

FASCISTS ACQUITTED IN GREENSBORO

The trial of six Nazi and Klan members in Greensboro, North Carolina is over. They have all been acquitted of murdering five members of the Maoist Communist Workers Party (CWP) at a CWP "Death to the Klan" rally. Three basic lessons stand out in this case.

The first lesson is that the American system of "justice" has once again shown its hypocritical nature. Despite numerous witnesses and even a videotape of the murders, the fascist scum were set free. This acquittal can only encourage these racist criminals to even further increase their growing ranks. During the trial the state was exposed for instigating at least one side of this confrontation by having their agents in the Klan and Nazis organize the caravan that attacked CWP. It is not an accident that this happens now. A general wave of terror against Black people and an upsurge of chauvinism and racism is spreading across the U.S. This is necessary to prepare for the coming imperialist war and to divide and weaken the working class and oppressed peoples so they can be made to accept the brunt of the capitalist economic crisis. It is in this context that the ruling class is revitalizing and giving wide publicity to the Klan.

The second lesson is that the isolated confrontations by the likes of CWP with the Klan cannot at all defeat them, but in fact paves the way for greater attacks on the working class, oppressed peoples, and anyone even claiming to be revolutionary or communist. CWP's method of fighting the Klan is to challenge them to decisive conflicts and to threaten them without either themselves or anyone else being in a position to successfully win these encounters. Their adventurist course is summarized in their slogan "Payback," which they say means seeking revenge. Totally absent are the scientific Marxist-Leninist teachings on strategy and tactics. These demand an accurate estimation of forces before entering any battle, calculations involving which methods and arenas of struggle are most effective at each specific time, and an understanding of how immediate struggles prepare for victory in the ultimate battle for the revolutionary seizure of power. Instead CWP gives us frenzied emotionalism. CWP baited the Klan as

"cowards" and "punks," and challenged them to come to their rally last year for a confrontation. The result was not only the death of the five Maoists. In Greensboro a more reactionary political atmosphere now exists. The masses are still without any organization to defend themselves. And to further show the impotence of CWP and how they have helped disorganize the masses, the acquittal of the Klansmen and Nazis was met with no rebellion or even significant protest anywhere. Quite the opposite happened in Miami, where a massive spontaneous rebellion in the Black community followed the acquittal of the white cops who had murdered a Black man, Arthur McDuffie.

The third lesson, drawn from the other two, is that the working class and oppressed peoples cannot successfully fight the imperialist system and their fascist agents in the Klan without fighting the opportunists like CWP whose actions actually pave the way for fascism. The Communist International in the 1930s showed how the victory of Hitler and fascism in Germany would not have been possible without the assistance of the opportunists, who were actually social-fascists. One of the methods of both the police and the social-fascists is **"provoking strikes and various other movements of the proletariat at the most inopportune moments in order to disrupt them and demoralize the masses."** They do this **"to disrupt the growing labor movement, when they are not able to prevent the movement from achieving its aim in any other way."** ("The Struggle Against the Provocateur," The Communist International, no. 2, 1932) This clearly describes the antics of both CWP and their Maoist cousins, the Revolutionary Communist Party. The bourgeoisie would love for such social-fascists to appear in spontaneous struggles like the Miami rebellion so they could more easily repress them. For this reason CWP, though a small sect, is given enormous publicity in the bourgeois media.

To fight the bourgeoisie and win we must drive such filth as CWP out of the movements of the working class and oppressed peoples. We certainly do not need any more disasters like Greensboro.