

Algerian War Orphans in Desperate Need

By Joseph Hansen

Algiers is built on steep hills that rise from a crescent-shaped harbor of sparkling blue water. Above the tenements and endless stairs of the teeming Casbah begin luxurious homes where orange trees, bougainvillea, roses and geraniums remind one of Southern California. It was in this exclusive district that we visited the Faivre estate.

Inside the high wall, a driveway curves through palms and flower gardens to the summit of the hill where two homes stand. One is a great rambling ranch house backed by a row of stately eucalyptus. The other is an enormous villa of white stucco, quite dazzling in the North African sun.

It is somewhat incredible that people lived in it. The intricate tile work, elaborately carved paneling, arabesque ceilings, studded leather on doors, pillars of Alhambra style, a dome edged with stained glass — all made me think of a Hollywood movie set; an impression

that was not lessened on noticing in one of the spacious bathrooms a scene done in ceramic tile on the wall over the tub — slave girls holding widespread the colorful robe of a nude princess as she steps into the water.

The owners of the estate are gone. They fled when the terrorists of the OAS, whom they supported, failed to snuff out the Revolution. The estate thus became "vacant property" and was taken over by the new government two months ago. It is now a home for orphans.

At the villa three little girls met us. They welcomed us with a kiss on each cheek and we gave them a Western hug in return.

One of the little girls, Zakia, wore a blue sweater. The knitted right sleeve hung limp and loose like a rag attached to her shoulder, and we realized that her arm was gone. The amputation was a high one, not even a stump seemed left. She smiled wistfully at us.

Children in the five- to eight-year-old group ran by on

their way to a game at the empty swimming pool. The thirty-odd small ones obviously found it great sport in the warm sun, scampering over the dry bottom. When we took photographs they paid little attention, a characteristic of children who have never seen a camera.

Our guide led us to the tennis courts behind the imposing building. Here a group of boys, probably eleven to fourteen years old, were choosing up two teams. What for, we did not learn, but evidently not to play tennis since we saw neither nets, rackets nor tennis balls. The orphans here have very little equipment for games.

One of the boys stood somewhat apart, shoulders hunched over his crutches. The right leg of his dungarees hung empty from the knee. He moved quite dexterously toward his playmates.

"The injured children try hard to compensate," said our guide. He told us about Ounissa whom we met a little

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THE MILITANT

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Nuclear Policy Shift Is Seen In Military Strategy of U.S.

By Tom Kerry

Mark the last quarter of the year 1962 as a climactic turning point in world history. The repercussions of the Cuban crisis will be felt for a long time to come. They have already engendered an "agonizing reappraisal" of the power relationships on both sides of the cold war.

Two questions have perplexed the political pundits of the western world. 1) Why did Khrushchev install missile bases in Cuba? and 2) Why did the Kennedy administration react as it did with a nuclear ultimatum to the Soviet Union?

Political pundit Walter Lippmann essayed an answer to the second question in a recent address to the Anglo-American Association in Paris (*New Republic*, Dec. 22). Lippmann's thesis was that the U.S. action was in response to the threat to upset the balance of nuclear power and that, given a similar threat anywhere else in the world, the reaction would be the same.

"It has, I know," says Lippmann, "been said in Europe that the United States has always had a special interest in Cuba, and that, therefore, the firm stand of the President is no proof that the United States would be equally firm in, let us say, Berlin."

"Our answer to these skeptics," he continues, "might begin, I think, by asking them to look at what the United States was actually firm about in Cuba. It was firm, as I have already pointed out, about the Soviet strategic weapons in Cuba, which, in the American view, were offensive because they were good only for a first strike. Had the missiles been put in place, they would have changed seriously the balance of nuclear power in the world."

"The United States," Lippmann asserts, "deployed its whole military power, nuclear and conventional, against such an alteration of the status quo. It would do the same, and it would do it for the same kind of reason, if the Soviet Union moved with military force against Berlin or against any other point which is critically important to the maintenance of the status quo in the balance of strategic power."

Lippmann's view would appear to coincide with that expressed by President Kennedy in his tele-



John F. Kennedy

vised interview of Dec. 17. In referring to Khrushchev's foreign policy speech to the Dec. 12 session of the Supreme Soviet Congress, Kennedy says:

"I think in that speech this week he showed his awareness of the nuclear age, but of course, the Cuban effort has made it more difficult for us to carry out any successful negotiations, because this was an effort to materially change the balance of power, it was done in secret, steps were taken really to deceive us by every means they could, and they were planning in November to open to the world the fact that they had those missiles so close to the United States; not that they were intending to fire them because if they were going to get into a nuclear struggle, they have their own missiles in the Soviet Union. But it would have politically changed the balance of power."

While confirming Lippmann's view, Kennedy, in passing, concedes that the Soviet Union had no intention of using Cuban missile sites to start a nuclear war. In effect, he confirms the emphatic disclaimer in Khrushchev's speech on this point. Kennedy attributed the Kremlin's action to a miscalculation, on both sides, and to the lack of communication between Washington and Moscow.

"I think," he avers, "looking back on Cuba, what is of concern is the fact that both governments were so far out of contact, really."

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A "Berlin Wall" Thrown Up by Atlanta Racists

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 22 — Atlanta's Negro citizens — and some whites — are up in arms about this city's "Berlin Wall," an artificial barrier of steel and concrete intended to stop Negroes from moving into a white neighborhood.

Several Atlanta-based civil-rights organizations, civic groups and ministerial organizations have formed the All Citizens Committee for Better City Planning, which has been co-ordinating a week of protests, demonstrations and suits aimed at removing the barriers from two streets which lead from Negro neighborhoods into white residential areas.

The steel barricades were placed on Dec. 18, less than 12 hours after the city's Board of Aldermen voted to close the streets. That evening, a mass meeting called by the Better City Planning Committee issued a call for demonstrations at the barricades, and for a full-scale boycott of white merchants in Atlanta's West End section, where the two roads lead.

Picket Line

On Dec. 17, groups of Negroes had picketed the City Hall while the Aldermanic Board passed the street closing measure. Minutes before Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr., elected as a moderate last year with a heavy Negro vote, signed the bill, a delegation from the committee met with him in his office. The group gave Allen a chance to refuse to sign the measure. He refused, and demonstrations and two suits followed.

On Dec. 19, groups of Negroes again picketed the city hall and held a vigil at one of the barricades. Representatives of the committee said that protests would

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Fidel Castro

Will U.S. Re-Enlist Prisoners Freed By Cuban Gov't?

The return to Miami of the Cuban prisoners from the Bay of Pigs invasion should put an end to U.S. press stories about their "mistreatment" in Cuba and "Buchenwald-like" prison camps. From television and newspaper photos they appear in good physical condition.

Under persistent coaxing and inducement by the U.S. press some are beginning to utter half-hearted vows about "returning" to Cuba in another invasion.

Are such boasts mere expediency to please the U.S. authorities? Or are the released prisoners suckers enough to be used by U.S. imperialism in another military assault on their homeland? For their own sakes, it is to be hoped they have learned their bitter lesson. Yet it must be noted that the U.S. army has for some time been engaged in a special effort to recruit Cuban counter-revolutionaries and that some 1,200 of them are get-

(Continued on Page 2)

Detroit NAACP Rejects Role Of Tail to Democratic Donkey

DETROIT, Dec. 20 — An attempt to make the Detroit branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People into an appendage of the liberal Democratic city administration was decisively defeated Monday at the biennial election of the NAACP branch officers and executive board.

The basic issue in the hotly-disputed contest was the independence of the NAACP. By a two-to-one vote the members showed they want it to be more and not less independent.

A year ago practically the entire Negro community helped to upset the conservative Miriani city administration and elect liberal Jerome Cavanagh as mayor.

Since then one section of the local Negro leadership, headed by

Horace Sheffield, has been currying favor with Cavanagh and trying to convert the Negro movement into an uncritical part of the Cavanagh machine. Sheffield, a member of the United Auto Workers staff, is the leading figure of the Trade Union Leadership Council, local affiliate of the Negro American Labor Council.

In the NAACP election Sheffield helped to get together liberal and conservative forces for the purpose of dumping Edward M. Turner from the branch presidency.

Turner is far from being a militant. But in the last year he has chosen to express criticism of some of Cavanagh's policies and refused to become a rubber-stamp or yes-man.

Turner has been president for

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Fellow Unionists Rally Behind Striking Typos

By Jack Katz

The million-member New York City labor movement rallied behind the striking and locked-out printers on Dec. 20. A mass demonstration by all affiliates of the New York Central Trades and Labor Council "at such time as it is considered necessary" was unanimously endorsed by a rising vote of the delegates to the council.

Spirited picketing on a 24-hour basis continues before the entrances of all struck and locked-out papers as New York Typographical Union No. 6 (Big Six) printers show their determination to fight for as long as it takes to secure an acceptable contract.

There has been no development in the negotiations as the strike enters its fourth week (since Dec. 8), with the publishers not budging from their pre-strike position. It seems apparent that they are trying to break both the workers' spirit and the unity of the crafts.

The publishers' strategy can be summed up in a word: Boulwarism. This is a technique formulated by and named after a former General Electric vice-president in the middle 1950's, Lemuel R. Boulware. Simply stated, Boulwarism consists of offering the union an inadequate package and then refusing to budge, come what may. It is the opposite of collective bargaining and negotiation.

Lost Motion

As Big Six President Bertram A. Powers told the strikers at a recent membership meeting: "We have repeatedly gone into negotiations knowing in advance what we would get."

For the past decade, the publishers' strategy has been to offer the printers and other crafts a package negotiated previously with the Newspaper Guild. This worked for the past ten years. In this year's pre-strike negotiations, the printers continued negotiations for nine months past contract-expiration time and wound up with not one penny more than they were originally offered. The fact that the Guild — biggest union in the industry — had settled for that amount was the publishers' stick to beat the other crafts into line.

The unprecedented unity of all nine mechanical crafts and the Guild was born, in fact, out of the publishers' Boulware position. At the end of the 1960 contract round, the crafts counted their various packages, discovered they were practically all the same, and finally realized that they had been taken. More important, they realized they would need more unity to combat the publishers' Boulwarism. And so the unions began to meet and talk with one another.

The craft union leaders met regularly under the chairmanship of Big Six President Powers. A strategy for breaking the Guild-

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Gov't Prosecution of Mine-Mill Is Rapped by Liberties Union

In his determination to press the witch hunt into the labor movement, U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy has ignored pleas from the American Civil Liberties Union that he drop further attempts to convict seven members of the Industrial Union of Mine Mill and Smelter Workers.

The ACLU appeal for dropping the case was made last June but was made public by the organization only recently after the Justice Department announced it would seek new trials for the unionists. They are charged, under a provision of the Taft-Hartley Act repealed three years ago, with conspiracy to execute false non-Communist affidavits. Last March the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (Denver) reversed their earlier conviction.

"No matter how this case is examined, it essentially concerns the wisdom of compelling trade unionists to hew to orthodox politics or suffer the consequences of criminal prosecution," John de J. Pemberton, Jr., ACLU executive director, wrote Attorney General Kennedy at the conclusion of a detailed review of the case. "Our government ought not stand guilty of diminishing our political freedoms by these indirect methods."

The non-Communist oath requirement of the T-H Act was held constitutional only by a 3-3 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court.

The ACLU head's letter further said: "The doubtful constitution-



Robert F. Kennedy

ality of Section 9(h) [the oath requirement] during its reign of more than ten years, combined with its repeal in 1959, should be reason enough for the government to conclude that these current prosecutions could usefully be abandoned at this time. In addition a decision not to prosecute would go a long way to encourage the belief that trade unions, regardless of the policies they advocate, need not fear prejudicial government treatment. Unfortunately, the impression has been created that the U.S. government is treating Mine-Mill in just this prejudicial fashion."

After citing several government cases pressed against Mine-Mill officers and members since 1953, none of which was sustained in the courts, Pemberton remarked that those legal moves had "led many civil-liberties and labor observers, including Norman Thomas, to the conclusion that the government is exerting its vast power not only to harass but to anathematize Mine-Mill — which was expelled from the CIO in 1950 as Communist dominated — because it disapproves of its political complexion. If the government insists on retrying the seven defendants in the instant case, that conclusion will be reinforced and the First Amendment concept of free association will be dealt another damaging blow."

Pemberton disclosed that the ACLU intends to file a friend-of-the-court brief for Mine-Mill in yet another attack on it by the administration. This is the prosecution of the union as a "Communist-dominated or Communist-infiltrated" organization under the 1950 Subversive Activities Control Act. The Subversive Activities Control Board set up by that act has ordered Mine-Mill to register under that infamous law. The union is appealing that order and the accompanying ACLU brief will argue that the law is unconstitutional.

Pemberton's letter to Kennedy also urged caution in using "conspiracy" charges against defendants. Use of that charge rather than more specific substantive accusations, the ACLU official observed, raises the question whether the government feels it has adequate proof to sustain a substantive charge.

What the ACLU head is saying in polite and guarded language is what is becoming more and more of an open scandal. Charging people with "conspiracy" to commit a crime rather than actually charging them with a crime is an ideal and more and more frequently used frame-up method. Where a person is innocent or where the prosecution has no evidence of any overt criminal acts the "conspiracy" gimmick permits the use in the courtroom of otherwise inadmissible "evidence," use of paid informers who "remember" conversations, etc. In the prevailing witch-hunt atmosphere these usually result in convictions on the basis, not of acts, but of alleged talk, thoughts and intentions.

British Rulers Crush Revolt in Asian Colony

By Ruth Porter

A classic nationalist uprising, led by the Northern Borneo Liberation Army, began earlier this month in the British protectorate of Brunei. This oil-rich "sultanate," together with North Borneo and Sarawak, comprises British Borneo. The remainder of the island of Borneo is part of Indonesia.

The insurgents oppose Britain's plan of bringing the three colonies into the Malayan Federation with Singapore and Malaya, charging that British administrators have ignored the wishes of the people. During the election this year, the Brunei Peoples' Party, which called for the revolt, won all the 55 elected seats in four District Councils and all 16 elected seats in the legislative council. A public opinion poll conducted earlier this year by a commission of the Brunei government, showed universal opposition to the Malayan Federation plan.

The Liberation Army has as its objective the overthrow of colonialism and the formation of an independent Unitary State of North Kalimantan (i.e. Borneo), embracing Brunei, Sarawak and North Borneo. The division which now exists is an artificial one, introduced and maintained by the British who first colonized Borneo in the 16th Century.

The Chairman of the Brunei Peoples' Party, Azahari, called for the rebellion because the British imperialists had refused every other overture for independence made by constitutional means.

To crush the revolt, Royal Air Force jets flew in, Royal Marines were landed, and a whole arsenal of modern weapons was employed against the lightly-armed nationalists who had to withdraw into the jungles.

The British expect that the nationalists will now operate as a guerrilla army, and long-range helicopters, used in jungle warfare, have arrived from Singapore. The commander-in-chief of the British Far East Land Force says it is anticipated that British troops will be "playing about in the jungle for quite a little time."

Mrs. Sobell in Plea To Free Husband

A federal prosecutor's statement in recent court proceedings that Ethel Rosenberg would probably be entitled to a new trial today has been cited as basis for an appeal to President Kennedy to grant a holiday release to imprisoned Morton Sobell.

The appeal was filed by Mrs. Morton Sobell in behalf of her husband, now in Atlanta penitentiary in the 13th year of a 30-year sentence. He was convicted of "conspiracy to commit espionage" in the 1951 trial with Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

On December 7, during argument before the U.S. Court of Appeals on Sobell's motions for a new trial, Judge Thurgood Marshall posed this question: "If Ethel Rosenberg were tried, say last spring, and we had her conviction before the court today, wouldn't we have to reverse?" U.S. Attorney Robert J. Geniesse replied, "Yes, it would probably have to reverse."

In her appeal to President Kennedy, Mrs. Sobell said, "It is now clear ten years after the execution of Ethel Rosenberg that she was unfairly tried and convicted. This is a terrible burden upon the conscience of our country. Do not add to that burden by permitting the continued imprisonment of my innocent husband from whom more than twelve years of life have already been unjustly taken."

The American Way of Life

From Skunk-Trapper to Big Dealer

The world-wide conspiracy to subvert the American Way of Life has many facets. One of the most invidious is the use of foreign films to denigrate the American dream of rags to riches. Films like *La Dolce Vita* portray rich people as living lives of empty boredom and indulging in all kinds of decadent escapades to cope with the boredom.

That may be the way foreign millionaires live. But not Americans — certainly not the ones who made it the hard way. Take the example of Ocie Lee Nelms, 55, of Dallas, Texas, who was the subject of a glowing biographical sketch in the Dec. 9 *Dallas Times Herald*. His father was a \$20-a-week cowhand, but Nelms now owns 800 pieces of property in Dallas and is worth \$9 million. He is well known to the people there because he puts big billboards on his newly acquired properties which declare with old Southern warmth: "Thanks to All of You for Helping O.L. Nelms Make Another Million!"

O.L. wasn't just a lucky American who had oil bubble up under his shack. Like a Horatio Alger hero, he worked for his pile right from the start. At the age of six his mother permitted him to peddle farm products from door to door.

"I got accustomed to handling money and never quite got over it," he explains.

By the time he was in the third grade, he had developed a modest but regular income — trapping skunks. But this interfered with his schooling. He generally smelled so bad the teacher would send him home. So he just up and quit.

Slow Start

But the teacher's reaction didn't shake him up. He sold apples until he was 15 and then worked for a brief period as a telephone line-man but wasn't happy at it. So he went back to what he liked best — selling.

"I'd buy things from the dime store — little items that folks didn't see very often," he recalls with quiet pride. "And then I'd peddle them through the Dallas office buildings, making a pretty good profit and convincing people they were getting a bargain."

One thing like that led to another and finally O.L. reached his present status as a millionaire real-estate operator. But he's still the same simple man he always was. He owns two Cadillacs but much prefers to drive one of his three pickup trucks. (What he picks up in them isn't explained.)

He has a modest wardrobe and still wears a pair of well-worn-in shoes slashed on the sides to make room for the bunions inherited from the days of hustling

dime-store items at a markup. Now O.L. operates mainly by phone.

Despite his wealth he lives with his mother in an apartment in one of the buildings he owns. (Never had time to marry.) Two adjoining apartments are used for office space. This saves rent and provides an extra tax write-off.

An average day finds him handling about 200 telephone calls about business deals. (The word "deal" seems to be his favorite.)

And he's not distracted by any nonsense. Some of the calls are from people asking for money. "I usually just say I'm retired," he reports.

Big Hearted

That doesn't mean he's stingy. O.L. seldom refuses to give to a really worthwhile cause. But, he adds with disarming candor, "I don't give much."

Nor does he waste the money on himself. He isn't a party man. He doesn't golf or fish. He doesn't play cards either but not out of any principle since he does shoot craps occasionally but says, "I never won enough to make me happy."

"My idea of having a good time," he explains, "is making a good deal with good people." (It isn't clear from this what kind of a time he has making a good deal with bad people.)

Mr. Nelms doesn't have any hobbies and he loves his country. He refuses to go abroad.

"My hobby is making a good deal. If I went abroad I'd be miserable. I wouldn't be able to speak the language, and I'm afraid I wouldn't make a good deal," he says.

And, he adds, with that shining old-fashioned American spirit: "I don't want to go just to see what they've got."

Besides what could anybody have that this truly rich American lacks?

—Herman Chauka

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Weekly Calendar

DETROIT

In Celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation Centennial: A panel discussion on "The Future of the Negro Struggle." Speakers: Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Reginald Wilson, George Breitman. Fri., Jan. 4, 8 p.m. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward. Aup. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

NEW YORK

BERTOLT BRECHT: The Dramatist as Radical Theorist. An appraisal by the literary critic, Dr. Annette T. Rubinstein. Fri., Jan. 4, 8:30 p.m. 116 University Pl. Contrib. \$1 (students 50c). Aup. Militant Labor Forum.

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A Report on Soviet Life

Belgian Unionists Visit USSR

[A delegation from the Department Store Workers Union in Brussels, affiliated with the General Federation of Belgian Labor, recently toured the Soviet Union. Upon their return home they volunteered to give the left socialist newspaper, *La Gauche*, their impressions of the trip. We reprint the interview which ensued from the Nov. 23 issue of *La Gauche*. — ED.]

Question — What parts of the U.S.S.R. did you visit? To what problems did you give particular attention?

Answer — We traveled over 9,000 miles, visiting Moscow, Leningrad, Volgograd (formerly Stalingrad), and the Black Sea area. In each city we studied the department stores, paying attention not only to the sales set-up but to salaries and "real wages" as well as to the operation of the Commerce Union whose guests we were.

Question — What are the first impressions of a visitor arriving in Moscow?

Answer — The warm welcome which he immediately receives. The exceptional cleanliness of Soviet cities, with their wide avenues in which traffic is much less heavy than in our streets; the recent efforts in connection with housing development; the discipline of the Soviet citizen — all these struck us.

Question — Were you able to study the role of the unions in the USSR?

Answer — Between 95 and 99 per cent of the workers in the enterprises under its jurisdiction belong to the Commerce Union — which has a membership of 3,500,000. Union organization is based on the "enterprise," so that all the workers of the same enterprise belong to the same union — professional workers, unskilled workers, engineers, administrative

staff. The union participates in economic planning, arranges for the annual mass convention which regulates the problems of job classification, salary scales and the plan of production of the enterprise. Health and welfare depend on the union organization which administers special funds of the enterprise for the construction of housing as well for cultural services and vacation resorts.

Question — Now let's discuss the department stores in the USSR.

Answer — Department stores, such as GUM, were re-opened in the Soviet Union in 1953. Before that they were closed, we were told, because of lack of specialists and for alterations. Soviet department stores are tremendously crowded. In 1961, 107 million people passed through Moscow's GUM. It has more than 7,000 workers. In contrast to our department stores, the selling space of GUM is smaller than the area used for stock, workrooms or offices. Of the 100,000 square meters [1 sq. meter = 1.19 sq. yards] of GUM, the selling space is 35,000 square meters, and the display area is 6,000 square meters.

Their displays aren't as elegant or as artistic as ours. Soviet department stores still lack competent display artists and decorators. Service is also slower. Saleswomen take their time. One can see lines in front of some counters while saleswomen at other counters have no customers to wait on.

To our comment that productivity seemed rather weak, the answer was that that was so, but that the norms had been established and had to be observed.

There is an increasing variety of merchandise. The food counter, for example, offered a choice of 700 different articles.

The USSR also has specialty department stores. We visited one just for engaged couples — in which they could find everything from the bridal bouquet to plane tickets for the honeymoon trip. Another department store is called "Children's Happiness," and employs 4,500 people, 2,515 of whom are saleswomen. In one selling area of 17,000 square meters, this department store sells 12,000 school uniforms a day.

Question — What are the working conditions and salaries of department store workers in the USSR.

Answer — First of all, the worker enjoys real job security — there is no unemployment in the Soviet Union. There are two shifts in the department stores, because they are open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (food stores from 9:00 a.m. to 11 p.m.), including Sundays. The reasons for these hours are: not enough stores; the fact that most women work; factory work is done in shifts; the presence in Moscow on Sundays of people from outlying districts.

The number of hours worked are 41 in a six-day week (in Belgium, sales personnel work 40 hours in a five-day week).

Personnel is divided into four categories: an assistant saleswoman earns \$64 [all money figures in this article have been converted from Belgian francs into dollars — Ed.] per month, saleswoman \$84, head saleswoman \$132, specialists between \$150 and \$300, the director between \$330 and \$385. The best-paid jobs are those of chef-cuistot (\$330) and decorator (\$270). To these salaries should be added a three per cent bonus for each one per cent of the plan that is exceeded (with a maximum limit of 30 per cent of the salary).

Saleswomen have from two to three weeks vacation a year; head saleswomen 24 days; and the higher-ups one month. Soviet workers enjoy free social security, covering medical care as well as drugs and medicines. Sick pay amounts to 50 per cent of the sal-

ary. Pensions are payable at 60 for men and 55 for women (minors are pensioned at 45). Pensions amount to 50 per cent of the salary with a minimum of \$30 and a maximum of \$120.

Paid maternity leaves begin two months before and end two months after confinement, but a child's illness is not accepted as a valid reason for the mother being absent from work.

Question — No doubt your visits to the department stores gave you the opportunity of making a study of prices and of estimating the cost of living in the Soviet Union?

Answer — Actually, our delegation took special note of the prices of foods and textiles. Here are some of the prices we listed: a kilo [2.2 lbs.] of butter, \$4.18; 10 eggs, \$1.16; a kilo of coffee, \$2.50; a kilo of herring, \$1.16; a kilo of ham, \$4.08; a kilo of bacon, \$4.28; a kilo of lard, \$2.86; a kilo of sugar, 96c.

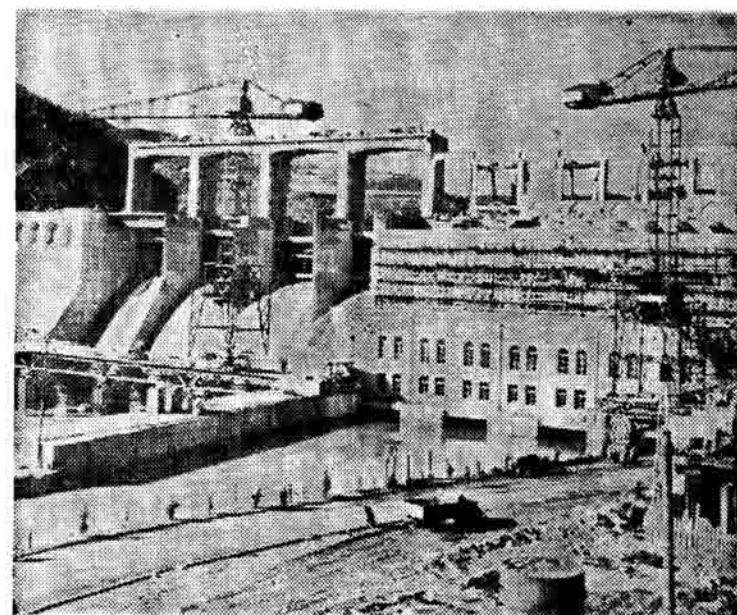
A raincoat of second-class quality costs from \$150 to \$160; a ready-to-wear men's suit, between \$88 and \$108; men's shoes, from \$33 to \$40.

TV sets sell at prices ranging from \$360 to \$440. The "Moskvitch" car, which in Belgium sells for \$1,160, costs \$2,400 in Moscow.

But, when you list these prices, you also have to take into consideration the prices of other things. Subway fare is about 4c.; bus fare is about 3c. Rents are also very cheap in the Soviet Union — about five per cent of salaries. Cultural articles (books, records, school supplies, etc.) are very cheap.

Question — Before we come to cultural matters, one more question on distribution. It seems that for some time now there has been credit buying in the Soviet Union.

Answer — Credit buying has actually existed for a year now. The buyer has to make a down payment of 20 per cent. The rate of interest for the balance is one per cent for six months of credit. Credit buying developed in the Soviet Union as a result of the needs of the population. For that



A VITAL KEY. Hydro-electric plants, like this one in the province of Georgia, have been built throughout USSR in past decades. The pace of industrialization has been rapid enough to thrust the once backward land into direct competition with the U.S. But the capacity to produce needed consumer goods is still limited and holds down living standards.

reason the unions have been proposing a revision in the salary scales.

Question — Now we would like to know something about education and culture in the Soviet Union.

Answer — Soviet youth do a great deal of studying. For example, at GUM in Moscow 500 workers are enrolled in schools of higher education. Workers who take courses receive four weeks of paid leave at examination time. Those who pass get a salary raise of 15 per cent.

Education is free in the Soviet Union. In addition, the university student receives a subsidy of from \$33 to \$45 a month, but the student pays for his own room (\$3.30 a month) and for his meals (70c. a day).

Question — What conclusions can you draw from your "study tour"?

Answer — If one takes into consideration salaries, cost of living, social benefits, one can estimate that the standard of living of the Soviet citizen is still 30 to 35 per cent lower than ours. Housing still requires an all-out effort. Regarding education, how-

ever, their superiority is incontestable.

Freedom of opinion is not yet at our level. Militant unionists, for example, could not understand that we were able to criticize our leadership.

There is less of the "cult of personality" — although portraits of Khrushchev and Mikoyan are seen in all the enterprises. Unions definitely have a real right to criticize at the enterprise level. It seemed to us that the unions are trying to acquire some degree of autonomy vis-à-vis the party.

The role of women is exceptional in the Soviet Union. They have complete equality with men, and the exact same positions of responsibility.

If there is a "gilded youth" in the USSR (we visited a club in Leningrad in which only champagne was served — at \$3.50 a bottle!), they are vastly outnumbered by the studious youth who are seriously looking to the future, a future which they hope will be constructive and peaceful.

Unquestionably the Soviet people, as a whole, want lasting peace and want to trade with the whole world.

...Atlanta Racists

(Continued from Page 1)
continue until the barriers come down.

Atlanta's Negroes, 33.9 per cent of the city's population, occupy only 16 per cent of the city's residential land. An acute housing shortage for Negroes exists here. In past years, city officials have attempted to block Negro expansion by using parks, cemeteries and expressways as artificial buffer zones between whites and Negroes. The metal barricades represent the first instance of blocking roads to stop Negro housing advances.

DEC. 22 — Chairman Charles McDew of the Student Nonviolent Co-ordinating Committee charged today in a telegram to Attorney General Kennedy that the Mayor of Ruleville, Miss., "willfully and maliciously beat a 14-year-old Negro youth on Dec. 18."

The 14-year-old, whose name is being withheld to protect his family from reprisals, said that he and five other youths were held without charges for 30 minutes by Ruleville police. Mayor C. M. Durrough of Ruleville beat the youth after warning the youngsters that "I'm not going to have that mess or any of that integration stuff."

Mayor Durrough had earlier told a Negro woman active in SNCC's vote drive that Negroes who attempted to register would not receive federal surplus food commodities. In the area, Negro sharecroppers and day laborers work only from August until December. "There is no other avenue of employment open for Negroes in Ruleville," McDew said, "and when local whites cut off the food surplus program as part of a planned program of intimidation aimed at stopping Negro registration efforts, hundreds will starve this winter."

World Events

Cuba Reprints China Article

The Havana newspaper, *Revolución*, on Dec. 17 reprinted the complete text of the article in the *Peking People's Daily* answering critics of the Chinese Communist Party who accuse it of "the double error of adventurism and defeatism." The article also proposed the convocation of a world conference of Communist parties. An editorial in *Revolución* of the same day took a position against "revisionist" tendencies.

U.S. Defends Colonialism

On Dec. 18 The General Assembly of the United Nations by a vote of 55-14 passed a resolution threatening Portugal with sanctions, including an arms embargo, if it doesn't free Angola immediately. The U.S. and England were among the 14 nations that voted against the resolution.

Clashes in South Africa

An Associated Press dispatch from Pretoria, South Africa, reported that a white policeman and seven Africans were killed when police boarded a train to search Africans suspected of carrying weapons. This was the second clash in two days resulting from the racist government's policy of apartheid (segregation) and dispossessing Africans and moving them to reservations.

Brazil's Economic Crisis

President Goulart was "disturbed, [and] possibly angry over

President Kennedy's recent remarks about Latin America's 'staggering problems' and his reference to the 50 per cent inflation in Brazil in the past year," according to the Dec. 22 *Christian Science Monitor*. In two years the Brazilian *cruzeiro* has declined in value from 134 to 800 to the dollar and "even the extra month's wages that employers are required to pay won't go very far this year." The report also stated that Brazil is expanding its trade with Soviet-bloc countries.

British Skid Rows

As an experiment, Thomas Rintoud, a Glasgow, Scotland, rookie cop, was sent to live among London's homeless youth. After five days he reported that what he experienced was so grim and depressing that he was in danger of a nervous breakdown and needed a rest. "More and more young people are joining the down-and-outs in Britain who sleep rough every night," said a director of the voluntary hostels.

Similar Stories

An analysis of Japan's coal industry reveals that it closely parallels the industry in the U.S. The number of Japanese coal miners employed decreased from 457,000 in 1948 to 198,000 in 1961, with another 70,000 scheduled to be laid off due to automation and the closing of inefficient mines. Thousands of miners have clashed

with police in demonstrations against the proposed new layoffs.

Beware of Contests

The editor of the Istanbul daily newspaper, *Cumhuriyet*, has been arrested along with the contributor of an article to a contest the Turkish paper was running. The charge lodged against them by the public prosecutor is spreading Communist propaganda. The offending article was entitled: "Socialism is the only solution." The jailed editor explained that he had received hundreds of contest entries and had been unable to read them all, including that particular article, before they were printed. Both the editor and the contest participant now face five to ten years in the prisons of this "free world" ally of the U.S.

Aerial Spying Resumed

"Spy flights" deep into mainland China have been resumed by Chiang Kai-shek's air force after the U.S. secretly replaced the two U-2s shot down three months ago, a Reuters news story from Formosa reveals.

Sets Precedent

Journalist K. S. Karol, reporting the recent Italian Communist Party Congress for the left-liberal *British New Statesman* (Dec. 14), wrote: "I found displayed at the Congress the works of Trotsky, side by side with translations of Soviet hagiography as well as recent works from Britain and the U.S."

THE MILITANT

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Monday, December 31, 1962

Salute to Revolutionary Cuba

When the *barbudos* marched into Havana four years ago, it would have taken quite a crystal ball to foresee the actual course of development of the Cuban Revolution. One possible course was the familiar pattern of Latin American revolutions which, after the shouting has died down and the promises have been forgotten, disclose nothing changed but the faces in the Presidential palace. "Realistic" politicians reasoned that if Fidel Castro attempted any real change he would be promptly disposed of by the imperialists à la Guatemala.

But the Revolution has made profound changes in the economic, social and political structure of Cuba by cutting the tentacles of imperialism and starting to build a planned economy. Moreover, it still stands! By mobilizing the masses behind the revolutionary program and by arming the workers and peasants, the Revolution has not only gone forward and deepened, but has stood up to the world's most powerful imperialist power.

The fourth birthday of the Cuban Revolution finds the Cuban people bloodied, beaten and suffering from the imperialist economic, political and military onslaught, but still advancing. That the Revolution has accomplished so much so swiftly and against such a powerful enemy is a tribute to the courage and sagacity of the Cuban people and of their revolutionary leaders.

The last colony of the Americas to win independence from Spain, Cuba was the first to break free from U.S. imperialism. In the battle to ensure its independence, Cuba raised the banner of socialism thus establishing the first foundation of the new society in the Americas. In this sense the Cuban revolution has already irrevocably triumphed.

The Vendetta Against Hoffa

The most recent trial of James Hoffa, president of the Teamsters Union, ended with a hung jury. Federal judge William Miller immediately ordered an investigation of alleged tampering with jurors. It is clear that the Kennedy brothers, who have failed to convict Hoffa four times in the last five years, plan to continue their personal vendetta against him. Both President Kennedy and his brother the Attorney General, make no secret of their determination to get Hoffa.

What the Kennedys are after with this persecution is clear. The whole labor movement was dealt a blow struck by passage of the Kennedy-Landrum-Griffin law, whose enactment was prepared by investigations of the alleged dishonesty of some union officials. Under guise of fighting corruption in the labor movement, the government seeks to establish tighter control over unions to cut down their effectiveness and militancy as fighting organs of the workers.

The present leaders of the union movement are no gems, certainly. But the task of selecting union leaders rests not with millionaires John and Robert Kennedy or with an administration which speaks for the bosses. Only the workers themselves have the right to choose their own leaders. And they alone have the right to judge those leaders.

The unremitting prosecution of Hoffa is an attack upon the Teamsters Union and an attack upon all labor. Every union man should demand an end to this attack and call for "Hands off the Teamsters!"

The Poet's Corner

The Harp Note

They tell the hoary legend still
Of that glad night of old,
When the angel throng burst into song,
And struck their harps of gold:
And the starry hosts on heaven's plains
The flag of peace unfurled,
And the message ran: good will to man,
O'er all the weary world.

The angels throng the skies no more —
Their harps are silent now;
Still toiling man bends pale and wan,
With the blood sweat on his brow.
O well the angels struck the note
Of our Christian age of gold —
Of soulless greed in its fight with need
In the mart where men are sold.

Ay, now it is men that must strike the note,
And, it may be, with harps of steel,
When they sound the lay of the dawning day
Of the happy commonweal.
Then, comrades, fight, through the storm and the night,
Till the reign of wrong shall cease,
For beyond the field, where the foe must yield,
There lies the land of peace.

—Haldane Burgess

The President's Shelter

Now that the Cuba crisis has subsided temporarily, information is leaking out about what happened during those days when Kennedy brought the world to the brink of nuclear war.

An article in *Look* magazine of Dec. 18, titled "Washington in Crisis — 154 Hours That Shook the World: The Untold Story of Our Plan to Invade Cuba," reports the following:

"The crisis really was born at the Bay of Pigs, 18 months before, when Fidel Castro routed an American-sponsored invasion in one of the worst fiascos in U.S. history. Six months later in October, 1961, President Kennedy, still bearing his scars from the disaster, secretly ordered the Joint Chiefs of Staff to prepare an invasion plan for Cuba — to be used when and if needed . . .

Special Dugout

"As part of the invasion plan, President Kennedy, his cabinet and top military and civilian leaders would repair to secret, atom-proof shelters in the mountains of Virginia and Maryland — for once the troops jumped off, no one could foretell with certainty the Kremlin's response."

Confirmation of this plan for Kennedy and the bigwigs to conduct the nuclear war their policies might bring about from a deep, secret dugout, came from columnist Drew Pearson on Dec. 20. He reported that the Civil Defense had sent official notification to the U.S. Supreme Court justices that in case of war each of them would be picked up by helicopter and flown to the secret underground

shelter in the mountains of Maryland. Pearson reported this in connection with Chief Justice Warren's refusal to avail himself of this high-priority safety since in Supreme Court justices' category wives could not be taken along.

The existence of a secret shelter, probably much deeper and stronger even than Hitler's famous bunker in Berlin, and the readiness of Kennedy and his entourage to repair to it while, on the surface, the rest of the U.S. population was subjected to nuclear annihilation, has evoked a number of reactions in addition to that of Chief Justice Warren. One of these took the form of an open letter to Kennedy from the famous novelist Norman Mailer, whose initial book, *The Naked and the Dead*, dealt with warfare.

The open letter was printed on the front page of the Dec. 20 *Village Voice*, the liberal weekly newspaper of the intellectual and artistic community of New York's Greenwich Village.

"What of your family?" asks Mailer. "Does your daughter, your son, your wife go down into the bomb shelter with you? Do you know yourself to be so pure that even if you lose nothing yourself, you can still feel concern for us? Or are we militarily expendable?"

"So I ask you this. Why not send us a hostage? Why not let us have Jacqueline Kennedy? The moment an invasion is let loose, and you as Commander in Chief go to your deep bomb shelter, why not send us your wife and children to share our fate in this city? New York is the place where we have air raid drills every year and no way at all to save a single body from a single Russian bomb . . . Show us that you understand our condition, put a hostage from your flesh into our doomed city, or know that we can never trust you completely, for deep within yourself may be contained a bright and mad psychic voice which leaps to give the order that presses a button."

At Deadline It's Goal Plus 3% For Socialist Education Fund

This is the final scoreboard of the Socialist Education Fund. We hoped that we would reach 100 per cent and we did. In fact, the total is 103 per cent.

We're very grateful to the contributors from all over the country. We're grateful to *The Militant* readers who with their contributions sent us letters about how much they like the paper.

"Thanks for fine honest reporting of the truth," writes C.M. from a small town in New Jersey.

"Enclosed is a check for your Socialist Education Fund," writes a reader from New Mexico. "At present I am a member of the Socialist Party-SDF, but I do not agree with their interpretation of the Cuban Revolution. I have been and shall continue to be a supporter of the Cuban Revolutionary Government."

The following letter speaks for itself: it is from a worker in Buffalo, New York.

"About the contribution for the Socialist Education Fund I am sending you. I am sorry I couldn't send it before the 15th of December. But out of work since last April, was sick all last summer with a sore back, and there was a delay in getting back to unemployment benefit. Nevertheless I want to help that fund and on anything that will help the party, although I am not so young any more, and my health isn't the very best any more either. The shipyards where I was working off and on as a welder have closed down for good.

"Anyway, enclosed find money order for \$5 for the Fund. I hope that it will not be too late to add it to the Fund Drive. So that at least Buffalo has helped some on it.

"I will give the extra Dec. 10 is-

sue you sent me to a neighbor."

A contributor from Vashon, Washington, writes: "I had the pleasure of meeting Farrell Dobbs in Seattle at 1412 18th Avenue and voted for him for President when he had as much chance of being elected as I had. I never belonged to any political party, but have helped the Socialist Movement since 1896. Some of you were quite young at that time.

"I used to spread the old *Appeal to Reason* around Vashon Island when I was a telephone lineman trouble shooter, 1904 to 1908. It did some good because the Island people were the instigators of the State-owned Ferry System. My ideas kept working, like yeast in dough.

"I can't help you much. What is left of my pension after my board is paid at this home is \$7.65 and this month I am sending \$3.00 to Madalyn Murray to help her fight to prohibit bible reading and prayer in the public schools of America, a very worthy cause.

"Tell Farrell Dobbs hello for me."—B.S.

W.K., St. Paul, Minn., sent in \$10 too late to be included in the final scoreboard, but which delightfully swells the Socialist Education Fund. "I know it will be put to good use," he writes. "It is my conviction that unless man learns to apply Socialist principles in solving his economic and social problems, he will not long survive in this nuclear age."

Other contributors to General this week whom we wish to thank: N.M., B.T., Chicago; W.L., Outlook, Mont.; J.B., Plentywood, Mont.; T.E.R., Beloit, Wis.; and H.W., Outlook, Mont.

Hope to hear from all of you in 1963!

Fund Scoreboard

City	Quota	Paid	Per Cent
General	\$ 300.00	\$ 578.75	193
Chicago	700.00	800.00	114
Milwaukee	225.00	250.00	111
Newark	125.00	132.00	106
San Francisco	560.00	574.00	103
Seattle	475.00	485.00	102
Allentown	115.00	115.00	100
Boston	600.00	600.00	100
Cleveland	500.00	500.00	100
Connecticut	150.00	150.00	100
Denver	100.00	100.00	100
Detroit	625.00	625.00	100
Los Angeles	4,300.00	4,300.00	100
New York	4,300	4,300.00	100
Oakland-Berkeley	525.00	525.00	100
Philadelphia	225.00	225.00	100
St. Louis	75.00	75.00	100
San Diego	250.00	250.00	100
Twin Cities	850.00	850.00	100
Total	\$15,000.00	\$15,434.75	103

It is a common observation here (Paris) that our cause is the cause of all mankind, and that we are fighting for their liberty in defending our own.

—Benjamin Franklin, Letter to Samuel Cooper, 1777.

BOOK REVIEW

A Fascinating Story of a Mexican Family

THE CHILDREN OF SANCHEZ. By Oscar Lewis. New York: Random House. 552 pp., 1961, \$7.50.

Oscar Lewis, a noted anthropologist, who has concentrated most of his work and study on the urbanization of Mexican Indian peasants in the past 20 years, has given us a book which must be read. This book is not a novel. It is fact, not fiction. Yet the method Lewis employed makes it a book so fascinating that it reads like a novel.

Lewis has done a study in depth of the sub-culture of poverty in Mexico through the Sanchez family. But what he has further done, is to lift the lid on a whole stratum of the inhabitants of a sub-culture of poverty in all Latin America — yes, even on that same stratum in the rest of the world, including the United States.

This book was not actually "written" in the accepted manner. As he did in his previous book, *Five Families*, Lewis took his tape recorder into the home of the Sanchez family, and there, through their own lips, got the life stories of Jesus, the father; Manuel, the eldest son; Roberto,

the second son, the "dark one"; Consuelo, the sickly daughter who wanted nothing so much as to be a nun but who ended up selling her body on the streets; and Marta, the little one, the darling, to whom her father showed his only tenderness, dragging her life out bearing one child after another for her various husbands.

Each of the Sanchez family bares his or her soul to the tape recorder, thus providing five different versions of what is essentially the same story. In doing so, each also tells the stories of other people whom their lives touched.

These oft-repeated tales bring to life the statistics Lewis uses in his introduction. Mexico, the richest and most highly industrialized country in Latin America, still has 60% of its 34 million population ill-housed, ill-fed, ill-clothed; 40% illiteracy; 46% of its child population out of school; 80% of its families reporting incomes of less than 600 pesos a year (\$69 in 1950, only \$48 in 1960).

The cost of living has gone up five times since 1940, the year which also marks the end of a housing program under President Cardenas. In 1950 an investigation of 5.2 million dwellings showed that 60% of these houses had only one room; 25% two rooms; only 17% had running water. The "housing developments" are known as *vecindados*, and consist of one-room dwellings surrounding a common courtyard. Entire families occupy these "homes" — grandparents, in-laws, grandchildren, everyone. Except for the

father, mother, and current baby, everyone else sleeps on cardboard mats, covered with thin blankets. Others, less fortunate, live in "tropical Hoovervilles" on the outskirts of the cities — in houses built of rude wood, flattened tin cans or even cardboard packing cases.

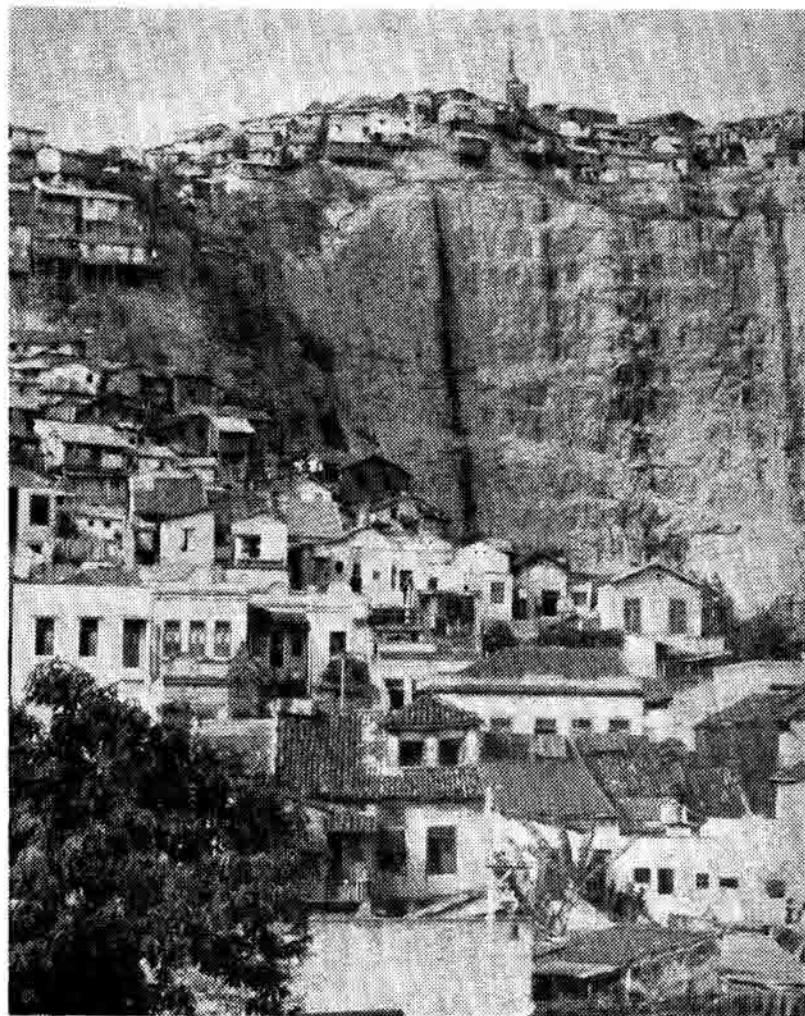
To many North Americans the myth that all Latin Americans in the lower economic levels are lazy, slothful, immoral, perfectly content with their lot, is acceptable because it hides the reality of this awful poverty and what it may produce.

For it was the Cuban prototypes of the Sanchez family who, in their masses, joined with Castro to throw off the sub-culture of poverty in that small island. The Cuban Revolution gave the rest of Latin America something it did not know existed anymore — hope.

In his introduction Lewis sums up thus: "... indeed the political stability of Mexico is grim testimony to the great capacity for misery and suffering of the ordinary Mexican. But even the Mexican capacity for suffering has its limits, and unless ways and means are found to achieve a more equitable distribution of the growing national wealth and a greater equality of sacrifice during the difficult period of industrialization, we may expect social upheavals sooner or later."

There are many indications that, with the Cuban Revolution as an inspiration and guide, they will be sooner, not later.

—Marvel Scholl



Militant Photo by J. H.

THE LATIN AMERICAN PICTURE. Under Wall Street domination, poverty in Latin America has grown increasingly acute. In every major city large number of workers live in hovels. This is one of Rio de Janeiro's "favelas" or shantytowns. Dark stains on cliff are caused by sewage from shacks perched precariously on top of hill.

10 YEARS AGO
IN THE MILITANT

"On Dec. 11, the UN's Economic and Financial Committee approved a resolution affirming the right of any nation to nationalize its resources and develop them under government ownership. The resolution, pushed by Bolivia and Iran, two colonial nations that have expropriated foreign capital in their principal resources, is intended to encourage other nations to follow this example.

"Thirty-one nations voted for the resolution. This group was made up mainly of the colonial countries and the Soviet bloc, plus Yugoslavia. Nineteen countries, including Britain and the Commonwealth bloc, abstained. One nation voted against the resolution. That nation was the United States.

"The whole development, an important sign of the times, shows two things quite clearly. First of all, it indicates the enormous force behind the movement for nationalization of industry and towards the destruction of the capitalist system in this epoch... Secondly, it shows quite clearly just where the U.S. government stands in the world constellation of forces." — Dec. 29, 1952.

20 YEARS AGO

"Chairman Jesse Jones of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation announced through a special report to Congress on Dec. 15 that the RFC's expenditure for the war had reached the total of 18 billion dollars, an increase of 6 billions since last March.

"While Jones failed to publish a complete breakdown showing just how the money was spent, the few figures he did release indicate that the bulk of these billions is being used to construct new plant facilities for the big monopolies — at the expense of the government.

"In a report of RFC activities made public last winter, the Truman Senate Committee revealed some of the details of RFC grants to the monopolies and charged that as a result:

"The capital expenditures for plant improvements for defense purposes will ultimately provide the contracting corporations with some of the newest and finest machine tools and factory buildings practically free of charge." — Dec. 26, 1942.

Letters From Our Readers

Ceylon Students Abroad

London, England

Congratulations and solidarity with your courageous and principled defense of the Cuban Socialist Revolution.

The stand of militant American Socialism taken in the best traditions of international solidarity, in the teeth of what must have been a formidable build-up of war hysteria, is one of the great sources of optimism for the forward movement of the world socialist struggle. It is particularly encouraging to us, the colonial peoples, now in the frontline of the battles with imperialism.

Your complete reportage of the statements of Castro and the Revolutionary Government are, I believe, unique in the press of the English-speaking world.

Your firm and clear position on the Indo-Chinese border dispute was also much appreciated — especially as chauvinism and confused sentimentality overtook practically the whole of the conventional Left in the United Kingdom and the colonial countries, with a few notable exceptions. This, however, has had the salutary effect of separating out the international socialists from the social-patriots and social-imperialists who have panicked at the prospect of sharpened class struggle.

Your excellent article on the Negro struggles (of great significance to colonial countries, whose national bourgeoisie use the oppression of racial minorities as one of their most powerful weapons) and on peaceful co-existence have also been applauded for combining clear Marxist perspective and a fighting programme with fresh imagination much needed in the world Socialist movement today.

In anticipation of the next and further issues,

With fraternal greetings,

On behalf of the Ceylon Socialist Students' Association in the United Kingdom.

N. Perera

'Prosperity of Fools'

Filmore, Utah

The following is the text of a letter I sent to President Kennedy: "Due to the stress of world tensions please permit me to voice a few thoughts.

"Holy writ warns: 'Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.' Also, 'The prosperity of fools shall destroy them.'

"Suppose we aggravate the Berlin and Cuban situations until Russia, whether justified or not, directs its first bombs at our national capital and our source of financial supply, Wall Street.

I am not too well informed regarding Berlin, but as for little Cuba, where is our national conscience and honor?

A. C. Gregerson

Disagrees on USSR

New York, N.Y.

I like your paper because it is against capitalism, but I don't see how you can consider the regime that put down a workers' rebellion in Hungary a "workers' state."

D.G.

[The Militant supported the Hungarian Revolution which was an attempt to achieve workers' democracy and national independence on the basis of the existing social gains of nationalization and planning. We denounced the Kremlin's brutal suppression of that workers' revolution.

In characterizing social systems and states, however, we endeavor to choose terms on a scientific rather than an emotional basis. Thus for many years we have characterized the Soviet Union as a *degenerated workers' state* because the basic gains of the October Revolution — nationalized economy and planning — have survived despite the growth of an economically privileged bureaucracy which politically expropriated the Soviet workers.

We make a similar evaluation of a situation in the U.S. workers' movement. There are a number of trade unions so bureaucratized

and corrupt that the members have little or no control over officials or policies. These leaderships, moreover, frequently sell out the members' interests and even break strikes of their own rank and file (so-called wildcats) and the strikes of other unions. Are such organizations still unions, i.e., workers' organizations? We consider them *degenerated workers' organizations*. While they must be defended when they come into conflict with the employers, we urge the rank and file to replace the corrupt, bureaucratic leaders with militant ones fighting for a program in their interests and to establish genuine workers' democracy within the organization. So, too, with the *degenerated workers states*. EDITOR.]

A Financial Plan

Ferndale, Mich.

The \$7.8-billion federal deficit need not kill all hope of a tax cut. The millions in federal tax money being donated to cities for urban renewal should be in the form of loans. Collateral might be in the form of mortgages on tax anticipations.

The interest on the mortgage loans could pay off the deficit and yet enable a tax cut. We might as well do it this way because each dollar extracted from the U.S. Treasury must be replaced with \$1.29. Better six per cent on mortgage loans than 29 per cent on grants.

George P. Kingston

The Lies About Cuba

Cleveland, Ohio

Sensible Americans should be disgusted by the continuous press reports that Cuba is suffering an internal crisis.

All the available facts show

there is a steady improvement in the way of life of the Cuban people. This is no crisis.

The claim of a crisis in Cuba is promoted by the former exploiters of the Cuban people in this country as well as by the Cuban exiles who, under Batista, owed their allegiance to the foreign exploiters who robbed the Cubans. It is well these people are out of Cuba. It is regrettable that such scoundrels have support here.

Joseph Manlet

A Suggestion

Mason, Ohio

In addition to publishing letters from readers, might it not be a good idea to invite readers to send in their questions and thoughts even if they don't wish to have them published? I know this may seem unnecessary, but there is a problem of timidity with many people and probably would particularly apply to new readers who might be reluctant to write if they felt their letter was intended for publication.

H.C.

Not So Loud, Please

Los Angeles, Calif.

George Orwell may have been a bit off time-wise when he predicted that in 1984 Big Brother would be listening. He may be doing so already.

The *Public Relations Reporter* says that a lot of business executives are worried about a pocket recording device so small that it can be easily concealed in a visitor's vest pocket.

They say the device will pick up a whisper 15 feet away without any visible microphone. It's transistor-operated, has a two-hour tape and costs less than \$100.

"Soft-Spoken"

Thought for the Week

"... though it is not the sort of thing U.S. officials discuss, Castro is presumably correct in complaining that aerial photography has provided plenty of data to guide a bit of sabotage, if needed to keep the Cuban economy in a long, lingering mess." — Washington correspondent Henry Gemmill in the Dec. 20 *Wall Street Journal*.

...Algerian War Orphans in Desperate Need

(Continued from Page 1)
later. One of her hands is missing. The children tried not to make Ounissa feel bad at the knitting lessons which were given to teach them something useful. It was Ounissa herself, however, who solved the problem. By holding one of the needles in her toes she learned to knit almost as well as the others. Everyone was very proud of her. To make it easier, she was given boy's trousers to wear.

At the edge of a patch of ground ivy, which substitutes for lawns in climates like this, our guide stopped us. "The area here may be mined," he said. He pointed to wires rusting on the damp soil under the ivy. "The children are forbidden to come here."

"And do they obey?"

"Oh, yes, they are very good."

In many little ways, we saw how co-operative these children are. Despite bunks and cots being crowded tightly together in room after room, neatness and cleanliness were first rate. At the dinner table, despite the hubbub, the older children took care of the younger ones. I watched two of them handle a tiny one who had fallen asleep, cheek in his plate.

Lack Skills

In Eastern Algeria, I was told, the Yugoslavs sent several prefabricated school houses. One was transported to an area where some orphans had been gathered together. However, not a single carpenter or mechanic could be found to put up the school or oversee the work. As in the rest of Algeria, most of the skills were monopolized by the French. They left in a mass exodus. The orphans themselves, organized by their teacher, put up the school, the fourteen-year-olds handling the heavy stuff. Even the eight-year-olds participated, organizing the supply of nails.

Returning to the entrance of the villa, we met Abderrahmane Naceur, general secretary of "El Djil El Djadid" (The New Generation), the association organized by the government to begin working on the problem of Algeria's war orphans. A thin, wiry young man, completely absorbed in his task, he reminded me of the dedicated revolutionists of the July 26 Movement whom I met in Cuba.

As he told me about the orphans, an aged sedan pulled up. It brought two children, a girl under twelve and her younger brother.

The girl, pitifully emaciated, her legs more bone than flesh, stood in the gravel driveway awkwardly clutching the basket in which she had brought her possessions. Despite her brave front, her great black eyes looked frightened. The three children who had greeted us ran to welcome her, kissing her on both cheeks. The child suddenly broke into tears, her sobs quickly becoming almost convulsive, as if she could not control herself.

Naceur told me Ghania's story.

In one of their mad blood-lettings, a gang of OAS terrorists butchered more than 150 longshoremen on the docks of Algiers. Ghania's father was among them. For a while, the mother struggled on, then died. Ghania became one of the children of this city who haunt the restaurants and coffee houses, hand outstretched.

In a TV broadcast, Naceur asked for help from the audience, especially the poor who have keen feelings about such things. A day later, a man, still moved by the appeal, did more than respond with a coin to the thin hand that touched his arm as he sat at a sidewalk table. He talked with the child. Scarcely knowing how to act toward such a strange adult, Ghania took him to the hole in the Casbah where she kept her small brother Amar. The man told her about the villa in the Hydra district where there were other children like her and where she could find a home and adults who would love her and little Amar. We were there when she found out that what he had said was really true.

Ghania was told to leave her basket in the driveway. She put it down, her cheeks running with tears, and was led inside by the other children, still sobbing. The rags she came in would be burned. After a bath, dressed in clean warm clothes, a new life would open.

"It is better when they cry like that," said Naceur. "It helps them to get rid of the things they feel." He lifted up the ragged clothing on top of Ghania's basket. Underneath were four or five large chunks of bread and a brown spiral cardboard container, probably of kitchen cleanser although it was hard to tell since the label was missing. Naceur picked up the container, studied it briefly and, in a bitter gesture, threw it on the gravel beside the basket.

No Census

The following evening I talked with Naceur and others of the staff for several hours. I began by asking, "What about the problem as a whole in Algeria? Could you give me some figures to indicate what you are up against? The thing is that the American people don't know anything about the real needs here; and while *The Militant* doesn't reach a wide audience, still we can help start the process of informing them."

He seemed at a loss as to where to begin. "Well, unfortunately we lack exact figures. No census has been taken, you know. But we can approach it like this: There are eleven to twelve million people in Algeria. About fifty-three per cent are under twenty years of age. Half of these need help. At least two million children and youths need immediate help. A minimum of one hundred thousand are desperate. They have no food, no shelter. They are homeless."

The story of what Algeria's children face after almost eight



ONE VICTIM OF MANY. One of the thousands of Algerian independence fighters murdered by the neo-fascist French Secret Army. Total Algerian casualties in nearly eight years of war for liberation is estimated to total more than one million in a Moslem population of nine million.

years of colonial war should be pondered by every American who has any feeling at all for humanity. Here it is in brief, as the general secretary and staff members of El Djil El Djadid gave me the facts:

The campaign of terror waged by the OAS was only the continuation of seven years of the "dirty" war waged by the French imperialist forces. In one operation, the French army systematically combed villages for anyone suspected of leading freedom fighters in the area or even of being capable of leading them. These were shot. Thousands died that way.

More often, the French were not so selective. They wiped out villages by the thousand, using napalm. This material, jellied gasoline, sticks to the flesh as it flames. The eyes are particularly vulnerable to the fierce heat. Many Algerian children were victims of this form of aid "Made in the USA" which the Eisenhower and Kennedy administrations freely and generously granted their French allies.

Broken Homes

Sectors of the population fled before the French to Tunisia and Morocco. Families were inevitably broken up by these movements as well as by the demands of the freedom struggle all over Algeria. Today tens of thousands of vagabond children roam the countryside. They eat anything that might deaden the pain in their stomachs. At night it is bitterly cold in arid regions even at sea level. In the mountains the snow can be seen from Algiers on a clear day. For shelter, these homeless children crawl into caves, or holes covered with a few bales of straw, or find similarly wretched cover; but many of them do little, acting as if stupefied.

Along the frontiers of Morocco and Tunisia the French army erected tangles of electrified barbed wire to wall off Algeria from the freedom fighters who sought to bring in arms. To make these walls of wire invulnerable, the French planted millions of mines.

Years, perhaps decades from now, Algerians will still be blown up by these mines "Made in USA" as they seek to bring the land back into production. Right now the

minefields are particularly deadly for orphans. The iron stakes to which the barbed wire is attached can be sold for fifty francs (about ten cents). The wire, too, brings a little. If you dismantle a mine, the lead and copper are saleable. Children, desperately hungry, take their chances. Some die quickly. Others more slowly bleed to death. Mangled children sometimes manage to make it to a hospital where they undergo rude amputation. Casualties are currently averaging ten a day.

Mental Casualties

Besides the physical casualties, there are mental casualties. Many children have seen raids carried out at gun point. They have seen homes and stores blown up by plastic bombs. They have seen an adult trash about like a stricken animal on the sidewalk, blood pulsing from a deep gash in the throat. These things were done by both sides in the years of civil war. Today gangs of children possess arms which they have stolen and which they do not hesitate to use the way they saw grownups use them. In strife-torn Algeria they became premature adults of modern civilization.

"A girl woke up screaming the other night," said Naceur. "We asked her what was the matter. It was a nightmare. She said, 'Blood! Blood! Blood!' It is curious that problems of this kind come to the fore after a child begins to feel security. They need an immense amount of affection."

The Algerians can do little for the moment. The economy is prostrate. Shelves are empty. Farms, businesses have been abandoned on all sides — eight per cent of the plants were shut down. As they got out of the country, the colons transferred their bank accounts. The public treasury is empty, some employees not having been paid for as long as four months. And France, apparently counting on a general collapse, is playing the cruel game of cat and mouse.

Some food is distributed. Some centers have been set up to which children can be brought. But it is only a bare beginning. The next few months may exact a fearful toll.

An emergency appeal was made in Algiers for three thousand pieces of clothing. This amount

could not be found in the poverty-stricken city. An effort is now underway to set up emergency shops to make clothing — but this requires sewing machines. Where can you get those in this part of the world?

I asked Naceur to specify in what way Americans might help.

"Besides children's clothing," he said, "we need food. Canned stuff like corned beef, jams, sugar, powdered milk — anything concentrated. We need first-aid supplies — bandages, gauze, the elementary things. Send us soap. We need school supplies like pencils, paper, notebooks, materials for arts and crafts."

"For the older children we have a special problem which Americans could help us a lot with. They need to learn trades but we don't have the tools to equip classes. We need saws and hammers and pliers and things like that."

Want Trades

"We have orphans trying to learn to be cooks and painters and gardeners by what they can do at centers like this. Here one is even trying plumbing. Forty-eight others want to learn a trade but they must first learn to read and write. Our illiteracy rate under the French was ninety per cent."

"Some of the special things we need are artificial legs and arms and hands and feet. It would be wonderful, too, if some of the American hospitals, which are skilled in handling war casualties, would take some of our cases for treatment and training."

"And how should aid be handled?" I asked. "Have any organizations been set up?"

Naceur was somewhat doubtful. "I think some religious groups have been sending aid to Algeria and we have received promises. Our brother Arab countries are helping, but the orphan problem is so big that we need major aid immediately."

"What should we do?"

"Let me give you an address. Whatever is sent here, you can be absolutely sure, will go to the orphans."

The address he wrote down for me is as follows:

**Association El Djil El Djadid
Haut Mont D'Hydra
Chemin de la Madeleine
Algiers, Algeria**

Ben Bella Appeals For Fraternal Aid

In a major address Dec. 4 on the difficult situation faced by Algeria, Ben Bella made the following appeal for help:

"We turn toward our brother peoples and friends who, during the long years of our struggle, did not hold back their material aid and moral support. I say to them today: Martyred Algeria needs you more than yesterday at a time when she begins the stage of reconstruction. This appeal is addressed first of all, it goes without saying, to our brother Arab peoples; next to all the friendly countries who wish to stand at the side of Algeria in this hard battle without putting any political conditions on their aid."

The first to respond was the United Arab Republic. Nasser's government announced it was making a loan to Algeria of ten million Egyptian pounds. The 12-year loan is interest-free. It is to be paid back in installments beginning in two years.

Gov't Sets an Example

In telling the Algerian people quite frankly how difficult the situation is in the newly independent country, the Ben Bella government called for "austerity."

Unlike most such appeals, however, this one began by setting a good example.

Mohammed Khider, general secretary of the Political Bureau, announced over television Dec. 4 that the ceiling for top government salaries has been lowered to \$300 to \$400 a month — no exceptions.

In addition, committees are to be set up to clean out office holders who act as if the government payroll were a racket.

The committees will include representatives from the trade unions, women's and students' organizations and other formations that participated in the struggle for freedom.

Final approval on removing anyone, however, must be made by the Political Bureau.

Columnist Tells Off Prosecutor

By Ed Beecher

Richard Starnes, columnist for the conservative *Scripps-Howard* newspaper chain, wrote on Nov. 27 in defense of William Worthy's right to visit Cuba without a passport. J. Walter Yeagley, Assistant Attorney General of the Department of Justice, attacked Starnes' stand in a letter printed in the Dec. 12 *Washington News*.

Yeagley's main argument was that "freedom of the press bears certain restrictions and that a newsman's freedom to travel may be subject to reasonable limitations imposed by the Secretary of State in the national interest," and that Worthy had "deliberately violated travel restrictions" of the McCarran Act.

Yeagley, however, didn't answer a single point raised in Starnes' column and demagogically evaded the facts of the case. The columnist had advanced arguments based on the fundamental constitutional rights of freedom of the press and of the right to travel.

Worthy, a native-born American and a star reporter for the *Baltimore Afro-American*, was arrested and convicted for returning to the U.S. without a passport. He is the first person ever to be tried on this charge. Thus, his conviction, unless overturned by a higher court, sets an ominous precedent for civil liberties.

In his original article Starnes had charged that "all the power of the government was being used to imprison an American reporter who has the temerity to write things contrary to the popular orthodoxy" and that Worthy was "convicted and sentenced to prison because of what he wrote about Cuba, not because of any technical violation of the law." He backed up this charge by pointing out that Worthy was not arrested when he returned from Cuba but six months later, after his series on Cuba had been printed.

"Many people, including hund-

reds of refugee Cubans and dozens of boozy American tourists enter the country without passport," he wrote. Moreover, while Worthy was indicted, other "authorized" and "approved" writers and newspapermen were given passports to go to Cuba and China.

In a column of rebuttal to Assistant Attorney General Yeagley's letter, Starnes wrote on Dec. 12, "It is true the court held that a newsman's freedom to travel may be subject to reasonable limitations imposed by the Secretary of State in the national interests. This is at the heart of the Worthy case. The Government held it was contrary to the national interest to travel in mainland China just as it has, in effect, held in respect to Cuba. But the Government has also held it is permissible for other journalists to travel in Communist China."

Conscientious

It is significant that a nationally syndicated columnist takes up Worthy's case. No one has ever accused Starnes of being a liberal or leftist. But apparently he is a conscientious enough reporter to resent invasion of newspapermen's freedom to report — and to travel to get a story. He says, "I have, for example, tried solving the riddle of Communist China from Hong Kong, and it cannot be done. No more can Cuba be covered from Miami or Guantanamo."

Moreover, he has the courage to take the rest of the U.S. press to task for its neglect of this key case. As he said at the close of his Nov. 27 column, "With few exceptions American newspapers have sedulously avoided coming to grips with the mischievous and potentially destructive implications of this case. An ordinarily skeptical observer must conclude that it is either the hue of Worthy's skin or of his opinions (or possibly both) that has muted the majestic indignation of the free press in this instance."

... Major Shift Is Seen in U.S. Nuclear Policy

(Continued from Page 1)

I don't think that we expected that he (Khrushchev) would put missiles in Cuba, because it would have seemed such an imprudent action for him to take, as it was later proved. Now, he obviously must have thought that he could do it in secret and that the United States would accept it. So that he did not judge our intentions accurately."

Presumably this lack of communication has since been corrected. The public has no means of knowing the exact nature of the correspondence carried on between Khrushchev and Kennedy since the height of the Cuban crisis. There is even talk of a direct wire between the Kremlin and the White House to avoid similar miscalculations of a kind that could invite nuclear disaster.

But there is enough objective evidence to indicate at least a tentative understanding on some basic policy questions. Specifically, on the matter of the "balance of nuclear power" issue, Washington and Moscow seem to be acting in concert to discourage "proliferation" of nuclear powers, that is, to close the door to the admission of additional members to the exclusive two-power nuclear "club."

Skybolt

In this area, Washington has taken the initiative. That is the political significance of the decision to jettison the Skybolt missile project upon which Great Britain had relied to establish itself as an independent nuclear power. De Gaulle is under increasing pressure to abandon French efforts to effectively enter the nuclear club. The Paris correspondent of the *British New Statesman*, Anthony Verrier, writes in the Dec. 14 issue, on the recent NATO meeting. Washington, he observed, decided to "get really tough with Britain and West Germany, the two states giving the greatest aid and comfort to de Gaulle."

"The British and West German delegations were quickly and bluntly told," writes Verrier, "that unless agreement on western strategy was achieved as a prerequisite to a European détente with Khrushchev, U.S. nuclear and non-nuclear forces would be deployed on sea, land and air in accordance with U.S. strategy and no longer maintained in deference to West Europe's fears of Soviet aggression."

President Kennedy summed up the U.S. government view in his TV interview: "We don't want six

or seven nuclear powers in Europe diverting their funds to nuclear power, when the United States has got this tremendous arsenal. But if these countries want to do it, we are not stopping them from doing it. If the French decide they want to become a nuclear power themselves, that is their decision.

Question

"The question is whether the United States should join in helping make France a nuclear power, then Italy, then West Germany, then Belgium. How does that produce security when you have ten, 20, 30 nuclear powers who may fire off under different conditions. That isn't in our interest, or in my opinion in the interest of peace, or the interest of Western Europe. And it is awfully expensive."

So "awfully expensive," in fact, that no single one of the major capitalist powers of Europe can succeed without wrecking its economy. The recent Nassau meeting of Kennedy and Prime Minister Harold Macmillan endorsed the decision to junk Skybolt in exchange for a plan to provide Polaris missiles under multilateral control of the NATO powers BUT with the ultimate decision resting with Washington.

Walter Lippman puts the issue quite bluntly: "The direction of the nuclear power of the Western world," he asserts, "is like driving a car on a hair-raising mountain road. Only one can sit at the wheel. Others in the car can help to decide, before he starts, whether to take the mountain road or to seek a safer though longer one."

"One Driver"

"But once the road is chosen — once the objective, the policy, the strategic plan have been agreed to by consultation as a shared responsibility — there can be only one driver at the wheel. And while the other passengers may not wholly like him, whether or not they think he is a very good driver, it is still safer for all concerned than if there were two or three drivers, trying to grab the steering wheel at the same time."

And, of course, Lippman considers it self-evident that the one at the wheel should be none than Uncle Sam. Washington is not alone in "getting tough" with recalcitrant partners. Khrushchev's recent foreign policy speech, preceded by a sharpening of the division in the Soviet bloc, was the harshest public attack yet levelled at Peking.

From the beginning, Moscow's policy has been one of strict adherence to the line of opposing nuclear proliferation within the Soviet sphere. Cuba would seem to be a departure from that doctrine but in actuality the Kremlin retained full control over the rockets, missile sites and personnel on Cuban soil.

There is little doubt that much of the dissension at the root of the embittered controversy between Moscow and Peking arose from the Kremlin's refusal to aid in the development of Chinese nuclear power. Even more, for a number of years now, Russian economic aid to China has dwindled to a mere trickle. Khrushchev's policy, also, is based on the axiom that "there can be only one driver at the wheel."

In his interview, Kennedy noted with approval those sections of Khrushchev's speech flaying the Chinese and Albanians for allegedly advocating nuclear war as the only means of resolving cold-war disputes.

Sees Choice

"Now I do think in fairness," said Kennedy, "if you read his speech this week, you can see that we would be far worse off — the world would be — if the Chinese dominated the Communist movement, because they believe in war as the means of bringing about the Communist world."

The irresponsible retailing of such canards is not the least of the disservices that Khrushchev does to the socialist movement. It provides grist to the imperialist propaganda mill and serves as a cover for an intensified assault upon the Chinese Revolution.

The entire world recoiled in horror at the suicidal implication of nuclear annihilation present in the confrontation of the two major nuclear powers at the height of the Cuban crisis. This has occasioned a major shift in U.S. military policy. Recognizing that there can be no victors in a nuclear war, there is apparent a concerted attempt being made to bridle the nuclear Frankenstein. That is all to the good. But does it mean that such an accommodation will lead to lasting peace? Not at all. It merely seeks to make the means commensurate with some attainable end. Some of the reasons behind the attempted shift to conventional warfare will be discussed in a subsequent article.

(First of two articles on new world situation)



Next week the winners of *The Militant* subscription campaign will be announced in this column. To refresh your memory we are awarding, as first prize, an autographed copy of James P. Cannon's new book, *The First Ten Years of American Communism*. Second prize is the 1962 bound volume of *The Militant*. Last, but certainly not least, is the 1957 thru 1960 bound volume of the *International Socialist Review*. Each of these prizes offers the winner a rich history of the socialist movement.

Go-Getters

As of today we have the following people listed as tops in their field as *Militant* salespeople: Detroit — Art. F., 25 and Harriet T., 25; Connecticut — Bill, 25; Chicago — Beverly, 22; Twin Cities — Paul, 21; Bloomington — Jim, 18. I'm sure there are others who have been selling subscriptions during this campaign whose names have not yet been sent to this office. Please let us have all information concerning your best sub-getters. We are very anxious to announce the first, second and third-place winners and we want to send their well-deserved prizes to them as soon as possible.

Even though we are nearing the end of the subscription drive, we know that those who appreciate the value of our *Militant* will not cease their efforts to obtain new readers.

Climatology and its relationship to the growth-rate of our new sub lists would make an in-

teresting study but since it would require too much space let us merely observe that those living in a warm climate are evidently hampered by an overpowering feeling of lethargy. While, according to our figures, those who live in colder climates — Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Connecticut, for example — are inclined toward more energetic, enduring activity. This explanation is about as good as we could think of at this time. We have not made a deep study as you can see, so we would appreciate hearing from anyone who can put more light on the subject.

Remember to send in the names of your top sub-getters this week.

Area	Quota	Subs	Pct.
Bloomington	10	41	410
Detroit	100	157	157
Connecticut	30	44	149
Baltimore	10	14	140
Boston	25	33	132
New York	150	184	123
Chicago	90	109	121
San Diego	30	36	120
Oakland-Berkeley	75	84	112
Twin Cities	100	110	110
Milwaukee	25	24	96
St. Louis	10	9	90
Newark	15	12	80
San Francisco	75	42	56
Philadelphia	75	35	47
Akron-Cleveland	75	27	36
Los Angeles	150	48	32
Seattle	75	18	24
Denver	50	8	16
General	30	67	223
Total through Dec. 26th	1,200	1,103	92%

It Was Reported in the Press

Deliberated Speed? — On the fourteenth anniversary of adoption of the Genocide Convention by the UN, the American Jewish Congress wired Kennedy that "we deplore the tendency in recent years to use these occasions for pietistic declarations on behalf of human rights in principle while continuing to do nothing about them in practice." The 1948 Genocide Convention brands the mass murder of racial, religious or ethnic groups an international crime. It has been ratified by 64 countries. The U.S. has never ratified it.

Tough-Situation Dep't — "Union Miniere du Haut-Katanga, a major mining concern in secessionist Katanga Province, the Congo, announced in Brussels that it won't declare an interim dividend on 1962 earnings." — The Dec 17 *Wall Street Journal*.

Last, Desperate Resort — "The firm which pays a tax may not bear the final tax burden. A firm may be able to shift the burden of a cost-raising tax to its customers via higher prices. . . . Or the firm may shift the tax burden back to its suppliers by paying less for materials . . . or to labor by reducing the rate of increase in wages and fringe benefits or by

increasing the work pace. Lastly, the tax may not be shifted at all but remain as a tax on corporation profits . . ." — The Dec. 14 *Washington Report of the Chamber of Commerce*.

News of the Week — A headline in the Dec. 19 *Christian Science Monitor* announced: "Tax Exemptions Mean Money."

Ideals — After four of ten scheduled performances, the Baylor Theater production of Eugene O'Neill's Pulitzer prize-winning play *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, was cancelled on orders of the president of Baylor University of which the theater is a part. The president of the Texas institution of higher learning acted after protests from Baptist ministers. He said "it is felt that the language of the play is not in keeping with the university ideals."

Santa's Tin Box? — A poll of 100 Congressional wives disclosed that in their circle money was the most given Xmas gift last year.

That Does It — On a number of occasions we have noted in this column the various Xmas bargains being offered by Tiffany's. But on Dec. 20 the company offered a pair of earrings for \$19,250 and

we finally realized the whole thing was a stunt to get free publicity in *The Militant*. We will not report any more of Tiffany's specials this season.

Separator — Chicago's Pump Room is requiring a \$100 check with New Year's Eve reservations "to separate the men from the boys." And the suckers from their cash?

Socialized Land Leasing — At a recent federal lease sale of public land, the Socony Mobil Oil Co. acquired the major interest in a 2,500-acre block of oil and gas land in the Mississippi Delta area. This brings Mobil's offshore acquisitions in the Gulf of Mexico this year to 95,765 net acres.

Of Books and Bombs — Baltimore-area public libraries experienced a sharp increase in the use of their facilities during the height of the Cuban crisis. One branch librarian reported: "All of the books from this branch on Latin America, books on radiation and much pamphlet material on civil defense soon was borrowed."

With a Ghoulish Dinner? — A Vancouver cemetery advertises its chapel as just the place to rent for a nice wedding.

Dockers Shut Atlantic Ports In Strike Against Job Loss

In spite of the Taft-Hartley 80 day "cooling off" period, and a personal request from Kennedy to delay their strike by another 90 days, the 75,000 members of the International Longshoremen's Association shut down ports from Maine to Texas on Dec. 23. The strike is a continuation of one that began Oct. 1 which was halted by Kennedy with a Taft-Hartley injunction.

Negotiations, which began last June, never even got to the issues of wages and benefits. The snag in the negotiations has been the insistence by the New York Shipping Association that the minimum size of the work gang be reduced from 20 to 17 men, and that other measures of "efficiency" be introduced. The ILA said that it will not "negotiate our men" out of work. Inroads have already been made on ILA work forces by automation and other technical advances, and the owners' demands for speed-up and more "rational" use of the work force would further cut employment.

Kennedy proposed that the workers remain on the job 90 more days while two government committees were set up, one to "study" the disputed question of "manpower utilization" and the other to recommend settlements on

all other issues. The ILA replied that the proposal "would be taking away our rights to collective bargaining and putting the matter in the hands of persons who are not familiar with the industry..." The shipowners rejected a proposal by the ILA that the issue of the size of work gangs be set aside for one year in order to reach a settlement.

According to the ILA, six maritime unions have pledged support of the strike and will walk off ships tied up in struck ports. The Teamsters have also declared their support.

Shipowners Prepared

The shipowners prepared for the strike with accelerated schedules during the last hours before the strike deadline. Passenger lines canceled their voyages, and no liners were even scheduled to enter the port of New York during the first week of the strike. U.S. Line canceled sailings of the *United States* and the *America*, and have sent the *United States* into the Newport, Va., drydock. This de-activation was widely viewed as a sign that the owners were preparing for a long strike.

But Thomas W. Gleason, chief negotiator for the ILA, said that the owners are "very weak" and "we'll lick 'em fast."

...New York Printers Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

package precedent was worked out. In a word, it was unity.

The publishers' ability to get a Guild package was due to the Guild's earlier contract expiration date — Oct. 31 — before the other crafts on Dec. 7. Although asked by the other unions, the Guild, for its own reasons, would not change its expiration date to a common one with the other crafts.

The Officers Committee for Newspaper Union Unity, as it was called, arrived at a formulation of unity last October. Since each union needed and expected the help of the others, it had an obligation to the others not to sign a contract unless it was satisfactory to all. It was assumed that a majority vote would prevail in the committee so that one or two unions could not block a contract satisfactory to the majority.

Mass Rally

This was agreed to by all the unions including the Guild. An unprecedented mass meeting of all ten unions overflowed Manhattan Center last Oct. 14 to hear this unity spelled out by each of the leaders of the ten unions. Plans in the event of a strike, were formulated.

Most important, plans for a city-wide labor daily, to be run by the striking workers themselves, electrified the various craft workers.

The Guild contract expired Oct. 31, and that union struck one paper, the *Daily News*. It settled eight days later for \$8 to be paid over a two-year span. The Guild settled against the wishes of the other crafts who didn't want this kind of package. The Officers Committee for Newspaper Union Unity refused to release the Guild from its pledge. Nevertheless, the Guild signed.

Obviously the Guild leadership did not expect the typographical workers newspaper union to strike on Dec. 7. Having already accepted a new contract, the Guild could gain nothing further. Union officials would still have to pay benefits to their members if there was a strike. And if the striking unions' settlement should be larger than the Guild package, the Guild leadership would be the

target of some embarrassing questioning.

With the Guild having signed against the wishes of the other crafts, plans for a labor daily disappeared. Nevertheless, the Guild did pledge to respect the picket line and the unity of the ten unions is being maintained on this basis.

Admission

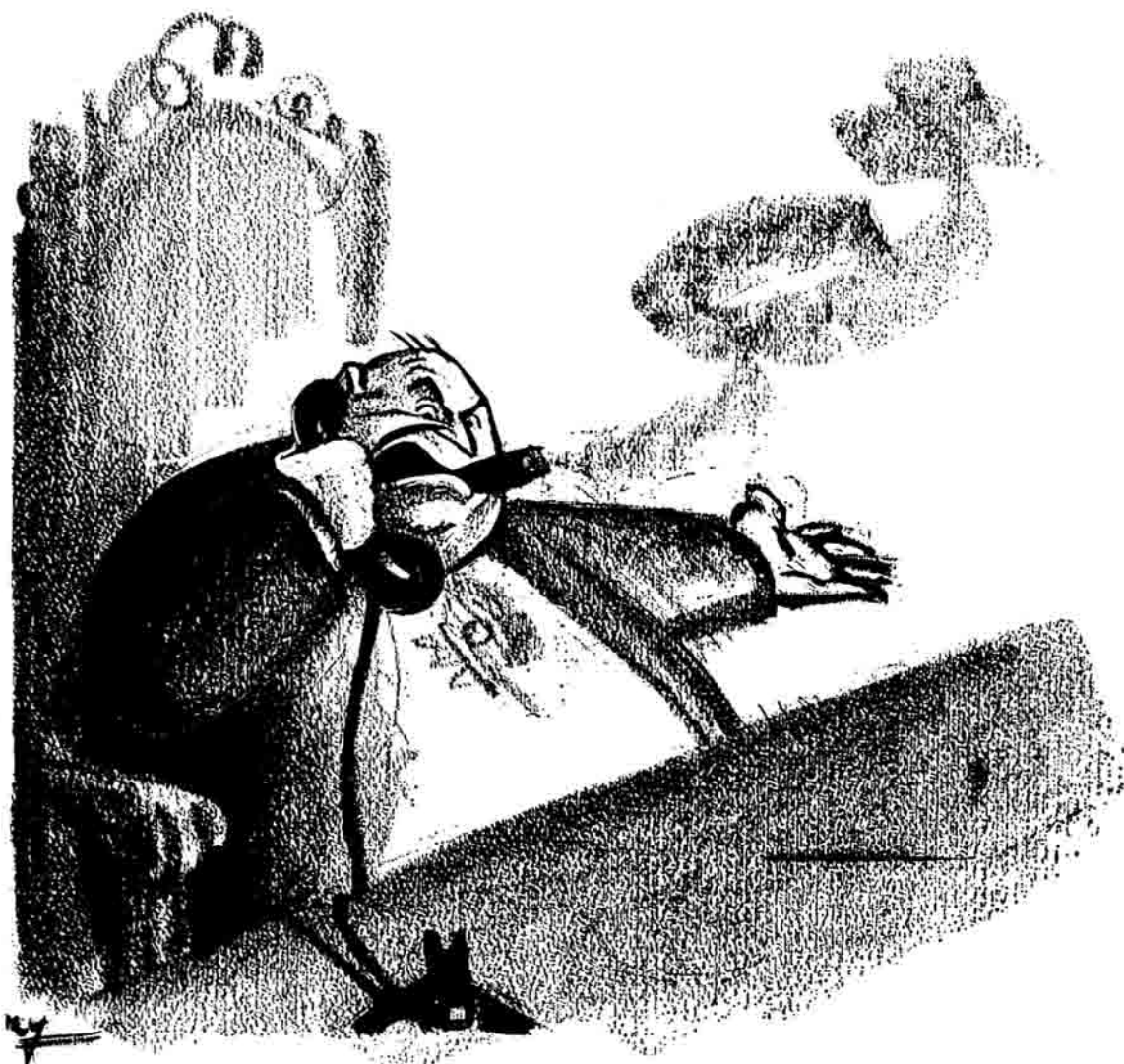
The publishers have tacitly admitted in a public statement, printed as an advertisement Dec. 24, that the Guild package was to be applied to all the crafts and they argue against the printers' demands by claiming they would set an exorbitant pattern for all the other unions.

"A settlement on the basis of the newspapers' proposal, if applied to all unions involved, would create the serious problem of meeting a boost in employment costs of more than \$9 million a year. The demands over which ITU No. 6 has struck would more than quadruple this increase in costs to \$40 million a year."

Seeking to divide the crafts, the same Publishers' Association statement says that: "Shortly before ITU No. 6 struck, a tentative agreement in the same dollar area had been reached with the negotiators for the deliverers. Agreements also were near with several other craft unions." Employer propaganda since the strike has sought to picture the Guild as "responsible" in contrast to the "irresponsible" ITU.

Bosses' Dream

The employers hope to fish in troubled waters. It is their dream to break the solidarity of the crafts. They dream of a long-drawn-out strike and a back-to-work movement via the return of two or three key crafts plus use of new processes which would replace typos. This all flows from their Boulwarism. However the militant, spirited and determined Big Six picket lines, manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week despite the foulest kind of weather, is the workers' answer to the employers' dream. This militancy on the line, plus the continued indomitable unity of the "ten," is the guarantee that the workers will win.



No, I don't practice discrimination, but how many janitor jobs do you think there are around here?

U.S. Uses Weight To Bar Cuba Trip

Two years ago, after the Fair Play for Cuba Committee's Christmas trip to Cuba, the State Department imposed a ban on travel to Cuba by U.S. citizens. The claimed purpose of the ban was to "protect" Americans. The real and obvious purpose was and is to prevent the people of the United States from going to Cuba and seeing for themselves what is really happening there.

There were many students who went to Cuba on the Fair Play trip and on other trips. What they had to report about the actual situation in Cuba conflicted sharply with the stories in the U.S. press and with Washington's pronouncements. Too many travellers were coming back with their eyes opened to the real nature of imperialism to suit the State Department. The Kennedy administration, with plans of its own for Cuba, does not want the American people informed of the truth about Cuba.

Trip Planned

This year a group of students planned to go to Cuba over the Christmas holidays in defiance of the travel ban. They wanted to see for themselves what this "enemy" is really like. The Cuban Federation of Students extended a cordial invitation to all U.S. students to visit Cuba, and had arranged to have a plane pick up the students in Toronto.

At the last minute the Canadian government, under pressure from the United States, refused to grant a landing permit to the Cuban plane, thus forcing the cancellation of the trip.

The response to the proposed trip on the nation's campuses, and the extensive coverage it received in the campus press, demonstrated the interest among American students in the trip and in Cuba.

The U.S. government has once again shown its fear of the truth about Cuba by seeing to it that these students could not break the State Department's unconstitutional restriction on the right to travel.

Young Rights Fighters Move Against Michigan Job Bias

DETROIT, Dec. 15 — On Monday, Dec. 10, a number of young Detroit supporters of the Southern-based Student Non-Violent Co-ordinating Committee formed a local action group. This militant unit, called the Negro Action Committee, will strike directly against segregation in the city of Detroit. Its projects will be marked by precise goals which are not subject to compromise. Its techniques will be as fresh and as bold as those which SNCC and other civil-rights organizations have employed in the South.

The Negro Action Committee is particularly interested in those businesses that dare continue discriminatory hiring policies while engaging in extensive trade with Negro citizens. In discussing the first contemplated project of the newly-formed group, John Watson, chairman, made the following statement:

"The Detroit Bank of the Commonwealth is a conspicuous example of the Jim Crow hiring system which is keeping Negroes in an economically inferior position. Several Commonwealth branches do over 70 per cent of their business with Negroes, yet the chain employs less than 30 Negroes in their work force of over 700. It should be emphasized that the overwhelming majority of these 30 Negro employees are maintenance help. During these times when unemployment is the plague of the Negro community, such a situation is inexcusable. The Commonwealth's attitude is in the nature of a deliberate insult to Negro people in Detroit."

The NAC is currently reviewing the history of the repeated attempts of civil-rights organizations to force the bank to change its policy. The membership feels that, in view of the repeated broken promises of bank officials and the constantly worsening position of Negroes with respect to job opportunities, the Bank of the Commonwealth cannot be given the benefit of the doubt. Charles W. Johnson Jr., chairman of the NAC, said this:

"The Negro Action Committee will shortly present the Commonwealth with unnegotiable demands. NAC will not begin by entering into endless discussions with the bank system, but will immediately initiate a non-violent direct action against the bank similar to the kind directed against racists in the South."

...Detroit NAACP

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eleven years. But when the nominating committee, controlled by the pro-Cavanagh forces, came in with its slate last month, Turner was dropped. In his place they nominated Ernest Shell, a businessman whom Cavanagh had appointed to one of his commissions.

At the nominating meeting Turner decided to resist. He was nominated from the floor and began to mobilize support. Among those who joined him against the Sheffield-Shell forces was the militant Rev. Albert B. Cleage, Jr., whose views are expressed in the *Illustrated News*. He has been termed the "hornet" of local Negro leadership.

Cleage made no effort to paint up Turner. He openly stated the changes are needed in the NAACP, but not the kind the Sheffield-Shell forces want. He called for an injection of new blood into the NAACP executive board as well as Turner's election, and he himself ran for the board.

Turner was elected by a two-to-one margin. Of the 24 board members, 14 were elected with support from both sides. In addition, the Turner-Cleage and the Sheffield-Shell forces each ran ten others on their slates, and each elected five of these. Cleage was among those elected.

The NAACP has beaten off a move that would have crippled it badly. But it still faces many serious problems which must be solved before it can become as effective as it should be.