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NEWS LETTERS

"Human Power is its own end"

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Editorial Article: Politics of Counter-Revolution

Watergate and the 'Year of Europe'

By Raya Dunayevskaya
National Chairwoman, N&L Committees

Brezhnev's mid-June salvage operation in Nixonland, undermined by Watergate, hasn't saved Nixon's lily-white skin. As against 1972 (when Mao, too, was directly involved in shielding Nixon), the second time around for Brezhnev-Nixon summitry could not cleanse Nixon of the Watergate stench.

As for the "Year of Europe", the Nixon-Pompidou non-event in Iceland May 30 should have shown our Emperor's intellectual footman, Dr. Strangelove Kissinger, that the warm and secret relations between Nixon and Brezhnev could only further arouse the suspicions of Europe that a repeat of Yalta (which decided Europe's fate without the presence of Europe at the end of World War II) may be in the making between the two nuclear Goliaths.

Indeed it needed no ghost come from the grave (not even DeGaulle grandeur) to see through Kissinger's arrogance in reducing Europe's national interests to "regional" ones, while raising Nixon's Pax Americana ambitions to global vision for "all".

Meanwhile our totalitarian President's criminal attempt to set up a Single Party State within the two-party system was too fascinating a tale to keep the people from watching the TV spectacular: the Senate Watergate Hearings.

WHAT THE TV HEARINGS DON'T SHOW

Ever since Senator Ervin's Committee opened TV hearings on the Watergate criminality, Nixon has unloosed a new set of surrogates. True, they look a lot cleaner than those who got him elected. Nevertheless, the new "independents" like Cox are trying to get the TV hearings called off. Whether by pleading for the rights of indicted men who may still be "innocent", or by peddling high sermons about "new world relations" and "national security", the result is one more cover-up.

"National security" for what? For forging papers to implicate a dead president* in the murder of Ngo Diem? For ordering the burglary of Dr. Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office? For infiltrating McGovern committees? For creating a new Madison Avenue image of Nixon — a totally new unrecognizable form of fascism, called "The Presidency" and fully enveloped in "Executive Privilege"? All this in order to have Nixon sound more learned and self-possessed than the Nixon who called Adlai Stevenson "the appeaser who got a Ph.D. from Dean Acheson's College of Cowardly Communist Containment", and ranted about "the Truman-Acheson-Stevenson gang's defense of Communism in high places"?

Though these quotations from Nixon's past are not now being heard from the TV tubes, Nixon fears that his 25-year poison-pen career as "master spy catcher" would reveal his start in politics back in 1946 when he first set the low standard both of slander and excessive rightism.

THE CONTINUOUS LINE—1946 to 1973

After all, there is a most continuous line from 1946 when he accused Congressman Voorhis of accepting money from the "Communist-led Political Action Committee of the CIO"; through the 1962 dummy committee he set up to collect money "for Democrats" who opposed the duly-nominated Governor Pat Brown; to the "laundered" money for his 1972 election campaign. Nixon's position seems to be that "campus bums" are not entitled to know his sordid past now that he has become so great a "statesman" that he opened doors to China despite his 20 years of strenuous labor to keep them closed on the ground that only "Communist appeasers" would wish them opened.

Where the 1962 super sleuth trick backfired and Nixon lost the election, the man (H. R. Haldeman) whose brainchild it was, went all the way up to the White House in 1972 when his new-brainchild won re-election of Nixon.

The \$75,000 sunk into "committee for Democrats" in 1962 is nothing as compared to the 1972 moneys, "laundered" and otherwise, that went unreported, though most willingly given by corporations from ITT to Vesco. (He no doubt considered the \$200,000 he gave the Nixon campaign small potatoes compared to the \$224 million he milked out of a multinational company he headed and didn't wish the Securities and Exchange Committee to investigate.)

One single fact does already stand out: the TV hearings have compelled quite a change in the stance of Nixon. In August, 1972, the globally preoccupied Nixon (allegedly too busy with matters of state and world "responsibilities" to pay attention to such a lowly preoccupation as his election for "four more years") maintained that none in the White House "was involved in this very bizarre incident." April 30 of this year, when he had to admit some "personal wrongdoing" on the part of his staff, he was still lecturing the public that they must "understand how highly motivated these individuals" were. By May 22 he not only had to point to others' "wrongdoing", but himself admit to setting the "climate" for "overzealousness". The one single word of truth is "climate".

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

Watergate repression world-wide

By Charles Denby, Editor

There has been much discussion among workers and housewives about the live TV coverage of the Watergate affair. Everyone that I know says that they believed from the very beginning, when the seven were arrested, that Nixon was involved, or knew all about it.

After listening to testimony of witnesses before the Senate Committee, they are even more convinced that the whole thing was planned by the highest officials in the White House. As one housewife said, "How is it that every one of the men that testifies can remember everything that does not connect them directly to the Watergate conspiracy, but on questions along those lines, they always state that 'to the best of my memory I do not know.'"

Even those that claim to be friendly witnesses use these same tactics. All of them are supposed to have brilliant minds, but they all go blank when questioned.

Some workers have raised the question as to why there has been such silence from the world's two Communist giants, Russia and China. Some years back they would have had a field day over such a scandal about the government of this country, with attack after attack. Instead Brezhnev, the Russian Communist Party Chief, said that it is the reactionary elements in this country that are trying to discredit Nixon.

As one worker said, "I guess the only people that are communist these days are those that are fighting a Civil War in their own country and fighting for their own freedom." In Russia, and in Czechoslovakia and other countries under its control, workers are in revolt against their form of government and conditions of labor.

In China, Mao was forced to start the cultural revolution to head off this mass revolt. Mao told the masses in 1956 to "Let a hundred flowers bloom," that he was allowing so much freedom they could criticize his government. There was so much objection to six men dominating 700 million people that some of the critics were then murdered.

Mao eventually was forced to come out with his little red book, and use a gestapo-type youth movement to physically attack anyone who did not fit in with the

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ON THE INSIDE

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*Why they had to forge documents when it would have been so much easier to get "proof" from the notorious Mme. Nhu remains as great a mystery as the narrowness of those two burglars who keep turning up at the Committee to Re-Elect the President, at Watergate, at Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office, not to mention that most sacrosanct inner White House "Intelligence Evaluation Unit."

WL is part of Black women's fight

By Debbie Brown

Black women have always been fighting for their freedom as women. And this fight cannot be separated from the whole Black peoples' fight. We should join women's liberation not to alienate ourselves from Black men but to bring us closer together in a new relationship of equality and mutual respect.

Black women in America have been sex objects in the broadest sense of the word. In slavery we worked and suffered equally with Black men.

In those times, when it was dangerous for us to even learn how to read, Black women dared to fight back. There were countless Black women who participated in slave revolts and were lynched for it. Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth spoke out against slavery and fought against it as bravely as any Black man. They didn't feel that they should be passive just because they were women or that participating in the struggle would cost them their "femininity" (which is a white value used to keep women in their place.)

WL FOR ALL WOMEN

Women's liberation is said to be only a white women's thing. There is a vicious rumor going around that Black women are already liberated because they work outside the home. We know that working outside the home doesn't mean you are free, especially under the conditions that Black women labor. Just as Black men, we are trapped into unskilled or low skilled jobs, the last hired and the first fired. And Black women earn less money than any other group in the nation. We reject the idea that women's liberation means a job outside the home just as we reject the ridiculous assumption that Black liberation means getting a piece of the rotten American pie.

Black women's liberation means that we must be both force and reason. We are not just bodies, we have minds and our ideas must be given equal consideration. Some of the oppression we suffer such as welfare and unsafe birth control, is directed at us because we are women and not just because we are Black. And to overcome this oppression all women must unite.

If Black women are to have an equal role in the



Black liberation struggle, we have to counter the attitudes of many Black men such as Stokely Carmichael who says that "the woman's position is prone" and Eldridge Cleaver who says that Black women should use their sexuality to lure more Black men into the movement. It is Black men of these attitudes who demand that Black women not use any type of birth control because they say it is a form of genocide. We are against being forced to take birth control, but at the same time we cannot allow these men to deny us the right to choose for ourselves. We must have control over our bodies.

Black women have ideas about what directions the Black struggle should take and what forms the Black family should take. We didn't sit on the sidelines in the past and we are not about to allow someone to dictate to us now how we are to live and what we are to fight for!

Nixon's plan: starvation

by Lillian Truth

I went to the supermarket last week. A little can of ham was \$1.19. I just stared at it; I couldn't afford it. I tried to find some meat I could buy. Chicken used to be my main meal but now I can't even afford that, so I didn't buy meat.

Most of the time I am serving dinners without any meat now. It's not because I'm a vegetarian; it's because of Nixon's high prices. I told a friend that my food stamps used to last me a week and a half. Now they don't even last a week. I told her that I think the reason is the economic plan of Nixon.

Nixon's plan froze the price of food when it was at its highest peak in the nation's history and did not include the poor people with the fixed salary and the fixed budget. It did not include people that have food stamps which are spent every two weeks. The elderly people who get them once a month will see no relief from the freeze.

The low income and also the larger families here in America will not be able to eat most of the time. Therefore we can soon turn our attention to the starving people at home as well as those we have been looking at in other parts of the world. What will happen to the prices after 60 days, if there are products on hand that people will not be able to buy? Will the prices go even higher then?

Wages have been frozen for two years before they froze food prices. Therefore the prices of food have already overrun the wages all over the nation. The rich won't suffer at all; they are making more profit than ever. The poor will pay with their labor, and with starving kids running in every street in all parts of the world, for the mistakes that have been made by Nixon's policies.

New laws deny people welfare

Los Angeles, Cal.—New regulations are going into effect which are designed to take more people off of welfare or deny new people the right to get on welfare. As of July 1, to qualify for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), a person will have to become an informer.

As the law stands now, recipients and potential recipients are not required to take legal action against relatives who are responsible for their support. But from now on, the mother/father applying for aid will have to name the other parent, providing information on the whereabouts of the absent parent and take criminal support action against the parent or be denied AFDC.

We from the Welfare Rights Organization know this is illegal because there have been court rulings against this practice. We are now waiting for cases on this order so that we can fight it.

I feel that this is a very inhuman thing. It is going to force people to tell lies. It's all a part of a general procedure to reduce the number of people on welfare, not by changing their conditions, but just by trick regulations to deny people support.

For example, Reagan's proposal to make step-fathers responsible for all the kids of a family has split up more families than were ever split before. His work program is another phony. People have been required to register with the Human Resources Department, but the training programs only make it look like people are off welfare. You are off for a short period to take job training, then put on a job which runs out in a short period, and back on welfare you end up.

The new regulations for child care eligibility will also end up with more people on welfare as there will be no child care for those who have jobs, and many single parents cannot take a job if there is no child care with government support.

We are trying to fight all of this, but it means fighting in Washington, in Sacramento and in Los Angeles, all at the same time.

—Welfare Rights Organizer

Amalia Fleming: Greek freedom fighter

A Piece of Truth, by Amalia Fleming. Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston, 1973. \$6.95.

For over six years, the people of Greece have lived under one of the most brutal dictatorships of modern times. The terror, pain, and fear which they have suffered since April 21, 1967, and their hope, courage, and love of freedom are vividly described by Amalia Fleming in A Piece of Truth. Her book is the story of her own experiences under the junta, and the story of Greece.

A participant in the Greek anti-Nazi resistance, Fleming returned to her home six weeks before the junta. Because of her fame as a doctor and freedom fighter, she began to receive requests to aid families of political prisoners, aid which is illegal to give.

Her involvement led her to work on a plan to help a prisoner escape. The plan was betrayed and Fleming was imprisoned. Throughout her month-long imprisonment, she was subjected to the psychological torture of constant interrogation and threats, along with great physical deprivations.

Not only did she refuse to be broken; she refused to be silenced either during interrogation or during her trial. Her courage to speak out and condemn the junta's methods and ideology won her a sixteen-month prison term. She served little of it, obtaining a suspension because of ill-health, and then was forcibly expelled from Greece.

Fleming's book is filled with stories of Greeks who have risked their lives in attempts to liberate their country. A reader can feel her excitement when, during the funeral of the late democratic Prime Minister, Papandreu, thousands of Greeks came out into the streets to defy the junta with shouts of "Freedom", "Democracy", "Today we bury the Junta!" Fleming puts her hope in the people and sees them as the force to overthrow the dictators.

Fleming, however, is not a Marxist and does not see the Greek dictatorship as a result of the horrors of capitalism. She does not recognize the need for a social revolution to destroy capitalism, the ground of dictatorship in Greece and throughout the world. But she does believe that freedom struggles throughout the world will continue, that people will continue to fight for liberation.

—Janet Ross

ERA calls for WL strength

Women have been very successfully divided on the question of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). This amendment, which says basically that women are not second-class citizens, has been a boon to those forces in America who profit from women fighting among themselves, instead of uniting. We have been divided mostly on class lines.

While all women could gain certain legal rights, working class women would be the most likely to suffer if the ERA abolished protective legislation and limits on women's overtime.

Because we are divided, business can do away with protective legislation. Because women and men are divided, protective laws will not now be extended to men. Because we are divided, some people will still have forced overtime, and have to work 10 to 12 hours a day. Because we are divided, many public accommodations, jobs, and legal rights will be closed to women. Because we are divided, whether the ERA passes or not, we will be in worse shape than we were before; whatever the law says, what we actually get depends on a strong women's movement.

An example of what we can do was the struggle to keep a taxi service to take women home at 3 a.m. from their jobs at the Bank of America in San Francisco, Ca. (see Jan. N&L). Their leaflets read: "Taxis for women and men. Save protective laws! Extend protective laws!" The bank initiated removing the taxi service; the next day the men workers had a demonstration, protesting that they were being made into scapegoats for the bank's decision. At their next demonstration, picket signs read: "Rights are universal! Workers are unisex!" and "We want safety day and night for women and men—it's our human right."

One of the new ideas to come from the women's liberation movement is the idea that women don't want only equality. We know that men don't have it that great. If we don't experience it ourselves, we see our men friends or relatives come home empty, exhausted, and angry from their dehumanizing, unfulfilling, often back-breaking jobs. Women do not want equality with men. What we want is a better world for all people.

—From "The Women's Newspaper"

P.O. Box 7418, North End Sta., Detroit, Mich. 48202

If you have a story, or want to contact News & Letters Women's Liberation Committees in San Francisco, Connecticut, Detroit, Los Angeles or New York, write to the addresses in the box, page 3.

Conn. still bans abortions

Hartford, Conn.—In spite of the recent Supreme Court ruling which supposedly entitles every woman to a safe, legal abortion on demand, in practice the situation is still very bad for many women, especially poor women.

For example, in Connecticut, besides the fact that the Welfare Department refuses to pay for abortions, a woman on welfare must go through difficult and confusing procedures to get an abortion. These have included making a woman "pass" a psychiatric examination declaring she is suicidal—the catch is that if she does that, she risks losing the children she does have. Welfare women have also been made to get prior written approval by the welfare commissioner himself for an abortion.

Even if women can get an abortion, the cost is often prohibitive—always upwards of \$100, plus transportation to and from wherever they live, and it is not covered by medical insurance. Hospitals on the whole are refusing to perform any more than the number of therapeutic abortions they did before the ruling, so most women still must go out of state, usually to New York.

The courts in this system are supposed to judge the constitutionality of laws. The executive and legislative are responsible for enforcing them. Nixon & Co. are against women and against abortion, as is nearly all of the male-dominated power structure. We obviously can't depend on them for any real change, even if their Supreme Court gives us a victory on paper.

—Connecticut Woman

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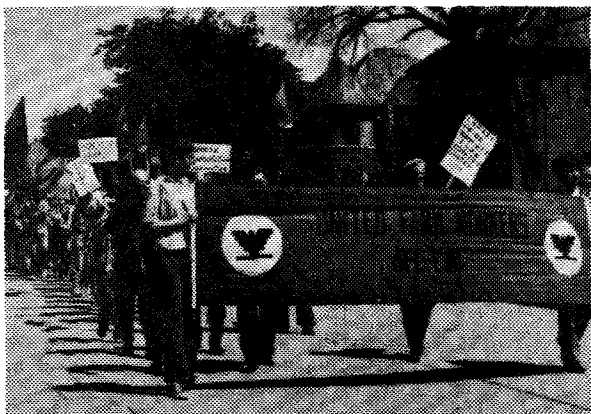
Excerpts from classes held in New York, Detroit, Los Angeles and Hartford around the book by Raya Dunayevskaya to be published this fall.

Includes discussion of the chapters on Hegel, Marx and Sartre

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Teamsters, growers, Nixon out to smash UFW



—News & Letters photo

Detroit boycott marchers back UFW fight

Delano, Calif.—The unholy alliance between California grape growers and the Teamsters Union is severely endangering the continued existence of the United Farm Workers (UFW) 40,000-member, ten-year-old union.

Not only have the Teamsters signed contracts with the growers which provide virtually no new benefits, but they have even wiped out those already won by the UFW. For example, planes are now spraying crops while the workers are in the fields. The hard won, twice-daily ten minute rest periods have been eliminated, and job discrimination against women and older workers has returned. To frighten farmworkers away from the UFW, the Teamsters have sent \$50-a-day goons into labor camps to break up UFW meetings and randomly beat up strikers.

In order to break the UFW, the grape growers of Coachella Valley, Cal., refused to negotiate contracts with them, while bringing in scabs and signing "sweet-heart" contracts with the Teamsters Union. When challenged by the UFW, they refused to hold elections which would show which union the workers prefer.

Frank Fitzsimmons, president of the Teamsters and faithful ally of Richard "Watergate" Nixon, justifies his criminal union-busting activities by calling the UFW "a

revolutionary movement which is perpetrating a fraud on the American public."

A fraud is being perpetrated — by the racist Nixon-Fitzsimmons team who are determined to preserve "slave labor" among Chicanos, Blacks and Indians in America. Chavez believes that the Teamsters are trying to reserve for the white workers the high-paying, machinery-operating jobs that will dominate the agricultural scene under automation.

After the struggle of the five-year nation-wide grape boycott, which finally succeeded in 1970, all the major growers agreed to recognize the Farmworkers Union and signed a three-year contract which brought immense improvements in working conditions in the fields.

Chavez and the thousands of UFW members and their supporters are determined to have their union, but desperately need help.

Cannery workers in L.A., themselves members of the Teamsters Union, have been protesting their union's campaign against the UFW. All Teamster members should demand that their leadership's attack on the farmworkers be stopped. Everyone should boycott scab grapes and iceberg lettuce. Contributions may be sent to: United Farmworkers, La Paz, P.O. Box 62, Keene, Cal. 93531.

Local News & Letters Committees can be contacted directly in the following areas:

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SACRAMENTO: PO Box 41322, Sacramento, Cal. 95841



By John Allison

This article is in memory of those workers who were fired by management between contracts. The UAW sometimes tries to get management to take a worker back before they sign a new contract. Always when workers go on wild-cat strike, the leaders are fired. Always the umpire rules against the workers.

I remember three cases at Dodge where workers went on an unauthorized strike, and the leaders were picked off. The first was when Soloman was President of Local 3. Management picked him out of the picket line and fired him. He never got his job back. The second was during a strike at Twinsburg, Ohio. The same thing happened. The president of the Local, named Fisher, lost his job forever. The third case was at Eldon Axle, when Local 961 members were striking. This time it was a committeeman, Jordan Sims, who was fired for being on the picket line with other workers.

Sims has just been elected President of Local 961. Management will let him finish as president, and will try to buy him. This is how it's done. Offer him a job on supervision and give him his seniority back. As of now, he has no seniority.

All of this brings us down to Lordstown, Ohio, where workers recently appeared on the picket line with their heads covered by stockings, or pillow cases. Management had no chance to pick someone out to fire. You guessed it. The union went out on the picket line and made the striking workers leave, when management threatened to sue the local for causing a work stoppage.

Many workers have been discharged for nothing more than protesting. Finally the workers have learned how to cover their heads, so management can't take their pictures and fire them.

5,000 unionists say: boycott Dare cookies!

Kitchener, Ontario—On May 26, over 5,000 unionists and supporters from all over Ontario came to Kitchener to support the Dare strikers, and the boycott of Dare cookies. The demonstration marked one year since Dare workers walked out on strike. The demonstration started in Victoria Park and wound through the streets of Kitchener to converge in Mackenzie King Square—across the street from police headquarters.

The speakers at the rally ranged from David Archer, Pres. of the Ontario Federation of Labor to Walter Miller of the National Farmers Union. There was even a representative of the Spanish Workers Association, who spoke through an interpreter.

The demonstrators vowed to continue support for the members of United Brewery Workers Local 173, who have been on strike since May 29, 1972. The fact that the strike has passed the one-year mark is significant. It means that the scabs who are working at Dare Cookies, professional strike-breakers employed by Canadian Driver Pool, can now apply for decertification to end the strike.

"The strike was going along very peacefully, and successfully," a striker said, "until the company hired Driver Pool to try to break the strike. The company got court injunctions that severely restricted our picketing. Seven of us were charged with contempt of court for things such as smiling at scabs, attempting to bump, and yelling." Six strikers went to jail, two for 60 days, two for 30 days, and two for 10 days.

Canadian Driver Pool is a company which has no other purpose than to provide scabs and goons to companies that will hire them. They are a threat to every worker. That's why 5,000 workers came to Kitchener—to fight for an end to legalized strikebreaking, and to have the enabling legislation wiped from the books. More and more unionists in Ontario are coming to realize that the right to strike is a pretty hollow weapon if the employer has the right to hire a firm of professional strike-breakers to crush the union.

Last year it was Texpack, this year it is Dare. Workers are beginning to wonder who is next. Boycott Dare Cookies!

READERS:
DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL? SEND IT IN!

FROM THE AUTO STOPS

Fleetwood

Detroit, Mich.—On June 13, the workers in the body shop and the cotan department at Fleetwood walked out. They shut down the whole plant. Things had really been building up. It was so hot the Monday before that more than 400 men stayed home.

There weren't enough men to work relief—they had to shut down the line during break time. We worked 10.1 hours that day. The men in the body shop had been asking for fans. By Wednesday there still weren't any so they decided to walk out at 7 p.m.

At the same time a worker up in cotan had been written up for taking off his safety glasses. The heat was so bad that everyone's glasses were fogged with sweat. You couldn't see through them. The cotan workers heard that the body shop was going to walk so when 7 p.m. came, they walked too.

The next day there were fans in the body shop, but they aren't hooked up yet. The company was afraid we would all walk out again as soon as we were paid, so they held our checks until after 12 o'clock. We are usually paid by 10 p.m. About 40 men from paint walked out over this. The company put foremen in their places to keep the line running.

The company sent a lot of men down to Labor Relations. I don't think they have disciplined anybody yet. They're scared it might spark more walkouts. But they kept all the cases open, so they can move anytime.

Walkouts like this happen because the pressures in Fleetwood are more than a human being can bear. The union is as scared of us as the company. They're afraid of losing that power. Woodcock says they would be glad to solve the "blue collar blues" and absenteeism if someone would only tell them how. Any worker can tell them. They can stop speed-up and forced overtime. We have worked more overtime this year than ever before. The company is showing record sales, so let them hire some of the unemployed or put on a third shift, instead of working us to death.

When the sanitation workers in Detroit refused to work overtime their union leader Hudson said that if one man was suspended, no one would work. Try to fight overtime in the UAW and you will strangle on red tape. It is so bad now that men who prided themselves on never missing a day are taking time off. Short of a wild-cat, absenteeism is a worker's best chance of making it through alive.

—Fleetwood worker

Chrysler Mack

Detroit, Mich.—There's a lot of things going on here that they're hiding. You won't read about them in the newspapers. For years they didn't have protective covers for your ears. A guy I know sometimes can't hear anything and other times is so sensitive to noise that it drives him crazy. Some guys' nerves are so bad that their arms shake most of the time they're not working.

The worst thing is the montony. You're just like a machine, doing the same thing 500 time a day. The monotony makes it so tiring you just don't want to go in. I know a guy who was sick as a dog and he'd been there four hours but they wouldn't let him go home.

If they're short of help, why can't they hire more help and let the older men go out early. A man 50 can't do it any more with so much overtime. I can't wait to get out—if I ever get out.

—Mack Worker

GM South Gate

Los Angeles, Cal.—We must insist that our Union fight for workers control over production standards. Production standards must be negotiated on the shop floor, not set by management. No job should be considered settled unless the job description is approved by the worker or workers involved.

All paragraph 78's should be settled and job descriptions be established in writing within 30 days after the beginning of the new model run and then be frozen until change-over. Workers must be able to exercise their rights as free men and women on the job as well as off. If we are forced to strike for these rights, we should not lose pay or benefits.

In the coming contract we must establish the right to have elected union health and safety representatives in each plant and on each shift. These representatives should have the right to call a strike without loss of pay or benefits until the company conforms to the code that is in violation.

If workers' lives are not as important to the company as the production we give them, then we will have to change their minds by not working until their attitude changes.

—South Gate GM Workers Committee

Readers' Views

RACISM AND BLACK REVOLT

Nixon's entire policies have been geared to isolate and destroy the momentum of the Black struggle for Liberation. It is of critical importance for the Black youth movement to redefine its tasks. The average age of the Black community is 19.6 years. This means Black people are overwhelmingly young. Black youth are facing tremendous problems. Unemployment rates for youth between 16-19 years is 34%, drug addiction is increasing, legislation is underway to deny youth under 21 the minimum wage, high school students are being forced to carry ID's, and military service is projected as the only alternative for Black youth as they are forced out of the education process at every level.

We must create a force to deal with local problems like police repression, and we must confront Nixon's national strategy to prevent Black youth from acquiring quality education. (His policy takes two forms: on one hand, white colleges are not being forced to admit more Blacks and Nixon has cut Black students' aid programs. On the other hand, there exists a national thrust to phase out and/or merge traditionally Black schools by denying them needed funds because they serve Black youth primarily.)

We must attack the international policies of Nixon—his support of the South African apartheid government, and the U.S.-Portugal efforts to destroy the African Freedom Fighters.

African Liberation Day was one step in building the new Black youth movement. We carried banners reading Free Angola—Free Memphis; Free Mozambique—Free Knoxville; Free Zimbabwe—Free Chatanooga; Free Namibi—Free Jackson; Free South Africa—Free Nashville. Africa is at war, at home and abroad.

Afro-American Studies Students
Fisk University
Nashville, Tenn.

I felt sad about the African Liberation Day marches here and in New York. Not because they were against "whitey." Imperialism and Neo-colonialism have always worn white faces. What made me sad was that Russia and China went scot-free. I remember way back in 1960, when an African leader toured this country but spoke only from official platforms where Black workers (or white workers) could hardly hear them, we said there are two worlds in each country, and the Africans would do well to speak to the working class, especially the Black working class. That is still true.

Marxist-Humanist
Los Angeles

It didn't get much publicity, but it should have, when Arnold Miller, the new UMW president, spoke at the convention of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, and hit out against racism in

the union movement. He said, "White workers have come to fear that the gains of black workers will be won at their expense . . . While we quarrel among ourselves, all of us are impoverished by budget cutbacks in housing, medical care, vocational rehabilitation and education. While any worker is denied membership in a union or advancement to a better job because of race, labor is not free." Marx said it better over a hundred years ago ("Labor in a white skin cannot be free while labor in the black skin is branded")—but it was good to hear any white labor leader say anything about racism today.

Reader
West Virginia

A sick feeling swept over me when I heard that a cop had killed a 10 year old boy in South Jamaica, Queens. The cop's story that he mistook the boy and his step father, walking to work at 5 AM, for holdup men, smelled to high heaven. I cannot forget that Clifford Glover is dead because he was Black; that in this so-called affluent society a 10 year old boy was walking to work, that he had been helping out in that garage for over a year, that he went to work at 5 AM.

The day after the cop's indictment, a list of 150 cops whom their superiors consider to be "violence-prone, extremely excitable or unstable" was turned over to the Police Commissioner. The number should probably be ten-fold.

Clifford's step-father was arrested and is now facing a "weapons charge" because the cops found a gun in the garage where he works, and a blackjack in his home. I cannot forget his picture on his release from jail, angry, shaking, pleading for Black and white to stick together, and ending with "united we stand, divided we fall." He stands in direct contrast to the President of this country, whose tactic is to divide and conquer.

White Mother
Queens, N.Y.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION

The third issue of "Working Woman" has just been distributed, and we received 15 answers to our questionnaire in two days. We received many, many favorable comments, especially from older women. Several women who have recently quit their jobs because of the discrimination in insurance have contacted us, and want to work with us. The bosses are becoming much more hostile every time we distribute, insulting us and trying to take the newsletters from us physically. Several women have been harassed by their bosses just for reading it, or because the bosses were suspicious that they worked for it.

Feminist
Hartford, Conn.

Editor's Note: For copies of "Working Woman," write to N & L, PO Box 291, Hartford, Conn. 06101.

TWO APPEALS

Some woodcutters in southern Alabama decided they would be better off farming than cutting wood. Most of the people are physically unable to do a day's work in the woods. Most had accidents cutting wood, and some have lost limbs. But they still have to do something to make a living.

The Gulfcoast Pulpwood Association got together with approximately 350 people and we figured it would cost \$37,000 to finance about 800 acres of rented farm land.

We have had a few small loans to be paid back in November, as we sell our crops. If you can help us with small donations or loans we will certainly appreciate it. Please state if the money is a loan to be paid back in November. Make all checks payable to:

Rural Farmers Cooperative
P.O. Box 100
Forest Home, Alabama 36030

I am writing this letter in an effort to obtain your assistance in putting a stop to the neo-Nazi brainwashing START Program here at the U. S. Medical Center, Springfield, Missouri. START (Special Treatment and Rehabilitative Training) has been in operation since Sept., 1972. I have been here since Feb. 15, 1973 and can honestly state that this "program" is only punishment under the guise of treatment. I have personally seen fellow prisoners drugged and brutally beaten for having the courage to stand up as men.

We need your help. 1) Write to Norman A. Carlson, Director, U. S. Bureau of Prisons, 101 Indiana Ave. N.W., Washington, D. C. 20537 and ask him to either abolish START or make it voluntary. 2) Write to the U. S. Magistrate, U. S. District Court, Western District of Missouri, Springfield, Mo. 65801, and ask him to rule on behalf of the prisoners who are challenging the "program."

Prisoner
Springfield, Mo.

CORRUPTION AND CONSPIRACY

The Two Worlds column last issue was fantastic. Raya Dunayevskaya described the "types" that McCarthy had around him so perfectly back in 1954 in her article on "Gang Lawyers" that you could substitute the Watergate names and recognize them today. That whole corrupt affair has got to the point that even conservatives who voted for Nixon are now all for impeaching him. The trick will be to show that the culprit is much more than Nixon — that it is state-capitalism that breeds the Nixons.

Secretary
Conn.

Congress is not about to impeach Nixon. People might begin to ask questions about their own rackets. When one of our three branches of government is guilty of exploitation, murder, theft, spying on the public, or starting a war, it means all three branches are guilty, so far as I am concerned. Instead of using their offices as checks and balances, they have all become part of the conspiracy.

Reader
Santa Rosa

The lead by Harry McShane last issue gave a picture of the true state of Britain. He left nothing untouched, from scoring the British firms that contribute to the rotten conditions of Black workers in South Africa, to militarization, the wage freeze, spiraling inflation, and the National Health services and housing in Britain.

This is the true corruption of life in Britain—more serious by far than the politicians and their call girls.

Working Woman
New York

About 1,500 to 2,000 people came to Washington June 16 on the anniversary of the Watergate break-in, to protest the budget cuts, the continued bombing of Cambodia, the treatment of Native Americans, and all that is symbolized by the Watergate. There were many different people there, Blacks, Latin Americans, older citizens, etc. A group of people from several Latin American countries demanded fairer immigration laws for people from Latin America.

Every radical group imaginable was there — including the Communist Party, with a huge banner welcoming Brezhnev, saying "trade means jobs." Jobs for whom? Nixon's new secret police network?

Dick Gregory remarked that he was glad Nixon didn't appoint any Black people to his administration, because Blacks get blamed for everything that goes wrong in this country, but no one can blame Watergate on them.

Marcher
New York

DEATH AND THE WORKING DAY

Almost weekly derailments and train wrecks have made the Southern Pacific railroad notorious in Arizona this year. There was an exceptional disaster in May when a freight carrying ammunition blew up thirty miles east of Tucson, scattering explosives along a three-mile stretch of track.

When two workers were killed late last fall, the company publicly blamed the crash on their being drunk, but was forced to back down when their widows and federal investigators refused to accept that lie.

When the Tucson Fire Department asked the railroad to notify them in advance of ammunition trains due through that city, the S. P. refused . . . on the grounds that such information would give other railroads an unfair business edge.

M.L.K
Tucson

Here are some interesting National Safety Council figures. The frequency of disabling industrial injuries rose 42% between 1960 and 1971. In 1971, one out of eight accidental deaths (including car accidents) were from industrial injuries.

Mailroom Worker
Conn.

BOYCOTT KRAFT

The farmer is not responsible for food price increases. If the farmer is used as cannon fodder in an urban peoples' drive for lower prices we're all going to pay through the nose. We blame the corporations which control the food industry for the price increases. If Canadian farmers were receiving a significant share of the profits they wouldn't be going under at the rate of 1,100 per month. In an effort to fight back, the National Farmers Union has taken on a struggle to gain collective bargaining rights for the Canadian farmer. The Kraft boycott is part of that struggle. For more information write:

Nat'l Farmers Union
250c 2nd Avenue South
Saskatoon,
Saskatchewan



TYRANTS AND DISSIDENTS

The dissident movement in Russia is in retreat after the interrogation of Pyotr Yakir. The underground "Chronicle of Current Events" has not appeared for six months. In February, the Ukrainian, Chornovil, was sentenced for circulating anti-Soviet literature. Although repression continues in full force, one worker was frank in telling me about his economic troubles, and the great difficulty of placing his children in an institute of higher education. Places are reserved for the children of party officials, generals, etc., even to the point of falsifying entrance exam results. While ignorant of U. S. realities (e.g. he was convinced of the sincerity of Nixon's maudlin "peace" speech on Soviet TV) he was amazingly perceptive about Soviet society, expressing the thought that Lenin would not at all approve what goes on today.

Visitor to
East Europe

How tyrants do love one another. When the twin terrors, the kings of Capital, Nixon and Brezhnev, get together for their pillow-talk I imagine they will discuss the successes and failures of their Doctrines. I'd like to suggest a little doctrine they can wring their hands over: international working class revolution.

Supporter
Oneida, N.Y.

News & Letters

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Politics of Counter-revolution: Watergate and the 'Year of Europe'

(Continued from Page 1)

That one single word of truth—the "climate" Nixon created — was, however, by no means limited to the year, 1972. Rather, the criminality in the Nixon-created "climate" of police-state rule was initiated with his first election in 1968.

Near-revolutions created universal panic that year the world over — in Paris, in Prague, in Peking, and in the U.S. It was to stem the tide of the anti-Vietnam war movement as well as the continuous Black mass revolt in the U.S. that our "law and order" President unleashed a governmental crime wave. The flood of crocodile tears for the "rights" of those hurt by TV publicity preceding their day in court flow from the contention that Watergate is a "bizarre incident" that happened on June 17, 1972; that it needs to be "untangled" from matters of "national security" and "new relationships among great powers."

In truth, the crime wave which began as soon as Nixon gained power was cut short at Watergate because Nixon was no longer contending with small groups of radicals, much less elemental mass revolt, but with another capitalistic party commanding some state power. Far from needing "untangling", what needs revelation is not so much 1972, which climaxed Nixon's police state tactics, as 1968 when he conceived "ending" the Vietnam War by bringing the battlefield home and completing his counter-revolution here and now.

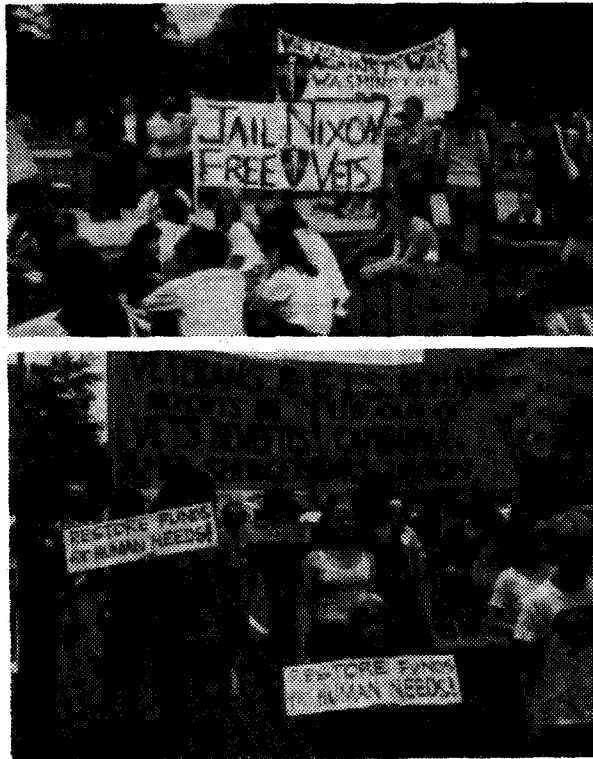
Thus, he was no sooner officially installed into power in 1969 than he worked out new police methods both at home and abroad. Those were not so much against "the enemy," as against the CIA that kept giving him intelligence reports that did not jibe with what Kissinger had called the "philosophical underpinnings" of U.S. global policies. These "philosophical underpinnings" turned out to be, not the ending of the Vietnam war he had promised in order to get elected, but its extension to Cambodia.

In that same first year of Nixon power, Dr. Strange-love Kissinger (who had never opposed the Vietnam War) at once ordered that the telephones of the academic colleagues working for him be bugged. In a word, long before Watergate, long before the "Pentagon Papers" and the "leaks" to newspapers, wiretapping, infiltration of dissenters' organizations, burglarizing and "dirty politics" of unparalleled scope were in full bloom. Outright murders followed.

"NEW RELATIONSHIPS" WITH CHINA AND RUSSIA

By 1970, when the faked peace moves turned out to be the transformation of the Vietnam War into the Second Indo-China War — and the mass outpouring against Nixon was the most massive ever — Nixon's hysteria knew no limits. Just as the Nixon "climate" had led the National Guardsmen to shoot into unarmed students protesting Nixon's Cambodia invasion, and Mississippi storm troopers were inspired by Nixon's "Southern strategy" to shoot up a Black women's dormitory at Jackson State College, so our Mr. Clean who was not all that clean, Dr. Kissinger, was asked "to research" "new relationships among great powers."

Our Harvard professor who studied German accent (who allegedly loves Spinoza more than Metternich) thought no human sacrifice too big to, on the face of it, totally reverse the Nixon policy toward China. First came the 1971 "tilting" of U.S. policy toward the fascist regime of General Yahya Kahn and his genocidal war against East Pakistan so that Kissinger could secretly go to China via Pakistan. There is nothing worse than the corruption of the mind. It needs such little secrets as the China trip via Pakistan, never once stopping



—News & Letters photo
Protest at Watergate, June 16

to bemoan the millions left dead, mutilated, raped, starving. All so that his Boss and he can "make history".

The truth was very different. The historic milestone did nothing to change Nixon. He remained Nixon, the Cold War warrior who blamed the Democrats for "losing" China, at the very moment when he became Nixon, the "world statesman" embracing Mao Tse-tung in the latter's library.

What was involved in both the trips to China and Russia was, first, that these two powers were all too eager to get Nixon off the hot seat on which he had been put by the American people, and thus help him get elected in 1972.

Secondly, "new" relations among global powers were overdue by a whole decade; the Sino-Soviet conflict had burst into the open in 1960.

MAKING RETROGRADE HISTORY

Thirdly, and above all, Nixon had never given up his vision of "the American century" which lasted but a few years in the euphoria of the immediate post-World War II universe when all the world lay prostrate and America alone had the A-bomb. Nixon, being a most ambitious man, determined "to make history" his own retrograde way, is ready to turn the clock of history back. He is a man of the Taft-Hartley era, who wants to make sure the Black Revolution of the 1960's will not only be stopped in its tracks, but be rolled back forever.

Hence, his "Southern Strategy." Which is why the Watergates and all election chicanery cannot be disentangled from his concept of "national security" and "global responsibilities." On June 11, the many investigations of Watergate (nine are ongoing) disclosed that, whereas informers were sent into selected campuses, all Black student organizations were riddled with informers, wire taps, actual assassinations.

What is most ironic is that even a man like J.

Edgar Hoover, who had received his training in the notorious Palmer raids in the post-World War I hysteria (and he practiced that type of illegality all his life) actually became worried over Nixon's wholesale illegality which did not exclude setting up still another secret service directly within the White House. In any case, he refused to approve such a new home spy plan unless he had a written request from the President.

Our totalitarian president now claims no such new spy network against dissidents at home was set up once Hoover opposed its structure. But, in truth, the disapproved 1970 plan became the "Intelligence Evaluation Committee" towering over the CIA, the FBI, and all things legal. This cover for secret police mayhem had access, as an AP dispatch put it, to "virtually all agencies of government, and used that access to intercept mail, tap telephones, audit income-tax returns and plant informers."

No wonder that on May 19, when Judge Byrnes dismissed the case against Daniel Ellsberg, he did not limit himself to citing wiretapping and burglary (not to mention the attempt to bribe the Judge himself by telling him during the process of the trial that he was being considered as J. Edgar Hoover's successor as head of the FBI), but spoke of the "totality of misconduct."

All this Nixon is trying to make us forget. Instead, we are supposed to keep in mind his concept that this is not the year of Watergate, but "the year of Europe."

"THE YEAR OF EUROPE" AND BATTLEFIELD NUCLEAR WEAPONS

What, however, has produced the so-called year of Europe is the totality of the American crisis — from Watergate to runaway inflation, from the unrelieved international monetary crisis to the unprecedented deficit in trade. The search for holy market places may seem to have nothing to do with Watergate. In fact, each reveals the abysmal depth of both the economic crisis and the depravity of the policies of counter-revolution.

Nixon's chief researcher into "philosophical underpinnings", Kissinger, has called Nixon's State of the World message "probably the single most important piece of paper published in the world each year." Europe, however, considers it not only a way to impose on Europe Nixon's "conceptual framework" but a way to transfer to Europe America's economic crisis; exporting to Europe everything from its inflation to its cheap Georgia chickens while threatening to remove American troops unless Europe pays for their upkeep. The very unfeeling title — "new Atlantic Charter" — has so repelled Europe, that Nixon has had to take a few steps back by "assuring" Pompidou the troops will remain, and stressing "a common security concept."

Therein lies the most horrifying news of all. Hardly noted at all in the American press is a new technological

(Continued on Page 8)

RAYA DUNAYEVSKAYA is the Chairwoman of NEWS & LETTERS COMMITTEES, an organization of Marxist-Humanists, which practices the unity of worker and intellectual, and of philosophy and revolution, and totally new human relations. NEWS & LETTERS is edited by a Black production worker, CHARLES DENBY. It was born in 1955, the year of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, on the one hand, and the wildcats against Automation, on the other. It is a monthly publication which does not separate reports of the activities of workers, Blacks, women and youth against capitalism, racism, sexism, and imperialist war, from the activity of thinking and working out theory for our age. Participation in the freedom struggles and the creation of a forum for all the new voices from below by the publication of the paper, pamphlets and books are all forms of activities we invite you to join in working out with us.

McShane teaches professors economics

An international gathering in June commemorated the 250th anniversary of Adam Smith in Kirkcaldy, Scotland, his birthplace. The agenda featured papers by prominent "specialists" in economics—from Arthur Burns and Kenneth Galbraith to Lord O'Brien, Governor of the Bank of England, and Lord Boyle, Vice-Chancellor, Univ. of Leeds, and former British Minister of Education.

Among those invited to attend was Harry McShane, a Marxist-Humanist who was sent by the John Maclean Society. Following are two reports of the confrontation, the first from Harry McShane, the second from the Sunday Times, which covered the event:

"On my arrival, I was a complete stranger. I was surprised at being invited. I listened to two papers. A. Burns proved that Adam Smith was right because of the spread of private enterprise throughout the world and the changes taking place in Russia. No one bothered about him.

"Lord Boyle set out to debunk Marx by attacking the labour theory of value. He talked the old rubbish about skilled labour producing more value than unskilled labour. He thought he was boosting Adam Smith.

"I made the only speech from the floor. I said that to dispose of the labour theory of value was to reject Adam Smith as well as Marx, bringing out labour power as a commodity and the production of surplus value . . . I referred to Marx saying that on the division of labour, Smith was a pupil of Adam Ferguson, and then got on to the fragmentation of man. I was astounded at the acclaim I got. Fifty years ago, thousands of Scottish workers could have made this statement."

—Harry McShane

"But alas, the only person in the 1000-strong gathering of international economic specialists who appeared to know what he was talking about was an 80 year old member of the Fife branch of the Independent Labour Party,* who took about two minutes at the microphone to wipe the floor with all comers. As he cogently summed up: 'If Marx's theory of value is wrong, then so is Ricardo's and so is Adam Smith's. And where does that leave you?'"

—The Sunday Times

*The reporter apparently did not know McShane, despite his fame in Britain. The Times has since sent an apology to the John Maclean Society.

Just Off The Press

"Heaven and Earth Change Places":

Dr. Han Suyin's View of Mao Tse-tung

By Raya Dunayevskaya

Included in the Spring 1973 issue of

New Politics

A review-essay of Dr. Han Suyin's, "The Morning Deluge"

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AWOL and return: a Vet's story

Los Angeles, Calif.—The whole idea of not fighting in the war is one of awareness. I joined the army at 17. I had heard my family and friends tell war stories. I went to Vietnam and ended up in a job interrogating Vietnamese prisoners. The interrogation wasn't so much about what outfit they were in and what their immediate objective was as it was questions about their lives. Why they had joined the Communists; what they had been taught by them. I was very impressed with their answers. They really believed in what they did. It was very unlike almost everyone else who was fighting in Vietnam.

By this time I started to seek out other people who felt the war was rotten. My own experience and talking to others clashed with the junk I read in the Stars and Stripes. It started me really thinking.

I came home from Vietnam and the attitude of my family was "how many people did you kill." I felt alienated from them. I got shipped to Germany and got more disenchanted with the army. I ended up working for

this one sergeant. I had never had to work for a sergeant quite as close-minded and stupid as he was. We ended up in a lot of conflict.

We got into a big argument and the sergeant decided that he would send me to another unit. I proceeded to get some things together and took off. First to Geneva to try and get help and then down to Spain where I met others who were deserting who felt like me about the U.S.

I had tremendous fear of being caught. Also I felt myself in. I ended up with four months in the stockade. During this time I thought about getting out of the army and never returning to the U.S. But after serving my sentence and another year in Germany I went back home.

I am very much for amnesty. It was through my own awareness that I deserted. Those who didn't go and went into exile or hiding must have been even more aware.

—Vietnam Vet

Fight for minimum wage law

Detroit, Mich.—While 29,000 household technicians in the Detroit area are being exploited daily by individuals in private homes and agencies, the Household Workers Organization has been fighting the last four years, operating from free-will donations.

Now is the time for household workers to get the same security received by other workers. The status of household workers is low: low wages and no fringe benefits. Most employers, in violation of the law, do not make Social Security payments. The Household Workers Organization wants to open a training center in Detroit, to inform workers of their rights and to provide a center where unity can develop.

The Chamber of Commerce and the Nixon Administration are some of the opponents of Bill HR 7953 that would extend federal minimum wage and hour law protection to household technicians, farm workers, restaurant and motel workers, convalescent home workers and others.

We need support for this legislation. We need help for office space, furniture, supplies, and clerical help! Send donations to: Household Workers Organization, 1155 Collingwood, Suite 308, Detroit, Michigan, 48202.

VVAW trial date set

Gainesville, Fla.—Vietnam Veterans against the War (VVAW) plans a mobilization of sympathizers from throughout the nation when the trial of the Gainesville Eight opens here July 31. The Eight include seven VVAW members and a supporter who are accused of plotting to disrupt the Republican National Convention in Miami last summer. Demonstrations are planned here throughout their trial.

Former U.S. Attorney John Mitchell, called as a witness by the defense, said he knew nothing about bug-ging of the Gainesville Eight by government agents. The judge refused to let Mitchell reply to most questions by defense attorney Morton Stavis. A few days later Mitchell was indicted by a grand jury in New York on the charge of making false statements to the jury in connection with the Watergate investigation.

Attorneys for VVAW are trying to show a connection between the Watergate affair, the Committee for the Re-election of the President (CREEP), formerly headed by Mitchell, and the prosecution of the Gainesville Eight.

The address of the Eight is P.O. Box 13179, Gainesville, Fla., 32601.

Youth Views:

Are P.O.W.s heroes?

The P.O.W.s came back and got a hero's welcome for being prisoners in North Vietnam, but what were they doing to get captured?

What about the Vietnam veteran that did not get a brand new car or a hundred thousand dollars? All he got was no job on his return and maybe he was wounded in Vietnam, and for what? Was it to protect a fascist dictatorship like Thieu's? People go around feeling patriotic wearing a bracelet with the name of one of the P.O.W.s. A capitalist is making profit off these people.

I believe the committee to elect Nixon is using these top ranking officers of the P.O.W.s to brain-wash the public into hating the North Vietnamese, so President Nixon can invade North Vietnam. With all the money that the corporations gave the committee to elect the President, it seems they have enough to buy about anything.

—Junior High School Student, L.A.

Prices worry a teen

Most people aren't able to buy meat because of the higher prices. When people change from meat to vegetables, up go the vegetable prices.

What they say is that the people who kill the cows, pigs, chickens, etc., are the ones who charge more. On the radio I heard that the ranch and farm workers said they should raise the price eight cents more.

The worst problem is that our parents' salary never changes. By the time we grow up, the prices will be: meat—\$5.00 a pound; vegetables—\$2.00, and dairy products—\$4.00.

—Youth, Miami



A book review by Chris Norwell
Free Fire Zone: Short Stories by Vietnam Veterans, edited by Wayne Karlin, Basil T. Paquet, Larry Rottmann, c. 1973. Purchase from 1st Casualty Press, P.O. Box 518, Coventry, Conn. at \$2.95 per copy.

Free Fire Zone is a collection of short stories written by the Americans who saw the War in Vietnam firsthand. A free fire zone is a term used to describe an area where anything moving is subject to annihilation, no questions asked. The book was probably given this title to reflect the fact that the whole of Vietnam was considered by U.S. military policy to be a free fire zone.

Reading these stories it is hard to tell where each author's actual experience leaves off and his imagination takes over. Yet even in the parts that are most likely imagination, the vivid realities of Vietnam are clearly exposed, and it is obvious that the author is still writing from experience, and not "just" making things up out of his own head.

The novels represent a varied cross-section of life for the GI's in Nam; from combat narratives, to Saigon bar-hopping and hooker-searching, to the Black GI's experiences. There is even a story "told" from the side of a National Liberation Front fighter.

The stories will undoubtedly depress any reader. One after another, they tell about living in a horrid situation where there was no solution, no winning, no losing, no getting out. Some of the descriptions might even make you sick to your stomach, especially when you remember that this is a real situation, not some 50c horror novel. And that's what I think the main purpose of the book is, to inform and remind people of what war is, and what a few maniacs in the White House and Pentagon can do with the world's power in their hands.

The veterans in this book all express in various degrees the reaction against a miserable situation. Very few of them in their stories, move beyond that to doing something about it—fighting back.

However, the very act of writing about this inhuman experience and expressing their disgust at it is a form of fighting against the powers that started and continued this War, especially now when many people believe it's all over and done with and there's nothing more to say about the War. The communication of ideas is as important in reaching a new society as the actual seizing of power. That is what Free Fire Zone is all about.

Exiles, Vets hold amnesty conference

Toronto, Ontario — Over 100 representatives of groups such as AMEX, Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and Safe Return met at the first Amnesty Action Conference, May 26-28, in Toronto. The conference was called by Amex-Canada to unify support of Veterans, exiles, deserters, and anti-war activists in the U.S. and Canada around the issue of amnesty. What really struck home to us as Marxist-Humanist "veterans" of the anti-war movement is just how far from over the war is.

While the rain of bombs continues in Cambodia long after "peace" has been declared, the war against opposition to the murderous U.S. involvement in Indochina goes on at home. This is a war against the nearly half a million deserters and draft resisters who were driven into exile, but also against the more than half a million men who got less than honorable discharges—the notorious "bad papers."

These were the men, mostly Black and working class, whose constant resistance to the war and racism in the Army was instrumental in forcing the withdrawal of U.S. land forces from Vietnam. They are now denied any decent job at home. They join the thousands of Vets with Honorable Discharges who are still unemployed.

The tone for the conference was set by speakers from AMEX and VVAW. Unlike today's strangely quiet anti-war movement—whose representatives in Toronto talked about petition campaigns and writing Congress—they stressed that ending the war means a total change in society which could only happen if all who resisted the war were included in the movement.

One Black vet emphasized the total protection resisters have always had in the Black community. The conference did not take this just as an aside, but realized it as a serious political beginning. Many speakers tried to relate amnesty to racism and class oppression; and many individuals were eager to discuss the need for a total philosophy of liberation with us from News & Letters.

—Marxist-Humanist, Detroit

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Bradley wins:

LA rejects Yorty racism

Los Angeles, Calif.—The election of Tom Bradley as Mayor of Los Angeles was viewed in the Black community with a great deal of joy and pride. The voter turnout in the districts with the highest Black population was the largest in the city. The work done to turn out the vote for Bradley, not only by Black politicians and community leaders, but by welfare mothers, Black longshoremen, and hospital workers, was in evidence on election day.

But it was not the Black community alone that elected Bradley. Racism did not play the dominant role it had four years ago when Bradley and Yorty faced each other. The mood is, in fact, different from just seven months ago when the cry of "Four More Years" and its general attack on the poor—Black, Brown, and white—won Nixon a racist election.

This does not mean that racism was totally forgotten by the whites. In the predominantly white districts, Yorty got majorities, but they were not decisive. Among students, the vote for Bradley was overwhelming—ranging from 80 to over 95 percent. The white working class districts were not the "backbone" of Yorty support that many feared. Many white workers chose to stay home on election day.

What was evident in this election was that for the majority in Los Angeles, race was not the issue that the politicians Nixon and Yorty could mobilize people behind. People were fed up with 12 years of Yorty's corruption—large campaign gifts from wives of city appointees, a paid-up life insurance policy from "friends." They were tired of the attacks against people who demonstrated at City Hall on the issues of the war, police brutality against Chicanos and Blacks, against poverty program cuts, and against the deals made to allow oil companies to ruin beaches by drilling and developers to eat away at the hillsides.

Naturally, all the problems of the city remain—especially the astronomical unemployment in Black and Brown neighborhoods. Bradley has little power to change much even if he were willing to be more radical. But, Bradley's victory does mean that the mood in Los Angeles has changed. —Eugene Walker

Blacks protest police abuse

Hartford, Conn.—Over 200 angry residents of predominantly-Black Bellevue Square, one of Hartford's most neglected housing projects, packed the City Council meeting on May 14 to protest the brutality and racism of local police.

An 83-year-old grandmother spoke first. She said that in her 35 years in the project she had never witnessed such violence and abuse by the police as in the past few months. "Something has got to be done, and right now. Because I'm too old to go to jail," she ended.

One young woman told of how she had been in bed with her baby when she heard a knocking on her door. "But before I could get to the door it was all broken down, because they were knocking with a sledgehammer." The police also broke in through her window at the same time, smashing a T.V. that had been on the sill. They showed no search warrant. "When the police came in at 9:00 I was in my underwear, but they told me to 'freeze'. At 11:00 they told me I could put on some clothes."

The Bellevue Sq. residents left the meeting without demanding any action on the part of the council. "We know that nothing will come of this meeting tonight. You can draw up a committee or whatever you want to call it. We will fight this our own way."

Acquit sailor of sabotage

Oakland, Calif.—The spring and summer of 1972 found thousands of sailors demanding the war in Vietnam be stopped. Petitions to Congress were circulated aboard carrier ships and the slogan was SOS (Stop Our Ships). Civilian support was strong and many sailors refused to board ships when they left the Alameda Naval Base here.

Aboard the USS Ranger a paint scraper and two bolts were thrown into the engine, causing damage of \$900,000 and delaying the voyage to Vietnam for four months. This was the most extensive damage out of 420 incidents reported.

The Navy needed a culprit, and although over 20 men had been heard to jokingly claim credit for stopping the ship, the Navy brass selected Patrick Chenoweth, a 20-year-old Fireman from Pullyap, Wash., who had a solid reputation as a great complainer about the conditions aboard that ship. He was the first enlisted man since World War II to be charged with sabotage during wartime, and if found guilty could serve 35 years.

The Court Martial jury, consisting of three enlisted men, two officers, and a Commander, deliberated for three hours. The verdict was: "Not guilty of the specifications." Chenoweth had been in the brig ten months, waiting trial. He called his acquittal "a great victory against the most dehumanizing machine in the world," but predicted, "There will be more repressions, until all the brigs and prisons are filled with enlisted men who are opposed to imperialism, militarism and racism."

Wounded Knee: widespread

Pine Ridge, S. D.—The complicity of the established media in the government's "game plan" during the 70-day history of Wounded Knee was plainly obvious. The impression from the usual news sources that the local people were mostly indifferent and some even outraged at the occupation force was totally incorrect. To understand the nature of the local support you have to understand the forces of repression which affect the day-to-day lives of Native Americans.

The reservations are sparse with a few small towns scattered far apart. People live miles apart without telephones or transportation. The life expectancy is less than 45 years. The school drop-out rate is over 75% and unemployment is over 90%. The daily diet is bread, rice and potatoes. Protein deficiency is common-place. The effect of this economic oppression is to make reservation-wide mobilization extremely difficult.

SLOGANS DECORATE HOMES

The houses are usually wood frame with tar paper used as patching and roofing. Automobile hoods, tin sheets, and mud are also used. Quite often slogans in support of the American Indian Movement (AIM) were painted on the outside of the homes I saw, reminding me of photographs I had seen of revolutionary slums in Latin America . . .

A network of groups prone to violence is the most immediate source of repression. This network is composed of local vigilantes, white ranchers, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) police, and during the occupation,

local support nails media lies

federal marshals and special forces from the U.S. Army. Every one of these groups has been directly involved in documented cases of murder. I saw this network in all its splendor on April 25.

The March of the Four Races (a name taken from a traditional prophesy meaning the black, white, red and yellow races) was confronted by approximately 80 armed men: federal marshals, FBI, vigilantes, white ranchers, etc. All were equipped with M-16's, disposable plastic wristcuffs, and CS-4 skin irritant gas. Also at their disposal were grenade launchers, 80mm mortars, machine guns, and one low-flying U.S. Army helicopter without markings.

SMILES AND SECURITY PROVIDED

Because AIM was organized primarily among displaced urban Native Americans, the established media sought to convey the impression that local people didn't want outsiders on their reservation causing trouble.

Local support was manifested in a variety of ways, not the least of which was the endless smiles and waves we received on the march, even from some local whites. In a small town in Rosebud reservation called Parmelee, 200 people turned out in our behalf. Old women dressed in black went from marcher to marcher shaking hands and telling us of their prayers. Children had been excused from school. All types of people were there to greet us. They provided us with food, water, and the security of their town.

The only local people mobilized against the occupation forces were Dick Wilson's private police force, paid \$4.85 per hour to man the auxiliary road blocks. (The federal marshals at Wounded Knee received \$116 per day for their services.) —Steve James

BLACK-RED VIEW

Arna Bontemps—Spirit of the 'Harlem Renaissance'

By John Alan

*When all our hopes are sown on stony ground,
And we have yielded up the thought of gain,
Long after our last songs have lost their sound
We may come back, we may come back again.*
—first stanza, "A Note of Humility,"
by Arna Bontemps

In June of this year Arna Bontemps died at the age of 70. He was the last of that group of Black writers, artists, and intellectuals who constituted the Harlem Renaissance Movement of the 1920's. There is little indication that he is well remembered by young Black people of this generation, because they have their own heroes, born out of the Civil Rights Movement and the great African Revolutions. While history appears to be born anew for each generation, its "capillaries" reach back into the past and forward into the future.

The 1920's was a time of great activity among Black Americans — both intellectually and in mass activity. The Marcus Garvey Movement had organized the Black masses of the northern ghettos, and Black people began to realize that they were instrumental in the making of history.

THE HISTORICAL BLACK PEOPLE

Almost overnight this "newly born" self-consciousness seemed to sweep into every dusty corner of history, bringing forth into the light the fact that Black people were an historical people, having a rich history of struggle for freedom, in America and Africa; they had built great civilizations in Africa before they had been reduced to a "non-historical people" by chattel slavery in the new world named America.

Arna Bontemps was among those young Black intellectuals and writers who settled in Harlem during the 1920's and who sought to destroy the myth of the non-historical past of Black people. The novels, plays, poems and art works which they produced became known as the Harlem Renaissance.

BLACK POETS' MANIFESTO

Langston Hughes, a friend and often a collaborator with Arna Bontemps, wrote this Manifesto — the Black poets "declaration of independence":

"We younger Negro artists who create now intend to express our individual dark-skinned selves without fear or shame. If the white people are pleased, we are glad. If they are not, it doesn't matter. We know we are beautiful, and ugly too. The tom-tom cries, and the tom-tom laughs. If colored people are pleased, we are glad. If they are not, their displeasure doesn't matter either. We build our temples for tomorrow, strong as we know them, and we stand on the top of the mountain, free within ourselves." (Langston Hughes, "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain")

Arna Bontemps was later to state: "The myth that I suspect that hurt us most, in the present century, was the allegation that the Negro had no history, no record, no background, no achievement worth mentioning."

GENIUS AND MASS MOVEMENT

Bontemps was not one of the jittery giants of the Harlem Renaissance, but he, along with Langston Hughes and Claude McKay, sought to discover the humanity and wisdom of Black people. It was the ability to overcome oppression in the "lower stratum" among the folk people

of the South that he portrayed in his novel *God Sends Sunday*. By contrast, Hughes and McKay were urban in their material.

Much is now being written by Black and white critics about the style, the orientations, etc. of the group who were the Harlem Renaissance. But none of these critics has seen the fatal flaw in this movement (not individual members of course) which was, that it failed to connect the flowering of Black genius in literature, music and art during the 1920's, with the great mass movement of Black America after World War I. It was the great unrest and movements toward freedom that gave the Harlem Renaissance its voice, and not the other way around.

WORKER'S JOURNAL

(Continued from Page 1)

Thoughts of Chairman Mao. Even this did not stop the revolts everywhere in 1968—even in China.

It was the same form of revolutionary action in this country in 1968 that Nixon was watching. The Blacks, and many white youth, were shaking the very foundation of America.

When Nixon and Mao got together I bet they agreed that their number one enemy was their own working class and poor in each country. So for both of them it was necessary to have some unity, in order to avoid another 1968. It was the same with Brezhnev, when Nixon visited Russia.

I listened to what Nixon said on TV June 13. He started by saying what was good about America. He said there have been 4.5 million new jobs created this year. One would have to wonder how that is possible, with him cutting out many of the social programs and putting thousands of people out of work. The unemployment roll gets larger each month.

Nixon said the American people are living better than any others in the world. They all have good homes, good clothing, and higher wages than any other people. Again he could not be talking about the poor and unemployed. To him, they do not count as people.

NO ROLL BACK

Nixon said he was imposing a 60-day freeze on food prices, but not a permanent freeze as Congress wants. If Congress passed that, he would veto it, because he was not going to let Congress turn our "economic boom" into a depression. As one worker said, "Only Tricky Dick knows." Nixon also said the freeze would not apply to farm produce and said nothing about rolling back prices.

When the TV newsman spoke before Nixon appeared, he said the President will speak tonight on the deterioration of the dollar abroad, the skyrocketing price of gold, and the 2.1 per cent rise in food prices in March. After we listened to him, I felt sure the reporter was taken by surprise, because Nixon did not mention a thing the reporter had announced.

When he was talking about how well every American was living, one worker said Nixon is referring to how well he himself is living. Some 50-100 million dollars was donated to his campaign fund in 1972. He has bought land and two homes, then sold the land back to a close friend for double what he paid. Then they say he used government money to make his home a fortress. This worker asked how long are the American people going to let Tricky Dick keep the wool pulled over their eyes.

OUR LIFE AND TIMES

by Peter Mallory

Mexican students join in land seizures; seek university control

We received the following report from a reader in Sonora, Mexico:

There have recently been some land invasions here in Sonora, one by a group of workers within the city limits, and one by small farmers in the southern part of the state. The students were quite active in helping the urban group. But the land proved too valuable for the city government to want to expropriate from the "latifundistas" (big land owners) for the purpose of selling it to the poor workers. The police finally routed the people off the land and threw six of their leaders in jail. The student-run legal aid office did manage to get these leaders out of jail quickly.

A bus of students was stopped by state police on the public highway and turned back when student activists attempted to visit the invading farmers. The students then went to the chief of the state

police and talked him into accompanying them on the highway. Even with him in the bus, the group was turned back at gunpoint! There's little doubt but that the army commander for this area had taken matters into his own hands and ordered the blockade.

The farmers are still on the land, but a government official has visited the area and affirmed that the ownership of that land is already in the hands of small property owners. According to the government, "latifundios" no longer exist in Mexico, although the government officials never care to talk about the land holdings in the names of yet unborn children of the "latifundistas."

The political activity in the university community in Sonora the past months is the struggle for a new state law which will establish a new form of university administration, a "co-government." Each school will be run by a Council made up of equal numbers of students and professors. The central University Council will remain two-thirds professors and one-

third students, but will replace the Board of Regents as the maximum authority.

The former president of the university flatly refused to put discussion of the proposed law on the agenda of the assembly for the University Council. That decision caused his downfall, after a week in which the students occupied the administration building and each school assembled to give a vote of non-confidence to the president. Then the Council met again and voted to dismiss the president.

A new president has now been appointed, with the approval of the students. A committee of students accompanied Council members when the proposal was presented to the state legislature. A week later a demonstration and parade were held in front of the state building, announcing the student support for the co-government. Some workers attended, too.

The next step planned here is to begin to implement the co-government in the various schools of the university, to emphasize that the university community will settle for nothing less.

Phony energy crisis

The crisis in supplies of gas, oil, gasoline and electric power are real enough and demand the immediate attention of all concerned. But the reasons for the acute shortages lie far afield from the excuses given in most newspapers.

The real reason for the shortages is the attempt by the huge oil companies to gain ever greater profits. For several years the oil companies have been irked by a slight decrease in the depletion allowance the government permits them to deduct from their taxes. Federal and state regulations on drilling, production and pipeline distribution as well as import quotas are claimed to restrict unlimited production and distribution of the oil supplies.

The simple truth is that major oil companies find it more profitable to import oil than to produce it in the United States. Last year the U.S. imported 28% of the oil it consumed at a cost of \$5 billion in trade deficits.

In 1956 there were 58,000 new wells brought into production in the U.S. Less than 5,000 were drilled last year.

Only six new oil refineries have been built in the United States in the last 3 years. Since all existing refineries are running full blast it is becoming increasingly necessary to import refined products from refineries abroad owned by U.S. firms where they can make better profits.

The oil industry has purposely failed to keep up with the demand in order to extract greater profits. In the last 6 months gasoline prices are up over 10 cents a gallon and forecasts of 60c to 75c a gal. gas are not too far-fetched. Over 900 independent gaso-

line dealers have been driven out of business because the major suppliers give priority to their own stations. In Oakland, Calif. a station attendant was shot and killed when he refused to give a driver more than a rationed amount of gasoline.

Despite cries of poverty from the companies, oil industry profits last year were up as follows: Exxon up 43%; Occidental Petroleum up 70%; Shell Oil up 49%; Standard Oil Ohio up 48%; Tesoro up 88%; Murphy Oil up 58%—the list is endless.

The fact is that the government is always ready to give in to oil industry blackmail. Nixon has lifted oil import restrictions and announced a plan to get more refineries built. Those who build new refineries will be permitted to import 75% of their crude oil free of the 21c a barrel license fee, which amounts to an 18% subsidy for five years for the industry.

As if it were necessary to prove its insensitivity to the desires of the working people, the Nixon gang tops it all off by proposing a new 4 to 5c increase in the gasoline tax.

Famine in Africa

Five to ten million people are facing starvation in the African nations which lie just south of the Sahara. The drought, which assumed extremely serious proportions before it was even noticed by the governments involved, has spread from the Sahara, killing vegetation and millions of cattle on which the population depended for their living.

As the herds and the nomadic people who lived on them moved south, the depleted grassland could not support them and cattle died by the thousands. In Mauritania, 30 to 40 percent of the beef cattle died; farmers ate their seed grain. In Upper Volta,

Mali, Chad, Niger and Senegal the starving people are on the move toward where they might find food.

A United Nations team which surveyed the area has estimated it will take a massive air lift of food for both the people and the starving animals to save them, yet no serious effort to avert complete disaster is underway, either from the big powers or from Africa itself.

The tragedy is that such a situation could occur without the governments even knowing about it. That millions could live so far removed from so-called civilization that it took stampeding herds of elephants and giraffes descending on the towns to alert those involved that there was disaster in the back country. It is tragic proof that the revolutionary hopes of Africa have not yet been realized.

May Day in Glasgow

This report comes from Glasgow:

May Day was a glorious day for Glasgow. The Trades Council people had a platform erected in a street with high buildings on each side for the demonstration. The engineering (auto) workers decided that they were going on to George Square. The procession, 10,000 strong, took it up and crowded on to the Square. The police were helpless. Bill McLean of the miners made the best May Day speech for years. Chaffett of the Electrical Trade Unions condemned the strike yesterday, but his members were out today. The workers in the Fairfield shipyard, all except the boilerworkers, had decided to go on strike. The electricians cut off the power and the shipyard was closed down. No trains were running. The workers set the pace today.

—Harry McShane, Glasgow

Watergate and Nixon-Kissinger's 'Year of Europe'

(Continued from Page 5)

horror — a very small, "battlefield" nuclear weapon. It is to be introduced into European defenses. Lord Chant — no revolutionary he — described this technological gee whizzery as an idea that is "misconceived, logically indefensible, and almost criminally dangerous."

His article from the London Times was reproduced in the Toronto Globe and Mail on May 19. I have seen no reference to this Nixon-Kissinger-Pentagon inventiveness in our daily press. Yet it is this which should be shouted to the rooftops about "the Year of Europe." Here is what Lord Chant writes:

"What is misleading is to suggest that in doing so (in setting off the very small, extremely precise nuclear weapon), it is possible to separate nuclear blast from radiation. The miniature nuclear weapon is technologically feasible, the elegant, 'clean' battlefield nuclear weapon is pure Strangelove fantasy."

Whether or not that will buy Nixon "a new Atlantic charter", there is no doubt about the following: As opposed as West Europe is to Nixon-Kissinger's attempt to blackmail it into granting trade advantages for American products in the Common Market, and helping it shore up the American dollar linked to a "common defense concept", the point is that America still is the nuclear and industrial giant; that the economic crisis is in Europe (West and East) as well as in the U.S. West Europe is fearful of shaking the boat — world capitalism in crisis.

One can pick up any French newspaper and find that the government has yet to forget 1968. Whether or not they agree it was a near-revolution, all admit that nothing has been the same since. And that is exactly where the politics of counter-revolution was born.

And so goes capitalistic politics, dirty or "clean". At best, muckraking exposes contradictions; it doesn't

and can't solve them. Just as Congress will do all in its power to save Nixon from impeachment, so West Europe will devise something to let him save face, when autumn comes and Nixon gets to Europe.

The only way to move out of Nixonland is to uproot it lock, stock and barrel, including its "intelligentsia." The Henry Kissingers are there. The lesser breed of intellectuals, like Irving Kristol, wait in the wings not only for those jobs, but to become the Censors for Public Broadcasting System. There are other "openings." Nothing is new about the "new" conservative. Academia has ever been part of the military-industrial complex, or what Marx long ago called "the prize fighters for capitalism." It is not that which is new and worrisome to the left.

WHAT NOW?

What has brought the Movement to an impasse is the blindness to the need for a philosophy of liberation without which no revolution can succeed. Scaring capitalism witless as the near-revolutions in 1968 in Europe, and the 1970 anti-Vietnam upsurge in the U.S. have done, only increases its desperation — and brings on new forms of fascism, the politics of counter-revolution without scruples by "highly motivated individuals" and their very own academia. The one thing that Watergate has accomplished is to show just how inseparable is the depth of corruption, when it is not to line individual pockets, from the bankruptcy of thought, the true seal of bankruptcy of civilization.

Once we do not stop either at muckraking or concluding that "therefore" we need a "new" political party, the politics of counter-revolution will become the shock that will make us work out so new a relationship of theory to practice, philosophy to revolution that the two will never again be separated, and thus will a totally new foundation for truly human relations be laid.

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