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VICTORY TO THE BANTA STRIKERS!



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Menasha Strike Wins Support Banta Workers Draw The Line

Workers at Banta Publishing in Menasha have been on strike for 13 weeks to fight a union busting attempt on the part of the company. The 750 strikers, members of Bookbinders Local 3213 and Lithographers Local 881 of Graphic Artists International Union in the process of their struggle to save their union, are strengthening it and uniting other workers in the Fox River Valley around them.

Menasha, Wisconsin--6 am--mass pickets assemble at the two Banta Publishing Plants in this Fox River Valley city of 15,000. Menasha police drive up in a local school bus to escort the scab pressmen and machinists into the plants.

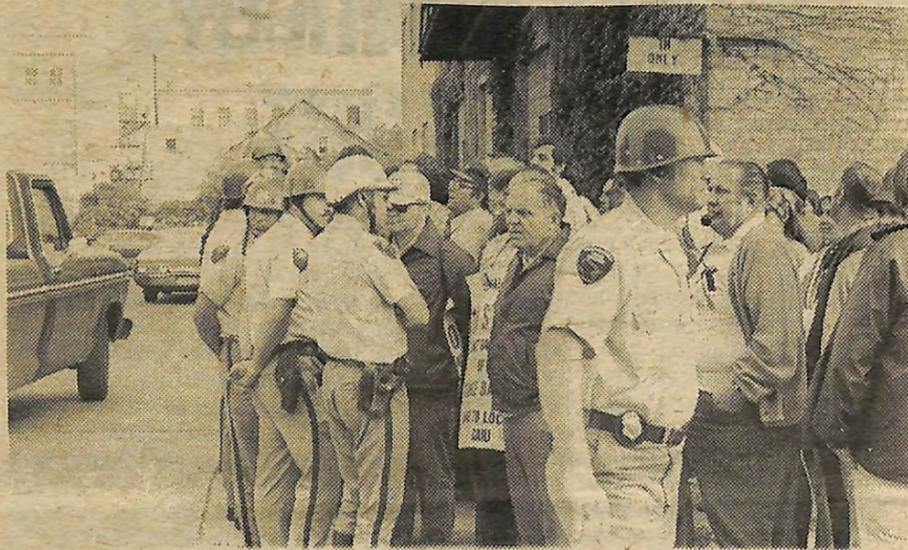
When the contract expired April 4 the company "offered" to take away a short work week, part of the cost of living allowance, and some of the health insurance benefits. The workers were willing to go back for a contract similar to the last one, but Banta has only offered cutbacks.

Two other locals at Banta, Printing Press local 531 and an independent machinist local with 130 workers have scabbed on the strike. They extended

their contracts on April 4, playing right into the company's hands. The struggle has brought the striking workers a new sense of unity and the two striking locals are already planning to merge.

The strikers have the company uptight as they take the offensive. Their plants have been fortified--the downtown plant is boarded up and a special bridge has been built over the river behind the plant. Strikers know this is where the company will try to run in more replacements. They say a scab bridge can't stand for long. The Midway plant is one of the largest printing plants in the nation covering 15 acres. This plant has also been boarded up.

Early in the strike riot squads from Winnebago, Outagamie, and Calumet counties as well as the cities of Fond du Lac, Oshkosh, Appleton, Neenah, Kimberly and Menasha were sent onto the picket lines. Strikers pelted them with eggs and picket signs. From the start it has been clear which side the city officials are on. The chairman of the Menasha Police and Fire Commission also is the chief of security for Banta. City officials have also



BANTA PUBLISHING OFFERED ONLY CUTBACKS IN THIS YEARS CONTRACT, PLUS COPS FROM SEVEN CITIES AND THREE COUNTIES.

cancelled several meetings with strikers.

Workers throughout the Fox River Valley have rallied to the aid of the brothers and sisters at Banta. A large car caravan, plant collections and boycotts are among the tactics being used

to build support throughout the area. Even though the striking locals are not members of the local labor council, the locals have gotten them to move on the strike.

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Strike Vote Brings Victory AMC Forced to

On Monday June 13th top AMC executives were forced to eat their words and rehire Charlie Underwood with full rights and back pay. Underwood, a militant chief steward in Dept. 817 had been on the streets for 2 months with no income after being fired on a phoney sabotage charge. AMC big shots were boasting and taking bets that Underwood would never see the inside of the plant again.

But from the day he was fired Charlie Underwood had the support of thousands in the plant. Men in Dept. 817, one of the most militant in the plant, were ready to walk out when he was fired. The local executive board quietly put out the word that a strike vote would be taken to keep the struggle under their control. At the strike vote meeting thousands came out and voted 97% to strike for Underwood's job, and 9 other unresolved grievances. People who had not been to a union meeting in years came out and speaker after speaker supported Underwood.

Throughout this time United Workers

Organization members and others in the shop distributed leaflets at the gate and inside the plant putting out the facts on the case and tying it into the mounting attack on workers and attempts to weaken unions that are going on all over.

But for all the momentum that the rank and file had going, the International and some Local leaders began to sit on the strike authorization vote. First it was the International Convention that held up a strike deadline over Underwoods job. A month passed before a deadline was set. But once the deadline was set mass confusion set in. The Local President Ralph Daum went through the shop spreading confusion and trying to get political mileage for himself, being pro-strike to some and anti-strike to others. The International Rep ran to the Kenosha News and leaked a story that no deadline had really been set. Some of the local leaders held to the Monday noon deadline. In the shop nobody know for sure what was going

Rehire Steward

on. Peoples' faith in the union leaders again shrunk as they looked unable and unwilling to take on the company.

It was in this confused atmosphere that a meeting between top level AMC and UAW officials took place on the Monday morning of the deadline. Neither side wanted a strike but a strike looked possible. As the negotiators huddled at the Holiday Inn in Kenosha the threat of a strike at noon was very real. In the motor and machining departments where Underwood had solid support, all the chief stewards met and got ready to call out the plant. Long time Kenosha workers prepared to hit the streets like they had in the past standing up to AMC. At the last minute the results of a lie detector test proving Underwood's innocence were brought into the meeting, and the company had its chance to get off the hook.

Charlie Underwood was brought back to work because he had support among the people. AMC was afraid of a strike and that's why they settled. The "great

negotiators" of the union did nothing but keep Underwood on the streets longer than necessary.

The firing of Underwood was only one of AMC's attacks on the workers in the last year. Hit hard by competition from the Big 3 and the foreign companies in the small car field, AMC must increasingly squeeze its very existence out of the workers. This means attempting to weaken the union by firing good stewards like Underwood. It means thousands on long-term layoff. It means retiming jobs to the limit of human endurance. It means older workers passing out on the line and being carried out of the shop "unable." And it will surely mean a vicious attack at contract time this September.

The rank and file in their thousands organized to fight can stand up to AMC. The union leaders didn't get Charlie Underwood back, the union members did. ■

Cops & Press Promote Fascists

Workers Unite to Hit

Nazis and KKK

July 4 was no picnic for the Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan. Hundreds of workers in Chicago and Columbus, Ohio staged powerful demonstrations to halt these vicious reactionary movements.

The Nazis and the Klan tried to run their racist lies down behind the patriotic cover of the Fourth of July. Claiming to represent the sentiments of working people, these low-lives assembled their meager forces to drive wedges in the unity of working people.

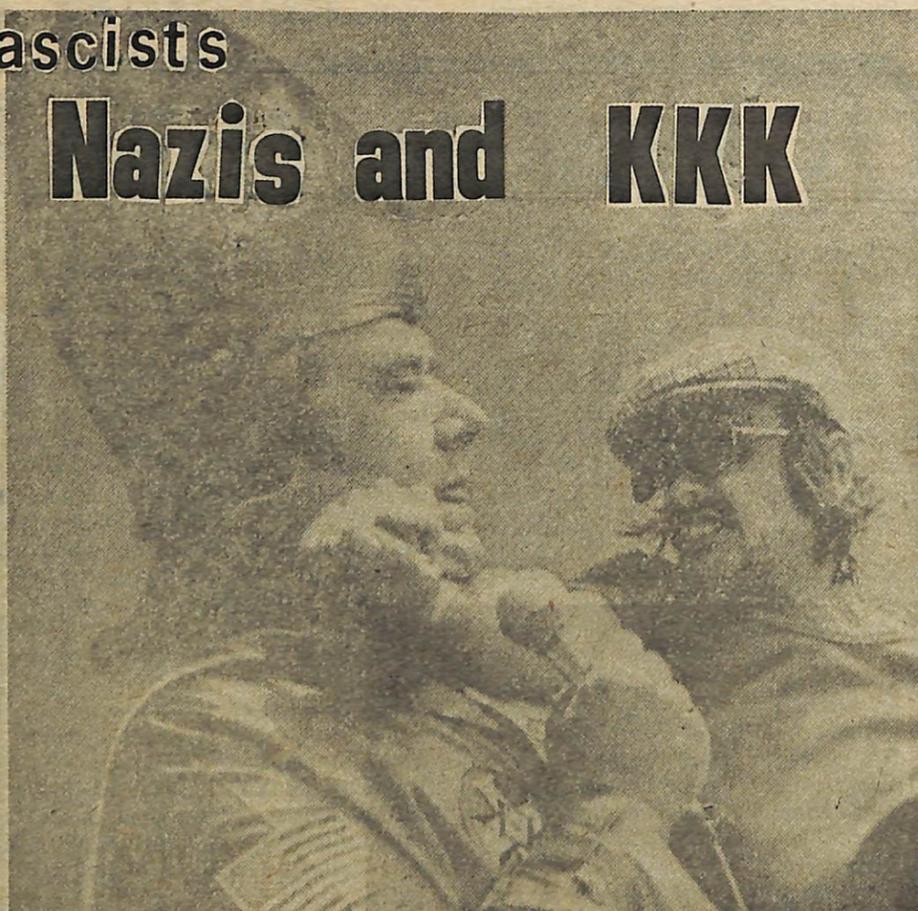
In Columbus, 300 workers and students rallied to stop the Klan. For years, the Klan has run around hanging and lynching innocent victims, while the police turned their backs. But workers in Columbus caught the police off guard, and gave the Klan a taste of the working class justice they deserve. They tore the robes off the Imperial Wizard and knocked some Klansmen's heads with clubs. The police moved in and arrested 4 anti-Klan demonstrators. The Klan's filthy trash about killing Blacks and Jews was okay for the cops--but for people to fight the Klan was not. One steelworker, a member of the Organ-

izing Committee for a National Workers Organization, was charged with "inciting a riot."

In Chicago, the gestapo in blue, the cops, also stepped in to protect the Nazis. 150 workers, vets and youth of many nationalities marched on the Nazi national convention. Chanting "The Nazis are the tool of the rich man's rule," the militant demonstration put out the united stand of working people. The handful of Nazis at the convention hid behind police lines, shouting their racist slurs.

The Nazis had planned to march in Skokie, a town that is over 60% Jewish including 7,000 survivors of Hitler's concentration camps. The people of Skokie organized against the Nazis, stopping them from holding a march on May 1. This time, the Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization joined with this mass hatred for the Nazis and formed the Run the Nazis Out Coalition. This powerful movement stopped the Nazis

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COLUMBUS OHIO - 300 WORKERS AND STUDENTS RALLIED TO STOP THE KLAN. THIS IMPERIAL WIZARD GOT WHAT HE DESERVED.

Refuse Measly Wage Offer STATE WORKERS WALKOUT

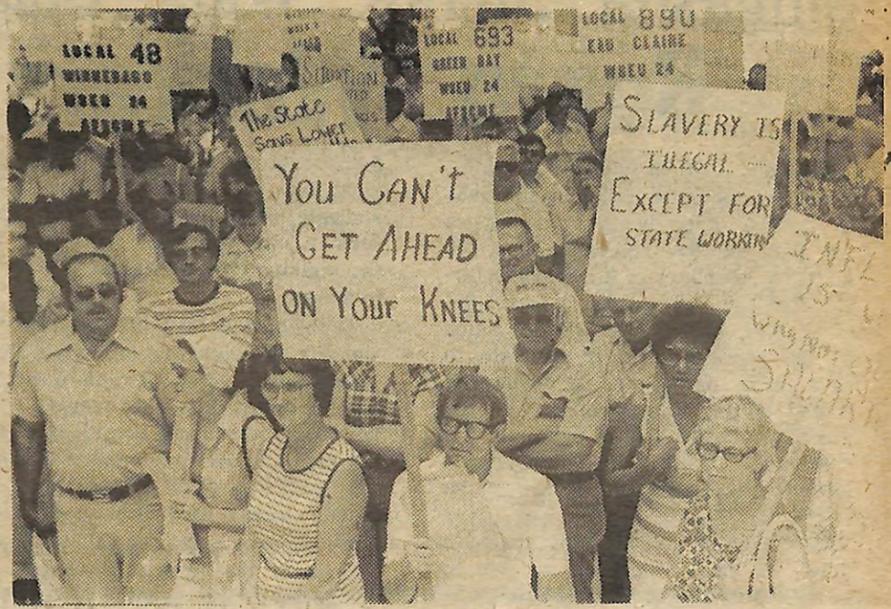
On July 3, State employees walked off the job. The first state-wide strike in the union's history began when state negotiators would not budge on wage demands. State workers let Schreiber and Co. know that they wouldn't be pushed around. And once again state officials showed their lack of concern for the people of Wisconsin by forcing the workers to strike. They're willing to let state services be disrupted rather than come up with raises the state workers need.

In the past several contracts, state workers have gotten 7-8% raises that don't match inflation. State workers see this contract as a time to turn things around. From the start the state officials have been determined to keep state workers down and their first offer was 2%. Since then they have come up a little but still refuse any cost of living allowance. All

this takes place as high state officials get raises that average 16.5%.

State workers over the past month have been building the contract fight. Workers have set up informational picketing on their lunch breaks at state office buildings around the state. On June 26, over 1000 workers rallied on the state capitol grounds. The determination to get what they need showed in the militant and jubilant spirit of the crowd. Their picket signs said, "Civil, yes; Servants, no!" "COLA the clause that refreshes." "They say, Lower your demand, We say Up, Yours!" A pregnant state worker carried a sign saying, "I'm due, so is my contract."

State workers have taken this stand because Schreiber & Co. have thrown everything in the book at them. As soon as the walkout began National Guard troops were called up to take over state jobs.



OVER 1000 STATE WORKERS RALLIED JUNE 26TH TO PREPARE FOR THE STRIKE

State officials have also been relying on divisions between state and other workers. They are trying to blame disruption of unemployment and workman's comp. payments during the strike on the strikers. They've also claimed that raises for state workers will mean increased taxes.

They point the blame at working people when the cause is the crisis that the system is in. These same state officials were quick to do away with

state taxes on big corporations' machinery and equipment--a move that cost taxpayers millions. At the same time they cut back on services to the people. The cutbacks and the offensive against state workers are part of the same attack.

So far the union leadership has failed to make full use of the strength and numbers of the thousands of rank and file workers on strike. Picketing has

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Fewer Schools, More Buses

Phase II Busing Plan Coming Up

The Milwaukee School Board is stepping up the busing program for next year. Thousands of children have been assigned to schools they did not choose. For the second straight year it is mainly Blacks who are being bused out of their neighborhoods. In the name of integration 13 schools are being closed, many in the inner city. At the same time, the supreme court ruling has thrown everything up for grabs saying that the desegregation order may not hold.

The school board sent out forms and told parents to fill out three choices. Close to 8000 parents refused or failed to return them. Many more listed only their first choice in all three spaces. The school board responded by hasseling people, sending out more letters insisting people cooperate. Mandatory assignments were the punishment for those who didn't.

Parents Black, Latin and white have protested against the assignments. Eighty-four white students coming

Why There's No Money To Build New Schools

At the end of June Mayor Maier told the school board to cut its budget, or personal property taxes would go up. To trim the budget by \$12.2 million would require among other things, laying off 300 full time staff members, eliminating many new jobs and not hiring anyone to fill vacancies, buying fewer supplies and eliminating kindergarten for 4 year olds and interscholastic athletics. And even this wouldn't guarantee that property taxes wouldn't climb. They can't build new schools - they don't even have the money to run the old ones.

Why? Because the city in its usual way is giving industries a break while they reach deeper down into our pockets. Industries this year are getting money to boost them up in 3 ways: a property tax exemption on stock and inventories granted to industry and business; continuation of the machinery and equipment tax exemption for industry; lower assessments for industrial and commercial property and higher for residential property.

This is the way their system goes. Money to big business and the schools go down the drain. ■

from parochial schools have been assigned to Roosevelt Jr. High, one of the worst schools in the city, far across town. Many Spanish speaking students have been assigned to schools

with no bilingual program. Instructions in Spanish were not even sent out until 10 days after the choice forms were due.

But again the bulk of the children scheduled for busing are Black. In '76--77 over 7000 Blacks were bused and about 1000 Whites. Next year, school administrators have admitted, will be similar, with more Blacks "volunteering." 3675 of these "volunteers" are being forced to bus because their schools are closing; 2338 because their schools are changing to specialities; 1926 more because Fulton, Roosevelt, and Rufus are closed to them; and others to lessen overcrowding.

The school board is under pressure to hold down its budget, and busing kids is cheaper than building and fixing up schools. They'll initially save over 1/2 million by closing Wells. So instead of repairing schools like Walnut St. and Elm St., they move the bulldozers in and the kids out. The results - fewer and fewer facilities are available to children in the Black neighborhoods and schools in other parts of the city are becoming more crowded.

A committee of Black parents has been formed calling for 2-way busing. These parents are justifiably angry because the attacks from the busing program are falling so heavily on Black students. But 2-way busing does not answer the problem. Instead of closing schools the city needs to build new ones, especially in the inner city where facilities are the worst. Instead of forcing kids to



bus across town, we need quality and equal education for all children in every school.

The recent supreme court ruling implies there may be a softening in the desegregation order. The ruling class has used busing as a way to divide the working class, pitting Blacks and whites against each other, while they make cutback after cutback. But they have met opposition in city after city, causing chaos in places like Boston. In Louisville in 1975 workers staged a 1 day strike in three large factories in protest of the busing.

If the ruling class, through its supreme court, pulls back from busing, it's not out of any concern for the needs and demands of parents and students; Black, Latin, and white.

It does not order the city to build new schools (especially in the inner city), or to integrate them as much as possible, or to make improvements in the bi-lingual program, or to upgrade schools all over the city so kids can really learn to read and write. Only through unity and aiming our struggle at the system can we win these demands and stop the attacks on our schools. ■

J.I. Case On Strike

Three thousand UAW members at the J.I. Case tractor plant in Racine walked out the night of July 1st. Hundreds of strikers came down the next morning to start off the strike.

The workers are out on strike to stop a company attack on their incentive program. It is well known in the Racine-Kenosha area that Case is the best paying shop in the area for pieceworkers.

With this contract the company wants to cut out piecework and put everyone on a day rate. This would mean some people losing up to \$6 an hour while putting out the same production. Case was counting on the pay differences between day rate and pieceworkers to keep the men divided. But hundreds came out for a strike authorization meeting on June 19th and overwhelmingly voted strike, even though the union officials gave very little information.

J.I. Case workers have a history of standing up the company. In the 6 month strike of 1960 the company brought scabs in by helicopter but they could not break the strike. The men won

a closed shop following that strike. It has been the unity of the white, Black, and Latin workers at Case that has won them the gains they now have.

J.I. Case is owned by Tenneco, a huge corporation, but as far as tractors go, Case is small compared to the other tractor producers and the competition is fierce. Each company, be it John Deere, Caterpillar, or Case must try to keep it's costs lower than the other. At Allis-Chalmers, workers struck for 6 weeks and stopped take-aways but still got below the pattern set at John Deere. At Case it is taking the form of eliminating piecework.

The 76-77 contract battles in auto and agricultural implements have been a time to fight against company attacks. From the Ford strike last fall to the Allis-Chalmers strike, rank and file workers took a stand and fought as best they could. The UAW International has stood in the way of the union members in every one of these fights. J.I. Case workers are now on the front lines of this battle. ■

Hussman Refrigeration Union Busting In St. Louis

The P.A. system came on at the St. Louis Cardinal's Busch Stadium and announced for yet another time, "Attention centerfield bleachers, you must remove that sign." Boos greeting the announcement rose loud. Out in centerfield a huge banner hung over the fence down to the field reading "Boycott 9-0-5, Support the Hussman Strike."

Around the 4th inning a large contingent of ushers and cops moved towards the banner and the centerfield fans went wild, standing to defend the banner, loudly booing, throwing things at the cops until they finally succeeded in removing the people with the banner.

Throughout the rest of the game everyone was talking about the strike at Hussmann. Many said, "This is the first time I've heard about it but I'm going to find out more." Others

sat down to read the leaflet they had gotten on the way into the stadium about the strike and the boycott of 9-0-5 liquor stores (a division of Pet Inc., the conglomerate owning Hussman).

Outside the people with the banner got a refund for their tickets. With this kind of action the workers at

Temporary Factory Jobs

Hussmann Refrigerator Co., Bridgeton Missouri, has openings for temporary employees. Sheet metal experience desirable; general factory skills helpful. For application, information and appointment call 291-2000, Ext. 477.

An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F

Hussman Refrigeration in Bridgeton, Missouri, assisted by the local Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization, are building broad support for their strike. The 1500 workers walked out on May 1 when the local contract expired, the company proposing such outrageous take-aways as the elimination of the union grievance committee, strict limitation to job bidding, and attacks designed to break the United Steel-worker local.

The company has brought in 500 scabs and the workers fought them to a standstill on the line, totally demolishing one scabs car. But the courts responded with a strict injunction and dozens of police to enforce it. The scabs were escorted shotgun style into work.

When the Organizing Committee linked up with the strike this greatly strengthened it. Together with the OC,

60 workers picketed the Bridgeton police station to raise hell about the injunction. 50-60 strikers picketed the Post Dispatch, forcing them to stop running Hussman ads for scabs. Together with members of the OC and the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee, 25 strikers went into the unemployment offices, demanding that the offices stop sending people to scab. Later UWOC organized 40 people to go to Jefferson City, the capitol, winning this anti-scab demand after a confrontation with the Governor's Administration Assistance and the State Director of Unemployment Compensation.

Through these actions the rank and file began to mobilize its strength to start dealing the company and its allies some real blows. But apparently the local union officials were against this. While they themselves did nothing to fight the company, they slandered the OC as "outsiders trying to raid the union."

The battle within the union local between the union officials trying to isolate the OC and the most active workers trying to build the strike and neutralize the union officials came in the June 25 local meeting.

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M & I + Krugerrand = Misery

The Milwaukee chapter of the African Liberation Support Committee (ALSC) fresh off a powerful march on the White House in solidarity with the rising freedom struggle in southern Africa, is organizing an attack on the racist rulers of that area and the US bosses that continue to prop them up.

One of the main targets of the ALSC is the gold Krugerrand coin. Gold is the mainstay of the South African economy, supplying 40% of the foreign exchange the South African government needs for its imports. This includes



Now there's a new way to strike gold at Merrill Lynch.

its purchases of military equipment to enforce the apartheid system. Last year, the sale of Krugerrands represented 21% of South Africa's total export of gold. As the struggle of the South African people intensifies,

the white rulers must rely even more on the Krugerrand to finance their army and government.

The people of South Africa are fighting a determined battle to get these racists off their backs. For hundreds of years, Blacks have worked their lives away so that the white rulers and the rich foreigners can live in comfort and pile up profits. In return, the black majority lives in slum ghettos and reservations, working for nickels and dimes.

African liberation supporters have hit the Krugerrand sales and advertising blitz as an important way to aid the liberation struggle. On June 21, members of Chicago Youth in Action and the Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) took over the offices of radio station WLS--the top rock station in the city. They demanded that WLS stop a contest they'd been running which gave away \$1200 in Krugerrands as the prize. Station officials were jammed into stopping the contest that day and making a promise to give the ALSC, Youth in Action and VVAW, an hour's air time to counteract the Krugerrand propaganda WLS had been pushing.

In Hawaii, Merrill Lynch was forced to close its office on African Liberation Day in the face of a demonstration demanding an end to Krugerrand sales. Here in Milwaukee, ALSC has targeted in on Marshall & Ilsley Bank,

dealer in Krugerrands, for a series of demonstrations demanding an end to the sales.

Fritz Ruf, a vice-president at M&I, tries to hide behind the rhetoric of innocence to defend the Krugerrand sales, claiming, "We are just serving the financial needs of our customers as they apply to banking. We do not believe in becoming involved in the political situation in another country." Demonstrators at M&I voiced a unanimous reply: "Fritz, Fritz, you can't hide. We all know you're on the rich man's side."

ALSC is broadening the campaign by circulating a petition demanding that the Common Council condemn the racist white minority regime in

South Africa. The petition specifically targets M&I bank and other businesses selling the Krugerrand. Five hundred people signed the petition at Juneteenth Day alone.

ALSC is continuing to build the petition campaign, mobilizing a broad movement in support of the people of South Africa. Ben Johnson, president of the Common Council, says he will support the petition as a resolution in front of the council. The support committee is planning to "bring the people" to back this resolution.

The Krugerrand is promoted as a solid investment, "your own little piece of the rock." With a shaky economy in the U.S. some investors turn to more durable investments like gold and diamonds to increase their wealth.

American companies like Rexnord and American Motors are also trying to find a way to maximize their profits.

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Murderers Cut Loose In Panther Case

The latest legal battle in the murders of Black Panther leaders Fred Hampton and Mark Clark is closed. Chicago Judge Joseph Sam Perry declared that the cops and government agencies that carried off the raid on the Panther apartment on December 4, 1969 were innocent of any wrongdoing. The multi-million dollar civil suit brought by the families of Hampton and Clark and the survivors was the longest court trial in Illinois history. The jury listened to over one year of testimony in which lawyers for the families and survivors painstakingly brought out massive evidence that this was no shootout between the Panthers and cops, but a carefully planned political execution. After 4 days of deliberation the judge dismissed the deadlocked jury and declared the cops and government agencies innocent.

The action by this racist judge was outrageous, but not surprising. It was in keeping with his role throughout the whole trial. The lawyers were constantly harassed and threatened and one of them was even jailed during the trial. Important evidence was not allowed, and right during the trial he dismissed all charges against the State Attorney and officials who had ordered and planned the raid.

Since the night that smiling and laughing cops carried the bullet-ridden bodies of Hampton and Clark out of their apartment, the government has been covering up what really happened. The blood-soaked mattress on which Fred Hampton was sleeping when the cops pumped slugs into his head and back stood in the courtroom. Next to it was the door of the apartment

1 Year Later New Rebellion In Soweto

In the year since the massive uprisings in Soweto and other black townships that rocked the racist South African government, the hatred and anger of South Africa's 16 million

blacks for the white minority rule has become increasingly organized. On the June 16 anniversary of the Soweto uprising the people's resistance exploded into massive demonstrations and work stoppages which were viciously attacked by the police. These were the biggest actions in a year.

In Soweto the police opened fire on people coming from a memorial service for the more than 600 killed in last year's rebellion. In the concentration camps called "black townships" around Port Elizabeth students closed down the schools and burned government buildings. Over a dozen Azanians were killed in the latest battles and hundreds more jailed.

In the U.S. Andy Young keeps reiterating that there is no chance for the black majority to overthrow the white minority regime. And in the U.N. on June 16 the U.S. delegation walked out on a meeting commemorating the one year anniversary of the Soweto uprising.

But the brutal repression of the white regime and U.S. support for it cannot avert the eventual defeat of minority rule. Despite the fact that thousands have already been killed, and tens of thousands jailed, the struggle of the black majority of South Africa grows stronger daily. ■



IN JUNE YOUTH COMMEMORATED THE 600 KILLED IN THE SOWETO UPRISING LAST YEAR—POLICE AGAIN OPENED FIRE ON THE MEMORIAL.

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Harley Workers Win Contract

Contract time, 1977 at Harley Davidson. The bosses were forced to back off from stepping up their attacks on the workers. They knew the Harley workers were ready to fight for what they needed. Over 800 guys showed up to vote yes at the strike authorization meeting. A week later, they were given a wage settlement, a dental plan, and a cost of living clause. They still had their plant-wide seniority rights, which the company had been threatening to change to department-wide.

The workers at Harley have been hit with jobs being shipped out, harassment and rate-cutting. Employment has dropped 15% since 1973. The golf cart and motorcycle assembly lines have been shipped out to Harley-Davidson's low-wage plant in York, Pennsylvania.

Right now Harley workers are getting hit especially hard by forced overtime. The company is using a vicious point system with disciplinary lay-offs for missing work--including overtime. Many guys have been working eight hours every Saturday since January--while other Harley workers are still waiting to be called back to work.

The union leadership has done nothing to fight this. Because they let the issue slide in the contract, the company is still able to get over with this attack. The fight against the point system and forced overtime will continue to be a big issue on the shop floor.

The brothers and sisters at Harley have a history of fighting back. They

went on strike in 1974 and 1972. There was a short wildcat in 1973, and they organized a movement to stop the forced overtime.

The 101 day strike 3 years ago was especially heavy. The militancy and unity of the Harley strikers as they stood up to cops and scabs was an inspiration to working people all over the city and won them a lot of support. This is what the bosses knew they'd face in a 1977 contract battle--so they backed off.

Why are these attacks coming down now? Harley-Davidson is getting caught in the crunch of competition, and they're trying to make the workers pay for their hard times. Harley is the only remaining American motorcycle manufacturer and 2 years ago they were bought up by AMF, a huge conglomerate that makes mostly sports equipment and recreational vehicles. Their sales each year are going down, while sales of foreign bikes are going up and up. The competition is fierce. The foreign companies--like Honda, Yamaha and Kawasaki--have the edge because of their rock-bottom wages. So Harley is trying to squeeze even more profit from their workers--through job combinations, rate cuts and wage cuts. But they aren't getting over.

The Harley workers' fight against tough odds is an example to other workers in Milwaukee--especially at places like A.O. Smith, Briggs, and Harnischfeger where contracts are still coming up. ■



COPS ATTACKED THIS PARTY ON N. BOOTH ST. LAST SUMMER. THE CITY IS TRYING TO PREVENT A PARTY ON THE SAME BLOCK THIS YEAR, SPONSORED BY THE UNITED WORKERS ORGANIZATION.

City Stalls, But- Workers Plan Block Party

The United Workers Organization and the Organizing Committee to build a National Workers Organization has been battling for the past 2 months to get a permit to hold a block party on the 2700 block of N. Booth St. Every inch of the way the city and Common Council President Ben Johnson stalled and finally the last week of June denied the permit request. But the UWO and Organizing Committee is determined to get the permit and hold the block party August 6.

The UWO and Organizing Committee are planning to have the party on the same block where a party was attacked by police and 33 persons were arrested in June of 1976. All but one of those arrested have had charges against them dropped. That party had been called by the July 4th-Rich Off Our Backs Coalition. The police and city attacked the people at that party, pulling people off their own porches, telling

people around the city that the streets can only be used as city hall and the cops see fit.

Many of the people who were attacked at that block party went on to form the United Workers Organization and Organizing Committee. The city would not give the permit to the same people they had attacked last year because that would have been admitting they were guilty of a flagrant police attack.

The city is trying to portray the United Workers Organization as "outsiders" in the neighborhood. How can working people be outsiders? That street and everything else in society was built by working people. Not by people like Ben Johnson and the cops. And a majority of the residents of the block signed petitions supporting the block party.

The block party will be a way for the Organizing Committee to raise

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California Workers Back Off Border Patrol

Workers in the Salinas Valley of California won a victory when they had Border Patrol agent Fred Hawkins transferred. Hawkins had beaten an undocumented worker, Juan Casimiro, with a blackjack during a raid on the Silliman Ranch in Watsonville, Cal. Workers were so outraged at the attack that many came to Juan's defense as he lay on the ground, unconscious, being beaten by Hawkins.

Juan Casimiro received wounds requiring over 20 stitches in the head. He was deported the next day.

Before the attack workers had been unable to fight deportations and border patrol raids except as individuals. After Casimiro's beating the Committee Against the Border Patrol was formed. The Committee decided to concentrate fire on Hawkins and wrote up several leaflets and petitions that they took to the fields, canneries and soccer

fields in the area.

Later a wanted poster for Fred Hawkins was made up that got on the TV news and in newspapers. More people found out about Hawkins this way and he was forced by the outrage of the people to be transferred from the valley.

What happened in Salinas is part of a wave of resistance against La Migra (Immigration authorities) in the last year. Earlier this year border patrol agents chased an "illegal" into the Rio Grande near El Paso and he drowned. Two hundred people stormed across the border and attacked the agents with bricks and sticks.

People also found out they can fight the system. They would not sit back and watch friends, families and fellow workers being harassed, beat up and sometimes killed at the hands of the Border Patrol. ■

St. Louis...

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150 workers showed up and despite the efforts of the union officials to keep them out, the OC was invited to speak by the rank and file. The speech broke through the lies about the OC trying to "wreck the union." "All over workers are under attack and fighting back like at Hussmann," said the speaker. "The OC is trying to build unity in this fight among all workers. And like we are helping to build the Hussman strike, we are taking up and building all kinds of fights nationwide." During the speech the workers stood for several ovations.

After the meeting the union president and the business agent tried to ex-

plain to the workers that their hands were tied as local officials with all kinds of legal restrictions. But they were jammed into shaking hands with the OC members, promising to do what they could to build the strike. This was a big victory for the rank and file, for the time being neutralizing these officials and clearing the way for even more rank and file mobilizations.

The workers are still faced with stopping the scabs. But assisted by the OC they have planned several upcoming actions, including a mass visit to the district director of unemployment to demand unemployment benefits and another picketline at the "Globe Democrat" newspaper which has continued to advertise for scabs. With these actions the strike continues strong. ■

Realtors Promote Segregation



Why is Milwaukee one of the most segregated cities in the country? In June the Sherman Park Community Association shed some light on who's behind much of this segregation. The Community Association named four of the largest Milwaukee realty firms in a complaint at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The four--Wauwatosa, Towne, Relocation and Keske Realty--have systematically directed Blacks to Black neighborhoods and whites to white neighborhoods. The Community Association sent Black, mixed and white married couples to inquire about buying a home. The results of this survey were undisputed proof that the firms were in-

entionally practicing segregation.

These companies can make big bucks by keeping the city segregated. They can make Blacks pay high prices for terrible housing in the inner city because they can't go anywhere else. And they can make whites pay high for the "privilege" of living outside the ghetto. In the neighborhoods changing from white to Black, these vultures can stir up panic--buy cheap and sell high--making a real killing.

The companies have responded to the complaint by saying that their agents may have discriminated, but that bias is not company policy. What a load of bull. These firms have more to gain through enforced discrimination than the Ku Klux Klan. Not only do they rip off with every sale. But they also have an interest along with the rest of their ruling class in keeping Blacks and whites divided. ■

Police Attack Puerto Rican Day Celebration

Rebellion Breaks Out in Humboldt Park

A firestorm of rebellion exploded in a Chicago Puerto Rican community in June--an explosion of the people's hatred of the conditions they're forced to live in and their determination not to let themselves be ground into the dirt, an explosion triggered by the very police brutality that the ruling class had unleashed to try to prevent the Puerto Rican people in Chicago from rising up.

The uprising broke out on Puerto Rican Day, which had been celebrated by a parade in the city. City officials tried to use it to rally Puerto Ricans to the Democratic Party machine. But Puerto Ricans have turned it around. It is a day on which the people proclaim they are proud to be Puerto Rican, that they are men and women of respect and demand to be treated as such.

It's a day which reflects the deep feelings people have for the homeland they were forced to leave behind, and their hatred of the way Puerto Ricans are treated in this country. The fact that this year some people in the march raised the demand for Puerto Rico's independence in chants and chalked on cars, especially enraged the authorities.

After the parade thousands of people were spending the afternoon picnicking in Humboldt Park. Around four in the afternoon, using the excuse of antagonism between gangs, the cops moved in and began to clear everyone out of the park. Shouting at people to get out, calling them "dirty spics," and setting fire to a Puerto Rican flag, they began kicking over the lunches and barbecue grills and beating on people when they didn't move fast enough to please them. Police clubs were quickly slamming down on any head that happened to be in the way.

Attacked and insulted, especially on Puerto Rican Day, people started to defend themselves with whatever they could get their hands on. The cops quickly found themselves face to face with hundreds of angry people. Suddenly they lashed out wildly, shooting into the crowd. Two young men, Rafael Cruz, who had been walking through the park with his sister, and Julio Osario were shot in the back and killed. Many more, including small children, were wounded.

The news electrified the whole neighborhood in minutes. "They're killing Puerto Ricans. They shot a little girl!" Soon thousands were fighting back a-

gainst the cops, pelting them with rocks and bottles. The cops ran back with their tails between their legs. They abandoned their squad cars which the people began to turn over and burn as hated symbols of oppression.

For most of the rest of the evening any cop car that ventured into the area was instantly smashed by bricks and bottles. Thousands were in the streets, including whole families who had been in the park or had come out of their homes. Everyone was filled with indignation at the cops, but at the same time with joy at having stood up to them. The cops regrouped and came

to be beaten up for a traffic violation. The police use the gangs and the drugs that run rampant there to justify what they do. But it's well known that the cops take payoffs from the biggest dope dealers and constantly incite the gangs to war on each other. All this is part of the systematic effort of the ruling class and their boys in City Hall to drive the people out to make room for "urban renewal."

But people can only be driven so far. Many of the people of this community were forced here from Puerto Rico by U.S. imperialists who set up operations in their homeland, paid star-

1) Stop Police Terror in Humboldt Park; 2) Drop the Charges Against the 164 People Arrested in the Uprising; 3) Indict the Cops Responsible for the Murders of the Two Men. They joined with other groups in the community to have a united march.

Support for the march gained momentum as people came to see it as a way to show the community was not going to be frightened into submission by police terror. The Organizing Committee also took up the issue. Some members took part in organizing the march in the commun-



PUERTO RICAN DAY CELEBRATION IN CHICAGO - COPS WENT ON A RAMPAGE, ARRESTING, BEATING PEOPLE, EVEN MURDERING 2. THOUSANDS IN THE PARK ROSE UP AGAINST THESE ARMED THUGS WHO TERRORIZE THEIR COMMUNITY.

back hundreds strong in full military formation, with a helicopter overhead-Vietnam style. There were battles in the streets and alleys all night and into the next day.

Adding fuel to the anger people felt at the cops were the conditions--the "order" the cops are there to defend. Discrimination and strict housing segregation enforced by the banks, real estate agents and slumlords, force Puerto Ricans into a deteriorating, overcrowded ghetto. Rents are high, half the workers can't find a job and the whole community is being destroyed in the name of "urban renewal."

In the past year alone there have been hundreds of major fires, leaving charred hulks where families once lived. Whole blocks laid waste by arson have been bought up by secret land trusts and the real estate speculators and banks.

Then there are the cops. In the area around Humboldt Park it's not unusual

vation wages and ruined any local economy. Now many of these corporations are moving out of Puerto Rico for even more profitable countries to exploit, leaving whole towns unemployed. The people have no choice but to come to cities like Chicago where they hope they will at least have a chance of finding a job.

The cops and the papers tried to spread the story that it was just a gang fight with the police heroically trying to break it all up. They slandered the Puerto Ricans and tried to stir up racial antagonisms by blaming the whole thing on hot weather, beer and gangs.

Chicago Youth in Action together with workers from the neighborhood, some from the Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization, held a series of large meetings with people in the community. A decision was made to hold a march through the community to press three demands

ity and the Committee as a whole focused its efforts on taking the demands into the plants, circulating support petitions, struggling to overcome the capitalists' propaganda barrage and building the unity of workers of various nationalities against the crimes the capitalists had committed in Humboldt Park.

The work to build the march was successful. 500 chanting, militant demonstrators put these murderers and their henchmen on notice that the battle in the park was not the end of the matter. They exposed the capitalists' claims about the police role as lies. It also helped working people and minorities across the city see the Humboldt Park uprising as a powerful inspiration to all those who are sick of the abuses of cops.

The uprising showed that people can only be pushed so far before they rise up in rebellion. ■

Behind Cuba's 'Socialist' Mask



CUBA WAS CHAINED TO SUGAR PRODUCTION UNDER SPANISH COLONIALISM, UNDER U.S. IMPERIALISM, AND STILL TODAY UNDER SOVIET DOMINATION.

A pack of American businessmen visit Cuba looking for big bucks. American baseball managers come down to visit looking for ballplayers and new fans. Fidel Castro gets interviewed on national TV twice in the same week. The U.S. and Cuban government begin a series of slow motion moves towards diplomatic relations.

A year ago Cuba was in the news a lot because of the 12,000 Cuban troops fighting in Angola. Now it's in the news because the U.S. government has begun to change its policy towards Cuba, a policy that for the last 17 years has been one of blockading Cuba economically, carrying out constant sabotage and trying again and again to assassinate Castro.

All this has brought up some questions among the American people. What's Cuba like today? How has it changed since the early days of Castro and Che Guevara? What's Cuba's relationship to the USSR? Why is the American government changing its policy towards Cuba?

This country's "authorities" push their own answers for these questions.

Cuba, they tell us, is an example of how revolution is futile, because people there rose up in revolution only to find themselves suffering oppression once again in a new form. The newspaper reports tell us how the people there live basically the same as they always have, with some few improvements, while a privileged elite lives high off the hog. On TV with Barbara Walters, Castro comes off like an egomaniac only interested in bragging and flirting, not even bothering to mention the workers -- strange behavior for someone who calls himself a communist. Among many in this country, including many with family and friends still in Cuba, the feeling is -- if what they have in Cuba is socialism, then I don't want any part of that system.

As the TV reports make it clear, Cuba's economy is still dependent on sugar, just like it always was, and it's still true that the country that buys the sugar calls the tune. Today Cuba's economy is completely in hock to the USSR. Where before the American government and its ambassador ordered Cuba's presidents around, to-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Reign of Terror Houston Cops Kill Chicano Vet

Joe Torres, 23, had just gotten out of the army, where he had served for two years. He came home to Houston, Texas, to a job paying \$2.75/hour. On May 5th, while drinking in a bar, he was arrested for disorderly conduct and hauled off by six cops. Three days later his body was found in Buffalo Bayou. He had been drowned.

Before Torres was murdered, the cops took him to the back of a warehouse where they took turns beating him bloody. When they finally brought him to the police station they were told he couldn't be booked until he had received hospital treatment. It would look bad on their record. Instead of going to a hospital they took him back to the warehouse, beat him more, and threw him off a 25 foot retaining wall into the swamp and let him drown. As they threw him over one of the cops said, "Let's see if the wetback can swim."

Joe Torres' brutal murder is part of a pattern. Eight people have already been killed by the police in Houston

(Defense) took to the streets in the downtown area where they met with a strong show of support from people in the area. The march ended at the site of Joe Torres' murder. Many of the speakers there hit at the rich man's system of profits as the cause of the oppression suffered by minorities and working people.

The following day 75 people drove through various communities in a car caravan, called by the Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization. In every neighborhood the caravan was greeted by clenched fists, as peoples' anger at police repression busted loose.

June 2nd, 4 cops who had been fired around Torres' murder went to city hall to appeal to get their jobs back. A picket line was set up by Barrios Unidos en Defensa and the Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization. The picket line went strong for 2 hours, with people shouting: "To hell with their jobs--indict the cops! and "Justice for Joe Torres." At the



MAY 20, 180 PEOPLE MARCHED IN HOUSTON TO DEMAND "JUSTICE FOR JOE TORRES--STOP POLICE TERROR!" AS PART OF A GROWING MOVEMENT AGAINST POLICE REPRESSION.

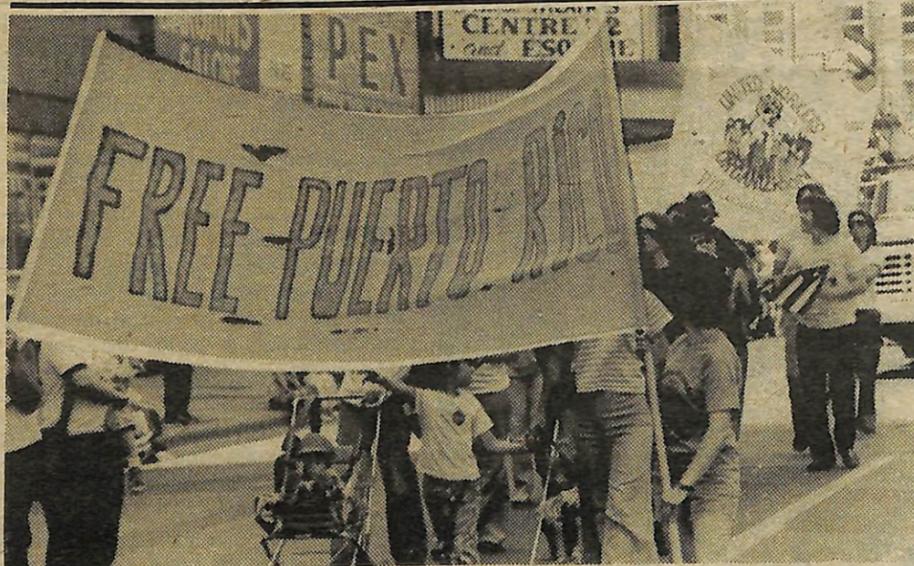
this year. Countless more, mostly Blacks and Mexican-Americans, have been severely beaten. Recently Demas Benoit, a young Black man, was chased to his house by 20 police cars and three helicopters and beaten to the ground, while his family was held at bay by police guns. His crime? He was speeding. The cop who revealed the details of the beating was nearly fired for leaving his post during the beating.

Public outrage at the Torres murder and police repression has become so strong that the police chief was forced to charge one of the cops with murder. He is now out on bail. The other five were freed, and no charges were brought against them. The police also announced "big reforms." For example, no more than two squad cars would be allowed to chase a speeder. They also set up an Internal Investigation division, so the cops could officially cover up their own rampages and murders. As the head of the Houston Criminal Lawyers Association said, "If six Mexican-Americans had been up and drowned one policeman, the D.A. would have had an indictment in hours. If not sooner."

City officials are running scared and trying to cool out the situation. But their gimmicks and phony investigations face strong opposition. Several demonstrations have been pulled together, including some called by the Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization. People are demanding that all six cops be indicted for murder. On May 20th 180 people in a march called by Barrios Unidos en Defensa (Communities United For

end of the picket line it was announced that the cops withdrew their appeals. They were afraid of "adverse" publicity.

There are more demonstrations being planned and petitions are being circulated which demand the indictment of these cops. Union locals, including steelworkers at Hughes Tool and communication workers at Southwestern Bell have passed resolutions condemning the murder and demanding that the cops be indicted. ■



Two people were killed by police at a Puerto Rican Day celebration in Humboldt Park in Chicago. A few weeks later a Puerto Rican Day parade was held in Milwaukee. The Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization here led a workers' contingent in the parade. Their message was "Free Puerto Rico" and "Justice for the Brothers in Humboldt Park." Many people bought buttons and t-shirts calling for the formation of the National Workers Organization.

The movement to build a national workers organization is picking up steam. In the heart of dozens of key struggles, activists are spreading word of the new organization and its Labor Day founding conference. The streets of major industrial cities coast to coast are dotted with posters calling on workers to build one united organization. In June a speaking tour wound its way through the eastern states, getting an enthusiastic response to plans for the founding conference Labor Day weekend.

With everything from hard times to headaches on the increase, a lot of workers know it's time to get it together coast to coast and fight in their own interests. Organizing Committees in over thirty cities across the country are doing the spadework for the new organization and the founding conference. In dozens of places the Organizing Committees have joined with key struggles. This issue of the Worker has articles on three such battles. In Latrobe, Pennsylvania, the Organizing Committee linked up with a wildcat of Die Casting workers--and the strike was victorious. In St. Louis the committee has been building the Hussman Refrigeration strike, as well as linking up with a meatcutters' wildcat in East St. Louis. In Houston, Texas, rank and file militants have taken up the fight against the police killing of a young Chicano as a fight

**SEIZE THE
BUILT
NATION
WORK
ORGAN**



**ON TO C
LABOR DAY**

of the working class.

In Milwaukee the Organizing Committee has been moving in high gear. They have brought word of the new organization to workers at the George

"You Got It

"Hey, can I have your attention for a minute, guys?"

It was the shift change and the locker room was full. They all got quiet.

"We've talked to you and given out leaflets for the last couple of days about this national workers organization. I just want to remind you that we're going to talk about it tonight at 8 o'clock in the back room of the Zanzibar."

"There's a guy from the auto workers union from Detroit, one from a steel plant in New Jersey and one from the United Workers Organization in Milwaukee," added Warren Lazano, a fellow forklift driver. "Anyone who wants to fight the boss ought to be checking out this organization. The bosses are the same all over the country and when they get down on us it's usually the same bullshit nationwide and we've got to get the working class together nationwide to fight it. If you come I guarantee you it will be worth your while."

Warren has been one of the strongest fighters for the national workers organization from the beginning. A lot of guys knew him and his old man and respected them as fighters. There's no way that this thing can be built without guys like him taking it up.

"So when did you get to be one of the

extremists, Warren?" said Charlie. It's been said of Charlie that he'd stand in front of a closed door and argue that it was open. I've come to see that all of his arguing is mostly an act, though, and I think that underneath it he supports us.

"Since it's been extremely hard to walk out of the grocery store with any of my paycheck left," answered Warren. "And since it's been extremely hard to take the bullshit they've been handing out here day in and day out." Now everybody in the room was listening. "And since it's been extremely hard to live when we've been laid off three months out of every year. And since it's extremely easy to see that they want to start another war, bigger even than the Vietnam war, which me and a lot of other guys fought in. An extremely bad situation needs some hard answers, Charlie."

I felt a little bad for Charlie, almost. You could tell Warren had been waiting for that question for a while.

"You kids are all alike," said Charlie, as if he hadn't even heard him. And he called everybody under 40 a kid. "You're dreamers. I mean, you've got white fighting Black, women fighting men, guys out of work hatin' guys that got jobs and vice versa."

National W Activities in

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Committee for the

A leader of the coalfield wildcats of the
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sees the need to form a National Worker

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TIME IN '77

D A ONAL KERS IZATION



CHICAGO - WEEKEND

Banta strike in Menasha, at the Puerto Rican march on June 21, and they built for the picket against the Nazis in Skokie. All this is going on at the same time as the United Wor-

kers Organization is taking up the daily issues workers face on the job, whether it's the contract fight at A. O. Smith or the Masterlock workers' demands against automation and speed up.

In July the Organizing Committee will intensify efforts to consolidate all this work and to build the national organization. A coalfield militant from the Miners' Right to Strike Committee is coming on July 17 to Milwaukee to explain and talk up the national workers organization. The Right to Strike Committee has played a leading role in the wildcats of the past few years. In fact 35,000 men are on strike right now against cuts in miners' medical insurance.

The miner's talk will be followed up by another speaking date, July 30. That's when the national speaking tour will swing through the Midwest. This speech will be a time to really come together, learn how things are going around the country, have a good meal, and take in an exciting new film about last year's "Get the Rich Off Our Backs" workers' march in Philadelphia.

The need for a national workers' organization is clear. The fight to build it is in progress. Let's join in, spread the word, and make the organization and its founding convention a rousing success— and a tool to further our struggle. ■

Charlie !"

Everybody scrambling to get his right here in this plant. And you want to get people together nationwide? You're dreamin'."

"Not all kids, as you call them, think that way, Charlie," said John-boy White. This snake had been in our midst all summer. His old man was a foreman and he got him a job to earn his next year's college tuition. "I agree with you, even if you could get what these guys call the working class together, it would create more problems than it would solve. The problem is that labor is too big now. The government is handcuffing business at every turn. What we need is a return to the free enterprise system and..."

"Hey!" Charlie jumped up waving his arms. "Don't ever say you agree with me. Nobody agrees with me. And if you'd have been around here during the last strike you'd have seen the working class in this plant get together." Charlie didn't seem bothered that he was contradicting everything he had been saying in the last couple of weeks.

"The problem isn't that labor is too big," said Warren. "It's that the fat-bellied, white shoed, cigar smoking chumps in union office who run things are laying in bed with the boss. When

we can use the union like it should be used, like our rank and file strike committee did, then it's a good thing."

"Right on," said a few guys. "I know all about your rank and file strike committee," said John-boy. "My father told me that it was why the strike went on as long as it did."

"Your old man," said Charlie contemptuously, "Don't tell me anything that your old man said. I was here the day he walked in the joint. He didn't know anything then and he knows even less now."

The guys laughed. The bell rang and everybody left to get back on the job. I walked beside Charlie on his way into the plant.

"Thanks, Charlie. I'm glad to see you striking up with us."

"Yeah? Well you guys may be radicals, but you know what you're talking about. I don't need no management bound punk saying that he agrees with me."

"You going to be at the Zanzibar, tonight?" I asked him.

He smiled. "I suppose you guys won't get off my back unless I do."

"You got it, Charlie," said Warren, falling in step on the other side of him.

"Alright, I'll be in the bar anyway, but," then he grabbed each of us in a head lock and pretended to bang our heads together. "It better be good." ■

Workers' Organization Milwaukee

from Miners' Right to Strike

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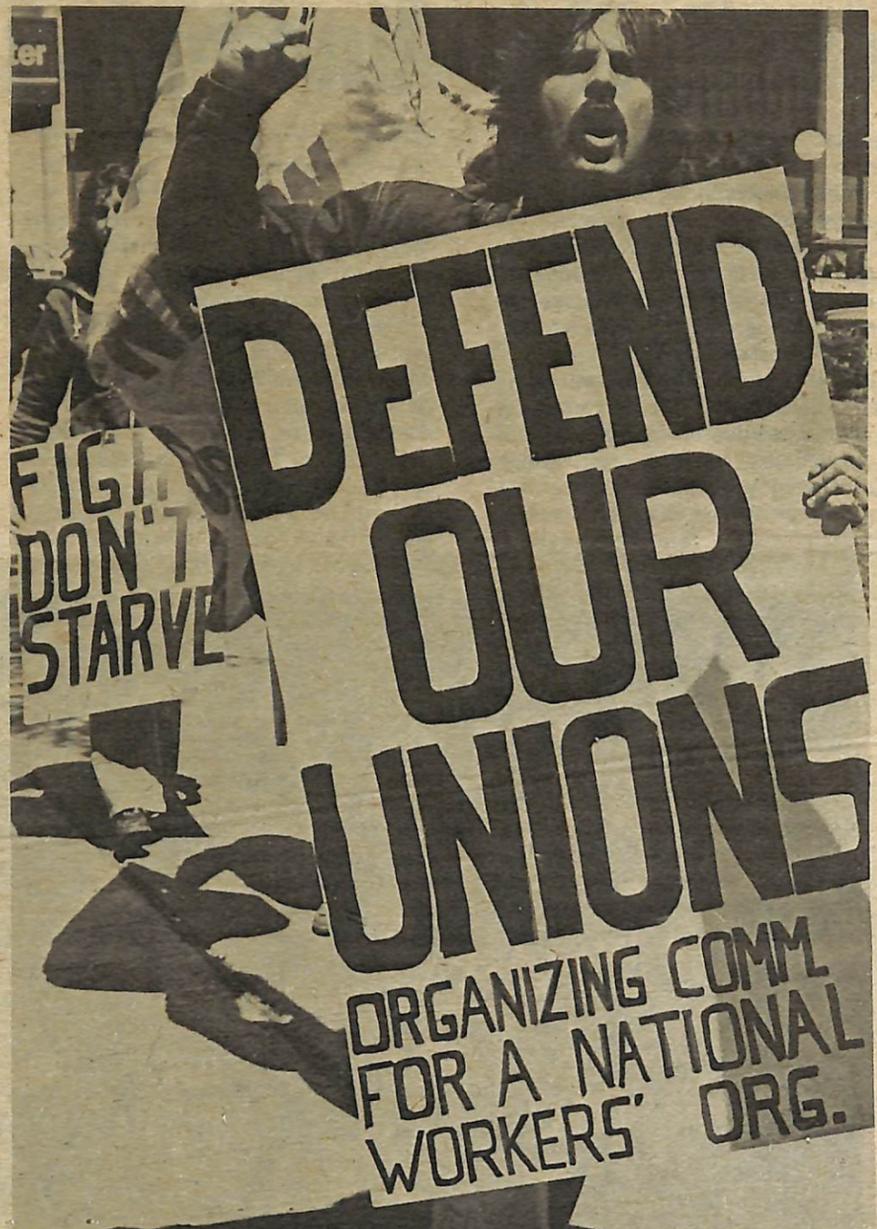
ULL COURSE MEAL

OVIE: "The Battle of the Bicentennial"

445-5816



Bust the Union Busters



Advanced Management Research Institute (AMRI) is bringing its union busting roadshow to Milwaukee August 17th. These conferences "for Management only" are an attack on all working people. Workers have disrupted and confronted these scab-herders all over the country, as part of building the National Workers Organization. These conferences are designed to help bust our unions and keep us disorganized. Let's get organized to meet these attacks head on! For more information, call 445-5816

Latrobe Strikers Win!

The 400 workers at Latrobe Die Casting near Pittsburgh have won an important victory in their eight week strike. Through the course of the strike the Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization, which linked up and helped build the strike into a major battle in the Pittsburgh area, showed what a key role it can play.

The company had originally tried to break the union, UAW Local 1984, which had won its first contract last October. But by the end of the strike they were forced to accept this agreement:

-The vicious absentee point system they had previously instituted was thrown out. A new absentee policy will be negotiated but it will be from a position of strength by the workers.

-The 48 new work rules that the company passed as a code of conduct were thrown out.

-Grievances can now be written on company time, something the company was trying to stop.

-All fines, amounting to \$500,000, against the local have been dropped; all criminal charges against the strikers have been dropped; all workers that were fired were rehired, although part of the agreement means 21 members will be suspended for six weeks and 13 others suspended for two weeks.

-Other gains such as being able to arbitrate multiple grievances instead of one at a time at great expense to the union.

The strikers won because they refused to bow down in fear to the com-

pany's campaign of intimidation and firings. They won because they refused to be made helpless by the legal restrictions and court injunctions put on the strike. They won because they stood up to the UAW International, which refused to endorse the strike or pay strike benefits. They took the strike into their own hands, taking it out broadly throughout the Pittsburgh area and throughout the auto industry.

Aiding the strikers in this victory was the Organizing Committee for a National Workers Organization. One thing the Organizing Committee did was sponsor a big fundraising dinner of over 200 workers from 20 different locals where people contributed over \$1000 to the strike. Later a bucket brigade went out to Latrobe Steel in Latrobe and collected \$2000 for the strike.

This work had two effects. First, it made thousands of other workers aware of the strike and concretely began to involve hundreds in the strike in one way or another. Second, it helped the strikers see that they were not just out on strike for themselves, but out in a battle that affected workers all over. This greatly strengthened the strike.

With the victory, many of the Latrobe workers have joined the Organizing Committee, planning for a big national workers' organization picnic in Latrobe and building for the Labor Day founding convention in Chicago. ■

Government Attacks The Unemployed

Unemployed in the Milwaukee area and across the country have been facing mounting attacks in the past few weeks. In May, Jimmy Carter's jobs bill cut off 13 weeks of the federal extension of unemployment benefits. In October, Carter's bill will cut off another 13 weeks, leaving only 39 weeks of the original 65 maximum.

The effects of this bill have been hard felt here. To get the remaining 13 week extension unemployed have to go around and get 6 job applications signed every week and not more than two or three in one day. This means that many people lose their benefits

because they can't get employers to sign the forms or have to spend at least 3 or 4 days a week going to companies looking for work even though they know they are not hiring. One man was cut off benefits for going to too many places in one day!

Another veteran worker spent 40 years working in foundries, hospitals, and as a janitor here and in Chicago. He got laid off from Goodwill Industries during a union drive. His poor vision prevents him from taking some kinds of work, but after his regular benefits ran out, he went from place to place getting the required signatures. In

the sixth week he missed one. The VA Hospital didn't sign a form for him. This was his 42nd job application since he started collecting the extension. His benefits were cut off, and are now being appealed, a process which takes months. He is now trying to get by on veterans benefits and security, and still looking for work. The average person collecting the extension last year had 17 years of hard work behind him.

All the signs are that these attacks will not let up. Labor Secretary Ray Marshall has called for cutting unemployment benefits to a maximum of

26 weeks saying "Unemployment benefits are an incentive not to work."

While moving to eliminate unemployment compensation, the government has also come out with phoney job programs, like the public works project passed back in July, '76. \$8.45 million was appropriated for the Milwaukee area and a year later only 13 jobs have been created.

One local jobs program has put some people to work and attracted national attention as a model of Carter's plans, the so-called "Work for Pay" program. People in general assistance are put to work for the county doing things like sweeping streets, clerical work, etc. County officials decided that \$2.20 an hour was "too much" to pay for these jobs, so they lowered it to \$2.00 an hour for a maximum of 32 hours a week. After taxes, you're bringing home about \$55 dollars a week.

In May, Milwaukee County officials used the last of the \$3 million they budgeted for general assistance in 1977 when twice as many people as they had planned applied for relief, many after running out of unemployment benefits. Their plans to double the "Pay for Work" program fell flat when union workers demanded their jobs be protected from the program which was replacing them with project workers. The officials turned over the list of people on general assistance to the Army, but the recruiting scavengers couldn't make much of a dent on the list.

Now the County is using federal CETA funds to put 2500 people from general relief into more starvation jobs at \$2.30 an hour. 800 of these will boost the profits of local private companies at the enforced low wages, the others will be on public works projects

Working people fought and died for the unemployment insurance system as a bulwark against hard times. They have fought for jobs with decent wages and other benefits. Now that times are tough, the rich are trying to snatch back what we've won through struggle. They want to turn the unemployment insurance system into a club against the working class to beat people into slave-labor jobs. Working people will fight again to keep these benefits, and for union jobs at union wages.



UNEMPLOYED WORKERS DEMONSTRATED AT THE CARTER INAUGURATION AGAINST THE MOUNTING GOVERNMENT ATTACKS ON BENEFITS.

Unemployed Plan Nationwide Battle

On June 25-26, 175 members and elected delegates of the Unemployed Workers Organizing Committee----- (UWOC) gathered in Detroit for the 2nd national UWOC conference. Banners ringing the site of the conference proclaimed the stand and determination of the UWOC chapters from over 30 cities at the meeting: "Jobs or Income!" "We Won't Scab and We Won't Starve!" "Employed--Unemployed Same Crisis--Same Fight!"

Two days of spirited and serious discussion spoke to the immediate purpose of the meeting--to sum up the experiences and advances of the past year, to figure out the present situation, and make a battle plan for the coming months. They came to unite, get better organized and build UWOC as a powerful force against the attacks coming

down.

In the last year UWOC has made real advances. This national meeting was three times bigger than last year's. There were many new members who have joined UWOC across the country, veteran workers and young workers alike, of all nationalities. Several new chapters have been built including the Washington, D.C. chapter, which got together after the demonstration of 1000 against Jimmy Carter's slave labor unemployment bill.

But while the size and strength of UWOC has grown, the attacks of the rich have also stepped up, demanding even stronger organization. The discussion and experiences from chapter after chapter around the country made clear that the attacks on a state by state level are all part of a system-

atic attempt to dismantle the unemployment insurance system and to institute slave wage, union busting job programs.

The St. Louis and San Jose chapters reported union members being forced to take non-union jobs or be cut off benefits, while Philadelphia and other cities told how Carter's "jobs bill" is being used to replace union members with the unemployed at lower wages. Chapter after chapter reported state bills limiting the conditions for eligibility for benefits and cutting the maximum time benefits can be collected.

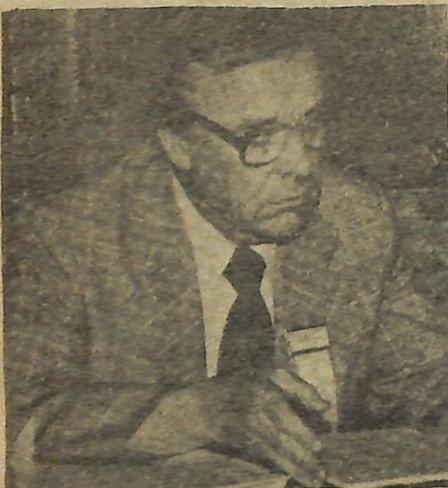
In response to these nationwide attacks, UWOC will wage a systematic national campaign against the government's policy toward the unemployed, under the slogans, "Stop the Attacks

on the Unemployment System!" and "Union Jobs at Union Wages!"

Another 13 week cut in benefits is due in October. Then UWOC will take to the streets in regional demonstrations. And they'll march again in Washington, D.C. when Jimmy Carter gives his state of the union message in January.

UWOC members hailed the call to form a national workers' organization in Chicago on Labor Day weekend, resolving to link up closely with this organization in building the fight of employed and unemployed alike.

Chapter members left the Second National UWOC meeting with a firm determination to return to their local areas and spread the sparks of struggle as broadly as possible. ■



BERTRAM MCNAMARA, DISTRICT 32, UNITED STEELWORKERS HEAD, HOPED TO GET A LITTLE FOR HIMSELF OUT OF THE EXXON RIP OFF.

Steelworker Hack Backs Exxon Tug of War Over Mining Tax

Not long after Exxon discovered copper and zinc near Crandon, Wisconsin, they sent an army of lobbyists to Madison to push for a low mining tax rate. Exxon is the largest corporation in the world with profits over 2.6 billion. They never reported that their ore find may be one of the biggest in the world. Any publicity of the size of their coming rip off of northern Wisconsin's wealth would have hurt their effort to keep the taxes low. They threw their money and influence around Madison in one of the biggest lobbying efforts in years. It's even rumored that they offered

an aide to the governor an executive position with the company and \$60,000 to lobby for a small tax on mines.

Union leaders and corporations both lined up with Exxon in its bid to rape northern Wisconsin. Bertram McNamara, head of district 32 of the United Steelworkers claimed that unless Exxon got some loopholes many mining and mining related jobs would be lost. He knows a lot of these jobs in the mines and in mining machinery suppliers in the Milwaukee area would be in his union. The only things he really sees are a big dues rake off and an increase of his

own personal influence. But what he tells the members is that what's good for Exxon is good for the workers. Give the rich man a cake and some crumbs will fall down to the workers.

Also falling in behind the world's biggest was Rexnord, a maker of mining machinery. In a newsletter to employees they told workers to write their congressmen to get a low tax for the mining companies. They say there'll be lots of jobs if the mineral giants can get a break. Since when has Rex ever been concerned about their workers having a steady job?!

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Local Meatcutters Say,

"Build The Iowa Beef Strike"

Members of the Meatcutters Solidarity Committee drove to Dakota City Nebraska recently to support 2400 meatcutters who are on strike against Iowa Beef Processors. The meatcutters at IBP are hard fighters. They are in their 4th month on the picket line. And this is their 3rd strike in 8 years. We meatcutters in Milwaukee were up against the same thing for 15 months— an all out attack to bust the union.

Iowa Beef is the biggest beef slaughterer and packer in the world. They got this way by working the hell out of their workers. Kill floor men told us they kill 180 cattle an hour and in all the plants combined they

slaughter 80,000 head a day! They told us the company expanded so fast that they had meatcutters actually building the new departments.

Yet this company that has a monopoly on the midwest beef market won't provide coverage for basic health care needs. They give out no pension. And the pay is way below some of the established packing houses. This company has risen from a small packing house in a corn field in Denison Iowa to the worlds biggest in just 15 years.

But every time they tried to break the union, the workers took them on and stood strong. One time it was for 8 months. The other it was for 7 months. In 1969 a striker was killed

on the picket line. This time the company has demanded to extend the 36 hour guarantee over 7 days and take away some weekend overtime pay. They are making full use of the National Labor Relations Board, the courts, and cops.

The strikers aren't going to take it. They're prepared to go as long as need be. But they need support. The more money they get the better strike benefits they can have to hold out. There's Iowa Beef on supermarket shelves with inspection numbers 245, 245A, 245B, 245C, 245D, 245E, 245G, 292A, 2923, 9268, and 1502. The International has said it will make the IBP strike the number 1 priority.

But the Milwaukee meatcutters have heard this before. They know it's the rank and file that has to build this key fight all over the country. Victory doesn't come out of the brief case of a lawyer or negotiator. It comes out of the united struggle of strikers and supporters.

This fight is a test of strength between meatcutters and the biggest union buster. The outcome will affect all meatcutters and the cause of all workers.

We told the IBP strikers that we would back them. Let's get going. We will be collecting money and signatures on a letter of support. Boycott IBP. Spread the word. ■

Labor Board Joins the Attack Against Wis. Packing Workers

200 meatcutters lost their jobs when Wisconsin Packing closed down all slaughtering and boning operations. Floyd Segel shut the kill floor in May after he got word that he would have to rehire many of the former strikers. In June he closed the boning lines in Butler a couple of weeks before a new union vote was scheduled. Segel had often threatened to close down if the union came back. But the National Labor Relations Board chose to ignore the union busting intentions of Wisconsin Packing's shut down. They dismissed an unfair labor practice suit brought by the union.

The Labor Board ruled the closing was for "economic reasons" rather than a way to keep the union out. What kind of nonsense is this? Keeping the union out is the biggest economic advantage Wisconsin Packing could get. The only department Segel is keeping open is the paddy room where women work for the "allied rate." This rate, one of the key issues of both the '71 and '75 strikes, is over a dollar an hour less than the lowest cooler rate.

Union busting is a major attack in the beef business these days. From Packerland in '73 to the Milwaukee houses in '74-'75, to Iowa Beef today, the companies and the National Labor Relations Board have

worked hand in hand and pulled one "unfair labor practice" after another. At Packerland and in Milwaukee the NLRB ruled that the strike-breakers had the right to vote in a decertification election and that the strikers did not.

The workers who got back at Wisconsin Packing kept their unity and organization. They were on the verge of bringing the union back--until Segel called the workers into the lunch room to announce his close-down.

The present offensive against meatcutters comes at a time when business in beef is not good. The grain deal of '72 marked a steep rise in the costs of feeding cattle. Beef imports from places like Argentina, Costa Rica, Australia, and New Zealand are on the increase. In 1976 over a billion pounds of utility beef was imported into the U.S. Along with this the pay checks and unemployment checks of working people just can't cover high beef prices. Housewives raised hell the last time the prices jumped.

With less profits to be made, the capitalists are trying to push each other out of business. The owner of Iowa Beef put it like this, "Business as we do it is very much like waging war." But the brunt of the attack always comes down on the workers.

So what are the meatcutters supposed



WISCONSIN PACKING WORKERS DURING THEIR 15 MONTH STRIKE IN 1975.

to do? Go back to slavery? Give up their organization and unity? Promise to never join a union in order to protect the rich man's profits? These are no answers at all. Meatcutters could not stand for the non-union conditions. That's why the Butler workers began re-organizing as soon as they came back to work.

The leadership of the Amalgamated Meatcutters carried their usual no-fight, no-win strategy into this round of struggle. They've done it again and again. Instead of actively campaigning and building a sense of unity between workers at all the non-union houses, they called for a "low profile campaign." They concentrated only on the Wisconsin Packing plant in Butler where they had the most ex-strikers. But even there they relied only on the boners and trimmers, ignoring the women on the paddy line. This plan blew up in their face when all boners and trimmers were let go. They had to call off the election because they had

done nothing to organize the women remaining on the job.

Harassment, firings and cutbacks in benefits have also hit hard at Peck. But the International which has Local 248 in receivership has done nothing to relate to these fights. They are presently allowing the contract at Packerland in Green Bay to lapse because they are not willing to finance a strike. Also, the International has done nothing locally to build the important Iowa Beef strike. It's no wonder that packinghouse workers did not take up the organizing drive in a very active or enthusiastic way. Workers saw the same legalistic, bureaucratic leadership they saw during the 15 month strike.

The loss of jobs at Wisconsin Packing was a fight the Amalgamated did not take on. In the coming battles like teaching Bernie Peck a few lessons and supporting the Iowa Beef strikers, it's the rank and file that is going to have to do the job. ■

I Led Five Wives, or

How Singer Sewed Up His Fortune



ISAAC SINGER WITH ONE OF HIS FAMILIES, "WORKING" FOR HIS MILLIONS.

Isaac Singer, born in poverty in 1811, son of a German immigrant. He died 1875 leaving over \$13 million to his 5 "wives" and 20 or so children. How did Isaac, founder of the Singer Sewing Machine Co., make it from rags to riches? Was it his genius as an inventor, many years of hard work, smart planning and management that got him to the top? Dead wrong! His is the story of the great American ripoff.

Singer, a genius inventor? Well he did spend \$2000 of someone else's money to design and build a wood carving machine for printing. Problem was he couldn't sell even one because printing with wooden type was already on its way out. As for the sewing machine - it was already invented 4 times before Singer even came on the scene. He came along and made some improvements on a machine already designed by Blodgett and Lerow and built by a man named Phelps.

His real genius was at lying and cheating to put himself on top of more and more money. Singer used the resources and craftsmanship of his partner Phelps until the sewing machine started selling. Then he bullied Phelps out of the business and sent him on the road as a travelling salesman.

He did his original partner, Zieber, even worse. Zieber supported Singer and his family for years as Singer worked first on the wood carving machine and then the sewing machine. Zieber went deep into debt with family, friends and banks to finance Singer's inventions. His reward? Zieber took sick in 1851 and Singer came to his bedside with news. "The doctor," claimed Singer, "thinks you are dying. So let me give you \$5000 for your half of the business." Zieber, freaked out over his impending death, agreed. A week later Zieber recovered and found out Singer, the lying dog, had never even talked with his doctor. He had

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Butcher of Deir Yassin Israel's New Premier

For decades the Zionists of Israel and the U.S. government have tried to paint the people of Palestine who are fighting to regain their homeland as murderers and terrorists. They have played on the emotions and memories of the Nazi holocaust that took the lives of six million Jews in an attempt to legitimize the creation of the state of Israel on stolen Palestinian land in 1948.

But the recent election of Menahem Begin as the premier of Israel has brought to the leadership of the Zionist state a murdering hoodlum whose past history shines a bright light on the fact that it is the Zionists who are the real terrorists.

Begin first gained notoriety as the leader of the Irgun, a Zionist terror organization dedicated to driving Palestinians out of Palestine and forcing the British, who controlled the area after World War I, to recognize a Zionist state. Founded in 1936 the Irgun launched a campaign of bombings, kidnappings, and murder designed to terrorize the Palestinians and break their resistance to the Zionist takeover. The most infamous of the Irgun atrocities was the massacre of Deir Yassin on April 9, 1948, a month before the Zionists proclaimed the state of Israel, personally masterminded by Begin.

Deir Yassin was a small Palestinian village just north of Jerusalem. It was located within the International Zone of Jerusalem under the UN partition resolution of 1947. Its residents had been noted for their efforts to get along with the Jews. Even the Zionist military Governor of Jerusalem admitted later "it was a quiet village, which had denied entry to the volunteer units from across the frontier and which had not been involved in any attacks on Jewish areas." It was chosen for Irgun attack precisely because it would demonstrate to the Palestinians that the Zionists would give them no quarter, that they had to choose between death and fleeing Palestine.

Over 250 people, most of them women and children were murdered in the Irgun attack. The Red Cross team which

visited Deir Yassin the next day testified that 150 bodies were found stuffed down a well. The rest of the bodies were mutilated by Irgun knives and left scattered in the streets of the village as a bloody example to Arabs throughout Palestine. Deir Yassin had had no defenses. Almost its entire population was exterminated by the Zionist butchers, led by the new Israeli premier.

In his autobiography written in 1957, Begin bragged of his exploits at Deir Yassin and celebrated the effects of the atrocities. "The legend of Deir Yassin helped us in particular in saving the Tigerias and the conquest of Haifa...the Arabs began fleeing in panic, shouting 'Deir Yassin!' Arabs throughout the country...started to flee for their lives. This mass flight soon developed into a maddened, uncontrollable stampede."

HEROIC RESISTANCE

By the time the Israeli settler state was proclaimed on May 15, over one million Palestinians had been driven from their homes, villages and farms into miserable, crowded refugee camps in the surrounding Arab countries. Those Palestinians who remained within the boundaries of the new Zionist state were stripped of their rights and subjected to a life of chronic unemployment and super-exploitation--a life the Palestinians bitterly and heroically resist today.

The atrocity stories of Zionist treatment of Palestinians continue to filter out of Israel to this very day. As recently as early June British investigators documented three newspaper pages of cases of Zionist torture and brutality against the thousands of Palestinians held in Israeli prisons. To this very day the Zionists continue to force the Palestinians from their homes and farms now in the West Bank and Gaza strip areas which Israel seized in the 1967 war.

The hoodlum and murderer Menahem Begin is a fitting leader for the Zionist state, founded and maintained by imperialist-backed terrorism and criminal violence against the Palestinian people. ■

ists who they work for. They wanted a coverup, they wanted to back up their legal hit men, and punish the families and survivors.

The law protected the interests of the capitalists and their flunkies against the threat that the Black Panther Party would stir up the masses of oppressed Black people against them. And, after Hampton and Clark were murdered in the name of the law, the law protected the murderers.

But this outrageous verdict can never cover-up the execution of two men whose lives were dedicated to fighting oppression.

These two revolutionaries stood for the resistance of Black people and people of all nationalities. And as people continue to resist the spirit of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark lives on.

Krugerrand...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

They have used the cheap labor that apartheid offers to reap super-profits from their plants in South Africa. These are the same rich capitalists that try to promote racism here at home, knowing full well that a united American working class--Black, Latin and white--can bring them to their knees.

"Fight Imperialism from the USA (Union of South Africa) to the USA (United States of America)." Join with ALSOC to force an end to the sales of the Krugerrand. Stand with the people of southern Africa in smashing the system of apartheid. For more information call 873-4243 or 415-5816. ■

Singer...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

his health back, but no business.

Several companies were trying to make it in the sewing machine business. This kind of dirty tactics was the rule. But the fighting between them got so bad it threatened to put them all out so they came up with a great plan that was to become the way to beat out competition in industry - form a monopoly.

As for hard work and smart management? During the years the Singer Co. was growing and prospering Isaac was a little preoccupied with other things - like being "married" to 3 women at once (not counting his only legal wife who he had abandoned years before.) After all, fathering 17 kids takes a lot of time and energy especially when you have to run between 3 different houses. And of course, he had to take time to display his increasing wealth. He often drove through the park with one of his families in his newest invention - a canary yellow carriage, drawn by 9 horses, seating 30 persons, holding a nursery, smoking room, band stand area and luggage compartments.

The hard work that made the Singer Co. a multinational giant was put in by the men and women who sweated in his factory making the sewing machines. Workers who in 1855 were making \$11.50 a week, had their wages cut to 3 days pay (the other two days to be paid when the company could better afford it.) These sewing machine makers were among the first workers involved in mass production. By 1870 they were producing a sewing machine for total cost of twelve dollars. The company turned around and sold them for \$64 - almost 500% profit.

Singer retired at 52 with 40% of the Singer Co. as his pension. Tough life! He took another wife, had several more children, and moved to England. He built himself a castle where he stayed until he died. His funeral, planned by Isaac before he died, was as sick as his life had been. He was buried first in a cedarwood coffin lined with white satin. This was placed inside a thick lead coffin, which was placed inside an oak coffin with silver trim and handles. It was drawn through the town on an open carriage for all to see.

Singer ripped off the working class until the day he died. And he left behind plenty of offspring to carry on the dirty work. No sooner was the elaborate funeral over then a long and bitter fight began over which wife and children got how much stock in the company. The Singer Co. with all its runaways and subsidiaries like here in Milwaukee, are still raking in billions off the backs of working people. ■

Mining ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Layoffs will still hurt machinery builders when the economy takes a dip, when a contract is lost or finished, or when they speed up or automate some jobs.

Any break for big business hurts the working class. Taxes on the working man and the homeowner are steadily going up. And the companies are getting more and more breaks. Even if some jobs open up, they'll only last as long as the company can rip off the area. The people of the Upper Peninsula can testify to the depressed conditions the mines leave when they pull out.

In the end the legislators voted to put the higher tax on Exxon, Kennebec and the rest. Apparently the other powerful interests in the state felt the extra revenue could be used to pad the state budget, help other companies and make up for other tax breaks. The tax will still be a very small pay-off to the rest of the powers in the state--and it sure won't keep Exxon from ripping off the millions beneath the soil of Forrest County. ■

Nazis...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

from marching.

The Nazis are not just some throw-back to the past, a handful of harmless loonies longing for the "good old days" of Hitler Germany. They are actively organizing in a handful of white communities, predominantly working class, around the country. At a time of economic crisis and political uncertainty when growing numbers of working people and others are coming to see that their problems and suffering are due to this capitalist system and that they must fight the attacks of the rich, the Nazis step in to stir up divisions in the ranks of the working class and build up reactionary sentiment.

They are doing the dirty work of the rich ruling class and their convention is a bid to unite more than a dozen small, locally based Nazi outfits into a larger national organization, able to play an even more reactionary role.

STIR UP ANTAGONISMS

The Nazis do a lot more than just peddling bad ideas, as can be seen in Chicago, where they have had their greatest successes in the Marquette Park community. This is a white ethnic neighborhood, of older houses mostly owned free and clear after years of paying off mortgages. With the surrounding area's racial composition changing from white to Black, there was a lot of tension. This was fueled by banks and real estate speculators, out to make a fast killing in mortgages and commissions on all the houses which changed hands.

The Nazis stepped into this situation and made sure that it wouldn't develop into a struggle against the banks and realtors who were trying to panic whites out of their homes and gouge Blacks looking for better homes for their families. They have organized extensively, blaming Black people for all the problems white workers face, and have gone all out to stir up open conflict between Black and white. They have led youths in attacking Blacks who come to the park, dragged Blacks driving through the neighborhood out of their cars and beating them and they have bombed the homes of Blacks who've moved into the area.

Their current attacks on Jewish people, like the march they planned in Skokie, are more of the same. Although they exploit and promote racial hatred, it is hard for them to claim that Black people run this country when it is plain to even die-hard reactionaries that this is absurd. So another traditional scapegoat is dragged out to let the actual enemy of the masses of people, the capitalist class, off the hook.

The poison the Nazis spread and the hostilities and clashes they cause are music to the ears of the rich and powerful. Even while politicians and the press express dismay and talk about banning Nazis from demonstrating on public property, they give these would-be Hitlers the thing they crave most-publicity.

IGNORE THEM?

Frank Collins, Chicago's Nazi leader, is the dog behind the plans to unite the Nazis nationwide. To get on TV all he has to do is show up downtown with a couple of his men dressed in their brownshirt uniforms.

The TV stations and big newspapers, mouths of the biggest big shots that run this country, feed the Nazi disease by reporting on their every move. They promote the Nazis because they can gain from the divisions that the Nazis try to incite among workers.

The actions of Nazis and the Klan are attacks on all people. The many workers and other people, Black, Latin and white, who gathered to stop them, dealt these scum a crushing blow. ■

Panthers...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

which they had plugged with over 100 bullets. It was proved that a police agent had drugged Hampton that night and that he never even woke up. After the shooting stopped, the cops walked into Hampton's room and shot him again to make sure he was dead. Clark managed to get off one shot as he lay dying. It was the only shot fired from within the apartment. All the rest of the hundreds of rounds were fired from police guns.

The bulk of this evidence was not challenged by the cops. They only argued that it was "justified." The newspapers and TV screamed about the trial costing the taxpayers millions of dollars, blaming the families. The same government that ordered the murder of these two men has been paying the lawyers and court costs of the murderers. The families and survivors could not even afford to get the transcripts of each day's proceedings, but had to rely on notes and memory. Now if they want the transcripts to appeal the decision it will cost them over \$100,000.

For daring to bring out the truth and seek justice, the plaintiffs have been ordered to pay the astronomical costs of the trial. This is the justice that was done--justice handed out by a judge representing the same authorities that planned the cold-blooded killing of these men, brushing aside the pretext of the role for a jury, or evidence, and ruling the killers innocent. This is the justice of government authorities and the capital-

Cuba...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

day it's the USSR that tells Castro how to run the country.

In 1959, as Castro's rebel troops marched into Havana, the Cuban people's joy overflowed like a volcano that had been pent up too long. Under the rule of the bloody dictator Batista, Cuba had been no more than a giant sugar plantation where the people slaved away to enrich foreign masters and he who got out of line, got shot. Behind Batista stood the U.S. government and the giant U.S. sugar companies which controlled the island. So many people supported Castro and his guerrillas against the government that Batista could hardly find anyone to fight for him at any price. Yet before long the interests of Castro and those of the great majority of people would go very separate ways.

Castro had always denied he was a communist. Even after he took over the government he came to the U.S. and made speeches in favor of the free enterprise system. For this reason, the capitalists of this country have always tried to hold this up as proof that communists are "masters of deceit" who manipulate the people and keep their real goals hidden. But since real socialism means a revolution, so that the working people themselves who have been nothing now become the masters of all society, under the leadership of their communist party, no one who sneaks around behind the people's backs and then pops up to tell them, "you have communism whether you like it or not," can ever be considered a communist.

The fact is that Castro was telling the truth--he never was a communist and he still isn't to this day. What happened was that at a certain point calling himself a communist and getting Russian "aid" was the best way he and his buddies could stay in business.

The U.S. didn't care if Castro was a communist or not. His government took back Cuba's land and its economy that had been controlled by the U.S. and that was all that mattered. Long before the USSR stuck its nose into Cuba, the U.S. put up an economic blockade around the island and prepared to launch the Bay of Pigs invasion. It was at this point that Castro invited in a Soviet trade delegation and made two big announcements: 1) from now on Cuba would grow sugar for the USSR, and 2) from now on Castro was calling himself a communist.

But the plain fact is that although Cuba overthrew Batista and threw out the U.S. it never became a socialist country. The way society was run, the organization of the economy and the relations between people, including the place of workers in society--these things were never revolutionized. The old capitalists were knocked down, but new ones came forward from Castro's group to take their place.

In the first years after Batista's downfall as the people were free of his tyranny and the control of the U.S., they worked wonders in building hospitals, schools and roads with little more than a few concrete mixers and a lot of enthusiastic hard work. But in order for Cuba to become truly free and its working people to be liberated, the whole system had to change. This is what never happened.

Under the capitalist system, growing sugar for export while the people got paid next to nothing was the best way to make a profit on the island. Those who owned the land and the sugar mills, and the rest of the economy, never even dreamed of any other arrangement, because anything else would have meant losing money. But the only way Cuba could ever become a truly independent country is to replace sugar gradually with other crops, develop other natural resources, and on this basis begin to build up various kinds of industries to make

the things it needs.

Only socialism could allow Cuba to become truly free and liberate its people. Socialism means that working people themselves seize political power and, freed of the profit system of the bosses and their oppressive rule, transform society according to the interests of the working class. Of course, even under socialism industry as a whole can't lose money--generally plants should cost and produce a surplus for the state to use for planned growth. But the aim which guides the workers in their planning and in their daily labor is not producing profit, but rather of meeting the needs of the masses of people and changing society so that all class distinctions can gradually be done away with.

Only the working class has no stake at all in the profit system which grinds it down, and every interest in changing all of society to get rid of all the rottenness capitalism has produced. Only the leadership of the workers and their political party in alliance with all those pushed down by Batista could have brought about a real transformation of the country.

But this transformation never took place in Cuba. Early on, Castro and his friends running the government made plans for the economy, these were not socialist plans--plans to develop the economy according to the overall needs of the people--but rather capitalist plans for how to make the most \$\$\$\$. In the last few years, the goal of profit has officially been proclaimed by Cuban law to be the guiding light for Cuba's farms and factories. More workers have been put on piece work, rates set, with discipline stepped up for absence, lateness or "disrespect" to supervisors--very familiar, very hated conditions to workers in this country. There've even been some layoffs. But even before the Cuban government put it in words, the very decision to continue to tie Cuba's future to sugar meant that profit was the most basic principle. And once this was decided, it was impossible for society to be organized in any way except for the way all capitalist countries are organized--with the workers doing all of the work and controlling nothing, while those who at the top lived like parasites, run society for their own benefit.

The fact that Castro and his circle decided to take things in this direction reflected the nature of the Cuban revolution. It had not been led by the workers and their party, nor did its leaders have the outlook and interests of the workers. Instead it was led by a group of middle class professionals and small businessmen. They were on the one hand rebels against Cuba's bondage, under Batista and the U.S., but on the other hand, people whose social position was above the workers. Instead of joining with the workers and ordinary people and helping to lead things forward, they pushed policies that bolstered their own class position. In essence what they fought for was capitalism without the old capitalists--capitalism in which they themselves could be the big bosses.

For Castro and his bunch, the deal with the Russians may have seemed like the ideal arrangement. They had broken through to the top, replaced the old U.S. flunkey government with themselves, and now the USSR would pay the bills. Since the U.S. was out for their blood anyway, why not call themselves communists if this was the way to go?

But the deal wasn't quite as good as they might have thought, because the USSR had its own interests to pursue. The USSR was itself no longer a communist country. After Stalin died, Khrushchev and a clique of capitalist elements old and new in high place had seized control of the Soviet Union from the working class. While not daring to openly call themselves capitalists in words, and even finding it useful to put on a "socialist" mask, they brought back the whole capitalist system. In fact, they ran everything according to the profits it would bring them. In Cuba these new rulers saw

a potential gold mine.

Soon they had Cuba on the hook. After the Soviets began buying Cuban sugar, Castro and his government began giving sugar more and more emphasis in the economy in order to keep the money rolling in, and the more sugar Cuba grew, the more it grew dependent on the USSR to buy it and to sell Cuba food and other products. While Castro might have thought he was using the USSR, it soon turned out that the Soviets were using him and increasingly getting the upper hand.

In the middle 1960s Cuba was a symbol of revolution to many people in the world because it was the first country in the Americas to rise up and drive out American fatcat capitalists. In those years, Castro had heady ideas about doing what he had done in Cuba all over Latin America, and he even criticized his Soviet friends once in a while for not being "revolutionary" enough. But within less than a decade, Castro had become more and more of a puppet of the USSR. Instead of being an example of revolution, today Cuba is a tool of the USSR for its export of counterrevolution--the best example of this being the Cuban troops that helped bring Angola under the Soviet heel.

The Soviets have made out alright on Cuba, since not only do they resell Cuban sugar to Eastern Europe at a tidy profit, but also they sell Cuba all sorts of inferior merchandise at inflated prices. They have made a big political profit as well, using Cuba as a stalking horse to increase Soviet prestige and try to get forces in other countries fighting U.S. domination.

But in fact the Soviet's iron-handed control over Cuba and the way that the Soviets hold onto Cuba by controlling its economy, just as the U.S. once did, are a real exposure of the real nature of the USSR and the phoney "socialism" it had brought to Cuba.

Tiny Albainia, a real socialist country which is even smaller than Cuba,

State...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

been poorly organized. Union leaders haven't made any effort to inform or organize the Limited Term Employees who are still working.

Schreiber, Lucey and the other big shots have only one concern--make the people pay for their crisis. But their attack on state workers is meeting with resistance. Our interest is to stand with the state workers. ■

Waupun...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

came and took one of them to the hole, but the other, Billy Wells, went into the crowd. When the guards tried to come into the crowd to take Wells away, they got a taste of the inmates' anger. More guards came but they didn't try to take the man away. In fact they stood by while one of the prisoners knocked a couple of guards to the ground. Guards in the tower were itching the triggers with their fingers. And more riot-equipped guards poured onto the rec field. Little by little, some of the men began to head back to the cell halls. But the guards still couldn't get the man into custody. A group of guys escorted Billy Wells to the cell hall and tried to take him all the way to his cell so the guards couldn't single him out, beat him, and take him to the hole. In the cell hall this group had to defend themselves against an attack by several guards. Six guys were taken into the hole and they could face charges of assault by a prisoner.

The resistance that the men at "the Walls" put up was their way of hitting the oppressive conditions in the state prisons. The men are fed up with no paroles and a prison system where there's no such thing as rehabilitation, just brutality and dehumanization. They're right to fight for their rights. ■

has today become an economically self-sufficient and politically completely independent country under the control of its working people who made revolution there after World War 2. China was a country far bigger than Cuba, of course, but much poorer than Cuba ever was. Today revolution led by a genuine Communist Party has won a whole new way of living for its working people: But the USSR has gone deeper into misery since capitalism has been restored there, and Cuba is today as much a sugar colony of the USSR as it once was of the U.S.

If the U.S. government is moving towards reestablishing diplomacy and trade with Cuba, it's not because the nature of the capitalists who run this country has changed. They still hope to get back their old colony, and while that's not about to happen right now, they hope that U.S. trade can weaken or at least hold back Soviet influence in Cuba. This is no example of the U.S. seeking peace, but rather of the U.S. challenging the USSR over Cuba, just as the USSR is challenging the U.S. over other countries the U.S. dominates. The interests of the American working class are completely opposed to any U.S. interference in Cuba whatsoever, just as we are opposed to the Soviets' domination there.

But more than that, it's important to understand the class nature of Cuba, so that rather than being a country which our rulers can hold up before us to convince us that it's useless to rebel, we can look at Cuba and understand the criminal nature of the capitalist system--even when it calls itself something else--and understand better capitalism must be and certainly will be overthrown once and for all in Cuba, in our own country and everywhere else. ■

Party...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

money and take out broadly the plans for the founding convention of the National Workers Organization in Chicago on Labor Day weekend. The National Workers Organization will unite people across the country to fight attacks coming down everyday whether on the job or in the neighborhoods.

On Saturday July 2, a party was held at a corner tavern in the neighborhood so that people on the block could meet the organizers of the block party. Plans and petitions for the August 6 block party are going ahead. By going back to the same block that the cops attacked last year the United Workers Organization is saying: "We are not going to let the cops and city hall push people around, we're going to stand up and fight back!" ■

Banta...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Menasha is not far from Fond du Lac, where Giddings & Lewis workers are still fighting to keep their union after nearly two years of struggle. Workers throughout the valley know that other companies are looking to G&L and Banta as examples of how to cut costs by breaking unions. If the company wins at Banta, other businesses in the Fox River Valley will go on the union busting offensive.

This is the fourth time in years that Banta workers have hit picket lines. They have fought hard for a shorter work week, to keep more people on the job. Automation has put heavy at Banta and layoffs are a constant threat. Workers at Banta have said "hell no!" to this.

Publishing companies have tried to divide workers by craft, and union workers from non-union workers. This was what happened at the Washington Post last year when the Post broke the pressmen's union. The Banta strikers are saying they won't be divided and they won't be driven down. And as they struggle not to be driven down their unity and determination increases. ■

Humboldt Park...

CONTINUA DE PAGINA 16

grandes y incitan la guerra entre las gangas constantemente. Todo esto es parte de los esfuerzos sistematicos por parte de la clase dominante y sus lacayos en la alcaldía para ahuyentar a la gente y abrir paso para la "renovación urbana."

Pero hay un límite a lo que puedo aguantar la gente. Muchos de los de esta comunidad fueron forzados a venir aquí de Puerto Rico por los imperialistas de EEUU que establecieron sus fábricas en Puerto Rico pagando sueldos de hambre y arruinando la economía de la isla. Ahora muchas de estas corporaciones se están moviendo de Puerto Rico en busca de países aún más gananciosos para explotar, dejando a pueblos enteros sin trabajo. La gente no tiene otra salida menos que ir a las ciudades como Chicago en busca de trabajo.

Por supuesto los capitalistas trataron de mentir y falsear lo que pasó en Humboldt Park. Presentó los sucesos en la prensa y la televisión como nomás que una pelea entre dos gangas que la policía heroicamente había tratado de terminar. Difamaron a los puertorriqueños y trataron de fomentar antagonismos raciales echando la culpa al tiempo caluroso, la cerveza y las gangas. Dentro de la comunidad puertorriqueña trabajaron por medio de algunos auto-llamados "líderes comunales" empleados por el gobierno y otros para proclamar que lo que pasó fue un acto de violencia sin razón que no había cambiado nada.

MARCHA ORGANIZADA

Estas mentiras fueron confrontadas. La organización Juventud en Acción de Chicago, junto con algunos residentes del vecindario y un par de representantes de Comité Organizador para Una Organización Nacional de

Trabajadores, tuvieron en serie de reuniones de masa en la comunidad. Decidieron a organizar una marcha a través de la comunidad para hacer tres demandas: 1) Alto al Terror Policiaco en Humboldt Park; 2) Quitar los Cargos contra los 164 arrestados en el levantamiento; 3) Castigen a los Policías Culpables del Asesinato de los dos hombres. Se unieron con otros grupos en la comunidad para llevar a cabo una marcha unificada.

El apoyo para la marcha ganó mucha fuerza ya que la gente se dio cuenta de que así se podía mostrar que la comunidad no iba a ser aterrorizada hasta submisión por la jara. El Comité Organizador también decidió a tomar parte. Unos miembros ayudaron en la organización de la marcha en la comunidad, mientras el Comité en con-

junto enfocó sus esfuerzos en la tarea de llevar las demandas a las plantas, circulando peticiones, bregando con la campaña propagandística de los capitalistas y desarrollando la unidad de los trabajadores de varias nacionalidades contra los crímenes cometidos por los capitalistas en Humboldt Park. Un número de trabajadores fueron convencidos a participar en la marcha.

La marcha resultó extremadamente exitosa. Quinientos manifestantes desmentieron a los capitalistas y sacaron a la luz lo que había hecho la policía, y avisaron a etos asesinos y sus lacayos que la batalla en el parque no fue el fin del asunto. También ayudó a la gente obrera y las minorías a través de la ciudad a ver el levantamiento en Humboldt Park como una inspiración a todos los que están hartos de los abusos de la policía. ■

Cuba ...

CONTINUA DE PAGINA 15

podría realizar la verdadera transformación de Cuba.

LA MALDICIÓN DE AZÚCAR

Pero esta transformación nunca se realizó en Cuba. Desde muy temprano después de haber botado a Batista, Castro y sus amigos que gobernaban decidieron que puesto que el azúcar era el producto cubano más ganancioso, entonces Cuba iba a seguir produciendo azúcar, y hasta aumentar su producción de este. Aunque el gobierno cubano trató de planificar así la economía, no fueron planes socialistas--o sea planes para desarrollar la economía según las necesidades del pueblo en conjunto--sino planes capitalistas para sacar lo más ganancias. En los años últimos pasados, la meta de ganancia se ha hecho el más alto objetivo de las granjas y fábricas según la ley cubana oficial. Más obreros tienen que trabajar a paga por pieza, con cuotas de producción aumentadas, se ha escalonado la disciplina contra la ausencia del trabajo y el llegar tarde a trabajar y la "falta de respeto" a los supervisores--medidas muy conocidas y odiadas por los obreros de EEUU. Hasta hay suspensiones y despidos de obreros por falta de trabajo.

Pero aún antes de que todo esto fue promulgado según la ley, la mera decisión a seguir atando la futura de Cuba al azúcar significó que la ganancia era el objetivo más alto. Y después de haberlo decidido esto, era necesario organizar la sociedad cubana al igual que toda sociedad capitalista, con los obreros haciendo todo el trabajo y

siendo dueños de nada, mientras los que viven por encima de ellos viven como parásitos, controlando a la sociedad conforme con sus propios intereses.

El hecho de que Castro y su bonche decidieron a seguir ese camino reflejó la naturaleza de la revolución cubana. No fue dirigida por los obreros y su partido, y sus líderes no compartían el punto de vista y los intereses de la clase obrera. Al contrario, fue dirigida por un puñado de profesionales de la clase media y pequeños comerciantes. Se rebelaron contra Batista y la dominación de EEUU, pero por otro lado eran personas cuya posición social estaba por encima de los obreros. En vez de unirse con los obreros y la gente ordinaria y ayudar a dirigir su lucha hacia adelante, llevaron a cabo políticas las cuales reenfrazaron su posición de clase. Sus intereses y su punto de vista fueron ligadas al sistema capitalista en donde estaba basada esta posición, y por eso lo que buscaba en esencia era el capitalismo sin los viejos capitalistas--el capitalismo donde ellos mismos serían los patrones.

Para Castro y su grupo, el acuerdo con los rusos quizás parecía ser un arreglo ideal. Habían roto todos obstáculos para llegar a la cumbre y reemplazar a los viejos patrones con si mismos, y ahora la URSS iba a pagar la cuenta. Pues que EEUU quería eliminar a Castro de todas maneras, ¿por qué no llamarse comunista se así se podía tener éxito?

Pero el arreglo no fue tan bueno como parecía, porque la URSS estaba persiguiendo sus propios intereses. La Unión Soviética ya no era un país socialista. Después de la muerte de Stalin, Kruschev y una pandilla de elementos capitalistas viejos y nuevos con altas posiciones agarraron el poder de la clase obrera. Aunque no se atrevieron a llamarse capitalistas abiertamente, y aprovecharon de la máscara del "socialismo," de hecho introdujeron de nuevo todo el sistema capitalista, manejando a todo según la meta de ganancias. Estos nuevos imperialistas soviéticos miraban a Cuba como una mina de oro potencial.

CUBA EN GANCHADA POR LA URSS

Dentro de poco la URSS tuvo Cuba enganchada. Cuando los soviéticos empezaron a comprar el azúcar cubano, Castro y su gobierno empezaron a poner más y más énfasis en el azúcar dentro de la economía para así realizar más dinero, y mientras más Cuba producía el azúcar, más llegaba a ser dependiente en la URSS para comprarlo a para venderle a Cuba comestibles y otros productos. Quizas Castro pensaba en aprovecharse de la URSS, pero resultaba que la URSS aprovechaba de él y era la URSS la que más y más tenía la ventaja.

A medidas de los 1960 Cuba era un símbolo de revolución para mucha gente a través del mundo porque fue



CONTINGENTE DE LA ORGANIZACION DE TRABAJADORES UNIDOS EN LA PARADA PUERTORRIQUENA DE MILWAUKEE PIDIENDO LIBERTAD PARA PUERTO RICO Y JUSTICIA PARA NUESTROS HERMANOS EN HUMBOLDT PARK.

el primer país de las Americas a levantarse y botar a los imperialistas americanos. En aquel tiempo Castro tenía muchas ideas impetuosas en cuanto a hacer lo que hizo en Cuba por toda America Latina, y hasta a veces criticó a los soviéticos por no ser bastante "revolucionarios." Pero dentro de menos que una década, Castro llegó a ser más y más un títere soviético. En vez de ser un ejemplo de la revolución, hoy en día Cuba es un instrumento de la URSS para la exportación de la contrarrevolución--y el mejor ejemplo de esto son las tropas cubanas que ayudaron a agarrar a Angola para la URSS.

Los soviéticos han tenido gran éxito con Cuba, porque venden el azúcar cubano a Europa Oriental a un precio mucho más alto que lo que paga a Cuba, mientras le venden a Cuba todo tipo de productos inferiores a precios bien altos. También ganan mucho políticamente, usando Cuba para aumentar el prestigio soviético y tratar de convencer a fuerzas en otros países luchando contra la dominación de EEUU a seguir el camino de Fidel Castro--o sea convencerles a dejarse caer en las manos soviéticas.

Pero en realidad el control de hierro que los soviéticos tienen sobre Cuba y la manera en que la URSS controla Cuba monopolizando se economía al igual que lo que hacía EEUU--eso pone al desnudo la verdadera naturaleza de la URSS y su falso "socialismo" que ha traído a Cuba.

EL VERDADERO SOCIALISMO

Albania, un país socialista aún más pequeño que Cuba, hoy en día se ha hecho un país económicamente autosuficiente y políticamente independen-

te bajo el mando de la gente obrera que hizo la revolución después de la Segunda Guerra Mundial. La China, aunque muchísimo más grande que Cuba, era aún más pobre. Hoy en día su revolución guiada por un partido comunista genuina ha alcanzado un nuevo modo de vivir para el pueblo. Pero la URSS desde la restauración del capitalismo allí ha caído de mal a peor, y Cuba hoy en día es tanto una colonia azucarera de la URSS como lo era de EEUU.

Si actualmente el gobierno de EEUU esta moviendo hacia el reestablecimiento de relaciones y comercio con Cuba, no es debido a ningún cambio en la naturaleza de los gobernantes capitalistas americanos. Todavía quisieran recobrar su vieja colonia, y aunque no tienen muchas posibilidades de esto ahora, esperan usar el comercio para debilitar o al menos parar el ascenso de la influencia soviética en Cuba. No están buscando la paz--al contrario EEUU está desafiando a la URSS tocante a Cuba, de la misma manera en que la URSS esta desafiando la dominación EEUU sobre otros países que los soviéticos quieren agarrar. Los intereses de la clase obrera americana están totalmente opuestos a cualquier intervención americana en Cuba, tanto como estamos opuestos a la dominación soviética de ese país.

Antes que nada, es importante entender la naturaleza de clase de Cuba, para quitar la máscara de este ejemplo que nos presentan nuestros gobernantes para convencerlos que es fútil rebelarse. Así se puede entender la naturaleza criminal del sistema capitalista--aunque ese sistema tenga otro nombre--y la necesidad y la inevitabilidad del derrocamiento del sistema capitalista una vez por todas en Cuba, en EEUU y por todo el mundo. ■

OBRERO

Este periódico existe para organizar la lucha de la clase obrera en contra del sistema capitalista de explotación y opresión. Pone en alto la posición política del Partido Comunista Revolucionario de Estados Unidos de America en los asuntos y luchas mayores que enfrentan los obreros.

El Obrero de Milwaukee es uno de los muchos periódicos como este a través del país. El personal de estos periódicos esta compuesto de miembros y simpatizantes del Partido Comunista revolucionario (PCR).

Nosotros queremos estar en contacto con todas las luchas de nuestra clase. Necesitamos y damos la bienvenida a sus cartas, artículos y cualquier tipo de contribución o crítica.

Para ponerse en contacto con nosotros o para información, escriba a:

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Chicago, IL 60564 Milw WI 53208

TRAS LA MASCARA SOCIALISTA CUBANA

Comerciantes americanos visiten a Cuba buscando ganancias. Dueños de equipos de beisbol visitan buscando jugadores y nuevos aficionados. Se le entrevista a Fidel Castro dos veces en una semana en la televisión. EEUU y el gobierno cubano empiezan una serie de medidas hacia el establecimiento de relaciones diplomáticas.

Hace un año Cuba apareció en la primera plana porque soldados cubanos estaban peleando en Angola. Ahora Cuba está en las noticias porque el gobierno EEUU ha empezado a cambiar su política acerca de Cuba, una política que desde hace 17 años ha consistido en un bloqueo económico, sabotaje constante, y muchos atentados contra la vida de Fidel Castro.

De ahí han surgido muchas cuestiones entre la gente americana en cuanto a Cuba. ¿Como es Cuba ahora? ¿Como ha cambiado desde los primeros días de Castro y Che Guevara? ¿Cual es la relación entre Cuba y la URSS? ¿Porque está el gobierno americano cambiando su posición frente a Cuba?

Las autoridades de EEUU nos dicen que Cuba es un ejemplo de la futilidad de la revolución, porque el pueblo cubano se levantó en una revolución sólo para encontrarse sufriendo la opresión de nuevo en otra forma. Los diarios nos dicen que el pueblo cubano está viviendo al igual que siempre, quizás con unos mejoramientos, mientras un "elite" privilegiado vive como reyes. En una entrevista con Barbara Walters Castro se comporta muy flirteo y egoista y nunca hasta menciona a los obreros--muy extraña para alguien que se llama comunista. Para mucha gente en EEUU, incluso a los que tienen familiares todavía en Cuba, el sentir es--si lo que tienen en Cuba es el socialismo yo no quiero ese sistema.

Como está claro por el reportaje que hemos visto en la prensa y la TV, Cuba está tan dependiente como siempre en el azúcar, y como siempre, el que compra el azúcar es el que manda en el país. Actualmente Cuba está totalmente hipotecada a la Unión Soviética. Mientras antes era el gobierno y el embajador de EEUU que daban los ordenes a los presidentes de Cuba, ahora es la URSS que le da los ordenes a Fidel Castro.

En 1959, mientras el ejército rebelde encabezado por Castro entró en la Habana, la alegría popular desbordaba en las calles. Bajo el mandato del dictador sangriento Fulgencio Batista, el país era como una plantación azucarera donde la gente trabajaba como esclavos para enriquecer a los amos extranjeros, y el protestar era arriesgar la vida. Detrás de Batista estaban el gobierno de EEUU y las compañías de azúcar americanas que controlaban la isla. El pueblo tanto, prestaba su apoyo a los guerrilleros de Castro que Batista no podía encontrar a casi nadie a pelear para él no importaba el precio. Sin embargo dentro de poco tiempo los intereses de Castro y los de la inmensa mayoría del pueblo se dividirían dramáticamente.

¿ERA CASTRO COMUNISTA?

Castro siempre había declarado que no era comunista. Aún después de haber tomado el poder vino a EEUU y hizo una entrevista a favor del comercio libre. Los capitalistas de EEUU siempre tratan de aprovecharse de este hecho para decir que es así son los comunistas, que son "los maestros de la mentira" quienes engañan a la gente y mantienen ocultas sus verdaderas metas. Pero el verdadero socialismo es una revolución en que la gente obrera misma, que antes no ha sido nada, se hacen los maestros de la sociedad, bajo el liderato de su partido comunista. Por eso nunca se puede considerar que sea comunista una persona que engaña a la gente para de repente decirles que su país es ahora socialista si les gusta o no.

De hecho, Castro dijo la verdad--nunca era comunista y todavía no le es. Que pasó es que a cierto punto llamarse comunista y recibir la "ayuda" soviética fue la mejor manera para asegurar los altos puestos de Castro y sus socios.

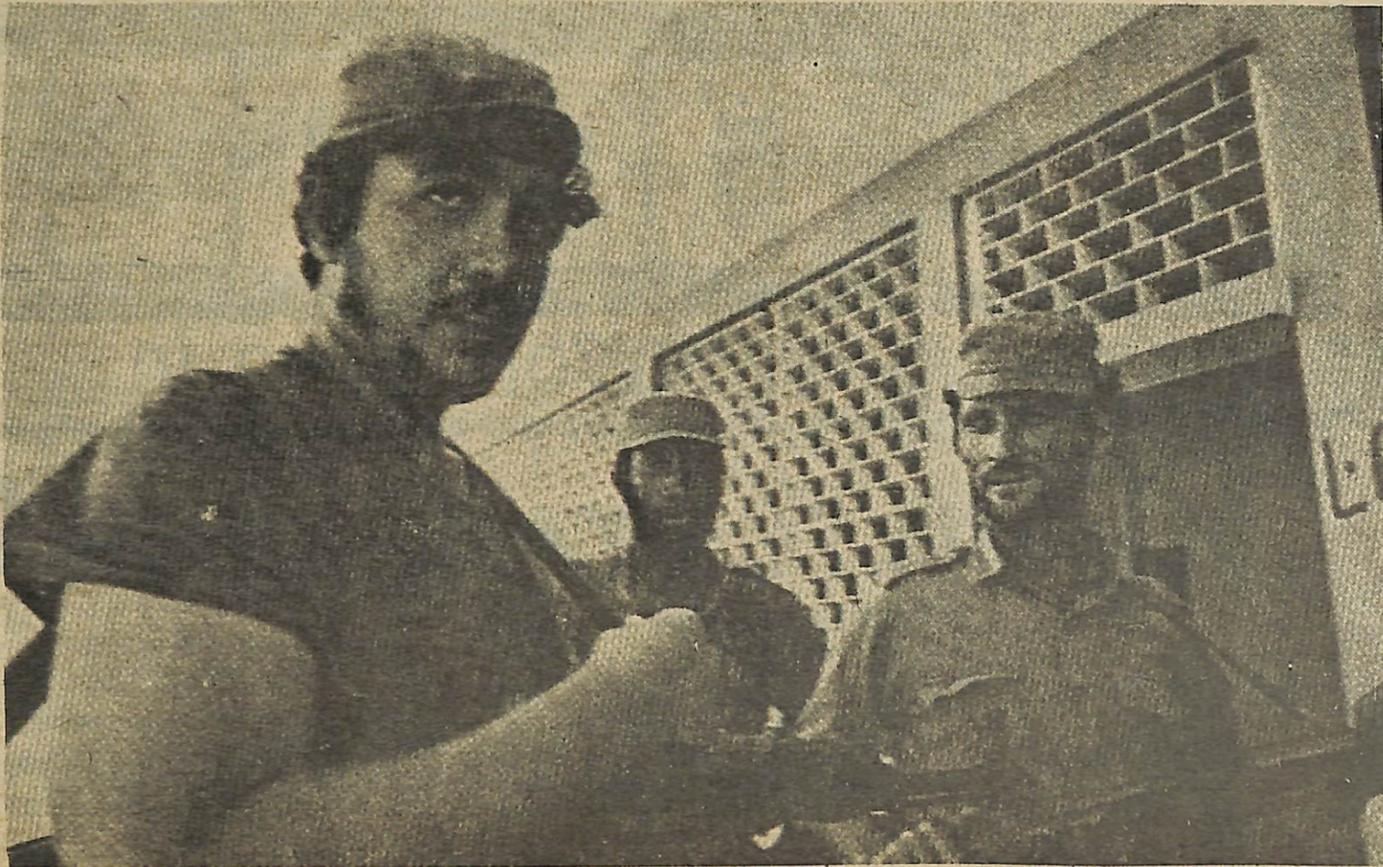
A EEUU no le importaba si Castro era comunista o no. Lo importante a ellos fue que el gobierno cubano había recobrado su tierra y economía de las manos de las compañías americanas. Bien antes de que la Unión Soviética se metió en Cuba, EEUU

sociedad conforme a los intereses de la clase obrera, libre del sistema de ganancias de los patrones y su mando opresivo. Por supuesto, hasta bajo el socialismo la industria en conjunto no puede perder dinero--generalmente las fábricas deben de recobrar el costo de producción y producir una sobra para el estado para así hacer posible el desarrollo de la economía de manera panificada. Pero la meta que guía a los obreros en su planificación y en su trabajo diario no es producir ganancias, sino satisfacer

a las necesidades del pueblo y cambiar a la sociedad para poco a poco eliminar todas distinciones de clase.

Sólo la clase obrera no tiene ningún interés en el sistema de ganancias que le aplasta a diario, y todo interés en la transformación de la sociedad de arriba abajo acabar con todo lo podrido producido por el capitalismo. Sólo el liderato de los obreros y su partido político, en alianza con todos los empujados hacia abajo por Batista,

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SOLDADOS CUBANOS DESPUÉS DE CAPTURAR LA CIUDAD DE AMBRIZ EN EL NORTE DE ANGOLA. BAJO "CONSEJEROS" Y OFICIALES SOVIÉTICOS, MÁS QUE 10,000 SOLDADOS CUBANOS SIRVIERON DE UNA FUERZA EXPEDICIONARIA PARA CONQUISTAR A ANGOLA POR LOS SOCIAL-IMPERIALISTAS, BAJO LA APARIENCIA DE Luchar CONTRA EL IMPERIALISMO

la bloqueo economicamente y preparaba para la invasión de Playa Giron. Fue en aquel momento que Castro invitó a una delegación comercial de la URSS y hizo dos anuncios importantes: 1) De aquí en adelante Cuba iba a producir azúcar para la Unión Soviética, y 2) De aquí en adelante Castro iba a llamarse comunista.

Pero de hecho aunque se derrotó a Batista y se botó a EEUU, Cuba nunca llegó a ser un país socialista. Nunca fueron revolucionizadas la manera en que se organiza la sociedad y las relaciones entre la gente, incluso la posición de los obreros en la sociedad. Se les derribó a los viejos capitalistas, pero capitalistas nuevos surgieron de entre el grupo de Castro para reemplazarlos a ellos.

En los primeros años después de la derrota de Batista, con el pueblo ya libre de su tiranía y el control de EEUU, se realizaron milagros en la construcción de hospitales, escuelas y carreteras con poco más que algo de cemento y muchísimo trabajo duro y entusiasmado. Pero para liberarse verdaderamente el país y el pueblo, faltaba un cambio total de todo el sistema. Esto nunca fue realizado.

Bajo el sistema capitalista, el cultivar el azúcar para exportación mientras pagando sueldos de hambre a la gente era la mejor forma de realizar ganancias en la isla. Los dueños de la tierra, los centrales, y el resto de la economía nunca sonaban de ningún otro arreglo, porque de otra forma se perdería dinero. Pero la única forma en que Cuba podría hacerse un país independiente era reemplazar al azúcar con otras cosechas poco a poco, desarrollar los otros recursos naturales del país y con esta base empezar a construir varias industrias para hacer las cosas que Cuba necesitaba.

Sólo el socialismo podría liberar al país y su pueblo. El socialismo quiere decir que la gente obrera misma toma el poder político y transforma la

Rompeuniones...

CONTINUA DE PAGINA 16

destruyendo el carro de uno de los rompuehuelas. Pero las cortes respondieron con un mandato con los piquetes de masa y docenas de policías de motín para enforzarlo. Acompañaron a los esquirols con escopetas.

Cuando el Comité Organizador se ligó con la huelga, ésta fue muy fortalecida. Conjunto con el Comité Organizador 60 trabajadores piquetearon la estación de policía para protestar el mandato de corte. También piquetearon las oficinas de Post Dispatch para forzarle a dejar de publicar aviso para esquirols. Con miembros del Comité Organizador y el Comité Organizador de Obreros Desempleados (UWOC) 25 huelguistas fueron en las oficinas de desempleo para demandar que dejaran de enviar a los desempleados a la Hussman para ser esquirols. Más adelante el UWOC organizo a 40 gente para confrontar el gobierno estatal y ganaron esta demanda.

Por medio de acciones tales como estas los trabajadores de base empezaron a movilizar su fuerza para bregar con la compañía y sus aliados y darles duro. Pero los oficiales de unión locales estaban en contra de tal política. Aunque ellos mismos no estaban interesados en luchar contra la compañía, calumniaron al Comité Organizador como "intrusos tratando de dividir la unión."

La batalla dentro de la unión local entre los oficiales tratando de isolar al Comité Organizador y los trabajadores más activos tratando de adelantar la huelga y neutralizar a los oficiales estalló a un mitín de unión

el 25 de junio. Participaron 150 trabajadores, y a pesar de los esfuerzos por parte de los oficiales se le invitó el Comité Organizador a hablar. Esa intervención desmentió las mentiras de como el Comité Organizador estaba tratando de "destruir la unión." "A través del país los obreros están bajo ataque y están luchando para defenderse al igual que en Hussman," dijo el portavoz. "El Comité Organizador está tratando de construir la unidad en esta lucha entre todos los obreros. Y en la misma manera en que estamos ayudando a avanzar la huelga en Hussman, estamos participando y ayudando a avanzar todos tipos de lucha a través del país." Los trabajadores de Hussman aplaudieron fuertemente.

Después del mitín el presidente y el "business agent" de la unión trataron de explicar a la mambrecía que debían a las varias restricciones legales el liderato de unión estaba muy limitado en cuanto a que podía hacer. Pero se vieron obligados a estrechar la mano a los miembros del Comité Organizador, y a prometer a hacer lo que podían para fortalecer la huelga. Fue un gran victoria para los trabajadores de base, porque por un tiempo neutralizó a estos oficiales y abrió paso para más movilizaciones de base.

Los huelguistas todavía están confrontados con la tarea de parar a los esquirols. Junto con el Comité Organizador tienen planificadas acciones, incluso una visita en masa al director regional de la oficina de desempleo y otra línea de piquete frente al otro diario que sigue llevando avisos para esquirols. Con estas acciones, la huelga va bien fuerte. ■

Se Encaran Contra la Compañía, Corte y Union Obreros Luchan Contra Los Rompeuniones

En el estadio de beisbol Busch de los St. Louis Cardinals, el altoparlante anunció otra vez, "Atención, atención, tienen que bajar la bandera." A través del centro del estadio colgó la bandera, "Boicoteen 9-0-5 Apoyen la Huelga contra Hussman." Cuando la policía vino para quitarla, los aficionados la rodearon para defenderla, echando botellas a los policías hasta que al fin los policías lograron bajar la bandera.

Durante todo el resto del juego, todo el mundo estaba hablando de la huelga. Muchos dijeron, "Es la primera vez que he escuchado de esa huelga, pero ahora voy a buscar más información." Otros leyeron el volante que habían recibido al entrar en el estadio, lo cual explicó la huelga y el boicoteo contra las tiendas 9-0-5, las cuales pertenecen a la compañía que es dueño de la Hussman.

Con este tipo de acción los trabajadores de la planta de refrigeradores Hussman en Bridgeton, Missouri, ayudados por el Comité Organizador local para una Organización Nacional de Trabajadores, están desarrollando un apoyo amplio para su huelga. Los 1500 trabajadores salieron en huelga el 1 de mayo cuando se venció su contrato local. La compañía proponía un contrato nuevo que quitara lo que ya

tenía los trabajadores, incluso eliminar el comité de quejas de unión, limitaciones en la selección de trabajos conforme con la señoría, y otras medidas con el objetivo de quebrar el local de unión de los United Steelworkers. La compañía trayó 500 esquirols. Los trabajadores les hicieron frente en la línea de piquete, totalmente

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EL OBRERO

JULIO 1977

VOL. 2 NO. 10



25¢

Boricuas se Levantan en Chicago

Todos los días en las ciudades a través del país los policías andan por las comunidades obreras y sobre todo los barrios minoritarios hostigando a la gente, gritando insultos raciales, golpeando a la gente y echando balas. Hasta asensinan a la gente sin ningún castigo. Lo que es más, estos policías son glorificados por la TV y los politiqueros como "la única protección que

así sean tratados. Y por eso siempre ha sido un día explosivo, porque los policías que abusan a los puertorriqueños se ponen aun más insolentes, buscando oportunidades para atacar a la gente en los barrios puertorriqueños.

Después del desfile miles de gente estaban en el parque disfrutando sus picnics. Al partir de las cuatro de la tarde, usando como excusa, un pleito,

carros, los cuales la gente quemó como los símbolos de opresión que son.

Por varias horas cualquier patrulla que se atrevió a entrar en el area fue aplastada por piedras y ladrillos. Miles de gente desbordaron las calles, incluso familias enteras que habían estado en el parque o que habían salido de sus casas. Todo el mundo estaba muy indignado contra la policía pero a la vez lleno de alegría de haberse levantado contra ellos. Más tarde, cientos de policías regresaron en formación militar, con un helicóptero para arriba al estilo de Vietnam. Las batallas callejeras siguieron hasta el fin de la noche siguiente.

EL "ORDEN" QUE DEFENDEN LA POLICIA

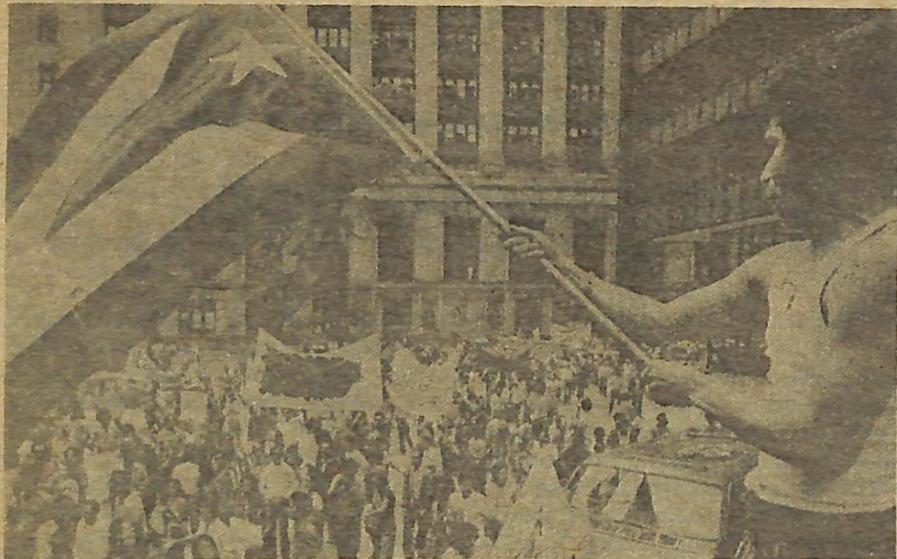
Además de los abusos policiacos, la gente estaba harta del "orden" que defiende la policía--las condiciones en que vive la gente. Debido a la discriminación y la segregación enforzada por los bancos, los agentes de bienes raíces y los caseros, los puer-

torriqueños están forzados a habitar un barrio destartado y atestado. Las condiciones de vida en el area de Humboldt Parke son entre las peores de la ciudad. Las rentas son altas, la mitad de los trabajadores no pueden encontrar trabajo y la comunidad entera está siendo destruida en el nombre de "la renovación urbana."

Dentro de sólo el año pasado el vecindario ha sufrido cientos de fuegos mayores, dejando a siete muertos y cientos de familias sin casa. Cuadras enteras han sido quemadas por los fuegos de "origen misterioso" y los terrenos entonces comprados por las compañías de bienes raíces detrás de las cuales esconden los bancos y los especuladores.

Y entonces hay la policía. En este vecindario no es algo raro ser golpeado sólo por haber violado la ley de tráfico. La policía usa las gangas y las drogas que van desenfrenadas como una excusa para justificar lo que hace. Pero todos saben que los policías aceptan sobornos para proteger a los vendedores de drogas más

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MANIFESTADORES ENFURECIDOS MARCHAN DESDE EN HUMBOLDT PARK A GOBERNACION DEMANDANDO FIN DE HOSTIGACIONES Y TERROR DE LA POLICIA

tiene la comunidad contra la anarquía." Cuando sus acciones brutales están sacadas a la luz los policías no hacen caso, pues que saben que los altos y poderosos van a defenderles totalmente.

El 4 de junio los puertorriqueños del area alrededor de Humboldt Park en Chicago ya estuvieron hartos. Se levantaron con coraje y por un tiempo echaron la policía del area. Después de usar fuerza masiva y de muchas batallas la policía al fin logro a "reestablecer el orden." Pero el coraje de la gente se había hecho conocido. Estaban hartos de los abusos, se estaban levantando unidos y fuertes, ya no iban a aguantar más.

El levantamiento empezó a causa de la misa brutalidad policiaca que los ricos que gobiernan Chicago había soltado para prevenir que el pueblo puertorriqueño se levantara. Empezó en el día del desfile puertorriqueño, lo que es, aunque organizado por los politiqueros, un día en que la gente declara su orgullo de ser boricua, dejando a saber que son hombres y mujeres de respeto y demandan que

entre dos gangas, la policía invadió el parque y empezó a sacar a la gente. Critando insultos raciales y quemando una bandera puertorriqueña, echaron patadas a los vasos, las latas y la comida, y a la gente son sus porras pegaron en la cabeza a cualquiera que no les escapó.

Abusados, atacados, insultados--en el mismo día puertorriqueño--la gente empezó a defenderse a lo mejor que podía. Dentro de poco los policías se encontraron frente al coraje de cientos de personas. Volvieron como perros locos, echando balas a la muchedumbre. Dos jóvenes cayeron balaceados por la espalda--Rafael Cruz quien andaba con su hermana, y Julio Osario. Muchos más fueron heridos, incluso niños chicos.

La noticia corrió por todo el barrio-- "¡ Están matando a los puertorriqueños! ¡ Tiraron a un nene!" Dentro de unos minutos miles de gente estuvieron defendiéndose contra la policía, pegándoles a ellos con botellas y piedras, corriéndoles del parque tan rápidamente que los guardias tuvieron que dejar atrás sus

Tras la Mascara Socialista Cubana



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