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A MARINE REPORTS FROM NORTH-CHINA

Dec. 27, 1945, Somewhere in North-China

Hello Jim:

...Hope you don't mind the beefing. Or have you met a Marine who hasn't beat his gums a little? We left X--- by ship and reached Y--- two days later. We then got aboard a train which took us to Z--- where we stayed a week... Our company is scattered all along the railroad trains guarding bridges of all types and sizes. The one I'm at is about 150 yards long. Our job is to keep the communists from blowing up the bridge, and they are surely making it hard for us.

They say the war is over. Over is right. All over China and we are in the midst of it, and don't let the papers or radios tell you otherwise. We've been attacked a few times already but lucky for us no one was hurt as yet. We've been on the alert so many times it's beginning to be a habit already. We've had two really hot nights. Load was flying from all directions.

This is worse than combat cause out here we don't know who is our enemy or who our friends. We don't trust anybody anymore. Two boys from "X" company, which is about 6 miles ahead of us, were attacked by supposedly friends. One Marine killed and one wounded seriously. Had the wounded fella not played possum he too would have been killed. As it turned out he had a bullet in the head and one in the leg but managed to live.

The front lines where the Chinese are clashing is within earshot from us. We've personally witnessed trainloads of wounded coming into Changli. Besides dodging bullets we have to contend with the weather and bum chow.

We are getting sick and tired of eating C & K rations continually. Now and then we get some corned beef packed in Paraguay 1917. We have been pooling what little money we had to buy fresh eggs for a change. We are on the outskirts of Manchuria so it gets mighty cold out here. Below zero weather all the time. Many days way below. The China Wall is just beyond the mountains directly north of us about 6 miles.

Honestly Jim we're living like bums out here. At first we lived in tents and then in shacks. A dungen would be a good description for the shack. Just spent the worse Christmas of my life...Christmas day was another day of guard duty for us. No holidays out here. I'm sorry if I bored you with this information from China which is 100% truth. So for now I'll close, wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a joyous and Happy New Year. Good luck...

George.

SOLDIERS STRIKE AGAINST U.S. IMPERIALISM

The world-wide soldiers strikes and demonstrations against the U.S. government's demobilization slowdown are the highest form of political struggle against American imperialism that any section of the working class has attained during the war. The soldiers strikes are a qualitative change from the old directionless and negative "want to go home" thinking to a purposive and positive denunciation of the War Department, Truman and the on-the-spot military leaders as incompetent, corrupt and lying, and as using soldiers as watchdogs of American imperialism. They indicate a complete split from following the lead of the generals, a fission from the ideology of "obey orders" and "you're not paid to think". Remembering that their action is directed at the very center or core of capitalist power, it is easy to see what high scale political working class action this is, the highest since the foundation of the U.S. by revolution 170 years ago.

CAUSE OF THE SOLDIER STRIKES

On Jan. 4 when the War Department announced the demobilization slowdown the soldier demonstrations were touched off. But behind this lies a series of causes which show the high development of soldier thinking during the war and the influence of the workers strikes at home in getting the soldiers to go into action too. **SOLDIERS DO NOT DEMONSTRATE IDLY AGAINST THEIR COMMANDERS.**

The soldiers felt that the generals - the benedaled fourflushers and aristocratic phonies - were keeping the army large solely to preserve their fat jobs and their power over vast masses of soldiers. Even some Senators agreed with this. Eisenhower's denial was a farce. They felt they were being played for chumps, were being made suckers for the generals, that the war is over and we aren't really needed any longer, that there is really nothing left to do.

They know that in every army installation (even during the war) there were more than twice as many men as were needed in most organizations and that today there are sometimes 10 men to a job. Eisenhower himself had to put out an order that veterans were not to be given basic training again or other types of "make work" training just to fill their time. Cutting grass with bayonets is no isolated phenomenon.

More important than this however is the fact that the soldiers saw the workers at home taking mass action to defend themselves against attack by the big corporations. They saw that whatever aim the war had been fought for had not been achieved but on the contrary had been vitiated by their use as policemen for imperialist ends. They could not reconcile the high-sounding words about democracy with the actual practices of repressing colonial peoples, of seizing territory and spheres of influence, of power politics, of machinations against the

soldiers themselves, of their use against workers and colonial revolutions. They have seen how the lovely words of the Atlantic Charter are violated by American imperialism every day in the week.

And they have taken a sound working class view and action against the problem. As the AP said on Jan. 6, "efficiency and discipline are being undermined seriously. Officers as well as men are being affected by slowly corroding resentment against the war department." Hatred of oppression and rotten deals from above is one of the beginning points of class consciousness. In this case, not only soldiers but junior officers as well bitterly despise the war department. In their thinking they have split away from war department ideology completely, despite all the orientation courses, and have embarked on the road to opposition to the military arm of imperialism American style. Reason why soldier resentment, once it flares up can be so powerful is that the soldier has one direct enemy not several - only the government opposes him directly, usually in the person of the generals and colonels with the War Department behind them. They have only one enemy to hate, where the worker sees the boss, the police, the courts, the government in Washington. This centralized force that goads the soldier on creates this corroding resentment - class hatred - by its hideous actions against the soldier.

"First they tell us there aren't enough ships... and then we learn there are more ships than they can use... They aren't telling us the truth. We refuse to be suckers for anybody." Top leaders like Patterson have shown ignorance of the situation.

Many soldiers said they were really "sore" and believed they had been "sold out," duped by false promises. The kindest thing they could say about army brass was that it was "stupid." They complained that the slowdown order had broken flat promises made to them which is entirely true. The two year promise of General Marshall was broken. Halting the point system was a breach of promise. The use of troops for imperial policing purposes is a violation of all the reasons given these troops for being in the Army. The denial of democracy in the Army is a broken promise once it is compared to the high, glittering generalities the Army teaches soldiers about the Army's democratic mission abroad, like "teach democracy to the Germans."

MASS STRIKE TECHNIQUE

In their methods of demonstrating the workers in uniform have used the mass action tactics of their brother workers in the factories. Mass organization (directly counter to the Articles of War); parades, demonstrations, strikes, mass meetings, mass protests, speeches, petitions, letters to congress, cables, articles, press releases, advertising in press, pamphlets (mimeographed), leaflets, programs and plans of action, demands, grievances, protests to inspector generals, placards, picketing, yelling and singing at gatherings, joint discussions with officers at conferences, joining together with junior officers against senior officers, establishing of "liberation" committees, fighting denunciation - all these are worker's tactics. They indicate soldiers are workers in uniform who know how to use the technique of mass action with telling effect. Mass meetings of 20,000 were reached in Manila. 5,000 demonstrated before the U.S. Embassy in Paris. Another 5,000 struck in Frankfurt, Germany. 18,000 met in Guam.

The soldiers' strikes follow the workers' strikes at home and are directly related to them. But they do more than follow: since the soldier's antagonist is the government itself and within the government the core of capitalist armed force - the militaristic pinnacle of class rule - the demonstrations immediately assume the high political level of open opposition to the government, open challenging of its armed forces structure. Political strike action is at a higher level than the workers' economic strikes. In this sense, the soldiers who initially followed the example of their worker brothers in the U.S., have gone far beyond them to attack the government politically and directly, and are actually leading the workers' struggle. As in the Kiel mutiny in the German Navy in 1918 which at first arose on the impetus of strike action by workers, then went on to lead the German revolution, so this soldiers' strike has moved the entire struggle against American imperialist policy and its instruments for effectuating that policy to a far more advanced stage.

Calling themselves "political prisoners of war," the soldiers raise the demand that War Secretary Patterson, top man in the army hierarchy be removed. They called Patterson "public enemy No. 1." Soldiers declared Patterson was convicted of incompetence by his own statement that he didn't know men overseas were not accumulating discharge points since Sept. 2 when points were frozen. Patterson is the same man who admits he signed the document ordering destruction of cyclotrons (atom smashers) in Japan, without knowing what he was signing!

It is important to note the kinds of actions taken, how closely they follow workers' action at all levels from the lowliest economic petition to the high political level of open denunciation of government imperialist policy.

Guam soldiers in a protest mass meeting sent a cable to the press condemning "corrupt demobilization policy" of the Army. They denounced Patterson's "amazing ignorance of the point system" and the Army failure to observe the terms of the promise General Marshall had made that two year men would be eligible for discharge.

Soldiers jeered a Colonel who couldn't tell them when they were going home. His field press relations officer called the soldiers' remarks "uncomplimentary muttering." But it was well deserved by the stupid colonel who was trying to defend the indefensible.

Andrews Field, Maryland - between 150 and 200 air force soldiers left their posts and laid their protests against demobilization inequities before an air force inspector, then returned to work.

Paris - Soldiers shouted in a demonstration in the Place de la Concorde that they were "fed up" with having a hard time and suffering discomfort while their officers were living in luxury in Paris, and shouted that they would write to their congressmen.

Manila - a mass meeting of 20,000 voted funds for fullpage newspaper advertisements in the U.S. demanding removal of War Secretary Patterson and appealing to the public for pressure on Congress to speed up demobilization.

Mimeographed pamphlets were published by half a dozen groups, bitterly attacking the War Department and Army brass hats and urging soldiers to complain to

visiting congressional committees. One outfit was assessing its men two pesos each for a fund to pay for advertising in U.S. newspapers to "turn the heat on the brass hats."

A pamphlet reads that every man is writing one letter to his family and one to a soldier who has gone home, telling them the situation abroad and urging them to write their congressmen requesting them to put pressure on the war department to release soldiers. They declare: "It will work. The war is over whether the army agrees or not and the pressure of half a million letters cannot be disregarded by congress. We've started the ball rolling. You keep it rolling. Let's go home."

London - high point soldiers demanded speedier redeployment and sought the help of the American delegation to the UNO and were reported to have received a promise of help from Eleanor Roosevelt. This help assuredly will be worthless.

Guam - 18,000 officers and soldiers attended mass meetings protesting inconsistencies in the army demobilization program.

Seoul, Korea - indignation meetings were held and writing to congressmen was decided on.

Demands that Truman take action and that congress take the whole demobilization program away from the war department were raised by another group.

India-Burma - in Calcutta a mass protest meeting urged: "Let's back our buddies in Manila and France." Soldier solidarity was magnificent. Opposition to being used to service Pan-American Airlines planes and against sitting idly around camps supposedly guarding property was voiced.

No Boats No Votes was announced as a policy - unless redeployment is solved.

Frankfurt, Germany - demand for the transfer of low point men from the U.S. was raised.

Hawaii - Mass meeting proposed automatic release of two year men on March 20, a month drop of 10 points in discharge requirements, point credit for service since V-J day, full use of available transportation and a clear foreign policy.

Demands and slogans raised were surprisingly consistent all around the globe, showing the fundamental identity of the problem and the reaction.

Lincoln Freed the Slaves, Who Will Free Us?

Are We Patterson's Playthings?

See Here, President Truman.

Service, Yes, but Serfdom Never.

What Does Eligible Mean?

Japs Go Home, How About Us?

Yamashita - Patterson - They Didn't Know

We don't want to occupy the Philippines. They are going to be independent this year, aren't they?

No Boats, No Votes

We're in - help us out.

The high point of planned objections to slowdown in demobilization rose from the soldiers in Paris. They developed the "enlisted man's Magna Charta," a mimeographed list of grievances and demands, and organized a "GI Liberation Committee." A memorandum to present to a senatorial investigation committee is prepared. The Magna Charta demands the "immediate removal from office of the secretary of war for obvious reasons," and expressed the belief that "while the lengthy occupation of Germany and Japan is necessary to keep the peace, we do not believe the occupation of allied countries is necessary." The statement that we must occupy Germany and Japan is wrong, of course, but the rest of the position is correct. Why the U.S. is occupying "allied" countries and Germany and Japan is explained later by the soldiers themselves.

The Magna Charta demanded the democratization of the army by the establishment of common messes for officers and men, on a first come first served basis;

The same clubs and movies for officers and men at all posts, camps and stations, with abolition of reserved sections for officers at recreational events;

Abolition of all special officers quarters, and the requirement of all officers to serve at least one year as enlisted men except in time of war;

Reform of courts-martial boards with juries composed of one officer and three enlisted men, with a majority necessary to approve a verdict or sentence;

The inspector general's office to become a civilian agency under the FBI, with any officer or enlisted man entitled to request an investigation.

This program is insufficient and has several serious flaws, but it is a considerable step forward for soldiers.

What is manifested is the fact that drafted workers refuse to be treated as slaves and will fight for their democratic rights even in the Army. They will democratize the Army instead of yielding to Army dictatorship. Also they refuse to be used as police to enforce imperialism's will on their unarmed worker brothers abroad. The fighting spirit of workers continues even while they are in the Army.

WHAT TROOPS ARE USED FOR

Top Army generals and congressmen declare that "we have commitments in Europe" and Asia and cannot walk off and leave them. They claim the Army has no intention of abandoning the occupation of Germany and Japan and guarding billions of dollars of government property abroad.

The soldiers flatly disagree with this.

They prove that the war department undertook world policing along with the plotting State Department, behind the backs of the population. This charge is entirely true.

Soldiers groups demand that a clear explanation of foreign policy in regard to use of troops be made. They stated that the army was being used in the Pacific "as a show of force" to implement foreign policy.

A pamphlet of a headquarters company comes right to the point when it says that demobilization at great speed is "alarming to the state department which wants an army to back up its imperialism in the far east." This imperialism consists of seizure and retention of practically all of the Pacific islands and use of troops to guard them, policing in Japan and Korea where independence was not granted and of backing Chiang Kai-Shek's forces against the Chinese CP, of supplying, training and transporting British troops to crush the Javanese revolution. Also, Army High Command has Gen. Hershey's attitude that it is cheaper to keep soldiers in the Army than to send them out to civilian breadlines.

In China itself the morale of marines was cracking up because the marines "are convinced they are merely pawns in a political chess game." True again. Even the marines, the very epitome of police troops, are opposed to imperialist plots and adventures for total American domination of the Pacific and other areas.

The argument that billions of dollars in government property has to be guarded is tommyrot as soldiers in the Philippines have shown. They have shown that it costs more than 3 million a month to guard property which is worth only some 5 millions. Then what are the troops really there for? They are guarding against possible workers uprisings. Left wing groups are extremely active in the Philippines and if they should move towards the seizure of state power, such a movement would spread like wildfire throughout the Far East. It would ignite the whirlwind of world revolution. This the U.S. imperialist government has to prevent at all costs, for it would smash the imperialist dream of eventual world domination with America sitting on top of the subjugated countries of the entire globe.

Denunciation and opposition to American imperialism is at the core of the protest. The soldiers have come out in support of the Indonesian and other Asiatic revolutions. They refuse to be occupation troops whose principal function is to keep down the working masses of the occupied country. Soldiers have seen how American arms are used to prop up and keep in office all kinds of anti-worker regimes, as in Japan, as in the deals with Fascists in Germany. Soldiers have refused to permit the government to use them as a counter-revolutionary police force. This is the most open and powerful antagonism to the secret American imperialist aims for world domination that has occurred. No other section of the working class has done as much good in exposing American imperialism and in organizing sentiment of workers at home and in other countries around the demands against imperialism. Mass action of workers led the way. Already the imperialists have been forced to revise their plans for occupation forces, for penetration into other areas, for consolidation of their penetration into existing areas they control or influence. Already the soldiers exposure of America's imperialist plots and moves has done incalculable good in preventing the crushing of Java, in heartening the workers of occupied Japan and Germany who see that the American workers in uniform are opposing imperialism.

THE DRAFT - UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING

Some pamphlets charged that "redeployment has been deliberately slowed down to force compulsory military training. The point system is a two-edged sword used to keep men in instead of getting them out."

This is blackmail by the army to force the workers to support the program of compulsory military training under the excuse that it is the only way to get our long-serving boys back from overseas. The soldiers call it a "squeeze play to force favorable action on the pending peacetime draft bill" and they are right.

Two considerations should be made clear about this argument:

First: one of the principal arguments against the hard peace policy against Germany was that the U.S. workers would never support a long occupation with a conscript army. Already the Army is failing steadily to get the conscript army it wants, and it is entirely possible other policing forces will have to be used, principally airplanes and political terror weapons held in the background. One writer calls for the use of the Marines as the police force, but he is missing the heart of the question.

Second: To those who say we should draft new men to replace old, we have to say that they have fallen into a trap deliberately created by the Army to force acceptance of its conscription proposal. A soldier overseas is made to feel the only way he can get home is if a replacement comes so he is forced by the army one-sided presentation of the problem to "support" further conscription. Fact is we do not need occupation forces or a big army at all. We should recall the U.S. armed forces from overseas, liquidate the army entirely and end conscription now, completely. All arguments for continuing conscription are based on continuing imperialist intervention in the affairs of other countries and on crushing workers revolutions.

Draft law will expire May 15. Already Truman's drumfire to have it continued under the form of universal training has been seriously weakened by the soldier demonstrations which have showed up military training as being an instrument of imperialism. Thus the overseas soldiers demonstrations have helped civilian workers in the U.S. to conduct their basic revolutionary working class struggle against the draft of American imperialism. Sailors concentrated in small groups on individual ships are openly bitter towards officers.

Marine recruiting will be hit since the marines are writing to the papers and grousing openly over being used against revolution and not to disarm Japan.

Volunteering for the armed forces is also affected by troops demonstrations. We see that the effect of soldier demonstrations has been the hardest blow against militarism by any group or section of the working class during the entire war. And all this was brought down on the heads of the military by their own stupidity in trying to extend the length of service of men already in the forces. Army-Navy merger to get more efficiency into the world police force will have a great deal more opposition now.

Drafted workers now in service are moving steadily against the fiction that the war is not over. They are raising the demand that the war be declared officially ended and that the duration and six months promise - another broken promise - of Roosevelt and Truman be realized now. In the U.S. workers know how this refusal to declare the war officially over has been used against strikers with the government using its "emergency war powers" to send in the

army against strikers and seize plants, thus smashing strikes. In the army, soldiers know that the refusal to declare the war officially over has given the military a prize opportunity of retaining workers in uniform indefinitely.

Drafted workers will not submit to being used as a world police force for American imperialism. They refuse to be scattered over the globe to back up power politics of the American colossus. They are not interested in making a show of force to Russia or the subject peoples of Asia and the Pacific. This means that they have flatly rejected all U.S. imperialist attempts to clamp an iron grip on the world. They have rejected police work generally; and soon will reject police work in Germany and Japan.

EISENHOWER CRACKS DOWN

When two or more soldiers meet in the army to engage in a concerted action, under the Articles of War (the army criminal law) they are liable to courts-martial for subversive activity. Yet in these massive political demonstrations we see 20,000 soldiers in Manila holding a mass meeting just like their brother workers in the U.S. on strike. Why didn't the War Department clamp down on the soldier strikers?

The answer is: that these demonstrations were too widespread to be halted by the usual cutting off of leaders by courts-martial. Had the Army tried any of its usual dictatorial rough stuff the reaction on the part of soldiers would have been worldwide mutiny. As it is there is an important lesson in the demonstrations: where individual action is ineffective, large-scale soldiers action cannot be stopped. Spread the strike is one of the key points to soldier action today which can be combined with worker action tomorrow when the economic strikes within the U.S. can reach an accord with the high political level of the soldiers political strikes against the government overseas and in this country too. To really accomplish this, of course, it will be necessary to fight to eliminate the treacherous leaders in the labor movement.

Meanwhile the War Department didn't sit idly by and let the strikes develop. It and various commands under it collaborated to strangle the strikes, to intimidate the soldiers and to misrepresent the aims of the soldiers, at the same time concealing real War Department aims of using soldiers as watchdogs or policemen for imperialism throughout the globe. Eisenhower has finally banned all demonstrations; many soldiers are imprisoned; reprisals will be taken by the generals.

At first President Truman said there would be no disciplinary action against the demonstrators since there was no violence. But the President backed the slowdown in demobilization, proving he was an open enemy of the soldier. He claimed it was necessary to do policing since that was the responsibility of the U.S. for keeping the peace and disarming the former enemy.

MacArthur and the War Department agreed on use of the "paternal" method of action - which means simply that no reprisals could be taken. This is one time the Generals had to "sweat it out" enlisted men. MacArthur said: "these are good men who have performed magnificently under campaign conditions and inherently are not challenging discipline or authority." Dugout Doug is a little

wide off the mark. He is striving to shift the blame onto the soldier. But this is a fault of the higher brass and the government.

One Senator called the demonstrations "near mutiny" and said it was "distressing and humiliating to all Americans." First of all, when 20,000 are demonstrating it shows that the whole basic mass of soldiers is flatly opposed to the use to which the army is putting them. That army policy and the State rule behind it is what is wrong, not the soldiers. Secondly, the demonstrations are not distressing and humiliating to "all" Americans. Quite the opposite, they are welcomed by the workers as the highest form of expression of political opposition to the government's policy of forcing soldiers to be police for imperialist adventures throughout the world. The soldiers showed their good sound workers sense when they struck against this policy of policing the world for Wall Street, of being on hand to help crush the Japanese revolution, of supplying Chiang Kai-Shek with materials to crush their opposition, of preventing revolution in Germany and Japan.

Warning by other Senators that the soldiers should be "very careful" is almost funny. It is these imperialist vermin who should be careful. The wrath of the soldier is rising steadily against their plots to police areas in order to prevent our worker brothers across the seas from eliminating American imperialism from their countries.

In Yokohama the provost marshal went to the typical army extreme of trying to threaten the men, calling them a bunch of goddamned babies and threatening to send them to his Yokohama prison if he heard them sing "I want to go home" again. He claimed Communists and Bolsheviks were in the crowd. If true, hurray. We need more of these soldiers who can stand up to dictatorial scum like this provost marshal. As for insulting the Secretary of War, in reality it is he who has insulted the soldiers when he showed he didn't know the point system had stopped functioning after September 2, 1945, from which time on points were not counted. Such stupidity is inexcusable and insulting.

In Frankfurt armed paratroop reinforcements were called out to disperse a demonstration of more than 5,000 angry soldiers who threatened to storm Gen. McNarney's headquarters. At least 20 soldiers were arrested. We demand their release and we demand the trial of the men and officers who arrested these fighters for liberation from army dictatorship. Gen. McNarney in Europe agreed to meet with a representative from each unit. Gen. Mark Clark in Austria named a committee of officers and enlisted men to study personnel records in an attempt to answer demobilization problems.

Is this mutiny in any sense? No. It is too big for that. It is the massive birth of revolutionary consciousness. The press which claims the duty of soldiers is to obey orders is failing to see that soldiers THINK and that they refuse to be used for policing of Pan-American planes, surplus products, island outposts, strategic bases, and to ship materials to forces crushing revolutions of their class brothers in Java and other places.

It is alleged that the soldier demonstrations are expected to spread to the civilian populations of Germany and Japan. Excellent. Where the Generals fear that the Japanese and German forces opposed to occupation will take their

cue from the American soldiers, our soldiers know that the Japanese and German workers are our class brothers. If we can start them off on the road to taking revolutionary action against the occupation authorities, well and good. Gen. Hall of the 3th U.S. Army, in Yokohama says the Japanese will use this opportunity to commit sabotage. This is not the first time workers' action is called sabotage. We are for unity of the Japanese and German workers with the American soldiers. Fraternize with Japanese and German workers. A Chinese editor in Manila said, "This is democracy working. It isn't just a word. You can smell democracy." There is no democracy in the army! But the soldiers have shown what real mass democracy is. The Generals are vicious enemies of soldier democracy.

In the struggle to stifle the demonstrations, the Army in the Pacific clamped down on its own mouthpiece, the Stars and Stripes. Staff members declared that the Army papers "has never enjoyed the privileges of a free press." They charged that "through open and implied pressure," the paper had been forced "to delete, distort and play down news to serve the personal and professional interests of the Army hierarchy and in many instances, the officers generally." They had been forbidden to discuss policy in Japan, specifically on the Emperor, the Japanese government, Japanese officials, the Nippon Times (a citadel of reaction), and Dr. Kagawa (the Christian leader who has a pro-war record). Even the gripe column of the paper was censored and tampered with.

Eisenhower in his appearance before the Congressional investigating committee on Jan. 15 asked soldiers to halt their clamor against the slowdown in demobilization. He said "there will no longer be any useful purpose" in troop demonstrations and that "The time has come to replace hysteria with calm judgement and sound discipline."

Eisenhower is way off base. The useful purpose in troop demonstrations is already shown: it has exposed the imperialist policy to which the soldiers are put. This is not hysteria: the demonstrations were calm and cool. Only ones who got excited were the generals who saw that their little game of war has been exposed as a criminal assault on whole sections of the planet for ends completely unrelated to democracy.

Already the demonstrations have forced the War Department to speed up the slowed down demobilization considerably. Soldiers should not let up on the pressure on the War Department and the generals until ALL U.S. ARMED FORCES ARE RECALLED FROM OVERSEAS, specifically from occupied Japan and Germany, from Java and the sea lanes leading to Java.

UNITY OF WORKERS AND SOLDIERS

The national strike wave of workers in the U.S and the soldiers strikes abroad on a world scale have to be linked up more closely.

In the soldiers strikes what has come out in the open with amazing clarity is that soldiers fought for American imperialism without having any reason or aim in the war. War aims were absent. Soldiers won nothing out of the war. Imperialism won bases, strategic areas, new markets, control over workers and their attempts at revolution in many spots on the globe.

For the first time soldiers have started to fight for themselves, for the interests of the whole world working class. They have started the struggle against the generals and the army doubledealing on a mass scale. They have smashed openly against the brutal and dictatorial Articles of War which favor the officers and make the worker in uniform a slave to petty and inhuman regulations arising from medieval conceptions of serf and master. They have demanded the ousting of Patterson and have thereby shown they reject all capitalist military leadership.

Soldiers when they return will learn immediately that the ruptured duck or homing pigeon (discharge emblem) is of no help in getting and holding jobs, that the ruptured duck has to make way for the union button.

Fighting for themselves with working class mass action, soldiers are learning that when they return to the factories, shops and plants they will go right on struggling with the rest of the working class against the bosses and the boss government. The soldiers struggle and the workers struggle is a united struggle.

Already unions in the U.S. have come out in support of the soldiers. Political groups have supported the soldiers. They have raised slogans of linking both workers and soldiers struggles, though they have not done this properly or on a broad enough scale. Unions have agreed with the soldiers that they should not be used as watchdogs of imperialism. They have agreed that the doubletalk about ships and the false reports about labor troubles is army propaganda to split the working class, to keep worker and soldier apart. On the strike lines Unions have raised placards and slogans supporting the soldiers. Ex-soldiers have shown up on the picket lines in increasing numbers to show the fundamental solidarity of soldier, ex-soldier and worker against the the capitalist enemy.

The real enemy is the boss, the general, the government - this is the biggest lesson soldiers and workers have learned.

Not Japanese workers and German workers and Javanese workers and Chinese workers and British and Russian workers are our enemies. But the government of the U.S. which strives to crush workers revolutions by using workers to do their dirty, rotten policing.

WHERE THERE IS NO DEMOCRACY

In industry there is no democracy - workers are steadily fighting to wrest control of industry out of the hands of the bosses.

In the army there is no democracy - soldiers are moving towards smashing officers' dictatorship and, in unity with their fellow workers struggle against industrial dictatorship, are laying the foundations for the political struggle to liquidate the army of imperialism - murderous enemy of workers in the U.S. and other countries.

The fiction of "political democracy" when industrial dictatorship prevails has to be shattered to pieces and workers rule established.

Meanwhile the following slogans for use in the armed forces now, should be raised high on the red banner of soldiers struggles:

Recall all U.S. occupation forces from abroad
 End conscription now
 End the "war powers" of the government
 Against a single department of national offense; abolish the general staff
 Old enough to fight and kill and die, old enough to vote - give 18 year olds the vote
 Disarm all capitalist military groups
 Arm the workers
 U.S. imperialism, get off the backs of the Japanese and German workers; clear out of Asia and the Pacific
 Halt shipping of arms to British forces crushing Javanese workers
 Workers and soldiers of America, wherever you are, unite with our oppressed worker brothers in all lands against American and all other imperialisms
 Fraternise with Japanese, Chinese, Javanese, German workers - our class brothers

For the right to political organization of soldiers
 For right of soldiers committees to meet with officers
 Democratize the armed forces
 End officer dictatorship over soldiers; end the reprisals system
 For election of all officers
 For the right of free speech, press, voice, vote and thinking of soldiers
 For the right to hold meetings, to demonstrate, to picket and to strike
 For the abolition of the infamous, anti-soldier Articles of War
 FOR THE ABOLITION OF SALUTING
 For soldiers being on all court-martial boards, fully empowered to try all officers
 For release of all soldiers held prisoner for political actions and revolutionary thinking
 Demand war trials by workers and soldiers committees of top military and government leaders for forcing American workers to slaughter Japanese and German workers for the profits of American imperialism
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WAR TRIALS ATTEMPT TO WHITEWASH ALL IMPERIALISTS

The war "trials" at Nuremberg of top Nazi leaders, and coming war "trials" of Japanese leaders, can in no sense of the word be called trials.

They are political demonstrations in which each victorious government participating in the imperialist war for the world is going to try to prove that not his government was involved in beginning the war, but these bad, bad Nazis.

Thus the Stalinists are going to try to explain away the Hitler-Stalin pact of August 1939 which gave Hitler the go-ahead signal. The British are going to try to explain away their support of Fascist aggression and their help in re-arming Germany as a bulwark against Bolshovism (at a good profit) which led to turning over of Central Europe to Hitler in the infamous Munich agreement of 1938. The American government is going to try to explain away its financial and industrial support of German rearmament, its permitting of German cartels by arrangement with American trusts to dominate dyes, chemicals and large parts of European trade, and sale of war supplies to Japan. By backing Hitler, U.S. and Britain dealt sharp blows against the German workers. Each major competing power is going to strive to prove its innocence and the Nazis' guilt in starting the war. The grand whitewash begins.

In this political demonstration of their lily-white, angelic innocence, the U.S. and Britain will attempt to gain exoneration for backing German rearmament in the years before 1939 because these Nazis who had been so responsible suddenly became irresponsible. In this thesis they have the support of such writers as General Fuller who in his latest book ("Armaments and History") has declared that wars are caused by madmen. Such a psychological theory of war is the natural corollary of U.S.-British whitewash of their own real war guilt.

LEGALLY NOT A TRIAL

Even from the standpoint of capitalist law, it is clear that this is not a trial. Firstly the judges and jury are not selected from the defendants' peers or equals. No Germans sit on the jury. Only the victor powers can judge.

Secondly the law under which these killers and Nazi rats are being tried was developed after the crime, a new departure for a "trial" as it is generally understood in the capitalist world. War of aggression is claimed to be a crime against humanity, runs the thesis of Justice Douglas, the American prosecutor. Assuming this to be true, had the Nazis won the war they would have legalized their actions. Defeated, the Nazis' actions become illegal. Not any standard of justice but greater force becomes the criterion - and so it is!

Before their victory in the war many of the actions charged against these Nazis were quite all right legally with both Britain and the U.S. And today both Britain and the U.S. are committing the identical crimes with which they are charging the German Fascists. As an example, when British "Indian troops

burned Bekassi village (in Java) and British planes machine-gunned the fleeing villagers," and U.S. "Marines fired two dozen 60mm. mortar shells into a Chinese village." Chicago Times correspondent, Keith Wheeler, comparing these actions to those charged against Japanese "war criminal" General Yamashita, says: "These acts, of course, don't excuse Yamashita but it's hard to tell the difference."

There is no difference. This is murder - mass murder.

TRIALS CAN BOOMERANG

The war "trials" can boomerang against the accusers. For we have not heard the last of the Nazis. Ley and others are dead, but Goering, Hess, Ribbentrop and others may still have a tiny opportunity of showing how Britain and the United States supported German rearmament, how both countries tried to turn them against Russia; also they can show the background of the Hitler-Stalin pact.

These Nazis can show how all the crimes with which they are charged were committed in the war and before for many long years by both Britain and the United States in their imperialist wars. Who can ever forget the British-inspired Amritsar massacre in India in 1919? Who can conceal how American imperialism sent troops into Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, Mexico, seized Panama and Hawaii by faking revolutions, and other territories as well?

For those who do not know too much of the past, look at Java where the U.S. and British joint chiefs of staff agreed British troops should intervene to preserve "order" and disarm Japanese. Instead the British disarmed Javanese revolutionists. The U.S. supplied the arms and equipment to the British and trained Dutch troops in U.S. camps. This is the "arsenal of democracy" busily engaged in crushing a colonial revolution against Dutch and British imperialism.

Worse still is the U.S. and British use of all kinds of petty fascist stooges in the military government in occupied Germany, and their various deals with Fascists from Franco, to Petain of Vichy infamy, to Darlan, to Badoglio, and with the Emperor of Japan.

The opportunity for showing not one but all these imperialist powers were busily preparing for war is here.

TRIALS IN ONE COUNTRY

Trials in any single country as in Norway unquestionably dispose of some of the worst enemies of the workers who are responsible for atrocities and for dastardly war roles.

However, thus far all the formal trials have been in the hands of the capitalist governments in these countries, and as a consequence the trials have been used primarily to eliminate a bourgeois opposition and to whitewash the war and pre-war record of the victorious present regimes.

The capitalists as a class were all responsible for creating the war, as capitalism drives towards war. Elimination of one section of their class for having sided with the losers does not eliminate capitalism nor the wars which it breeds. It serves only to help breed the erroneous impression that now that the criminals are gone war can be abolished, that the present regimes are guiltless.

Two French "trials" show the pattern of trial, defense and deliberate shifting of all blame on to losing individuals and groups.

Laval's "trial" was also a political demonstration of the deGaulle forces. Permitted some defense under French law, Laval had the entire court baffled by a clever defense in which he reached an agreement with his prosecutors that no events occurring before the year 1940 were to be discussed, and that he was not to be charged for anything he did prior to 1940. Why? Because all the participants in the trial had been implicated in the deals with Fascism made before 1940, at Munich, over Ethiopia, and elsewhere. Mornet, noted as the prosecutor of Mata Hari in world war one, and Judge Moncibeaux, had both sworn an oath of allegiance to Laval when he was Vichy-Fascist French premier under German control. Laval apparently thought he was gaining an advantage by getting this agreement or thought he could expose the guilt of all sections of the French capitalist class. However, he was killed before he could talk.

PETAIN "TRIAL"

The Petain trial likewise was not of an individual but of the entire incompetent French capitalist government apparatus of pre-1939 days. From 1940 through 1942 the U.S. had supported Vichy semi-fascist France while it was under complete German control. In a letter to Petain at the height of the trial, Admiral Leahy, Chief of Staff to President Roosevelt and then Truman, came to Petain's assistance in an effort to justify American support of Vichyism for over two years. That support was called "expediency" in its day. Leahy defends Leahy in the Petain trial; today, while it "tries" the Nazis, the U.S. government defends the U.S. government. Even after supporting Fascist and semi-Fascist governments and individuals, the U.S. government through its spokesman Admiral Leahy comes to the defense of its pro-Vichy Fascist policy.

ROLE OF STALINISTS

By participating in the war trials the Stalinists are primarily interested in covering up their own rotten deals with Hitler in 1939 which helped touch off the war.

Since large sections of the working class consider that the Red Armies and the Soviet government in some manner or form is out to help workers, Stalinist participation in the war trials seems to give to the trials the support of the Russian workers and of workers of other countries as well. This is an additional crime by Stalinism against the workers.

The trials in Russia of Nazi atrocity perpetrators were not well reported in the press, and it is questionable how much of a role workers of the Soviet Union played in settling the fate of the accused. However, these trials at least did not mislead workers of other countries as does participation in the Nurem-

berg trials. Stalinism has given the imperialists a tremendous helping hand in selling their propaganda of "impartial justice" and struggle against "wars of aggression". It has helped mark imperial America, Britain and France as innocents and not at all connected with starting the war.

PEARL HARBOR AND WAR CRIMES

The U.S. government is as criminally guilty of starting the war as is the German Fascist government.

A parallel war trial would be created if the U.S. Government were to be tried, along with Admiral Kimmel and General Short, for the Pearl Harbor debacle in which over 3,000 soldiers were slaughtered. One of the major reasons attested to for not bringing the government and military leaders to trial has been in reality that it was not Kimmel and Short who were unprepared to defend Pearl Harbor, but the entire Roosevelt administration which had a policy of permitting the Japanese to attack, to commit the first overt act. Refusal to try even Kimmel and Short is a refusal to permit the truth about Pearl Harbor to be known, for it would show how U.S. government policy gave the Japanese outright support of their aggressions. Not Kimmel and Short would be on trial, but entire government policy and administrators from 1931 on who made deals with Japan, supplied Japan with 93% of the munitions of war and scrap iron with which she was strangling China - these would be on trial. As it happens, the guilty U.S. government doesn't hold its war trial. It cannot expose itself.

Unquestionably the most important thing which the many Pearl Harbor investigations have proved is that the U.S. government under Roosevelt was as responsible for starting the war in the Pacific as was the Japanese imperialist government. What is mistaken in most discussion on Pearl Harbor is a virtual mental fixation on Pearl Harbor itself. Pearl Harbor has become an obsession and a symbol. And for a good propaganda reason - to shift the blame for the war onto the Japanese alone. Once Pearl Harbor is related to the economic and political conflict between American and Japanese imperial governments which had been competing for Asiatic markets for decades, as the shooting at Sarajevo in world war one was related finally to British and German rivalry in Europe - once placed in its proper historical perspective, Roosevelt's permitting the Japanese to attack at Pearl Harbor turns out to be not the cause of the imperialist war by any means, but a strategic move on the vast chess board of imperialist policy.

Behind the hubbub about a Hull ultimatum to Japan in late November 1941 stands the fact of 10 solid years of American support to the Japanese war effort against China, during which time American financiers and industrialists supplied Japan with almost all of the equipment, scrap metal and munitions necessary for carrying on a war of aggression against China. Why? First, it was a very profitable trade; second, Japan embroiled in China might be weakened and might be diverted against the Soviet Union, instead of attempting a drive to the south. When Japan moved south to seize French Indo-China, Roosevelt acted to halt the flow of war supplies.

Why was this policy of the U.S. Government from 1931-1941 switched in 1941 after 10 years, to opposition to further Japanese expansion? By 1941 the rulers of America saw clearly that there was no way of entering the world war against the

growing threat of world domination by German imperialism without finding a suitable pretext which would be acceptable to the workers, farmers and other classes in the U.S. Germany, which up to this time had studiously avoided provoking the U.S. could have embarrassed the Roosevelt regime by not declaring war. But they chose to declare it. A glance at American history will show that without exception in each war American capitalism has entered - as an out and out aggressor when looked at historically - American leaders have made it appear America is a victim of some other power, that America was attacked. Feeble Mexico was accused of attacking the much stronger United States in the 1840's; Feeble Spain was provoked into an attack in 1898. Even the entry into world war one was faked by President Wilson who had as much reason to complain against British as against German interference with American commerce; but the big bankers of America had already decided to eliminate Germany as a more dangerous competitor than Britain. Such stage-setting is not a new thing in history, as the record of most modern wars shows.

Roosevelt and the American rulers had no way of getting into the European struggle since the Germans were carefully shying away from any provoking of the U.S. However, the Japanese were increasing their pressure for continuation of sending them war supplies. U.S. imperialist policy switched to utilisation of a Japanese onslaught - which was permitted to occur - as a pretext for entering the full scale war for the world.

Strategically it was necessary for the American government to permit the Japanese to attack first, even to force the Japanese to do so if necessary by exposing the big base at Pearl Harbor. In the largest sense no one participating imperialist government is solely responsible for the beginning of the war. All competing imperialist governments are war criminals.

HOW DO WARS START?

Competing capitalist governments are equally responsible for war. Their political relations with each other and their trade competition constitute phases of warfare. Whoever chooses to strike the first shooting or armed blow in addition to all the previous economic, political and diplomatic blows, is not decisive at all in determining who started the war.

Each of these powers has to expand or die. It has to acquire new markets, spheres of influence, areas of capital investment, sources of raw material, colonial cheap labor and strategic bases or it cannot compete favorably with its rivals. Expanding capitalist economies have collided with the national political structure of the world and have gone far beyond their national boundaries to find new export areas.

All expanding capitalist economies are equally guilty of conducting all degrees of warfare against their rivals.

Now that Japan, Germany and Italy are removed from the historical scene as economic and political competitors of Britain and the U.S., the struggle between the remaining powers will continue in order to determine who will control not only the Pacific and Atlantic, but all the oceans and all the land areas of the world.

All capitalist wars are for private profit of capitalism and against the working masses of the world. As such capitalist war and the capitalist leaders who make war are war criminals against the workers of the world.

It is not fascism but capitalism that started the war. Among the victorious nations there are many leaders who are as guilty as the now-defeated fascists, though their methods of committing war crimes and their degrees of guilt vary. Where the fascist leaders were seemingly more cruel and vicious, it would appear at first blush that the war criminals sitting in high office in America and Britain and France are not personally criminal in nature. This is a mistake.

Firstly, the use of the atomic bomb is a worse atrocity than any committed by the Fascists throughout their entire period of control of Germany.

Secondly, the American leaders - as an example - who have great economic power can hide behind this might and appear to be peaceloving, while driving hard for war. Roosevelt could pose as a lover of peace. The German leaders, driven to more brutal actions because of a weaker industrial base, could not adopt this pose though they tried incessantly to do so. Actually the more powerful imperialist forces are worse war criminals. American imperialism largest of them all, is a greater menace to workers and is guilty of war crimes against workers throughout the globe. In Java they are helping crush the revolution. In Germany they strangled the revolution by the policy of unconditional surrender. In Japan by use of the atomic bomb they terrorized the working population. As the civil war of workers against bosses develops America's vicious and criminal role will become as openly cruel and murderous as that of Germany and Japan. It is no longer possible for American imperialism to pretend to be peaceloving and friendly towards the workers in the countries they dominate.

Goering, Hess, Ribbentrop and the rest of the Nazi hierarchy are war criminals. Emperor Hirohito, Tojo, Yamashita and others are war criminals.

So also are Roosevelt, General Marshall, the House of Morgan and the other rulers of America. So also is Churchill, Attlee, the "city" financial rulers of Britain.

The men responsible for dropping the Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki are as war guilty as Hitler. The more the 300,000 casualties of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are proof that mass murder is not only a German Fascist technique but is a policy of all imperialists, including the U.S. Even the Generals and Admirals when polled on use of the bomb had disapproved its use (it would have showed their jobs were obsolete, and they wanted the glory of showing how their leadership led to victory).

Roosevelt who according to Admiral Stark sent the fleet to fire on German navigation long before December 7, 1941 committed warfare, and is a notorious war criminal.

Manufacturers and financiers who backed Hitler and built up the German war machine are war criminals. Instead of helping the German workers in their struggle against Hitler, these big shots strengthened Hitler's war against the German masses and helped crush workers' opposition to Hitler.

The Hoover and Roosevelt administrations which from 1931-1941 supplied Japan with nearly all of her war materials with which to destroy China, and supplied the Chiang Kai-Shek government with war materials, are all war criminals and should answer for their crimes to the Chinese masses they have helped slaughter and American masses they have misled.

The Truman administration which agreed British troops should enter Java, which trained Dutch colonial troops, which armed British troops, which fired on Chinese workers and peasants in an effort to crush the Javanese and Chinese left wing elements - are all war criminals. Before the workers of the world they are murderers. The blood of thousands of our brothers in China, Java and other countries is on their hands.

The U.S. State Department which supported Vichy Fascists, Darlan, Badoglio in Italy and Germany and retained Emperor Hirohito and rightwing capitalist elements in Japan - all are war criminals. The super-concentration camp policy known as occupation is war criminality.

The British Labor Party leaders who ordered firing on revolting Javanese, Indians, Jews and other colonial peoples are all war criminals and should be given special trials as traitors and vicious enemies of the workers of the world.

Generals, Admirals, ranking officers who directed American efforts to dominate the Pacific, Asia, Europe - all are war criminals.

Harry S. (Strikebreaker) Truman who sent the army against strikers in many strikes during the war and after V.J. day is a bitter enemy of the American workers - an open war criminal.

French starving of German PW's is a war crime. Forced labor of PW's is a war crime. Denial of independence to India, Java, Indo-china, Korea, Porto Rico and other countries is a war crime.

Joe Stalin, agent of world imperialism, and the Stalinist parties throughout the world which betrayed and destroyed workers' groups fighting against imperialist war and which supported the Allied war plans are war criminals and should face judgement before the workers of the Soviet Union and of the entire world.

Before the workers of the world each and every imperialist power is responsible for the second imperialist war for redivision of the world. All imperialist rulers are war criminals against the workers of the world.

WORKERS' JUSTICE

Partisan groups in Greece tried Fascists and executed them, but this kind of workers' justice was halted by the British.

Workers in Italy took justice in their own hands. When the Allied armed forces landed they smashed at the base of the workers movement, disarming these workers and striving to prevent them from controlling sections of the country which they had taken over and run. Thus incipient Soviets were destroyed. During the period between German departure and Allied entry many towns were under the control of the workers who took justice into their own hands. They hanged fascists and

removed from office those persons who had collaborated with the Mussolini regime. When the imperialists entered they pushed the workers out of power and prevented them from taking any action to continue meting out workers' justice to the fascist enemy.

In Germany growing reports indicate that the anti-Nazi opposition was not only extremely widespread but that they had helped undermine the Volkssturm and had put pressure on the authorities to yield without resistance. They exposed Nazi party members to the allies. Under a SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces - headed by Eisenhower) order all of these organizations were dissolved. They had gone so far as to take over whole towns and run them in the interests of the workers. SHAEF dissolved one workers group after the other and prevented them from harming the fascists; immediately after disarming the workers and removing them from control of many towns, SHAEF put fascists right back into office. One report shows that these anti-Nazi workers groups had compiled lists of Nazis, requisitioned food and clothing for displaced persons and had "assumed numerous other government functions without prior military authorization." Along with its military forces, SHAEF brought in specially trained German police (from Belgium where they had been in training for many months) to replace the workers' groups that had seized power in some areas.

These butchers, killers, propagandists and enemies of the workers should be brought to trial for their crimes against the exploited masses of the world.

But this so-called war criminals trial is not the means of bringing them to justice. It is a grisly farce. Mussolini's death was a far more graphic and effective means. The enraged workers of Italy decided his fate.

Accusers of all these imperialist war criminals and their agents in the ranks of labor are:

workers of the world
Millions of war dead
Millions of injured
Millions of psychological casualties.

The indictment is: Class murder!

SINGLE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHOWS THAT U.S. IMPERIALISM TAKES OFFENSIVE

Truman's plan for a single department of national defense is a drastic change in the historic concept of American imperialism's military defense. Under the old concept, the U.S. waited and planned and staged its wars so that it looked like the U.S. was attacked. Thus far in the 20th century the U.S. government has carefully avoided declaring war on any country first, though it has been in one war after another. The new concept is based on the idea that the next war will start suddenly and that the U.S. will be the first target. In the atomic era, - as Stettinius, Truman, Marshall and other big guns have declared - U.S. imperialism can no longer take a chance on their old concept of stage-setting to make it appear the U.S. is always the victim of attack. An attack today can mean annihilation of millions in a few hours, and destruction of both industrial and military potential. U.S. imperialists have finally found the formula for world aggression - for taking THE OFFENSIVE MILITARILY on a world scale, in sharp contrast to their former long years of protestation of peace-loving, disarmament, no militarism and democracy.

Basically what is at play in the proposal to set up a Single Department of National Defense is that the U.S. has embarked on a course of being ready for aggressive or offensive operations anywhere in the world. The U.S. is preparing to police the world, to prevent and suppress revolution throughout the world, to have ready for this purpose a fast fleet of bombers and fighters. U.S. imperialists feel that their trade in the Far East and capital investments throughout the globe far from American shores require this sizeable policing force to safeguard and extend their investments and interests. It is already carrying this policy into life in Java, China and in occupation of the Pacific islands of other powers.

In the struggle of parts of the military apparatus with each other, the Army and Air Forces have won out over the Navy. The Navy has lost out in the controversy principally because it is no longer considered the first line of defense, nor of offense. The Navy cannot police an area, though it can bring troops and supplies to it. Navy opposition to the single department is based on a fight not to be subordinated to newer means of policing by air and ground forces and atomic terror threat. The Navy has always had a landarm - the Marines - who under international law could land on any shore to defend American investments without a declaration of war being made. But this policy is insufficient for the largely expanded imperialist needs of the American rulers. It is instructive in observing the controversy between the big brass that each group denounces the other as "dictators", "militarists" and "fools". Fact is - both are right!

A regular drive to drum up public support for the new "theory of the offensive" of American imperialism has been under way for practically the entire war period. Up to the outbreak of world war two American politicians were trapped almost hopelessly by America's traditional words about democracy and non-intervention.

Now they have developed the means for smashing through and putting aside their own democratic fakery in order to take a real hand in consolidating American imperialism's hold on many key areas on the planet.

The atomic bomb investigation was designed to prove scientifically that the old "defense" strategy has outlived its usefulness and has to be changed to the offensive - to constant preparation, to constant war moves so as to be able to strike first.

Pearl Harbor investigations were designed to show the need for being fully prepared for war at all times, and for hitting first, before a crippling blow can be struck by the enemy.

Politician after politician has come out with the demand for strategic bases, islands and areas in the Pacific and in Europe and Africa and South America, using the argument that they were won by "American blood."

Propaganda ministry for world with \$40 million appropriation is aimed to show how peaceful are U.S. intentions. Compulsory military training is part of the scheme of having U.S. police force ready for running the entire world, with help of rival imperialists where they can be subordinated properly to America, without their help if necessary - and eventually without their help in any sense. As Truman says in his proposal, "Such unification is another essential step - along with universal training - in the development of a comprehensive and continuous program for our future safety and for the peace and security of the world." Opposition to compulsory military training has to be based on clear-cut exposure of its use in spreading the all-embracing tentacles of the American imperialist colossus over the backs of American youth and of the exploited masses throughout the world.

Intervention in the affairs of Europe, Asia and South America shows the U.S. is on the offensive already - economically, diplomatically, politically. Terroristically too - with the atomic bomb being used as a first class political (not military) weapon. Now the stage is set for taking the step to change national policy to recognition for the need for taking the military offensive at a moment's notice. In this strategy the U.S. is catching up to where German General Staff planners were back in the 1860's under Moltke, but they are consummating their preparations for the mobilization of the country on the basis of the theory of the offensive not on the relatively small economy of Germany of that time but on the most powerful industrial machine the world has ever seen. The aim of this strategy of the offensive is immense - it is nothing less than world domination by American imperialism.

Truman assumes for the U.S. the role of world policeman. "Whether we like it or not, we must all recognize that the victory which we have won has placed upon the American people the continuing burden of responsibility for world leadership. The future peace of the world will depend in large part upon whether or not the United States shows that it is really determined to continue in its role as a leader among nations. It will depend upon whether or not the United States is willing to maintain the physical strength necessary to act as a safeguard against any future aggressor. Together with the other United Nations, we must be willing to make the sacrifices necessary to protect the world from future aggressive warfare. In short, we must be prepared to maintain in constant

and immediate readiness sufficient military strength to convince any future potential aggressor that this nation, in its determination for a lasting peace, means business."

The tighter and more efficient organization of the military structure of the government is not a solitary problem. It is linked to all phases of government policy for American intervention in countries around the globe.

"Our military policy and program are only a part of a total national program aimed at achieving our national objectives of security and peace..."

"Our military policy, for example, should be completely consistent with our foreign policy. It should be designed to support and reflect our commitments to the United Nations Organization. It should be adjusted to the success or lack of success of our diplomacy. It should reflect our fullest knowledge of the capabilities and intentions of other powers. Likewise, our foreign policy should take into account our military capabilities and the strategic power of our armed forces.

"A total security program has still other major aspects. A military program, standing alone, is useless. It must be supported in peacetime by planning for industrial mobilization and for development of industrial and raw material resources where these are insufficient. Programs of scientific research must be developed for military purposes, and their results woven into the defense program. The findings of our intelligence service must be applied to all of these."

Militarism is upon us. The entire weight of government policy has shifted to the offensive in international affairs, an offensive to be implemented by a strongly unified world-wide U.S. military force to back the policies of the other political departments of government. The proposed coordinated government-wide intelligence service is directed primarily at workers in this country and secondarily against workers abroad. To fight against militarism in America is our best way of supporting the struggle of colonial workers to free themselves from the shackles of imperialism, shackles weakened greatly by the imperialist war's destructive force but now being reinforced by American intervention on the side of the British and Dutch.

Never before in American history has a single individual besides the President who is elected and not appointed, ever been in control of both the Army and Navy. And Truman's proposal is to place this enormous military establishment in the hands of an appointed military leader. Truman is asking for a generalissimo. He is showing his true militarist colors. The increased efficiency of one military apparatus as contrasted to the existing separation (an efficiency which is overstressed for effect, for the Army and the Intelligence Services were very efficient in smashing strikes!) is a menace to the working class internally and to the workers of other lands whom American imperialism is restraining and suppressing today and is plotting to crush completely tomorrow.