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WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

No Such Thing As Labor Peace In Auto Shops; Must Fight Everyday

Many workers in Chrysler plants were amazed and stunned at the fact that production workers in General Motors plants do not get any time for wash up, especially those in the foundries. Some workers in Chrysler were saying, the public does not really know how inhuman management is to workers. How little they care about workers, other than what the workers can produce for the Company.

FOUNDRY WORKERS ARE NEGROES

The workers said foundry work is where a worker can get filthier and dirtier than anywhere in the auto industry. This means they would have to be in the factories some 15 to 20 minutes longer than other workers on other jobs in order to clean up. Ninety percent of the workers the company puts into the foundries are Negroes.

Not only does the worker in the foundries get filthier, but the job and work is worse than any other job—and the company would rather have a strike than give those workers wash up time. It is unrealistic from a human and moral point of view.

One worker said, no wonder the disc jockeys are saying the new recording about the production line is going to be a No. 1 hit. A worker asked him what the name of it was. He did not know, but he said the words are something like: Mr. Foreman, will you please slow down this production line. I am a man that does not mind working, but I sure mind dying. There is something about this being his first auto factory job; that he has a wife and five children to feed, but, man, if I stay here someone else will have to feed them, because I will be dead, man.

PRODUCE UNTIL YOU ARE DEAD

This is just what these companies are doing to workers. You have to keep pace with the production until you are dead. A white worker said, "These companies are going to do all they can to eliminate older workers, especially when they know they are getting to be in bad health." This worker said that about three months ago he had a heart attack, and was off from work for a long time.

They put a new man on his job who did not know what to do, so the boss told him what to do on one operation and said when he got through to ask him what was next. Just before this new man finished the boss would go away, leaving the new worker to rest for 30 minutes at a time. The foreman had the time study man timing him when he did work, and he had a mechanic doing some of the oiling work that the new worker was supposed to be doing.

When the foreman who had the heart attack returned back for his job, the foreman showed him the time study report, saying this new man had been doing his work in four hours where it took him eight hours. When the old worker said he could not do it in less than eight hours, they moved him and gave his job to the new man. But then he went to the committeeman—for the first time since the early forties. The committeeman blasted the worker's boss and told him this man had thirty-four years seniority. "He helped organize this union, and if you don't put him back on his job in five minutes this shop will shut down. You know you can't do a thing like this without consulting me, and I have the contract to prove it. You know this man had a heart attack."

The company knows if he died in the shop his family would receive double indemnity. So they are going to force him to quit, by taking away the job he can perform and giving it to a new man.

WORKER KEPT HIS OWN RECORD

This white worker said he felt so happy just to hear those words coming from a union representative, that he called him over and said, "As long as I am in this plant you will never have to pay for another cup of coffee, even if you lose this grievance."

But he did not lose it. The worker had been timing himself. He said he kept a regular diary of what he would do every day, how long he spent on the job and where he was every hour of the day. He kept a copy and gave one to his committeeman.

At the end of the second week his committeeman called in Labor Relations and the union officers, and after presenting these facts and comparing them with the same work in other divisions of the company, they discovered that this worker was doing more than workers in other divisions of the company. The local officers told the old worker that ever since they have been bargaining with the company, this was the first time management admitted they were wrong.

Some people in public think workers were wrong for striking and fighting back, but it is our way of surviving in those shops. You have to fight back each and every day. There is no such thing as labor peace in auto shops. There is only peace between the union leaders and the bosses. The newscasters and reporters call this labor peace, but between the production workers on those production lines and the shop foreman, there is not one day of peace. There is no ending to the fight and struggle they carry on, not until the workers can be the determining factor in the kind of labor that they perform.

EDITORIAL ARTICLE

US Bombs Devastate South Vietnam As Civil War Rages in the Cities

By Raya Dunayevskaya, National Chairman
News & Letter Committees

Civil war is raging in South Vietnam. From the inception of the recent military offensive struggle, it was clear that the Vietcong had the sympathy (and sometimes the full collaboration) of the people as a whole. It would otherwise have been impossible for the Vietcong simultaneously to "infiltrate" into the capital, Saigon, spread through the length and breadth of the country, and raise its flag over Hue, the cultural center of the country and home of the Buddhist and student opposition to the corrupt militarist regime of Generals Thieu and Ky who choose to wear the civilian clothes of President and Vice-president. Moreover, the Vietcong achieved these spectacular successes with minimal

help from North Vietnam. Its appeal was to its own "compatriots."

At the same time the National Liberation Front, the political arm of the Vietcong, extended its appeal to "the American people . . . to side with the South Vietnam revolution."

LAWLESS GOVERNMENTS

Secretary of State Rusk's claim that the appeal for the overthrow of the "duly constituted Government" was a "complete failure" since no instant full-scale uprising took place cannot hide the truth either of the widespread sympathy and support for the Vietcong, or the people's passion for freedom from the stranglehold of their own authoritarian Government and its U.S. protector. Nothing so clearly reveals the utter impotence of Thieu-Ky as the fact that the only thing they could think of doing to counteract the appeal to revolution was to order the bombing of their own country!

On the fifth day of the battle, Nhona, a largely Catholic suburb of Saigon, looked like "Stalingrad with palm trees." (NY Times, 2/4). Palm trees or otherwise, Nhona, like Stalingrad when it turned back the Nazi tide during World War II, was so devastated that tanks could not "sweep" through the rubble. Still the guerrillas were not "flushed out." What was flushed out, once and for all, was the pretense that the Saigon Government enjoyed the right of legitimacy in the eyes of the people of South Vietnam.

What the flares of battle illuminated, and the world's photographers recorded, was the shameless lawlessness of the corrupt Thieu-Ky puppet regime. But, though previously invisible to the world, labor had known, and suffered, from this state of lawlessness all along.

Thus, on Jan. 13, or 18 days before martial law was decreed and the Constitution suspended, the fascistic police invaded the headquarters of the General Federation of Trade Unions, seized the electrical workers who had engaged in a sitdown, and arrested the leaders who had scheduled a general strike in support of the electrical workers.

Today every one is familiar with the barbaric acts of the national police chief, Brig. Gen. Nguyen Ngoc Loan, who personally executed an alleged Vietcong officer, because the world's press recorded the street scene where this prisoner of war, his hands tied behind his back, was shot by this terrorist in uniform. But the savagery of Jan. 13, when Saigon police chief Lieutenant

(Continued on Page 5)



PROTEST Demonstration by Japanese Workers and Students.

Japanese Demonstrations

Shake the Empire: Students, Workers Fight Enterprise

Sasebo, Japan — Massive protests, led by the Zengakuren student movement in Japan, greeted the announcement by the Sato government that the U.S. nuclear-powered Enterprise was to arrive at Japan's Sasebo port city. Beginning on Jan. 15, with a large demonstration in Tokyo in which 131 were arrested, there followed a week of massive and bloody protests throughout Japan.

Though this was but one of a long series of confrontations between the Zengakuren and Japanese-American Imperialism, the Enterprise demonstrations represent a new, far more serious threat to the Sato government; a threat which they themselves realize. The demonstrations, though student-led, were joined by thousands of workers and townspeople. A Sato cabinet aide commented, "We must take serious note of the fact that even ordinary citizens took part in Sunday's disorder in Sasebo."

The following is a chronology of the Japanese demonstrations as reported in the newspaper, Zenshinsha.

Jan. 15: A large demonstration was held in Tokyo, at which 131 persons were arrested. At Kobe, 320 demonstrators rallied, while the Democratic Socialist Party held a demonstration at Sasebo.

Jan. 16: More than a thousand Zengakuren students arrived at Hakato from Tokyo. Hakato is 4 hours drive from Sasebo.

TEAR GAS WATER SPRAY
Jan. 17: The students arrived at Sasebo and clashed with the police at the Hirase bridge. Police set up barricades on the bridge, engaged the demonstrators amidst a barrage of tear gas

bombs and tear gas water spray from high-powered hoses; 27 students were arrested and several hundred were injured. One thousand demonstrators assembled at Kyushu University in Hakato; 350 students demonstrating at Kokkaido University in northern Japan were attacked by police. In Kyoto, 700 demonstrators were met by 400 police. 12,000 students, workers, and townspeople demonstrated in Tokyo.

Jan. 18: In Sasebo, a town of 250,000, more than 50,000 rallied at a stadium. The government announced that the Enterprise would be arriving at Sasebo the next day (Jan. 19). Demonstrators and police using tear gas water spray clashed on the Sasebo bridge; 13 persons were arrested; 5,000 demonstrated at Osaka, while 7,000 massed at the Yokosuka Naval base. At Tohoku University in Sendai, 800 students rallied. In 30 provinces there were 51 demonstrations at which 62,000 people protested, 126 were arrested.

SIT-IN AND SIT-DOWN
Jan. 19: The Enterprise arrived at Sasebo. Zengakuren students demonstrated on Sasebo bridge, eight were arrested. The demonstration moved to Sasebo municipal.

(Continued on Page 2)

DETROIT READERS:
Thursday, Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m.
Charles Denby: Report From The South
News & Letters 415 Brainard St. (corner Cass)

Japanese Demonstrations

Shake the Empire: Students, Workers Fight Enterprise

(Continued from Page 1) ipal building where demonstrators sat-in, then headed for streets where foreign bars are situated; police tried to clear streets, but demonstrators sat down in streets and would not be moved.

Jan. 20: Zengakuren students raised money at Sasebo train station, collecting 800,000 yen (over \$2,000). At Hokkaido, collect 700,000 yen. Two hundred more students arrived in Sasebo from Kyoto and Tokyo.

In Tokyo, 5,000 people rallied at Hibiya Park, then marched on the home of the Prime Minister and the American Embassy.

At Seino University the student body went on strike—against Enterprise and recent tuition raises. In Hajata, 1,300 students held a protest at American Embassy.

Jan. 21: Zengakuren students, workers, and townspeople demonstrated at the Sasebo bridge. Police aimed attacks at 25,000 organized workers, but were unable to get at them due to presence of townspeople.

Four Zengakuren students got into the naval base. Two more arrested. The brutality of the police aroused indignation of the

townspeople, 1,000 of whom remained, after the demonstrators left, to scream at police.

At Yokosuka, site of another U. S. naval base, 5,000 students, workers, and women's groups demonstrated.

SNAKE DANCE

Jan. 22: Demonstration by Democratic Socialist Party; 8,000 massed in a snake dance. The group clashed with police on the Hirase Bridge.

Jan. 23: The Enterprise left Sasebo to go to Korea.

Zenshin reported that, despite the formidable police opposition, the week-long demonstrations represented a major victory for the movement. Its success was due, in no small part, to the great numbers of workers and townspeople who had united with the students to voice their protest and anger against the Sato government and against police brutality. Day by day, more and more police were aroused to join the struggle. The united struggle of students, workers, and townspeople was not a limited local occurrence at Sasebo, but spread nationwide, developing into a mass struggle in the crucial areas.

Castro Accuses Mexico of Buckling To U.S.

Mexico City, Mexico — Mexico's refusal to sell pineapple shoots to Cuba was sharply assailed by Premier Castro recently. The incident occurred in Veracruz where a Cuban vessel was loading pineapple shoots purchased from Mexican growers.

Protests by the U.S. against the

sale were announced, an appeal was made to the Agricultural Ministry and the Industry and Commerce Ministry, and the shipments were ordered suspended. Shoots already aboard were unloaded.

U.S. ROLE

Castro in his speech published here referred to U.S. policy as "that imperialism which begins to be concerned about this country's economic development; that begins to feel defeated by the successes of this country; imperialism which devotes itself to the most ridiculous things, imperialism whose consuls run around even to try to sabotage the purchase of 25 cents worth of goods or of a million pesos worth; imperialism which organizes campaigns to prevent our acquisition of seeds, as was done by the consul in Veracruz in connection with the acquisition of certain quantities of Mexican seeds which our country was purchasing through normal legal channels."

In regard to Mexico, Castro said, "It was painful for us, very painful, to see these campaigns had their effect and how in the name of who-knows-what hypothetical competitive dangers, for a country which sells its pineapples to the United States, where we never expect to sell any pineapples until imperialism is ended; a country which furthermore received a substantial part of the sugar quota when the imperialism suspended ours, how sad that there should be opinions that we could be future competitors. A fine way for our underdeveloped countries to show unity!"

SATELLITES

The United States is undermining the social structure of developing countries in Latin America and elsewhere, giving them no meaningful alternative and condemning them to be satellites,

the Manufacturing Industry Chamber thinks.

Explaining the changes that occur within a society such as the one in Latin America, the study says that the traditional servant-master or mass-elite relationship begins deteriorating on exposure to different cultures.

What follows then is that the masses become restless and begin demanding a bigger share of the national wealth. Under these circumstances the elite can no longer control the masses and is faced with the alternative of fighting to develop a formula most beneficial for its masses or to adapt to survive the foreign onslaught.

NATIONAL ELITES

In Latin America the ways the national elites adapt to this situation is; they become super nationalists and in selected areas anti-American; they may even go so far as to nationalize key industries—economically reconquer their national territory. And in this the U.S. does not object too much.

In effect these national elites give what appears externally as Mexicanization, Chilization, etcization, which in reality is the maintenance of the local class structure. All of the national elites make grandiose plans for economic development which they intend, make no mistake, to carry out.

In all Latin American countries criticism of the foreign policy of the United States means no more than that the local national elites are finding it more difficult to maintain their choice position in society. It does not mean that they are for freedom or even understand what freedom is.

Above all these State-revolutionary parties have not and are not conducting a revolution. And Cuba fits into this category as well. What these national elites cannot deal with is the self-determination of their people.

The Voice of The Delano Grapevine

(The following are excerpts from the national newsletter of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee.)

Delano, Calif. — The Schenley Corporation, our first company under contract, brought in three pruning machines during the holiday season, replacing the labor of 60 men. The other hundred or so men at work there decided that they had a stake in the benefits of the machine. They demonstrated to the company that they wanted the displaced 60 men returned to the job. Following a short conference with Cesar Chavez, Schenley decided to rehire the men and to submit the questions raised by the machines to arbitration, which is now in progress.

After almost five months away from Delano, the boycotters who have been spread across the country and in Canada returned to Delano, where they met in a general meeting. They found that, although they had successfully closed off many major cities to Giumarra's scab grapes, the distributors had managed to find outlets in smaller, out-of-the-way areas. With as many as 70 people on boycott work, we don't have nearly the force necessary to cover all the smaller cities. What we do have, though, is a force adequate to cover the major distributors . . . and that is exactly what we shall attempt.

It was decided that 50 people would go to New York City, where Victor Joseph & Sons handles a large portion of Giumarra grape. The company also handles a very large percentage of all the produce shipped to that city. Our boycotters' job will be to let that distributor know—in terms of dollars and cents—that it does not pay to handle the morally contraband scab grape from Idaho.

Within two days after that decision, the 50 who volunteered for the job piled into "El Caballo" (the farm workers' bus). The bus left for an indefinite period to fight the Delano battle on a front 3,000 miles from the fields. Viva La Huelga! Viva La Causa!

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

Fr. Groppi vs. Hubbard, Lobsinger

The tension and crisis in the United States, and the world as a whole, is so thick it feels as though one must take a knife to cut through it.

Crime in the city is increasing at such an alarming pace that both black and white are afraid to be on the street after dark, and nervous when they are walking the streets in daylight. They are afraid of both white and black criminals, and the race-hating whites keep the fires ablaze under the pot of racial strife.

Many people are asking whether things are getting any better. My answer is no. Look at how Lobsinger and his right-wing group, called Breakthrough, openly threatened to stop Father James Groppi from talking in Detroit recently on the civil rights question. The police were there, waiting for him to start fighting, and put him in jail, to show people how they intend to break up demonstrations before the long hot summer comes. What they really want to do is stop the Negro people from doing anything.

STOP AND FRISK NEGROES

Mayor Hubbard of Dearborn has always thought that no one's life means as much as the white people in Dearborn. They have just passed a stop and frisk law, but the only people they would stop and frisk are Negroes, and since no Negroes live in Dearborn their new law must be for keeping any Negroes from even going through Dearborn.

Mayor Hubbard also says that they are going to teach all their white women how to shoot a gun, to protect themselves from hoodlums and snipers. They have talked about starting one for Detroit, too. If they do, I may go down to sign up. I think Negro women need protection, too.

But everyone knows that Hubbard means Negroes, when he talks about hoodlums, because everyone knows that white people never do such low-down things! All the crime in the streets is laid on the backs of the black people. No matter how white some of the killers and hold-up men are, the black race

must take the blame for everything.

USING THE WHIP

A child would know that that is no way to do away with crime. But the white man seems to think that by picking on the black man, everything will be solved.

The white man in Mississippi is now talking about using the whip to bring the Negro back under his law. But he doesn't know how wrong he is, if he thinks he could ever get the black man back to slavery. He doesn't even know how stupid he is to let the whole world know that is what he wants.

That would start the biggest war in the world, in our own country, because Negroes will never let this country go back to that old-time way of life. The whole world would be burned up in a few days, and the whites that were left would have to start from the beginning just like the black people. Then it would be done as the good book says: do unto others as you would have others do unto you, but it would be a little late.

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Miners Fight Scab Coal With Big Strike

Uniontown, Pa. — Rising anger against many grievances by coal miners exploded to spread from what first appeared to be a simple representation issue at two non-union mines in Pennsylvania into a huge wildcat strike which spread from Pennsylvania into West Virginia, Ohio, Virginia and Tennessee within a week and brought national soft coal production to a virtual standstill.

The fuse that lit the smoldering explosive force was the Solar Fuel Co. in southern Pennsylvania. About a year ago, at a representative election held by the National Labor Relations Board, the Solar miners voted to have the United Mine Workers Union represent them. But the company delayed UMW recognition, and then began to support efforts of a rival organization, the Southern Miners Union. This is the "union" that coal operators in Tennessee supported and set up to oppose the United Mine Workers in the early 60s. It is the same union the operators in eastern Kentucky tried to force on the miners when the UMW was broken in that region and the miners were left as the complete slaves of the coal operators.

WEAK UNION

It is easy to understand why the Solar Fuel Co. preferred the Southern Miners Union. This union is weak; cannot enforce any decisions the men make that may be against the company. In other words, from the very beginning, the miners would know that they had no chance whatsoever in a battle with the company. Whatever the company would say would be law, and if a miner didn't accept it, he'd simply be fired.

Other UMW miners in the coal region heard about the developments at the two non-union mines, and in the last week of January a few union pickets appeared at the mines to close them down. A court injunction was thrown against the pickets, but the next day a hundred pickets showed up at the mines—and so did the same number of state police. Bloody battles resulted in the arrest of many pickets the first day; the next day there were many more pickets, more battles and some 300 pickets arrested, with the mine operations also suffering damage from fires that broke out.

WILDCAT STRIKE

By this time, miners throughout the whole coal region were rising up against the use of police as strike breakers; striking miners in Pennsylvania were joined by others in West Virginia and Ohio. Tens of thousands came out in a sympathy wildcat strike.

As the strike continued, the whole matter of scab (non-union) coal production came under fire—and the UMW itself came in for a few lumps from the miners. This was so because the union's record with small mines is far from clean. During the lean mining years of the 50s and early 60s, the union permitted small coal mine operators to pay their miners wages far below what the workers in bigger mines got—so long as these small coal mine operators paid into the UMW Welfare Fund, which was and is 40c per ton of coal mined (the Welfare Fund pays for miners' pensions and for other needs like medical care).

This below union scale pay produced much bitterness at the time, and the union is now reaping what it helped sow in those

years. The fact is that in the early 50s, about 7 percent of the coal mined in the nation came from scab operations. Now about 30 percent of the 550 million tons of soft coal mined comes from scab operations. This is a big chunk of money that is not going into the Welfare Fund—and union miners are the ones who are suffering from practices permitted by the UMW bureaucrats years ago.

Adding further fuel to the anger of the miners was the death of one of the pickets at the struck mines resulting from a heart attack—while police reportedly ignored the obvious emergency assistance the man needed.

STRIKE SPREADS

The strike continued to spread, moving into Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. The UMW union leadership, starting with President "Tony" Boyle and on down to his district bureaucrats, now feared the loss of control over the men and began to apply pressure. Threats against the miners were now hurled, charging illegal and unauthorized work stoppages; appeals to return to work to avoid law suits against the UMW under the Taft-Hartley Act were emphasized.

While the UMW won in forcing the coal company to recognize it, other mine union leaders found

Two N.Y. Strikes

Sanitation Men Walk Out; Press Demands

New York, N.Y. — On Friday morning, Feb. 2, 7,000 of New York City's 10,000 sanitationmen demonstrated in front of city hall. It was only 6:30 a.m., but these guys were wide awake — and angry.

One guy I talked with told me, "We've been working without a contract since last June. The city tells us they haven't got any money; and the judges tell us that if we strike we'll be breaking the law and they'll put us all in jail."

Workers said that Union President John DeLury had been dragging his feet in the contract negotiations, and the city had them over a barrel because "if you can't strike, you haven't got any power."

STRIKE VOTE

DeLury got out of his chauffeur-driven car and climbed up on the sound truck. He tried to tell everybody that they couldn't go on strike without taking a mail strike vote. One guy yelled: "Almost everybody in the whole damn union is right here—why can't you take the strike vote now?" DeLury wouldn't answer, and started to go into city hall to see the mayor.

Workers started yelling: "We're on strike anyway." Others were more blunt in word and deed. If the cops hadn't rescued the honorable president, he might have been stuffed in a garbage truck.

Around noon, when DeLury finally came back outside, the workers were still there waiting for him. He reported that the city had rejected the offer. But somehow he forgot all about the "mail vote" rule of a few hours ago.

It seems that the men were right. There was no such rule in Teamsters Local 831 constitution. Now, after taking a look at the crowd, he was gung-ho to strike. As soon as he shouted, "I accept the motion for go-go-go," the men cheered and applauded him.

STRIKE EFFECTIVE

Mayor Lindsay appealed to the men to return to work, and predicted that the next day would find most of the men on the job.

the circumstances to their liking also. They and the rank-and-file stayed out to show their own local grievances against unsafe conditions and production speed-up.

By now, however, on Feb. 4, the steam had pretty much gone out of the strike. Local unions held meetings, with UMW district representatives attending meetings of the most influential and militant local unions to try to convince the strikers to return to work.

FIRE COMMITTEEMEN

This paid off for the International UMW and the coal operators. The miners voted to return to work. But all did not end just yet, for two mine committeemen at the Robena mine in Pennsylvania, the largest mine in the U.S., were fired by the company, which charged that they were among pickets who refused to let Robena bosses go into the Robena mine during the strike.

Anything can happen. The contract of the UMW and the coal operators will expire this year, and miners are anxious to catch up with economic gains as well as do something about making their conditions of work safer and having a greater voice in how they can be speeded up to match the speed and punishment of automated coal mining as it exists with the demands of the continuous miner.

On The Line

Strike Action Is Only Way Company Settles Grievances

By John Allison

Workers are supposed to live on a 40-hour week pay. However, in Chrysler we have had a steady diet of overtime — in most cases it's been seven days a week. But here again, we see the workers being robbed of what rightfully belongs to them. Or, to use a parable that most people know in a different way, the corporation will give unto those who have; but for those who have not, that which they do have will be taken from them.

For example, if a whole department is scheduled to work on a Saturday by the company, the contract says all of the workers in that department are required to work. But if one worker is ill or something and stays home, and a worker with a lower rate pay is put on the job to fill in, the corporation is saying it will not pay the higher rate the job calls for on overtime days. In other words, management is getting the same production, but is trying to get it at a lower rate. The workers will never allow this.

COMPANY TRICKS

And this is only one instance. The fact is that the company has more ways to cheat workers out of wages they work hard for than this article has space to reveal. But we can list a couple to show what we mean.

Take paid holidays. When a

worker is off before or after a holiday due to excused illness or if he is even on vacation, the company will not pay him for the holiday pay when he returns to work. A grievance has to be written before the company will even consider the matter—and it takes two months or more before the worker gets the money that is due him.

Another trick the company uses regularly is to somehow "forget" to add the money a worker is due when there is a rate scale change. Say a worker moves from one classification to a higher paying one. He will necessarily get the increase—until he files another grievance and goes through procedure to get his back money.

The fact is that a worker may not always remember exactly which day it was that the rate change went into effect—or if it was at the first of the shift, or half way through—or just when it happened. And the company will argue that the change didn't take place when the worker claims it did, but that it was later. And so you have a grievance, another two months for a settlement.

CLASSIFICATION MESS

The factory workers in the Big 3 are again seeing the old shell game where the workers and wages meet. This is to say, all workers live by the classification they work on, not by the 20c raise we received in the new contract. But Automation has made a shambles of our classification system in the auto shops across the country.

For example, job setters are paid more than the workers on the line. The new contract spells it out: old job setters get the old rate, which is 15% above the group average. But the new job setters doing this work get about 40c per hour less for the same effort and work. Only to really foul things up, because of the line arrangement and new machines, management in many cases took 2c from the old job setters and gave this 2c to the new job setters.

Every time a new machine comes in the shop and is placed on the line, production goes up, but some work wages come down because of the way the machine is classified. With this classification of the new machine deciding the worker's wage rate, the worker is forced to accept the new classification and new wage rate—and this means a cut in pay.

STRIKE ACTION

More and more workers are saying that the only way to deal with the Big 3 is trial by combat. This is to say that the corporations only respond to strike action.

When the International Union and the corporations signed their agreement, before a week went by, everyone in the shops was so angry that the union officers were being forced by the rank-and-file to take a strike vote.

Trying to settle the grievances as one shot deals does nothing but make the workers suffer, and shop problems just keep on getting worse. The corporation plays cat-and-mouse with union officials and the single worker whose grievance is up. They don't pussyfoot around so much when there is a strike action.

That was Feb. 2, and today, Feb. 6, the garbage is piled high all over the city of New York.

Some reporter asked the Mayor if the strike was effective. "Only 99%" he said.

The militancy of the men who organized themselves for the demonstration on Feb. 2, and forced the strike against the wishes of the pie-cards, must have been very clear to the city government.

Last fall the teachers showed that the anti-strike Taylor Law wouldn't run the schools, and now the sanitationmen showed that it wouldn't pick up the garbage or clean the streets. Neither will clapping Union President DeLury in jail for 15 days.

Even before the strike began, the men had started a slow-down on the job, enforcing every safety

rule in the book. They very carefully picked up the garbage can covers, laid them gently and quietly down on the sidewalk, picked up the cans—one at a time—and walked to the garbage trucks, being careful to look both ways before crossing the street.

UNSAFE EQUIPMENT

But more important, they refused to operate unsafe equipment. One worker said: "Half of those trucks are either falling apart or they've got machinery for compressing the garbage that is always jamming—people get hurt all the time."

Last year there were over 2,000 accidents on the job—one accident for every two men. The self-organization of the men against unsafe working conditions and rotten wages showed that they mean to win.

Taxi Drivers Don't Gain in Rate Hike

New York, N.Y. — After months of hearings by the New York City Council, a decision was reached on the taxi fare increase. Taxi rates were increased by 25 percent, supposedly to enable the taxi companies to give their drivers the raise that was negotiated six months ago. But, according to several cab drivers we talked to, they have actually suffered a loss in wages as a result of the fare increase.

As is frequently the case in labor disputes, the public feels that it has been victimized both by the companies but by the taxi union. In consequence, people won't tip the drivers and their real wages go down.

"UNHOLY ALLIANCE"

It appears that the city government and the taxi owners formed an "unholy alliance" to victimize both the workers and the public. According to the companies, they were "too poor" to raise wages without raising fares.

The drivers know this is nonsense, and the city certainly does too, but, once again, labor was made the scapegoat of public

wrath while the "poor" companies continue to turn a huge profit at the expense of the public.

One driver suggested that the union boss, Harry Van Arsdale, was an amicable partner to the whole arrangement. From the very beginning of the contract negotiations, it seemed that Van Arsdale was on the side of the taxi owners.

At one meeting of the drivers, when it was obvious that everyone wanted to strike, Van Arsdale refused to take a strike vote. A fight began in the hall, chairs were thrown at the union officials, and they needed a police escort to get out of the hall.

DRIVERS WILDCAT

The next day, drivers from many companies wildcated. Only then did Van Arsdale seem motivated to negotiate in earnest. When the companies finally agreed to the drivers' demands, it was with the understanding that the city would allow them to raise the taxi fares.

Well, the fares were raised, salaries were raised, but the drivers are on the losing end again. A large proportion of their income was in tips, and now the tips have gone down.

EDITORIAL

Stop "Stop And Frisk"

The current proposal by Detroit city authorities for a "stop and frisk" law is just "one more form of retribution for last summer" in the words of one Detroit auto worker. "Everybody I know is opposed to it."

Detroit Negroes know all about "crime in the streets"—for they are not only the victims of the majority of the muggings, rapes and robberies that are said to be mounting in every city across the country—they are also the victims of the majority of the police brutality that is the "way of life" in the Negro ghettos, North and South. That is the real "crime in the streets." They know only too well that their neighborhoods have never been given the police protection which they want, and that "stop and frisk" means nothing but open season on Negroes.

NOTHING NEW IN POLICE BRUTALITY

Police harassment and brutality against Negroes is nothing new for Detroit. In 1961, the year of increasing civil rights activities everywhere, Police Commissioner Hart ordered the force on an "emergency footing"—and at once thousands of Negroes were stopped on the streets and near their homes, insulted, manhandled and searched by police. In the first week alone, over a thousand were arrested—and 96 percent subsequently released.

What is new this time is not only that an actual law on the books is being sought for the first time—which most legal advisors feel sure would eventually be declared unconstitutional—but that it is part of a pattern of nation-wide escalation of the war-right-here-at-home.

The chilling atmosphere of national "retribution" and repression was seen in the spontaneous standing ovation that Congress gave to President's Johnson's declaration that there is "no more urgent business before the Congress than to pass the Safe Streets Act" and to double the funds for it. It was, in fact, the only ovation they gave him. Complete and ominous silence greeted the few hypocritical words LBJ deigned to give to "civil rights."

Even more chilling is the fact that police agencies across the country are making no secret that the "crime in the streets" they are preparing for is the long hot summer that may come at any season. In Detroit, where last summer's revolt ended with 43 dead, \$790,000 has been approved for new police riot-control equipment. In Newark \$220,000 has been allocated.

VIETNAM USED AS TESTING-GROUND

When black workers in Detroit charge that "the government is trying out weapons in Vietnam and then bringing them back to use on us," they are absolutely right. Following the Detroit revolt, the Cadillac Gage Company began manufacturing, for police use, a modified version of their "Commando" tank, which is being used in Vietnam. Armored cars—some even with flame-throwers—have been ordered in Philadelphia and Los Angeles, helicopters in Chicago. One police department is seeking an armed helicopter similar to those being used in Vietnam.

The total barbarism of our society can be seen in the description of one tank designed especially for the domestic warfront, the 20-ton "R-2" unit, which carries 15 men, has a steel-hull, seven armored gun ports and rotating turret, can blanket itself with fire-extinguishing chemicals, be electrified to shock anyone touching it from the outside, emit a high frequency noise humans cannot tolerate, and discharge a chemical which will displace all oxygen in the area in which it is released.

WHO ARE THE RIOTERS?

It is clear that whether or not the revolt breaks out spontaneously across the nation again this summer, the forces of "law and order" are getting well-prepared to create open warfare. So tense is the situation in Detroit—where, even without waiting for a "stop and frisk law," police harassment of Negro youth has increased alarmingly (see story, page 6)—that an administrative assistant to Congressman John Conyers has charged: "There is a certain element within the police department bent on starting a new riot, so they can use their new guns and equipment against Negroes." And a member of the Detroit Council of PTAs added: "It is my opinion that we are living in a quasi-police state, over which officialdom has no control."

Congress seems equally hell-bent to create chaos this summer. While more and more funds are thus spent on guns and tanks for both war-fronts, funds for "fighting poverty" (pitiful enough even in the hey-day of Great Society programming) have been slashed further and further. It takes a truly vindictive Congress to cut more than \$75 million from the funds which had been used to create teen-age employment through the Youth Corps, at the very time that teen-age unemployment—and especially among Negro youth—is increasing over even the levels of last summer, from 25 to 35 percent!

Like the "pacification programs" in Vietnam, the pacification programs in the U. S. have turned out to be bigger and bigger clubs with which to beat down all protest. The New Statesman, in London, has suggested that Americans "face a summer in which all their home strategic reserve of troops may have to be committed to preserving order in their big cities; they may even have to bring units from overseas if several major race riots break out at once."

With the increasing revolt in the black ghettos, as well as the increasing momentum of the anti-war demonstrations, and the expected convergence of the battles with the Administration in the year ahead, that may well prove true.

Samuel Hammond, 18, freshman at South Carolina State College

Henry Smith, 18, Sophomore at South Carolina State College

Delano Middleton, 17, Orangeburg high school student

Murdered by state police in Orangeburg, S.C., Feb. 8, 1968, during a demonstration to integrate a bowling alley and enforce the Civil Rights Law of 1964; some 50 other students were also wounded by rampaging police.

WAR AND ANTI-WAR

As of tonight, February 5, U.S. troops are reported in control of 16 complete blocks of the city of Hue. The rest of the city is in the hands of the people: students, workers, and NLF forces.

Hue has always been, along with Danang, a center of revolt against the corrupt Thieu-Ky government in Saigon. These same forces held the city over two years ago in the abortive "Buddhist" revolt. Ever since then the city has been under severe repression and the Saigon government has just been looking for an excuse to crack down for good.

If the U.S. Marines can retake Hue, it will only be by complete destruction of the city (they've already bombed most of it to rubble.) I'm afraid for what will happen then.

I'm sure that between the U.S. and the Saigon maniacs they will manage to exterminate everyone they suspect in Hue, and herd the rest in the city off to "relocation areas."

What this means for us is that we've got to fight harder than ever to end the war before there is nothing left of Vietnam.

Activist
New York

It looks to me as if Johnson has created this Korean crisis to test public sentiment. He would be in a better election position if he could find a more popular war. Korea, while it wasn't exactly a popular war, didn't have all this opposition. Perhaps he thinks a war with Korea would unite the people since Vietnam hasn't. I don't think so.

Korean War Vet
New York

Since the massive Vietcong offensive began in South Vietnam, the credibility gap here has grown wider and wider.

The other night, while watching the news on T.V., we saw General Westmoreland tell a news correspondent that Saigon was again "securely in the hands of the U.S. forces." His next sentence was left unfinished as we watched him duck fast when a Vietcong rocket soared whistling over his head and exploded nearby.

Is it possible that all the U.S. officials in Saigon and in Washington are similarly shell-shocked?

Observer
New York

THE BLACK REVOLT

Chicago has been a pretty racist place lately. A bussing program was supposed to bring some black children into underutilized white schools; it was "postponed" because of large protests by the white neighborhoods.

A local Congressman came out against it, Cardinal Cody for it, and Mayor Daley said "the wishes of the majority should be followed." For a while the City Council refused to pass the budget because of it.

In a separate incident yesterday, some grade school children who transferred to a white school were met by a mob of screaming mothers—just like Little Rock. Absolutely everyone is predicting this city to blow up this summer.

Apparently there was not much action last summer be-

cause every time the slightest thing happened, everyone in the area was arrested, and because the very efficient Democratic machine got a lot of poverty money and put all the gang leaders on the payroll. No one expects that to work anymore.

Law Student
Chicago

These young kids in Pennsylvania are getting very hostile to white people for no reason at all. I mean personal. They all talk about what has happened to their forefathers, they all want to wear Afro-haircuts like Rap Brown.

When they come to our house we try to talk to them, but . . .

If the right person were to come to Pittsburgh I don't know, maybe something could break out here this summer.

Negro Steelworker
Pittsburgh

Detroit's "open-housing" law passed by the Common Council will be put to a vote in September due to petitions accumulated by the so-called "law abiding citizens" who are trying to repeal it.

The administration, news media, and some analysts of the July rebellion in Detroit are still asking how and why could this have happened to a "racially model city."

One of the answers is in what the "law-abiding citizens" are doing.

White Mother
Detroit

WORKERS' STRIKES

Both the bourgeois and the radical press have refused to really cover the seven month struggle of copper workers in the West against Kennecott, Anaconda, and the other big copper giants.

Most people don't know that the Chilean copper workers were on strike for the first month of the American worker's strike. They were sent back with a lousy contract by their union so that the U.S. government could be sure of a steady copper flow for the Vietnam war.

The one way that copper workers in both countries could have helped themselves and the Vietnamese would have been to stick together. A real international union, instead of the fake internationals we have, would be a great blow against the bosses.

Observer
New York

You certainly had a great position on the auto contract. News and Letters is the best paper I read. It looks like we are going to have to fight for all the things we fought for in the Ford strike all over again.

Auto worker
New Jersey

THE MIDDLE EAST

There seems to me to be little danger of Soviet-American armed confrontation in the Mediterranean for the near future. Rather it seems to me that one thing was decided upon at Glassboro: a temporary redivision of spheres of influence in the world for the two superpowers.

Russia agreed to give America a relatively free hand in Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

America agreed to give Russia a relatively free hand in the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

Of course all this does not mean that there will not eventually be a war between the United States and Russia in general or in the Middle Eastern regions in particular.

As Lenin said in his book *Imperialism*, alliances or detentes between imperialist states cannot last. They are "inevitably nothing more than a 'truce' in periods between wars. Peaceful alliances prepare the ground for wars, and in their turn grow out of wars; the one is the condition for the other, giving rise to alternating forms of peaceful and non-peaceful struggle..."

But for the moment at least it seems that they have agreed to give each other relatively free hands in attempts to establish respective spheres of influence in two separate parts of the world, the Mediterranean and Southeast Asia.

A. M.
Philadelphia

If the situation in the Middle East continues or gets more difficult, the imperialist countries will look always more towards Africa for petroleum. And Africa, with its weak governments, might present us with one of the most really revolutionary movements going on today.

M.C.
Italy

LIFE IN BRITAIN

The Glasgow zephyr was quite a shock. The River Clyde was the center of activity, and the slums, tenements and shacks which straddle the Clyde received most of the beating.

There were plenty of folks living in those hovels. The debris that was called their living quarters is now officially debris. One would hope that those who survived the disaster can now find adequate housing, which Glasgow needs terribly.

The "crime rate" is supposed to be very high there, and there is practically no recreation for youth. The statistics remind you of New York, or Detroit or Chicago. Traveler
Britain

The "I'm Backing Britain" campaign is reaching new depths of absurdity. In fact, it's downright pathetic. People are advertising their contribution to the government in order to save the economy!

The biggest shock—and shame—is that some factory owners have convinced their workers that the latter ought to work an extra half hour a week free, to back Britain. Some 50 factories are said to have succeeded in this madness.

The saddest part is that while the stockholders are making money, the prices are increasing, not decreasing. However, the second largest union here (Electrical workers) came out and said nothing doing.

I really can't understand it. The unions here fought for years for the five day week and only achieved it three years ago. And now they're hanging themselves.

One out of every 17 people

Views

here work for an American company, which means that 6% of the economy is U.S. owned. Thus, the real conflict here is between money-making, profiteering, capitalism vs. paper socialism.

It looks as though Wilson has had it. The newspapers (in fact all media) are sick of him. The cry is: Back to the Tories. It's an opportune time for nationalist groups to move in, and they're loud now—and growing in Wales as well as in Scotland.

American
England

HIGH SCHOOL UNDERGROUND

Our high school paper had had difficulties. I had hoped it would encourage many students to start thinking and writing, but very few actually wrote anything. Recently, however, some new people have demonstrated an interest in reviving the paper.

We are trying to turn it into an area-wide high school paper in hopes of drawing on a greater pool of talent, getting wider circulation, and breaking down isolation. If it is alright with you, we may reprint Wendell's "School vs. Education" from Nov. N&L.

The more we agitate, the more repressive the school administration becomes. So far it has banned from school grounds: political literature, student political organizations, non-student writing, attacks on the administration or student government, "obscenity," and any literature like the enclosed anti-draft announcement which upsets parents.

All Fall I have been looking for a lawyer to help sue for freedom of speech and assembly. We are about ready to file suit now.

Please renew my subscription.

High School Student
Virginia

THE PRESIDENCY

In 1964, we voted for Johnson cause he was supposed to be better than Goldwater. But what that N.J. worker said in Jan. N&L is true: he was just the same.

Now, I say, vote No for President. If you vote NO, you say we don't want a President, cause they will all follow the same line of war and racism.

Hospital worker
New York City

It's obviously no small coincidence that the United States chose to recognize the fascist Greek Junta within days of the indictment of Coffin.

Having already put Leroi Jones in jail, one wonders how near the day is when, like their fascist Greek friends, they shall decide to jail us all. We can draw a lesson from the Greeks, however; they wouldn't have bothered to put their opposition in jail if they had not felt badly threatened by them.

So, perhaps the indictment of Spock, Coffin and the others means that, to some degree at least, the anti-war movement is beginning to pose a real threat Johnson and his Junta.

Housewife
New York

INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE FROM ITALY, ISRAEL, VENEZUELA

I have just received from New York the November issue of News & Letters. "But the revolution in America is not about to short circuit itself before it has ever gained sufficient momentum to achieve the goal of total freedom." I am with you on that, in spite of the fact that capitalism seems to be younger than a lot of people in the movement want to recognize.

That simply means that they think it is possible to overthrow it by focusing the struggle on the weakest link of the chain (underdeveloped areas). The problem is just the opposite: to bring capitalism to its knees just where it seems to be strongest. On this we certainly agree.

Student
Italy

Raya Dunayevskaya's analysis of the Middle East crisis is about the only one on the left that is free of left demonology (one plot against Sukarno, Nkrumah, and now against Nasser, etc.) on one hand, and of toeing a West-Is-Best line on the other.

Her analysis of Guevara's failure is the only intelligent criticism of subjectivism in the modern left.

I also find the stress on humanism to be the most promising trend after the ideological collapse of so many left movements that become emptied of their purpose, consistent outlook and oriented passion and become mere protest movements—oriented or not, as the case may be—of one of the existing socialist establishments.

You will probably object to my calling certain regimes "socialist" . . . Whatever objection we have to the goings on in the socialist countries (and there we can hardly disagree, in fact, the apologists of the socialist establishments differ only there in defense of their Soviet Union or China or Cuba while agreeing about the rest with other left critics) the brunt of our critique should be directed against the goings on in the Socialist Establishments as they are in actual content, or criticism of Socialist regimes from a more progressive post-Socialist point of view.

I agree with Raya Dunayevskaya that many fundamental phenomena of Socialist Social Structure do not depart from the capitalist pattern . . . The key reason for the common features of socialism and capitalism consists in the fact that the means of production in both regimes are still the

same, and therefore the social structure of socialism is still fettered to the solution of many problems in the old way (that's no apology for them—as a member of a kibbutz I know quite well how much further one could go from the same economic basis.)

Here in Israel the situation on the left is clearing up. A new status quo ruling party is being organized. It will be a conglomerate of all Socialist conservative bureaucracies of Israel and of the new technocratic groups that try to challenge them to new—meaning U.S. style—corporate managerial patterns.

To save the bureaucrats, Mapam will probably form an alliance with this party, at the next convention in March 20, aiming at an installment plan of full integration in the ruling party and establishment. My estimate is that a 2/3 majority, unfortunately, will back this decision. How many people will react resolutely is a matter that will have a lot to do with the future of Israel's genuine Left.

M. C.
Israel

How is it possible that Che Guevara, the man who was an agent of counter-revolutionary Stalinism, should be at the same time a symbol of the revolution for News & Letters?

You present Guevara in your November issue obituary as the symbol of the anti-imperialist struggle, whereas he was only the symbol of the inter-imperialist struggle: a part of the imperialist block calling itself "socialist" against the American block.

All unilateral struggles against one block, whether they hide under the name of anti-American-imperialist or anti-Russian totalitarianism are only so many mystifications designed to lead the workers into massacres and wars for the benefit of one side or the other.

Guevara is the symbol of that mystification. His program of opening "two, three, or four more Vietnams" in the world will be carried out with glee tomorrow by Johnson, who is, himself, interested in and obliged to escalate the war each day.

The proletariat has nothing to do with these sentimental panegyrics on the "heroic life" and "martyrdom" of Guevara. Every class has its heroes and martyrs; let the Russian state-capitalists mourn and bury its own martyrs!

Friend
Venezuela

U.S. Bombs South Vietnam As People Wage Civil War

(Continued from Page 1)

Col. Nguyen Van Luan, rounded up the striking workers, at gun point, forcing them to return to work or go to jail, was not photographed by the world's press.

Today the world has been made witness to the consequences of the order for indiscriminate destruction of everything that stands in the way of the Thieu clique, from the headquarters of the militant Buddhists—the An Quang Pagoda—because it allegedly harbored the Vietcong, to the humblest hut of a non-political peasant.

Today one watches the totalitarianism and oppressive presence of the South Vietnamese Government and U.S. military might that is destroying the country, killing the people, ravaging the land, creating tens of thousands of new refugees.

And then one comes face-to-face with a three-fold increase in the price of bread which makes it necessary for these bombed-out people to roam the streets hungry while those who can afford the price eat all they want. The unavoidable question is: why should a government that can unleash such destructive power be powerless to stop black marketeering, decree rationing so that all are at least assured the bare necessities of life? And the answer is just as inescapable. This governmental clique represents nobody but itself.

GROSS CORRUPTION

The rampant corruption didn't suddenly break out on the day of battle. For years now the Thieu-Ky regime has lined its pockets with as much as 75 per cent of the \$30 million the U.S. sent South Vietnam for "refugee programs," has dispensed jobs of power for a price, has sold military deferments, had its wrath aroused only when the workers demanded a 12 per cent increase in wages to counteract chronic inflation.

It is the action of these sawdust Caesars that explains why, whatever terrorist acts the Vietcong may have committed, it is Government, not Vietcong, barbarism which precludes any "victory" for either the Thieu-Ky clique or its U.S. protectors.

McNAMARA'S BIG LIE

Three days after the Vietcong started its many-pronged assault, the departing Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara, made his annual and final report to the Congress. Although mainly concerned with Big Power politics—how destructive and numerous are the stockpiles of H-bombs and missiles of U.S. vs. Russia—McNamara did take time out to apprise us about the situation in South Vietnam.

So overwhelmed by the holiness of computers is this former "Whiz Boy" that, even as the headlines brought news of the wide acceptance of the Vietcong by the people, McNamara continued to repeat the Big Lie of the success of the so-called pacification program.

It appears that the computerized heads of the Administration had a new, "more valid standard of measurement" by which to judge the success of the "pacification program." It is called "the hamlet evaluation system;" went into effect early in 1967; and "indicates that about 67 per cent of the people of South Vietnam live under allied military protection."

No blue pencil was used to modify, much less eliminate, the lying claim, yet by the time the report was delivered, it should have been clear to the most obtuse worshipper of computerized data that this "allied military protection" doesn't amount to a

hill of beans, or, what is more to the point, to a few grains of rice which would still the hunger pains of at least some of the "67 per cent of the people of South Vietnam" so protected.

On the contrary, the Big Lie is further extended to slander the whole people: "No matter how great the resources we commit to the struggle we cannot provide the South Vietnamese with the will to survive . . ."

It doesn't seem to dawn on McNamara that the sense of nationhood and the will to survive includes independence from both the "protection" and the destruction of the U.S. military occupiers. In his total disregard of the peace this nation yearns for, this civilian head of the armed forces is as one with the military brass.

CIVIL WAR VS. MILITARY MYOPIA

Until they are finally swept away, generals have a way of describing every humiliating defeat as a brilliant victory. Thus, despite the fact that even the U.S. Embassy was unprepared for the surprise Vietcong attack, General Westmoreland blandly maintained that he had known "all along" that the attack was coming. Thus, during the continuing spectacular successes of the Vietcong on the first, second, third days of battle, he kept repeating that "the enemy" had "run out of steam."

And thus, despite the far-flung battles that covered the length and breadth of South Vietnam, the U.S. military commander in South Vietnam insisted that all these battles from Saigon to Danang, from Hue to Kontum, from Nahrang and Pleiku to Dalat and Bienhoa—in a word in very nearly every well-populated region as well as at air bases—that all these battles were just "diversionary" and the "principal" battle would take place at Khe Sanh.

The discussion about what is "diversionary" and what is "principal" is pointless. Where a civil war is the issue, the whole point is this—and it holds true where it is only a guerrilla war or is already a full social revolution—no stand is diversionary. Or, to put it differently, all stands on the road to freedom are diversionary, and therefore none are.

Because civil war is not mainly a military operation and involves the whole population, it can and must and does take place simultaneously in many places. Because the aim is freedom, there are no "diversionary" battles; all are principled. Dienbienphu wasn't lost because France was weaker militarily than the U.S. although it was that too. It was lost because its generals then, like the Americans now, were involved in a military engagement while the Vietnamese were fighting a liberation struggle.

In a word, the question isn't whether Khe Sanh is the real diversion, or turns out, after all, to be the "principal" (though not the principled) military confrontation.

Whether or not there will be a military confrontation at the spot where both North Vietnam and the U.S. have amassed regular troops and impressive weaponry; whether or not LBJ got a signed assurance from the Joint Chiefs of Staff that Khe Sanh will be held! And even irrespective of whether or not it will be "another Dienbienphu," the point is that the Vietnam war has already been lost in the cities of South Vietnam.

Which doesn't mean either that the U.S. has been defeated

(Continued on Page 8)

News & Letters

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NEW BEGINNINGS

by Eugene Walker

TASKS OF MARXIST YOUTH GROUP

In the last issue of News & Letters there was a proposal for the formation of a national Marxist-Humanist Youth organization. A number of inquiries have been received and I would like to discuss the reasons for such a group and the tasks faced by it.

While youth have been in the center of the Movement since 1960, they are today the vast majority both in active participation and in trying to give direction to the movement. In the anti-war movement it is not just a matter of university students, but of a very large group of high school students who are active. It even extends to younger elements as can be seen in the article by a junior high school student in this issue.

ELEVEN YEARS OLD

Another example occurred recently on the Smothers Brothers television show. An eleven-year-old from the audience was asked what he thought of the world situation. He answered that he thought that it was very bad, especially the Vietnam War. He was then asked what should be done about it and his response was that we should end the war.

The youth from pre-teens on up are becoming more and more aware of the world they live in, and more and more conscious that their task is to help to change it.

The challenge of trying to establish a Marxist-Humanist youth group to aid in this is a hard, serious one. A first step is to break with the distortions, slanders and slogans which either vilify or pass for Marxism.

To do this, the writings of Marx must be presented. His development of a philosophy of human liberation must be matched against the claims of those who say they are practicing Marxism. The totality of his philosophy must be viewed against those who wish to extract this or that portion of his thought as the essence of Marxism for today.

MARX FOR TODAY

A second step for young Marxist-Humanists is a dynamic application and development of Marx's thought for our day. His ideas cannot be the academician's private property. Nor can they be only food for debate among isolated radical intellectuals. The task of realizing his philosophy is one for the Movement as a whole. In this an organization of Marxist-Humanist youth has no small role to play.

Theirs must be the task of infusing the pluri-dimensionalism of Marxism into a Movement whose possibility for fulfillment resides in breaking out of its pragmatic mold into a fully con-

scious human activity for full freedom.

They must show that a philosophy of human activity to be free is as necessary as the concrete activity, be that Resistance, mobile tactics, sit-ins or what have you. This is not to say that we should drop all activity and read Marx. The need is for a unity of theory and practice.

* * *

A group of students — high school and others—have begun this task by publishing the first two issues of *The Young Marxist-Humanist*. Included in these issues are articles on Patriotism, American Youth, the Draft, plus a greeting: "The Heritage and The Challenge" by Raya Dunayevskaya. Copies and information about Marxist-Humanism can be obtained from B. Wendell, 358 S. Doheny Dr., Beverly Hills, Cal. 90212.

The Emptiness of Jr. High School

Detroit, Mich. — Many things have been said by and about graduating students. The basic thing said at graduation time is the many wonderful things done to the graduate, and his looking forward to his new school.

Why, though, should one, only at graduation time, say the school has done a good job for him, while the rest of the year he thinks the system is not functioning as it should? The answer is that the students put on a good show for the faculty, parents, and other students who are watching.

LOVE SCHOOL?

For an hour or two everyone loves the school and thinks highly of what it has done. The youth are then ready to face the new school with high hopes. The speech has been set down by earlier generations of students and is still being used today.

Nowdays, however, students are thinking for themselves, and they cannot be held down by principles they don't agree with. This new generation of free thinkers say and write what they think is best.

CHANGE SOCIETY

The youth today cannot grow into a society "behind a desk" where you live like a vegetable for the rest of your life, ignoring everything but the ones you work for. This new generation will be the future citizens of this world.

We, the graduating class, are part of the new generation. Therefore we graduate from this school and go to the next, not to learn to live in this society, but to learn how to change it and make it better.

Junior High Student

Draft Resister Still Fasting

Cincinnati, Ohio — Miss Decourcy Squire, an 18-year-old Antioch College student from Morgantown, W. Va., has been on a fast since Dec. 7. At that time she was arrested at a draft resistance demonstration at the Federal Building in Cincinnati.

Miss Squire and Michael Martin, 17, sat down in front of the police vans in protest against the arrest and mistreatment of other demonstrators as they were hauled from the building.

At a re-hearing on Jan. 26, Judge Heitzler refused to reduce Miss Squire's sentence because he did not feel she was "sufficiently repentant in her attitude toward the authority of the court."

She had been sentenced to six months and a \$100 fine on charges of disorderly conduct and resisting arrest; to three different sentences of 30 days each; and to a fine of \$525 for contempt of court.

STATEMENT

The following are excerpts from a statement by Decourcy Squire:

"First of all, my fasting is a personal response to imprisonment. My freedom is an essential part of me, as freedom is being taken away from me, I will not consent to having my freedom taken away.

"Only in that way can I maintain my inner freedom. For this reason, I cannot cooperate by eating while I am imprisoned. I do feel a basic responsibility and need to keep myself alive, and so I drink water and take vitamins; but as a free human being I do not feel I should help maintain myself a prisoner.

"Secondly, I hope the fast is a means of communicating something of the wrongness of imprisonment. I think it tends to express the unnaturalness of a person being locked up and kept from being free to choose where and how he will develop his life, preventing him from living fully, happily, and usefully.

"Just as a fast causes visible changes in the body, so being deprived of freedom and being kept in such a place as the Workhouse can cause degradation and dehumanization in a person being imprisoned . . ."

On Jan. 31 Miss Squire was taken to the Ohio General Hospital. She consented to being drinking a soy bean liquid to forestall brain damage and other physical injury which doctors indicate are imminent.

Letters protesting her punishment are being requested, and can be written to Governor James Rhodes, State House, Columbus, Ohio, or City Manager William Wichman, City Hall, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The student journal of political affairs

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YOUTH

Students Call International Strike

Chicago, Ill. — The main thing to come out of the Student Mobilization Conference here over Jan. 27-28 was the call for an international student strike "against the war, racial oppression, and the draft" for April 26.

April 20-30 will be a week of protests, including teach-ins and whatever is decided by local groups. There was also a mandate for demonstrations in Chicago during the Democratic Convention in August.

There were almost a thousand students at the conference.

BLACK GROUP

The black students had a separate caucus and constituted the Black Anti-war group. I didn't really understand the explanation of why they needed a separate group, which is going to work with the Student Mobilization, and sounds like it's going to do what the National Mobilization decides at its convention this summer.

I didn't hear anything about organizing except on campuses.

Bettina Aptheker and the Du Bois clubs indicated that the student strike was the thing to do, but frankly I couldn't get very enthused about the whole thing.

CHICAGO SDS

The University of Chicago SDS circulated a leaflet opposing the strike as the wrong tactic at this time, which made some good points:

"1—Recent student strikes have only twice attracted anything like majority support. These

strikes (LIU and Brooklyn College) were both based on 'gut' issues resulting from specific university outrages. Yet, the failures at Berkeley in 1966 and Madison in 1967 show that 'gut' issues alone do not ensure success. But their absence will assure failure.

"2—The strike has no clear political meaning. It is not directed against the government, the Draft, or the corporations supporting the war. It opposes the war generally and 'university complicity' specifically. Yet unconvinced students will not be convinced of 'university complicity' by our telling them about it. A generalized strike will appear illogical to most students, and thus be unappealing and ineffective.

"3—Nationwide, a strike which has minority support will be a show of weakness rather than of strength."

The U. of C. students also objected to the manner in which the meeting had been called "to plan the strike" rather than to consider whether to strike. They felt that the student strike would reach only students, in fact only a fraction of them—and that, since the student movement is badly isolated, it would be better to aim April actions at building a political base among presently neutral students and the general public, particularly the poor and the organized working class.

But they said that despite their disapproval, if the strike were called, they would obey the strike call.

Police Harass Black Youth Group To Provoke Violence

Detroit, Mich. — The way the police have been harassing Negro youth here, it seems as if they are attempting to provoke some violence so they will have a chance to wage an all-out war on the city's Negroes.

Things have become so bad that parents and community representatives have demanded meetings with police authorities, and at a meeting of the Fitzgerald Community Council, Leon Atchison, the administrative assistant to Congressman John Conyers, openly charged that police were "bent on starting a new riot."

THE INFERNOS

The Fitzgerald meeting was called because of the actions of police against a group of 17 to 18 year old youth from a middle-class Northwest area who call themselves the Infernos.

They had raised enough money through dances to rent a place for their own youth center—but the police frightened the owner into breaking the lease.

They just raised some more money and got another place that they renamed the "Inferno-burger," with the idea of running it as a sort of restaurant where teen-agers could be employed and they could make some money.

They even developed a good relationship with the policemen

(a mixed squad) in the squad car on that beat. Then suddenly a different team was assigned and the first was transferred.

The new team began coming into the building with drawn guns to frisk the boys, on the pretext of looking for a rape suspect. The youths were often illegally taken to the station.

Parents finally contacted Representative Conyer's assistant, the ACLU, and the Wayne County Legal Services—and they all met with police authorities to demand an end to the harassment. The supervisor apologized for his men, agreed to return all the police records of the youths, and promised to stop the harassment.

CITIZENS COMPLAINT

Everything was fine—for two weeks. Then one of the youths was picked up again without justification. When one of the community leaders, a member of the Detroit Council of PTAs, filed a citizens complaint, she was told she was "the kind of citizen who caused the increased crime on the streets."

Not only did the harassment not stop, it was intensified. The president of the Infernos, who is a girl, was stopped by a squad car after leaving a meeting, about 10:30 in the evening.

When she didn't answer the officers' insulting questions as they thought she should, she said, one of them got out of the car and hit her in the stomach with his night stick. She said he told her they were going to "get" the Infernos, and then left her on the sidewalk.

The police inspector promised to get to the bottom of the incident, and promised that assault and battery charges would be drawn against any officers involved in brutality cases. But immediate identification of the officers was not forthcoming, and neither the parents nor the Infernos feel much reassured.

Writings of the Young Marx

On Religion . . .

As soon as Jew and Christian come to see in their respective religions nothing more than stages in the development of the human mind—snake skins which have been cast off by history, and man as the snake who clothed himself in them—they will no longer find themselves in religious opposition, but in a purely critical, scientific and human relationship.

On the Jewish Question, 1843

On Private Property . . .

Private property has made us so stupid and one-sided that any kind of object is ours only when we have it, i.e., when it exists for us as capital, or when we possess it directly—eat it, drink it, wear it, live in it, etc.—in short use it . . . in place of all the physical and spiritual senses, there is the sense of possession which is the simple alienation of all these senses. To such absolute poverty has human essence had to be reduced to give birth to its inner wealth.

Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts, 1844

The Young Marxist-Humanist

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The Draft:

Involuntary Servitude

Amendment XIII, U.S. Constitution: "Neither slavery nor its involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction . . ."

Los Angeles, Calif. — The draft, or involuntary induction into the armed forces, euphemistically and wrongly, for those who are drafted, called the "Selective Service," serves two purposes:

One is to rely on the prospect of induction to promote enlistment and the other is to have a supply of men when they are needed.

As an Army officer put it when speaking before high school students on the subject of the wonders of the armed services and its opportunities for advancement, if the forces in Vietnam need four thousand more warm bodies, we take them from drafted personnel.

INVOLUNTARY SERVICE

Naturally, there are some men who, when drafted, enter the armed services quite willingly. They accept the draft. But, in the process of drafting, certain men are taken involuntarily into the armed services.

These men, forced into involuntary servitude (for it is certainly servitude by the very nature of the armed forces) prove that the provision for the draft in the Selective Service Act is unconstitutional.

Proponents of the draft offer some of the grandest arguments, often reminiscent of Nazism in their Chauvinism and nationalism. "You owe it to your country," is one. I remember quite vividly gentlemen from the Army and Marine Corps speaking at my school on the subject that service in the armed forces was the way we repaid Uncle Sam for our education. But as one student said after the assembly, "Education is a right, not a privilege."

AID INDUSTRY

We owe nothing for something which every society, in its own way, has given its youth. Not only is it common sense that an educated people are best for the continuation and growth of the society, but also, in this society,

education is used for the benefit of industry, to train students as workers.

For that reason, business and government prosper (since government and business are synonymous anyway), so it is enough that the students be given education, for their activities as workers would aid the government enough.

To broaden the area from education to national duty, I reply with this: never, at any time, should mankind owe allegiance to any nation, flag or organization, for any of those can change their line of thinking or policy. The only things which men owe allegiance to are themselves and their fellow men.

Merely because I live in the U. S., do I have to support, fight and/or die for her policies, even though I may disagree with them? As I see it, this nation has done nothing for me that any other nation with as strong material foundations and resources as this one, and perhaps weaker ones, would not do.

FOR A CAUSE

To support a cause is different, for it is not submission but will. One does not subordinate oneself to the will of others, but identifies, finds agreement with a certain idea, so that the individual retains his identity.

I would never fight for this country, if the cause was not mine, and the same goes for any man drafted in this country, or any country. Never should men fight for nations. They should fight for causes and, through the causes, themselves. To make a man fight for what is not his, whether he "owes" it or not, is immoral and totalitarian.

It is the purpose of this article to show both that the draft is unconstitutional and that action must be taken to destroy it, and that the idea of the draft, as a method of repaying a nation, is both unnecessary and faulty.

High School Student

What Is Lou Gordon Afraid Of?

(ED. NOTE: We wish to apologize to all our readers who tuned in two hours of Lou Gordon's verbiage on Jan. 21 without having a chance to hear a presentation of Marxist-Humanist ideas. The following letter was written to Lou Gordon after his television interview show abruptly cancelled Raya Dunayevskaya's appearance. To date no reply has been received.)

January 16, 1968
New York, N. Y.

Mr. Lou Gordon,
WKBD-TV 50
26955 W. 11 Mile Rd.
Southfield, Mich. 48075

Dear Mr. Gordon:

On December 6, 1967 your office contacted mine—News & Letters, 415 Brainard, Detroit, Mich. 48201—to ask whether I would appear on your program "any Sunday in January most convenient to Miss Dunayevskaya." That same day my secretary, Miss Domanski, forwarded to you a brochure from my publisher (Twayne, NY) since it was assumed that the interview with The Detroit News, book reviews and other material that had appeared locally would be familiar to you. She followed this up, on December 12, with the information that I would be glad to appear either January 14 or January 21, 1968, "preferably the 14th."

YOUR PRODUCER, Miss Annabelle King, however, chose the 21st as best suited to your schedule. It was also requested that I appear "by 9:30 that evening." Because Miss Domanski knew that I had made preparations to be in Detroit that whole day, and had interrupted the work on my new book-in-progress, *Philosophy and Revolution*, toward that end, she told Miss King that she would bring me to the station at the appointed time. When I was informed of the final arrangements, I asked Miss Domanski to make sure to submit my major work, *Marxism and Freedom*, to you well in advance of the scheduled appearance. This she did in person on January 11th.

TODAY I received word from Miss Domanski that she had listened to your program this Sunday, January 14th, was surprised not to hear my name announced as scheduled to appear the following Sunday and at once contacted the station. She could not, however, reach your producer till the following day, in the evening, at her home, at which time she was first informed that "just before air time" on Sunday you had decided not to have me appear the following Sunday.

I am tantalized at the dialectic of your thoughts and actions. Your office called us, not we you. Your producer chose the date most convenient to your program, not the one preferred by me. The arrangements for the scheduled appearance took five long weeks to finalize, but it took only three days after the 363 pages of *Marxism and Freedom* had been delivered to Miss King for the democratic veneer of your program as an open marketplace of ideas (not to mention the common courtesy due a scholarly opponent) to vanish without leaving a single trace on the air waves.

I WILL NOT pretend that I was as shocked as was my secretary at the fact that your word was not your bond. The three decades since I was Secretary to Leon Trotsky, when he was subjected to the greatest frame-up in history (the Moscow Trials staged by Stalin and white-washed by United States Ambassador Davies), have been filled with experiences related to the veritable conspiracy between private capitalist power and Communist state power to leave no room for the expression of independent Marxist-Humanists whose only power is that of ideas, the Marxist-Humanist philosophy of freedom.

There is no reason, I suppose, despite all your talk about integrity, that you should intellectually tower above the outlook the world has come to identify with "America, America." As President Senghor of Senegal told me when I interviewed him in Dakar: "The program of the 22nd Congress of the Russian Communist Party is like that of the United States—completely materialistic—a civilization of Frigidaires and TV."

NEVERTHELESS, at an international symposium on Socialist Humanism, I attacked the Communists for their conception of *partynost*, that is to say that the Party is the arbiter of all truth and revolution, writing that "they forget all too easily that revolutions do not arise in the fullness of time to establish a party machine, but to reconstruct society on a human foundation. Just as *partynost*, or monolithism, in politics throttles revolution instead of releasing the creative energy of new millions, so *partynost* in philosophy stifles thought instead of giving it a new dimension." (p. 73.)

May I now repeat to you what I said when I turned to my colleagues in the West: "Let us not debase freedom of thought to the point where it is no more than the other side of the coin of thought control."

Sincerely yours,
Raya Dunayevskaya

As Others See Us

The Question: Who Speaks for Blacks

(ED. NOTE: Excerpts of a review of *Black Mass Revolt* from The Industrial Worker, January 1968)

It will be long before a really satisfactory account of the recent and still current population shift within the United States, involving chiefly working class Negroes, is told. At present we still get the story in sections, from down south where this, one of the greatest migrations in US history originates, and from the other end of the migrants' trail in northern cities . . .

THIS UPROOTING of people in the South and their attempts at resettlement and accommodation to conditions in the North brought to the fore all the long-standing grievances of black people and created new ones both for those who remained in the South and those who came North. The resulting uproar has been the subject of outstanding news events of the past year.

As is characteristic of our times, the boiling discontent in Negro communities has produced an astonishing number of writers who try to analyze the situation, bringing to the task too little learning and practically no understanding of the divergent class interests and attitudes that exist among Negroes just as among other people. To most of these analyzers black is black, and

that's that. And, of course, that's wrong . . .

"**BLACK MASS REVOLT**," a 24-page mimeographed booklet published by News & Letters, for all that it was evidently a hurry-up job, gets down to brass tacks of the class struggle and produces evidence to show that no matter what black leaders claim, there is a growing awareness among rank and file black workers that the rock bottom issue is one of class and not of race. The race issue is not neglected, of course. The workers dealt with here are black and they certainly have special problems. Not the least of these problems is the crew of black would-be leaders of the black masses who conjure up the fairyland pictures of a black nationalism and a black culture which are supposed to inspire pride, confidence and political activity in the Negro worker who, like his white fellow worker, first of all needs economic power, and who knows it.

ON THE question of politics this pamphlet, which strives to present the words and views of on-the-job black workers, has this to say:

"Too many of the leaders who talk about black power mean only electoral power as if that would change the system. They talk about being the majority, or promise 'they soon will be,' in the cities. But the masses down

South, where they are the majority, know that voting doesn't change anything very much. It isn't only that whitey cheats them out of their majority — that they do expertly even when the blacks do come and vote. But the greater truth still is this: so long as the 'boss and black' relationship remains, no vote can change their conditions of life."

"Acknowledging that revolts in cities prove people as people have certain powers, the pamphlet stresses that unless they "are strategically placed in industry" they have no real power to eliminate the evils that beset them.

"**TO GIVE** any other impression by claiming that the organization of the ghettos is equivalent to the organization in the factories is only to sow disastrous illusions. The masses are right to reject these illusions; and, instead, try to find some solidarity with white labor — the white rank and file who do oppose management. Not only are they involved throughout the country in big strikes together, but black workers are right to use this as the reason for not isolating themselves from the white workers by lumping them together in the same category as whitey who is boss . . .

You can get a copy of *Black Mass Revolt* for 35 cents, News & Letters, 415 Brainard St., Detroit, Mich. 48201.

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U.S. Bombs South Vietnam As People Wage Civil War

(Continued from Page 5)

militarily or is only a paper tiger. Its nuclear arsenal is awesome enough. The question to be posed, therefore, is: will the Vietnam war never end but only stretch into World War III?

GLOBAL WAR?

The "domino theory" has come true in reverse. There are no longer any fast boundary lines in Southeast Asia. Whether Khe Sanh is held or not, both the U.S. and North Vietnam have crossed and recrossed the 17th parallel, have violated the territories of Laos and Cambodia, have pressured Thailand. The very fact that what happened in Saigon and Hue this week happened has strengthened Cambodian neutrality and weakened Thailand's commitment to U.S. imperialism.

"We're not going to shoot from the hip," LBJ is supposed to have told his super-patriots when North Korea captured the American spy ship *Pueblo*. (See *Our Life and Times*, p. 8). It isn't that President Johnson has, as a principle, any aversions to shooting from the hip. But in this case he was telling his hawks that they better weigh the consequences carefully lest it be a plot not only to divert the U.S. from the Vietnam war but to get it sucked into a two-front land war—both in Asia.

Possibly, instead of being coordinated with Hanoi and Moscow or Peking, North Korea was playing a separate hand and probing for its own purposes. It was necessary, above all, to investigate Russia's role in this. For when all is said and done, it is the two nuclear titans who will decide whether there will be a new world war. A dispatch was thereupon sent to Russia.

That Russia's global aims were not too far from the surface was seen also in the interview Kosygin granted the editors of *Life* magazine. Premier Kosygin expanded himself not only on the Vietnam war where it was easy to appear in the right, but also in the Middle East where his stance has been both anti-Semitic and pro-Arab oil and strategically astride three continents.

It is to be doubted that LBJ will be allowed to get off the hook easily, especially since this is Russia's chance also to show China that, for all her big talk, it is Russia, not China, that is the big supplier of firepower to Hanoi and the Vietcong.

THE SINO-SOVIET CONFLICT

The internal dialectic of guerrilla war clashes violently with the Big Power struggle for world domination. When, however, the guerrilla war is Communist directed, its self-development is blunted.

At the moment, for example, it is impossible to tell whether the present Vietcong attacks in the cities and the possible military confrontation of North Vietnamese troops with the U.S. Army at Khe Sanh, are aimed at overthrowing the Thieu-Ky regime and driving the U.S. into the sea, or are subordinated to Russian and/or Chinese aims—and "victory" will thus be used only to try to achieve a "coalition government."

It wouldn't be the first time that the Vietnamese Revolution, North and South, was betrayed. Ho Chi Minh's class collaborationism began during World War II and was aimed at getting the French "to accept" the Vietminh. When French imperialism, instead, began the counter-revolution, the dialectic of revolution did lead to full victory only to have both Russia and China at Geneva pressure Ho Chi Minh in 1954 to

accept the division of Vietnam at the 17th parallel.

This, then, is the third round of a civil war that has been on and off for no less than a quarter of a century! The fact that the Sino-Soviet orbit is now split is no help, for they are so interested in fighting each other for leadership of the Communist world (if not for each other's territories!) that they could not even achieve a united front on so elementary an issue as to aid a Communist ally in a struggle with U.S. imperialism.

Last week, when Kosygin visited India, the Chinese Communists said that the "real reason" for the visit was to line up India behind Russia's "collusion with U.S. imperialism to betray Vietnam." The weeks before this wild charge by the Chinese, Russia accused China of wanting "to prolong the Vietnam war."

WHERE TO, NOW?

Nearly two years ago, when the Buddhists were in the forefront of the struggle against the ruling military junta, and the Vietcong were mere bystanders, we stressed that, though power lay in the streets, neither the Buddhists nor the Communists were reaching for it.

The Buddhists shied away because they feared both the Communists and any social revolution; the Communists because they feared any truly spontaneous outburst by people they did not control.

This being so, the only victor was U.S. imperialism. Since then the crisis has become so total that even those opposed to the Communists are presently helping them. As we wrote then: "U.S. imperialism is the biggest breeder of Communism."

The simultaneous fascization of the world, with U.S. capitalism in the lead, and the nuclear arsenals no longer the monopoly of either the United States or Russia, but challenged by China and De Gaulle France, the world crisis has become so total as to make it appear that there is no exit anywhere for mankind.

Yet the very fact that so little a country as Vietnam can keep the biggest world power at bay shows that there is no substitute for freedom's power, the power of ideas that cannot be destroyed by military means. Therefore, what is of the essence, what is quintessential for realizing the idea of freedom, that is to say, for practicing liberation, is to make sure not to stop midway now, but at the very moment of driving out American military occupation, to disclose that they are not choosing any other big power, but are fighting for self-determination for themselves.

For that self-liberating goal they have and will continue to have the support both of the world proletariat and peasantry, the black mass revolt, and the youth, including those in the U.S.

This is the time for black and white to unite. Just as the black revolution must not remain isolated, so the anti-war movement must not remain silent or equivocal in its opposition to all poles of world capital. Self-determination for the South Vietnamese can be achieved only if both international solidarity and the idea of liberation are free from connection with any state power.

Oppose U.S. occupation of South Vietnam! Demand return of all U.S. armed forces and its "Pacification Hordes" as well! All big powers must keep hands off South Vietnam! Support self-determination for South Vietnamese people!

—Feb. 7, 1968

Our Life and Times

By Peter Mallory

Spy Ships Can Trigger World War

The capture of the American spy ship *Pueblo* on Jan. 23 off the coast of North Korea and about 400 miles from Vladivostok has spilled a can of worms that will take a long time to get back into their can.

While the first hot-headed Congressmen were clamoring to sail into Wonsan, grab the ship and its men by force, those with more military and political knowledge realized that the harbor contained a Soviet submarine base and a fleet of 500 MIG fighters ready to react at a moment's notice.

Secretary of State Rusk took his own advice to "cool it" and began to resort to diplomatic channels. The nuclear-powered carrier *Enterprise* followed by two other aircraft carriers were closely followed by similar Soviet spy ships following their every move.

The early attempts to show North Korea to be the "aggressor" in the affair, soon gave way when it was shown that the "*Pueblo*" had been there for the previous two weeks, and before that her sister ship the "*U.S.S. Banner*" had been on the same station and had been stopped by the North Korean patrol boats without being captured.

It is quite useless to enter into a discussion of the exact position of the ship when seized. The U.S. Senate is just starting an investigation of the naval events that led up to the authorization of the bombing of North Viet Nam, the so-called Tonkin Gulf incident.

The fact that both the United States and Russia have and use these electronic spy ships and have a "gentleman's agreement" that each side shall not molest the other is no excuse for their use; it only proves that they are two of a kind.

Ever since the 1960 U-2 in-

cident, when an American spy plane was shot down over Russia, through last summer when an American spy ship was shot up by Israel, it has been quite clear that both sides are maintaining a state of belligerency that could lead to WW III any time one of these "incidents" occurred at a time the other side thought "was ripe" for war. The two Soviet spy ships that the U.S. seized in Alaska last year were released with a \$10,000 fine and no threat of Russian retaliation.

Of greater concern to the American people is the effect of the incident on their daily lives. The affair permitted President Johnson to call up 14,787 Air Force and Navy reservists, to mobilize 372 inactive aircraft and to reinforce military units stationed permanently in Korea.

By canceling the discharge of GIs who have served their time in Vietnam, Johnson has been able to escalate the American military build-up in the Far East at a time when the demands are growing at home to end the war in Viet Nam.

It is not ruled out that an outbreak of war in Korea is possible at any time. Reports indicate North Korea has, since the armistice, put all their major installations underground, stockpiled supplies out of reach of American bombers, and built up a military force of 375,000 men who face 500,000 South Korean troops and the 50,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea.

The choice of using their military forces to try again to capture South Korea shows once again that the Communists, like the capitalists, operate on the theory that "power comes out of the barrel of a gun," instead of from the self-determination of the people themselves.

U.S. ATOM BOMBS IN GREENLAND

On Jan. 21, a B-52 bomber crashed over North Star Bay in Greenland while trying to make a landing at Thule Air Force Base. It carried four hydrogen bombs, which American officials hastened to explain would not be triggered because they were not armed.

Danish officials put up a loud squawk since the United States had promised that no nuclear weapons would be stationed on Danish soil nor would planes containing them be permitted to fly over Danish soil.

The wreck of the aircraft has been located, along with fragments of one of the bombs. Contrary to American claims that there would be no radiation danger, it was found that radiation was present due to the T.N.T. in one or more of the bombs exploding on impact, even though a nuclear explosion did not take place. The highly poisonous fission trigger in one or all of the bombs has been released due to the explosion of the T.N.T. outer coatings of the bombs.

It is clear that thousands of tons of contaminated ice must be removed to eliminate the danger.

This is the 13th time that a nuclear mishap has occurred.

One Air Force scientist has resigned saying he is tired of being a nuclear garbage collector and wants to return to his laboratory.

The danger from these bombs is very real despite the claim that they are not armed. The government has lied to the people, as the Greenland incident shows. Their T.N.T. outer skin can explode on impact and dangerous radioactivity can be spread over large areas.

CASTRO'S CUBA

Anibal Escalante and 26 other members of the Communist Party of Cuba have received jail terms of 12 to 15 years each for opposition to the Castro regime in Cuba. Most of these people were old party hacks who supported the Moscow line, with which Castro has had little sympathy.

Escalante is accused of urging the Soviet Union to cut off aid to Cuba with the hope that he could replace Castro. The prosecutor in the case was Raul Castro, Fidel's brother, who presented a 15,000 word indictment against him.

While the facts in the case may not be fully documented (their fault, not ours) this

The recent alleged plot on the life of President Park of South Korea, accompanied as it was with the public exhibition of the bodies of a number of "infiltrators," triggered off a public demonstration in support of his government which drew 100,000 people. Other demonstrations against him which occurred during the past year drew almost as many and were met by the brute force of his military dictatorship.

It proves only one thing. The people of South Korea wish to decide their own destiny. They fight within their own country for an end to the military dictatorship of General Park but they have no wish to be embraced by the dictatorship of Kim Il Sung imposed upon them by military force from the North.

Of the alleged "infiltrators" from the North, 85% were turned in by the peasants in the countryside, a clear indication they want no help from that quarter.

The solution which seems to have been chosen by the U.S. State Dept., the so-called "diplomatic solution," will take a long time to come about. It took a solid year to release two pilots who were shot down over North Korean territory.

Yet this solution seems to have been chosen because Johnson can ill afford to open a second front in Asia in an election year when the American people are sick of war and want the one in Viet Nam ended as quickly as possible.

However, to the extent that it leaves open the possibility of another Korean war, the Johnson Administration must be told in no uncertain terms by the American people that they will stand for no more war. The "credibility gap" between the facts of war and what the Johnson administration says they are has been "escalated" far enough.

fact does stand out and needs only the documentation of history. It is impossible to conduct any kind of theoretical discussion in a Communist country when you are the accused and the party in power is in the chair of the prosecutor.

It was in 1959 that Fidel Castro led the 26th of July movement to power in Cuba, and only after he was in power did he embrace the Communist Party, which had been established in the cities during the Batista dictatorship.

Once Castro and the new revolutionaries joined the Cuban Communist Party, the struggle for power within it ensued, which resulted in the dismissal of Escalante in 1962 as secretary on a charge of sectarianism.

The withdrawal of missiles by Khrushchev further infuriated Castro, who assigned Escalante to an obscure post as manager of a state farm. He is accused of continuing to "plot against the state" and "communicate" with the Soviet Embassy rather than the Castro regime.

Other old guard Communists remain at their posts. These include Blas Roca, Carlos Rodriguez and Manuel Luizardo, who remain on the Central Committee and the Cabinet.