

## ON THE INSIDE

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## Civil Rights Strike

### Three Pickets View Events at North American Aviation

Los Angeles, Calif.—North American Aviation employees held a civil rights strike on Sept. 13, to protest discriminatory conditions at the NAA plants, especially in the areas of promotion for minority employees.

Although only a small number of employees took part, the strike drew public attention to the problem of discrimination at North American Aviation. A few white workers joined the picket line, although the majority were Negroes and Mexican-Americans. Many other workers simply checked out and went home.

The reaction of the majority of the workers in the plant seemed to be indifference, at first. Minorities and caucasians alike wanted to be viewers rather than participants. There was also some fear, when the workers who participated in the strike received five-day disciplinary lay-offs.

#### DETERMINATION

A good bit of this fear disappeared, however, when the employees who had received these notices appeared at the plant gates — from Orange County to Canoga Park, including Downey and L.A. plants — passing out leaflets informing the workers of the progress made since the strike, and of their determination to carry on despite this disciplinary action.

The union newspaper, *The Propeller*, has been vigorously attacking us. Evidently pointing up the discrimination problem at North American Aviation, has also pointed up the fact that the union local has been somewhat "remiss" in their job.

Not only the minority workers, but many white workers, have indicated that if discrimination does exist at NAA, the main fault lies with the union, which should have done much more than they have to alleviate the situation.

### Immediate Gains

Los Angeles, Cal.—A couple of important things happened in the plant as a result of the strike.

One Negro worker who had been trying to be a drill press operator for two years was finally accepted the day after the strike.

A Negro worker who had taken a test for machine operator apprentice a few months back, had been told that he failed by one point. The day after the strike he was told that he had been accepted.

A Negro was promoted to assistant foreman, whatever that means.

North American Aviation published in their own paper an article about a Negro top brass who was promoted into a \$30,000 a year job. Long live tokenism!

(Editor's Note: For more views, see Reader's Views, P. 4)

### White Supporters

Los Angeles, Cal. — I did not think too many people would take off to participate in this particular strike. But, when I went back into the plant the next day, I discovered that at least 80 percent of the Negro people had taken off, even though they did not participate in the picket line. Some took off the whole day, others checked out at lunch-time.

Some of the white workers as well as the Negroes came up to me and talked to me all day. They wanted to make sure that I knew they were not against me. One caucasian worker told a Negro who had not gone out that he was not a man because he had not supported us. This was going on throughout the whole plant.

#### VERBAL WHITE SUPPORT

Some of the whites did not participate because they did not think they had any civil rights bill to back them up. They felt the Negroes' civil rights had been violated and that we had a right to strike, or do anything else to protest.

One white worker walked up to me after I got my notice of a five-day lay-off and said that he felt giving me this notice, under some union law or national labor relations act, was a violation itself, because my civil rights supercede any law that might be made.

One Negro woman came up to me after I got the notice and gave me a dollar. She said, "I don't have much money. This is all I have, but you can have that." One white woman worker came up and said she also would help me anyway she could—financially or any other way.

#### A GOOD REASON

There were no hostilities as far as I could see from any of the workers. All seemed in favor of what we did and knew it was done for a good reason.

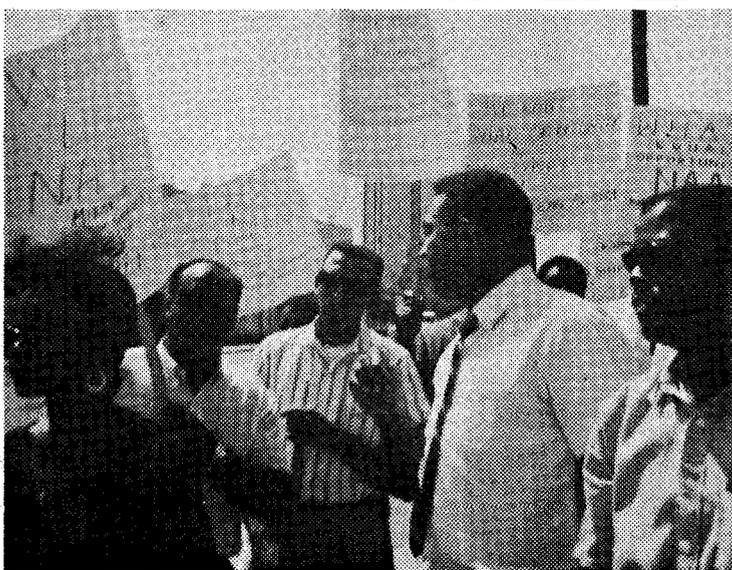
I think the main thing that held some workers back was that we called it a strike, instead of a demonstration. Many of the workers would have participated if they had a feeling there was a law to back them up if they were laid-off or fired.

## OF WORLD SIGNIFICANCE

### CHINA'S SELF-CREATED TURMOIL

By Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairman, National Editorial Board

"Bombard the headquarters (of the Communist Party locals) and you bombard the handful of people in power who are taking the capitalistic road." So spoke Chairman Mao Tse-tung's heir apparent, Defense Minister Lin Piao, at a mass rally in Peking on Sept. 15. The bombast against a self-created "enemy" fitted in well with the audience — the so-called Red Guards who had suddenly sprung up, fully organized, from the plotting of the self-same Defense Minister, chosen by him to administer shock-troop treatment to hitherto orthodox interpreters of "Mao's Thought" by embarking on a three-week rampage of self-perpetuating disorders.



North American Aviation workers picket during civil rights strike.

It would have been a tragic enough spectacle had these vigilante teen-agers, "armed with Mao's Thought," imprinted on millions of leaflets, pamphlets, posters, been told that their work was finished now that every office, workshop, store, home, railroad coach, bus and taxi had the proper size photo of Chairman Mao; now that the proper "bourgeois individuals" had been sufficiently harassed and humiliated, thus easing the road for the Party to demote the allegedly dissident Communist Party officials; and now that the noisy mass demonstration around the Soviet Embassy which succeeded in renaming the street, "Struggle Against Revisionism," had extended itself into forcing individual Chinese "revisionists" to wear posters reading, "I oppose the Chinese revolution."

Clearly, the life-span of the Red Guards was not finished and the job of eradicating the influence of "the West," had to go beyond cutting trousers of passers-by, or gaining conformity in haircuts, or ransacking the homes of "bourgeois individuals," including the home of Mme. Sun Yat-sen, where not only "bourgeois" furniture was carted off, but historic documents were destroyed, or in the banning of the sales of "foreign books" (except Albanian) as well as the playing of "Western music," since Bach, Beethoven and Shostakovich were now declared to be "feudal-bourgeois-revisionist," not to mention the desecration of statues from Pushkin to Confucius.

#### "THE PROLETARIAN CULTURAL REVOLUTION"

Indeed, the "Red Guards" are being canonized as the expression of "a great proletarian cultural revolution unprecedented in history." Unprecedented also was the timing of their appearance, shortly after the conclusion of the meeting of the most powerful ruling body—the plenum of the Central Committee (CC) of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). Called together for the first time in four years, it is supposed to have created a body outside of its own existing youth organization, and obviously not subject to any governmental body, but only to the will of Chairman Mao through his "stand-in," Defense Minister Lin. Or is it vice-versa?

Why is this extra-legal organ needed in a land that is legally Communist? Why, with the largest land army in the world, does its commander-in-chief need yet another instrument of teen-age supporters? Is an intervention in the Vietnam war planned? All of these questions are inter-related and some clues to the answers can be gleaned from the plenum decisions.

To the plenum of the CCP, held Aug. 1-12, came "the cultural revolutionary groups of the CC." These were not, however, called the "Red Guards"—not (Continued on Page 5)

## EDITORIAL

### Shame of a Nation: White Racism

President Johnson's premeditated murder of his own Civil Rights Bill began with his very first political junket this year. As the Nazi-led white mobs rioted against equal housing for Negroes, the tall Texan chose then to warn the civil rights movement against "violence": "all the best work will be undone." The Congress got the cue.

#### WHITE SUPREMACY IN CONGRESS

By the end of September, it wasn't only the Southern bigot, Senator Mendel Rivers (S.C.), who dared call U.S. Commissioner of Education Harold Howe II, "a Communist . . . an idiot" for planning to executive desegregation in schools. It was "liberal" Northerner, Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield, who had the gall to call the token desegregation in schools "too fast." No one went for his pretense that he was "misquoted", "that he really meant to say "desegregation of schools was not going fast enough. If anything it is too slow."

Minority Leader, Senator Dirksen, who needs no extra lessons in double-talk, took immediate advantage of the back-stepping among Democrats. Where, before this, he openly claimed credit for killing the Civil Rights Bill by opposing its so-called open-housing section, he now spoke the truth: "Where was Hubert? Where was the President? Had the Democrats in the Senate truly wished it, the bill would have passed."

Not only did neither the President nor Congress, Democrat and Republican, want the Civil Rights Bill; they wanted nothing but Uncle Toms "representing" the Negroes in Congress, and moved to "curb the powers" of Adam Clayton Powell. While many Negroes have their own disagreements with many of Powell's activities, his record "shines" in comparison to many of his fellow Congressmen — and the racism behind the action, initiated by a white Democrat from Florida, is so evident that no one can deny it.

#### DEPTHS OF BRUTALITY

Meanwhile, the white racists reached such new depths of brutality that, from one end of the country to the other, they have proved that it is not the Negroes who are on a "rampage"—but the whites.

In Grenada, Miss., the whole world was a witness to the sight of small Negro children being mobbed and beaten by grown white men, while white mothers cheered them on. Clubbed with ax handles, chains and lead pipes, these children were forced to run the gauntlet. One 12 year old was beaten until his leg was broken, and then forced to run on it. Others were hit with rocks and cut with flying glass.

In Chicago, where Negroes and whites have been marching for open occupancy all summer long, the self-styled American Hitler, George Rockwell, called for white racists to buy guns and teach their wives and children to use them, and for a march against the Jews who were "financing" the civil rights movement. Arrested and released the same day—the usual procedure for white racists—he regretted that Hitler had killed only six million Jews in the gas chambers of Germany.

#### KILLER COPS SET OFF RIOTS

In Atlanta, Georgia, the phoney "racial harmony" of that "progressive" city was exposed and exploded in two separate riots

(Continued on Page 4)

# WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

## If Negroes Fail, So Will Civilization

Many Negro workers feel that the racists in this country have never been as open and as bold as they are today — especially in the North. As one worker put it, "These racists aren't acting like this because the Negroes are pushing too hard, or because some of the Negro leaders are yelling 'Black Power.' The Black Muslims have been yelling that sort of thing for a long time. The reason the white racists are gaining so much is because the white liberals and the white radicals, who used to tell us they were for complete human rights, have been as silent as stones lately. The union leaders have been the quietest of all."

Another worker agreed and said that a few years ago, hundreds of whites who called themselves "radicals" were preaching "militancy" daily. "They all seem to have disappeared with the wind," he said, "and that wind, unfortunately, never seems to blow in the direction of complete rights for Negroes."

### RACE-HATRED RUNS DEEP

One of the workers offered a story to show how hate-filled the whites seem to have become lately: "Last night I was driving up Dexter Avenue in a predominantly Negro section when a white man drove beside me at a red light and began yelling at me, 'Why in the hell don't you learn how to drive?' I told him if he was such a big hurry, he could have blown his horn and I would have pulled over."

"I wasn't angry, because I thought he was in a rush, but when the light changed he took off, cutting in and out of traffic and barely missing some other drivers. I pulled beside him at another light further on, and told him that if he kept on driving like that he'd have to learn again. That's when he began yelling at me, 'Don't you dare say a damn word to me, because if it wasn't for Martin Luther King you people wouldn't be allowed on the streets.' You could just see how deep his hatred for the Negro people was."

We discussed an article in the daily paper which stated that a local union in California had refused to endorse Gov. Brown because the majority of the white members in the local said they wanted to support Reagan and demanded that the local officially endorse him.

We all knew that Brown's record in the civil rights movement is hardly "good." In some respects he's not much better than his fellow Democrat, George Wallace of Alabama, and no Negro really wants Gov. Brown — but Ronald Reagan is a Birchite-supporter who is not only anti-Negro, but anti-union as well. And the fact that a union could be caught in the middle, with members who want to endorse a man like that, is merely more proof of how deep is the race-hate in this country today.

### STEELWORKERS SEE DANGEROUS SIGNS

I reported a conversation I had with a Negro steel-worker from Pittsburgh who said that for the first time in 20 years in his union, they ran an all-white slate in a recent election. The steelworkers union is supposed to be one of the most progressive sections of the AFL-CIO. This Negro worker said that their local union hall is in the same place as some high-class night-spot — which does not admit Negroes. Negro union members can go in for union meetings, but when white workers want to meet alone, as they did just before this recent election, the meeting is not called "union business," and the Negroes are automatically excluded.

When the Negroes raised hell about the way the slate was chosen, with no Negroes present at the meeting, the white workers insisted they had not had a "meeting." They said they just happened to be there and started talking about a slate, and chose those names. Each one claimed it was not his idea, but the next worker's. The Negro workers believe that it is a dangerous sign that the Birchites, the KKK and the fascists are "winning" with many of the white workers when the leaders of a local union can dare to come into a steel mill like this, where some 30 percent of the workers are Negroes, and present an all-white slate.

### THE CHOICE—FREEDOM OR FASCISM

Vigilantes are marching through some areas of California, with shot guns, rifles and revolvers — looking for demonstrators against the Vietnam War. Some of them have even shot at TV men, and the police have refused to arrest them. Discussing things like this, many workers say that we are standing on the threshold of either freedom or fascism — and the time is not far away we will find out which one has triumphed.

If it is to be freedom, and not fascism, the fight that the Negro people in this country have been waging for total freedom will have to be recognized as the struggle that is saving this country from total destruction. The liberals, the radicals — and the labor movement, in particular — must come out of their seclusion, not only with words, but with some action, so that freedom for all will become a reality.

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## Canadian Pickets Tell Rail Strike Issues

Baltimore, Md. — On Friday, Sept. 2, while in Detroit to attend the News & Letters Convention, several of us decided to cross the bridge to Canada to get some facts on the rail strike there. A few hours before, while on our way to Detroit, we had heard that union leaders had ordered the men back to work, rather than to face Parliament's back-to-work order.

Upon reaching Detroit, however, we heard that locals in three places refused to obey either Parliament or their International and were still striking. After hearing this latest development we decided to go over and see what was happening, and to give the still-striking workers our support. So armed with some copies of News & Letters and MFU (Maryland Freedom Union) pins, we went over to Windsor.

### TALK TO PICKETS

We parked a block away from the CN's Windsor yard and walked back to talk to a group of pickets we had passed. These men had been members of the union from two to twenty-four years.

When we asked them why they were still striking, one replied that 18% with no benefits was not enough (he was only making \$4200 a year); and that they would go back only if they got a 50% increase (with or without benefits) or the 18% with all benefits included.

Another worker said, "We've been eating peanuts too long. Now we want something better." He also said that the government could vote themselves a 100% pay increase, and rail workers only 18%.

On the question of union leadership, one man remarked, "They don't know what they're doing. They just sit up there in those offices and don't get out to see what's happening."

On being ordered back to work one worker said, "Because they say go back to work doesn't mean we have to. What they say and what we say are two different things."

On the question what the union was doing for them while on strike, they all said, "nothing." They have no strike fund or any other type of compensation, and they just couldn't see where their

dues were going.

These workers seemed to know only their local leaders (whom they like, because they work beside them everyday under the same conditions, and who led the wildcat) and associate International Reps. as the men "up there." None of the men, in all their years in the union had ever seen one of them.

### BLAST PARLIAMENT

As we left, one worker added,

"The one thing I don't like is back-to-work Russian style. They said it couldn't happen here, but that's what they are trying to do to us." He was referring to Parliament's back-to-work order, an action similar to what Congress started here during the recent air strike.

When we left, we gave the men copies of N&L and MFU pins and asked them to contact or write the Detroit office.

## British Workers Bear Brunt of Wilson's Anti-Labor Policies

Glasgow, Scotland — A defeat for Wilson is also a defeat for Heath and the fraudulent policy they both stand for. Wilson has double-crossed the workers who put their trust in the Labour Government. He has shown more clearly than any of his predecessors the depths of deceit to which our parliamentarians can sink.

His policy is a betrayal of the countless thousands of men and women, dead and alive, who, believing the honeyed words of various leaders, gave time, money and energy to build the Labour Party. How can any honest Socialist find an excuse for the policy of the Government?

### DREAMS OF GLORY

The much-boasted National Plan has been torn up, and the man who sponsored it has been moved to the position of Foreign Secretary. He is succeeded in his former position by the docile and obedient Michael Stewart. This is designed to add to the authority of Harold Wilson. He dreams of glory. He must be stopped.

Our newspapers draw attention to the fact that the "Incomes Policy" will meet with opposition at the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party conference. Defeat for Government policy at these gatherings is very desirable, but we should not underestimate those top officials who have a vested interest in supporting the Cabinet. It is necessary that they be made aware of the attitude of the rank and file.

### MORE PRODUCTION

We should be careful not to put too much faith in the leaders of the trade unions. They, in many cases, are calling for more pro-

duction as an alternative to the wage freeze.

More production would enable the Government to spend large sums of money on the armed forces. Mr. Wilson would then get greater praise from President Johnson.

More production would help to close the gap between exports and imports, keeping in mind the fact that our imports include mink, caviar and one-armed bandits.

More production would add to Capital whose greed can never be satisfied. We can produce, and keep producing, but it will not take us one step towards the new society to which many leaders have paid lip-service. The new society would be based on control by the workers.

Wilson, without having read anything by Marx, is bringing out the nature of the State as defined by Marx. More than that, he has found how necessary unemployment is to capitalism, the system he is trying to save.

He may not accept the class struggle in theory, but he is up to the neck in it. He is with the ruling class. He blamed the latest phase of the crisis on the seamen, forgetting that there were two sides in that struggle and that he sided with the shipowners. As part of the State apparatus he could not be neutral. Was Marx right?

We are living in a shameful period of British history. To meet the needs of capitalism, unemployment is being created and the rights of the workers are curbed. This is done by a party built, and paid for, by the workers themselves.

However, we have reached an important stage in that many illusions have been dispelled. The nonsense talked about "Democratic Socialism" is now seen to be nonsense. It is obvious that mass resistance by the workers is the only way forward. Every spark we detect must be blown into a flame. The politicians talk of democracy, but mass action is the only kind of democracy left to the workers.

## Miners Reject Coal Automation

GLASGOW, Scotland — Bevercotes, Nottinghamshire, was scheduled to start the production of coal last October, but it has not yet because the miners have refused to work in it.

The National Coal Board hopes to work five faces, each 270 yards long, producing 1.5 million tons a year, with only 770 men, compared with 1.25 million tons with 2,000 men. One face is ready for the machinery and another is almost ready.

The Coal Board proposed to pay control panel operators, electricians, fitters, and other "top grade" men a guaranteed wage of £25 10s a week. Others would get between £16 and £19. It was proposed to keep to a round the clock arrangement, including weekends. The men would work a 38½ hour week. The leaders recommended acceptance, but the rank and file turned the proposal down.

## Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

### They Are Going Too Far!

After over a hundred years, many whites still don't seem to understand that black people are human beings. They still seem to think we are some kind of animals, to be beaten and killed; that we must obey them because we are nobody.

Leaders like Rev. Martin Luther King and the Negro people, north and south, are keeping up the good work of making the white man see that Negroes are somebody, too. We are determined to win the battle for all men to be free, because neither the Good Book nor history tells us the white man must have white power to rule all other races until the end of time.

### OUT TO RULE UNIVERSE?

Some of the leaders seem to be out to rule the whole world. They even seem to be looking toward the sun and moon, now — trying to rule them, too. Are the white rulers trying to get a place to live on the moon to get away from

the other races, but still be rulers of the world? It would be something to see the moon marching on the white man, to protest!

But many of the white people — especially white women — seem to be asking: what are these white leaders trying to do? They are afraid all of us — white and black alike — will be destroyed if the drive to rule the whole world doesn't stop. The leaders seem to have gone a little too far this time.

### A WORLD FIT FOR ALL

People of all races are beginning to understand that these leaders are out to keep everybody under their command. When the people join forces to fight for a world that is fit for all races of people to live in; when the people of all nations turn against the leaders who are leading us only to destruction, a new stage will be born. The struggle for freedom will go on until every race is totally freed.

# Heinz Has Over 57 Varieties — of Speed-up

Heinz-Ville, U.S.A. — I work in a lot of different departments at Heinz. There are two lead ladies in the chicken department and a lot of men who wear white caps and white shirts and pants walking around on both shifts.

The lead lady on day shift walks around hollering "hurry up girls," "no talking," "are you going to sleep?" "we are paying you to sort chicken, not to look around." In the meantime you are sorting as fast as you can, feeling for bones.

On the morning shift you are allowed to go to the washroom, but on the late shift you work the same amount of hours, but you are not allowed to go to the washroom, unless you ask to be excused, just like a little kid in school.

## ALL BUT A WHIP

The women who pull the chicken from the bone are older women. Some can hardly walk. I guess they will retire soon. They make very high pay doing piece work, on the chicken they pull to be sorted.

The sorters are paid grade one, the lowest paying job. You must stand for 7½ hours and keep up with the pullers. The men in the white uniforms holler at the women and some of them cry, others talk back and some just take it.

Some of the girls fake sickness and some really get sick so they don't have to work in this department. Some claim they can't stand the smell of the chicken.

All the lead lady needs is a whip to crack.

## WONDERS ABOUT UNION

All the girls complain about the grade one pay in this Dept. and the hard work, but they do not go to the union to complain about it. It really makes you wonder

about the union and the Company. Are they working hand in hand?

They have a Dept. called Meat Products, where they wash and cut carrots and sort for the soup and other foods. It takes five girls for this Dept. and one must do "general" work. If they send three whites and two colored, you can bet one of the colored girls is going to have to sweep all day.

## NEGROES GET "GENERAL"

You must sweep up the carrots that fall off the conveyor, and that is not all that falls off the conveyor. Water is coming down heavy in certain spots, and since you don't have on anything to protect you from the water, your feet get wet. The men are walking around with boots on, but not the girl on "general."

I have never seen a white girl do "general" in this department or any other, except in departments where they must sweep around their machines. Colored girls are put on "general" for eight hours, sweeping, cleaning and carrying their buckets.

The colored girls don't complain because this is grade two, which is 10 cents more than grade one. The white girls and sometimes one colored girl get grade one, which is a nice, clean, sitting job.

## THE HOT SPOT

They have another department called Bean-filling, where you put bacon on a machine for an hour, drop bacon in squares in cans, and inspect the cans.

The spot or corner where you sit is very hot. I bet it's over 100 degrees. The whole room needs to be air-conditioned. The women, white and colored, are wet to the skin with sweat.

They have fans, but they are blowing out hot air and they are on the girls working the machines who just sit and push buttons.

For the surplus girls who are really working, there is no fan at all. It is there that it is 100 degrees or more and the steam from the cans you are inspecting is coming up in your face and sweat is running down everywhere.

## WHITE AND NEGRO JOBS

I don't know who picks the jobs for the girls at Heinz, but whoever does it, could do a better job. There are some jobs that only the white girls work on and some that only colored work on.

A colored man who had been there 15 years said that Heinz is a lot better than it used to be, as far as letting the colored men have good paying jobs. It still has a long way to go.

Heinz needs to improve working conditions for both races.

# Farm Election May Bring 2 Unions Closer

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Because of the much-publicised fight between the NFWA and the Teamsters Union before the recent union elections at DiGiorgio's Ranch in California, we feel that the following two articles from the NFWA publication, EL MACRIADO, are of special importance. (Subscriptions are \$2 a year. Write to EL MACRIADO, Box 1060, Delano, Calif.)*

Delano, Cal.—On Aug. 30, the farm workers gave Cesar Chavez and the striking National Farm Workers Association (NFWA) a tremendous victory.

Out of 1343 who voted, only 19 voted for "no union," again dramatically disproving the lies of the Delano Record, the Citizens for Facts and Fascism, Congressman Harlen Hagen, and all the others who said that the workers didn't want a union.

## ELECTIONS

In the field workers' election, 530 voted for the NFWA, and 381 voted for the Teamsters. Seven voted for no union. In the elections for the packing shed workers, the Teamsters won, with 97 votes, to 45 for the NFWA and 12 for no union.

The two unions will have to work together to defend the workers and win good contracts and high wages from the DiGiorgio bosses.

It was a great victory for the farm workers to force DiGiorgio to hold fair elections. For five months, DiGiorgio had tried to prevent elections, and in June, they held a rigged "phoney election."

## ONLY BEGINNING

But it is still only a beginning. The strikers have over 30 other ranches in the strike zone. And Cesar Chavez has promised not to stop the struggle until every worker in California, and every farm worker in the nation, is protected by good wages, a written contract, and a strong union.

In spite of the tragic fight with the Teamsters Union, we will not forget the many thousands of Teamsters members who helped us (including one of the Teamsters organizers at DiGiorgio), and who tried to prevent this senseless inter-union fight.

We regret this fight developed. We regret some of the things we said about the Teamsters in the heat of the struggle, and are sure that most Teamsters members would be disgusted by the lies that were said about us.

The cause of the farm workers has been betrayed before because unions were fighting each other. We must not let this happen again.

—El Macriado, No. 44

## On the Line

# Heart Attacks from Speed-up Kill 7; More Will Be Added

By John Allison

In the past few weeks there have been at least seven workers at Chrysler Highland Park plant who have been killed by heart attacks. This is what the cause of death will be listed as on the death certificate, but the real cause is the production speed-up and the impossible overtime work.

This is true for the production line workers as well as the skilled workers, although the production workers get the worst of it by far. The fact still is that there are many skilled workers, like those in the heat treatment division, who have been forced to work seven days a week for the past three years.

## CAN'T REFUSE OVERTIME

You can't refuse, either. The contract gives the company the right to schedule all the overtime it wants. The workers don't have a say about it. All they do is work when the company says to; if they refuse, they are subject to be penalized.

As it is, they are penalized another way—the way of being so tired because of the work strain that they end up in the hospital or in a cemetery.

And with the fuss that Nader and his book raised in pointing out the unsafe features in today's cars and the law passed by Congress, the corporation has come up with two new safety features, a dual brake cylinder and a collapsible steering wheel. These are now to be standard in the '67 models, and management is pushing impossible production standards and speed-up on the workers to get these parts out.

If anyone has any question about if the machines run the men, all they have to do is see how the workers on these lines have to rush to keep up with the machine. Workers are asking themselves: are those machines and production worth death? They are seeing this price being paid by many workers, and no one knows who will be next.

In addition to the usual speed-up and overtime, the company is also using the old moving game to increase production. New jobs, new machines and new bosses are moved around from plant to plant.

When workers in a plant work on production standards that have been set on a job, they keep pretty much to those standards. And the company can't raise them unless there is a model change or a new engineering change has been made on the machines.

But by moving the jobs from plant to plant, the company can get around the contract and still raise production by setting up the best conditions and having the job timed in the new plant.

## NEW PLAN TROUBLE

Only as good as this method is to raise production, by far the best one for the company is to set up a completely new plant. There, everything is new and has to be timed and production standards set. This is what Chrysler is doing by closing down production at Highland Park and moving to its new Perrysburg, Ohio, plant, and these are the conditions the workers will face who will transfer to that plant.

The same thing that happened at Chrysler's new Sterling plant will happen at Perrysburg: the jobs will be timed so high to be impossible to make. But the company can say no standards have been set—and it can set its own. So the workers in Perrysburg will have to do what the Sterling workers did: strike to bring production standards down to a level to be humanly possible to make.

# Strip Mining Will Destroy Community Unless Stopped

Hemp Hill, Ky. — Strip mining is about to destroy the water supply of this east Kentucky community and displace the 86 families who live here.

And lawyers say there is no legislation which can stop the mining before the damage is done.

Residents have petitioned the Kentucky Department of Natural Resources to exempt their area from a permit issued to the Virginia-based Greer-Ellison Mining Company, on the grounds that strip mining on the hills behind the town will destroy their only source of water.

The water comes from an abandoned mine which has been dammed up to form a reservoir. It will be destroyed when the miners cut through a small outcrop of coal on the edge of the old mine.

But the strip mining permit has already been issued. And amended strip mining regulations passed last year by the Kentucky legislature contain no provisions to deal with this kind of emergency.

In the three weeks since the company entered the area, bulldozers have destroyed a slope where the people grew vegetables and raised a few chickens and hogs. The area has been transformed into a muddy crater.

The people of Hemphill are determined to resist the destruction of their community. For most of them, their three- and four-room houses represent their only savings. They purchased the houses from the Elkhorn Mining

Company during the 50's, after the mine closed down.

All but one of the families signed the petition, but few really expect it to succeed.

Because of the financial and legal difficulties of fighting the companies, most mountain communities have offered little resistance when the strip miners moved in. But occasionally the people decide to fight, and sometimes they win.

In nearby Knott County last year, local people resisted the strip miners. Women sat in front of the bulldozers and were dragged away to jail. Snipers fired at the machinery from the hillsides. The company armored its bulldozers and tried to carry on. But eventually aroused public opinion forced them to agree not to begin strip mining in any new areas in the county.

"We ought to just do like those old women did over yonder in Knott County," said one Hemp Hill woman. "We ought to get our guns and go over there and tell 'em to git. I can shoot a .38. We'll go up and they'll come off in a hurry."

Many people agree. Others would prefer to wait and see the effect of their petition before taking more direct action.

"Whatever we decide to do probably won't do much good unless people outside the county start trying to influence the government," one man said. "We don't have much influence alone."

Local leaders said that one way to help is to write a protest to Gov. Edward Breathitt, Frankfort, Ky.

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**EDITORIAL**

**Shame of a Nation: White Racism**

(Continued from Page 1)

within one week. The first was precipitated by the wanton shooting of a Negro "suspect" by the police, and resulted in the arrest of Stokely Carmichael on charges of "inciting" it. The police tear-gassed the area viciously, shooting gas directly into homes and into the faces of people sitting on porches on side-streets.

While a large section of the Negro community did not identify their aims with Carmichael during this first riot—indeed, Julian Bond resigned as SNCC publicity director, and other Negroes asked SNCC workers to leave their neighborhood—the brutal murder of a teenage Negro, and the critical wounding of his companion several days later by a white man from a moving car, removed all doubts as to what and who "caused" the outburst that followed. From his jail cell, Carmichael sent a telling message to the mayor: "Who are you going to blame this time?"

It is telling also that Carmichael's bond was set at \$10,000, while Rockwell's was set at \$400, just as it is telling that the white brutes arrested in Mississippi for the beating of the Negro children were all released on personal bonds at once—while CORE's Chicago chairman, Robert Lucas was jailed to pay off a fine at \$5 a day, released when Rev. King's SCLC paid the sum, and then immediately rearrested on another charge.

Nor are killer-cop-caused riots restricted to the South. The latest in San Francisco was set off in precisely the same way when a cop killed a 16 year old boy fleeing from a car that was reported stolen after the boy had been shot dead.

**BLACK POVERTY AND THE WHITE PRESS**

The truth is what? The truth of every single so-called riot lies in absolutely impossible living conditions. Go to any black ghetto in any Northern city and you will find conditions of overcrowding, high unemployment, poverty that should remind any well-traveled liberal of the "backward, underdeveloped" countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America.

Instead of admitting this simple truth — that affluent America does not include the Negro; that "liberal" America does not want a Negro as a neighbor; that, once the Negro Revolution moved from South to North, the liberal showed both his class colors and his white racism — the press has taken off on a rhetorical lynching campaign against the "black power" slogan.

We happen to prefer "workers' power" as the right slogan to rid us of rotting capitalism. But it is the other side of Hitler's big lie — that the Jews were responsible for all ills — to claim that the "black power" slogan has, "in a few months, done more damage to a just cause than a century of inaction by Northern liberals and reaction by Southern bigots." (The Evening Star, Sept. 29, Washington, D.C.)

**AX-HANDLE MADDOX WINS**

The proof of this big lie is seen in Lester Maddox's victory in Georgia by a plurality of 70,000. Does the pistol brandishing ignoramus who sold ax-handles to his Klansmen customers to wield against Negroes represent only "the lunatic fringe" — or the true majority of whites?

And what about the victory of the Baltimore racist George P. Mahoney? And what about the fact that the Klu Klux Klan has experienced its biggest growth this year in the North? And what about Lyndon himself?

The filth in the American social fabric has become so great it is there for all to see. The stench of capitalism's rottenness is there for all to smell. Any one who cannot smell the stench has lost all other senses, as well.

**ITS TIME HAS COME**

It will take much more than the defeat of a Civil Rights bill, however, to defeat the Negro Revolution. When a twelve year old girl, in Grenada, Miss., can tell the world through her tears that she will go to her school, if they kill her for it, it is clear that nothing will stop the movement for full freedom.

Racist politicians do not understand what a statement like this child's means. They do not understand that nothing can save this rotten society, because its time is up. And nothing can stop the idea of freedom, because its time has come.

**Readers'**

**AMERICA'S SHAME**

The sickening sight of burly white thugs and screeching white women attacking Negro children in Grenada brought back to me the cartoon you published when "white motherhood" in New Orleans attacked six year olds many years ago. The dignity of the Negro children was an inspiration then, just as it is again today. My God! Has white "civilization" learned nothing in all this time?! Would you reprint that cartoon again?

Heartsick Reader  
Chicago

Editor's Note: See cartoon, columns 1 & 2, reprinted from our issue of December, 1960.

The ways in which the Southern segregationists retaliate against the Negroes in the freedom movement seems almost endless.

In one town the well where Negroes had been allowed to get their water supply (since there is no such thing as running water in most of the Negro houses) was suddenly declared off-limits for those who had dared to register their kids for the desegregated schools.

Reader  
Alabama

As far as our company is concerned, the Watts Revolt is all over. Those that are being hired now are all whites. All the Negroes have noticed this. One came up to me and said, "Well, I see they aren't hiring any more members."

The "quotas" are apparently filled.

White Worker  
Los Angeles

A Negro woman I work with told me what it is like, living in Watts.

In one store where she bought a money order, in order to pay a bill, the money order never arrived. She went back to the store with her receipt. The man said to go away and not to bother him. She said that she bought the money order from him, had a receipt and he should report it but to no avail.

At another store where she went to buy a hand-wringer washer, the man asked \$250 for it! When she complained that that was too expensive. He yelled at her, "Well go downtown and buy one then."

The Safeway market in her neighborhood (and Safeways were prime targets of burnings), is so bad that one day she bought two bags of flour. She got home and opened them up and bugs just flew out. She had to go miles away to do her shopping in the future.

As for the police, some white man knocked and

pounded on her door at 4 a.m. The police were called and they actually saw the man, and let the man go away after they talked with him for a while. But if it had been a Negro, they would have taken him in.

Committee Member  
Los Angeles

**BLACK POWER**

Charles Denby writes the most common-sense material in your paper. It must require a tremendous intellectual organization on his part, in view of the fact that his physical energy is sapped on the line at an auto assembly plant.

The phrase Black Power makes tremendous sense when it is accurately interpreted, because it is justice-laden. Negroes must administer the county units in the South where they are the majority, and the sooner this justice is implemented the better. If maps showing these counties were televised, I feel the logic and justice could not possibly be lost on the millions who would view it.

Reader  
Chicago

The reason they're after Powell is because he talks and does things, instead of just listening. I don't believe everything Powell says, but I listen to him any time he's on a broadcast, because at least he's saying something. I wouldn't waste my electricity to hear Diggs, or the others.

Negro Housewife  
Detroit

I enjoyed the last issue of News & Letters (Aug-Sept) very much, especially the front page editorial.

I'm still trying to establish my proper perspective on the issue of Black Power. Many people, myself included, went through a hate-white period before they came to a more humanistic attitude to the problem. Perhaps it is necessary to go through the extremes (from self-hate to hating others) before one can begin to love mankind, which takes a great deal more maturity, while still being able to see that there is a real enemy to fight, without becoming hateful.

White Intellectual  
Detroit

The danger of the "Black Power" theme to me is that it cuts you off from the poor whites who have the same enemies, even if they don't yet know it. I can't see how we can achieve the unity we need to build a new society if we have separate organizations for the whites and Negroes!

Student  
New York

**FROM BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN**

Marxism and Freedom came almost as a revelation to me, as I was looking for years for some Marxian explanation of the situation the "socialist states" are now in. I am just finishing it, and hope to go through it again in the next few months.

The most important part of the book in my opinion is Part III—where it deals with Capital. I don't know of any other work on Marx or on Capital that would have proved the innerlinks between the workers' movement and the theoretical work of Marx as this book did.

I am sure that it is one of the scientific contributions to Marxism and an understanding of Marx, especially, that have been so rare in the last years.

Correspondent  
East Europe

**MAOISM**

Mao Tse-tung seems definitely on a collision course, to me. I am no "political analyst," but it certainly looks like we are on our way to a wider war.

I believe that both sides are preparing for it. Mao is pretty obvious about it. Our side may be a little more sophisticated, with bugging devices all over the place, and files being compiled on "oppositionists," in preparation for the day they'll be needed.

Mao has live people — the Red Guard — intimidating his opposition. We're more technologically advanced, so we use mechanical devices and the like. But both sides are really playing the same game.

Auto Worker  
Detroit

It seems to me that as Mao sees the youth in rebellion he is trying to create a form to contain these youth. That's the meaning of the Red Guard to me.

Intellectual  
Los Angeles

Many people seem to think that the Sino-Soviet conflict only affects us insofar as a possible full-blown atomic war may be involved. But the danger of Maoism is far more than that to me.

The Negro movement in this country remains the most important blow being struck for a new society (without which, so far as I am concerned, war will be inevitable), and what concerns me is the effect Maoism may have on the civil rights movement.

It is not that I think for a moment that the mass movement would ever embrace that philosophy, but I have seen how Maoists can give a "kiss of death" to a movement that is just beginning to develop.

What has happened in Africa should be a lesson for the whole new third world, American Negro Revolution included.

Activist  
Detroit

The Maoists have certainly been reaping the fruits of their line all over the world. After the tragedy in Indonesia, and the defeat of that largest Communist Party in the world (outside of Russia and China), and then the break-up of Mao's love-affair with Castro, Mao faced the ouster of Nkrumah in Ghana. "Mao's Thought" must be increasingly harder for the Chinese masses to

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# Views

swallow. No wonder the students in China are so dissatisfied that Mao just closed all the schools down!

Student  
Berkeley

## MISREPRESENTED?

We of the ALF denounce the crude attempt of Raya Dunayevskaya to justify her infantile tantrum against Bertrand Russell in her Editorial, "A Merican Civilization on Trial" (Aug.-Sept., N&L) . . .

We should also like to say to the letter writer who completely misrepresented the issues outstanding before the demonstration on Aug. 6 at Campus Martius, where we flew that most glorious banner of the NLF, which is also the banner of the ALF, that:

A march was systematically sabotaged by a vaporous, mealy-mouthed clique of SDS, Du Bois, Women Strike for Peace, and Trade Unionists for Peace. Therefore, a calvacade was chosen.

The hanging of LBJ (in effigy) was vociferously opposed by certain ladies. This opposition stemmed from the policy of exclusion . . . Though Black Power signs and similar such slogans had been purged from the demonstration by the good white folk who wished to con their way to peace, the planners had neglected to exclude Lobsinger and his Detroit police. It was the policy of exclusion which guaranteed a pathetic demonstration and emboldened Lobsinger and the police to attack.

A Commandante of  
the ALF, Detroit

**Editor's Note:** The "letter-writer" referred to above had suggested that "with a level of debate which centered around whether the demonstrations should be only anti-U.S. (hanging LBJ in effigy), or in support of the Viet Cong (walking around with NLF flags) . . . it was no wonder the demonstration drew few outside the radical movement."

## HAZARD, KENTUCKY

You will be glad to know that the U.S. Supreme Court has reversed the conviction of Steve Ashton, the student from Oberlin College, who was charged with criminal libel while he was here in 1963 collecting food and clothing for us during our strike.

He had written a report on our conditions, and the power-structure of the operators here (the newspaper publisher, the sheriff, and the police-chief) didn't like what he said about them.

They convicted him of criminal libel and sentenced him to six months in jail and a \$3000 fine.

The trial judge had ruled that "any writing calculated to create disturbances of the peace, corrupt the public morals, or lead to any act, which, when done, is indictable" was criminal. Fortunately, the Supreme Court ruled that the Kentucky law was unconstitutional.

Miner  
Hazard, Kentucky

NEWS & LETTERS is not only a unique combination of worker and intellectual in which each "speaks for himself." It is also a paper that belongs to its readers. We welcome letters and articles from new readers and new activists everywhere, because only in this EXCHANGE of ideas can the freedom movement develop, and the idea of freedom become real, at last. Send us YOUR questions, YOUR comments, YOUR story.

## NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION STRIKE

The strike at NAA has its greatest validity when seen as a struggle for human dignity. You see all this power (NAA, the union, etc.) lined up against these strikers. The white world seems determined not to let them have human dignity. But if these men and their grievances are not taken up seriously, then the whole structure will have to face the prospect of Black Power.

I feel that it is something important to get forty workers out on a sidewalk. In my shop I don't think that is possible at this time.

The white working community has the same grievances. They face some of the same problems as those men on the picket line. The only difference is how the boss talks to the white and the black workers.

The struggle is really with the whole blame world and both white and black face it. This strike is a difficult struggle and if it succeeds it will be a good thing. If it doesn't, the workers will get squashed.

White Worker  
Los Angeles

The five-day disciplinary lay-off that the civil rights strikers got for picketing North American Aviation during their working hours is similar to what occurs in the South. There when a Negro man demonstrates he loses his job and sometimes even has to leave that part of the country.

We have not yet gotten to that point, but the 5 day disciplinary lay off has the same purpose—intimidation of striking workers and trying to frighten the rest of the workers.

Striker  
Los Angeles

The activity against the company and union is continuing and will not stop with the one-day demonstration.

One of the things the strike committee is planning is legal action. CORE lawyers are helping them. They are contacting NAA workers who have filed grievances with the union and company which have never been resolved. They hope to collect 200 to 300 such unresolved grievances, and thereby establish that civil rights have been denied these workers.

Complicating this is the fact that the government is supposed to be checking into this, but constantly gives a clean bill of health to NAA. The whole thing is one big farce when you consider that the aircraft companies are by and large, state-capitalist enterprises in which the govern-

ment gives 90 percent of the business, capital, etc.

The Air Force has a big building at one NAA plant and I saw as many Air Force brass as company officials while I was picketing. The line between company and government is a rather thin one here.

CORE Activist  
Los Angeles

The NAA workers in California certainly sounded as if they had good reasons for their strike, but it didn't surprise me that the turnout was not too good.

No matter how many grievances workers have against their unions, and no matter how willing they may be to wildcat when an issue hits them suddenly, if any other "organization" (like CORE, for example) seems to be raising the banner, the workers will hold back.

The real tragedy is that the union should have been raising the banner in this case.

Auto Worker  
Detroit

The Editorial in the Sept. issue, answering the charges the Propeller made against News & Letters and the articles by North American Aviation workers in it, was a beautiful work of art, and very appropos.

NAA Worker  
Los Angeles

## SKILLED WORKERS

Twenty years ago, the skilled workers would have walked out if they were asked to take other workers' jobs and do them. Now skilled workers do anything the company asks. They even sweep floors.

In our shop we lost 18 sweepers and hi-lo drivers when we agreed to let skilled workers do that kind of work. The stewards can't say anything about it. The union agreement allows it. We have more skilled workers driving hi-los in our shop than we have regular hi-lo men. The skilled workers get \$4 an hour, and we get \$2.60. I cuss them every day.

Hi-Lo Driver  
Detroit

The production workers have nothing against other workers getting wage increases. But many of the production people are convinced that the main reason the skilled workers are demanding wage increases is because the production wages are getting too close to theirs.

One of my buddies had what seemed to us like a good idea. He suggested that the skilled workers and the production workers switch around jobs every so often. The production workers would enjoy doing the skilled work, and the skilled workers would get a real education on the line.

Assembly-line Worker  
Detroit

# China's Self-Created Turmoil

(Continued from Page 1)  
yet. They appeared afterwards. "In the name of what," asked Pravda, on Sept. 16, "was it found necessary in China to take over the functions of the legal organs of the people's power, to violate the Constitution, and the elementary principles of law?" After describing the "mass outrages" of the "Red Guards," the Russian Communist official newspaper further hit the nail on the head, when it thus questioned the Chinese euphemism, the great proletarian cultural revolution: "Why is the 'proletarian' movement . . . going on without any participation by the working class?"

For Russian Communism to be able to answer that question, it would have had to admit that its own society, even as the Chinese, is an exploitative one, so that the destiny of the proletariat is not, and cannot be, in its own hands. Indeed, the nearest parallel to the 1966 "proletarian cultural revolution" in China is Stalin's 1943 revisions in the Marxian theory of value, which still dominate both Russia and China.

Then, as now, the students rebelled against the hypocrisy of teaching the Marxian theory of freedom, but practicing state-capitalist tyranny. Then, as now, the answer of the ruling powers was, first, to stop teaching Marxian economics, and then to revise Marxism itself. Where the Russian Communists revised Marxian economics, the Chinese revise Marxian philosophy, rejecting in toto the Humanism of Marxism.

The distinguishing feature of the wholesale revision of Marxism in the two countries does not, however, reside in whether one country centered its perversion of Marxism in the economic or in the philosophic field, for in the Marxian theory of liberation the two are inseparable, but in the fact that, in 1943, Stalin could rely on the Party intelligentsia to do the job, whereas Mao, in addition to preferring the Army as the perpetuating organ of Communist rule, must create an extra-legal instrument to enforce intellectual conformity.

## MAO'S OR LIN'S ARMY?

A veritable deification of Mao seemed to be the principal attribute of the CCP plenary statement.\* The claim is made that "Comrade Mao Tse-tung is the greatest Marxist-Leninist of our era . . . Mao Tse-tung's thought is the Marxism-Leninism of the era in which imperialism is heading for total collapse and socialism is advancing to worldwide victory." Mao's "brilliant policies" during the four year period between this, the 11th, and the previous, the 10th, plenum are attested to, stress being put on his (a) "call for the whole party to grasp military affairs and for everybody to be a soldier," and (b) "call for the People's Liberation Army and all factories and villages, schools, commercial departments, service trades and party and Government organizations to become great schools of revolution."

Yet a careful reading cannot help but note that, simultaneously with this adulation, what is singled out for emulation is this: "Comrade Lin Piao's call on the People's Liberation Army to launch a mass movement in the army to study Comrade Mao Tse-tung's Thought has set a brilliant example for the whole party and the whole nation."

Prior to this statement the communique had stressed that, in conjunction with, the 1963 "programmatic document" (which had challenged Russia's

\*Excerpted in New York Times, Aug. 14, 1966.

leadership) and which had been "drawn up under the personal leadership of Comrade Mao Tse-tung," Lin Piao's "Long Live the Victory of People's War" must be studied, for, together, the two documents "give scientific Marxist-Leninist analyses of a series of important questions concerning the world revolution of our time . . ."

The discerning reader cannot help but wonder whether Mao is being deified—or mummified. Is Lin living in the reflected glory of Mao, as the press holds, or is Mao being allowed to live out his remaining years as a deity only because he transferred total authority to Lin, head of the Army?

Whether, in the turmoil in China, we are witness to a new form of Bonapartism, or allegedly participating in a "school of revolution," the point is that what is immediately involved is the life of the Vietnamese people.

## THE VIETNAM WAR

Naturally the bourgeois press is delighted with this development, as it diverts attention from the pressure on them by the anti-Vietnam war fighters. These continuous struggles in the 1960's have been hampered by the developing Sino-Soviet conflict which has made united front action against U.S. imperialism impossible. The Communist world had been further shaken up by the calamitous defeat in October, 1965, of the Indonesian Communist Party which had followed a Maoist line.

Those Communist Parties in the Chinese orbit began declaring their independence. By Aug. 13, 1966, the North Korean Communist Party, the very one to whose aid the CCP had come during the Korean war, now declared its independence, stating " . . . for the sake of the anti-imperialist joint action and the united front, common ground should be sought, first of all, on this fundamental question, shelving all other questions for the time being."

The following day the CCP Statement was published: "The Plenary session maintains that to oppose imperialism, it is imperative to oppose modern revisionism. There is no middle road whatsoever . . . it is imperative resolutely to expose their (Russian Communists) true features as scabs. It is impossible to have 'united action' with them."

For the first time since the fall of Khrushchev, the Russian Communist Party, on August 31, answered back in kind: "In conditions when imperialism is stepping up its efforts in the struggle against the revolutionary movement, is expanding the dirty war in Vietnam, such a step ('mass outrage in front of Russian Embassy') renders a particularly big service to imperialism and reaction."

This in-fighting in the so-called Communist world cannot but hearten U.S. imperialism which feels free to go on with its wanton bombing of North Vietnam as well as its scorched earth policy for South Vietnam whom it is supposed to be "defending."

## THE ARMY VS. YOUTH

The Constitution of the People's Republic of China is the only one in the Communist world that lists the Army along with the Party as the two instruments of power. Naturally this is no accident. Long before Mao won state power, as he was escaping Chiang Kai-shek's murderous counter-revolution, Mao developed an original, for Marxists, view of the Army—first of a guerrilla army, and then just of the Army. This is Mao's one original contribution to "Marxism-Leninism", or more precisely put, to the perversion of Marxism, since his

(Continued on Page 8)

Coming In Our Special December Issue  
Two Comprehensive Marxist Analyses by  
Tadayuke Tsushima—Japanese Marxist  
and  
Raya Dunayevskaya—Marxist Humanist

# YOUTH

## NEW BEGINNINGS

by Eugene Walker

### White Activists, the Negro Community & Black Power

With the rise of the concept of Black Power there has been some re-evaluation of the role of whites and particularly white college students in the Civil Rights movement.

Since 1964, the year that hundreds of white students joined in Mississippi Summer and the year of the Selma to Montgomery march, there appears to have been a lessening of white student participation in the Movement.

There are a number of reasons.

Primary among these is the Vietnam War. There is no doubt that the anti-war movement drew students away from the Civil Rights struggle. It is unfortunate that the two movements are seemingly in competition for activists rather than linked together, as they could be. But I will discuss that further on.

A second reason for the loss of college students is that there has been an attempt to change the emphasis in the movement. There has been a change from working on integration of public accommodations, etc. — projects that lend themselves to mass demonstrations — to attempting to work on organization-building with poor rural and ghettoized minorities.

#### DIFFERENT ACTIVITY

White college students have perhaps not taken up the challenge of this type of work, one that requires long hard hours without the immediate superficial results of a sit-in.

I do not feel, as some of the new Negro leadership has intimated, that white students have had their lark by working in the South for a couple of months and now it is up to the Negroes living in the South to get beat up and build their organizations alone, while the white college student goes back to school "to smoke pot." To think this is to ignore the fact that a Michael Schwerner and an Andrew Goodman were murdered as well as a James Chaney.

Today much of the new leadership is calling for whites to stay out of the Negro community. They say, do not go into the black community and teach us Negro history. Go to the white community and organize them to overcome racism. Leave the black community for the blacks to organize.

#### SELF DETERMINATION

If organizing the black community by blacks means self-determination then it should be hailed, for this is what we all should be working for and is the only means by which a new society can be born. But I don't think that this type of self-determination needs to mean the exclusion of whites.

To say don't teach Negro history in the black community is to ignore what Negro history is. It is not just a little section of history like farming history or Italian history in the United States but rather Negro history is the touchstone of American history. To not know it is to not know American history.

By "knowing it" I do not mean knowing a number of individual heroes and thus being proud of being a Negro. It is certainly true that individual Negroes have been excluded from history and we should know about them. But do-

ing only this and thereby changing the so-called "Negro psyche" or "white psyche" that some of the new leadership refers to, will not move us forward.

Rather, Negro history is important because the pivotal role of the Negro's movement for freedom always has been and still remains, the road which all of American society, white and black, must follow to be really free.

#### WHITES MUST STAY

I think that it is important that the white student remain in the Negro community. Not only to teach and learn Negro history (there are too few white or black who know Negro history), but rather, because history is present as well as past, and it is the white student who must learn from the Negro community.

The whites who went South to aid in the Negro Revolution did not travel down a one way street. They may have gone to "help," but by the time it was over it was the white student who learned as much and more than the Negro community, from the Negro community, on what freedom means and how to engage in a fight for it. This learning process must continue.

That he has not learned as much as he should can be seen by his movement away from the civil rights movement and to the anti-war movement. The movements should not be separated. That they are is evidence that the self determination being practiced in certain aspects of the civil rights movement is not being followed in the anti-war movement.

#### FOR AND AGAINST

The civil rights movement stands not only against racism, but for a different society, with the human being as its center. The anti-war struggle thus far has limited itself to being "against"—against U.S. involvement in Viet Nam—but not dealing with the fact that Russia, China and Hanoi are also against self-determination by the Vietnamese people.

Unless the anti-war movement becomes more than an "anti" movement it will be unable to link up with the Civil Rights movement, despite the fact that on the United States' side it is truly a "poor man's war" in which college students can be exempt while McNamara drafts 100,000 "educationally and physically underprivileged" a year to aid in the "War on Poverty." These facts give rise to a high percentage of Negroes fighting and dying in Viet Nam.

I think that the white college student should be active in the Civil Rights Movement in both white and Negro communities. As Robert Moses said, the best way to fight against the war in Viet Nam is to aid what is occurring in the civil rights movement in Mississippi.

Self-determination for minorities is a key to the freedom movement, but the white, particularly the white college student who as yet does not have all the prejudices and racism that our system harbors, must be allowed and encouraged to participate. Only by working together can a new society be built.

## Japanese Student Strike Lasts 150 Days

Editor's Note: Outside of a few paragraphs, in a few newspapers last winter, at the beginning of the Waseda Japanese student strike, news of that struggle was almost completely blacked-out in this country. Yet this strike at Waseda, one of the biggest and most famous of the private universities in Japan, lasted for no less than 150 days, and involved 35,000 students. Beginning on Jan. 20, after the University raised tuition fees, the strike did not end until June 22.

The violence to the students and the occupation of the campus by riot police was unprecedented in Japan, as the students erected barricades, boycotted examinations, and finally, on April 23, forced the president of the university to resign. The new president conceded slightly on the fee increase, but refused to suspend the punishment of 40 students. Finally, however, on May 22, the Commerce students voted for removal of the barricade, and on June 22, the students of the Literature school agreed to end the strike.

Below we print brief excerpts from a report received from Zenshin, one of the groups most active in the struggle. Their detailed report of all the events—including a remarkable chronicle—is unfortunately too long to print here in full, but may be

obtained by sending 10 cents to News & Letters, 8751 Grand River, Det., Mich. 48204.

The immediate issues of the Waseda strike were the rise in the fee and the management of the newly-built student hall. The fee for the whole four years of school was to be raised from 280,000 yen to 440,000 yen for the Literature students, and from 530,000 yen to 740,000 yen for the Science-Technology students.\* Students were requested to pay also for the expansion of equipment and for admission.

Students all know that the money squeezed from them in this way is not used to improve student life. On the contrary, those departments in which the students "sell well" to the industrial world are the ones which become expanded and better equipped very rapidly.

The buildings of the Science-Technology School are newly constructed every year, while the

\*Editors Note: We have been told that \$1 equals 360 yen, in exchange currency. However, since there is a great difference in the cost of living in U.S. and Japan, \$1 actually equals more nearly 100 yen in real terms. The reader can calculate these tuition figures for himself, therefore.

student dormitories remain very small for many years (only 150 out of 35,000 students can be accommodated in the dormitories).

#### STUDENTS LEFT OUT

The student hall used to be run by the students themselves and offered rooms and services for the autonomous activities of the university students.

When the new student hall was built, however, the administration declared it was to be governed by the university instead of by the students.

The students' anger was also directed at the educational policy of the university—the line of Industry-University Cooperation. They also expressed their indignation against the bureaucratic method by which the university was administered.

The Primary schools, junior high schools, and high schools have to a certain degree already been incorporated into the framework of the existing society (state control over the teachers, direction of text-books, etc.) Now the universities have become the target of the Japanese imperialists. (e.g. Immediately after the struggle against the Japan-U.S.A. Mutual Security Treaty in 1960, the prime minister had said, "We can no more let the universities be the training ground for the revolution.")

#### "TO LIVE AS HUMAN"

The Waseda struggle, in essence, was the fight between two ideas: "to live as human beings" or "to surrender to the state power and capitalist domination" for the students.

The Waseda struggle revealed the total bankruptcy of the existing leadership of the traditional left wings of Japan before the eyes of the mass of students. The students of the Japanese Communist Party, for example, opposed the blockade of the administration building and insisted on going to the Parliament House to make a petition.

Rejected by the mass of students, they became very isolated. As a result, the JCP in Waseda, who once had 200 members, could get only 50 students to their own rally. The organizations which led the struggle were those of the independent revolutionary left wing. They were NC-JRCL, RMF-JRCL, and the Socialist Youth League.

Through the struggle, the Togakuren (Tokyo Student Federation)\* became strengthened and many students of Waseda have joined in united action on issues such as Japan-Korea Talk, the Vietnam War, etc., with the students organized by the Togakuren on other university campuses in Tokyo.

#### UNSETTLED ISSUES

Though the fee-raising problem was "settled," the issue concerning the management of the student hall is still pending. In the Science-Technology School, which dropped out of the strike first, the left-wing gained a majority in the recent elections of the students, winning over the right-wing people who acted against the strike. Waseda will continue to be a stronghold of the Japanese student movement for years to come. Waseda will never die.

\*Togakuren (Tokyo Student Federation) is composed of essential student autonomous groups of the universities in Tokyo.

The Zengakuren, as national organization of the student groups, is going to be reconstructed at the end of this year through the cooperation of Togakuren and Fugakuren, (Kyota Student Federation) to put an end to the split of the Japanese student movement—with the exception of the Japanese Communist Party's student movement, which is now in total confusion as the result of the fact that the JCP has taken an "independent line" from the Chinese Communist Party.

## Recent Socialist Intellectual Confab Produces Old Ideas

New York, N.Y. — The Second Annual Socialist Scholars Conference was held at the Commodore Hotel in N.Y. over the weekend of Sept. 9-11. The response to this call for an end to the "isolation" of socialist scholars and for a revival of "the great traditions of socialist analysis" in a "spirit of radical inquiry" was so great that nearly a hundred persons had to be turned away from the first session because of fire laws against overcrowding.

In spite of this encouraging turnout, the conference was remarkable only for its dullness, unwillingness to deal with any problems actually facing American workers today, and for the reappearance of many old, discredited ideas under a new, academic cloak.

#### WHERE WERE NEGROES

If intellectual radicals once again feel secure enough to speak out in America, it is surely thanks to the Negro: to his radical activity and to his insistence on a new definition of the idea of Freedom. Yet, in the 12 sessions of the Conference, the only mention of the Negro was in a forum on "The Legacy of Negro Slavery!"

No where was the Negro present as an active creative subject shaping America's destiny; nor, to this writer's knowledge, were any actual Negroes invited to participate in the discussion.

The very form of the conference smacked of what is most petty, most snobbish, and most exclusive in the bourgeois academic world. To begin with, the cost: \$5 for registration; \$5 or \$3.50 for meals (at which important discussions were held); \$15 for the "right" to display socialist literature; at least \$12 a night for a room in mid-town N.Y.

#### FAMILIAR ILLS

Then, the actual sessions: speakers and commentators (as well as topics) chosen in advance; no discussion from the floor; minimum time for simple questions from the floor; over-long speeches, remote and abstract language.

The cliquishness of the conference's organizers was evident

from the outset in that no recognized spokesman of the organized anti-Stalinist Left was invited to participate.

As a sop to the concept of "broadness," the organizers of the conference invited Isaac Deutcher, Trotsky's and Stalin's biographer, who is a staunch, albeit highly critical, supporter of the Soviet Union, to give the keynote speech on "Socialist Man."

#### DIVIDED RESPONSE

Deutcher referred several times to Russia's "positive, progressive achievements," but was also quite pointed in criticizing the barbarity of its bureaucratic rule and in underlining the continuity between the "criminal," Stalin, and the present rulers, his heirs. His remarks provoked enthusiastic applause from half of the audience and stony silence from the other.

On the following day, a "socialist scholar" with the unlikely name of Gaylord LeRoy, who had been invited to comment on a report concerning "Realism in Literature," first called his audience back into line by comparing the spirit of the Marxist criticism of Russia at the Deutcher meeting to that of "The John Birch Society or the National Association of Manufacturers," and reminding us, in sinister tones, to "remember who our friends are."

Then, returning to the topic of literature, he went on to sing the praises of "socialist realism" (Stalin's phrase for literary thought-control), and the necessity for the artist to be "committed" (ie. follow the party line.)

Ironically enough, everyone, including even Dr. LeRoy, spoke of Marxist-Humanism—but only as a catch-phrase to cover up the old sterile elitism pruned by the Communists and their friends since the thirties. (Naturally, no actual Marxist-Humanist was allowed to speak.)

Yes, McCarthy is dead. The old radicals have indeed crawled out from under the rocks, this time sporting fancy Ph.D.'s. But of them it must be said as of the aristocrats returning after the French Revolution: "They have forgotten nothing, and learned nothing."

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# Go Where Problems Are — in Ghettos



Within shadows of Negro ghettos in Nashville (above), youth are learning about Negro History as it fuses to become part of American history, taught under large tree in open air class shown at right.

—Photos by Verna Fausey, North Nashville Project

Nashville, Tenn. — There are 13 colleges and universities in this area, and the students have been very active and successful in winning a lot of victories for the movement. But for a while, after the restaurants and parks and other public accommodations opened up for Negroes, the movement "died" in Nashville.

Some of us were deeply disturbed, however, because we knew that growing numbers of people here had a basic need for food, shelter, jobs, medical care and education. We decided to demonstrate our concern in a Community Action Project, which is now called the North Nashville Project.

After a lot of discussion, we decided that the only meaningful way to help people is to help them help themselves. The philosophy in our movement is that we go into a community and try to work ourselves out of a job. The idea was not just to get people organized but to develop them so we could move on to some other community while they kept their organization going themselves.

### FIRST VICTORIES

The area in which we located the Project is a depressed area where the residents have lived for a number of years and where there are a lot of small churches, stores, and a "sense of community." We rented a house and moved in.

The first part of our Project centered around things like getting stop signs and street lights. The most important results were not only the small victories we won, but the fact that the people in the neighborhood got to know us, and we got to know them, through the activities around these things.

Our biggest success was our summer program. One of the biggest problems in the area was the quality of education the kids had been getting. You could hardly believe there was a school in the community. Kids in the third and fourth grade could write their names, but they couldn't spell them. So this summer we started a program to give the kids some of the things they had been missing in school.

### SCHOOL PROGRAM

We showed the kids movies every Monday, to show them what was happening around the world. On Tuesday the kids were divided into three groups: the pre-schoolers; the first to third graders; those from fourth grade up. We taught the first to third graders reading. The others were taught different subjects everyday. On Tuesday we taught them science; on Wednesday, Negro history; on Thursday, math; and on Fridays we rallied everyone together and went on field trips

to different industries and buildings around Nashville, to show them how things like milk or coke were processed.

Now we want to expand our program into other areas. One is an all-white area, where housing and employment will be the main issues. Housing is a problem for all the poor.

### DECREPIT HOUSES

In Nashville the tax on the land is according to the value. If you own some houses that aren't very valuable you don't have to pay much tax on them. The landlords figure that when Urban Renewal comes through in the next five years or so they will make money on the houses, but in the meantime people have to pay rent to live in those decrepit buildings.

Six million dollars was appropriated by Johnson's war on poverty. Three million is already gone, and the area hasn't even been touched. The three million went like all the other money in the war on poverty—to the people who are supposed to distribute

the money. But it never gets to where it is supposed to go.

### WHERE MONEY GOES

This is what happened to 25 thousand dollars this summer—a pre-college program at Fisk took it. Seventy-five kids. I don't think there's anything wrong with a pre-college program, if the community is all right. But it isn't.

Johnson's "idea" was to get kids that were not likely to go to college and send them there for the summer—even pay them to go—so that by fall they'd develop a new attitude and want to continue college. But the 75 kids that went to pre-college this summer were teachers' kids, and those that were most likely to go to college anyway.

### WHAT IS NEEDED

The type of programs that are needed and we hope to be initiating in this community are great in number, most probably including housing, voter registration, an educational program. You could go on for hours listing the things that are really needed there. To drive through there would make you sick to look at the conditions.

We feel that the only way you can do something for people in the ghetto is to go in there and tell them the truth. That is something they understand very well. And if you want to talk to people about their housing, we feel you should get a house there and stay there.

What's wrong with this country is that the people on the outside of the ghetto have been telling the people on the inside of the ghetto how to run their lives—and that can't be done. It never has, and never will.

Editor's Note: Letters and contributions to the Project can be sent to North Nashville Project, 1705—26th Ave. North, Nashville, Tennessee.

## With News and Letters Committees

The recent convention of News & Letters Committees, held over Labor Day weekend, was the tenth national gathering since our Founding Convention in 1956, and was attended by Committee members from all our locals, and by visitors from all parts of the country. Negro and white workers, students from many campuses, and civil rights activists from many areas took part in all the discussions.

The Perspectives Report given to the Convention by the National Chairman, Raya Dunayevskaya, took up: The World Today; Marxist-Humanism vs. Communism; Race and Class; Nationalism and Internationalism; and Youth, Philosophy and Organization. It is now being mimeographed, and will be available for 35 cents to any readers of N & L who wish to order it.

### PAPER WELL USED

Reports were also given on the impact the paper has had during the past year, as a weapon in both the class struggle and in the freedom movement. Highpoints were a report on the developments in the Maryland Freedom Union organizing efforts in Baltimore, and reports of how rank and file workers from the auto shops in Detroit and the airplane factories in Los Angeles, have been able to use N & L in their battles against both company and union bureaucrats.

Other reports covered work that is being done in tenants' organizations in New York, union-organization drives on

university campuses, upgrading drives for Negroes in Pittsburgh, and community-projects in the South.

The significance of the lecture tour in Japan by the National Chairman, and the impact of News and Letters internationally was also discussed.

### NEW PAMPHLET

The convention also projected plans for a new pamphlet on "Who We Are and What We Stand For", in which questions new friends and potential members want most to know will be answered. As sections of the pamphlet are drafted, they will be made available to all members. The first section which will be circulated for discussion, is entitled "Where We Stand on Labor." All readers and friends who would like to participate may order copies for ten cents.

The continual financial crisis which confronts News & Letters was also discussed, and the Convention undertook to raise a Special Sustaining Fund by Dec. 31, in order to assure the regular, monthly publication of the paper in the year ahead. Individual pledges totalling \$2,795 were made by both members and visitors and \$520 was turned in during the session itself. Several fund-raising events will be sponsored by various locals to raise funds, and two of the pledges were especially creative; one member pledged the price of the next piece of sculpture he sold, and one visitor pledged 100 subs for the paper within the year.

## America's "Sick Society"

Detroit, Mich. — The rebirth of fascism in America today, combined with the physical violence against Negro school children, proves this society is not a "Great Society" but a completely Sick Society.

The voices of power—government, church, press, business and union bureaucracies—are stilled, as if ignoring the facts will make them less real. And the fence-sitting liberals have not been motivated yet to take any concrete role.

History speaks vividly and tragically, and with great repetition. But the lesson is lost among this society's pretensions of affluence and "the best of all possible worlds" delusions. Humanism is a word in great use today. But the practice, as it involves man and his freedom, is totally absent. Unless "humanism" is equated with "freedom" it will remain so.

It would not seem possible that a war which ended less than 25 years ago, engulfed the world, and claimed millions of victims, could be so easily forgotten. Yet, in Chicago, the white back-lash chose to protest with the neo-Nazi movement in demonstrations against the civil-rights marchers.

### LOSS OF MEMORY?

Even harder to comprehend is the fact that most of the residents of the area were immigrants and first-generation Americans with East European backgrounds, either directly or indirectly involved in World War II. Whether they rationalized that their protests against the Negroes in which they joined forces with the American Nazi party—was the "lesser of two evils," or whether they considered their own protest "separate from" the Nazis does not excuse their loss of memory. The memory of the Nazis should have revulsed them.

When the psychopathic leader of the American Nazi Party, George Lincoln Rockwell, announced over TV that he would lead a protest march into Jewish residential areas in Chicago because the "Jews are financing the Negro riots" and "depriving me of my constitutional rights", a reporter added a touch of American pre-occupation with "celebrities" by addressing the next question to him with a polite, "Sir".

### IRON-CROSSES, SWASTIKAS

The pre-teen and teen fad now is the iron-cross and swastika.

The wholesalers and retailers of these symbols of terror contend that there is no overt meaning behind the distribution of these products, except to make money. The youth, inadequately informed, use these as symbols of "rebellion."

Some schools insist that their students not display these products. Others maintain the status-quo of do-nothingness. But the parents, whose main responsibility it is to inform, mold, create, have abdicated responsibility to their children, just as they have to man in the world around them. CHILDREN CRY OUT

If for no other reason than that the victims were children, the brutality against the Negro school children in the South should have exploded in a cry of disgust and protest throughout the country.

But instead, the only cries came from those Negro children—brave and adamant that they would get an education no matter what. Their dignity and resolve is the only light in a rapidly darkening present and future.

Until voices of protest are heard in unison, demanding freedom not only for self, but for every man, our present society will not be changed, and Humanism will remain just a theory and not a reality.

### The Battle

by Ray Ford

peace  
just a word  
a fantastic dream  
in reality a nightmare  
the greatest horror  
faced by man  
to be feared  
for what it means  
what does it mean  
no one knows  
never will know  
it shall never be tried  
to remain a dream  
a horrible nightmare

but  
it's not just a word  
a fantastic dream  
nor in reality a nightmare  
but the greatest blessing  
offered to man  
should not be feared  
for it means  
love, justice, brotherhood  
and an end to  
hate, war, violence  
so it shall be tried  
and not remain a dream  
just a nightmare

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BY RAYA DUNAYEVSKAYA

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## China's Self-Created Turmoil

(Continued from Page 5)  
concept was for continuous guerilla warfare to develop irrespective of any relationship to a mass movement which, to genuine Marxism, would be its only reason for being. If now the Army should have slipped away also from Mao's control, it would only show that theory has a logic of its own, irrespective of a relationship to the theoretician.

Once this army has an objective basis for being—state power—nothing can keep it from being the expression of the exploitative ruling class and its global ambitions. It is not that Mao disagrees with these: he is anxious to contend with other great powers for world domination. It is, rather, that he does also have a concept of "the vanguard role of the Party to lead", which now, however, has been absorbed in the stress on "politics must take command".

Far from the activities of the "Red Guards" initiating "a second revolution," China's "proletarian cultural revolution" is so devoid of any proletarian participation, or peasant or student youth for that matter, that (1) all universities were ordered closed for six months, and (2) the Red Guards were ordered "not to go to factories, enterprises and Government organization below the country level, not to rural people's communes . . ." In a word, they must not interfere with production, neither in the factories, nor on the farms.

No doubt, Mao is hoping to use them against the rebellious students in the cities, but success is by no means assured. Quite the contrary. For the truth is that the foremost voices of revolt against Mao's rule during the 100 Flowers campaign were those of the youth. And it is they, again, who had brought about a very modified version of it in 1961. The fact that Mao felt compelled to order the closing of the schools bespeaks the restlessness of the Chinese youth. Those confident of the rule of their thinking do not go about shutting down schools of higher learning.

State-capitalism calling itself Communism is as anxious to dull the sense of youth as any ruling class fearing the daring of youth compelled to live in a world they did not make. The Chinese youth will yet teach Mao the lesson begun by the Hungarian Freedom Fighters: that you cannot brainwash a people by totalitarian rule.

### GLOBAL AMBITIONS VS. PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION

Even a cursory look at the actual, instead of the imagined, developments in Mao's China will show that power in the People's Republic does not lie in the hands of the people; it isn't even in the hands of the "vanguard," the Communist Party. It took Mao over a decade after the conquest of power before he bothered to convene a Congress of the Chinese Communist Party. Furthermore, all apologists for China as a "land of socialism" notwithstanding, that Congress designated China as state-capitalist.

Naturally, Communism held that "State-capitalism under control of a state led by the working class is different in nature from state-capitalism under bourgeois rule." But this does not change the fact that even the Chinese Communists, as late as September, 1956, called the country by its right name, state-capitalism.

What happened then to change everything very nearly overnight? Where it took 11 years to convene a Congress, why did it take less than a year for the Politburo to proclaim that not only could China industrialize faster than "the West," but that it was out-

distancing "socialist" Russia by going directly (sic!) to "communism"?

This was no "second revolution." It was an outright counter-revolution. Unlike the elemental outpouring of the masses against the corrupt Chiang Kai-shek regime, this time "the mass line" meant the mass sweat and blood that would be needed to take the fantastic "Great Leap Forward"—into what they knew not. What shocked Mao's China beyond any rational reaction one short month after the Communist Congress was the first great proletarian revolution for freedom from Communism. It happened in Hungary, and it shook the whole Communist world to its foundations.

Mao's counter-revolutionary role was not exhausted in his urging Khrushchev to rush Russian tanks to put down the revolution. No, so afraid was Mao that a genuine proletarian revolution might also occur in China, that, first, he tried winning over the Chinese intellectuals through a "thaw" called "let 100 flowers bloom" campaign. Then, when the voices of protest to his rule could be heard from all layers of the population, the youth in particular, he clamped down their protest, and ordered, instead, the so-called Great Leap Forward, which brought the country to near-famine conditions.

Outside of guerrilla warfare and "organization, organization, organization," Mao has a sheer genius for miscalculation. The 1956 Congress on state-capitalism and the 1958 Great Leap Forward disaster are not the only ones. Greater still in its world impact was the tragedy of cosmic proportion which resulted from his adventurism for a new axis of world power, as against the West, and Russia—the planned Peking-Djakarta axis.

This is not the place to go into the fall of the Indonesian Communist Party which had been following a Maoist line\*. Suffice it to say here that the very collapse of any Peking-Djakarta axis seemed to have hardened Chinese Communism's concept of itself alone as the center of the universe.

It is true that this concept is not that of the old Empire, but of new Communism. But the fact remains that China's present concept of "a new era of world revolution" rests wholly on this being led solely and exclusively by Chinese Communism. It is no accident that Mao's maps of China, just as Chiang Kai-shek's, show China not as it is, but as it was in the days of great empire when China was the center of the universe.

The big power chauvinism that so disturbed Castro, obviously had no visible effect on those of Mao's Western admirers, one of whom has actually dubbed the present turmoil in China "Mao's Second Revolution." \*\*The failure to see through Mao's global ambitions is not due to any difficulty in detecting them. On the contrary. They protrude everywhere, even in Chinese Communism's embrace of the "black power" slogan in the United States in the vain hope that sufficient chaos would result from it as to pave the way for China's leadership of this movement too.

The trouble with Mao's apologists is that they share his concept of the "backwardness" of the masses, hence the need for extra-legal organs to assure allegedly revolutionary succession. Having no confidence that the proletarians could gain freedom by their own mass strength, and

\* See News & Letters, Oct. 1965

\*\* See "Mao's Second Revolution" by K. S. Karol, New Statesman, September 9, 1966.

## Our Life and Times

By Peter Mallory

### Reuther Dropped From NAACP Board

During the recent years of the civil rights struggle, the public image of the NAACP among Negroes has dropped from year to year as other more aggressive organizations have gone on to accomplish through mass demonstrations, the goals that the NAACP has fought for over 50 years in the courts. The Negro people have made every attempt to make the NAACP more militant, to change from using only the courts and money to mass action.

Recently even the old leadership of the organization, the nominating committee, recognized part of their weakness and re-shuffled its Board of Directors. The chief conserva-

tive to be eliminated was Walter P. Reuther, president of the United Automobile Workers, who has sat on the board for many years and done nothing to aid the Negro struggle either in the NAACP, in his own union, or in AFL-CIO of which he is Vice President. Eliminated along with him were other aging directors: Bishop Spottswood, Hubert Delany, former N.Y.C. tax Commissioner and the 35 year "do nothing" president, Arthur B. Spingarn.

Dr. Reed, the Nominating Committee Chairman, described the action as an effort to "bring more militancy into the organization."

Reuther has for many years

enjoyed a reputation as a "liberal" which is widely disputed among members of his own union, especially the Negro members who are refused upgrading, and the members of locals where Negroes are denied posts of leadership. Added to this has been his lack of leadership within the AFL-CIO to end discrimination within union ranks and his lack of any real financial support to either the civil rights movement or to those who are unorganized and would very much like to become union members.

Is it any wonder that even conservative Negroes decided to throw him out of the leadership of the NAACP?

### INDONESIA

Since the new military dictatorship has taken over Indonesia and made Sukarno a mere figurehead, over 300,000 people have lost their lives in a blood bath that is still sweeping the nation. All that is required to assure a death warrant is to accuse an individual of being a "communist".

The students of the country are used by the military forces as willing tools. The paratroopers provide lists of "suspected persons" to the mobs of students, who are granted special permission to break the curfew and raid homes throughout Jakarta, dragging people from their beds to face "special courts" set up by the paratroopers.

Any person of Chinese ancestry is immediately suspect, just as any Jew was in Hitler's Germany, and suffers the same fate. Thousands are fleeing back to China rather than face death in Indonesia.

Meanwhile, the real source of the trouble, the incompetency of the military regime, is bearing tragic fruit. On the island of Lombok, during the last three months, over 10,000

persons, according to government figures, have starved to death. Other sources claim that over 30,000 have starved to death, despite the fact that the island has a two crop rice economy. The rice is being exported rather than being fed to the inhabitants a few miles away.

The U.S. government supports this new military dictatorship, and will support its re-entry into the United Nations, hoping to gather another vote, and disregarding the killing of many innocent people in this country.

### VIETNAM ELECTIONS

We have always favored genuine popular elections in the entire country of Vietnam. The recent elections were not in that category.

When an election is held with only "approved candidates" running for office, and the votes are counted by the same old village chiefs that are taxing the people out of existence, then this farce cannot be called a genuine free election. If the results of that election were anything other than what they were, then the results would have been surprising.

With the Viet Cong holding 75% of the country and no one in those areas voting, and no Viet Cong candidates running, it is little wonder that no opposition was heard from.

The chief losers were the so-called "militant Buddhists" who urged abstention from voting and were ignored by the small segment of the total population which was permitted to vote.

A real expression of democratic opinion will not come under present military auspices.

### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

When the United States intervened in the internal affairs of the Dominican Republic there were, according to their own estimates, 17 known Communists involved. That was 17 months ago.

After the intervention of 22,000 U.S. troops and the loss of thousands of Dominican lives, the same sources estimate there are now 3,000 known Communists in the country, which they consider a "safe level." Installed with U.S. support as the new President is Joaquin Balaguer, a former associate of the ousted dictator Trujillo.

The chief result of U.S. intervention has been a strengthening of the Communist totali-

tarian forces, the annihilation of the democratic forces and the placing of right wing elements in high places of government. All this accomplished, the U.S. troops have withdrawn, leaving many Americans dead in a war in which they had no stake, in another one of the black pages of American history.

### DR. KING CONDEMNS CHURCH

At a convention of the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) in Dallas, Texas, Dr. Martin Luther King ripped into the white Christian community which pretends to follow Christian principles in public but follows the teachings of Hitler in private.

One of the lay-leaders of the sectarian Christian group holding the convention was Dr. Robert G. Storey, the executive trial lawyer for the American government during the Nuremberg Trials, who criticized Rev. King's methods of non-violent civil disobedience. He made a loud protest against Negroes carrying out their struggle for democracy in America, "in face of arrest."

Dr. King pointed out that 20% of the soldiers fighting in Vietnam are Negroes, whereas they are only 10% of the population of the country and have less than 1% of the legislators representing them in the various bodies of government.

The Baptist Church, of which he is a Negro member in their segregated wing, is a chief culprit of segregationism. Nearly all of the white Southern Baptists are segregationists, and opposed to everything the Negro represents. Yet Negroes supporting the northern wing of the Baptist Church refuse to separate themselves from this reactionary institution.

The Catholic Church, in recent years, has tried to make up for its past mistakes. But those who were trying to correct the mistakes were individual Nuns and Priests, good intentioned, but opposed by their rulers, Cardinals MacIntyre of Los Angeles and Spellman of New York both of whom have been publicly requested to "retire" when they have reached senility, as they have.

Other churches are no less to blame. "Peace on Earth and Good Will Toward Men" is a meaningless phrase when racist "Christians" beat and kill Negro children as they make their way to a public school, paid for through their parents' tax dollars.