

## Support the April 5-6 antiwar action!

To the SDS National Council Meeting, Austin, Texas:

On April 5-6 there will be mass demonstrations against the war in Vietnam in cities across the United States. These demonstrations deserve the full support and energies of all revolutionary youth.

Recent news from Vietnam makes it clear that the war will continue and intensify for a long time. Many opponents of the war who had been disoriented by the Paris talks or were involved in the McCarthy campaign are now turning their attention back

to the task of organizing against the war. All across the country broad coalitions are coming together to organize the mass demonstrations, making April 5-6 the central activity of the movement against the war.

These demonstrations will have a specially inspiring character because of the expected participation of far more antiwar GIs than ever before. Right from the heart of American imperialism's war machine, opposition to the war will be manifest. The impli-

(Continued on Page 9)

## THE MILITANT

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### UAW bureaucrats open racist attack on DRUM

— see editorial page 7 —

## GI acquitted in petitioning case; Army faces court suit on GI rights

— stories, page 4



Photo by Liberation News Service

"MUTINEERS." In a startling retreat, the Army brass reduced the sentence of the first man convicted in the Presidio 27 case from 15 to two years' imprisonment.

On the morning of last Oct. 14, the 27 GIs, prisoners in the Presidio of San Francisco stockade, sat down in a circle and sang "We Shall Overcome" and "America the Beautiful" to protest the killing three days before of a mentally ill fellow prisoner by a guard. The men were charged with mutiny.

The sit-down is shown above in an Army Intelligence photo obtained and released by the bay area GI Association.

The brass' backdown came in the wake of mounting

public anger at the brutality of the charge and the original sentences. Demonstrations have been held recently in a number of American cities, including San Francisco, New York, Boston, Seattle and Philadelphia. Because of the intensity of the protest movement in San Francisco, the brass first moved the court-martials to Ft. Irwin in the Mojave Desert and then, on March 19, to Ft. Lewis, near Seattle. The Seattle GI-Civilian Alliance has called for public attendance at the trials.

Some 12,000 demonstrated in San Francisco on March 15. On March 18, 700 people rallied in Boston. There were also protests in Seattle and Philadelphia to defend the Presidio 27. (See story, page 4.)

# Scientists find cops 'prejudiced'

## Detroit survey even provides proof

Detroit, Mich. It's now officially proven by science: White policemen are prejudiced against Afro-Americans. Now everyone can believe what black Americans have been saying for hundreds of years. The most complete analysis of urban police attitudes ever made was undertaken by Wayne State University's Lafayette Clinic and the results have just been published. A random sample of 250 white Detroit policemen and 36 black Detroit officers were interviewed between November 1967 and February 1968 (after the summer's uprising in Detroit's ghetto). Those interviewed ranged from patrolmen to superintendents.

The study concludes that "most white police officers are at best unsympathetic and, at worst, hostile to Detroit Negroes" according to a Feb. 23 **Detroit News** report. "Policement believe that the goal of the black community is not equality but actual domination over whites . . . Most white policemen reject the idea that Negroes are victims of social injustice . . . most white policemen think Negroes are 'deficient' in law and order and ready to use

violence to attain 'advantages over the white community,'" the newspaper reported.

It is obvious from the study that white patrolmen regard almost all black people as possible or actual criminals. For example, the study showed that "white police officers particularly dislike lower-class blacks" and attribute lower-class status to all blacks unless it is proven otherwise.

The overwhelming number of white policemen of all ranks, however, said they did not see blacks assisting police and firemen during the 1967 "riot." On the other hand, two-thirds of the black officers said they did see such assistance. Top-ranking liberalism goes only so far, it seems.

I just thought that **Militant** readers should be relieved of any guilt feelings they may be harboring about being unfair towards police. Now you can rest assured that your remarks are not expressions of prejudice but scientifically verified statements based on a highly respectable research study.

Go to it.

Evelyn Sell



Photo by Alan Mercer

## Likes paper despite 'bile'

Guantanamo Bay, Cuba I would have renewed my subscription to **The Militant** when it expired, but I was due to be transferred shortly afterwards and didn't know what my new address would be. I'm not at all happy to report that my new address is Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Both for personal and political reasons, I resent the presence of American military on this island.

I agree with your recent editorial that we have no business being here (see **The Militant**, Jan. 24) though I question the opening statement of that editorial: "The way the capitalist press would have it," 80 some Cuban nationals got into the base without help from the Americans.

The editorial writer goes on to refute the statement with quotes from **Newsweek** and the **New York Times** — neither of which can be said to be staunch advocates of

the SWP point of view.

I discussed this point at some length with a YSA member during my recent stay in Boston. The discussion was rather futile, but I maintain that less bile about capitalism and better reporting would improve your paper considerably.

As a reporter for 18 months on a strongly conservative paper in the Midwest, and as a Navy journalist, I am well aware of news suppression and management. However, as much as we need better coverage of racial and economic problems, the students' struggles and opposition to the war in Vietnam, I cannot condone bias for the sake of bias. Too often you are guilty of the same distortions and error-by-admission as the capitalist press. Admittedly, true objectivity is impossible, but good journalism requires its attempt.

Nevertheless, I feel your paper gives the best available coverage on these subjects and am glad to renew my subscription for another six months at my new address.

J. R.

## 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.

## Palestinian Arab struggle supported

Beckley, W. Va.

I read with great interest the letters of Steven Glauser and Dale Rasmussen which appeared in **The Militant** Feb. 14 and March 7. However, I feel that I must take this opportunity to voice my disagreement with them on the Arab-Israeli question.

Mr. Glauser claims to be a socialist. If this is the case, I would highly recommend his studying the **Communist Manifesto** (with Trotsky's preface). The **Manifesto** is quite clear on the position revolutionaries should take in reference to the overthrow of existing social conditions (in this case, the state of Israel). Trotsky, in his preface to the **Manifesto**, explains this concept in connection with national liberation struggles (the struggle of the Palestinian people).

Mssrs. Glauser and Rasmussen have also taken the position that "both sides are wrong." This sounds very much like the position taken by the petty-bourgeois moralists of the 1930s regarding Trotskyists vs. Stalinists. Trotsky answered the moralists by saying, "Only that which prepares the complete and final overthrow of imperialist bestiality is moral, and nothing else. The welfare of the revolution—that is the supreme law." I believe that this quotation applies here. The main question here is not Arab vs. Israeli national interests, but rather whether the revolutionary struggle of the Palestinian people will prevail over western, i.e., U.S., imperialism.

John R. Milam

## From German revolutionary

Sennestadt, Germany

I should first of all let you know that your paper has improved both in style and format. There is nothing similar in Germany, at least we have not seen it.

We note that you have been concentrating on the racial problem in the U.S. It is impossible to get anything but extreme items in the routine sources. They usually distort the picture of the black man's struggle for his human rights. Most of the media is for "Law and Order," and you know what L & O has done for old Germany in the past.

Also interesting is the news from Cuba. Except for Holland, which has relations with Cuba, we get no news from Cuba at all. This is a shame because of the developments taking place there, historic developments which should be of interest to everyone. But there is no news from Cuba, and little interest. After all, Castro has a beard.

Again thank you for your tolerance in sending us **The Militant**. We wish you all success and send our warmest greetings.

H. G.

# THE MILITANT

Editor: HARRY RING

Business Manager: BEVERLY SCOTT

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Vol. 33—No. 12



Friday, March 28, 1969

The closing news date for this issue was March 21

## Finds antiwar actions aid ruling class

New Haven, Conn.

George Breitman's article "Is it wrong for revolutionaries to fight for reforms?" (**The Militant**, Feb. 28) shows a poor understanding of the nature of reformism. He is in reality advocating reformism, despite his feeble disclaimer.

Mr. Breitman fallaciously assumes that the struggle for reforms will transform "the struggle for reforms to the struggle for power and revolution."

This theory is absurd. One reform does not lead to a revolution. One reform leads to another reform, which leads to another, and another, and so on down the road of reformism. Any opportunist group (the SWP, the YSA, the CP) will pay lip service to Socialism while it goes on its merry way proposing reform after reform after reform.

The antiwar demonstrations supported by the SWP have not "revolutionized" any significant number of people; instead they have actually aided the ruling class in prosecuting the imperialist war in Vietnam. As to the "voting-age issue" mentioned by Mr. Breitman, reactionaries, conservatives, and liberals all support the measure as one which will restore faith in capitalism. It is a reform, and as such it is useless.

The article says that the Socialist Labor Party is not revolutionary. This is absurd. The Socialist Labor Party is the only revolutionary organization in America. This is a bold statement, but a true one. The Socialist Labor Party is not an odd conglomeration of hippies, pacifists, liberals, and disguised reactionaries with a sprinkling of agents provocateurs.

It is time that we get rid of reformism and false principles, and fight for a Socialist revolution. It is time that those who want to

build Socialism refrain from labeling the Socialist Labor Party "dogmatic" or "sectarian" or whatever the current leftist phrase is, and consider its program.

Paul Sandahl

## Florida repressions

Gainesville, Fla.

The base chapter of the Junta of Militant Organizations (JOMO) in St. Petersburg, Fla. is undergoing continuous repression. Aside from eleven different cases coming up in court this month on JOMO members and leaders, two leaders are serving prison terms.

James Harrington, 16, was convicted last week of second degree murder and received a life sentence in state prison. Harrington was indicted on a first degree murder charge and the court was asking for the death penalty. In the period of approximately eight hours, the jury was selected and Harrington was convicted and sentenced.

The Gainesville JOMO is already undergoing repression even though it is only nine weeks old. Charles Monts, the Minister of Interior of the chapter, who has been charged on a number of counts, is now out of jail on \$8,500 bond and goes to trial this month.

I was picked up on suspicion of grand larceny, armed robbery and snatching a pocketbook, while leaving the JOMO office. When JOMO and SSOC members called the police station to ask what the charges were, the police at first named a number of charges against me, and finally admitted that they didn't know what they had picked me up on. After I was released, the city police chief released a statement to the press that the "crime wave" in the city was because of black militants and student radicals.

Charles Fulwood  
Minister of Information, JOMO

I'd like a big job please.



## IF YOU SUPPORT

THE CUBAN REVOLUTION

THE ANTIWAR MOVEMENT

BLACK POWER

REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST CANDIDATES

THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY IN EASTERN EUROPE

# JOIN THE YSA

----- clip and mail -----  
Young Socialist Alliance, Box 471 Cooper Station, New York, N.Y. 10003.

☐ I would like more information ☐ I want to join the YSA

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State ..... Zip .....



# Nationwide activities building April 5-6

The GI-Civilian Coalition for April 5 of **Philadelphia** has already reserved a group of buses to New York for the mass demonstration against the war. In addition, the broad coalition group has opened up a new office and is planning a benefit rock concert March 30 to help finance the demonstration.

On April 6 **SANE** will sponsor the first antiwar demonstration at the White House since the Nixon administration took office. The SANE demonstration will be complementary to the major mass mobilization for the Northeast, which will be held in New York on April 5.

The Communist Party has come out in support of the April 5-6 antiwar demonstrations. According to the **Daily World**, March 18: "A memo from the [N. Y. CP] State Secretariat and Peace Commission, addressed to the Party membership, was issued last week, declaring, 'The demonstration on April 5 must see a minimum of 100,000 people in the streets of New York calling for an end to the Vietnam war, for withdrawal of U. S. troops, an end to the ABM program, cutting the military budget and using the funds for the people's social needs.'

"The memo calls on every Party club to distribute leaflets for the action, as well as to 'rebuild or initiate' local, block or community committees to set up local points for mobilization Saturday, April 5."

In **Canada**, the Vietnam Mobilization Committee, organizer of mass anti-war demonstrations last April 27 and October 26, has issued a call for mass demonstrations across the country on April 6, Easter Sunday. Preparations for the demonstrations are already underway in many major Canadian cities.

A second meeting of the **Cleveland** Student Mobilization Committee drew 70 students; again, most of them were high schoolers. The reports indicate that the mobilization for the Chicago demonstration is going well. Nine buses have been reserved so far. The **Plain Dealer**, with circulation of about 500,000, devoted the full front page of its Sunday editorial section to an article entitled, "The Movement is in the High Schools," which dealt largely with the SMC.

The Fifth Avenue Vietnam Peace Parade Committee in **New York** issued a state-

## Detroit students planning strike

**By Elizabeth Henrickson**  
DETROIT — Detroit high-school students will protest the war in Vietnam and commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King in a citywide student strike here on April 3. The main purpose of the high-school strike will be to build support for the regional April 5 antiwar demonstration in Chicago.

Builders of the strike report wide support from Detroit area activists. Large numbers of strikers are anticipated from the inner city. Suburban students at recent Detroit High School Student Mobilization Committee meetings have also been enthusiastic.

In preparation for the strike, a high-school antiwar conference has been called for March 22. Students, a GI, and a panel of lawyers will speak. The film "No Vietnamese Ever Called Me a Nigger" will be shown.

There are more than 20 groups or prominent individuals in high schools who are backing the strike. Among them are Gordon Fox, chairman of the Detroit High School SMC; Beverly Bell of the Murray-Wright High School Association of Black Students and the newspaper **Black Student Voice**; Detroit Brown Berets; Downriver Resistance; and Detroit YSA.

The Detroit Federation of Teachers has been asked to discourage testing on strike day, excessive homework assignments during Easter vacation, or any other punitive measures which might be used against participants in the strike and Chicago march. Because of a possible teachers' strike in Detroit, solidarity between teachers and students in their respective struggles is desired.

ment March 14 linking up opposition to the Sentinel ABM program with the antiwar demonstration set for April 5. The statement says in part:

"The Fifth Ave. Parade Committee is calling for a massive protest in New York City on April 5th to demand immediate withdrawal of American troops and an end to the Vietnam war, which is raging to a degree even more horrifying than before. Ten thousand GIs and tens of thousands of Vietnamese have been slaughtered since the opening of the Paris talks. The deployment of the Sentinel cannot be separated from the question of the war. Both violate the interests of the American people.

"We call on all who would end the U. S. involvement in the Vietnam war and who are opposed to the ABM program to join us — antiwar GIs and civilians — in the streets of New York on April 5th."

Howard Petrick, currently on a national SMC speaking tour, spoke to more than 250 students in Long Beach, Calif., to build for April 6 in **Los Angeles**. He also spoke to more than 100 students at Citrus Junior College and at an antiwar meeting at San Diego State.

The Student Mobilization Committee, organizer of the youth for the April 5-6 demonstrations across the country, has new posters, stickers, **Student Mobilizers** and other organizing materials. They are available to local groups to use in building the demonstrations and to distribute at the demonstrations. Write to the SMC, 857 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10003; Telephone: (212) 675-8465.

## Presidio rally projected for Bay Area

SAN FRANCISCO, March 12 — Should the Army provide facilities for GIs and civilians to discuss the Vietnam war and the trials of the Presidio 27? A local anti-war group, the Committee for the GI-Civilian Easter Peace March, thinks so. On Tuesday, March 11, the group applied for permission from the Army to use the Presidio for a rally to follow the antiwar march on April 6.

The Army refused; Lt. Gen. Stanley Larsen, 6th U. S. Army Commander, refused even to see the peace group. The march organizers vowed that they would continue to try and get permission for the rally right on the Presidio, but would hold their rally just outside, if necessary.

Max Imhoff, chairman of Vets for Peace, told the press here that the march and rally would be legal, so that a maximum of GIs could participate, as 500 did here last Oct. 12. A massive march and rally is expected here April 6, especially because of the great public outrage at the Presidio trials.

Paul Trafficante, finance cochairman of the march committee, told the press that the themes of the Easter march would be "to end the war in Vietnam, bring the troops home, and free the Presidio 27." The Easter action, Trafficante, will be part of national Easter weekend marches and rallies, called for by a GI-Civilian antiwar conference held over the Christmas holidays in Chicago.

## Austin antiwar action planned for April 13

GIs and civilians from all over Texas will be congregating in Austin April 13 for a march against the Vietnam war. The march is being sponsored by the Texas Coalition Against the War.

Leading up to the march, there will be a GI-civilian antiwar picnic in Austin March 23.

For information on these activities, write to Texas Coalition Against the War, 2200 Guadalupe, room 24, Austin, Texas 78705.



**YOUTH CONTINGENT.** Scene off Fifth Ave. in New York as students gathered last April 27 for demonstration. Student Mobilization Committee is again organizing youth contingent for April 5.

# New England support grows

**By Linda Sheppard**  
BOSTON, March 18 — Plans are under way in Boston to bring large numbers of GIs and civilians to New York City to participate in the April 5 march.

The Easter Weekend Antiwar Coalition has been formed to handle publicity and arrange busing to New York. The coalition has the support of the Veterans for Peace in Vietnam, the Massachusetts State Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Socialist Workers Party, the GI-Civilian Alliance for Peace, the Massachusetts Catholic Peace Committee, the Young Socialist Alliance, and the Circle of Puerto Rican Students.

At Boston University the coalition includes the GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee, Boston University SDS, and the University Christian Movement.

Plans were laid at the last coalition meeting to broaden the sponsors in the coming week. Individual sponsors are Russell Johnson of the American Friends Service Committee, B. U. Professor Howard Zinn and Paul Slapikoff of Boston Support.

## Southwide mobilization in Atlanta

The following excerpts are from a fund raising letter by Julian Bond and John Lewis, sent out Feb. 27 to build the Easter weekend actions in Atlanta.

The war is not over! There were more U. S. casualties last year than any other since the war began. According to the **New York Times** of Jan. 3, 1969: "In terms of lives, 1968 was the most costly year of the war for the United States. . . . 14,521 Americans died in battle. . . . Nearly half of the 30,543 Americans who have lost their lives in Vietnam since 1961 were killed last year."

Despite the Paris "peace talks," this costly carnage intensifies. The American people are being called upon to sacrifice their children, their tax money, indeed, their very lives to a war they have never sanctioned, and over which they have absolutely no control. As amply demonstrated by the 1968 elections, the only alternative left to those opposed to the Vietnam war is massive demonstrations calling for the withdrawal of American troops.

To this end, some 32 Southern Peace groups are coming together Easter weekend for the Southwide Mobilization against the War and to memorialize the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. April 4th is the anniversary of Dr. King's assassination and of his 1966 sermon at New York's Riverside Church where he first publicly voiced his antiwar views.

Events are planned for the entire weekend culminating in a southwide peace march for Easter Sunday.

It was decided to reach as many servicemen in the area as possible with news of the march in New York. A special leaflet for GIs has been prepared, which includes a statement of the Ft. Jackson GIs United Against the War in Vietnam as well as a statement from the Universal Code of Military Justice pertaining to the GIs' right to demonstrate. Troop leafleting has been going on at Ft. Devens, in downtown Boston, and at Naval bases.

In other parts of New England, including many areas in Massachusetts, Vermont, Rhode Island and Maine, activity to build the demonstration is under way. An indication of what can be expected is shown by Nason College in Maine, a small school of less than 1,000 students. Ninety people have already signed up for the bus trip to New York, and up to 150 are expected to participate.

The GI-Civilian Alliance for Peace, an antiwar committee of active-duty servicemen and civilians, is planning an antiwar basic-training day, which will be held on March 22 at Boston University; the action will be directed at GIs and high-school students in particular and will stress the importance of building the Easter weekend demonstration.

For information about the April 5 demonstration, people in the Boston area are urged to call 491-9593 or write for bus tickets to the Easter Weekend Antiwar Coalition office at 595 Mass. Ave., Rm. 205.

CALENDAR	
<b>BOSTON</b>	
<b>BLACK NATIONALISM.</b> Speaker: Clifton DeBerry, 1964 SWP Presidential Candidate. Fri. March 28, 8:15 p.m. 295 Huntington Ave., Rm. 307 (one block from Mass. Ave.) Aisp. Militant Labor Forum.	
<b>DETROIT</b>	
<b>THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS:</b> Arab Women in Arab Liberation; Black Women in Black Liberation; Cuban Women in the Cuban Revolution — A Panel. Fri., March 28, 8 p.m. 3737 Woodward. Contrib. employed 75c, unemployed 35c. Aisp. Militant Labor Forum.	
<b>LOS ANGELES</b>	
<b>WHICH WAY FOR RADICALS IN THE LOS ANGELES ELECTIONS?</b> A panel discussion: Irving Sarnoff, candidate for Junior College Board of Trustees; Steve Bloom, campaign director of Young Socialists for Hathaway and Ross; Leon Schrubur, member of Youth Committee for Bradley. Fri. March 28, 8:30 p.m. 1702 E. 4th St. Contrib. \$1. Aisp. Militant Labor Forum.	
<b>NEW YORK</b>	
<b>THE TET OFFENSIVE — ONE YEAR LATER:</b> Anevening of films on Vietnam. Fri., March 28, 8:30 p.m. 873 Broadway (near 18th St.) Contrib. \$1, H. S. students 50c. Aisp. Militant Labor Forum.	
<b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	
<b>THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND.</b> Speaker: Mr. Shuttlesworth, Coordinating Officer, Citizens for Irish Justice. Fri., March 28, 8 p.m. 2338 Market St. Donation: \$1, students and unemployed 50c. Aisp. Militant Labor Forum.	

# Ft. Jackson GI wins in petitioning case

MARCH 19 — The struggle to defend GIs' rights to free expression of opposition to the war in Vietnam registered a major victory yesterday when Pvt. Tommie Woodfin, a black GI now stationed at Ft. Jackson, S.C., was acquitted by a summary court-martial. He had been charged with violating regulations by circulating a petition initiated by the recently formed group of antiwar soldiers at Ft. Jackson, GIs United Against the War in Vietnam. The petition requests the use of post facilities by GIs United to hold an open meeting to discuss the issues raised by the Vietnam war.

Pvt. Woodfin was defended by Atlanta civil liberties attorney Howard Moore.

On March 3, the Ft. Jackson brass refused to accept the petition, falsely claiming that its initiators were attempting to engage in "collective bargaining." In addition, servicemen known to be associated with GIs United have been harassed for their activities.

GI and civilian support for the antiwar group has continued to mount, both locally and nationally. By last weekend, more than 300 Ft. Jackson servicemen had signed the GIs United petition. Many antiwar groups and individuals around the country have been sending protests to the Ft. Jackson brass and letters of support to GIs United. Last week the organization received more than 60 such letters, including 30 from students in Afro-American history classes at New York's famed Ocean Hill-Brownsville I.S. 271, who had discussed the Ft. Jackson events in class.

This growing public support reflects both

the growing antiwar sentiment in the armed services and in the population at large, and the wide publicity GIs United has received recently. The GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee has conducted an intensive information campaign since the harassment of antiwar Ft. Jackson GIs began, and GIs United was the subject of a seven-minute feature on the Huntley-Brinkley television news program March 15, and of a *New York Times* story March 16.

The brass unquestionably backed down and acquitted Pvt. Woodfin because of this growing public exposure and support.

But the persecution of GIs at Ft. Jackson who express their views continues, and its victims are mainly Afro-Americans. Five black GIs, Pvts. Hart, Toomer, Davis, Pulley and Madison, have already been court-martialed and received stockade sentences on a variety of trumped-up charges but in reality because they had expressed opposition to the war. Pvt. Joe Cole, a leader of GIs United and a Young Socialist, was informed March 14 that the Army was instituting discharge proceedings against him as a "threat to national security" and that he might receive a less-than-honorable discharge.

Company B-14-4, the unit of most of the black and Puerto Rican leaders of GIs United, has been restricted almost every night for the past three weeks. The second and third floors of their own barracks have been declared "off-limits" to the men of Co. B-14-4 in order to isolate them from their friends and other trainees in the same building.

Letters of support should be sent to GIs United Against the War in Vietnam, P.O. Box 543, Columbia, S.C. 29202. Urgently needed funds to aid the defense effort should be sent to the GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee, Box 255, Old Chelsea Sta., New York, N.Y. 10011. Messages of protest should be sent to The Commanding General, Fort Jackson, S.C. 29207. Copies should be sent to GIs United or the GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee.

## Leonard Boudin sues on behalf of Ft. Jackson GIs

NEW YORK, March 18 — At a news conference here today called by the GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee, civil liberties attorney Leonard Boudin announced plans to sue the Secretary of the Army and the Commanding General of Ft. Jackson, S.C., to prevent further infringement by military authorities of antiwar GIs' constitutional rights.

The suit will request a declaratory judgment that:

- GIs have a right to hold meetings at Ft. Jackson and elsewhere to discuss public issues, including those of war and peace.
- They have a right to petition military authorities.
- They have a right to file grievances with the inspector general.

- They cannot be transferred to other posts within the U.S. or to Vietnam as punishment, and they cannot be disciplined because of their legal political activities.

The plaintiffs — the GIs whose rights have been violated — will show in the suit that commanding officers had warned them against listening to tape recordings of Malcolm X; arbitrarily transferred Pvt. Joe Miles out of Ft. Jackson to Ft. Bragg, N.C.; scheduled inspections to harass the soldiers and to impede meetings; refused petitions and charged petitioners with an attempt to institute "collective bargaining;" arrested GIs essentially because of antiwar activity; and prohibited meetings of GIs under the pretext that it was "upper respiratory infection" season.

Attorney Boudin stated that the suit sharply and simply poses the basic legal question, "Can the Army and the Congress make rules and regulations that are inconsistent with the 1st amendment to the U.S. constitution?" The courts will have to decide whether or not members of the armed services lose their basic rights as citizens.

If the suit is upheld, the declaratory judgment will apply not only at Ft. Jackson but throughout the entire Army. A favorable decision will thus be a major step forward in securing to GIs everywhere their civil liberties.

## Brass backs off in Presidio 27 "mutiny" case

MARCH 19 — With what appears to be unprecedented speed for the cumbersome Army judicial-review procedure, the brass reduced the sentence of Pvt. Nesrey D. Sood, the first of the Presidio 27 to be convicted, from 15 years imprisonment at hard labor to two years. On Feb. 13, a general court-martial convicted Sood of mutiny and sentenced him; yesterday, the Pentagon announced the reduction of sentence.

Sood and 26 other GI prisoners at the Presidio of San Francisco stockade were charged with mutiny after they sat down in a circle, chanted and sang freedom songs on the morning of Oct. 14 to protest the murder by a guard three days earlier of a mentally deranged fellow inmate.

Pvt. Sood's case will now be reviewed by the Army Review Board, which can reduce the sentence further but cannot increase it.

The brass' cruel and stupid handling of the matter — the severity of the charge and the harshness of the sentences — has brought mounting protest, especially in the San Francisco area. Reacting to the wave of demonstrations, the military authorities moved the trial of the fourth defendant — Pvt. John Colip — to Ft. Irwin, which is in the middle of the Mojave Desert, and sentenced him to — four years. (The second and third defendants to be tried, Pvts. Lawrence Reidel and Louis Oszczepinski, received 14 years). The reduction of Pvt. Sood's sentence is apparently a part of the same attempt by the Army to retreat in the face of the widespread public anger and disgust.

But the Army's retreat can only accentuate in the public mind the absurdity of its position. First, it charged men with mutiny — the most serious purely military crime there is, and then having convicted them of this most serious crime, it points up its own fraud by sentencing them to two years.



ANTIWAR GIs. Participants in Young Socialist Alliance convention GI panel last Thanksgiving included Pvt. Joe Cole, Pvt. Tom Hathcock and Pvt. Joe Miles. Cole and Miles were among initiators of Ft. Jackson GIs United.

## London youth march backs Viet guerrillas

By Ernie Tate

LONDON, March 16 — Continued opposition to the war in Vietnam was expressed here today when 2,500 young people took to the streets in a spirited and militant demonstration in solidarity with the Vietnamese Revolution and against British complicity with U.S. aggression in Vietnam.

After a colorful march from Hyde Park with red flags and banners identifying participating groups, the demonstrators held a rally in Trafalgar Square. The speakers emphasized the need to continue and develop the antiwar movement in the face of continued U.S. aggression in Vietnam. The crowd expressed approval of an appeal by the chairman to help build a mass demonstration for April 7, at which Madame Nguyen Thi Binh of the South Vietnamese National Liberation Front delegation in Paris will speak.

Speakers at the rally were John Palmer of the *International Socialism* group; Barney Davis, national leader of the Young Communist League; Pat Jordan of the International Marxist Group and Malcolm Caldwell, chairman of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Peter Camejo, a leading spokesman of the Socialist Workers Party in the United States, also spoke. He explained the work the U.S. antiwar movement is doing among American soldiers and the upcoming April 5-6 demonstrations in the U.S. The rally

expressed solidarity with the American Easter actions and with American antiwar soldiers.

The demonstration was organized by the March Vietnam Mobilization Committee, a coalition of several groups, including the Young Communist League, International Marxist Group, *International Socialism* and the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign. There were delegations on the demonstration from most of the major universities.

The demonstration was part of a campaign to force the Labour government to lift its ban on representatives from the NLF and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam coming into the country. The government has all along allowed the representatives of the Ky-Thieu regime into Britain.

The government refused to grant visas so that NLF and DRV representatives could address today's rally, but under the pressure of the March Vietnam Mobilization Committee, which at one point had threatened to occupy London Airport, the government decided to grant a visa to Madame Binh for the April 7 Easter demonstration.

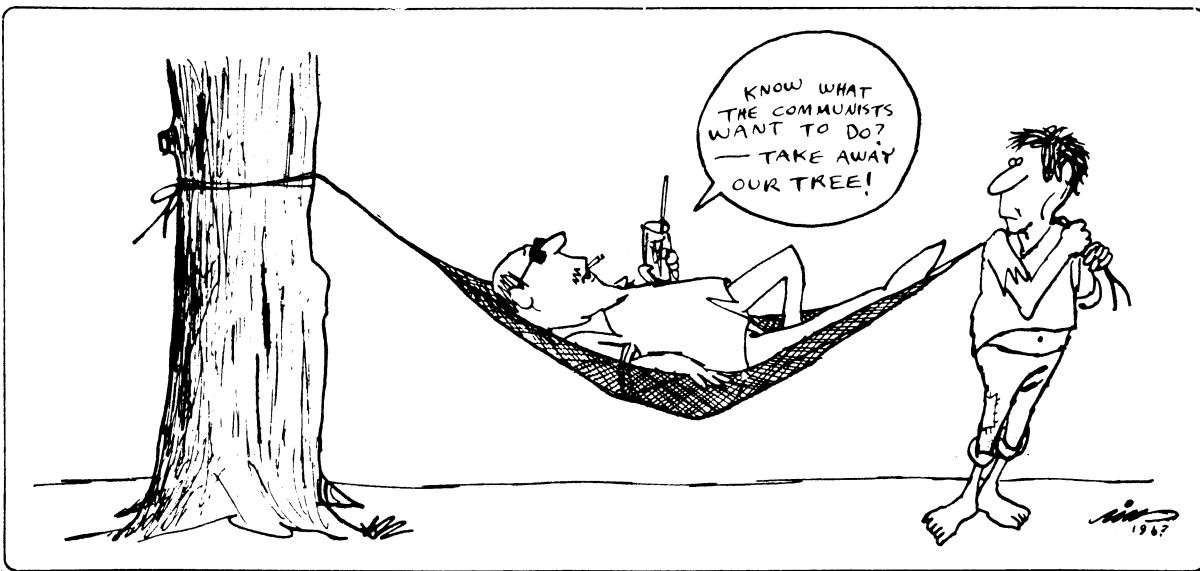
The April 7 rally is being organized by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. The presence of Madame Binh at this year's CND rally promises to transform the traditional peace rally into an anti-Vietnam-war mass action.



Peter Camejo addresses London antiwar demonstrators.



# Latin America: Too many people or too much imperialism?



Upholding Alliance for Progress.

By Alex Harte

The Agency for International Development reported to Congress March 15 that the Alliance for Progress, founded with much fanfare during the Kennedy administration in 1961, failed to meet its goals.

AID, the central U. S. government agency for loans to foreign governments (responsible for flooding the dictatorships of colonial nations with close to \$100-billion worth of military hardware since 1946), asserted that the Alliance was thwarted by the "population explosion."

They explained that the Alliance had set a goal of increasing the per-capita gross national product of Latin American nations at an average annual rate of 2.5 percent. But what with the supposedly high rate of births, the average per capita increase had only been 1.5 percent.

So, these experts in arming military cliques declared, "Until these [population] problems are better recognized and addressed in most of the hemisphere countries, the question of attaining a satisfactory level of development remains uncertain."

The "population explosion" argument is an old one with the imperialists and as fraudulent as it is reactionary.

"Overpopulation" is in reality nothing but a disproportion between the number of mouths to feed and the amount of food products available to feed them, between the mass of human needs and means of satisfying those needs. It is a **relation**,

not anything absolute. To solve the problem, then, one can try to reduce population, or one can increase the means of satisfying needs by reducing unemployment and raising labor productivity, that is, by rapid economic development.

But imperialist domination inhibits economic development, and all imperialist states act so as to keep the nations dependent on them underdeveloped. So, when the hunger and other misery in the underdeveloped countries produced by landlessness and mass unemployment threatens to explode the lucrative imperialist exploitation of those countries, capitalist ideologues and imperialist statesmen can think of nothing better than to stick the label "overpopulation" on the problem and try to solve it, not by encouraging economic development but by — reducing population.

Cuba provides an excellent example of the opposite approach. It was in many ways a typical underdeveloped, imperialist dominated country, and it had a severe "overpopulation" problem. Some 500,000 sugar-cane cutters, for example, could find work only two or three months each year, and the rest of the time they were just "excess population."

The revolution changed all this. By ending Yankee domination and nationalizing and planning the country's economy, it eliminated unemployment and began rapidly to increase labor productivity. The revolutionary leadership recognizes that the most precious productive resource of

the nation is precisely the nation's people. Raising living standards — above all the provision of health services and education — not only satisfies men's needs. It also makes them more productive and thus ever better able to satisfy their needs.

Cuba solved its problem of "overpopulation" not by reducing its population but by providing the growing population with land and jobs. And up to this time, it has succeeded so well that there is now much more work for people to do than there are people to do it. Through a social revolution, the problem of "overpopulation" was suddenly transformed into a problem of "underpopulation."

Contrast that to even the few facts disclosed by AID about the "progress" they attributed to the funds the Alliance has doled out:

- The target of potable water to 70 percent of the population will, they say, be achieved by 1971. New or improved water supplies have been provided for 43 million Latin American city dwellers. But only 19 million out of a rural population of 128 million have been so benefited.

- While, according to AID's report, deaths and communicable diseases have been reduced since 1961, they are still 10 times the rate for North America.

- Income distribution has changed little. Today the top 10 percent of the population receives 40 percent of the income in Argentina, Brazil and Mexico. The bottom 40

percent of the population received 10 to 14 percent of the income.

## GI coffeehouse hears report on visit to Cuba

COLUMBIA, S. C. — At the UFO coffee house here about 60 GIs and civilians heard Linda Jenness March 9 report on her recent visit to Cuba. Linda Jenness was among 13 members of the Young Socialist Alliance invited by the Cuban government for the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Cuban Revolution. Her speech was illustrated with slides from her trip.

The coffee house is a popular gathering place for GIs from Ft. Jackson and students from the Columbia area. Members of GIs United Against the War in Vietnam (a group of Ft. Jackson soldiers) attended the talk as did other antiwar GIs. Linda Jenness reports that this was the first place on her tour through the South where there was absolutely no hostility or disruption from the audience; others of her southern college audiences have contained counter-revolutionary Cuban exiles.

Earlier the same day Linda Jenness spoke to about 35 members of the Southern Student Organizing Committee at their statewide conference in Columbia.

CLEVELAND — Nearly 225 enthusiastic students packed the Student Center Auditorium at the University of Kentucky in Lexington on March 13, to hear Young Socialist Dave Prince speak on his recent trip to Cuba.

The meeting marked the end of the third week of Prince's tour of Ohio and Kentucky. He has spoken to almost 1,000 students at nine colleges in the region. His tour will cover 14 other colleges and universities as well as a citywide high-school meeting in Cleveland. To set up a meeting for Prince, inquiries may be directed to Halket Allen, c/o Young Socialist Alliance, Case Western Reserve University, Student Union, Cleveland, Ohio 44106.

## ACLU enters Va. frame-up case

RICHMOND, Va. — The American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia has announced that it will seek permission from the courts to formally participate in the defense appeal on behalf of convicted black leader John Kenyatta of Norfolk.

In announcing the decision, ACLU Executive Director Lauren Selden declared that "the Kenyatta case is one of the most significant civil liberties cases in recent Virginia history."

Kenyatta, a black militant leader, was tried and convicted of selling marijuana and sentenced to three years in prison last November.

The fact that Kenyatta, widely known in the Tidewater area as an opponent of drug use, was entrapped into procuring marijuana by an old friend working undercover for the Norfolk City police shows a concerted effort by the authorities to entrap Kenyatta. The ACLU believes that the very fact of entrapment violated Mr. Kenyatta's right to due process as guaranteed by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the U. S. Constitution.

Moreover, according to Selden, "the entire episode was directed against a leader of the black movement and thus against the black movement in general."

## In passing . . . views and reviews

My first reaction to Susan Sontag's article in the April **Ramparts**, "Some Thoughts on the Right Way (for us) to Love the Cuban Revolution," was to reject it out of hand. What she does in this article is contrast the revolutionary consciousness of the Cuban people with what she takes to be the general level of consciousness of the radical movement in the United States.

She errs, I feel, in taking the broadest sector of the radicalizing young people as representing the **general** level of consciousness of the movement as it is right now. However, it is true, as she indicates, that the movement consciousness at the broadest level is mainly iconoclastic, only sporadically political, and has as its characteristic expressions the flouting of middle-class morality and legality in matters of aesthetics, psychedelia and sexuality. This is a primitive stage of consciousness, as the author states:

"The neo-primitivism of much of the American movement is probably only a transitional phase, and a great deal that is creative has come out of it. But the next stage of radicalism in America must confront the paradox of our own 'development' and find an appropriate response to that, more political and more disciplined than our present form of mainly cultural warfare."

On Cuba itself, Susan Sontag's comments give one an intimate (and illuminating) feeling for the dynamic processes going on in that revolutionary country. She writes:

"The greatest discovery of the Cuban revolution was the invention of Cuban internationalism, that peculiarly intense form of fraternal international feeling that one feels talking with any articulate Cuban. Havana today, starkly denuded of commodities and comforts as it is, is vibrant with the conviction of being a world capital.

And despite all the austerity, any visitor feels this. One feels more in the world, more in touch with events, in Havana, capital of this poor small Caribbean island, than one ever does in such genuinely provincial cities as Rome or Stockholm.

"The international consciousness of Cubans today is both a tremendous source of elan and a very strict ideological and moral tool. The continuing consciousness of Vietnam that exists throughout Cuba is, I think, without precedent or equal in the world today."

This comment parallels Dan Rosen-shine's observation in his article, "Cuba:



Julian Mayfield

Ten Years of Revolution," in the March **Young Socialist**:

"The Cubans are internationalists. When they cry 'Venceremos' they are speaking not only of themselves but of all people who are fighting for a better world, against capitalism, and for socialism. This internationalist spirit is expressed most strongly in their support of the Vietnamese liberation fighters. Billboards carry Che's message: 'Create two, three, many Vietnams.' Dams and schools are named for Vietnam. Little children wear NLF uniforms that their parents gave them for Christmas presents."

**Up Tight** is a movie which takes the black liberation movement seriously. A partisan of the struggle, it also romanticizes it.

The plot concerns the betrayal of a black leader whom the police are after by a demoralized friend and follower.

The screenplay by Jules Dassin, Julian Mayfield and Ruby Dee at times reaches the heights of inspirational power. Mainly, it achieves this when we get glimpses of the masses in motion.

Unfortunately, many of the situations in the movie seem contrived. There is a whole interplay between a group of black militants and a Bayard Rustin type, which is meant to portray the conflict of the militant and conservative wings of the black movement, but is too set-up and unnatural to ring true.

The major failing of the movie is that it doesn't succeed in conveying the actual complexity of the problems facing the black movement today or a sense of the black movement as a mass movement.

Pictorially the movie is superb. The color photography of the steel mills, slag heaps and ghetto streets has to be seen to be believed.

—Malachi Constant

# L.A. socialist ticket urges aid to students

**By Gordon Bailey**  
LOS ANGELES—The revolt of the black junior-high and high-school students in Los Angeles has confronted every candidate in the municipal election with his moment of truth. The students and their parents are now seeing where the politicians really stand in the struggle of ghetto youth. The only candidates who have supported the students are the Socialist Workers Party nominees, William Hathaway for mayor and Della Rossa for the board of education.

Incumbent Mayor Yorty's position is equally clear. He stands for "law and order." He demonstrated this by sending cops into Carver Junior High School to break up a peaceful sit-in by young teenagers. Several students got hurt in the process. Yorty's stand surprised no one. There was far more concern over the position of Thomas Bradley, a black candidate who is Yorty's principal opponent in the race for mayor. Bradley, an ex-cop and aspiring politician, defended the assault of cops on school children by saying cops have the right to go anywhere they are needed. Further, he called for an investigation by the U.S. Justice Department of the incident at Carver. He also invited the California Select Committee on Campus Disorders to come to Los Angeles. He made clear the target of these investigations when he spoke of the "intransigents" and "fanatics" in our society.

The students have not wilted under the two-pronged attack by their enemies and supposed friend. Teachers and parents have joined the students in continuing the boycott. However, Bradley's reactionary stand has brought dismay to many of his liberal and "left" supporters. Among these is the **Peoples World**, the West Coast voice of the Communist Party, which has been carrying long laudatory articles concerning his campaign. In the March 15 issue, fol-



William Hathaway

lowing Bradley's blast at the students, his campaign was studiously ignored. Meanwhile, Hathaway came out in vigorous support of the student strikers. Together with Della Rossa, he issued a statement condemning the police raid at Carver and demanding that black and brown communities be given control of their own schools. The two Socialist Workers Party candidates have toured the campuses, talking with the picketing students. At Marshall High, which is not on strike, teachers warned their students that William Hathaway was a dangerous agitator, although he is a qualified candidate for mayor. Police and teachers ringed the stand from which he spoke as if to insulate the students from his "inflammatory" message.

LOS ANGELES

**Bring the Troops Home Now!**  
**Black Control of the Black Community!**  
**Chicano Control of the Chicano Community!**  
**Workers' Power!**  
**Vote "revolutionary socialist" April 1st!**

**William E. Hathaway for Mayor**  
**Della Rossa for Bd. of Education, office 6**

Endorsed by the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance.  
Partial list of other endorsers (organizations listed for identification only):

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Ed Pearl              | Peace and Freedom Party                     |
| Milton Zazlow         | Peace and Freedom Party                     |
| Guadalupe de Saavedra | "Teatro Chicano"                            |
| Julia Mount           | Educational Issues Coordinating Committee   |
| Donald Freed          | Los Angeles Friends of the Panthers         |
| James Boggio          | GIs and Vets for Peace                      |
| Charles Brittin       | Asst. Prof. Univ. of So. Calif.             |
| Prof. William Linder  | Cal State Fullerton                         |
| Pedro Arias           | East Los Angeles Peace and Freedom Party    |
| Dolores Baca          | Educational Issues Coordinating Committee   |
| Fernando Gaxiola      | "Chicano Student Movement" editorial board. |
| Samuel Lang           | Black Student Union, Cal State LA           |
| Marlene Furth         | Fairfax High SDS                            |

# 20,000 Belgian marchers blast NATO, Vietnam war



Brussels Young Socialist Guard meeting on eve of antiwar rally

**By Charlotte Hoffa**  
BRUSSELS, March 9—In the past, the annual antinuclear demonstrations in Belgium have tended to resemble the traditional, rather staid, May 1 marches organized by the Social Democracy, but this year's march, held here today, marked a qualitative change.

While the majority of the organizations in the broad united front that called the action wanted to give it a pacifist character, the 20,000 participants, mostly youth, turned it into a militant demonstration against NATO and the Vietnam war. There was of course a wide range of consciousness between the different groups which demonstrated in the streets of Brussels today, but there is no doubt that the examples of the May 1968 days in France, the struggles of the German SDS and the battles of the Japanese Zengakuren have all been a source of inspiration for these Belgian young people.

Over 30 organizations helped organize the action, including the Catholic Workers Youth, the Communist Youth, the Socialist Youth (youth group of the Socialist Party), the Young Socialist Guard (JGS), and the pacifist War Resisters International.

While some of the official slogans included such "third camp" demands as "Against both NATO and Warsaw," there were many slogans that reflected the growing political consciousness among young people: "Leave NATO," "Oust SHAPE from Belgium," "The NLF will win," "Down with the capitalist state," "U.S. go home," and "Students and workers' solidarity."

Some of the most militant participants refused to stop at the point where the demonstration officially ended and decided to continue toward NATO headquarters. Some 1,000 people marched about half a mile on the highway going toward the NATO buildings. The highway was blocked for about an hour.

The demonstration was watched by Army helicopters and was attacked by police using tear gas. But the demonstrators managed to escape and regroup, and they decided to end their action, feeling that their objective of blocking the highway as a symbol of their opposition to NATO had been accomplished.

**By Pascal Lubra**  
BRUSSELS, March 8—The newly formed Brussels University chapter of the Jeunes Gardes Socialistes (Young Socialist Guard) held a very successful youth meeting against NATO and in defense of the Vietnamese revolution here tonight. The JGS is a revolutionary socialist youth group in Belgium.

The biggest hall of the university, Janson Auditorium (now called the Che Guevara Auditorium by the radical students), was packed with over 1,300 young people. The audience included a few hundred German, Danish and French youth. Speakers were Ernest Mandel, the noted Belgian revolutionary socialist; Ton Regtien, Dutch student leader; Berndt Rabehl of the Berlin Socialist Student Federation (SDS); Daniel Ben Said of the French revolutionary newspaper **Rouge**; and Matthieu Desclin of the national JGS leadership.

The meeting also heard Peter Camejo of

the U.S. Socialist Workers Party. Camejo is in Europe on his way back from an extended visit to Cuba.

The meeting helped build support for the national march against nuclear weapons and the Vietnam war organized for the next day by a wide spectrum of mainly youth organizations, including the JGS.

Greetings were received from the Internationalist Group of Zengakuren (Japan), the Young Socialist Alliance (USA), and of Young Socialists/Ligue des Jeunes Socialistes (Canada).

# Rudi Dutschke's assailant gets seven-year term

Josef Bachman, the right-wing fanatic who shot German revolutionary student leader Rudi Dutschke April 11, 1968, was convicted March 14 by a West Berlin court of attempted first-degree murder and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment. Bachman's terrorist act came at the height of a red-baiting campaign conducted by the yellow press against the student movement. The students responded with massive demonstrations against the Springer monopoly, which controls most of West Germany's mass-circulation publications.

Bachman admires "strong personalities" like Hitler and Napoleon, and he has asserted again and again that he only did what the majority of "right-thinking" people desired but did not do. He also admitted at the trial that he got most of his information from the **Bild Zeitung** (Picture Newspaper), the Springer combine's sewer bonanza and the most widely circulated daily paper in West Germany.

Although Dutschke has made a good recovery from his wounds, he has lost 30 percent of his vision as a result of a bullet that lodged in his brain.



Rudi Dutschke

Hathaway-Rossa Campaign Committee 1702 E. Fourth St. Los Angeles 90033

- ☐ Please send more information
- ☐ I want to help in the campaign
- ☐ I want to endorse the election campaign
- ☐ Enclosed is \$ . . . . . to help pay expenses

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Organization or campus . . . . .

## An editorial

# UAW bureaucrats open racist attack on DRUM

In a March 10 letter to the general membership, the Reuther-led international executive board of the United Auto Workers launched a racist attack on black militants in the union. The immediate target is the League of Revolutionary Black Workers centered in the Detroit area. At issue is a question of the union's response to demands from black workers, who constitute over one-third of the UAW membership. The league calls for action to combat superexploitation, which it says leaves black workers "with less rights than a common street dog."

Included in the league are revolutionary union movements at Dodge in Hamtramck (DRUM), Ford Rouge (FRUM), Chrysler Gear and Axle on Eldon Ave. (ELRUM), and the Chrysler Jefferson Ave. plant (JARUM). DRUM started the movement that developed into the broadening league.

The movement at Dodge, where about 70 percent of the work force is black, began last May with a wildcat strike over speedup of the assembly line. Both black and white workers were involved. The stoppage brought no adequate response from either the company or UAW officials. Further strike action followed, spearheaded by black workers. Officers of UAW Local 3 at Dodge denounced the strike, and the company fired a number of workers. Most of those victimized were black.

Then last September DRUM ran a candidate, Ron March, in a special Local 3 election to fill a vacant trustee post. March won a plurality over other candidates for the post. A run-off election was scheduled, and March was defeated when the Reuther machine in the union, the corporation and the Hamtramck police went all-out against him.

On behalf of the black majority of workers in the plant the DRUM candidate raised key issues of union policy during the election campaign. His program included development of an effective grievance procedure; public denouncement of racial practices within the UAW, the plant and the entire community; no dictation by Reuther's top staff in the UAW; total involvement in policy by workers, as opposed to dictatorship by the union executive board; and complete accountability of Local 3 officials to the black majority of the entire membership.

In a subsequent statement of their aims, the black militants at Dodge said: "The purpose of DRUM is to unite black workers to fight the problems that black workers face, and that problem is racism . . . Either the UAW is too weak to fight racism, or it condones racism, for it is a fact that racism runs rampant throughout the auto industry."

The black workers got their answer from the Reuther machine in the form of the March 10 letter from the UAW's top executive body. It came as a racist attack, larded over with Reuther's customary demagoguery and hypocrisy. The letter contains pious references to the role of UAW officials in supporting civil-rights legislation, marching in civil-rights demonstrations and crusading against poverty. With reference to the auto industry, claims are made of working to assure equal opportunity in the factories.

As black workers are testifying, what the Reutherites have done about equal opportunity is more superficial than real, more for the record than for genuine results. The facts show that the UAW officials practice tokenism and gradualism, aping the double-talking liberal capitalist politicians with whom they are allied. That has been their line both in the auto industry and on the question of blacks getting leading positions in the UAW.

Parallel with his cynical use of a thin

black facade within the UAW officialdom, Reuther throws his support to conservative leaders within the black movement outside the union. He is for dictatorial rule by conservative leaders generally and against any form of rank-and-file control over them. Inside the UAW he sees the rise of black formations in the ranks as a threat to his machine control over the union.

His natural bureaucratic reflex is to deny black workers the right of self-determination. That would entail the right to form their own organization, develop their own program and select their own leaders. Black workers are entitled to these rights as a matter of principle, but Reuther can't allow that. If he did, he wouldn't be chosen as the leader of the blacks, and beforelong



**LAUGHED LIKE A FOOL.** Late President Kennedy (right) apparently told joke to evoke such hearty response from UAW President Walter Reuther. Quite militant in his stance against rank-and-file unionists, Brother Reuther has been a good deal the opposite in his relations with capitalist politicians and employers.

he wouldn't be president of the UAW.

Since the real reason for opposing the League of Revolutionary Black Workers can't be admitted, the Reutherites have started a smear attack on the black militants in the union. They are denounced as a "group of extremists and racial separatists." They are accused of using "tactics of violence, fear and intimidation." Belittling the black militants as "a tiny handful of people," the Reutherite letter raises the outside agitator specter with a charge that "not all of them are auto workers or members of the UAW."

Then comes the kicker in which the whole smear is used against the notion of rank-and-file formations in the union. Citing the obvious need for a united and strong union, the March 10 letter demagogically declares, "We must not permit any group within our Union to divide that strength and unity . . ."

The trumped-up charge of racism in reverse has already been answered by DRUM, which said in the 13th edition of its *Newsletter*: "The pitting of black against white starts with the power structure, for it is the power structure that controls the jobs, and the job you get is based on the color of your skin, not your background. If you are white you are in. If you are black and you want to get in, then you must first sell your manhood, because they don't want black men. They only want black boys. So who is pitting black against white?"

Ignoring these truths about the racist system against which black workers are fighting, Reuther's machine has set out to picture black militants as a threat to the interests of white workers in the union. The aim is to split the ranks in order to maintain dictatorial rule over all UAW

members. Toward that end they are trying to isolate the black militants by fanning the flames of racial prejudice among white workers in the union. Meanwhile the auto barons can sit back and gleefully watch the Reutherites set out to do a job that can only help the corporations, not the auto workers.

The March 10 letter limits union protection of workers to "legitimate" grievances, obviously as decided by the Reuther machine. It then adds, "The UAW, however, will not protect workers who resort to violence and intimidation with the conscious purpose of dividing our Union along racial lines . . ." That statement is an open invitation to the auto corporations to fire militant black workers, being assured in advance that UAW officials will interpose no objections. It is symbolic of Reuther's whole shabby record of cooperation with the corporate overlords in the auto industry.

A brag is made in the March 10 letter that the UAW contracts provide "a workable and rational grievance procedure to assure justice on the job and a greater sense of dignity." Actually the Reuther machine collaborates with management in the handling of grievances, beginning at the shop level and going all the way to the top. As a result, most grievances are either ignored outright or shuffled

around in the deliberately complex grievance machinery, only to be finally denied.

Meanwhile conditions on the job are becoming worse generally and black workers are not alone in their complaints. White workers, too, have many grievances of their own against the corporations and the union officialdom. The actual situation in the UAW is that the Reutherite leadership has failed to solve any of the real problems facing all workers in the union's ranks, black and white.

In that situation the League of Revolutionary Black Workers is acting to expose the myth that the Reuther machine is "progressive" and a "champion" of the poor and the dispossessed. White workers in the UAW should be thankful that their black brothers have taken this lead which serves the basic interests of all. From this it follows that white militants in the union should take a firm stand in defense of the black workers who have come under attack from Reuther and Co.

A sound basis exists for a common fraternal language between black and white union militants. It is the working-class language of opposition to the employers and to union officials who collaborate with the employers. The Reutherites talk about "unity" in the UAW, but unity can have meaning only against the corporations, not on the basis of collaboration with them. Once real unity has been forged, against both the employers and the misleaders within the union, the pressing problems facing all auto workers can be solved. The League of Revolutionary Black Workers is charting the way. It has done so by defying the ground rules laid down by the Reuther machine and by demanding rank-and-file control over the shaping of union policy.



## Book review

# How empiricism inhibits development of a clear concept of reality

**EMPIRICISM AND ITS EVOLUTION: A MARXIST VIEW**, by George Novack. Merit Publishers, 1968. 166 pp. \$2.45.

Readers of George Novack's previous works are familiar with his remarkable ability to throw into bold relief with a few broad strokes the essential features of vast historical panoramas. This talent is fully evident in **Empiricism and its Evolution**. In few more than 150 pages, Novack succeeds in presenting a critical history of an extraordinarily complex intellectual development that has unfolded over three-and-a-half centuries.

Empiricism as a more or less distinct philosophical school arose in the 17th century as one of the characteristic responses of the ascendant and progressive bourgeoisie to a natural and social world that it had to transform in accordance with its own class goals. Empiricism served this purpose admirably. Absorbed as one of the constituent elements of "common sense," it continues to hold sway as one important ideological prop of continued bourgeois dominance during the period of its decadence. Empiricist habits of thought exercise their pervasive influence in each of us each day, and they inhibit the formation of a clear, total conception of reality, which is the prerequisite of the development of revolutionary consciousness.

That is why the theme of Novack's book has an immediate practical relevance for radical and revolutionary-minded people. False ideas and bad habits of thought cannot be overcome by railing at them. They can only be overcome by digesting them: by understanding their origins, their social functions, their contribution to human material and cultural progress, and the reasons for their constant spontaneous reproduction at a time when they have lost further historical validity. **Empiricism and its Evolution** makes a signal contribution in all these respects.

### Cardinal thesis

The cardinal empiricist thesis—that all our knowledge derives from sense experience—may seem at first glance innocuous enough. It is probably one that most people nowadays, at least most people who are not consciously religious, would accept without question. It may be difficult to understand why it stood at the center of so much controversy when it was first raised to the level of a philosophical principle and made, more or less consistently, the basis of a whole system of thought by John Locke. It may be even more obscure how

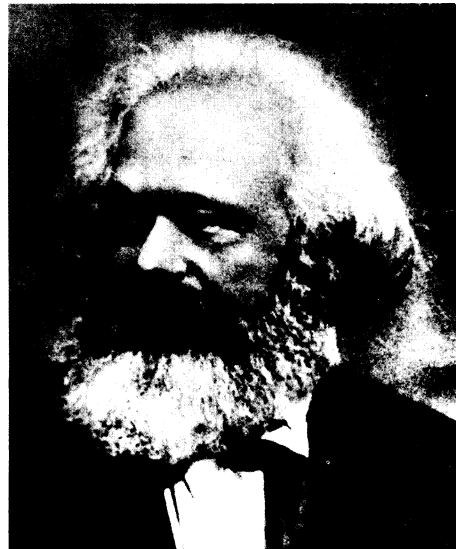
this principle can exert a profound, if subtle, reactionary influence on the way human beings think about their world today.

It is just in the unthinking acceptance of the principle that the danger lies. For while the empiricist thesis is, in one sense, true, it is subject to a variety of interpretations. The concept of sense experience is far from unambiguous; it requires analysis, and the method of analysis will determine precisely what meaning is attached to the empiricist thesis.

One virtue of Novack's book is that it makes quite clear that the defining feature of empiricist philosophy has in reality been not so much the acceptance of the empiricist thesis per se as a certain attitude toward experience and certain presuppositions in the analysis of it. It is this attitude and these presuppositions that make it possible to identify as an empiricist such a latter-day representative of the tradition as John Dewey, who in a way precisely denies the empiricist thesis in his contention that sensation is not a kind of knowing.

### Isolated experience

This attitude towards experience and the presuppositions of the analysis of it, have been expressed in a number of interrelated ways. The thinkers of classical empiricism—that of the 17th and 18th centuries, represented in Novack's book by Locke,



Karl Marx

Berkeley and Hume—tended to treat experience as essentially **passive**, as divorced from human activity. Secondly, they tended to treat experience as essentially individual or atomistic: Experience is conceived exclusively as **my** experience, independent of the web of social relations in which I find myself, and this experience in its internal structure is conceived atomistically, as consisting of fundamentally separate "chunks"—isolated sensations or ideas or impressions.

Third, the classical empiricists regarded experience nonhistorically; they assumed that its basic texture could be analyzed without considering the course of its actual development through the history of mankind. Fourth, classical empiricism conferred a privileged position on the quantitative aspects of experience: Locke distinguished between the "primary qualities" like size, density and displacement, which were basic to the then new, mathematically based mechanical science of nature, and all those "secondary qualities" like color, tone, texture and timbre that refer to qualitative distinctions. Even Hume, who vigorously attacked the distinction between primary and secondary qualities, could not shake off the conviction that mathematics pertained to a sphere of truth **beyond** all experience.

### Product of social relations

These features of the classical empiricist attitude towards experience flow from the fundamental social relations of bourgeois society, relations which, in the 17th and 18th centuries, were beginning to predominate in every sphere of life over the old feudal relations.



JOHN DEWEY, leading advocate of pragmatism.

And to a lesser or greater extent, these features are reproduced spontaneously today, and will continue to be so, as long as capitalism, the highest development of bourgeois society, exists. Some of the finest passages of **Empiricism and its Evolution** are devoted to an explication of these social roots of empiricist theory.

The empiricist tradition in the 19th and 20th centuries assimilated to some extent the criticism of its philosophic polar opposite, rationalism; it partially absorbed the developments of natural science that made the classical empiricist attitude ever more untenable; above all, it was shaped by the social changes of a developing capitalism. In its most advanced 20th-century manifestation—the pragmatism of John Dewey—it was able, up to a certain point, to overcome the theoretical limitations imposed on classical empiricism by the view that experience is essentially individual, unhistorical, passive and quantitative.

But the empiricist tradition was never able to transcend the central aspect of the classical empiricist attitude towards experience. This was the pervasive sense that human experience is not able to put men in touch with the essential features of a reality existing independently of any mind and any experience and moving under its own laws. From the very beginning, a tendency towards idealism and scepticism was lodged in the empiricist attitude.

### Relation to science

This scepticism had its origins partly in the relatively underdeveloped state of 17th-century science. More fundamentally, though, it was and remains a consequence of bourgeois social relations. The individual confronts a social world he never made and over which no individual or collectivity has effective control. It confronts him in practice as beyond his grasp, and until the advent of Marxism in the middle of the 19th century, no satisfactory theoretical elucidation of the real nature of this social world existed.

At the same time, the development of capitalism brought intensified struggle between the two great classes of bourgeois society, the capitalist class and the proletariat. The philosopher, the intellectual who formulates ideologies, is typically a man of the middle strata; he is caught in between. Scepticism reflects the intellectual and emotional predicament of the man from whom fundamental decision is objectively demanded but who evades fundamental decision or finds it impossible.

In the century of its birth, empiricism played a progressive role in the development of society. As a critical principle, the empiricist thesis helped clear away a great deal of metaphysical rubbish inherited from

the past. It thus encouraged the development of natural science and weakened the ideological supports of outmoded social institutions. The scepticism endemic to it was favorable to the triumph of the bourgeoisie. For this class could and did conquer power and authority piecemeal; at every stage of its ascent fundamental compromises were required between successively rising sections of the bourgeoisie and between that class as a whole and the older ruling classes. By discouraging all too sharp counterpositions of principle, the sceptical element in empiricism aided the making and maintenance of these compromises.

### Reverse situation

But today, the situation is reversed. Further human progress depends on the conquest of power and authority by the proletariat on a world scale. It cannot conquer piecemeal, whatever revisionist ideologues may preach, as did the bourgeoisie before it. World socialism cannot be arrived at through the road of fundamental compromise. Successful revolutionary action depends on the formation of a clear conception of the nature of the society to be transformed and on the conviction that this conception corresponds to the reality of that society. Empiricist theory, the empiricist attitude towards experience, empiricist habits of thought, the tendencies toward scepticism, subjectivism, and indecisiveness, all work against the development and reinforcement of revolutionary consciousness. They are constantly, spontaneously reproduced in all strata of capitalist society; they are also, no doubt, to some extent consciously inculcated by the ruling bourgeoisie through its control of the media and other cultural institutions.

The ideological struggle against them is an essential part of building a revolutionary movement. Novack's latest philosophical work aids this struggle by showing how Marxist theory is able to explain the social-historical phenomenon of empiricism, how it absorbs the elements of truth in empiricist theory, and how it provides answers to the theoretical problems which empiricism was able to bring to light but could not solve.

— Robert Langston

## Briefly noted

# A biography of George Padmore

**BLACK REVOLUTIONARY — George Padmore's Path from Communism to Pan-Africanism**, by James R. Hooker. Praeger, 1967, 168 pp., \$5.50.

George Padmore, who at the time of his death in 1959 was Kwame Nkrumah's advisor, was an important figure in the political and intellectual life of this century. His voyage from Stalinism (a top functionary of the Communist International, in charge of agitation and organization among black workers) to left centrism (near and around the Independent Labor Party of Britain), to Pan-Africanism and a neutralism that was heavily influenced by cold-war pressures, is worthy of serious study.

Professor Hooker's book is uneven, academic in the annoying sense, too concerned with trivialities and a long way from supplying the "full analysis" of Padmore's ideas that is promised on the jacket. But it's the only book on the subject so far.

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## Intercontinental Press

In 1968 *Intercontinental Press* published 1,176 pages of reports from correspondents in 30 countries. This included 125 pages of dispatches direct from France during the May-June revolt; 54 pages of eye-witness accounts from Mexico during the student strike; and 50 pages of reports and translations from the radical press in Czechoslovakia. *Intercontinental Press* is the only source in the U.S. for many documents of interest to the radical movement, including official statements of the Fourth International. Subscriptions are \$7.50 for 26 issues.

*Intercontinental Press*, P.O. Box 635,  
Madison Sq. Station, New York, N.Y.  
10010.



# ...YSA open letter to SDS national council

(Continued from page 1)

cations of GI opposition to the war are enormous.

The Young Socialist Alliance believes that the central task of revolutionary youth right now is to build the April 5-6 demonstrations as large and as militant as possible, demanding the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam and respecting the right of the Vietnamese people to self-determination. We hope that the national council meeting of SDS will come to the same conclusion.

There are a number of important reasons for supporting April 5-6 which the YSA would like to put forth for the consideration of all radical youth:

1) The war in Vietnam is the central issue in world politics today.

Far more is involved than the simple desire of American imperialism to maintain that country as a sphere for investment. In the eyes of the world, Vietnam has become a great testing ground between the forces of revolutionary change and the counterrevolutionary power of U.S. imperialism. On the outcome of the war hinges the spirit of much of the world revolutionary movement for a considerable period of time. Even now the successes of the Vietnamese revolution have served to inspire revolutionary developments all over the world. Despite its massive military machine, the U.S. has been unable to crush the revolutionary struggle.

But the war is not over. The Vietnamese face many more battles. And while they not only fight back, but also deliver stunning blows against U.S. aggression, it is the obligation of those of us who support their struggle to deal blows against the aggressor, right here in this country. As the Vietnamese will have to fight on, we can do no less.

2) Mass antiwar demonstrations are the primary means by which Americans can deal such blows to the imperialist war effort in Vietnam.

To carry on the war the American ruling class needs "peace" at home; above all it needs a climate of public opinion favorable to the war or at least acquiescent to its continuation. The former it has lost, the latter is the aim of the Paris talks. The April 5-6 demonstrations will do much to torpedo the myth of the Paris talks, the false claim that they will lead to peace while respecting self-determination in Vietnam. **April 5-6 can show that there is no peaceful acquiescence to the war.**

The ability of the ruling class to suppress the colonial revolution is vital to the life blood of the capitalist system. By mobilizing massive numbers of people against the war we strike blows at imperialism's ability to wage the war and to engage in future wars like it. The implications for revolutionaries are obvious.

Above all, the demonstrations must be massive. They must aim at mobilizing the antiwar sentiment of the majority of Americans — black people, working people, GIs, youth, etc. Tiny actions, even if ver-



**THEY WON.** These World War II GIs were ordered back to Pacific at end of war as part of U.S. plan to garrison troops around world. But massive GI demonstrations in Europe and Asia and actions like these at home forced a demobilization and postponement of U.S. timetable for World War III. These particular GIs, already on way back to Pacific, were rerouted and then discharged. Memories of those demonstrations keep brass uptight about present spreading antiwar sentiment among GIs.

bally radical, tactically militant or widely publicized give the ruling class far less cause for worry than the sight of hundreds of thousands of Americans in the streets, challenging the basic institutions and policies of the ruling class. It is also this mass character of antiwar demonstrations that has partially created, broadened and deepened the climate of protest, opposition and action in the U.S.

4) Those who might belittle antiwar demonstrations as "liberal," as "routine" or as failing to raise consciousness should consider this one fact:

Never before in American history, has there been a mass movement against an imperialist war **while that war was actually taking place!** This is not accidental. War is a fundamental question for every social system; it is not a very big step from opposing its wars to opposing the capitalist system itself. To say that demonstrations demanding the immediate withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam are not "anti-imperialist," is to totally fail to understand the nature and needs of imperialism.

The war in Vietnam has been decisive in generating a massive radicalization in the U.S., above all among the youth. SDS itself, like the YSA, owes the greatest part of its membership to the war-induced radicalization — as well as to the antiwar demonstrations! As the war continues larger numbers of people become ever more aware of the incompatibility between their needs and desires and the actions of the ruling class. By building the antiwar movement, revolutionaries help to raise the consciousness of the masses, as well as enlarge the numbers of American revolutionaries.

5) In organizing the April 5-6 antiwar demonstrations we should seek to involve as many different organizations and individuals as possible. Broad support and sponsorship enable the demonstrations to draw large numbers of participants, which no single group is representative enough to do by itself.

Naturally an antiwar **coalition** will involve moderate as well as revolutionary groups. But that is positive, so long as the **actions** remain in the streets and are not diverted into capitalist politics or other institutions of the ruling class. By coalition efforts we can build larger demonstrations, we can involve more people in the streets in action against the basic war policy of American imperialism. One of the marks of revolutionary leadership, not revolutionary rhetoric, is the ability to involve less conscious people in building anti-imperialist actions.

6) The April 5-6 demonstrations need the vital youth component. The youth have always been the militant spearhead of the antiwar movement, the ones who furnish the bulk of the participants, who keep the political approach focused on withdrawal, and who push the other sectors of the movement along in building the actions.

High-school youth especially have been responding to the call for April 5-6, and their participation in the activities of the Student Mobilization Committee indicates they will be out in large numbers on April 5-6, as they have been for other recent antiwar actions.

7) Antiwar GIs are an important new part of the movement against the war. The very men whom the U.S. ruling class needs to fight the war in Vietnam do not support that war. Because of their role, GIs speak a very powerful argument when they participate in antiwar demonstrations like April 5-6.

The brass fears the exercise of free speech and assembly in the armed forces because

that means primarily the freedom to speak out and demonstrate against the war. And, most Americans will back up GIs who exercise their rights as citizens. By building April 5-6, we can aid in the development of a GI antiwar movement and effectively fight attempts to victimize GIs who do exercise their constitutional rights as citizens.

The April 5-6 demonstrations promise to be a milestone in the developing GI antiwar movement, and our duty in the civilian antiwar movement is to insure that there are massive numbers of civilians to back up the GIs who participate. The GI-civilian demonstrations will inspire others and will be important in transforming the widespread GI antiwar sentiment into action.

The real test of all ideas, especially revolutionary ideas, is in action. The test of anti-imperialism is in organizing actions against imperialist wars. That is why the central activity for revolutionaries in the U.S. right now is to build the April 5-6 demonstrations against the imperialist war in Vietnam.

The Young Socialist Alliance is urging all revolutionary-minded youth to participate in and help organize the April 5-6 demonstrations, building them as large and militant as possible, and bringing revolutionary ideas to the participants.

We hope that SDS will decide to support the demonstrations April 5-6.

Fraternally,  
Charles Bolduc  
YSA National Chairman



**A FIRST.** Scene near Washington, April 1965, during SDS-sponsored mobilization against Vietnam war. The first such national action against the war, it proved a major factor in developing the antiwar movement. But after this highly successful action SDS leaders decided to concentrate on "community organizing" and leave organization of such antiwar actions to others.

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# Memorial meetings for Beatrice Hansen are held in Los Angeles and New York

By Milton Alvin

LOS ANGELES—A memorial meeting was held here March 16 to honor the memory of Beatrice Hansen. She died March 9th at the age of 43.

The speakers were Tom Kerry, editor of the *International Socialist Review*, Jack Barnes, National Organizational Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party and Peggy Brundy, a member of the Los Angeles SWP who worked with Bea as secretary to James P. Cannon, National Chairman of the SWP.

Kerry described the political life of Bea which began when she joined the Socialist Party's Young Falcons at the age of 11 in 1936. He told how she grew up and came to political consciousness in the days of the great class battles to build the CIO. She joined the Socialist Workers Party when she was 16 and thereafter fulfilled many assignments in Flint, Detroit, New York, Chicago and, finally Los Angeles.

"Bea died," Kerry said, "in the very prime of her life. And what a life! brimful and overflowing with a record of service to a great ideal—the emancipation of humanity from the curse of capitalist barbarism."

Jack Barnes told of the close political relationship he had with Bea in Chicago and New York. He described how she "bridged the generation gap" with the new youth that were joining the Trotskyist movement, how she played the key role in their education, how she set the example for them in taking every party task seriously and carrying it out in the most effective possible way.

He said that just over half the present SWP branch organizers worked with Bea at one time or another in the various cities where she was working, and that about half the national office staff of the SWP is

in the same category. He described her as the professional revolutionist who takes any assignment in any area that is necessary.

Peggy Brundy told of her experiences working with Bea over the past six months. She described how much she had learned as a result, both in the secretarial work for Cannon and as financial secretary of the Los Angeles branch of the SWP. Bea, Peggy said, "believed that the place for a revolutionary woman is in the forefront of the struggle of the working class for emancipation. Wherever capitalism and social oppression were being struck the heaviest blows, that's where her sympathies lay."

Joel Britton, Los Angeles organizer of the SWP, acted as chairman of the meeting and concluded with a quotation from a speech made years ago by the late Rose Karsner Cannon in which she paid particular attention to the task of party building.

Another memorial was held yesterday for Bea, sponsored by her family. Chairman of this meeting was Dial Clifton, her brother-in-law. The speakers were Art Sharon of San Francisco, a member of the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party, and David Wulp, Cleveland organizer of the SWP.

By Mary-Alice Waters

NEW YORK—A memorial meeting for Beatrice Hansen, attended by more than 100 comrades and friends, was held here March 19. The meeting was chaired by Farrell Dobbs, national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, and the speakers were Elizabeth Barnes, staff writer for *The*

*Militant*, and Joseph Hansen, editor of *Intercontinental Press*.

In speaking about the last six years of Bea's life, during which time she worked closely with many of the young comrades who have come into the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance, Elizabeth Barnes stressed the importance of the



Photo by Joseph Hansen

Beatrice Hansen

role Bea had played in training and educating the new members. "Bea was exceptional in her ability to teach, to pass on her knowledge, to inspire others to devote their lives to the revolutionary movement. She was able to do this because she understood that the most crucial task facing revolutionary socialists today is the need to build a revolutionary party, that without this party there will be no revolution."

Bea's enthusiasm, seriousness, professionalism, and dedication to every single task of party building, were some of the qualities which made her such an exceptional leader of the Socialist Workers Party.

Joseph Hansen, who had known Bea since the time she was 17 "and had already won her spurs as a mass leader," described the influences that had shaped Bea's life—her childhood during the depression; her experiences as a teenager in Flint, Michigan, during the years of the tremendous working class upsurge and the formation of the CIO; her desire to join the SWP when she was 13 years old; her years of work in the auto plants of Detroit; and her more than three decades as a builder of the revolutionary movement.

"Bea was an extremely skillful organizer. Especially whenever there was a problem, or a crisis in a branch, Bea was always a person who could help to solve it. She knew how to build a team, and get it working together." Over the years Bea took some of the most important party assignments in Detroit, Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles.

As Joseph Hansen expressed it in his remarks, "For Bea, the party was a way of life. She gave everything she had to the task of building the revolutionary party."

## Cuba recognizes NLF as gov't of South Vietnam

Cuba has become the first state to grant full diplomatic recognition to the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam. According to a March 18 *New York Times* dispatch from Paris, the Cuban mission in Algiers announced that Valdes Vivo, Havana's ambassador to the NLF, presented his credentials to Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the Front's central committee, "somewhere in liberated South Vietnam" on March 4.

The NLF already maintains missions in the capitals of some 20 nations, but this is the first time it has gained full recognition as a government. Cuba was also the first state to recognize the Algerian National Liberation Front as the government of Algeria during that nation's war of liberation against French imperialism.

Cuba's act will considerably enhance the NLF's international prestige, and it will put considerable pressure on the Soviet Union, China, and other workers states to follow suit. It will strengthen the NLF position at the Paris "peace" talks.



Fidel Castro

## Students at Plainfield High press fight against racism

By Frieda M. Now

(The author is a member of the Plainfield High School Student Union.)

PLAINFIELD, N.J.—Tension is still high between white and black students at Plainfield High School after several weeks of turmoil.

Plainfield is supposedly "integrated," but the school administration has segregated the school by putting most black students in non-college preparatory classes. Although the school is 47 percent black, the faculty and administration are overwhelmingly white.

The disturbance began last Feb. 28 after an assembly was called in the school auditorium by a racist community group urging white students to "protect" their rights. The gathering, although not official, received the tacit support of both the school and city authorities.

At the assembly, fights broke out between white students and black students, who had filed in after whites made slurs against blacks. The cops came in, pushing the whites behind them, and hitting blacks with their clubs. Several blacks were arrested.

After holding a sit-in in the school auto shop, the black students were promised use of the auditorium, where they compiled a list of 11 demands. The Board of Education ordered the schools closed until March 10. They then suddenly became very concerned about the opinions of students, having never been so before.

When the Plainfield High School Student Union, a group formed to combat racism in the schools, met with them, we pressed for the adoption of the 11 demands laid down by the black students. The majority of the board ignored our requests and instead asked how we would "improve" the school. Just at that time, a black rally was taking place outside the Board of Education building, and the participants yelled on the outside what we were saying on the inside, with chants of "B. P., Black Power."

Black students boycotted classes until March 13, when they decided to call off the boycott after the mayor promised that the cops would be removed from the school.

But, when they showed up the next morning, they found they had been lied to—there were cops at the school, and police refused to allow Mr. McAfee, an adult they had brought along as a liaison officer, into the school.

Another boycott called in protest against this ended March 17 when the cops were finally removed and Mr. McAfee was allowed to enter.

## BOSS presses control fight at Barnard

By Kathy Curran

NEW YORK—Black students at Barnard College, the women's undergraduate college at Columbia University, are waging a battle for more control over college institutions which affect them. The struggle began when the Barnard Organization of Soul Sisters (BOSS) presented a list of demands to the college president Feb. 24, which included an interdepartmental major in Afro-American studies and increased recruitment of black students.

On March 3, at a college convocation, President Peterson gave her reply to the students and in essence sent the demands to suitable committees, stating that "interested students" were encouraged to participate on them.

BOSS rejected her response, and stated that the president had totally ignored the primary issue—the demand of black students for power to institute changes relevant to them, including the hiring of personnel and selection of committees and committee members. They pledged to continue the struggle and since then have organized dorm meetings to explain the issues to the rest of the student body.

An indoor rally was held which was attended by more than 100 people. Speakers included representatives of BOSS, Columbia's Student Afro-American Society, YSA and SDS.

## TWLF suspends the picketing at Berkeley campus

Because of the break between sessions, the Third World Liberation Front at the University of California, Berkeley, has temporarily suspended picketing. The TWLF emphasized that the strike continues; during the break it will redouble its defense efforts and continue to negotiate with the university administration.

The Berkeley campus local of the American Federation of Teachers, which has been striking for recognition and has supported the TWLF demands, returned to work after the administration agreed to bargain with the AFT for its members. One disputed pay issue has been settled on terms favorable to the teachers.

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees' local which respected the TWLF picket lines has also returned to work. AFSCME reported recruiting 75 new members to a previous membership of about 300 as a result of strike activity.

Legal defense is the most pressing task of the TWLF. There have been some 160 arrests, a third of which are felony charges with possible sentences of up to 15 years. In most cases, extraordinarily high bail has been set; for persons charged with assault and battery, it has ranged from \$2,000 to \$5,000. Funds are urgently needed. Contributions should be sent to Legal Defense, 1141-B 9th St., Albany, Calif. 94710.

### PHILADELPHIANS: March with GIs To End the War Now New York—Sat.—April 5

Tickets \$5 round trip available from:  
GI-Civilian Coalition for April 5, 1011  
Chestnut St., WA 3-0261, Hours 12:30-9 p.m.

also from:  
Women's International League for  
Peace and Freedom, 2006 Walnut St.,  
LO 3-7110, before 5 p.m.



# The Great Society

**Lightweight Coffin Nail**— For a fleeting moment as we scanned the headlines in the **Wall Street Journal** we thought we'd be going back to the weed. "Freeze-Dried Tobacco Process Disclosed," the headline declared. "Method Cuts Tar, Nicotine As Much as 60%." The fourth paragraph explained, however, "The substantial reduction occurs because freeze dried cigarettes contain as much as 60 percent less tobacco by weight than ordinary cigarettes."

**Pot Goes to War**—Germ warfare specialists working for the U.S. Army have developed a synthetic marijuana at least as powerful as LSD. It's intended to confuse the enemy.

**Sieg Heil!** — We're late in announcing it, but we're sure many people would have enjoyed the launching ceremony at the Bath Iron Works, in Bath, Maine, this past Feb. 1. Launched was the third of three guided missile destroyers built for the new West German navy. Named the "Rommel," after Hitler's most famous general, the traditional bottle was bust across the bow by Lucie Maria Rommel, widow of the late "desert fox."

**But Not Among Union Bureaucrats** — An editorial in **Steel Labor**, voice of the United Steelworkers officialdom, reported in near-astonishment that "a committee of the U.S. Senate has uncovered the existence of widespread hunger in the United States."

**The Merit System**—"DETROIT (AP) — Chrysler Corp. board chairman Lynn A. Townsend got a \$242,500 pay raise last year, his reward for helping the firm's profits jump 45 percent." It didn't say how much he made the workers jump.

**Getting Better All the Time**—A\$6-million F111A fighter bomber crashed in the desert near Las Vegas. The crash came while planes were still searching for another of the planes, lost in the area three weeks previous. Thirteen of the jets have crashed so far. The Air Force says the F111 accident record is better than that of most fighter bombers.

**None of That Irrationality for Her Boy**—A South African white woman has been having school problems because her son, 13, looks colored. The government offered to send him to a private boarding school.

But his mother rejected that proposition because such schools tend to be a bit more liberal in their racial outlook. She said she was afraid her son "might become influenced to become a liberal" and she didn't bring him up like that.

**The Paytriots** — Doing its bit for the war effort, and alleviating the labor shortage, the Boston Sheraton is hiring off-duty sailors as weekend replacements for chambermaids. And they get the same \$1.75 an hour as the regular employees.

**The Less Spent on Dog Food . . . ?** — A London baby food company is now marketing a contraceptive pill for dogs.

**All This, And Virginia Slims Too** — Ohio State University announced the nation's first ROTC program for coeds, describing it as "another step toward women's equality with men."

**Things-Are-Tough-All-Over Dep't** — "In many ways, growing up as a Rockefeller, I lived with a tag, just as a Jew or a Negro." — Mrs. Hope Rockefeller Aldrich, daughter of John D., III.

**Bright Spot of the Week** — On Valentine's Day, a Deer Park, N.Y. savings and loan company was relieved of \$6,000 by a holdup team. So the company hired a guard. On March 13, two men walked in, took the guard's gun, and relieved the bank of \$22,000.

**Pornographic Event of the Week** — On Saturday, April 19, the League for Industrial Democracy (Michael Harrington, chairman of the board) will bestow its Annual Award on Hubert Horatio Humphry "for his 20 years of leadership in the struggle for civil rights, social justice and economic democracy."

**Thought for the Week** — "Even the industrial establishment is vulnerable . . . Now we are confronted by dealers who are discontented with their relations with the factories, by rebellious customers who are dissatisfied with products and services, and by irate citizens who are disturbed by air pollution, traffic accidents and highway construction." — Henry Ford II on the growing U.S. rebellion.

— Harry Ring

# Even in Peoria: Student sit-in wins library grant

PEORIA, Ill.—Some 500 of Bradley University's 6,000 students occupied the university's library through the night of March 12, forcing the administration to provide \$1.5-million for the purchase of library books.

The move to occupy the library began when university president T. W. Van Arsdale, at a press conference he had called to answer students' questions, was confronted by a demand from senior student Mike Ghelfi that library expansion be placed ahead of the university's currently planned \$3-million athletic center. When Van Arsdale responded to Ghelfi's demand for \$1.5-million by telling him to "transfer to another university," Ghelfi, a Young Socialist, walked out of the press conference and, together with his YSA comrades and other student supporters, began the occupation of the library.

Within the hour, the 30 rebels were joined by 300 more students some of whom, following tactics devised by the local SDS, began checking books out of the library en masse. When it appeared that this tactic would alone prove ineffective, a steering committee, composed largely of those who had originally entered the library and the more politically aware of those that joined in, announced to the enthusiastic approval of the assembled students that the library would remain occupied until the demand for its expansion was met.

So widespread and intense was the support for the occupation, that the Student Senate, which the previous day had voted down a motion to take similar action, hastily met in the library to give its support to what it called the 'legal' aspects of the occupation. When it became apparent that the majority of the students present intended to remain in the library past its 'legal' closing hour, the Senate prevailed upon Van Arsdale to declare the library "open" round the clock.

At nine o'clock the following morning a committee of 12 students, half from the steering committee, half from the student senate, met with Van Arsdale to accept his public commitment of \$1.5 million for the library expansion as first university priority. Mike Ghelfi, the student whom Van Arsdale had told to transfer only a few hours ago, served as part of the acceptance committee.

At noon, Student Senate president Pete Erlinder announced the victory to the cheers of well over 1,500 assembled students. To the same cheers, Ghelfi read a telegram of support from the Chicago Young Socialist Alliance.

That evening, Harry Brent, a Bradley English Instructor, and a member of the YSA, discussed the political implications of the occupation before an audience of about a hundred students. On the same program, Sam Clark, president of the Peoria Afro-American Black People's Federation, related the library victory to the struggle of Black people against the "white, capitalist, criminal" rulers of America.

# Oberlin's brass takes new look at 'student power'

The administration of Oberlin college is having second thoughts about concessions it made to students last November, according to the March 16 **New York Times**.

Oberlin permitted two students, Amy Gladstein, an 18-year-old sophomore, and David Hauck, a 20-year-old junior, to come onto the faculty admissions committee which processed applications for the incoming class.

What did these two students find in the files? Here are some marginal comments on the applications:

● "He seems pretty level-headed and, although he sympathizes with some of the SDS causes, he also disagrees with some of their methods."

● "He and his father remind me of the 'typical Jews' cliché. Pusher, aggressive, talker, high goals."

● "Well this kid certainly won't help the male image on campus. It's too late even for hormones. Nothing against him, but I'm not sure I want to take responsibility for sending our girls another one of these."

● "Here's a classic case. A National Liberation Front member. Every cliché at his grasp. Very difficult to pin down . . . Instead of answering a question in his own words, he refers to a quote or a study or actual history. He doesn't show me much. It's an R [for reject] all the way."

The two students turned the marginal comments over to the Oberlin school newspaper, the **Oberlin Review**, which published them Feb. 25. According to the **New York Times**, "everyone" on the faculty-administration admissions committee now agrees that the comments were "unfortunate" and "unacceptable."

Moreover, the committee acted decisively on the issue. It dropped Gladstein and Hauck.

The two students, the committee gravely noted, had committed a "grave breach of ethics" in making the matter public.

However, the committee did assure that "it might accept student members again next fall."



----- clip and mail -----

# Meet Socialists in Your Area

**ARIZONA:** Phoenix: YSA, c/o Lindley Garner, 1010 Lemon St., #12, Tempe, Arizona 85281.

**CALIFORNIA:** Berkeley-Oakland: SWP and YSA, 2519-A Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley, Calif. 94704. Tel: (415) 848-9334.

Los Angeles: SWP and YSA, 1702 E. 4th St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90033. Tel: (213) 269-4953.

San Francisco: SWP, YSA, Militant Labor Forum, and Pioneer Books, 2338 Market St., San Francisco, Calif. 94114. Tel: (415) 552-1266.

San Diego: YSA, c/o Bill Williams, 897 Vista Grande, Apt. 4, El Cajon, Calif. 92020.

**GEORGIA:** Atlanta: YSA and bookstore, 187 14th St., Atlanta, Ga. 30309. Tel: (404) 876-3887.

**ILLINOIS:** Champaign-Urbana: YSA, P.O. Box 2099, Sta. A, Champaign, Ill. 61820. Tel: (217) 359-1333.

Chicago: SWP, YSA and bookstore, 302 S. Canal St., Rm. 204, Chicago, Ill. 60606. Tel: (312) 939-2667.

DeKalb: YSA, c/o Marv Katter, 810 Kimberly #100, DeKalb, Ill. 60115.

Peoria: YSA, c/o Mike Ghelfi, 1522 N. Bradley, Peoria, Ill. 61606.

**INDIANA:** Bloomington: YSA, c/o Rick Congress, 207 E. 2nd St., Bloomington, Ind. 47401.

**MAINE:** Brunswick: YSA, c/o Ted Parsons, Senior Center, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine 04011.

**MASSACHUSETTS:** Boston: SWP and YSA, c/o Militant Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave., Rm 307, Boston, Mass. 02115. Tel: (617) 536-6981.

**MICHIGAN:** Detroit: SWP and YSA, Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich. 48201. Tel: (313) TE1-6135.

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## Bay Area labor backs Standard Oil boycott

By Paul McKnight

SAN FRANCISCO, March 19 — The three Bay Area central labor councils and the regional office of the AFL-CIO here an-

nounced today their full support of the Standard Oil boycott that has been launched to defend the union shop at the Chevron Chemical plant in Richmond, Calif.

Local 1-561 of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union has been on strike at Chevron Chemical, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Standard Oil Company of California, since Jan. 4. The main issue involved in the strike is the maintenance of the union-shop clause in the contract.

Richard Groulx, executive secretary-treasurer of the Alameda County Central Labor Council, said, "We don't intend to see a small local go down the drain, and we certainly aren't going to permit the loss of a union shop in the Bay Area. We have assigned two full-time representatives to man the boycott office we are opening in the East Bay."

"At the request of the national AFL-CIO, the San Francisco Central Labor Council will provide all possible help to the boycott effort," added George Johns, the executive secretary of the San Francisco body.

Art Carter, secretary-treasurer of the Contra Costa Central Labor Council, announced that a mailing had just gone out from his office to over 200 large stores asking them to support the boycott and warning that those stores that continued to handle Standard Oil products would be subject to informational picketing.

Dan Flanagan, the regional director of the AFL-CIO, made public an AFL-CIO resolution that said in part: "The failure of the Standard Oil Company of California to agree to fair and uniform settlements must not go unchallenged by the labor movement." He pledged full cooperation with the boycott from the regional office.

"Standard is looking for a fight, and we're going to give them one," said G. T. Jacobs, secretary-treasurer of the striking local. "There are no union demands standing in the way of a settlement, only company demands that center around the union-shop clause."

"We will never return to work with a contract that doesn't give us a union shop", he said. "We're going to mobilize the entire labor movement and all our allies and fight this battle until we win. This union-busting drive will be stopped."

## Settlement won at S.F. State

By Helen Meyers

SAN FRANCISCO, March 20 — The four-and-a-half month old strike at San Francisco State was settled today. The first announcement of the settlement came at noon from President Hayakawa. BSU strike leader Jerry Bernardo confirmed the announcement shortly after in a statement to students in the school cafeteria.

The agreement provides for the establishment of an ethnic studies department, with a community board empowered to run the department and to hire who they like. Under this agreement it is anticipated that Dr. Nathan Hare and George Murray will be rehired by the board to function in the department.

Academic amnesty was granted all students, staff and faculty involved in the strike, meaning that there will be no expulsions. Students arrested for misdemeanors involving "nonviolent" acts will receive a letter of reprimand from the school. Those involved in "violent actions" will be put before disciplinary hearings. The maximum penalty they can receive as a result of those hearings is suspension.

An announcement by Police Chief Kahil and Mayor Alioto is expected tomorrow concerning amnesty from the city for those students facing criminal charges. It is expected that all misdemeanor charges will be dropped and felony charges reduced to misdemeanors.

## S.F. State Young Socialist framed on 'inciting-to-riot'

By Leah Schuman

SAN FRANCISCO — On Thursday, March 13, Helen Meyers, a member of the Young Socialist Alliance at San Francisco State College, was convicted of "inciting to riot" as a result of an arrest on Dec. 3, one of the bloodiest days of the Third World strike there.

She was charged with violating a section of the California State Penal Code, which makes it a misdemeanor for a person "with intent to cause a riot, or urges others to commit acts of force or violence, or the burning or destroying of property."

Members of San Francisco's notorious tactical squad had singled out Helen Meyers as being a strike leader and arrested her when, during the bloody arrest of another student, she shouted out asking the arrestee his name so that he could be bailed out quickly.

The only prosecution witnesses were three members of the tac squad — expertly trained to corroborate each other's testimony. All three testified that Helen had incited others to throw rocks and bottles with the statements, "Kill the Pigs!" and "Don't let them take our people!"

One of the defense witnesses was a young Oriental man who was not on strike but had witnessed the arrest. He testified that all he had seen the defendant do was approach the scene of the arrest and all he had heard her say was, "What's your name? What's your name?"

The D. A. attempted to discredit the witness' testimony by saying that the young man had also been arrested on the campus

and was therefore biased against the police. It turned out that not only had he not been arrested, but that his brother and two of his cousins were serving on the police force. Actually, the D. A. had confused him with another Oriental student with a similar name who had been arrested in the strike; apparently to the D. A. "all these Orientals look alike."

At this point in the trial, the D. A. became flustered because his case was faltering. He found it necessary to hurry down the hall to the room where another San Francisco State trial was in progress, pull another member of the tac squad out of that courtroom, drill him on Helen's case, and put him on the stand. He testified that Helen had been a participant in last May's sit-in in the SF State administration building and that she had recently spoken at the Militant Labor Forum on the subject of police repression on campus.

The prosecutor's summation conjured the stock images of the strike which have been evoked — since the events began last Nov. 6 — by the mass media; i.e., a sizable minority of enragés run amok in the otherwise idyllic groves of academe, terrorizing the vast majority of students and teachers. Helen Meyers was portrayed as a hard-core agitator with a lengthy history of assault on law, order, and the American way of life.

The jury, which had no black members, found Helen Meyers guilty. Sentencing will take place April 3. The maximum penalty for the charge is six months in jail. An appeal in the case is pending.

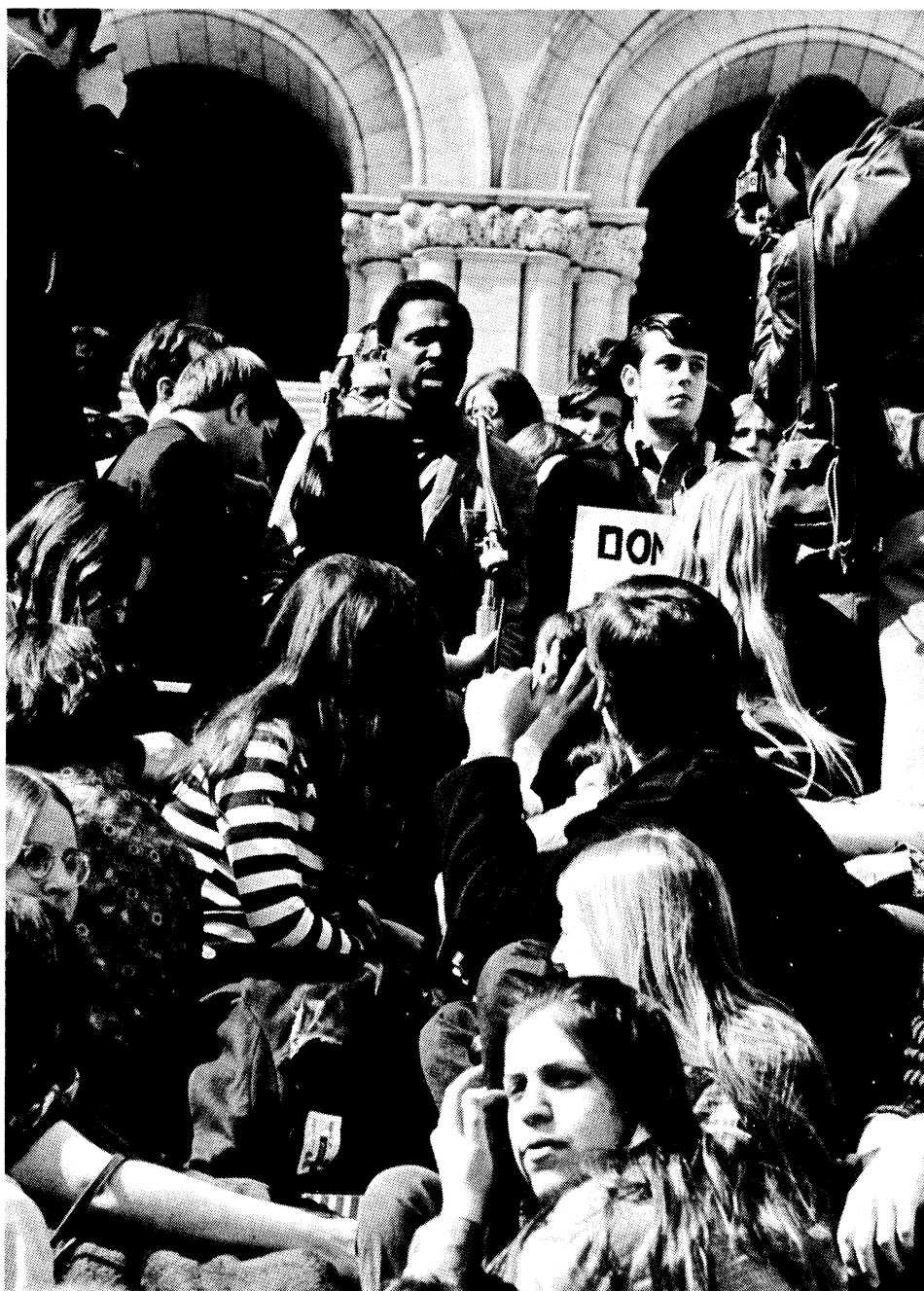


Photo by Hermes

**MASS PROTEST.** The New York State Capitol steps in Albany were flooded by over 10,000 New York City high-school and college students March 18 in protest against moves by the state administration to cut the city's school budget. About 600 of the students present were black and Puerto Rican in a Third World security force. They got tired of the capitalist politicians hogging the mike and took over, attacking the sham of the Democratic and Republican Parties' pretense that they are concerned about improving community conditions. Here, Paul Boutelle, Socialist Workers candidate for New York mayor, solidarizes himself with the militant Third World forces.

## Socialist Workers ticket enters Minneapolis race

By Jay Garrison

MINNEAPOLIS, March 3 — Three Twin Cities socialists will be contesting the big-business-backed candidates in the municipal primary elections here April 29.

All three are young and come out of the new generation of socialists. All have had considerable political experience. Running on the Socialist Workers Party ticket for mayor is 27-year-old David Thorstad, a long-time activist in the antiwar movement who in 1967 was a member of the Paris Secretariat of the Bertrand Russell International War Crimes Tribunal. Currently he is organizer of the Twin Cities Socialist Workers Party.

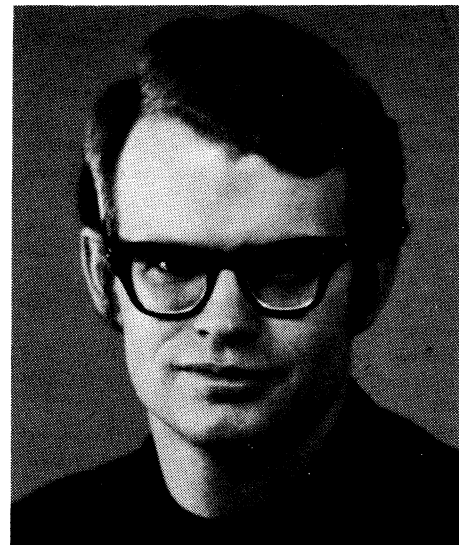
The Thorstad campaign is seen as part of a nationwide campaign of American socialists to challenge the candidates of the capitalist parties in the 1969 mayoralty elections. "From New York to Los Angeles," Thorstad has pointed out, "socialists will be speaking as the only consistent voices in support of our GIs—for bringing them home now—for community control of the institutions that effect the lives of Afro-Americans, Indian-Americans, youth and working people in general."

Lee Smith, 23, is running on the Socialist Workers Party ticket for sixth ward alderman. Smith has also been active in the antiwar movement and was the former associate editor of the University of Minnesota student paper, the **Minnesota Daily**. One of the issues of his campaign will be support for the Minneapolis Tenants' Union. Smith calls for a rent ceiling of 10 percent of a tenant's income and the opening of the landlords' books to public examination.

Derrel Myers, 26, is running for board of education. He recently spent a month traveling in Cuba, where he paid particular

attention to the revolutionary advances of the Cubans in the sphere of education. He is a veteran of many of the student struggles at the University of California in Berkeley and has played a leading role in helping to organize numerous demonstrations against the Vietnam war. A house-painter by trade and a union man by conviction, Myers was active in California in the painters' fight for rank-and-file control of their union.

Myers explains that he is for "rank-and-file community control of education in the black and Indian communities." Myers will also campaign for "the right of the high-school and post-high-school communities to use the schools for discussions on the Vietnam war and other burning social issues."



Lee Smith