

Johnson Presses Vietnam War In Defiance of World Opinion

THE MILITANT

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New York Cops Harass Malcolm X Supporters

By Harry Ring

NEW YORK — Members of the movement founded by Malcolm X have charged that they are the targets of continuing harassment by police officials who seem more intent on persecuting them than in solving the murder of the slain black-nationalist leader. Charges of police harassment have also been made by individuals sympathetic to Malcolm's movement, including supporters of *The Militant*.

The principal target of police persecution is Reuben Francis, a close associate of Malcolm X, who is charged with having shot Thomas Hagen, one of the accused assassins of Malcolm. Hagen was arrested outside the Audubon Ballroom after being shot in the leg.

Francis has been charged with felonious assault and possessing a gun in violation of the state Sullivan Law. He was released on \$10,000 bail after being held for 22 days.

A description of how his arrest climaxed a clearly defined course of police harassment was presented at a meeting of the Militant Labor Forum March 25, attended by nearly 200. The meeting heard Reuben Francis and James Shabazz, secretary to the late Malcolm X and now president of the Muslim Mosque, Inc.

Irrelevant Questions

That police officials supposedly investigating Malcolm's murder are doing things that have no legitimate relationship to such a probe is made clear by their treatment of supporters of *The Militant*.

Several weeks ago police appeared at the offices of *The Militant* and asked David Herman, who had written an account of the meeting at which Malcolm was killed, to come to headquarters for questioning. Herman said that he was perfectly willing to answer any questions that might help solve the crime but stated that he wished to have a witness present while being questioned. On hearing this, the police immediately lost interest in the idea and presented him with an already-prepared subpoena to appear before the grand jury.

Following this, two other supporters of *The Militant* who had been at the fateful Audubon Hall meeting were asked to come to police headquarters for questioning.

In a clear-cut attempt at intimidation, one of them was first phoned and then visited by the police at his place of work.

Both agreed to meet with the police but insisted on having a witness present. At the session with the cops they were asked questions about their political and organizational affiliations which clearly had no relation to the murder.



Reuben Francis

One was asked: "Do you belong to PLM [Progressive Labor Movement]?" "Do you belong to the Socialist Party?" Even though he was white he was also asked if he belonged to the Organization of Afro-American Unity.

The second *Militant* supporter was also asked if he belonged to "PLM" or the Socialist Party and also if he was a member of the Muslim Mosque, Inc., the OAAU or the Nation of Islam. He too is white.

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By George Saunders

MARCH 31 — Will Johnson and the American militarists utilize the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon as the pretext for a sudden new "escalation" of the war in Vietnam?

The answer is not clear as we go to press. But Johnson has already made it clear that in any event there will be no letup in the course he has pursued since early February — that is, steady expansion of the war, piling horror upon horror, with no end in sight. If it's left up to Johnson and Co., Americans and the rest of the world's population will continue to live under the immediate shadow of nuclear war.

Johnson is pursuing his course of naked aggression in Southeast Asia despite mounting opposition the world over. An American official in Saigon, quoted March 23 in the Paris *Le Figaro*, unabashedly expressed Washington's arrogant attitude: "We have shown that we are strong enough to do what we want without having to take international opinion into account."

World Revulsion

International revulsion against Johnson's war of atrocity is expressed even by governments allied to Washington. "To cross east Asia, India and the Soviet Union to this NATO capital [Paris] in Europe," writes *New York Times* editorial board member Robert Kleiman on March 29, "is to hear repeated questioning of the purposes and tactics of American policy." There is worry, he reports, of a major war. "And there is skepticism everywhere that the bombing by itself" can resolve the conflict.

Kleiman says the U.S. has been acquiring the image in Asia of "the white aggressor on colored soil." And in Europe and India State Department spokesmen have not been able to sell the U.S. line to top officials.

Even the Labour government of Prime Minister Wilson, which presides over British imperialist interests in Southeast Asia and is indebted to Washington for bailing it out of a currency crisis, is in trouble over its support of U.S. policy.

The independent British *Sun* on March 25 expressed the general mood: "Every day news from Vietnam is about American air raids, about tear gas, about napalm, and about still more hideous



AGAINST WAR. A student demonstration in New York's Washington Square protesting U.S. intervention in Vietnam. Such demonstrations throughout the country will be climaxed by national student demonstration in Washington April 17. See story page 8.

splinter bombs. Such horrors appall America's allies, they hand propaganda ammunition to America's foes, and they add to world tensions."

Wilson is under increasing fire from the Labour Party left wing for his failure to break with Johnson's Vietnam policy. This flared up in Parliament March 23 over the revelation of U.S. gas warfare and a statement by General Maxwell Taylor, the U.S. ambassador in Saigon.

Taylor was reported in the London *Daily Telegraph* to have declared, in a speech at the Saigon Lions Club, that there was no limit to the potential increase of the war in Vietnam. There are widespread fears that this may presage U.S. use of "tactical" nuclear weapons or war with China. Wilson is reported demanding explanations from Washington about Taylor's statement.

Taylor has returned to the U.S. for what the *New York Times* top

Washington correspondent, James Reston, described on March 28 as "another critical review" of Vietnam policy. Reston's observations about this meeting's significance are hair-raising:

"It is one of those moments in history when the decisions taken by a few men here in Washington could have a profound effect on the history of the next generation. . . . This is what the return of General Taylor is all about. The bombing of North Vietnam is not achieving its objectives. The Communist attack on South Vietnam is not subsiding. So new decisions have to be made in the next few days, and they may be among the most important political and military decisions since the last World War."

Think of it. "A few men," probably over a bottle of Scotch, are deciding questions that may set off World War III!

The issues "the president and (Continued on Page 6)

It Will Take More Than New Law To Smash the Murderous KKK

By Alex Harte

MARCH 31 — President Johnson's promised "war" against the Ku Klux Klan will do little, if anything, to bring KKK murderers to justice or protect Southern Negroes from racist violence.

Johnson's "war" will consist mainly of new legislation with heavier penalties. But new legislation — like old existing legislation with light penalties — will be useless unless Southern juries vote to convict racist criminals under it.

Even in cases where for its own reasons the white power structure of the South has allowed indictments of white-supremacist murderers, the federal government has been unable to secure convictions. The current federal prosecution of the murderers of three civil-rights workers in Philadelphia, Miss., is an example. The power structure in Mississippi forced a reduction of the indictment to misdemeanor charges and

it is generally acknowledged there will be no convictions even on these trifling charges.

To stop the racist violence, both of unofficial terrorists like the KKK and of official "law-enforce-

ment" terrorists, the state and local power structure must be smashed and the guilty participants — from governors to sheriffs — jailed for their crimes. Johnson can accomplish this only by federal occupation of states like Alabama and a reconstruction of civilian rule there under the protection of federal troops and armed and deputized Negro residents.

Only such a federal occupation and a new reconstruction can break white-supremacist power in the South and bring the guarantees of the U.S. Constitution to the Negro people there.

But Johnson, still a Southern politician, resists using federal troops to carry out his constitutional obligations. He sent federal troops to protect the Alabama marchers only after he was forced by demonstrations which invaded the White House itself. He limited the use of those troops so that the protection ended practically the moment the march was over and before the assembled marchers had been able to leave Montgomery.

If troops had been kept at intervals and roadblocks along the Selma-to-Montgomery highway till all assembled marchers had safely dispersed, it is likely that Mrs. Viola Liuzzo would be alive today.

As long as Johnson refuses to exercise his power to enforce the U.S. Constitution in the South with troops, his talk about "war" on the KKK must be put in the

same category as Gov. Wallace's expressions of "horror" at the murder of Mrs. Liuzzo and the Alabama attorney general's promise that her killers will be indicted for murder. It is all empty verbiage to appease national indignation with the illusion that the killers will be brought to justice. The intent is to lull people until the indignation has faded.

The record of the white-supremacist South's refusal to punish murderers of Negroes and civil-rights workers bears this out. Consider a few cases.

● William Moore, a white postman from Baltimore, walking on an Alabama highway with a poster with an anti-segregation message, was murdered on April 24, 1963. To appease national indignation Gov. Wallace termed the murder a "dastardly act." The owner of the murder rifle was arrested. Five months later, when the publicity had died down, the local (Continued on Page 3)

3 Young Socialists Tour Campuses Urging Support for Capital March

Three national leaders of the Young Socialist Alliance are touring the college campuses, urging students to participate in the April 17 March on Washington Against the War in Vietnam which has been called by the Students for a Democratic Society.

Doug Jenness, YSA national executive committee member and member of the editorial board of the *Young Socialist*, has been touring Eastern campuses. Speaking to audiences ranging from an informal gathering in a private home in Washington, D.C., to a campus meeting at Goddard College in northern Vermont, Jenness has been presenting a socialist analysis of why the U.S. is waging a brutal war against the people of Vietnam.

Although most students who have heard Jenness do not as yet support the demand for immediate withdrawal of American troops, many are raising serious questions about the war and America's role in it.

Jenness reports that, wherever he has spoken, students have peppered him with questions about socialism. Here are some typical queries: "Are socialism and democracy compatible?" "Will socialism ever come to America?" "Aren't we gradually evolving toward socialism under Johnson?" Though few students call themselves socialist, very few feel that socialism is bad.

At Wheaton, a women's college in Massachusetts, Jenness was sponsored by the Student Liberal Union; at Brown University, by the Students for a Democratic Society; at Middlebury College in Vermont, by the Civil Rights Club; and at the University of Massachusetts, by the Independent Club (recently affiliated with the SDS). He has also spoken at the University of Pennsylvania, Haverford College, Lincoln University, MIT, and others, and is scheduled to speak at the College of the City of New York, Drew University in Madison, N. J., and Penn State in the next two weeks.

Joel Britton, national executive board member of the YSA and its Midwest organizer, who is currently on a tour of the South and Midwest, denounced Johnson's escalation of the war in Vietnam at a series of meetings in Chicago last week. At Loop Junior College,

100 students heard him debate Barry Price, a sophomore at the college, on whether the United States should withdraw its troops from Vietnam. Britton presented the YSA position of withdrawing all U.S. troops from Vietnam and allowing the Vietnamese people to determine for themselves the government they want. Price argued that a U.S. pull-out from Vietnam, followed by the establishment of a communist government there, would endanger U.S. interests in the rest of Asia.

During the question period, Britton compared the Vietnamese struggle for independence to the American War of Independence in 1776.

Britton also spoke at the University of Illinois campus in Chicago, Roosevelt University, and Elmhurst College. Students in the audience expressed interest in participating in the April 17 March on Washington to protest the war in Vietnam.

Larry Shumm, a YSA national committee member and a student at the University of California at Berkeley, has been touring the West Coast from Vancouver to Los Angeles.

All three speakers have been selling the new YSA pamphlet, *The War in Vietnam*, and the *Young Socialist*, as well as distributing literature about the March on Washington and selling buttons for the March.

Clevelanders Rap Firing of Teacher

CLEVELAND — A standing-room-only audience at the March 21 Militant Forum heard three civil-rights leaders denounce the firing of school teacher Don Freeman as an attack on everyone's constitutional rights and a specific attack on militant black leadership. Civil-rights attorney Stanley Tolliver, legal counsel for Freeman, stated that he was demanding a public hearing for his client and that he was prepared to fight the case all the way. He called for a mass turnout of Cleveland Negroes when the public hearing is held, saying that his client has nothing to hide but that the school board does.

Arthur Evans, past chairman of Cleveland CORE and presently second vice-chairman of the United Freedom Movement, recited Don Freeman's long interest and activity in the local civil-rights movement, including promotion of the study of Negro history, rent-strike organization and actions against police brutality.

James M. Russell, president of the Freedom Fighters, described the firing of Freeman as unconstitutional and immoral. He said that while Negroes are struggling for the right to vote in the South, the attacks on black leadership mount in order to take away freedom of speech and press and thereby take away the right to a choice, thus making a mockery of the right to vote.

Several days prior to the forum, the school board fired Freeman who, till then, had merely been suspended with pay. Freeman had originally been suspended as a result of a front-page smear attack in the *Plain Dealer* because of an article he had written for *Black America* magazine.

In other developments, attorney Jack G. Day, prominent local ACLU lawyer, denounced the school-board action before the City Club Forum. The United Freedom Movement sent a telegram to School Superintendent Paul Briggs protesting the original suspension, as did CORE and the Freedom Fighters earlier. The Freedom Fighters also helped organize picketing of the school board by over 150 students and parents from the school at which Freeman taught.

A PARTICIPANT'S REPORT

The Selma-to-Montgomery March

By Peter Camejo
National Secretary
Young Socialist Alliance

I was with the first contingent to reach the steps of the Capitol in Montgomery. I turned around and saw the column of marchers stretching down the eight-lane avenue for half a mile and then disappearing around a bend. Along the sidewalks thousands had gathered to cheer the marchers on and were now entering their ranks. So the march looked like a huge river with hundreds of little streams pouring into it. A half hour later, still before the program had begun, I looked back again and to my surprise the marchers were still coming around the bend into the avenue leading up to the Capitol.

There is little doubt that Montgomery's black ghetto and those of many other smaller Alabama cities were well represented in the vast throng. From the platform it was announced that 50,000 people were present. Since the number of whites was 5,000 at the most, the march was 80 to 90 per cent black.

On the third day of the march, Johnny Flowers, a 15-year-old Negro lad from Perry County told me how the voter-registration campaign was rapidly bringing the mass of the Negro people in Alabama into the civil-rights movement. "We have an Uncle Tom-situation in Perry County, but the students there are ready to move and we will get Perry County to be like Dallas County [where Selma is]," said Flowers. "One white landowner there, a Mr. Pambreu, has 1,000 Negro workers and he has threatened to fire anyone who joins the movement. We have been trying to convince them to go to register all together."

"In Marion, on Mr. Walter's farm, there are 300 Negroes who were threatened but they went to register anyway. Later, Mr. Walter claimed he was just testing them to see if they were men."

"The white man is scared of this march, this movement. The wealth of the white man depends on the work of the Negroes. They cheat us, keep us in debt. They will hit a Negro anytime and get away with it. One man where I live was beaten with a pipe because he wouldn't move his truck. Well, it's like slavery."

I cautiously approached some of the white onlookers in Montgomery to get their reactions to the march. Typical statements were: "The Negroes have a right to vote but they just aren't qualified so this march is just trouble-making"; and "The Negroes have a right to vote and it's true they have been given a raw deal, especially in the farm areas, but this is a Communist march so King can get rich"; other typical responses were unprintable.

One well-dressed white Alabamian approached me while I was talking with white onlookers. He had an empty Coca-Cola bottle in his hand and was so agitated that he stammered as he began to speak. He asked me if I were for King, obviously getting ready to deliver a counter-opinion in a non-verbal fashion. The other whites standing around calmed him down and he later went and put the bottle away.

Though incidents were at a minimum until the fatal shooting of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo after the march, there was a mysterious incident the night before the march ended. SNCC and SCLC staff members woke up all people sleeping in the open air and in the press tent and shipped them out in trucks to sleep in churches. Only those sleeping in the two big tents in the middle of the camp were left

An Interview With John Lewis

By Peter Camejo

On March 23, at the end of the third day of the march from Selma to Montgomery, I sought out John Lewis, chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, for a promised interview.

I found him sitting on the ground in one of the tents just pitched for the overnight halt. I plunked myself down beside him on the straw which had been spread on the wet ground and asked what he thought of Johnson's speech to Congress and the sending of federal troops to protect the march.

"It's unbelievable," Lewis said, "I have been amazed by President Johnson's stand and believe it indicates that even Johnson will respond to public pressure. He went out of his way to accommodate Wallace. But Wallace left him no choice but to federalize the national guard. Johnson made it clear that he would not permit a repetition of last Sunday's beatings. I think he has responded to the 'mandate' given him in the presidential election."

Did he think the new voting bill Johnson was proposing would help in Alabama?

"I hope so," the militant young leader replied. "I agree with the congressmen who have called for making the bill effective for all states and not for only one section of the country. The literacy requirement should be ended. This prevents many people from voting, including Puerto Ricans in New York and Mexicans in California. The basis of franchise should be age and residence. That is what we favor — just age and residence."

"I also hope Johnson will go forward on his words in support of dropping the voting age to 18. This would permit a very large number of young people to participate more actively in the political life of the country."

Did he agree with U.S. policy in Vietnam?

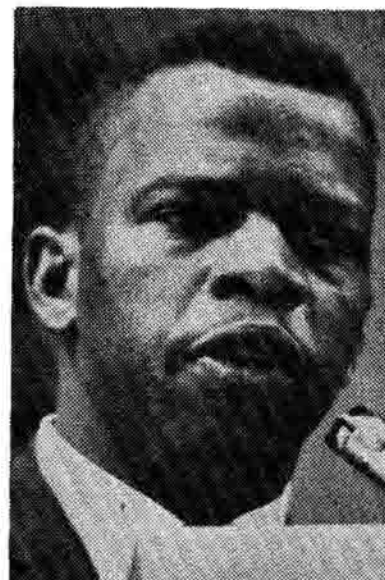
"No," Lewis replied. "I do not understand what we are doing in Vietnam. I'm against war and violence in any case. I believe our troops should be withdrawn. The U.S. has at times made statements for self-determination of nations and, as far as I know, we are the only country with foreign troops in Vietnam. We should get out."

To my query whether SNCC would support the April 17 March on Washington which is being sponsored by Students for a Democratic Society, Lewis said: "SNCC has stated several times that we support all peaceful demonstrations against the war in Vietnam. And this goes for the SDS march in particular."

Asked his opinion of Malcolm X's contribution to the movement, Lewis declared: "More than any other single personality, he [Malcolm] was able to articulate the aspiration, bitterness and frustration of the Negro people. Not only in the Northern ghettos, but also in the black-belt Delta area of the Deep South. Malcolm was a living link between Africa and the civil-rights movement in this country."

The last, quick question was: How do you evaluate the March which is now in process?

The answer: "This is not simply a civil-rights march but a political protest for political power. Before all else it is for the right of suffrage — for one man, one vote."



John Lewis

Weekly Calendar

BOSTON

THE SELMA-TO-MONTGOMERY MARCH. A participant's report by Peter Camejo, national secretary, Young Socialist Alliance. Fri., April 9, 8 p.m. 295 Huntington Ave. (One block from Mass. Ave.) Room 307. Contrib. 50 cents. A usp. Militant Labor Forum.

CHICAGO

LENIN AND DEBS. A discussion of their lives, ideas, and the lessons each offers for those fighting for social change today. Speaker, Robert Himmel. Fri., April 9, 8 p.m. Debs Hall, 302 S. Canal St. A usp. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

LOS ANGELES

THEODORE EDWARDS presents a Marxist view of the news in his bi-weekly radio commentary. Tues. April 13, 6:30 p.m. (repeated Wed., April 14, 9 a.m.) KPFK (90.7 on your dial).

MINNEAPOLIS

VIETNAM: How to End the War. A panel discussion. Fri., April 9, 8:30 p.m. 704 Hennepin Ave. Hall 240. A usp. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

NEW YORK

FREE SPEECH ON THE CAMPUS. A faculty view by Prof. Staughton Lynd, Yale University Dept. of History. A student view by Jim Bingham, defendant in the Indiana "Subversion" case. Fri., April 9, 8:30 p.m. 116 University Pl. Contrib. \$1. A usp. Militant Labor Forum.

MALCOLM X. Tape of speech he gave at the Militant Labor Forum Jan. 7, 1965. Sat., April 10, 8:30 p.m. 116 University Pl. Open house to follow, free refreshments. Contrib. \$1. A usp. Militant Labor Forum.

tion by Alabama's Negroes was when Rev. James Bevel said that he would like to be a state senator and that 34 per cent of the seats in the legislature belonged by right to the Negro people.

Prof. Lynd, Bingham To Speak at N.Y. Forum

NEW YORK — Professor Staughton Lynd, of the History Department at Yale University, and Jim Bingham, a defendant in the Indiana Sedition Case, will speak at the Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place, Fri., April 9, at 8:30 P.M.

Professor Lynd, who headed the Mississippi Freedom Schools last summer, is a sponsor of the Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students (CABS).

Bingham, and the two other defendants, Ralph Levitt and Tom Morgan, were indicted for alleged violation of the Indiana Anti-Communism Act.

undisturbed.

I tried to find out what had happened and was told by several people that a brick thrown at the sleeping marchers had hit a girl. The camp was surrounded by a fence with barbed wire on top and federalized Alabama National Guardsmen were stationed every 50 feet along it. The area around the camp was clear and lit up to a great extent. The implication was that a Guardsman had thrown the brick. The wire services never mentioned this midnight alarm.

The march ended with speeches calling for the right to vote and an end to Jim Crow. None of the 20 speakers, including Rev. King who had the lion's share of the time, mentioned the fact that the Negro people of Alabama had once had the right to vote and had representatives in the very building before which they were protesting. The closest anyone came to talking about political ac-

NEW FORM OF PROTEST

Teach-Ins Hit Vietnam War

By Howard Salita

ANN ARBOR — More than 3,000 students and professors of the University of Michigan staged an all-night protest against U.S. policy in Vietnam, coining the new term "teach-in." The demonstration — from 8 p.m. March 24 to 8 a.m. March 25 — was the largest protest in Ann Arbor's history. It was a combination of lectures, seminars, movies on Vietnam, and several outdoor rallies.

Speakers included Prof. John Donahue of Michigan State University, who has done extensive field work in Vietnam. Donahue declared that the U.S.-supported government in South Vietnam does not enjoy the support of the people.

Robert Browne, who worked for the U.S. government in Vietnam for six years, also called for withdrawal of U.S. support to the Saigon government.

Paul L. Adams, associate justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, told the demonstrators: "Only the Congress of the United States can declare war. If we are at war, our reasons and purposes should be made fully evident to the American people."

Arthur Waskow of the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C., condemned the use of napalm bombs, phosphorus bombs, gas, and torture, all of which, he said, "are carried on by, or with the approval and support of, U.S. authorities."

At a midnight outdoor rally, held when police ordered the building emptied because of a bomb scare, Frithjof Bergmann of the philosophy department declared, "The Viet Cong is a popular movement in the classic sense." He called on the United States to support the Viet Cong "since it has the support of the people" and to allow "the Vietnamese to be governed by the government they have chosen themselves."

At the rally a freshman ROTC student said he felt it a disgrace to wear the uniform of a country responsible for "the murder of six-year-old children in South Vietnam."

Professor William Livant, at a press conference, condemned U.S. press coverage on Vietnam as "the most stringently filtered information." One professor urged reporters to demonstrate for freedom of the press.

The overwhelming majority of professors who spoke supported the April 17 March on Washington which has been called by Students for a Democratic Society.

Does World See Us As Nazis?

One of the growing number of American professors to speak out against U.S. atrocities in Vietnam is Prof. Walter Kaufman of Princeton. In a scorching letter to the March 28 New York Times, he declared:

"While our government sees its Asian enemies as Hitler's heirs, some of the rest of the world considers American policy in Vietnam fascist. The terrible news story on page five of the Times of March 18 of the bombing of a village in which 37 children were killed should be sufficient to show that this is not sheer perversity on the part of our critics . . . Shades of Lidice!"

"Americans heap scorn on the Germans who did not risk their necks by criticizing Hitler. Surely, we have an obligation to criticize our government when we find its policies heinous."

Over a hundred students signed up to participate in the March.

Letters and telegrams of support for the demonstrators came from many universities, including Syracuse, Stanford, and Yale. It was announced that Berkeley, San Francisco, and Columbia were planning teach-ins and that preliminary preparations were proceeding on at least 20 other campuses.

Bomb threats and right-wing harassment made no dent on the demonstration. An organized attempt to break up the midnight rally was smashed when a group of students formed a line to prevent right-wingers from breaking into the ranks of demonstrators.

NEW YORK — A teach-in similar to the one at Ann Arbor was held at Columbia University the night of March 25-26, from midnight till 8 a.m. The chairman of the sponsoring Ad Hoc Teaching Committee on Vietnam announced that the teach-in should be viewed as a series of lectures with class room decorum.

But the teach-in became a rally favoring U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam. The hundreds of stu-

dents who lasted through the night — 2,500 at the peak — accomplished this transformation by their active responsive participation, their applause and questions. The chairman of the meeting reported that the committee had tried without success to get persons who support the war policy to speak. But no such spokesman chose to address the crowd.

Robert S. Browne, economist, former AID representative in Vietnam for the U.S. government, flew in from Ann Arbor, Mich., to address the Columbia students and bring a message from the Michigan "teach-inners" wishing success.

He reported on the Ann Arbor rally to an enthusiastic audience, and told of the other schools that were planning teach-ins: Stanford, Syracuse, U. of Illinois, Wisconsin, Yale, among others.

"Our policy in Vietnam, and for that matter all over the world," declared Browne, "is that we base ourselves on what the elite want and not what the people need." He advocated immediate U.S. withdrawal, and predicted a "Communist government" would come to power in the event of such withdrawal, adding that he hoped the United States would support such a government.

Prof. Stanley Millet of Briarcliff College, who had taught at the University of Saigon, explained that he had been speaking about Vietnam for years, but that until now hardly anyone had taken notice. "The conditions in Vietnam created by the U.S.," he said, "were also created by you and me, by our magnificent indifference."

Prof. Seymour Melman of Columbia also called for immediate U.S. withdrawal. He said he was happy to see for the first time a section of the university students beginning to wake up and think for themselves.

Each speaker had a question period after his talk. One professor was asked: "What can students do to oppose the war?" He suggested they support the April 17 March on Washington. Hundreds of the SDS statements calling for the March were distributed at the teach-in.

One student asked what should be done about the next election. Johnson had shown he was no "man of peace" and the Republicans would certainly not nominate anyone better. The reply was rather weak. The professor said opponents of war would have to fight in the Democratic primary for a peace candidate.

Coover Urges Labor to Back Rights Boycott of Alabama

LOS ANGELES — Oscar Coover, Socialist Workers Party-endorsed candidate for mayor, has called upon the local and national labor movement to take action in support of the embattled Southern civil-rights fighters. In telegrams to top national and local union officials he urged the union movement to act in support of Martin Luther King's call for a boycott of goods from Alabama. Coover further urged the labor officialdom to call a 24-hour work stoppage in support of the demand for effective federal action against Southern racism.

Copies of Coover's telegram went to AFL-CIO heads George Meany and Walter Reuther, to James Hoffa, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, to Harry Bridges, president of the West Coast International Longshoremen's Union and to the Los Angeles AFL-CIO Council.

A joint pre-election statement has been issued by Coover and Irving Kirsch, 21-year-old Los Angeles City College student, who is running for Office No. 6 on the Board of Education with the support of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance.

The central point of the statement is the demand to withdraw the GIs from Vietnam and for the Johnson administration to use the necessary federal forces to restore Alabama and Mississippi to the Union.

Overshadowing the many urgent community issues, Coover and Kirsch said, are the war danger



Oscar Coover

rising out of Southeast Asia and the continuing denial of meaningful rights to the black people of the South.

Escalation of U.S. military aggression in Vietnam is bringing us to the verge of war with the Soviet Union and China, they said.

The two candidates strongly condemned U.S. employment of gas, chemical and napalm warfare as utterly barbaric. It is no wonder, they said, that American use of such weapons has horrified the entire world.

At the same time that the U.S. wages this war in Vietnam, the statement continued, the governors of Alabama and Mississippi continue their battle to maintain their racist system.

If elected, the two candidates said, they would use their office to mobilize public sentiment to help compel the federal government to end the war in Vietnam and to station troops in the South.

...Rights Fight

(Continued from Page 1)

grand jury refused even to indict. ● Four young Negro girls were killed in Sunday school by a racist bombing Sept. 15, 1963. Three men with KKK records were subsequently arrested for illegal possession of dynamite. They were sentenced to 90 days and \$100 fine apiece, but their convictions were reversed on appeal and they went free.

● Virgil Ware, a 13-year-old Negro boy, shot by two white Eagle Scouts the day of the Sunday school bombing. The two young killers were sentenced to seven months imprisonment. The actual firer of the gun was put on probation and sent home free.

● John Brown Robinson, 16-year-old Negro youth killed the same day by Birmingham police allegedly for throwing stones. No punishment for the shotgun-wielding cop.

● The killers of two young Mississippi Negroes, the lower halves of whose bodies were found accidentally when the river was dragged for the three missing civil-rights workers last summer. Arrests were made of their suspected killers, but after the publicity died down, charges were dropped. The case was resented locally as outside interference with the "state's rights" of Mississippians to murder and dismember Negroes.

● The assassination of Medgar Evers. Juries at two trials refused to convict. A third trial is considered unlikely. The assassin is regarded as a hero in his home town, is chauffeured around by police and has an ample bankroll provided by the federal government's purchase of some real estate owned by him.



Irving Kirsch

... New York Cops Harass Malcolm X Supporters

(Continued from Page 1)

The police not only summoned the two to appear before the grand jury but also subpoenaed the person who was acting as their witness even though he had not been at the Audubon Ballroom meeting where the killing took place!

At the Militant Labor Forum meeting, James Shabazz detailed the history of police harassment in New York, which he said began nearly a year before Malcolm's murder. He said a similar pattern of harassment has occurred in Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and Los Angeles.

Describing police interference with members of their movement seeking to guard Malcolm and his Long Island home after threats on his life, Shabazz told how a year ago cops had searched the unlocked car of one of their members visiting the home and jailed him on the claim they had found a gun in the car. He is still facing trial.

Then six of Malcolm's supporters, returning from his home after a suspected possible attack, were

picked up near Elijah Muhammad's Muslim Mosque in Harlem and, even though no incident had occurred, were charged with felonious assault and inciting to riot. They spent four months in jail and still haven't been brought to trial.

Police kept arresting supporters seeking to guard the house. The day after the house was fire-bombed, three were jailed for possession of rifles.

A few days after Malcolm's death, one of his supporters, John Gray, was visiting a friend in a rooming house. Police came in, walked past him to a room off the kitchen where he was sitting, and then came out with a disassembled rifle. They arrested Gray on charges of violating the Sullivan Law. Bail was set at \$3,750 despite the fact that he had no previous record of arrests, had been honorably discharged by the Air Force after nine years of service, was a married man and an employee of the U.S. Post Office.

Another Malcolm X supporter was arrested on trumped-up charges of firing at a Muhammad

Speaks salesman who, according to witnesses, was apparently not even aware he had been shot at. He is being held without bail.

One associate of Malcolm's is being held in \$50,000 bail as a material witness to the assassination.

Other members of the group, Shabazz said, have been threatened with loss of their jobs. FBI agents have approached members with offers to act as spies against other members. Attorneys who have aided them, he charged, have been pressured by the police.

Shabazz described the circumstances under which Reuben Francis was arrested. The night of Malcolm's murder, Shabazz was approached by police with an offer of protection. Recalling how they had "protected" Malcolm, he declined the offer. Whereupon the cops asked him to accompany them to the local precinct to explain to the Precinct Inspector that he didn't want protection. Unwilling to go alone, Shabazz asked Reuben Francis to accompany him. At the station they were held against their will for

nearly eight hours. Finally Shabazz was told he could leave but that Francis could not. Pressed for a reason, the cops finally said Francis was being booked on felonious assault and Sullivan Law charges. He had no gun on him.

When, after great difficulty, the \$10,000 bail was raised for Francis, Shabazz said, the authorities seemed greatly upset. "They seemed more concerned with holding Brother Reuben," he commented, "than with finding Brother Malcolm's killers."

Reuben Francis addressed the meeting briefly, explaining that his attorney had advised him not to comment publicly on the facts of his case prior to his trial. He assured the audience he was innocent and that he was determined to fight the frame-up.

A collection was taken at the meeting which, with the door proceeds, totalled \$317. This was turned over to Reuben Francis for his defense. Further funds are urgently needed. Contributions may be sent to Reuben Francis, Hotel Theresa, 2090 Seventh Ave., New York, N.Y. 10027.

THE MILITANT

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Monday, April 5, 1965

Alliance Brings No Progress

The fourth annual report of the Social Progress Trust Fund, an agency of the Alliance for Progress, leads to an inescapable conclusion about the Alliance's effect: No progress to date! Close reading of the report shows that the deep social problems in Latin America, which the Alliance was supposed to resolve, either remain unchanged or have got worse.

Food production on a per capita basis has fallen below levels of ten years ago; in housing, where there is an estimated need of 15 million new units, construction has reached only two per cent of the annual requirement; and in the area of land reform, according to the report, "very little" (read "nothing") has been done.

An example of the wretched conditions still prevailing in Latin American countries is afforded by the infant-mortality statistics for Brazil, which next to Chile is the highest recipient of Alliance dollars. At least 500,000 babies born alive died before their first birthdays in 1964 alone.

While the infant-mortality rate in the U.S. is 25 per 1,000 live births, the Brazilian rate varies from the low of 60 per 1,000 in the industrialized São Paulo region to 219 per 1,000 in the Northeastern city of Terezinha. About 18 million Brazilians, about one-quarter of the total population, have no public health service.

The hypocrisy of the U.S. design for Latin America is shown by the fact that in countries where even moderate reform plans have been undertaken by the governments, as in the case of the Goulart government in Brazil, Washington hasn't hesitated to back right-wing overthrows of such regimes.

The four-year record? Quick U.S. support for military coups in Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Argentina and Brazil — the last coming within 48 hours of Goulart's ouster.

There is only one road for social progress in Latin America, and that has been demonstrated beyond any conceivable question: The revolutionary road followed by Cuba and proven by Cuba's six-year record of progress.

In food production, housing development, medical progress and health facilities, literacy, education and land reform, no other Latin American country — despite all the "benefits" flowing from their alliance with the wealthiest nation in the world — comes close to Cuba's outstanding record.

The CIA's Cuban Sugar Plot

Just how far the CIA feels free to go in its attempts to provoke international incidents was indicated by revelations in the March 26 *New York Times* of a CIA plot in 1962. According to this report, the U.S. "intelligence" agency tried to cause trouble between the Soviet Union and Cuba by sabotaging a shipment of Cuban sugar.

In August, 1962, the *Times* relates, the CIA secretly used chemicals to spoil Cuban sugar being carried by a Soviet vessel temporarily delayed in Puerto Rico.

The CIA plot was foiled, the *Times* says, by President Kennedy's last-minute intervention. Acting through Puerto Rican officials, co-operative courts and dummy litigants, Kennedy got the doctored sugar impounded and finally confiscated as partial payment to U.S. civilians with claims against the Cuban government.

Is it any wonder that when an international outrage takes place, many people immediately suspect the CIA is behind it? This sugar-spoiling scheme, already two years dated, is but one more CIA machination which has come to light. And one must take on faith the *Times'* allegation that the unnamed chemical which was intended to make the Russians furious at Cuba was not poisonous. What is the nature and extent of the brutal and cynical CIA's acts which are never revealed to the American public?

Local Directory

BOSTON. Boston Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave., Room 307.

CHICAGO. Socialist Workers Party and bookstore, 302 South Canal St., Room 210. WE 5-9044.

CLEVELAND. Eugene V. Debs Hall, Room 25, 5927 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 3, Ohio. Telephone: 391-1425.

DENVER. Militant Labor Forum, Telephone 222-4174.

DETROIT. Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward. Temple 1-6135. Friday Night Socialist Forum held weekly at 8 p.m.

LOS ANGELES. Socialist Workers Party, 1702 East Fourth St. AN 9-4953 or WE 5-9238. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. daily and Saturday.

MILWAUKEE. 150 E. Juneau Ave.

MINNEAPOLIS. Socialist Workers Party and Labor Book Store, 704 Hennepin Ave., Hall 240. FEderal 2-7781. Open 1 to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

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SEATTLE. 3815 5th N. E. Library, book store. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays. Phone ME 2-7449.

WHAT TOURING SNCC LEADERS FOUND

All Africa Was for Malcolm X

Last fall John Lewis and Donald Harris made a tour of several African countries as representatives of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Their report to SNCC, dated Dec. 14, 1964, contained several references to Malcolm X, who was on the last leg of his second tour of the African continent when they arrived. The following excerpts from their report give some indication of his impact on Africans.

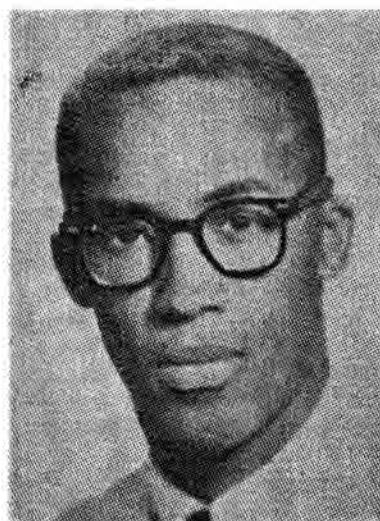
GHANA

"There were two factors that we had to deal with while in Ghana. The first was the fact that the Non-Aligned Nations conference was taking place in Cairo at the time, drawing most of the important government, party, journalist, and exiled freedom fighters away to Egypt . . .

"The second thing we had to cope with — was that Malcolm X had just left Ghana some few days before we arrived and had made fantastic impressions. Because of this, very often people's first attitude or impression of us was one of skepticism and distrust. Among the first days we were in Accra someone said, 'Look, you guys might really be doing something — I don't know, but if you are to the right of Malcolm, you might as well start packing right now 'cause no one'll listen to you.'

"Among the first questions we were continually asked was, 'What's your organization's relationship with Malcolm?' We ultimately found that this situation was not peculiar to Ghana; the pattern repeated itself in every country. After a day of this we found that we must, immediately on meeting people, state our own position in regard to where we stood on certain issues — Cuba, Vietnam, the Congo, Red China and the UN, and what SNCC's role, guidelines, and involvement in the Rights Struggle was.

"Malcolm's impact on Africa was just fantastic. In every country he was known and served as the main criteria for categorizing other Afro-Americans and their political views. Only because we were able to point out quite directly SNCC's involvement in the Struggle, that is, programs, successes, John's involvement in the



Donald Harris

March [on Washington in 1963] (and the cutting of his speech) and the fact that we were on the Continent attempting to bridge the gap between Africa and the States were we able to gain the kind of respect and create the kind of interest that was vital to the trip." . . .

KENYA

"The first person we saw on arrival at our hotel [in Nairobi] was Malcolm X, who had just come in from Tanzania with Kenyatta. This was a chance meeting, but in many ways a very important meeting.

"We spent the rest of that day and evening as well as a good part of the following day talking with Malcolm about the nature of each of our trips. At that point he had been to eleven countries, talked with eleven heads of state and had addressed the parliaments in the majority of these countries. Although he was very tired he planned to visit five more countries.

"He felt that the presence of SNCC in Africa was very important and that this was a significant and crucial aspect of the 'human-rights struggle' that the American civil-rights groups had too long neglected.

"He pointed out (and our experience proves him correct) that the African leaders and people are strongly behind the Freedom

Movement in this country; that they are willing to do all they can to support, encourage and sustain the Movement, but they will not tolerate factionalism or support particular groups or organizations within the Movement as a whole. It was with this in mind that he formed his Organization of Afro-American Unity.

"Discussion also centered around Malcolm's proposed plan to bring the case of the Afro-American before the General Assembly of the United Nations and hold the United States in violation of the Human Rights Charter. The question was at that time (and ultimately was evident) that support from the civil-rights voices in this country was not forthcoming and the American black community was too splintered to attempt such a move without looking like complete asses and embarrassing our most valuable allies. We departed with Malcolm giving us some contacts and the hope that there would be greater communication between the OAU (the U.S. version) [OAAU] and SNCC." . . .

EGYPT

"We spoke first with Mr. Ebrahim of the PAC [Pan Africanist Congress] because we had been in contact with PAC people in Ghana and Zambia. We talked for nearly three hours before he began to warm up to us. In the beginning he was very suspicious, said almost nothing and although interested, not quite certain how far he could trust us.

"One of his first questions was, 'What is your organization's relationship to Malcolm X?' (Malcolm is most widely known and respected in Cairo.) . . .

"We called Ebrahim the next day, expecting nothing. He said he had arranged for us to address the entire African Association. We were surprised and flattered. (We later found out that Malcolm had been the only Afro-American who had previously been given this honor.) . . .

Albania Diplomat Finds How Petty U.S. Can Be

Hakim Budo, permanent representative of Albania to the United Nations, was recently refused permission by U.S. authorities to make a one-day trip to Boston.

Why did he wish to go? To spy on a missile plant? To blow up the Bunker Hill monument?

None of these reasons is even alleged. Budo wished to attend, as representative of the Albanian people and government, the March 20 funeral services for the late Metropolitan Fan S. Noli, a distinguished leader of the Albanian-American community, a noted writer and scholar, a prominent figure in Albania's history in the 1920s and 1930s, and head of the Albanian Orthodox Church in the U.S.

Budo was informed, according to a press release of the Albanian mission to the UN, on March 18 that his request for permission to go to Boston had been refused without any reason being given. When the incident was publicized, the only lame excuse narrow-minded officials could come up with was that U.S. diplomats can't travel freely in Albania.

The simple facts bear out the statement by the Albanian Mission to the UN that this refusal "attests to a discriminatory and unjust attitude" on the part of U.S. authorities "in the light of what the travel request was for" and shows Washington's scorn for "the most elementary rules of humanity and the conduct of nations."

This petty and spiteful act of the U.S. State Department merits the condemnation of all UN members and of public opinion in general.

Brooklyn Prof. Opens Fight Against State 'Loyalty' Oath

By Constance Weissman

NEW YORK — If Dr. Robert M. Sitton, 27-year-old philosophy teacher at Brooklyn College, had not got involved in the civil-rights movement while he was teaching in North Carolina last year, he probably would not have rescinded his loyalty oath at Brooklyn College last week. This courageous act cost him his job. He has been barred from his classroom and told to remove his possessions and leave.

Subsequently Dr. Sitton spoke to a March 27 mass meeting of Brooklyn College students at an outdoor campus rally. He called for repeal of the state loyalty oath (which is required of all teachers in public schools and colleges in New York) and for more academic freedom for both faculty and students. He said that the oath "restricts the right of free speech and thought," and that students should hear controversial figures so that they can be informed on all points of view. After Dr. Sitton's talk, petitions were circulated in support of his point of view by students who are also planning a daily five-hour vigil outside the campus gates until he is reinstated.

Explaining how the civil-rights movement inspired his act in sup-

port of academic freedom, Dr. Sitton told the March 24 *New York Herald Tribune*: "My wife, Sherry, was arrested six times. We both risked our lives for civil rights and it made a great impression on both of us — the spirit of non-violence and non-cooperation with evil. The right of free speech and free assembly is unassailable and cannot be compromised. I'm part of a new generation in which violation of constitutional rights is no longer tenable."

Doesn't Know One

Dr. Sitton said that not only is he not a Communist, but he doesn't even know a Communist. He believes that asking professors if they are faithful to the government is an insult and the oath should be rescinded immediately. "The time has come for me to lay my life and my career on the line to redress this grievance . . . education is not prospering under present restrictions of free speech."

The American Civil Liberties Union proposes to take legal action to have the loyalty oath repealed. ACLU attorney William Hollerstein said he would ask for Dr. Sitton's reinstatement if the test case is successful.

REPORT FROM INDIANOLA, MISS.

Racists Fail to Intimidate Movement

INDIANOLA, Miss. — Since the last week of July 1964, the one-story brick building on Jefferson Street in Indianola had served as the center of civil-rights activity in this Mississippi delta town of 7,000 (54 per cent Negro). The building was used for mass meetings, freedom school classes, various committee meetings, library and community center activities. More than anything, the building served as a symbol of freedom for the community.

There had been an NAACP chapter here in 1955, but it collapsed after Herbert Lee was killed in Belzoni, some 30 miles away. This NAACP chapter was the only bit of civil rights for Indianola Negroes until COFO [Council of Federated Organizations] came into town in the summer of '64 and leased the building.

Typical Harassment

After the building was leased to COFO, the city of Indianola started to apply their typical methods of harassment towards civil-rights activity. The city inspector came out and told COFO workers they would have to have the building rewired for "safety purposes." The wiring was better than that in the county jail. Nevertheless, we were forced to have a \$200 wiring job done. A deposit of \$50 was required for the electricity, although the normal charge is \$15. A deposit of \$75 was charged for the phone and \$100 for gas. The first organized activity in the Freedom School, as the building was named, was the program of the Mississippi Summer Project. Civil-rights workers, mostly from the North, conducted freedom school classes in Negro history, American history, reading and writing, art, etc. Voter registration and literacy classes were held for adults, usually at night. Weekly mass meetings were held on Thursday nights. The Freedom Democratic Party held meetings in the building also.

First Violence

The first act of violence came just two days prior to the "freedom vote" that was held last Oct. 29-Nov. 1. A fire was discovered at the building around 1:30 a.m. by COFO workers who came to get a first-aid kit for a youth who was injured when a bomb was tossed in the freedom house in Sunflower, just 30 minutes earlier.

Because of the early discovery, the fire was limited to the front section of the building. It did, however, damage the wiring. Because it is hard to get a licensed plumber or electrician to do work for anything connected with civil rights and because the city inspectors stalled on every point, the building could not be used for six weeks. Outside meetings were held when weather permitted. The first outside meeting was broken up by cops.



RACIST HANDIWORK. A bombed-out Negro church in McComb, Miss. Several dozen such real or suspected centers of civil-rights activity have been destroyed in Deep South in past year.

Some activity on the part of the movement usually spurs acts of violence by the racists. In February and March the white folks must have become very upset over what they were seeing. First of all, there was a demonstration about voting rights at the courthouse on Jan. 4. Four hundred people participated. There were no arrests, so many white bystanders were pretty upset.

In January and February the Negro community was mobilized around the right to use the public library. After about 50 Negroes had gone to the "all-white" library, the city council decided to open a "Negro" library. Picketing continued at the "white" library through February, and a boycott of the "Negro" library was one hundred per cent effective.

The library was finally desegregated during the last week of February. This was a great blow to the white segregationists in town who vowed that integration would never come to Indianola. They knew that the Freedom School was to blame for all the "freedom" trouble. So get rid of the school and you get rid of the trouble.

At about 2:30 a.m. on March 5, a fire was started at the Indianola Freedom School. It was not until 3 a.m. when neighbors woke COFO workers that the fire was reported. At that time it was almost too late to save the building — too late, that is if one is de-

pending on the eagerness of the Indianola fire department. With two hoses they started spraying water around the fire after being at the scene for 15 minutes. In the light from the fire, one could see tears in many of the people's eyes. They were seeing something which meant so much being destroyed so easily.

Rebuild School

The immediate reaction from people in the community and COFO workers was that the building should be rebuilt as soon as possible. A building committee was formed two days later. It made plans to rebuild the Freedom School on the same property, with additions. The meeting room will be larger. There will be a recreation room, an FDP office and a kitchen.

The building will be constructed with brick and concrete and fire-proof materials. All labor will come from volunteers in the community. Estimates for the materials vary between \$4,000 and \$7,000. Plans have been laid and the community is ready to start.

Several offers of help have come from the North. Groups and individuals are working on money for building supplies and materials for the office. Some books have been offered and some have already been delivered. Good paperbacks are needed. [If you want to help, send contributions to P.O. Box 30, Indianola, Miss.]

In an ordinary situation, the building should be completed in four weeks. But the situation here is not "ordinary." We expect all kinds of harassment from the city. An editorial in the local paper stated that "the city should not give the COFO workers a permit to rebuild the recently burned headquarters. This property has been a source of trouble for a number of months and it is high time an earnest effort be made to stop this sort of troublemaking."

While this article generally reflects the opinion of most white people in Indianola, the Negroes of Indianola have quite a different attitude. Their attitude has been expressed by the large and sincere numbers at the mass meetings, the excited eyes in the Freedom School classes. And the strong legs and voices on the picket lines cannot be mistaken.

Facts Show Urban Renewal Cheats Poor of Housing

The slogan "Urban Renewal Means Urban Removal" has been amply confirmed in a book published early last fall by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press in which Professor Martin Anderson of Columbia has brought together for the first time the national aggregate data on the record of postwar urban renewal. (See the article: "Urban Renewal Does Not Always Renew" by Prof. James Q. Wilson, director of the Joint Center for Urban Studies of M.I.T. and Harvard in the January, 1965, issue of *Harvard Today*.)

What have been the results of urban renewal for the 13 years from 1949 to 1962?

- 1) During this period urban renewal in the U.S. destroyed 126,000 homes and built 32,000.
- 2) For every home built, four were torn down.
- 3) The average monthly rental of the new dwelling units was \$158 a month.
- 4) Under programs now going on, already completed or approved, approximately 1.4 million people will be displaced.
- 5) Fifty per cent of these are members of minorities such as Negroes and Puerto Ricans.

Where do people go when they have to leave the renewed areas?

Case Studies

Four case studies made in 1958, two in Chicago and two in Philadelphia, show how the poor are disadvantaged by the necessities of relocation. A Chicago housing authority study stated that the median monthly rent paid by people before relocation was \$57 a month; after relocation \$85 a month. Before relocation only 2% of the people relocated had to pay more than \$100 a month in rent; after relocation over 27% had to pay this amount.

A study in Philadelphia indicates that the average monthly rent after relocation went up 37%. Another study in Philadelphia at about the same time showed that 79% of the people relocated from an urban renewal area were compelled to pay higher rents. A similar study in Chicago demonstrated that the average monthly rental almost doubled for the group of people, about half of whom were non-white.

Thus, writes Professor Wilson, in the majority of instances urban relocation "represents a substantial burden on the families involved. They are compelled to pay more money (and a higher proportion of their income) for housing. In many cases, the housing is no better than the housing they left. In many other cases, of course, it is. What that proportion is, no one knows."

No Improvement

Rehabilitation of existing housing does not improve the conditions of the poor any more than urban renewal. Between 1950 and 1961, only 6,000 housing units in the whole U.S. had been rehabilitated by federal funds while over 6,000,000 housing units were rehabilitated by private initiative. Rehabilitation means in most, though not all cases, that the tenant or owner of the property will have to pay more money, either in rent or in monthly mortgage payments.

This means that those people who either cannot or will not pay the increase in the cost of housing will have to move out. "There is, therefore," concludes Professor Wilson, "a kind of fiscal bulldozer, which, although it works more slowly, may be equally effective as the physical bulldozer."

The costs of urban renewal can be summarized as follows:

- 1) It moves people out. 2) It forces them to pay more money for housing. 3) It prevents them from moving back into their old neighborhoods. 4) It destroys

Richest City Poor in Housing

The failure of the so-called urban renewal program in the world's richest city was pointed up recently by Milton Mollen, New York City Co-ordinator of Housing and Development, who says the city needs 130,000 new units to "make a dent" in slum clearance. He said there are "more than 300,000 people of low income in this town who are living in outrageous places and should be relocated into decent housing they can afford to pay for."

these old neighborhoods, their institutions and ties.

Who, then, receives the bulk of the benefits from these federal programs? The real-estate, business and banking interests. This is true of Boston's West End urban renewal project, where city blocks were demolished and expensive high-rise apartments are going up; of Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle, one of the first and most celebrated urban renewal enterprises; of the area around Independence Hall in Philadelphia; and the Bunker Hill clearance project in the heart of Los Angeles. The poor, the pensioners, the senior citizens and Negroes are cleared out of run-down but low-rent districts while deluxe apartments, skyscraper office buildings, and some cultural, educational and federal office structures are erected in their stead.

All this makes money for contractors, investors, insurance companies, banks and businessmen and renews their confidence in the prospects of the declining downtown areas. But these property values are enhanced at the expense of low-income families who are uprooted and forced to find more costly and less desirable quarters in other sections of the city.

The federal renewal programs have brightened the city centers for the well-to-do and made life more dismal and difficult for the poor. The policy and the results have been the same under Truman, Eisenhower and Kennedy.

Johnson's "war on poverty" does not envisage anything different.

— Wm. F. Warde

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APPEAL FROM VIETNAMESE WOMEN

Open Letter to American Mothers

[The following Open Letter to American Mothers from the Vietnamese Women's Union was sent from Hanoi, North Vietnam, on March 2. It was signed by 16 Vietnamese women, among whom are political figures, artists, scientists, members of the professions, factory workers and housewives. They were also the signers of an open letter printed in The Militant last Oct. 4 and their names and titles may be found there.]

* * *

Dear Friends:

Today, in the afternoon, American aircraft again came from the Seventh Fleet carriers and U.S. air bases in South Vietnam to bomb and strafe the peaceful villages of Quang Binh and Vinh Linh. We feel we must write this letter to you. The people of Hanoi, like those of all other parts of North Vietnam, stand ready to fight and to give deserved punishment to the air and sea pirates seeking to destroy their homes and sow mourning among them. But all the while, we Vietnamese women are thinking of you. Because we are confident that, at this time in the United States, you are also engaged in protest actions against the unjust American aggression on the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

Senseless Deaths

After a previous American air raid, on Feb. 7, some of us saw with our own eyes, among the debris of a U.S. plane lying in a paddy field, a pilot's helmet riddled with bullets. Where was the pilot? we thought. Had his body been reduced to ashes? Or had he jumped into the sea and been drowned? We felt a pang thinking of his mother, his wife, his children, his brothers and sisters, his friends. We, too, have husbands, children, brothers and sisters; and so we felt deeply with that man's mother and wife in their sorrow. And we asked ourselves: for what reason, for whose sake, in whose interests, are American mothers and wives suffering sorrow and grief?

Alvarez and Shumaker, the two American pilots captured during the Aug. 5, 1964 and Feb. 7, 1965 raids, are in good health. If nothing unusual happens, they may hope for some clemency when the war ends. But how many other American airmen have lost their lives? They will never again see their mothers, their wives, their children. We know what terrible sorrow has struck their dear ones. But could we have done otherwise? The Vietnamese people cannot abstain from hitting back at

The Question: Peking Next?

"The extension of the war into North Vietnam . . . can . . . be interpreted as an attempt to change the fortunes of war in South Vietnam by rupturing the assumed causal nexus between the policies of Hanoi and the victories of the Viet Cong. This causal nexus is a delusion . . . A policy derived from such a delusion is bound to fail. Yet when it has failed and failure approaches catastrophe, it would be consistent in terms of that delusory logic to extend the war still further. Today we are holding Hanoi responsible for the Viet Cong; tomorrow we might hold Peking responsible for Hanoi." — Hans J. Morgenthau in the April 3 New Republic.

those who shower bombs and rockets, mourning and destruction, on their land.

Innocent children have been killed by American rockets at Quang Binh and Vinh Linh! Hospitals, schools, kindergartens have been destroyed by American bombs! We know that you yourselves, American mothers and wives, feel pain and anger. We know that following the American air raids of Feb. 7, 8 and 11, 1965, the American people, American women in particular, immediately voiced their protests.

Deeply engraved in our minds will remain the pictures of American mothers with their children staging protest marches and meetings before the White House, the Pentagon, the United Nations building; those of students of Missouri state colleges, Columbia University and other places, staging hunger strikes to protest against the air raids on North Vietnam and demand the withdrawal of American troops from South Vietnam.

We feel deeply grateful and moved before those fine and courageous actions undertaken by American women and other strata of the American people, which testify to their earnest desire to see freedom and peace achieved in South Vietnam, and the threat of war on North Vietnam dispelled.

But those legitimate aspirations of the Vietnamese people, those earnest wishes of peace- and free-

dom-loving people in the United States and all over the world, are not yet realized! The American warmongers and their agents had hoped that attacks on North Vietnam would save them from defeats in South Vietnam and extricate them from the blind alley in which they found themselves! But their hopes have led them into a wrong way, for every attack on North Vietnam has only made the people over the whole of Vietnam, North and South, more indignant and more resolute!

Every time they tried to carry the war into North Vietnam, the American warmongers had sought to justify themselves before American and world opinion by pretending that they were only retaliating against attacks on U.S. warships or U.S. military bases in South Vietnam. But recently, following their March 2 air raids, they brazenly declared that they were no longer "retaliating" but carrying out "preventive attacks." How many cock-and-bull stories they have invented to slander the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, seeking all kinds of pretexts to carry out attacks on North Vietnam and increase the scope and savagery of their cruel war in South Vietnam by using the most up-to-date means of war.

U.S. Troops

American F-100 jet fighters and B-57 strategic bombers, manned by U.S. personnel, have been carrying out bombing and strafing raids on South and North Vietnam. Two battalions of U.S. marines, one battalion of "Hawk" missiles, and 2,000 South Korean mercenaries have recently been introduced into South Vietnam. It is clear that the American government wants to expand and internationalize the war in Vietnam! Peace in Indochina, Southeast Asia and the world is being seriously threatened!

Dear friends, we earnestly call on you American mothers and wives, for the sake of your own homes and children as well as of ours, to do everything in your power to stop the war, which is robbing us all of our dear ones, and to prevent the U.S. government from trampling upon the most elementary human rights, upon international law and upon the 1954 Geneva Agreements. Whatever may be your profession or religion, you are mothers, you have created life, you want to protect the happiness of your homes and the lives of your children, you will not allow the U.S. warmongers to force your husbands, your sons, your brothers, your friends to go to Vietnam to kill and be killed.

Oppose U.S. Policy

We earnestly call on you to adopt adequate and timely measures to oppose the American government's adventurous and criminal policy. Struggle to demand that the American government:

- Put an end to all acts of war, sabotage and provocation against North Vietnam;

- Withdraw all American military personnel and war materials from South Vietnam, including the battalion of missiles and all launching equipment;

- Correctly implement the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indochina and leave the Vietnamese people to settle their own affairs.

We firmly believe that strong protests and energetic actions from the American people, particularly from the American women, will contribute to the victory of the just struggle of the Vietnamese people, with the result that Vietnamese and American mothers and wives will no longer suffer from the sorrows and griefs brought about by the present imperialist war.

With best wishes of good health and success in your struggle for peace in Vietnam and the world.

U.S. Use of Gas in Vietnam Evokes World-Wide Alarm

By Dick Roberts

World alarm over the March 22 disclosure that the United States has been using gas in the Vietnamese War is entirely justified. This is the first time the U.S. has used gas for combat purposes since World War I, and there is little comfort in Washington's insistence that these particular gases are non-lethal.

Pentagon statements to the contrary notwithstanding, the 1925 Geneva Protocol prohibiting the use in war of all gases, stated explicitly, "asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases, and all analogous liquids, materials or devices."

Even tear and vomit gases can be lethal, as Dr. David Hilding of the Yale University Medical School pointed out in a letter to the March 26 New York Times:

Effects of Gas

"The weakest, young and old, will be the ones unable to withstand the shock of this supposedly humane weapon. They will writhe in horrible cramps until their babies' strength is unequal to the stress and they turn blue and black and die."

Most alarming is the implication that the introduction of tear and vomit gas may pave the way for much more dangerous weapons including nerve gases and forms of biological warfare.

The U.S. spent \$120,000,000 in 1964, alone, on the development of chemical and biological weapons. It is known to have a stockpile of gases of fantastic toxicity. A certain class of ethers, for instance, kills almost instantly when the skin is exposed to several drops.

Such liquefied gases can be put into bombs, several tons of which would have the destructive power of medium or large-scale atom bombs. These well deserve to be classed along with nuclear weapons in the category of "strategic" weapons — that is, those capable of mass destruction.

Mass Infection

Biological warfare could infect whole populations with diseases. As early as 1959, the Pugwash International Conference of Scientists on Biological and Chemical Warfare listed 26 infective agents which could be used to spread disease on a militarily "strategic" scale. These ranged from botulism to poliomyelitis and epidemic typhus.

According to the March 28 New York Post, the U.S. drug industry annually supplies the government with "4,000 to 5,000 new formulas whose effects lend themselves better to the battlefield than the prescription counter."

What makes the threat of such weapons more than fantasies of Pentagon Dr. Strangelove is the fact that the U.S., in line with the Defense Department's use of South Vietnam as a "training ground" for counter-guerrilla warfare techniques, has already employed a number of deadly innovations.

New Weapons

This was spelled out in a March 26 front-page Wall Street Journal article by its staff reporter, William Beecher, entitled "Many New U.S. Arms Could Be Used in Vietnam War." "Despite secrecy," the writer states, "a good deal can be told about the more exotic weapons already being used in Vietnam, many of them far more painful or devastating than tear or nausea gases."

Among these, Beecher lists cluster bombs, which "throw out tiny fragmentation bomblets and needle-sharp dart-like bullets," and "multi-pronged metal devices"; and, air-launched rockets which pilots can guide to targets.

Chemical warfare already employed includes napalm, with a new improved napalm already on hand, according to Beecher, and defoliant agents which "not only

European Reaction To U.S. Vomit Gas

Explaining the angry European reaction to the American use of vomit gas in Vietnam, a London dispatch to the March 28 New York Herald Tribune explained: "On Jan. 31, 1915, Russian and German armies collided at the dreary Polish railroad town of Bolimov. Suddenly the Russians reeled back under assault by a new weapon never used before in warfare — gas. The 18,000 gas-filled canisters used by the Germans that day were only a mild foretaste of what was to come . . . by the time World War I ended . . . gases had caused 91,198 deaths, while nearly 1,250,000 men had been maimed, burned, seared, choked or disabled for life. This memory lies deep in the European mind's dry storehouse of trauma."

strip off leaves hiding infiltration paths but also kill rice crops."

One new weapon Beecher fails to mention was gruesomely described in Look magazine, December 23, 1963 — the so-called AR-15 rifle. "Aware that the enemy already knows what AR-15 does," Look states, "you can find an occasional returnee who will tell you what he saw:

"When I left out there it was the rifle. The effect is fantastic. I saw one guy hit in the arm. It spun him around and blew the arm right off. One got hit in the back and it blew his heart literally out of his body."

One effect of the U.S. gas "experiment" was described by the Hanoi radio, according to a March 22 AP dispatch: "On Feb. 27 U.S. puppet aircraft dropped on Thanh-phuoc village, Mochoa Province, colored balloons containing noxious chemicals.

"A 12-year-old child who happened to get one such balloon and blew air into it immediately had his face swollen and severe headaches."

Ford Workers Strike Plant in Los Angeles

By Della Rossa

LOS ANGELES, March 28 — The first strike on purely local issues in at least 19 years has put 1,800 members of the Ford-Pico Rivera United Auto Workers Local 924 on the picket lines here since March 25.

The assembly-plant workers found it necessary to strike when a list of 34 grievances could not be settled any other way. Speed-up on the trim line is one of the main grievances. There have been disciplinary lay-offs of one or two days against men who could not keep up with the line after a change had been made in the operations.

Gross violations by Ford of health and safety standards was another issue that led to the strike. For example, there often were dangerous spills of oil on the floor, and no maintenance man hired by the company to clean them up.

Workers on the line have been confronted by foremen, who use abusive language and actually shove them around.

Both the foremen and the men have been working ten-hour days, six-day weeks, since September. This has caused irritability on the part of the overworked men and difficulty in maintaining production standards.

... Presses War in Vietnam

(Continued from Page 1) his associates" will discuss, according to Reston, are whether to bomb "closer and closer to the North Vietnamese capital of Hanoi"; whether to "destroy the new North Vietnamese industries around Hanoi and Haiphong"; and whether to attack air bases "north of Hanoi and even in South China."

U.S. imperialism's mad escalation of the war appears to be solidifying sentiment among its opponents for greater resistance. The South Vietnam Liberation Front on March 23 declared that if the U.S. continues to commit its troops and those of its satellites —

such as the 2,000 South Korean troops recently shipped to Saigon as volunteers, "the South Vietnam Liberation Front will call on the people of all countries to send youth and army men to South Vietnam to side with the South Vietnamese people in annihilating the common enemy."

A Chinese statement the next day indicated readiness to send men and material, if requested. North Korea, took a similar stand.

Even in Moscow, Communist Party head Brezhnev assured the world that "we will carry out our international obligations toward our brother North Vietnamese people." He added, "Our central organisms are receiving many requests from Soviet citizens wanting to participate in the struggle of the Vietnamese people."

And in Cuba, the revolutionary government announced March 28 that it was receiving offers from Cuban workers to fight in Vietnam. The announcement followed an official declaration by President Dorticos that Cuba was ready to send men and arms.

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Letters From Our Readers

[This column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of general interest to our readers. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Writers' initials will be used, names being withheld unless authorization is given for use.]

Nigerian View of Malcolm

Onitsha, Nigeria

I am very grateful to receive today your letter and three copies of *The Militant*. I was stunned to read from the Nigerian press the

horror of the assassination of that brave man, Malcolm X.

I did not know Malcolm X too well but I read his speeches and programs for the emancipation of the Black Americans to realize what a rare talent the young man was.

One should have thought that in a democratic nation like the United States (democratic at least for those with the "right" skin color or, better still, for those with enough cash to control the mass) there should be better ways of treating people whose views we don't share than by a cheap resort to gunfire.

Malcolm X was discontented when it would be suicidal to be contented; courageous when many preferred the easy way out; thoughtful when many (or is it the majority?) were afraid to think for themselves.

My deepest sympathy goes to his wife and family. I must say if I were a woman I would find it more satisfying to be the widow of a courageous man who lost his life in the fight for truth and social justice than to live a wife to one who does not recognize human dignity in himself and in others.

I do not belong to a political party but I am a humble school teacher who will be content to produce students capable of thinking for themselves and possessing enough discipline to grant others the right to disagree with them. Having no organization to share *The Militant* with, I shall simply make the copies available to my friends and students.

The noble ideals for which Malcolm X lived and died should not end with his cruel assassination. May the blood of the martyred give greater zeal to the living in fighting social injustice, whether in Nigeria, the USA, or in any other part of the globe we live in.

E. Ebo. Ubahakwe

Test Cops on Bill of Rights?

Newark, N.J.

Many of my so-called liberal friends praised President Johnson's "We Shall Overcome" speech to Congress, but these same liberals condemned Negro demonstrators in Selma for "blocking" the highways.

They conveniently forget that it was the policemen, using brute force who blocked the highways.

In other words, there would not be any civil-rights workers blocking the highways if their constitutional rights were not blocked by the police.

I believe all policemen should have to pass an examination on the Constitution and be strong supporters of the Bill of Rights before they are appointed to the police force.

F.S.

Mrs. Herz' Action

New York, N.Y.

I was both moved and shocked by what happened in Detroit where a refugee from Nazi Germany, the 82-year-old woman, Mrs. Herz, set fire to herself on a busy street in protest against what the U.S. is doing in Vietnam.

Both her daughter and her pastor said she is completely sane and fully aware of what she was doing and that she had acted out of a feeling of need to do something that would call public attention to the gravity of what was being done in Vietnam and other small countries.

Her action, I believe, was a cry: "Help! This country is going the

way of Germany under the Nazis!"

As I write this Mrs. Herz is still alive, although I understand her condition is critical. I hope that she will live to protest again, but in a different way. I hope she'll live to see a big student March on Washington protesting the Vietnam war and that there will be effective adult actions for her to join in.

Mrs. Herz chose to dedicate her death to a better future for humanity. For this I can only admire her. Yet I believe the most important thing is to dedicate one's life to the work of changing society and finding a way to participate in an organized movement of social change.

Such a society already exists in Cuba, also a target of bullying by the U.S. Such a society the people of Vietnam could try to build for themselves if the U.S. troops would leave their country.

We here can aid such efforts in these countries and work for a better society right here through a movement like the Socialist Workers Party.

P.R.

Steel Union Election

Pittsburgh, Pa.

You guys really make me sick!! You devote almost one-half of a page to the recent Steelworkers election and what do you say? You indicate that voting patterns didn't follow projected patterns. You indicate a possible court case to dispute the outcome of the election. You bring up Donald Rarick's dues-protest movement for some unapparent reason (the

date was 1955, not 1959). This was all ascertained in press releases.

Did you point out the following?

1) The red-baiting done by McDonald on the West Coast.

2) The linking of I. W. Abel to the Ku Klux Klan by the use of a leaflet handed out before the election in key Negro Local spots in Chicago, Baltimore, Houston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh.

3) The campaigning done by the business community to keep a stable union leadership.

4) The campaigning done by the Democratic bosses (Johnson on down) on behalf of McDonald (you mentioned this in passing).

5) The use of union (International) personnel for the campaign.

6) A \$400 shakedown on all those people "interested" in seeing Mr. McDonald re-elected.

7) The use of the Labor Department to muddle the end of the election.

8) The campaigning done by a clergyman in Pittsburgh, Monsignor Rice, a so-called labor priest, on behalf of McD. This clergyman had the gall to call for a new election when it seemed obvious Abel was elected.

9) Calling Abel a Jew — his daughter married a Jew.

You didn't point these things out. There are, of course, many other matters.

How about the backgrounds of the two candidates? The two \$35,000 homes owned by Abel. The excessive salaries received by all the International officers — \$50,-

000, \$35,000 and \$35,000 received by the President, Secretary-treasurer, and the Vice-president respectively. The new pay increase to all the district directors from a \$16,000 salary to the new \$20,000 salary. They bank the salary and live off the lavish expense accounts. Why the \$4,000 increase? McDonald's home in Palm Springs, living alongside a steel company president. The country club to which he belongs, to which he pays a \$7,000 initiation fee and the same for yearly membership.

If you are going to devote that much space to the union election, at least use the space well. Remember it was Abel's people who called for the shorter work week, the settlement of local issues, and other fundamental actions. Sure, on the whole the labor movement is in bad shape and not likely to get out of it. It won't. But the worker has only the union to appeal to. The worker has only the union to get any kind of pittance from the capitalist, however small. It is quite obvious that the fascist-capitalists are running away with the country, but at least let's stall them off for the time being.

Reader

[The McDonald-Rarick election was in 1957, not in 1959, as our March 8 article stated, nor in 1955, as our correspondent says. Some of the points — particularly 3, 4 and 7 — in the above letter were dealt with in the article, though perhaps not amply enough. The additional information, like the criticism, is welcome. —Editor]

It Was Reported in the Press

Sets Vietnam Record Straight —

"Mr. Speaker, it is time we sounded taps for the ugly rumor that our military assistance program has provided 10,000 bugles to the government of South Vietnam. The fact of the matter is that we only purchased 3,900 bugles and the bugles did not cost \$10 apiece — they only cost \$9.45." — Vernon W. Thompson (R-Wis.) as reported in the March 18 *Congressional Record*.

The Greatest — The U.S. Chamber of Commerce says Johnson should call it the "Greater Society" because we already have a "great" one.

Revolutionary Approach — If you've been wondering what's happening to the "war on poverty," consider this item by Roscoe Drummond in the March 21 *New York Herald Tribune*: "A marvelously revolutionary decision is being carried out by the Johnson administration in its war on poverty . . . What is happening is that the administration — fully aware of what it is doing — is enlisting the motive power of profits to generate social progress. To do this the Office of Economic Opportunity is letting contracts to private business to produce social services exactly as the Pentagon lets contracts to private business to produce bombers. This policy is no accident. It is deliberate. It stems from the very top of the anti-poverty program — President Johnson himself."

To the Rescue — Three professors from Florida Presbyterian College who joined civil-rights demonstrations in Selma had the heat taken off when their activ-

ity netted the college a financial gain.

Some local racist-minded contributors to the college had threatened to withdraw support after learning about the professors' activity. Whereupon author-philosopher Thomas Dreier contributed \$100,000 to the college. A school spokesman indicated that this was substantially more than it stood to lose from the racists.

Plot Uncovered — Mrs. Fred J. Tooze, crusading president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, has accused a Chicago brewer of "hatching a plot and product to promote the use of needle beer by teen-agers." The brewer has been trying to market near-beer, a beverage that tastes something like beer but is practically devoid of alcoholic content. (In Prohibition days it was called needle beer.) The plot was uncovered when the brewer approached Mrs. Tooze for an endorsement.

Christian Segregationists — Members of the Board of Direc-

tors of the St. Petersburg, Fla., Young Men's Christian Association, are firm on maintaining the organization's policy of racial segregation even if it costs them money. The problem came to the public eye when Rev. A.L. Albers called for a policy change after learning that a planned fund solicitation could be barred in the local offices of federal agencies under Washington regulations.

High Tide — Madison Avenue ad man Norman Strouse made a speech on the problem of "The Rising Tide of Consumer Inattention." He said the problem is not that consumers are paying less attention to ads — it's just that there are so many more ads for them to pay attention to.

A Tip — If you're trying to keep your waistline down and have trouble getting past those Good Humor carts, keep this in mind. This spring the Good Humor salesman will be equipped with jokes as well as ice cream. Sample: How do you catch a squirrel? Climb a tree and act like a nut.

10 Years Ago In The Militant

"Dorothy Schiff, publisher of the liberal *New York Post*, is not the ordinary publisher whose main interest is raking in the profits. She writes a column of her own and is idealistic about liberal politics. On March 27 her column contained a blistering attack on Senator Hubert Humphrey, dubbing him 'Hustling Humphrey' . . .

"Last August," she writes, "I was horrified to learn that our friend, the liberal demagogue, whose term was about to expire, had seized upon the passions aroused by McCarthyism and appeared to be attempting to turn them to his own political advantage. This formerly ardent civil libertarian had introduced an amendment to the Communist Control Act which seemed to outdo McCarthy at his worst" . . .

"When he was re-elected to the Senate last fall, I thought he would no longer feel it was necessary to out-McCarthy McCarthy. How wrong I was! At the beginning of the new session, the demagogic twins, Humphrey and Morse, led in the decision not to fight for anti-filibuster legislation. And last week Hubert pulled a fast one. He tried to butter up liberalism's arch enemy, William Randolph Hearst, Jr."

"That liberal crusader on-the-make, Humphrey, put Hearst's articles on the Soviet Union into the Congressional record, calling them 'extraordinary' and 'valuable' and their author 'the distinguished American editor.' This fulsome praise of one of the most sinister reactionaries in the U.S. is explained as an attempt by Humphrey to get Hearst support for the vice-presidential nomination." — April 4, 1955.

20 Years Ago

"Demonstrating their traditional fighting spirit and determination to win their just demands, the nation's soft-coal miners on March 29 cast a thunderous eight-to-one majority vote empowering the United Mine Workers leaders to call a strike if the mine operators fail to sign a contract acceptable to the union.

"The miners, who went on strike four times in 1943, once more ignored the howls of the big business press, government agents and mine owners . . .

"This decisive expression of the militant will of the miners, as the boss press has mournfully conceded, has tremendously strengthened the hand of the UMW bargaining committee which previously received a flat rejection of the union's 18 demands from the operators. The mine owners are gorged with the juiciest profits they have ever squeezed from the sweat and blood of the men who face death daily in the dark, wet, gas-filled coal pits." — April 7, 1945.

Thought for the Week

"This new poison gas is guaranteed not to kill; it will only cause nausea. But the vomiting is not restricted to the inhalers . . . the whole population of Asia and Africa . . . vomit with them." From a letter to the March 25 *New York Times* by Rev. J. Spencer Kennedy, Jr.

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Big Turnout Expected For Student D.C. March

The student March on Washington to End the War in Vietnam is growing into a sizeable and militant protest. It is expected to draw thousands of young people to Washington on April 17.

"The purpose of the March is not a lobby action within the system but rather a total rejection of current American foreign policy," said Clark Kissinger, national secretary of the Students for a Democratic Society. SDS is organizing the March, and many other youth groups, such as the Young Socialist Alliance, have endorsed it.

The Washington protest will differ from previous peace marches, most notably the student march in Washington in 1962, in that it will be a protest against a concrete imperialist war, and not merely protest against war in the abstract.

Kissinger reports that in addition to buses from all over the East Coast and Midwest, there will be a chartered train from New York which will pick up demonstrators en route to Washington. Students are coming from almost every college in the Northeast and Midwest — from Boston, Philadelphia, New York, New Haven, Baltimore, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, Madison, Minneapolis, and all points in between. Contingents are coming from North Carolina, Georgia and Mississippi.

March on LBJ Ranch

Token representation will come from the West Coast, and a simultaneous demonstration is scheduled in the Bay Area. Another simultaneous action will occur in Texas, where students plan to march on the LBJ ranch.

Kissinger reports that the March has been receiving considerable support from people who can't

Students Ask Sartre To Deliver Talk at March on Washington

NEW YORK — Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), together with the publications *Studies on the Left* and *Monthly Review*, cabled Jean-Paul Sartre on March 25, requesting that he reconsider his refusal to speak in America. They invited him to speak in the U.S. under their auspices and at the April 17 March on Washington to End the War in Vietnam — which is being organized by SDS.

Sartre recently canceled a proposed speaking tour of the U.S. as a protest against the war in Vietnam.

The cable read: "We are anxious to communicate to you the fact that there is a growing opposition in America to the war in Vietnam. Especially within the academic community, there is unprecedented ferment and increasingly outspoken action. As journals and organizations representing a cross-section of opposition to the war, we are able to offer independent sponsorship of a U.S. speaking tour for you which would aid substantially our efforts to bring about cessation of the war and withdrawal of U.S. forces, while removing your original objection to coming."

"We will take full responsibility for all arrangements. Students for a Democratic Society, the largest left-wing student movement in the United States, also invites you to address a rally of 10,000 in Washington, April 17, to protest the war in Vietnam. New York Radio Station WBAI also requests the honor of your appearance on their station, and their affiliated stations KPFA and KPFA in California, to speak on Vietnam."

Where to Get Facts On Capital March

For more information about the March on Washington to End the War in Vietnam; for buttons, copies of the March call, transportation information and addresses of local March committees, write: Students for a Democratic Society, 119 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y.

The following are the addresses of some of the many committees organizing the March: Boston area — c/o David Kotz, Adams D-21, Harvard College, Cambridge; Philadelphia — c/o Bob Dillon, 117 So. 38 St.; Detroit — March Committee, 4263 Cass, Apt. 17; Chicago — c/o Susan Loren, 5825 Woodlawn Ave.

participate directly. For example, a retired merchant seaman came into the SDS office and gave the March fund \$18 he had collected from friends.

SDS has printed and distributed 100,000 copies of the call for the March, and is printing more to meet the demand. Over 10,000 buttons have been distributed.

While many different political persuasions will be represented at the March, the common denominator will be opposition to the Vietnam war. The placards the marchers will carry, which the SDS is having printed, will raise various demands, such as "Withdraw U.S. Troops," and "Negotiate."

Although additional tactics for action in Washington are still being worked out, plans so far call for a picket line at the White House followed by a march to the Washington Monument, where speakers will address the crowd. Besides Senator Gruening and journalist I. F. Stone, speakers will include a student leader and a Southern civil-rights fighter.

Detroit Woman, 82, Gives Her Life In Protest Against War in Vietnam

An 82-year-old woman has laid down her life in an attempt to awaken the American people to the injustice and horror of this country's war against the people of Vietnam.

Mrs. Alice Herz, who with her daughter fled from Nazi Germany in 1933 and came to this country in 1943, died March 26 in a Detroit hospital. Cause of her death was severe burns which resulted when she doused herself with inflammable fluid and set herself afire on a busy Detroit streetcorner March 16.

Mrs. Herz had long been active in the pacifist movement. In recent years she had participated in almost every peace walk and civil-rights march in the Detroit area. She was a frequent attendee of the Friday Night Socialist Forum.

The elderly pacifist had worked for President Johnson's election during the last campaign but subsequently had become gravely disillusioned with his foreign policy and the war in Vietnam. In her purse police found a note protesting "the use of his high office by our President L.B.J., in trying to wipe out smaller nations."

In a farewell letter to her daughter, Mrs. Herz explained she was attempting self-immolation, such as Buddhists in Vietnam had carried out, "not out of despair but out of hope." Her hope was that

Puerto Rican Community Protests

Clear Trigger-Happy N. Y. Cop

Tom Leonard

NEW YORK — Two demonstrations here protested the police department's whitewash of Detective John C. Devlin, who beat and shot Gregorio Cruz, a 22-year-old Puerto Rican, last September.

Devlin claimed that he had stopped young Cruz for questioning as a possible homicide suspect and that Cruz slugged him and ran away. Devlin, who weighs 210 pounds, claimed that, after he had again caught the 140-pound youth, the latter nearly knocked him unconscious, forcing Devlin to shoot him three times.

Cruz, who police admit had no connection with the crime allegedly being investigated, charges that Devlin, without identifying himself as a police officer, accosted him in the dark in front of the Alfred E. Smith Housing Project. According to his testimony, Cruz thought he was being pursued by a sex maniac or a madman, and ran from fear.

In clearing Devlin of "excessive use of force" against Cruz, Deputy Police Commissioner Aloysius J. Melia said that Cruz "impressed me as a fine young man," but that his story did not ring true. Devlin's story, however, was accepted as the truth, although he had everything to gain by being cleared.

As a result of Melia's ruling, Devlin has been reinstated with full back pay, amounting to over \$4,000. Cruz, who has a \$2-million damage suit against the city, has suffered a relapse from the numerous operations made necessary by Devlin's bullets, and is again in the hospital.

The first demonstration against this outrageous whitewash was a March 27 picket line in front of police headquarters, 240 Centre St., initiated by teen-age members of the Lower Eastside Action Project (LEAP). They were aided by Ted Velez of the East Harlem Tenants Council (EHTC), who had helped involve other organizations in the protest. As a result, there were several hundred people in the picket line.

Organizations represented included LEAP, EHTC, Movement

Forced Whitmore 'Confession' Upheld

NEW YORK — In a shocking and well-nigh incredible decision, Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Dominic Rinaldi has upheld the validity of the "confession" of George Whitmore in the slaying of Mrs. Minnie Edmonds. The "confession" was extracted from Whitmore by the same cops and at the same time that he was beaten into "confessing" the slaying of Janet Wylie and Emily Hoffert. That charge against him has been dropped and another man has been charged with the crime. Whitmore was also forced into "confessing" the attempted rape of Mrs. Elba Borrero. His conviction in that case has just been reversed.

Further light was shed on police-obtained confessions when first-degree murder charges against two "drifters," James Stewart and R.L. Douglas, for the hammer slaying of a derrick over a year ago, were dropped by District Attorney Hogan last week — when it was revealed that the confessions had been beaten out of them.

An Assistant District Attorney handling the case, James C. Mosley, informed a reporter who inquired about one of the near-victims of the frame-up: "He's just a bum. It's not worth writing about."

for Puerto Rican Independence, Lower Manhattan Council of Puerto Rican and Spanish Organizations, Locals 485 and 431 of the International Union of Electrical Workers, Locals 6 and 89 of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees, and the Puerto Rican National Association for Civil Rights.

In a statement issued prior to the picketing, teen-age LEAP members demanded "a public hearing or Commissioner Murphy's immediate resignation."

"The tragedy at Selma, Alabama," they said, "must not close our eyes to the ongoing tragedy of New York City. In the past year, nine Puerto Ricans have been killed or permanently disabled by policemen's bullets." The youth group is currently discussing possible demonstrations at other police precincts.

The next day, Sunday, some 300 Puerto Ricans picketed City Hall, protesting the Devlin whitewash. Organizations represented included the National Association for Puerto Rican Affairs, the Pentecostal Church, American Party of Puerto Rico, Residents of the Alfred E. Smith Housing Project (where Cruz, the victim, lived), and a delegation from Red Bank, N.J.

Demand Review Board

They demanded the firing of Devlin, resignation of Police Commissioner Murphy, and establishment of a civilian review board, which would include a Puerto Rican member, to investigate cases of police brutality. These demands were symbolized by a black coffin carried by three pickets, bearing the signs: "Justice in New York — Killed by Murphy" and "Who Will Be the Next Puerto Rican to Be Hanged?" The latter referred to four Puerto Rican prisoners who allegedly "hanged themselves" while in jail, although medical reports do not satisfactorily confirm that this was the way they died.

Other slogans, some of them in Spanish, read: "Peace and Justice For Spanish Americans," "If you want to be a criminal with a license, be a cop," "Devlin must go or you will hear from our community" and "We Also Shall Overcome."

Despite the intent of the pickets to demonstrate peacefully, they were harassed by the cops who tried to confine their picket line to three-quarters of a block on Park Row. When pickets insisted they had the right to the whole block, a cordon of belligerent cops blocked their path. One

cop sneered, "Take what you've got. Thank God for little apples. We could put you all across the street."

The pickets resumed their march but went entirely around City Hall — which meant that they walked over the forbidden area. The cops did not stop them. On the last time around, as they neared the cops, the pickets changed their slogans from "Justice, Justice," to "Asesinos (murderers), Asesinos."

An impressive feature of the demonstration was the turnout of the women of El Barrio, the slums of East Harlem, and of the lower East Side — the two areas in which most of New York's more than 500,000 Puerto Rican citizens live. The women, many accompanied by their children, personified the deep anger of their communities.

Calif. High Court Upholds Teacher

LOS ANGELES — The California Supreme Court has refused to hear the appeal of the Fullerton School Board to review the appellate court ruling that it erred in discharging Wendell Phillips, a socialist, from his teaching job as welding instructor at Fullerton Junior College. This gives final legal vindication to his three-year fight against the thought-control Dilworth and Levering Oath Acts which penalize teachers for their political views and associations.

On the basis of these favorable judicial decisions, Phillips and his attorneys are negotiating full compensation and clearance from the Fullerton School Board which buckled under the outcries of the Orange County witch-hunters and must now pay for its cowardice and illegal persecution.

Phillips' defense was conducted by a committee which included many prominent academic figures.

Phillips' victory should serve to strengthen the forces struggling against the restriction of civil liberties on all levels of the California education system today. One sign of how his uncompromising defense of academic freedom has altered the situation in this center of Goldwaterism and the John Birch Society is that Ralph Levitt, one of the three defendants in the Bloomington, Indiana, "sedition" case has been invited by the official student body of Fullerton Junior College to speak there Tuesday, March 30.