

# CLASS STRUGGLE

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## SPECIAL PATROL GROUP MURDER ANTI-FASCIST



4000 demonstrators protested about a National Front meeting in Southall Town Hall on Monday April 23rd. They attempted first to occupy the Town Hall but the "right" of these racists, who have been directly responsible for murders and attacks on Asian people in the area, was protected by up to 7000 police.

In a deliberate attempt to attack the organised

strength of the Asian community and their supporters, the police charged into the crowd as it was dispersing. They arrested some 300 people, shipping them off to police stations around London and systematically beating them up. Snatch squads picked on individuals in the crowd and wagons of the Special

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## RHODESIAN ELECTION FARCE

All the bosses' papers have been making a lot of noise about the elections taking place in Rhodesia. They talk about the "great freedom" at last being offered to the people of Zimbabwe. It is strange, though, that many of these people who write such glowing stories, and praise Smith's "conversion to democracy" are the very same people who have long been applauding Smith's fascist dictatorship. They have shown no love for the people of Zimbabwe in the past yet they pose now as though they are brimming over with concern for the national and democratic rights of the people of Zimbabwe! Such a sham concern is reflected in their sham stories about sham elections.

The pen pushers in the bosses' press have readily repeated Smith's lies, and Owen's lies in the past. They have denounced "terrorism", by which they do not mean the terrorism of the Rhodesian fascist regime. Oh no! The British press barons are talking of the heroic liberation fighters of ZANU and the Patriotic Front when they talk about "terrorism". Fighting for national independence and people's democracy is "terrorism" to them. And if it means repeating Smith's lies and blaming the atrocities committed by the regime's infamous terror regiment, the Selous Scouts, onto

the forces of the Patriotic Front, these mouthpieces of imperialism have done it without a qualm.

Now these same people are feeding us with tales about "free and fair elections". They are running true to form!

### THE "RIGHT ATMOSPHERE"

Since last September, martial law has been extended to cover nine-tenths of the country. This law empowers the security forces to arrest people at random. Many "suspects" have been summarily executed.

At the end of 1978, black people between the ages of 18 and 25 were conscripted into the army. Many ran away to join the guerrillas. Many were arrested for refusing the call up.

Air and ground raids have been carried out on refugee camps in neighbouring countries.

Walls, the Commander of Combined Operations of Rhodesia, declared: "We will continue to operate internally in Rhodesia and externally" to ensure the "right atmosphere" in the elections.

Before the election, Sithole, one of Smith's black puppets declared the name of his party to be ZANU - the same name as the main liberation force. By such methods it was hoped to sow confusion among the people.

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# GARNERS STRIKE COMMITTEE FIGHT

The strike for union recognition at the Garners Steak House chain is now in its 15th month. With only 12 left out of the original 84 who joined the strike, the Garners strike committee are determined to fight on.

Garners' boss, Cyril Margolis, relies on Britain's racist laws to keep the workers who are mainly Blacks and immigrant workers from Asia, Turkey, Egypt, Morocco and the Phillipines, unorganised and subject to super-exploitation. Many of the workers are dependent on Margolis applying for and renewing their work permits. He threatened these workers that if they join a union, he will report them to the police for working without permits or give a bad reference to the Home Office, so that their permits will not be renewed. In both cases the workers would be deported. On top of this Garners operates a policy of sacking workers before they have completed six months with the company on the spurious ground of not being up to "Garners' standards". This is designed to deny the workers job security and the right of appeal against unfair dismissal. More importantly, it is designed to undermine the workers' efforts to learn from their experience and get organised. Out of the 200 workers needed to operate Garners, only four of the pre-strike staff are still with the company. More than 600 workers have passed through Garners in the last 15 months.

## TRADE UNION MISLEADERS SAGOTAGE STRIKE

The Garners strike committee have led a long and

difficult struggle and are determined to continue even though they are now small in number. The strike committee estimate that the pickets have been 60-70% successful in turning away customers. One branch that used to employ 42 workers now only operates with 12. Margolis has withstood these strong blows to his profits in the expectation that the strike would collapse after being eroded from within by the union misleaders, as well as being attacked by the police and courts. Right from the start the Garners workers lost the initiative in the strike to the opportunist trade union leadership, who persuaded the workers to rely on ACAS, instead of their own organising efforts to gain mass support from the rank-and-file of the TGWU. When it became clear that this was a diversion and that ACAS had no power to force Margolis to recognise the union, the strike committee went over to the tactic of mass pickets. This was immediately sabotaged by the union regional committee who agreed with the police to limit picket lines to six persons, thus making the strikers vulnerable to attack by the police, fascist thugs and even Margolis's own sons. These opportunist trade union traitors have thrown up a hundred and one bureaucratic hurdles to defeat the strike. They have insisted that all actions be approved by them and they have refused to call a conference of TGWU rank-and-file to work out a support programme. They insisted on controlling the production of all information leaflets and calls for solidarity. The circulation of information has

## SOUTHALL TERROR: DEMOCRACY FOR WHOM?

In order to ensure the "democratic rights" of a fascist party, the National Front, the bourgeois state has gone to great lengths to enforce its dictatorship over the masses. Southall, according to one reporter, was turned into a virtual ghost town with shops and pubs being closed up on police orders. When the National Front was making its fascist election broadcast a police cordon was thrown round BBC house. Demonstrators against the National Front are outnumbered 2-1 by police to ensure democracy for the National Front to promote its anti-working class activities and fascist violence and dictatorship over those who oppose it. To protect the democracy of clearly defined open enemies of the working class, the masses of the people are denied the freedom to rout and disorganise them. This shows what bourgeois (capitalist) democracy really means - democracy

for the capitalists and dictatorship for the masses of the people.

### THERE IS ONLY CLASS DEMOCRACY

The bourgeois state conceals its dictatorship behind a facade of democracy which during elections claims to allow the equal right for all parties. But there is no such thing as democracy in general. In class society there can only be class freedom and class dictatorship. The militant opposition of national minorities and anti-fascists to the National Front is an example of people's democracy and the people's striving to dictate that the National Front fascists should be denied the freedom to propagate overt racist and anti-working class propaganda and organise fascist terror. The bourgeois state may put restrictions on the National Front by banning a meeting but at

the same time they will ban all meetings and demonstrations. In order to assert people's democracy and proletarian dictatorship over the enemies of the working class, the proletariat must first make itself the ruling class by smashing the capitalist state. People's democracy will not only deny the fascists freedom to organise provocation against national minorities and the working class, it will take away the freedom of capitalists to exploit and oppress the people.



Hyde, Manchester, 1978: Thousands of police protect NF's Martin Webster

# TS ON FOR UNION RECOGNITION- AGAINST RACISM

been refused or done at the last moment to sabotage support in the announcement of the recent Day of Action.

## STRIKE COMMITTEE DUMP OPPORTUNISTS

The strike committee have learned the lesson that the opportunist trade union leadership are working hand in glove with the Labour Party, the bosses' party, to control workers' struggles and attack living standards. The low-paid are particularly hard hit, especially low paid black and immigrant workers, who are victims of racist laws which aid their super-exploitation. The Garners strikers have come to understand from their own experiences that the Labour Party and the trade union traitors serve the bosses' interests. Having summed up these bitter lessons the strike committee have broken free from the control of the opportunist misleaders and have retaken the initiative into their own hands. They have called a TGWU rank-and-file solidarity conference in June and are more determined than ever to rely on the masses and fight on.

DONATIONS AND MESSAGES OF SUPPORT TO THE GARNERS STRIKE COMMITTEE, c/o TGWU, Room 84, 12-13 Henrietta Street, London WC2.

## SPG MURDER ANTI-FASCIST

Cont'd from p1

Patrol Group went around picking up groups and returning from the demonstration. The police jumped out of these wagons and laid into people with truncheons. One eye witness said "They were chasing Asian kids all over the park and kicking them. I saw them ram a girl into an iron gate and cut her face open."

This crack force of state terrorists even pursued demonstrators into the houses. Richard Brunning a former ambulance man reported how police broke down the door of a house in Park View Road and stormed the building with riot shields. He and a doctor were giving first aid when the police burst in and beat him with a truncheon. All of these police wore the initials "CO" indicating they were Special Patrol Group police.

## BLAIR PEACH MURDERED

Among the victims was Blair Peach, a teacher and active trade unionist and anti-fascist. His skull was broken by a truncheon blow. Later his friends saw an ambulance surrounded by a police escort crawling towards the hospital at about 10 mph.

Next day as teachers mounted a picket outside the police station and local people organised a protest meeting, the police were obviously well pleased with their night's work. This was their latest action in a long war they have waged on Asian people in Southall, since the mass response of the people to the fascist murder of Gurdjit Singh in 1976 showed their organised strength. "They think now they have killed someone they can push us about, but we have to end this now", said one Asian youth. The people are more united than ever and the murderous attack by the police shows more clearly than ever that the real enemy is not the handful of fascists but the state and its racist police force.

This brutal suppression of a demonstration was planned in advance to terrorise opposition to the National Front fascists. It showed that the rule of the capitalist class which protects the freedom of fascist thugs is a dictatorship which if not enforced through persuasion is enforced with batons and clubs.

# A WORKER'S NOTEBOOK

TROOPS CANNON FODDER FOR BOSSES: Massive unemployment in many northern towns and cities leads many young working class men to join the army. At present they may be sent for a tour of duty in Northern Ireland, where they will act on behalf of the British imperialist bosses as oppressors of the Northern Irish people. The Irish people fight back and many soldiers are killed or maimed.

Not content that working class youths are forced to die or be maimed for imperialist interests, the imperialists won't even pay those maimed adequate compensation.

Mr Hugh Thomas, formerly a Royal Army Medical Corps Major recently resigned from the army over this question saying "cases for compensation weren't being brought forward." He said that injuries were deliberately minimised and that he knew of cases of soldiers back fighting in Ulster although still unfit after hospital treatment for brain damage.

Because he intervened, soldiers offered "perhaps £100, got up to £35,000 at the end of the day". He kept re-opening cases to get them fair treatment.

On the subject of inadequate compensation, the Ministry of Defence said, "that is not an army matter, you must talk to the Northern Ireland Office. The Northern Ireland Office is not permitted to give an official view.

DESPITE LEGISLATION THAT IS SUPPOSED TO ENABLE DISABLED WORKERS TO HAVE JOBS. The bosses still make sure they employ the most "profitable" workers. Mrs Rita Wilkinson is blind. She worked in Sheffield as a machine operator until last July, when she was made redundant. She still hasn't got a job, and has launched a campaign to draw attention to the plight of disabled workers, especially the blind, whom the bosses will not give jobs. Her first act in the campaign is a hunger strike.

The bosses are happy to have long dole queues. It holds wages down. *Class Struggle* has reported on illness and death rates (and suicides) associated with the dole. The desperate situation of disabled workers, like Mrs Wilkinson, who are "less profitable" to employ than other workers on the dole, is something that will be wiped out with capitalism.

A "TEST CENSUS" HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED IN THE LONDON area. Its purpose is to prepare for the next National census of population in 1981. By this we can take it that the census authorities want to know how to couch some of the questions and want to know the reaction. Well, they have got the reaction. A campaign to boycott the test census has been launched because of the racist nature of one of the questions and the detail of personal information asked for.

The "test census" introduces a question on "racial or ethnic group" which is separated from country of origin. The motive for this can only be racist. In addition to this the "test census" asks for details of addresses covering five years. The boycott is a correct reaction because it hits at the racist nature of the census and the increased state surveillance it represents.

JUST A YEAR AFTER WEST INDIAN YOUTH GEORGE Lindo was found guilty and imprisoned for a crime he could not have committed, an appeal court judge has suddenly granted unconditional bail pending his appeal. A George Lindo Action Committee statement points out that the circumstances surrounding the sudden release are mysterious, but that it is an unrecorded fact that D.C. Brearley, one of the three officers responsible for framing George Lindo, has been found by a Home Office investigation to be guilty of other frame-ups.

Even though Brearley's "mal-practices" have been exposed, the Bradford police continues to harrass the Lindo family. They have stated an intention to see George "back inside within six months". The George Lindo Campaign will fight on to expose this whole incident of state racism.

There was no revolutionary Communist Party taking part in the General Election. Such a vanguard Party does not yet exist in Britain and needs to be rebuilt. However, two parties using the names of "revolutionary" and "communist" did stand. These were the revisionist (capitalist dressed as Marxist) "Communist" Party of Great Britain (CPGB) and the Trotskyite Workers Revolutionary Party (WRP).

# OPPORTUNIST PARTIES TAIL BEHIND LABOUR

Like any capitalist commodity these parties can package themselves with whatever name they choose. But whether they are "revolutionary" or "communist" does not depend on what they think of themselves but which class their line and actions serve.

## "LEFTISTS" TAIL BEHIND LABOUR PARTY

Once a party of the working class, the CPGB when it was revolutionary took part in bourgeois

election to expose the fraud of bourgeois parliamentary democracy and rally the working class in class struggle against capitalism. Now the CPGB is a mere shadow of the Labour Party, bleating "Keep the Tories Out". Their tired and lifeless slogans prop up the Labour Party which today is the best bosses' party. The CPGB since abandoning revolution and promoting class collaboration has met nothing but decline. The extent of this decline is shown by its being able to field only forty candidates in the General Election. They were pushed into second place among the opportunist parties claiming to be revolutionary by the WRP, who fielded 60 candidates.

Corin Redgrave of the WRP made a five minute television election broadcast. Its strident revolutionary posturing was designed to mislead class conscious workers. Redgrave declared that capitalism is historically outmoded and must go. "British capitalism is facing the deepest crisis in its history, and no matter who wins the election this crisis will worsen", he added. So far so good. But it soon became clear that what the WRP proposed is far from revolutionary. Redgrave hastened to point out that the WRP seeks peaceful transition to socialism through Parliament. The Labour Party had failed the working class and middle class

Dear Comrades,  
*Class Struggle* recently exposed the statistics on the national average wage. (Vol.3, No.6). I am writing to show how the bureaucrats distort another important figure - the rate of price rises (price inflation).

The bosses' press faithfully prints every month the figure for price rises given by the Department of Employment. This is called the Retail Price Index. This figure is important because it is often used as the basis of wage claims. It is also used to decide pension increases, and the interest on Government savings schemes - anything that is "index-linked". And of course, the MPs are always quoting it to tell us how much better off we are! Everyone knows that for the vast majority of working people prices have gone up faster than wages. But when Callaghan was on TV recently and a woman in a market told him so, he denied it! He said that "the figures prove" that we are better off. *Class Struggle* showed how the figures for wage levels lied. Also the Retail Price Index (RPI) is a lie. At the moment the RPI puts price rises over the last year at 9.8% (nearly 10p in the £). For the bulk of the working people it was quite a bit more.

This is how it works. The RPI is worked out by weighting price rises of various items by the relative amounts spent on them by an "average family". In other words, because food is a big part of a family's spending price increases in food have a bigger effect than say a price increase in washing machines. (For example, beer prices went up by 6% in 1978, but since only 5% of a household expenditure is on beer the Retail Price increase was raised by 5+100x6, which equals 0.3%). This method would be fair enough if each item really was weighted by the right amount. But it isn't.

The Department of Employment claims that only 3.2% of a family's spending is on rent. In other words, they claim that the average rent is £2 a week! Rent went up last year by 18.7%. So the Department claims that is only an increase in spending of 37p a week. Really it's at least six times as much. Similarly, they play down price rises in mortgages, clothes and most other basic items that we have to pay for. If we only adjusted the rent to count it as important as it really is (about a quarter of your spending), that alone would raise the

# CLERICAL WORKERS

930 clerical workers at the Yeovil factory of Westland Helicopters (WHL) are waging a relentless struggle for a substantial pay rise without strings and against punitive victimisation. The claim is for a basic increase of 14% plus a 35-hour week. Negotiations reached an immediate impasse with the bosses offering only 6% on the basic. An additional 6% for "improvements" was wrung out of them for a fifteen month instead of a twelve month agreement. But in exchange for this, the bosses wanted a free hand in the introduction of any "new systems" that they wanted. They want to do as they like. All procedure exhausted a final failure to agree was registered

## UNANIMOUS REJECTION

On April 10th, a mass meeting of all clerical workers resolutely threw out the whole dirty package unanimously. Equally unanimously the meeting decided on a course of action in order to create as much disruption as possible, with as little financial cost to themselves as possible. At the meeting all workers were thoroughly incensed. Dozens spoke out, especially women workers. The spirit of unity was tremendous. Many workers remarked that "it was the best meeting that they had ever attended".

War was declared and action commenced immediately. Telephonists, telex operators and typists, and some production service workers, went into action first; striking and sitting in. On April 17th, the bosses retaliated by changing the locks on the telephone exchange door, forcing a lock out. In response to this, there was a meeting of all staff reps (stewards) and the negotiating committee, and it was decided to call all 930 workers out on strike.

Retail Price Index to 14 or 15%. In other words prices have really gone up by at least 15p in the £ in the last year! For the real "average family" prices have gone up much faster than claimed because the price of necessities, of things we have to pay for, have gone up faster than luxuries. Price rises have, therefore, affected the real wages of the workers far more than the real wages of the rich!

because they are reformist he said. Nonetheless, he called on people to vote Labour to "Keep the Tories out where the WRP is not standing". In the same breath he put forward a programme of legislating socialism through a programme of "nationalisation without compensation under workers' control". What is this but reformism? To the WRP it is enough to shout "without compensation" or "under workers' control" to earn the title revolutionary. But this is not how to judge what is revolutionary. A revolution must first overthrow the ruling capitalist class and destroy its state power. Only then can the proletariat (working class) as the masters of society organise socialist production. All factories, mines, workshops etc. can be made common property vested in the proletarian state. The WRP's "left" sounding nationalisation without compensation is envisaged within the continued capitalist relations of production. As such it is no serious threat to capitalist rule. The WRP's service to capitalism comes from its practice of keeping alive the illusion that nationalisation under capitalism can be made to serve the working class and that Labour, the best bosses' party, is preferable to the Tories. The WRP is working to prevent the proletariat really becoming revolutionary and trapped within the orbit of the Labour

Party.

## WRP BACKS SOVIET SOCIAL IMPERIALISM

Just as there is a strong tendency for appeasement of Soviet social imperialism in the Labour Party, its "left" tail in the CPGB and the WRP go in for outright support for the imperialist war aims of the Soviet Union. The CPGB in its paper the *Morning Star* consistently support Soviet social imperialism in its global rivalry with US imperialism. But they have never openly declared their intention to back Soviet social imperialism in the event of war. In their election broadcast, the WRP went some way in outdoing the CPGB by openly declaring their intention to back the Soviet Union in the event of war. Trotskyism viciously opposed the USSR when it was building socialism under Stalin's leadership. Trotsky even formed alliances with the Nazis to aid his internal disruption and terrorism in the socialist Soviet Union. But now when capitalism has been restored and the USSR is an expansionist imperialist superpower, the Trotskyites rush to its aid just as they did the Nazis.

"Revolution" is a grand word. But on the lips of the Trotskyites of the WRP and the revisionists of the CPGB it is misused to disrupt and prevent genuine revolution.

# WORKERS STRIKE AT WESTLAND HELICOPTERS

## THE STRIKE

The strike has begun with tremendous enthusiasm. The workers are determined that "this is one we have to get to win. Now we are out we are staying out, until we have won all we are claiming for". This was the message from a mass meeting. Support from other workers and trade unions in the factory is high. The factory is being picketed and on the first day 97 turned up and over half were women. Hardly a lorry got through with goods, or picked up anything. 95% of all drivers turned around, wished the workers well in their struggle and took their loads back.

The police, with the bosses connivance, constantly harrassed and threatened the pickets, insisting that the numbers be reduced to no more than six on each gate. This has been rejected out of hand by the workers, saying "there aren't enough in the Avon and Somerset Constabulary to shift us lot".

## LESSONS SO FAR

It is precisely because the workers have been kept involved, their opinions and wishes sought, that such a spirit of militant unity among the workers prevails. Further, the opportunists who have been responsible for such sell-out deals in the past have been driven into hiding. Although, in the present situation with the bosses in such a belligerent position, the opportunists have absolutely no room to manoeuvre without being totally exposed as sell-outs. The struggle is continuing and with the optimism and determination of the workers riding high, it is on the road to victory. However, in a struggle as sharp as this one, it is essential to remain vigilant to the danger of open and undercover betrayal by the opportunists throwing a lifeline to the bosses.

## Letter exposes opportunism

I write this letter to *Class Struggle*, in order to expose one of the most diabolical examples of opportunism, that I have ever known. Just recently, the Works Convenor at Westland Helicopters, of Yeovil, where I work, (Mike Webber by name), sold out in grand style! He reigned as Works Convenor, and took a job, which had been specially created for him as Group Industrial Relations Advisor to the Managing Director of the whole of the Westland Aircraft Group of Companies (which is about a dozen or more different companies). Surely, no opportunist could achieve a higher distinction for loyal service to the bosses than this!

This though, is only the tip of the iceberg. Similar examples of blatant opportunism are occurring all the time. It is regarded as a fact of life by many workers that such things go on: that "active" trade unionists should "progress up the trade union ladder", and then be bought off by the bosses on the way. Trade unions are consciously being used as vehicles for personal, selfish, individualist advancement on a large scale by opportunists.

Shop floor worker, WHL, Yeovil.

## Capitalists back Labour

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recently said in its annual report, "High nominal pay increases are self-defeating, and have been an important cause of the relative decline of the British economy". The share of profits in National Income is 5%, this is insufficient to ensure a sustained growth of investment". In other words, profits must increase. It also argues for an incomes policy to peg wages, saying, "improvements in the system of pay determination are needed in order to achieve a better economic performance". It backs the Concordat.

The OECD is an organisation of 24 capitalist countries determined to continue the capitalist system. This report tells us what the bosses internationally want in Britain, and Callaghan and the Labour Government has carried these measures out. So we can see again that a Labour Government with its Concordat would suit the bosses just fine right now.

# THE 'INTERNAL SETTLEMENT'

The British press has been full of the "success of of the so-called "one man - one vote" elections in Rhodesia. This is not surprising - the British press is the mouthpiece of British imperialism.

(The Mirror Group of newspapers, for example represents a direct interest. The Group is owned by Reed International, which owns four subsidiary companies in Rhodesia!) What they have not been so keen to talk about is what the elections are for. What is the "internal settlement"? What is the constitution? Whose interests does it represent? That is the real issue.

The three black traitors, who had been rejected as leaders by the masses, make an "internal settlement" with Smith. They agreed a constitution which includes:

*A "Bill of Rights" which particularly emphasises the protection of the "rights" of owners of property.*

Through this clause the people of Zimbabwe are prevented from taking control of industry and of the mines. This is protection for the superprofits of the British imperialist combines which own most of them.

Secondly, it protects the rights of the white settler farmers. Through the Land Apportionment Act and the Land Tenure Act which were passed by the fascist colonial regime, the white population (3%

of the population) were given the best 50% of the land. The soil is the most productive. The African people were dispossessed, driven off the land, and forced into the most barren areas. Now the regime is supposedly changing its racist nature by saying that in future Africans can buy land, anywhere (if of course, they have enough money). Apartheid is gone, they say. But the African people are not given back their land. In fact the white settlers' "right" to the land they have stolen is protected in the constitution.

The "internal settlement" between Smith and his black traitor friends, goes on:

*"In order to provide a smooth transition and to ensure the continued efficient administration of the country, the civil service, the police, the defence forces, and prison services should be retained in a high state of efficiency free from political interference."*

Now the cat is really out of the bag. The forces of the state, are to be "retained". They must, they say, be "retained"...free from political interference". They have never been free from politics. They have - like state forces anywhere - always been the tool of the ruling class. They have been the prop of a racist and fascist dictatorship over the people of Zimbabwe. In the name of "efficiency" they will be "continued". What is

## BRITISH IMPERIALISM AND THE RHODESIAN

The Labour Government recognises that the African countries and peoples, and the third world in general, are very united and totally reject the "internal settlement". They also know that the "elections" have not changed the balance of forces in Zimbabwe. ZANU and the Patriotic Front have the support of the people, and are stronger than ever. Labour would like to back the internal settlement but they are not going to back a loser. That is why they had their own set of proposals - the "Anglo-American proposals". They don't differ much from the internal settlement. Their aim is the same. But Labour's strategy is to "negotiate" on these proposals with the Patriotic Front hoping to split the Patriotic Front and to split the African countries.

Both the Anglo-American proposals and the internal settlement were put forward for one reason only. That is that the armed liberation struggle was scoring success after success. They were put forward to divert genuine independence and people's democracy.

As *Zimbabwe News*, the official organ of ZANU said:

"The settlement initiative originated by Britain and the USA was in full recognition that sooner or later Smith would be defeated on the battlefield. The Anglo-American proposals were not intended basically for the people of Zimbabwe to achieve genuine independence but to create a neo-colonial state. (A state with formal political independence but where the imperialist monopoly combines continue their economic plunder - Ed).

The Anglo-American proposals even included a "transitional period" where power would be held exclusively by a "British Resident Commissioner, Lord Carver. Again *Zimbabwe News* pointed out:

"Lord Carver is notorious for his putting down

the Mau-Mau in Kenya in the early 1950s and the Front forces in Malaysia in the early 1960s."

Indeed he is a ruthless agent of imperialism. Labour's proposals are clearly not to help the people of Zimbabwe!

The Tory platform has been more openly in favour of Smith and the internal settlement. They have always supported the fascist regime of their "kith and kin". Yet even the Tories were forced to continue sanctions (at least on the surface, like Labour), when they were in power between 1970 and 1974. They have been making all sorts of "promises" to recognise the internal settlement and stop sanctions if they get in this time. Yet they are vacillating now.

Francis Pym, the Tory Shadow Foreign Secretary, is now quoted in the *Daily Telegraph* as saying that there will be no "snap judgement" on Rhodesia. The *Telegraph* goes on: "He intends to damp down expectations that have been aroused both in Rhodesia and among Conservatives in Britain that he would act swiftly, and on his own initiative to recognise the new Government." Now, according to the *Telegraph* he thinks that it is "appropriate to have discussions with Britain's European and American allies and with the Commonwealth...Warnings about the international repercussions of such a step (recognition of Rhodesia) have been conveyed informally by some of the Commonwealth countries notably the African states. It is also clear that some of the white Commonwealth, such as Canada, would also strongly oppose it."

The Tories, like Labour, are forced to balance difficult interests of different parts of the imperialist bourgeoisie because of the rising unity of struggle of the third world in general. The dilemma for the imperialists is how to recognise Rhodesia without being hit somewhere else. This can be seen by the fact that net profits of British imperialist from Rhodesia between 1972 and 1976 rose from £11

# A CONSTITUTION TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF BRITISH IMPERIALISM AND THE WHITE COLONIAL SETTLERS

it that they will "continue" to do so "efficiently". They will continue to efficiently protect the interests of British imperialism and the white colonial settler population!

The "internal settlement" goes on:

*"The above provisions (the two mentioned and a number of others in the same vein - Ed) must be entrenched in the constitution so that a majority of two-thirds plus six of the membership of Parliament is required for their amendment".*

There are 100 seats in the Parliament. Two-thirds plus six makes 73 seats. And here is the final brick in the racist constitution Smith and his puppets have constructed. The white population elects 28 of the seats. The black population votes separately to elect 72 of the seats! Certainly racism and imperialism are "entrenched" in the constitution!

The whites - 3% of the population - automatically gets 28% of the seats, which is just enough to prevent any real change to the system! Even then there is a minority of black traitors who will side with imperialism - like Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau who signed the agreement.

No wonder that throughout the third world, the people and Governments have denounced the election as a "fraud" and a "farce". That is exactly what the whole exercise is.

## 'ELECTIONS'

million to £18 million, while net profits from the Black African states rose from £72 million to £175 million. The British imperialists do not want to risk retaliation by the other African states who are backing the armed liberation struggle. The Canadian and American imperialists have the same problem only worse. That is why they are pressurising the British imperialists as well. So US President Carter has already contacted Thatcher and put on pressure. None of these gangs of international robbers give a damn about the Zimbabwe people, but they are forced to weigh up profit and loss. They know that the only way to divert and set back the liberation struggle is to first split the Patriotic Front and to split the unity of the African states. That is what they are working for. That is why we must support the unity of the Patriotic Front in the national liberation war; support the unity of the African peoples and countries and the third world as a whole; and oppose all imperialist schemes whether by Labour or by the Tories, or by the US superpower. At the same time we must oppose the different imperialist strategy of the Soviet social imperialists who claim to support the Patriotic Front. They are constantly working to bring the Patriotic Front under their control, so that they can rob the fruits of victory from the people of Zimbabwe. They also have manoeuvred to try and split the Patriotic Front. Through such tactics they became the new overlords in Angola and in Vietnam. In other areas they have openly opposed and fought against the liberation forces such as in Kampuchea (Cambodia) and Eritrea. Either way they are no friends of the people. In the long term they are the most dangerous, because of their mask of friendship. Many fighters of the Patriotic Front are well aware of this. They do not intend to let the Soviet tiger in through the back door, while they are pushing the British imperialist wolves and their US allies out the front door.

## RHODESIAN ELECTION FARCE

Cont'd from p1

Just before the election, blanket arrests were made of suspected sympathisers of the Patriotic Front. African teachers, who refused to act as agents in the polling booths were arrested - 15 in the Shabani area alone.

100,000 white regular and reserve army men were mobilised, supposedly to "protect" the election. In fact they were used to pressurise people into voting.

Even the South African "Financial Mail" reported that "both in towns and on white-owned farms, employers threatened workers with dismissal if they did not turn up to vote." Coupled with the fear of being arrested as a "suspect", this forced people - mainly in the towns - to the polls, where helicopter gunships hovered overhead. In the countryside the turnout was much smaller, particularly in the semi-liberated areas. In those areas the military forces were capable of occupying an area and setting up a polling booth, but not of forcing many to the polls. Only in the "protected villages" - concentration camps - could such tactics be used, where lo-and-behold, there was a 100% turnout!

Finally, the question has to be asked - how can the regime a turnout of 63.9% when it does not even have a register of voters? Indeed, how can an election be held at all without a register?

It's not surprising that such a gigantic fraud will expose itself in one or two places - like in one area of Salisbury, where the total votes cast, was well over the total population!

Even Lord Chitnis, a British Peer who went to observe the "election" said on his return to Britain, "What we saw was a gigantic confidence trick. An immense Government propaganda machine was trying to convince a large number of foreign observers and the press that they were conducting a perfectly ordinary and fair election...Most western reporters and foreign observers, I regret to say, stuck with the Government machine, went on the Government sponsored tours and so on." He described "massive intimidation by the Government, by the military" and "pressure ranging from a general feeling inculcated in the local population that they had better be seen going to the polls...to cases of extreme physical violence against those who did not want to vote."

## MUGABE - ARMED STRUGGLE GOES ON

On April 24th, Robert Mugabe, the President of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) was interviewed by the Xinhua News Agency (New China News Agency). He stated that the bogus election were a matter of indifference to ZANU, which is resolved to intensify the armed struggle until the final defeat of the colonial regime. He said that ZANU considers the "constitution" as illegal, and therefore the elections were illegal. He pointed out that although the masses were forced to vote, they were indifferent to it, particularly in the rural areas.

Muzorewa is the black traitor who picked up the most seats in the "polls". He will become Rhodesia's first black prime Minister. It will make no difference. The system will stay. ZANU have long declared that they don't care whether they are fighting a white Ian Smith or a black Ian Smith, the struggle remains. The fight against imperialism and colonialism will go on, will intensify, and will eventually triumph - because that struggle has the real support of the masses.

# 'THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE WILL DEFEAT THE AGGRESSORS'

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF PATRIOTS OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA IN FRANCE

On April 12th, in Paris, comrade Nghet Chopininto, Chairman of the Committee of Patriots of Democratic Kampuchea in France, gave an interview to *Class Struggle*. We reprint below a shortened version of the interview.

*CLASS STRUGGLE: Could you tell us something about the origins of Kampuchea's struggle against Vietnamese aggression?*

N.C. The Kampuchean people and the Communist Party of Kampuchea have long suffered from the deceit and aggression of the Vietnamese authorities. This goes back into history, and it continued after the formation of the Communist Party of Kampuchea in 1960. The Vietnamese authorities opposed the line of our Party which was one of independence and combined political and military struggle against US imperialism. They said that it was impossible for a Party to be independent and sovereign in the present day. You can read about this long struggle in the *Black Book\** on Vietnamese aggression against Kampuchea.

From 1977 onwards this contradiction became extremely acute. In that year, the Vietnamese authorities launched a full-scale attack on Kampuchea. That attack was defeated on January 6th, 1978. Since then the people of Kampuchea have been stocking food, arms and medicine in preparation for a further invasion and in anticipation of a people's war of resistance. So when the invasion came at the end of last year, we were prepared.

The invasion was of the most barbarous kind. At first the Vietnamese troops were unable to advance against our forces. So they carried out widescale and indiscriminate bombing attacks. As they advanced they burned everything; they massacred the people. (They were particularly inhuman to members of the Communist Party of Kampuchea), and raped and bayoneted women and young girls.

*CLASS STRUGGLE: What was the reaction of the Communist Party of Kampuchea to this attack, and what is the present situation?*

N.C. Under the leadership of comrade Pol Pot, the Communist Party decided on a strategic retreat, in order to save lives and regroup our forces. On January 5th, Pol Pot called on the people to wage a popular war of long duration. After regrouping the Kampuchean forces counter-attacked. Their basic tactic is that of encircling the Vietnamese armies and defeating them little by little.

At the present time, all the Vietnamese troops are surrounded by Kampuchean forces. The Vietnamese are suffering heavy losses - they haven't enough food or drink, and can't attend properly to their wounded. Every time that the enemy leaves the towns to steal rice from our people our Revolutionary Army intercepts them.

On March 17th, our forces liberated the strategic town of Kompong Speu, 50 kilometres from Phnom Penh and on Highway 4. Over 600 Vietnamese soldiers and one Russian commander were killed. This was a serious blow to the Vietnamese aggressors.

*CLASS STRUGGLE: How much international support have you received in your struggle?*

N.C. The Vietnamese aggression, supported by the international expansionism of the USSR has been denounced by all the countries and people who stand for peace, independence and justice in the world today. In the Security Council of the United Nations, 13 out of 15 countries denounced Vietnamese aggression and called for the immediate withdrawal of Vietnamese troops. Only the USSR and Czechoslovakia opposed this demand. Twice now the USSR has vetoed resolutions of the non-aligned countries in support of Kampuchea. It has also vetoed the resolution supporting our struggle from the ASEAN countries (Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Phillipines). Everywhere the Vietnamese aggressors and Soviet expansionists are being denounced, exposed and isolated.

We have received help from many friendly countries, in particular from the People's Republic of China. Indirectly, too, the just counter-attack of the Chinese people against Vietnamese aggression helped the Kampuchean people in their protracted struggle. We have also received support from many parties and organisations throughout the world.

*CLASS STRUGGLE: The people of Britain, like people throughout the world support the struggles of small countries against aggression, but what is the wider significance of the Kampuchean struggle?*

N.C. In Vietnam at present, martial law has been declared and there is a massive general military mobilisation. The whole country is on a war footing. At the same time Soviet warships are delivering large numbers of armaments to Cam Rhan Bay naval base - the former US base which the Vietnamese authorities have now given to the USSR. They are also airlifting supplies continually to Hanoi. I have already spoken of Russian "advisers" in Kampuchea. Well, their numbers are increasing, as too is the number of Cuban troops.

All this is a prelude to an intensification of the war threat, not only against Kampuchea but against the whole of South East Asia. This is turn is only part of the USSR's aggressive aims against the whole world.

The Soviet hegemonists, together with their Vietnamese and Cuban mercenaries want to extend their tentacles everywhere. In South East Asia they are aiming for control of the Straits of Malacca, the main sea route between Asia and Europe.

Faced with this aggression, the people of the world are fighting back against the expansionism of the USSR and -the tensions created by them and their mercenaries throughout the world. You can be sure that the Kampuchean people will defeat these aggressors. We are also confident that in the rest of the world as well, the people will be victorious and peace will win out over war.

\*Black Papers (Excerpts) Vols 1&2. Facts and evidence of the acts of aggression and annexation by Vietnam against Kampuchea. September 1978. pp76. Red Flag Publications, Canada. 50p each (+15p postage) Available from New Era Books.