation to from 3 to 10 years in prison.

Though he is trying to turn Iran into a cemetery where there are no opposition voices, each year brings the Shah closer to the day when he shall be overthrown by the people and repaid for his tyranny.

No freeze at the Pentagon

by M. MARGOLIES

These days the capitalists and their representatives from Nixon on down are talking about the economic crisis as well as their "desire for peace." A wage freeze has been declared and welfare has been cut. The American working class has been asked to "sacrifice." But despite all the talk about cutting costs, billions of dollars are still being poured into war production.

Early in September, important interviews were given by two leading U.S. militarists: one by Admiral Thomas H. Moorer to the Christian Science Monitor; the other by Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., Chief of U.S. Naval Operations to U.S. News and World Report. Both of them used the same old excuse about a Russian threat to justify huge expenditures on war material.

Moorer not only called for expansion of various missile programs, but the development of heavy bombers. "One cannot by edict stop technical advancements," he said. "We must have mobile forces, ready forces, and we've got to exploit technology to provide more firepower per man—and this will be expensive...." He was asked, "How much will this cost—about what the budget is now with inflation or will it have to cost more than we're spending now?"

His answer was, "Well, I think it wouldn't cost any less. I wouldn't hold out any hope for it to be cheap."

In fact, the "defense" budget will increase by \$4 billion in the next fiscal year.

Admiral Zumwalt called for more funds and

admitted that the Navy alone required \$3 billion a year just to maintain its present ships and equipment. (Presently they're worth \$75 billion—a new nuclear aircraft carrier costs \$800 million.)

But if the maintenance of a giant military complex and the continuation of the Vietnam war are hurting the capitalist economy, why does the capitalist class continue on in the same direction?

The capitalist system functions for only one thing—profits for the capitalist class. To maintain a constant rate of profit or to increase profits, the system must expand. And in its expansion to invest capital and find new raw materials and markets, it necessarily comes into conflict with other imperialist countries. That's what World Wars I and II were about. That's why it constructs a military machine.

The capitalists also find it necessary to have a powerful military machine to prevent or suppress revolution so that they can continue to extract profits from the working class and oppressed peoples (at abroad and at home). They also maintain the military in preparation for a thrust against the socialist countries so they can once again exploit those peoples.

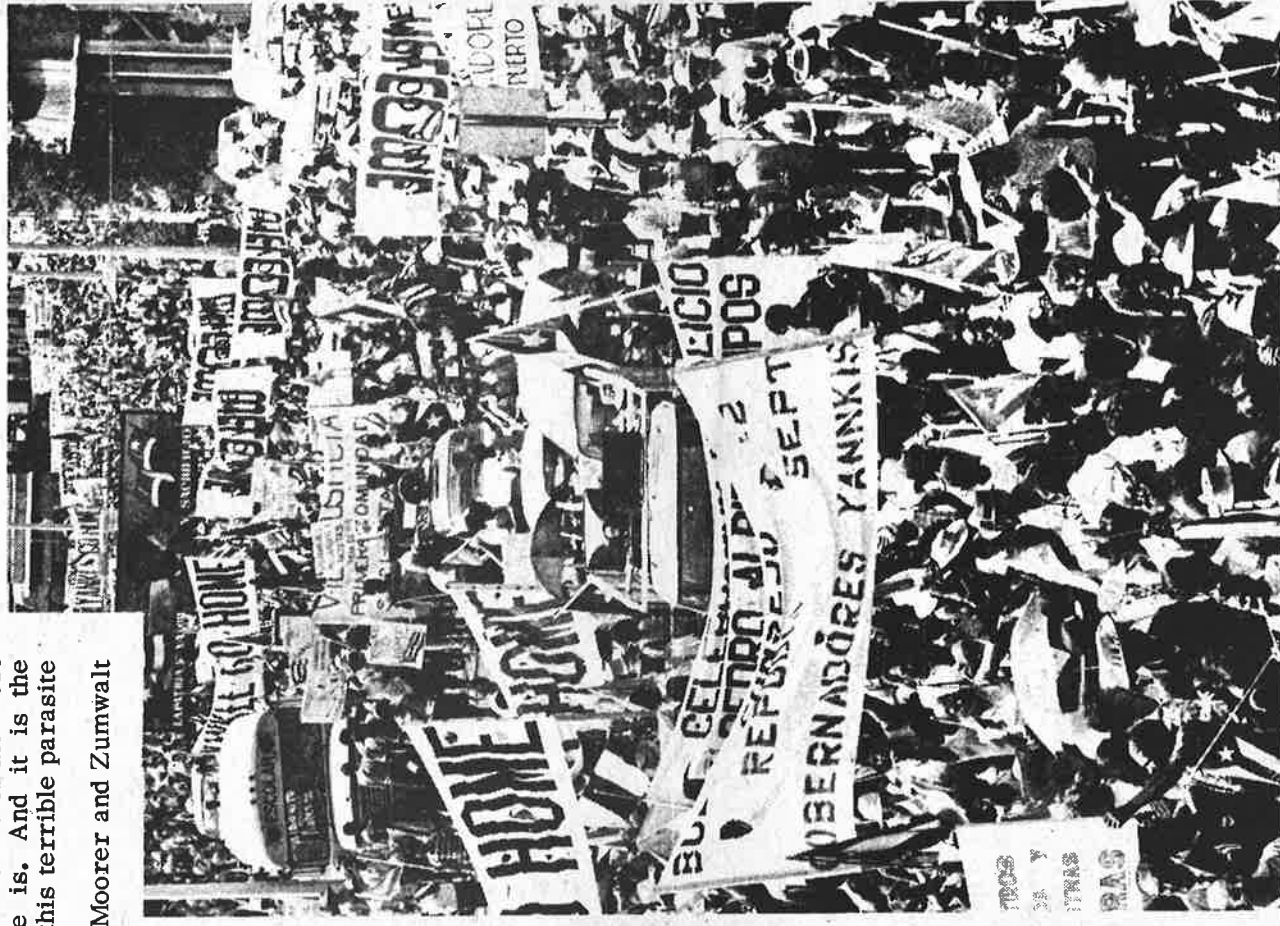
In addition, war production is one of the most profitable enterprises there is. And it is the working class that pays for this terrible parasite through taxes.

Finally, we shouldn't let Moorer and Zumwalt

off the hook. Not only do they and their fellow murderers get very quick tips on war-related stocks and bonds, but it goes much deeper than that. In 1969, according to the New York Times, 2,072 officers with the rank of colonel, Navy captain or above (those who influence contract awards) had become employed by the 95 leading military contractors. No doubt Zumwalt and Moorer also have big business sponsors to promise them high-paid jobs upon retirement.

The U.S. capitalist economy has been seriously damaged by the Vietnam defeat. The massive investment of war production didn't pay off in an exploitable colony. But the bosses won't break up the military. Billions will continue to be poured into war production—despite talk of peace.

The bosses consider the war in Vietnam only a temporary defeat. In their drive for profit they will send their stooges, Moorer and Zumwalt, on all kinds of wild adventures. And for all their talk about a "peace-time economy," and cutting back on funds, the military is going ahead full speed with their expenditures on instruments of aggression and death.



80,000 Puerto Ricans demonstrate at Governors' Conference earlier this month. Their message is clear: "Yankee Go Home." (Claridad)

200 protest Attica massacre

BALTIMORE, Sept. 18—Two hundred chanting demonstrators today picketed the Baltimore city jail and Maryland State Prison to protest the massacre of the Attica prisoners. The concentration camps are attached to each other, covering several whole blocks as an oppressive reminder of the war against Black and poor people.

The Prisoners Solidarity Committee of N.Y. YAWF went to the demonstration, which was organized by the Mother Jones collective in a coalition in the Baltimore/Washington area. The demonstration pledged support for the courageous prisoners at Attica and solidarity with prisoners in the Baltimore concentration camps.

As we marched around the

prisons chanting "Jail the Rich, Free the Poor, Power to the People!", prisoners were yelling back with "Right on!" and fists emerged from almost every window. The spirit and solidarity was strong as we marched around the prisons a second time. Again with fists flying and blankets flapping outside windows, the prisoners cried out as we chanted "George Jackson Lives!" and "Support Prison Demands!"

As we rallied after the march, Dave Matthews from the Mother Jones Collective told the Baltimore Coalition, "We must organize ourselves so we can respond immediately, showing our support, the next time prisoners call out for freedom!"

Movement grows for Puerto Rican independence

LARES, Puerto Rico, Sept. 23—The 103rd anniversary of the Grito de Lares ("Cry of Lares") was commemorated here today with a mammoth rally of 40,000 pro-independence followers. An independentist groundswell has taken place in Puerto Rico over the past year and reached its greatest show of strength only eleven days ago when almost 100,000 militants demonstrated in San Juan, shouting down the hated imperialist U.S. Governors' Conference. Today's activity highlighted a call for all pro-independence organizations to form a united front to free Puerto Rico from Yankee imperialism.

The Republic of Lares was declared on September 23, 1868, under the banner of a red flag, by Puerto Ricans struggling to oust the Spanish colonialists from their homeland. Although the Spanish Empire ultimately defeated the heroic rebellion, the short-lived Republic marked the end of slavery in Puerto Rico and has been the single greatest inspiration for the independentist movement against both Spanish and Yankee imperialism, which invaded Puerto Rico and replaced Spanish colonialism in 1898.

The principal speakers at the rally were Juan Mari Bras of the Pro-Independence Movement of Puerto Rico (MPI), Don Jacinto Rivera Perez of the Nationalist Party, Juan Antonio Corretjer of the Puerto Rican Socialist League, Ruben Berrios of the Puerto Rican Independentist Party, David Perez of the Young Lords Party, Ruth Reynolds, secretary of the late Albizu Campos, and Dr. Hector Davila Alonso of the Committee to Resist Compulsory Military Service. Also featured at the rally were well-known progressive artists, such as Noel Hernandez, Miguel Suarez, Silverio y Rosana, Suni Pas, Roy Brown, Pepe y Flora, and Efrén Ramirez.

* * *

NEW YORK, Sept. 23—Over 500 Puerto Rican militants gathered in Plaza Borinquen at 138th Street and Brook Avenue in the Bronx to commemorate the 103rd anniversary of the Grito de Lares. The rally heard speakers from several pro-independence Puerto Rican organizations, including MPI, the Young Lords Party, and the Puerto Rican Student Union.

Black resistance to pushers sparks police attacks

by DAN BENTIVOGLI

BUFFALO—The prisoners' rebellion at Attica dramatically pointed out for millions of people just what America's prisons are really all about—concentration camps for poor people, 85 percent of whom are Black, Puerto Rican, Chicano, and Native American. And recently in the Black community of Buffalo, particularly in the Talbert Mall area, people have learned what to expect from the government if they resist heroin pushers in their neighborhoods—jail.

The working and poor people have been raised to believe that America's jails, prisons, and stockades harbor the worst criminals in the country. But the Attica prisoners blew that theory apart and raised to the forefront the idea that prisoners inside Attica, and all prisons in America, are political prisoners in the sense that they've all been imprisoned by a white-run super-rich government.

The bosses' press has had to work overtime to counter the truth the Attica prisoners exposed. In the same way, the Buffalo boss-controlled press has gone way out of its way and doubled up on its racism to try and convince the Buffalo working and poor people that the Black residents of the Talbert Mall, a 12-building apartment complex in Buffalo's Black community, are an enemy to be feared.

There have been dozens of arrests around the Talbert Mall, all made by white cops arresting Black youths on heavy charges like murder and armed assault. The white racist police have blamed the violence and the shooting in the Mall on youth gangs "who are out to destroy anything good," in the words of one cop.

These youth, most of whom have been in jail for months now because they cannot raise bail, are the people who will be in Attica in a few months.

CRIMES OF SURVIVAL

What the cops termed inter-gang warfare, however, was just a racist lie. After about two months of police terror in the Talbert Mall, where the youth valiantly fought back against the invading pig onslaught, the head of the Narcotics Squad, Captain Harmon, had to admit that it "looked like" all of the targets for the youths' bullets were smack pushers.

The press now shifted their racist approach and condemned as "vigilantes" the Black youth who were defending their community from the pushers! But they haven't been able to cover up the fact that the Black youth were struggling to survive, struggling to keep their community alive

and clean of the murderer dope pushers who hadn't been stopped by the cops.

BUFFALO'S CASBAH

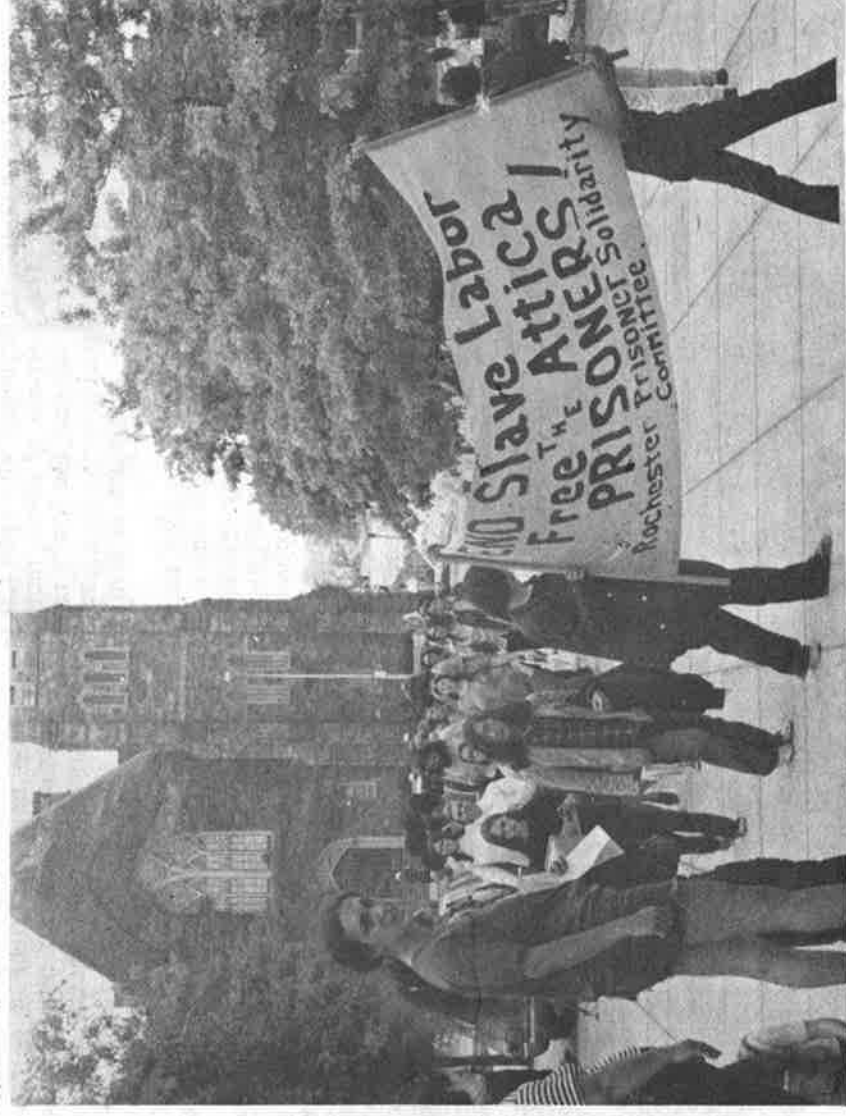
So the warfare became open: the youth were sniping at the cops who were sent in to protect the pushers. A cop a day was being shot. The Chief of Detectives in Buffalo said that the Talbert Mall was "Buffalo's Casbah, a hiding place for thieves and murderers that police can't penetrate."

What he meant to say was that the residents

of the Black community, like any oppressed people, protect their own from the foreign invasion of white cops into their community. The Casbah in Algeria was the center of the people's liberation struggle against the invading French colonial troops. The residents of the Talbert Mall are fighting the same kind of foreign occupation.

The rebellion at Attica came as no surprise. The prisons are really Black and Puerto Rican communities under lock-up and the sisters and brothers who struggled on the outside for liberation only redouble their efforts inside America's concentration camps.

100 demonstrate in Rochester



Rochester Prisoners Solidarity Committee staged a demonstration on September 11 protesting the Attica massacre.

Wage freeze spurs protest meeting, demonstration

by DOUG JONES and MARY KAY LAMA

CHAMPAIGN, ILL., Sept. 14—Nixon's wage freeze was denounced as an attack on the country's workers at a community meeting held here today by Champaign Youth Against War & Fascism.

"The wage freeze is a direct government-big business attack upon the workers," explained John Lombardo of Champaign YAWF. With wages frozen, strikes outlawed, and contracts nullified, he said, it is the working people, employed and unemployed, and particularly Black and Third World people (these being frozen into the lowest paying menial jobs) who

suffer. Lombardo also spoke on the international implications of the new economic policy, pointing out that the new 10 percent import duty and the devalued dollar could be the beginnings of an international trade war between the U.S. and its capitalist rivals, particularly Japan.

Trade wars, Lombardo explained, have been known historically to escalate into political and then military wars, with the poor and working people doing the fighting. Instead, "We are demanding that Nixon starve the war not the poor," he said, "and that he freeze profits, not wages."

Ellen Wilker explained that the Center for United Labor Action (CULA) is an organization of rank-

and-file militant workers, employed and unemployed. She read CULA's petition calling for an emergency congress of all labor, explaining that the unified action of all working people is the most effective way to fight Washington's anti-labor decree and to roll back high prices. "The workers must deal one unified blow," she said, "to the bosses and their government officials who wish to crush the workers and their unions."

Mark Almborg of the Committee to Support the Farmworkers stated that the farmworkers have recognized the freeze for what it is—a declaration of war against the workers. Despite the freeze, he explained, the farmworkers are

continuing to organize for union recognition, minimum wages, and improved working conditions. Because of their unity and militancy, the gains the farmworkers won from Huebner Corporation are in effect despite the fact that the negotiations took place after the freeze cutoff date.

CHAMPAIGN, Sept. 16—YAWF held a demonstration against the wage freeze at the federal building here today. Around 15 people demonstrated for an hour carrying banners that read "Freeze Profits Not Wages; Work or Wages," "Tax the Rich Not the Poor." Many people, including the construction workers across the street, clearly heard the chants of "We won't pay for Wall Street's war," "Tax your rich pals—not us," and "After 90 days—Strike!"

The message of the demonstration was clear: action against the Nixon-big business attack on labor. And it is only the beginning.

Busing and the right to self-determination

by EMILY HANLON

The question of busing children to achieve "racial balance" has aroused anger in all segments of the population: Black, Third World, and white, parents and politicians, educators and community organizations. Yet, in spite of this, the issue has created a clear lineup: the white racists versus the Black and Third World communities. This was the situation in Pontiac, Michigan and other areas where racist groups like the Klan used the busing question as an organizing opportunity.

President Nixon and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Warren Burger, have clearly aligned themselves with the racist opposition to busing: Nixon announced that he was in favor of holding "busing down to the minimum"; and in an unprecedented move last week, Burger sent out private memoranda to judges who were hearing busing cases! The purpose of these memoranda was, in effect, to remind the lower court judges that neither the President nor the Supreme Court would look kindly on judgments in favor of busing.

The paradox of this situation is that busing promises to do little to improve the quality of education for Black children and other oppressed nationalities. In many cases, it may even expose the children to more virulent forms of prejudicial treatment. Thus, according to the New York Times, "a recent report from cities North and South showed that large numbers of Black students in newly integrated schools had been suspended."

Another example of the desegregation sham took place recently in the Southwest, where the government declared a school of Black and Chicano children "integrated" by reclassifying Chicano students as "white." However, this is probably the only time that the U.S. government has considered Chicanos "white." At all other times they have been brutally oppressed as a non-white people. Until recently, the beating of Chicano children who did not speak English in school was officially sanctioned. The very assumption that the Chicano people are white is but another tactic to destroy their national identity and foster hostilities between Black and Chicano people.

But what really underlies the whole busing issue is a much deeper question: Should Black people have the right of self-determination? In education, as in all other areas of life, should oppressed people decide where and how they want their children taught—or should this be formulated by the representatives of the oppressing nation (the ruling class of the oppressing nation, at that) who sit in Washington, Montgomery, Detroit, etc.?

We say emphatically that oppressed people must determine their own destiny. This means the right of Black and Third World people to decide whether they want equal, high-quality community-controlled schools or the busing of their children outside the community, to the school of their choice.

For centuries public schools in the ghettos have been nothing but jails, doing their best to destroy the heritage and culture, the national identity of Black and Third World people. The struggle for community control developed out of a growing national consciousness among oppressed peoples that they must run the schools themselves, and instill in their children a sense of national identity and a determination to control their own destiny. And this is the one thing that the rich racists from Nixon on down will never allow—once the oppressed have the right to self-determination, they will no longer be slaves.

Nixon's crony, Governor Ronald Reagan of California, made it very clear to what extent the busing crisis is really a question of self-determination when he vetoed the State Supreme Court's decision to expand state spending on education and equalize state money granted throughout all school districts. At the present time, almost all the public schools across the country receive money on the basis of local property taxes. This means that the rich communities, who own all the property, receive as much as 50 per cent more per pupil than poor communities. (And statistics show that in rich areas, the taxes per dollar of assessed value are often less than in poor communities.)

If oppressed communities had the same amount of money allocated to them by the state or federal government as do the rich, white communities, and if this money was given without strings, then the Black and Third World people could at least begin to decide for themselves how and where to educate their children. Clearly, the government will never do this. And if Reagan is speaking for his pals in black robes, equal money will not even be allocated with strings.

Education is the right of all people, not only the rich. And this means an education that is controlled by the oppressed communities and teaches the people the truth about their history, that provides them with the power to control their own destiny, the destiny of their people and their class. Like all the inalienable rights of the oppressed, this will have to be wrenched from the grasp of the oppressor.

The jobs that kill you — slowly

by BOB MCCUBBIN

How often, when you've bought subway tokens, standing in front of the ugly little booth with the dirty windows, have you peered inside, through the bars and grimy glass, to see the face bent over the counter? There's a worker in there. She or he sits for eight hours a day (no break, half hour lunch), in the withering heat of August and the frigid, penetrating drafts of January, and slips your tokens to you.

Or, as you slide into the front seat of your car, do you ever think about the guy in the assembly plant in Detroit who must, every 50 seconds of his working day, climb into a car as it passes, put a seat brace in the back, climb over into the trunk, weld in the back window, then climb down and prepare for the next?

Well, you might say, I'd never thought about it before, but that token seller has to take the noise and dirt of the subway for a full eight hours. I can hardly stand it for the fifteen minutes that it takes to get to work each morning. As far as the assembly line worker goes—who would take such a job voluntarily?

Well, the fact is that millions and millions of Americans are forced to work at just such jobs. These brutalizing jobs tear from them their physi-

cal vitality, their health, and their mental well-being. Many of these jobs do not fall in the \$5,000 per year or less range that over 30% of the American work force starves at. Some of them, like assembly line work at the Jefferson Avenue Chrysler plant in Detroit, pay \$9,000 or more per year. What they take from the worker in terms of health and well-being cannot, however, be put into dollars and cents.

The type of work we're talking about is jobs like coal mining, most foundry work, laundry work, office cleaning, assembly line work, and garment making. These, and many others, are characterized either by endless grinding monotony or by physically crushing or dangerous work. If viewed superficially, many actually seem to provide a basis for the secure and comfortable middle class life that the media constantly tells us is typical for American workers. But actually, these jobs give the lie to this myth.

Tens of millions of such workers, while not desperately poor like thirty million of their class sisters and brothers, lead lives, nonetheless, of desperation. With bodies damaged by the poisonous fumes of coke ovens or the caustic detergents

of the laundry room, mentalities jarred and stifled by years of mindless routine, they leave work each day totally exhausted, incapable of any but the most pressing or untaxing of activities.

Throughout the 1950's and most of the 1960's (until the French workers jarred their sensibilities in May of 1968), bourgeois sociologists actually denied that there was a "true" working class anymore. It had, they said, been bought off by "good living" and now had the same interests, by and large, as the bosses. The conclusion was so clear to them: Capitalism had triumphed! The class struggle had come to an end and all that remained were a few "residual" problems which these over-paid "social scientists" would generously spend their "working" hours solving.

But the brutalizing jobs existed then and they exist now. And the class consciousness of workers, expunged in the 1950's by a massive assault on the working class movement, is beginning to develop again. The workers in these dehumanizing jobs will certainly have a great contribution to make in the coming revolutionary struggle. They have particularly pressing reasons for wanting to destroy the profit system of production.

