

CLASS STRUGGLE

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Incorporating

NEW AGE

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HEALTH AND PROSPERITY

NEW YEAR MESSAGE TO THE NATION
FROM THE PRIME MINISTER,

The Rt. Hon Margaret Thatcher.



M.T. Promises
10, Downing St.,
Whitehall.

Dear *Subjects,*

I must say how delighted I am to have the opportunity to address you at the start of a new year; a year that will undoubtedly lead to greater happiness, health and prosperity. Christmas has passed, but I so hope that its spirit will help to guide us throughout the year. Christmas is a time of giving and a time of receiving. You will surely continue to give, and we will also play our part - leading us to that happiness, health and prosperity.

Christmas is also a time for family life, and this, also, we fully intend to continue to encourage over the next twelve months. My government has been greatly encouraged by the process of revival of family life since we took office. Following the million helped by my predecessor, we have given over a million more people the opportunity to spend, not just more time, but their whole time, with their loved ones. No more will you be forced to work in those horrid factories, mines and offices.

I am sure that the warmth of family life will be sufficient to sustain you for the rest of the winter and few will be overconcerned with the absolute necessity for further increases in the price of energy.

My government is also creating a whole new understanding of the concept of fitness and health care. Millions of people will be going on a strict diet this year. A few silly wets may complain about the forcefulness with which we are carrying through our programme, but I am sure that one or two of you will have begun to understand that our determination is only because the lower classes do not always understand what is good for them. With a new diet they will be able to tighten their belts still further to their own benefit and that of The Nation. But, of course, going on a diet is not enough. Plenty of exercise must go with it. By reducing staff at Unemployment Benefit Offices millions of people, and soon millions more, will have the opportunity to be on their feet for hours at a time in long queues. By reducing unemployment benefits they will frantically have to run around from factory to factory searching for work which no longer exists! Down with the waist lines! ... Forgive me if I appear to get a little over-enthusiastic, but the benefits are so wonderful.

We will be able to close more hospitals, and without the need for much education we can shut down schools, and save on textbooks. The greater stability of the family will allow us to close kindergartens.



Of course, though, our Nation must be protected. One or two moaning ninnies are just too stupid to understand all that we are working so hard to achieve. These trouble-makers stir things up, leading to strikes and other actions. Some actually go so far as to question not only our good intentions, but our whole Way Of Life and Democratic Institutions. So it has become necessary to expand my Police force. That is why one of my first steps in office was to give them a massive pay increase, and to change the laws to get rid of "solidarity" strikes (we really cannot allow trouble-makers to get together, they are enough nuisance as it is), and to limit pickets to six.

We have also changed the position of small firms, one of the effects of which is to make sure that more women who are bringing new additions to Our Great National Family stay at home alongside their menfolk.

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BRITAIN MUST HONOUR ITS PROMISES

450 Republican prisoners of war in the Long Kesh concentration camp are continuing the 'dirty protest' for political status because the British government is attempting to slide out of the agreement they were forced into which granted significant concessions to the prisoners.

The hunger strike was called off after the government had met, in the prisoners' words, "the requirements of our five basic demands". Further, the government treated the prisoners as political prisoners by reading to them the 'Atkins Statement' - a 34-page document and an accompanying statement and by observing the Republican Movement's command structure in Long Kesh when doing so.

But everybody knew that the struggle was merely moving to a new stage - for the people to defend and extend their victory and for the imperialists to attempt to snatch back what they had been forced to give.

Sounding a warning, "An Phoblacht/Republican News" said, "there must be no complacency", and spoke of the "irresponsible and inflexible" attitude of the British government.

The victories were won by hard struggle, they were not given away. When embarking on the hunger strike, the blanketmen spoke of the "cruel teasing" and "political brinkmanship" of the government and this is the game they played throughout. Before they capitulated, Sean McKenna was blind, comatose and with 24 hours to live, Tommy McKearney was critically ill, three women had joined the hunger strike, as well as another thirty men, and a prisoner in Brixton.

Mass support was building up - in Dublin each march was bigger than the one before, drawing thousands and thousands into the mass struggle against imperialism.

Britain was also being placed in a very isolated position internationally. Revolutionaries from many countries expressed their support and in the United States support came not only from Irish Americans

but from trade unionists, Marxist-Leninists and the American Indian Movement. Third World countries talked of raising the question in the United Nations.

Scandinavian foreign ministries received H-Block delegations and the Portuguese parliament unanimously voted to condemn Britain and support the hunger strikers. The Soviet imperialists found the hunger strike of propaganda value. Very little of this, of course, was reported in the British press.

What the hunger strike showed was that imperialists can be forced to make concessions - by mass struggle. The silly myth that Britain would not talk to 'terrorists' was once again exploded as it was in Ireland in the 1920s and 1970s... in Kenya... in Cyprus... in Aden... in Zimbabwe...

Having climbed down, the imperialists now try and backtrack. On January 2nd, the prisoners issued a statement,

"The British government are past masters of deceit and double dealing. We were aware of this when we accepted with some qualifications their document... Should they remain intransigent, we will be forced to fall back upon our own resources. In that event our only guarantors, the masses who supported us during the recent hunger strike, will once again be called upon by us to take to the streets."

The prisoners added that if the British government "cling to the forlorn hope that they can break the men and women of H-Blocks and Armagh, they have but to look at their failures during the last 4½ years of our protests."

The final outcome of the struggle in the H-Blocks and Armagh is still far from certain. We must not lower our guard. Solidarity is still needed and may become more important than ever. The British imperialists can never crush the Risen People but we have a particular responsibility to see that no patriot comes out of the H-Blocks or Armagh Jail in a coffin.

VICTORY TO THE BLANKETMEN AND THE ARMAGH WOMEN !

VICTORY TO THE IRISH PEOPLE !

Letter

FASCISM AND THE STATE: From a Merseyside reader. I should like to comment on the article in your last issue which put forward the view that the main danger of fascism is the racist state.

Fascism is the political system of the bourgeois state machine, existing sometimes under the veil of consent and the parliamentary system, sometimes existing without any attempt to conceal itself. The ideology of fascism is the ideology of the members of the state machine, of police inspectors and army officers and immigration officers and prison officers, of dole spies and the Special Branch who in their everyday lives rule by force and unquestioning authority. And the social basis of fascism is the state machine itself. The class of people to whom force is the natural solution to all social problems, to whom the leader (such as the general of the prison or governor) is always right, to whom discipline is the most valued thing in life, to whom freedom is nonsense, the class who can think most clearly in terms of the natural subjection of the lower to the higher. This class consists of the actual personnel running the state machine,

who are set apart from the rest of society, privileged far above the working class, leading a life of their own.

I would suggest that those most susceptible to fascist ideas are those members of society who have been members of the state machine, or have had extensive contact with it.

For example, most English working men of 40 years of age and above have spent time in the Army, either in the war or during national service, and I would suggest that they have picked up their racialism in the Army. Imagine an 18-year-old boy going out to Egypt in 1948 and seeing the way coloured people were treated, how the coloured people of Egypt were regarded as just fit to run and inhabit the brothels so beloved of imperialist armies. Imagine how that boy, now a man of fifty, will see the coloured people in Britain today.

The working class have learnt their racism from the state machine.

The middle class, of course, are usually the most likely people to have occupied the kind of position in the state machine that will give them a love of authority. And of course, as defined by bourgeois sociology, most of the members of the state machine are

regarded as members of the middle class. A probation officer or the head of the local dole may well be an ex-army officer and will live in a 'nice' middle-class neighbourhood.

When we turn to the skinheads and thugs so beloved of the British Movement, we must come to the conclusion that they learnt their racism while inside and under the control of the state machine. Those youngsters have almost invariably spent years in approved schools and Borstals and prisons where they have been in daily contact with fascists in and out of uniform of all kinds. I was discussing this with a young chap of 18 whom I teach, and he decided to test my assertion by talking with a youngster he knew personally who had been in Borstal. The young man told me that I was correct, that the Borstal boy had picked up his racism in Borstal, where "the black boys had to be like angels all the time or they got punished, while we (the white) were allowed to get away with things".

It is in such ways that it can be shown that not only do racism and fascism exist inside the state machine, but also that the state machine is the origin of racism and fascism in our society.

Charles Parker dies

CHAMPION OF WORKING CLASS CULTURE



By a Birmingham communist.

On December 2nd 1980, Charles Parker died. His death has robbed the working class and the national minority peoples of one of their most powerful supporters in the field of culture.

Charles saw that all culture (songs, plays, poetry, paintings, etc.) is political. From the early 1950s he was involved in researching the culture of working people, particularly folk song, both past and present. As a BBC producer he became a leading authority and innovator in the field of radio documentaries. Working with singers Ewan MacColl and Peggy Seeger, he made the famous 'radio ballads' about aspects of working peoples' lives and struggles.

Despite strong opposition from his employers he produced a radio documentary on the black American revolutionary, George Jackson. It was Charles' refusal to compromise his political views that led to the BBC sacking him in 1972.

Charles was no armchair revolutionary. His whole work was involved in helping bring about a socialist revolution. As one of the founders of the Birmingham-based Banner Theatre Group he helped develop an organisation which linked political theatre with the actual struggles of the national minorities and the working class.

Banner's shows always started by going to the people involved in an issue, to learn from them the facts and how they saw and said things. It was through this process that the show could really represent those involved, use their way of saying things, and put forward the true interests of the working class. Banner uses theatre to help fight against capitalism.

In 1973 Charles visited China and on his return spoke and wrote about the importance of what was being achieved there. He was active in anti-racist and anti-fascist struggles, Indochina solidarity, Chile solidarity and the struggles of the Gypsies to get sites for their caravans. He was well respected by active trades unionists up and down the country.

Charles' tragic death was not unexpected by those who knew him well. Despite frequent warnings, Charlie found it impossible to take into account either his health or age. He believed there were more important things to consider. His work schedule would have proven arduous for a much younger person, let alone a man of sixty, and it was this degree of commitment which led him to extend himself, finally, beyond the limits of his physical capabilities. His loss is a blow not only for the working class, at whose disposal he put his expertise, but also a tragic blow to the hundreds of people who came to know him through his work.

Charles' political work in the media and culture must be continued. We can derive inspiration from his conviction that working people can and will produce a culture that represents working class interests - a culture that will eventually surpass all humanity's previous achievements in the fields of culture and art.

A WORKER'S NOTEBOOK

THOUSANDS OF RAILWORKERS are working a compulsory 80-hour week for a take-home pay of less than £55, said a recent report from the Low Pay Unit. The exploitation of railworkers has intensified over the last ten years, with a decline in hourly rates compared to the average, and an increase of average hours of 2½ hours per week. British Rail suffers from the lowest rate of state subsidisation of any railway service in Europe.

THE DETENTION AND HARASSMENT of a well-known Indian theatre group at Heathrow airport recently has given rise to strong protest in India. The incident, involving artists from the Pune theatre company, increased awareness in India of the thoroughly racist nature of the immigration controls and policies against all third world people entering Britain. It is unfortunate that responsibility for this racism has normally been attributed to the British people rather than to the oppression of Black and Asian people by the British ruling class and state. But it is true that this is how the situation appears to black and Asian people. It is the responsibility of the British working class to fight all oppression of national minorities and racism in order to win the support of black and Asian people against the bosses in Britain.

A CORNISH TIN MINE recently had its walls smoothed down and whitewashed in preparation for a visit by the Queen. Manager Ken Gilbert claimed that "what we have done for the Queen we would have done anyway." Pull the other leg, Mr Gilbert! As one miner commented, "It is scandalous. The Queen will not see a real working mine."

SCOTS GAELIC remains the first language for many in Scotland, not only in the Isles and Highlands, but also in many towns, notably Glasgow. Throughout this century there has been a powerful Gaelic language movement in Scotland. Its development was given added impetus when Gaelic-speaking immigrants from Ireland found that their language and that of the Scots was largely the same, and a modified form of Gaelic was soon developed that was mutually intelligible. A Scots Nationalist MP is campaigning to get Gaelic made an official language in Scotland. This would open the way for dual-language publication of official documents. Already many road signs in parts of Scotland are dual-language, along the same lines as in Wales. The growing strength of the language movements in Wales and Scotland show that the origins of the unified British state are not forgotten by the nations who were trampled under foot in the bloody and butcherous process which led to its formation.

ACAS, the so-called 'neutral' body that Labour and trade union leaders have so much faith in, has appointed as its new chairman Mr Pat Lowry. Lowry's training in 'neutrality' was obtained during his 15-year spell as a Personnel Director at British Leyland, along with active membership of the CBI and other such organisations.

A ONE WAY TICKET that damages career prospects - this is how the notorious Educationally Sub-Normal Schools were described to the recent Rampton committee of inquiry, which interviewed some graduates of West Indian origin. The interviewees reiterated to the inquiry many of the facts well-known to the black community: that some parents refuse to let their children use West Indian patois even at home, so great is their fear of damaging their children's career prospects; that many teachers hold an 'inaccurate stereotype' of West Indian pupils; that teaching materials give a 'censored view of the world'; that successful black pupils often feel they have been forced to play down their colour and their culture to succeed. With such handicaps, it is not surprising that only one in 833 students in this country is of West Indian origin, and only a very tiny proportion of teachers.

POLAND - VIEWS OF THE MAI

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Class Struggle" is pleased to be able to present the viewpoint of the Communist Party of Poland, regarding the situation in their country. The CPP is a proletarian revolutionary party based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong thought that fights for the re-establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in Poland. The views and analysis of our Polish comrades are a great aid in our understanding of the Polish peoples' struggle. The following extensive excerpts from a recent party statement are translated from the French Marxist-Leninist paper, "L'Humanité Rouge." Subheads are ours.

STATEMENT OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF POLAND

Important changes have emerged in the situation in Poland.

Our attitude is to support the strike and the newly created unions even if there exist errors and shortcomings, and negative influences can be seen deriving from the democratic opposition and religion.

Contradictions exist within the Unified Workers' Party. The Soviet satellites around Poland also exert pressure: for example the German Democratic Republic put limitations on its relations and on crossing the frontier between the two countries which normally involves 3.5 million GDR citizens and 2 million Poles.

This springs from the GDR's fear of seeing itself penetrated by the independent trade-union current, and also from willingness to execute strategic manoeuvres with a view to encircling Poland.

As for the USSR, it openly expresses its disapproval with regard to Poland.

WORKERS AND THE UNIONS

Meanwhile, clashes between government and unions are tending to grow as the situation grows more acute.

But of course at the moment many forces push in the direction of a compromise, including the religious forces and the USA.

Thus, from a Marxist-Leninist viewpoint we consider it an error that the union should stress its 'apolitical' character. Independence in relation to a bourgeois party is correct, but to be apolitical can lead to a split in the ranks of the working class.

That weaknesses arise in such a great mass movement is in no way surprising. It will be possible to draw some lessons from this.

If one considers the three workers' movements of 1956, '70 and '80, each has its own special characteristics but the degree of consciousness and unity of the working class continually grows.

The first two movements were above all economic in character, whereas the third assumes right from the start a political character.

In 1956 and 1970 only the working class took part, while this time intellectuals, students and petty-bourgeoisie have joined in.

In the course of the movement it can clearly be seen that trade union leaders, petty-bourgeois, intellectuals all have their influence, but that they cannot play a major role in the framework of a spontaneous movement.



The Lenin Shipyard, Gdansk. Workers' leader Anna Walentyńowicz exchanges with an official via a megaphone. Anna was sacked after the 1970 strikes. Her reinstatement was one of the workers' demands.

In Poland the petty-bourgeoisie and religion are fully conscious of the fact that if the Polish proletariat plays a major role, that will cause them irreparable harm.

To say that the working class does not act politically is fundamentally mistaken. Those who claim the working class to be 'apolitical' are representatives of the petty-bourgeoisie and religion, without links with the working class; and this is why such a slogan won't last long.

The workers represent the majority of the population in Poland and should thus, according to democracy, be in power. If the unions don't concern themselves with politics, who will?

To limit the workers to within the factories will not be possible in Poland. If they act in this way, the unions will revolt against

their own leaders. At the moment, the workers' movement is developing in the revolutionary socialist direction of All power to the Workers.

THE SOVIET UNION

Now we would like to speak of the problem of the Soviet Union. In our opinion there exists at the moment an incorrect view according to which the USSR is awaiting the moment to attack, such an attack being inevitable.

To begin with, there are already Soviet troops stationed on Polish territory. In 1956, '70 and '80 the USSR had all the opportunities for military intervention but did not carry this out. These are the facts.

If Gomulka and then Gierek tried to intimidate the workers by brandishing the threat of bloody happenings or intervention, this was because they feared a revolution which would mark their collapse. The USA for its part does not wish to be involved in the Polish events either, because they think that these are situated within the Soviet sphere of influence.

If the USSR does undertake a military intervention they won't lift a finger, just like they did not even send a note of protest after the invasion of Czechoslovakia.

Anyway, does the USSR really want to intervene? No, because it doesn't want to utilise its own force to control Poland.

This is why at the moment it is using a political solution, and not force. The dismissal of Gomulka and Gierek did not cause any embarrassment to Moscow, because it had its candidate for the post.

After the dismissal of Gomulka and Gierek, the USSR handed out economic aid to Poland in the character of a very good neighbour.

Of course, if an incident occurs in Poland and it throws itself into the arms of the USA, the USSR will intervene without any doubt, but up to now such a situation hasn't arisen.

Naturally the Communist Party of Poland holds that limited measures can in no way be sufficient in Poland. But we think that to undertake revolution will not inevitably bring about aggression. Our party thus continues to conduct revolutionary struggle and we consider that the re-establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat will not incite the USSR to think that Poland will quit the Soviet sphere of influence and range itself alongside the USA.

Why is the USSR cautious? If there was military intervention the Polish people would rise up and the

MARKSIST-LENINISTS

Polish army would take the side of the working class.

If the situation deteriorates, the USSR will first use the political and military secret police and only in second place a military intervention as such.

But of course it is not impossible that the nearest neighbours start first. For the Soviet Union, Poland represents an important strategic position in the centre of Europe.

At present the USSR is thus putting all its efforts into keeping Poland in its sphere of influence. This is why we believe that the most realistic thing is to develop the socialist revolution.

Our Party's position of principle is to oppose all blocs, but at the present time it is neither realistic nor correct to demand Poland's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact.

The Polish events have a major significance not only for the Eastern Europe satellite countries, but also for the working class of capitalist countries. Thus, when the working class struggles for a new system it will be like an epidemic.

At the moment the working class the world over expresses its sympathy with regard to the Polish working class. The Polish movements have contributed to raising the consciousness of the class, that's why they are contagious. We are a component part of the international workers' movement.

THE TASKS OF THE PARTY

What is the way out of this situation in Poland? It is to recognise that the Communist Party of Poland is a legitimate Communist organisation of the left within the Unified Workers' Party.

That means, to unite the majority of the members of the UWP against the revisionist clique and topple it. We have proposed a realistic programme of purification of the UWP.

We unite with the working class and revolutionary sector of the UWP to reject the name of UWP and replace it with that of CPP. We again stress that today within the UWP, workers are in a majority.

Our demand is that, after the party's purification, workers represent two-thirds at all levels, including the Central Committee.

In the CC at present there is not a single worker. Having analysed these problems our Party holds that it is necessary at present for the CPP to become a legal organisation within the UWP. It is necessary to begin a dialogue between the

leading clique of the UWP' and the CPP to reconstitute the revolutionary party and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Within the UWP there is great disarray, including in the leadership. The leading clique has lost its prestige among the popular masses and has cut itself off from the masses.

FOOTNOTE

1. The pro-Soviet ruling party normally referred to in the West as the Polish Communist Party.



Crowds outside the Lenin Shipyard which became the national focus for the Solidarity Trade Union.

POLES WILL FIGHT!

Contributed by a Yeovil reader,

"If the Russians invade, Poles will fight! We fought the Nazis! We fought the Tsars! We have fought for centuries for independence, against all who have occupied our country, and tried to erase our nation from the map of Europe, and oppress our people!... We will go on fighting to completely liberate our country!"

Having said this the comrade told us something of a recent telephone conversation he had had with relatives in Poland who told him of the terrible shortages of food-stuffs and other basic necessities, the political tension and the ever present Polish soldiers. He said, "The air is thick with the smell of revolution... People have had enough." Speaking of his own recent visit to Poland he said, "Every second Pole seems to be a Maoist!"

He continued, "The Russians don't really need to 'invade', as such, since they have massive troop concentrations permanently stationed there already. However, if there is a Nazi-type invasion, Poles will fight. I have a bad heart condition, but I still have one parachute jump left in me."

The comrade who spoke to us fought in the resistance movement against the Nazis and played an active part in the heroic Warsaw uprising of 1944.

CPP ATTACKED BY 'LEFT' REVISIONISTS

In its courageous fight for the re-establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat, the Communist Party of Poland has not only had to face severe repression from the Polish regime, but has also suffered sabotage and wrecking activities from the 'left' opportunist clique in the Albanian Party of Labour headed by Enver Hoxha, self-styled 'great anti-revisionist.'

The General Secretary of the Communist Party of Poland is Comrade Kazimierz Mijal. A member of the old Polish Party's Political Bureau at the time of the Nazi occupation, he held important party and government posts after the establishment of People's Poland. After revisionism triumphed in the old Polish Communist Party (then renamed the Unified Workers' Party) and it became impossible for genuine Marxist-Leninists to fight for their views inside the party at that time, Comrade Mijal went underground and played the leading role in refounding the Communist Party of Poland. After some time it became necessary for him to leave the country and Comrade Mijal went to carry on his revolutionary work from Albania.

In an article he wrote for "Red Flag" (organ of the Communist Party of Poland), Comrade Mijal relates how after the Seventh Congress of the Albanian Party (held in 1976), the Albanian leadership set out to subvert the Communist Party of Poland because it firmly upheld Socialist China, and in particular, the Theory of Three Worlds. At secret meetings with members of the party inside Poland, Albanian diplomats demanded the removal of Comrade Mijal.

When these activities were exposed, Comrade Mijal sent a number of letters to the Albanian Central Committee in which he denounced the Hoxha clique's activities as anti-party and contrary to proletarian internationalism. He asked for a visa to leave Albania as well as authorisation to take the party's files with him.

Comrade Mijal writes, "On the 8th June, a representative of the leadership of the PLA (the Albanian party) let me know officially that I could not take any documents relating to the files of the Polish Communist Party, and that they had given orders to the Security forces

CONTINUED OVERLEAF

'LEFT' REVISIONISTS

Continued from previous page.

to the effect that I must "respect the laws of the Albanian people", which was obviously a threat of imprisonment if I took any part of the records. The Security forces around my house were immediately reinforced, and I can state that between 8th and 30th June, I was held in Albania by force, practically a prisoner in my own home. (In particular, Comrade Mijal was ordered not to visit the Chinese Embassy). On 20th June, a representative of the leadership of the PLA informed me of the decision taken

by the Central Committee concerning my request, and stated, "On the basis of the decision of the leadership of the PLA, the records of the Polish Communist Party must remain in Tirana." Of course, I protested against the decision, but as I was, so to speak, being held in detention and as the balance of forces was unfavourable to me if I persisted over keeping the files, I found myself forced to give in to the scandalous decision of the PLA in order to escape from a situation which would lead me to prolong my enforced stay in Albania. The action of the PLA has no precedent in the history of the international workers' movement. It is evident that the main cause of my departure from Albania was the subversive

anti-party and anti-proletarian action of the PLA aimed at the destruction of the PCP as a Marxist-Leninist Party. The restrictions enforced by the leadership of the PLA on my exit visa and the prohibition of taking the records of the PCP with me... show a kind of blackmail and political terrorism, and are a flagrant abuse of power and violation of rights, as the shameful decision to confiscate the records shows. These events show the real face of 'left' revisionism and clearly condemn the illegal and scandalous acts of the PLA in relation to the PCP."

Since his departure from Albania, Comrade Mijal has been living in Socialist China.

CONFERENCE EXPOSES SOVIET IMPERIALISM

On November 29th and 30th of last year an important conference was held in Montreal, in the oppressed Quebec nation of Canada. Taking as its theme, "The Soviet Union and the Third World", the conference, organised by the Committee to Support the People of the Third World (CAPT), gave 700 people the chance to hear patriots, freedom fighters and progressive intellectuals from 15 countries tell of Soviet oppression and resistance to it around the world. The conference also condemned US imperialist interference in El Salvador.

Particular attention was paid to the three main armed struggles against Soviet Social imperialism with speakers from Kampuchea and Afghanistan and a slide show on Eritrea. Other speakers told how the Communist Parties of Thailand and the Phillipines had to fight US domination whilst alert to Soviet subversion.

The Somali Ambassador to Canada made an inspiring speech and the representative of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania (South Africa) revealed that, "The KGB has had secret negotiations with the racist South African regime offering Soviet recognition in exchange for lifting the ban on the pro-Moscow South African Communist Party."

CARIBBEAN CONTENTION

Two of the most significant speeches were made by speakers from the Caribbean. Lorenzo Canizares left Cuba in 1962 and is now an active trade unionist in the United States. He told the conference,

"Many people are not aware of the master/slave relationship between the Soviet Union and Cuba, and see Cuba as a little Third World country that dared to stand up and fight against a superpower."

But, Canizares told of Cuba's national debt of 7-8 billion dollars, 77.6% of which is owed to the Soviet Union. In 1965, a study by the Cuban National Bank on Soviet sales to Cuba concluded that Cuba was paying 50% more than the world market price.

Besides economic domination, the Cuban patriot told of the several thousand Soviet military advisers and he asserted that Cuba has aided Soviet penetration of Peru, South Yemen, Grenada, Nicaragua, Mozambique, Congo and the Canary Isles. Within the western hemisphere Cuba acts to enforce Soviet interests in Latin America and as an obstacle to United States aid to Western Europe in the event of war. Cuba is, "the Soviet

dagger inside of the non-aligned movement."

Canizares spoke of the independent trend that existed in the Cuban leadership in the early 1960's and identified it with Che Guevara.

"Che not only sympathised with the position of diversifying agriculture, but he also suspected that the Soviet Union was taking advantage of Cuba... Che denounced the Soviet economic practices, comparing them to the United States, at a Conference of Third World countries held in Algiers on February 26th, 1965. Four months later, Che left Cuba for ever."

David Abdulah, an education and research officer for the Oilfield Workers' Trade Union in Trinidad and Tobago told the conference that,

"In the English-speaking Caribbean, the Soviet Union has used the impact of the Cuban revolution to attempt to bring the region into its sphere of influence and/or infiltrate genuine national liberation movements and turn them into fifth columns for Soviet Social imperialism.

"It is clear that the Caribbean has been drawn into the area of superpower contention."

Abdulah made it clear that in the national democratic revolution of the Trinidadian people, the immediate enemy of the people is the Western imperialists, particularly the United States.

"The United States dominates our economic life through multinational corporations... Other imperialist powers also exploit my country... Britain through Dunlop, Unilever, Metal Box, Barclays Bank."

Abdulah proceeded to give concrete information on Soviet subversion of national liberation movements in St. Vincent, Antigua, Barbados and Dominica. He described Soviet-Cuban attempts to subvert Jamaica and their growing domination over Grenada in the military, diplomatic and economic fields. He revealed that Guyana now sells 98% of its bauxite (aluminium ore) to the Soviet Union but pointed out -

"The newly emergent Working People's Alliance of which the late Dr. Walter Rodney was a leading member and which pursues a course independent of the two superpowers, has been able to considerably erode the influence of the Soviet Union in Guyana and is growing in strength. This is a very positive development for the people of Guyana."

Continued next page.

EURO-RACISM !

On Christmas Eve, the social chauvinism of the revisionist 'Communist' Party of France (PCF) flowered into fascist thuggery. Led by the local PCF Mayor, in person, Party members broke into a hostel in the Paris suburb of Vitry where 300 workers from the African state of Mali were living. The thugs cut gas and electricity supplies, smashed the heating boiler and used a bulldozer to block the exits with piles of earth and rubbish.

The Mayor's deputy said, "The people of Vitry are just fed up. Out of every ten inhabitants, two are immigrants." This is the same vile numbers game played by the National Front and the British Movement.

The attack in Vitry is not an isolated misunderstanding. PCF boss, Georges Marchais, has recently been calling for tighter immigration controls which led revolutionary communists in France to dub him, "Marchais - Euro-Racist."

On December 15th, nine days before the racist attack, Marchais called for a complete ban on further immigration and a dispersal of those already in France. He said that immigrants were taking the jobs of French workers, the old racist myth that finds the capitalist system 'not guilty' of causing unemployment.

MORNING STAR TO THE RESCUE !

Anti-racists in Britain should note that the "Morning Star", paper of the revisionist 'Communist' Party of 'Great' Britain (who also support immigration controls) attempted to justify the racist attack in Vitry under a headline reading, "Immigrants 'used as pawns by French right wing'". The Ku Klux Klan-style operation by PCF storm-troopers was described as, "a demonstration by locals"!

The "Morning Star" argues that a neighbouring council was responsible for moving the workers. The revisionist mayor took out an injunction to prevent the workers being moved to Vitry, which is exactly what some Tory councils did to stop British citizens from Asia and East Africa from being settled in their boroughs.

The "Star" approvingly quotes a PCF statement calling for "a much wider dispersal of housing provision" for immigrants. "We support the concrete measures taken by communist Mayors."

On Christmas Eve one of those "concrete measures" was to attack a workers' hostel using a bulldozer, vandalise it and force 300 terrorised black workers onto the streets. Social chauvinist policies had been translated into social fascist thuggery!

CONFERENCE

Continued from opposite page.

Abdulah said that Soviet ideological subversion in Trinidad has been held in check by the activities of the National Movement for True Independence (NAMOTI) who have condemned the Soviet Union's, "activity of stifling struggles for genuine independence, subverting independent countries, infiltrating national liberation movements, dividing them and bringing them under Soviet control."

Concluding on an optimistic note, Abdulah said, "It is the masses who are going to create a revolution... We are supporters of ZANU's dictum that 'We are our own liberators'."

INTERNATIONAL NOTES



CHINA: The investigation and debates at the trial in Beijing of the ten principle surviving members of the counter-revolutionary cliques of Lin Biao and Jiang Qing concluded on December 29th. As "Class Struggle" went to press, verdicts and sentences were still being awaited. At the final hearing Jiang Qing remained unrepentant and attempted to invoke the name of Chairman Mao to justify her activities during the 'Cultural Revolution'. The prosecution countered by arguing,

"This is a vicious slander and calumny of Chairman Mao Zedong."

Whilst criticising Mao for political errors in the 'Cultural Revolution' the prosecutor pointed out,

"Our Party and State leaders have time and again reiterated that throughout his career, Chairman Mao's great achievements are primary, while his mistakes are secondary... It is futile for Jiang Qing to attempt to cover up her counter-revolutionary crimes by using Chairman Mao's high prestige... Chairman Mao himself exposed and refuted Jiang Qing some time ago."

The trial proceedings revealed an abundance of evidence and details of the counter-revolutionary crimes of the Lin-Jiang cliques. The next issue of "Class Struggle" will carry a more detailed article on the trial and other recent events in China.

PERU: The revolutionary left in this Latin American country had stunning successes in November's municipal elections. The National Union of the Revolutionary Left (UNIR) won more votes than any other party, save for the ruling party. UNIR elected hundreds of mayors and aldermen, including close to 100 in the district of Lima, the capital city. Many of those elected are well known as trade union or peasant leaders.

In some provinces UNIR won between 60-80% of the vote. The pro-Soviet revisionist party did not win a single municipality. UNIR was organised by the Communist Party of Peru (which is based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought) and includes the Revolutionary Communist Party and other revolutionary forces. It is not merely an electoral alliance but an organisation of revolutionary struggle. The Peruvian comrades point out that decisive battles lie ahead because reactionary and pro-imperialist forces are looking for the chance to stage a military coup.

SINGAPORE: Lee Kuan Yew's People's Action Party (PAP) won all the seats in the recent General election in Singapore. Shortly before the elections, the radio station, "Voice of the Malayan Revolution" broadcast a commentary entitled, "General election without freedom", which exposed the colonial and pro-imperialist history of Lee Kuan Yew. The radio pointed out that, "It was the British who used force and fraud to put Lee Kuan Yew into power and that is precisely how Lee Kuan Yew stays in power." The radio exposed the cynical manipulation of previous elections. Exposing PAP demagogy it pointed out that, "much of the misfortune the people in Singapore face is the consequence of the policy of the PAP government, which has tied Singapore's economy to the apron strings of the crisis-ridden capitalist countries... Lee Kuan Yew continues to hold elections, but they are elections where dissenting voices are not heard. They are elections where even the elected may be thrown into jail. They are elections where the people have no freedom to choose."

BOLIVIA: Comrade Oscar Zamora, Secretary General of the Communist Party of Bolivia (Marxist-Leninist) was arrested on November 15th by Peruvian police after he tried to cross the frontier with the intention of demanding political asylum in Peru. After the military coup d'etat in Bolivia last July the fierce hunt for political opponents has forced thousands underground or into exile.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

I really cannot understand why some women want to work, and rabbit on about social life, meeting other people, playing a role in society in general, not just in the home, and even, in a gross materialist fashion, about money. (There's far too much money about anyway, but we are doing something about that.

My government further intends to get rid of these horrible unofficial strikes which just wreak havoc with our Plan. Just because workers vote for them, they think that makes it alright. It will be better when we make absolutely certain that it is only top union leaders who can authorise a strike. As I was saying to Dennis the other day, they are after all sane and sensible men, by and large. They live in nice areas. They don't live in those nasty terraced houses in the cities or in council flats (There's too many of them about too). Some of them even become Lords. They understand us. Now why can't everyone rely on them? There wouldn't be half so much trouble.

Before I close, I would like to say a word on behalf of our Armed Forces. Their recreation schedules of skiing holidays and other pleasures have been severely disrupted by those horrible Irish people.

Just because Ireland is their country, they think they have the right to run it. Why don't they just leave well enough alone and leave us to get on with our heritage - the right to rule. Together with our Labour colleagues, we have done an even better job over there than here in Britain. You just can't please some people.

Now finally I want to say a word to all those 150,000 people who marched through Liverpool on 29th November. That is not what I meant when I said I would get this country back on its feet. I don't like it, and it had better stop. I know it feels good to let a little steam off now and then, but it had better not go any further. I know that my Labour colleagues are aware of what is acceptable, but some of you are just going to go too far. I won't have it. Let that be an end of it and let's work together to produce a fit, healthy, homeloving Nation and happiness, health and prosperity for my friends and I.

Yours for Britain,

M. Thatcher

Leyland wokers are about to meet to consider what steps to take in response to the companies' continued attacks.

Eight workers, four of them Shop Stewards, have been sacked stewards, to make an example of, and couldn't give a damn even on the specifics of particular cases against the men. One of the sacked stewards was even trying to get the furious workers to moderate their activity!

The TGWU have officially stated that they will back their members if they decide to strike, and this is to be welcomed. But the AUEW leadership is following its normal line on Leyland - No strike whatever the management do. A policy of utter collusion in the face of yet more and more

VICTIMISATION AT LEYLAND

(Contributed.)

management attacks.

Whatever the outcome of this particular dispute, it is clear that more and more Leyland workers are prepared to fight back, and that substantial numbers are prepared to stand by fellow workers who have been victimised.

for allegedly taking part in a mass deonstration of hundreds of workers at the Longbridge plant in Birmingham. Management have accused the eight of damage and intimidation.

The fact that the demonstration arose as frustration and anger boiled over due to the management's breaking agreements with unions alongside continued lay-offs is considered an irrelevance by the bosses' press; as is Michael Edwardes' style of 'take it or leave it' and 'I couldn't give a monkey's what you think'.

Quite clearly the management have picked on a few individuals at random, and particularly shop

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday January 25th

REMEMBER BLOODY SUNDAY

March to commemorate the massacre of unarmed Irish patriots by British imperialism. Organised by Provisional Sinn Fein (Britain). Assemble 2.30 pm, Splott Park, Cardiff, Wales

Sunday January 25th

FREE NAMIBIA, BRITAIN'S NUCLEAR COLONY.

Half of Britain's uranium comes from Namibia. The contracts are due for renewal this year. Campaign Against Namibian Uranium Contracts Conference to plan work. Films, workshops and speakers from the labour and anti-nuclear movements.

11.30 am, Africa Centre, 38 King St., London WC2.

For further details, phone 01-388-2089.

Saturday February 14th

INAUGURAL CONCERT BY EISLER ENSEMBLE

To include works by revolutionary composer Eisler, and by Shostakovitch. Talk on Eisler's work.

2.30pm Goldsmith College, Lewisham Way, London SE4. Admission £1.



ASSEMBLY LINE RESISTANCE. A Leyland manager summarily executed in effigy by workers at Speke in 1978.