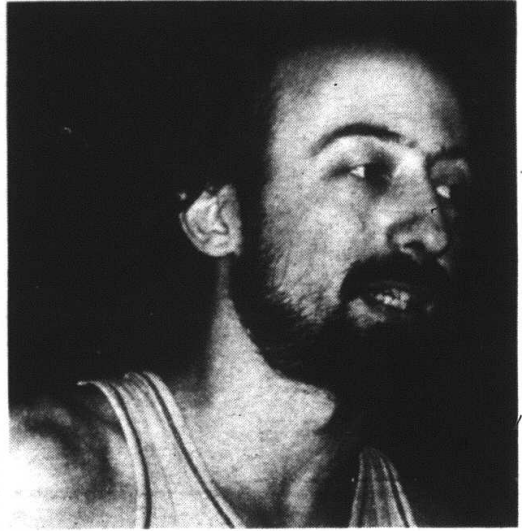


# WORKERS' Power

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS November 7, 1975 #134 15c

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# 'REVOLUTION IN TEAMSTERS'



Mel Packer

by Jim Woodward

"There's a revolution brewing in the Teamsters." That was the comment of a TV newscaster after Teamsters for a Decent Contract (TDC) came to Oakland, California last weekend.

Formed in the Midwest in August, TDC is a Teamster rank and file group. Last weekend, Teamsters for a Decent Contract spread to the west coast. Mel Packer, a TDC representative from Pittsburgh, spoke at a series of organizing meetings about the group and its goals. The uniform success of these meetings indicates that the rank and file movement in the Teamsters Union has reached

the take-off point.

In Los Angeles, Oakland, Portland, and Seattle, the response was the same. "When Frank Fitzsimmons plays golf with Nixon and the heads of the trucking companies, then something needs to be done," was the way one Seattle truck driver put it.

In Portland, Packer was met at the airport by a TV camera crew and interviewed about the TDC. Still slightly skeptical of TDC's claims of massive dissatisfaction within the union, the newsmen went off with their cameras to a nearby truck stop. They interviewed three truckers there, and found the same thing. All were

angry about conditions in the industry and were anxious to make a fight on the new contract.

It is because of this anger about such issues as declining real wages, massive layoffs, and an ineffective grievance procedure that the Teamsters for a Decent Contract was formed. Teamsters from a dozen cities met in Chicago and agreed that it was necessary to organize around the contract if another sellout is to be avoided on March 31. That's when the national Master Freight Agreement (MFA) expires. TDC is circulating a petition of contract demands to all workers covered by the MFA or similar contracts.

### LOCAL MEETINGS

The Los Angeles meeting, called by the Grapevine, a local rank and file Teamster paper, was one of the best. Seventy Teamsters, including many stewards, attended from Local 208 (local freight drivers), Local 357 (dock workers), Local 692 (general), Local 224 (line drivers), Local 396 (general, freight, and UPS), and Local 595 (grocery, warehouse). The meeting voted to circulate the TDC petition and to hold another meeting in two weeks. A steering committee was set up which included the wives of two Teamster members.

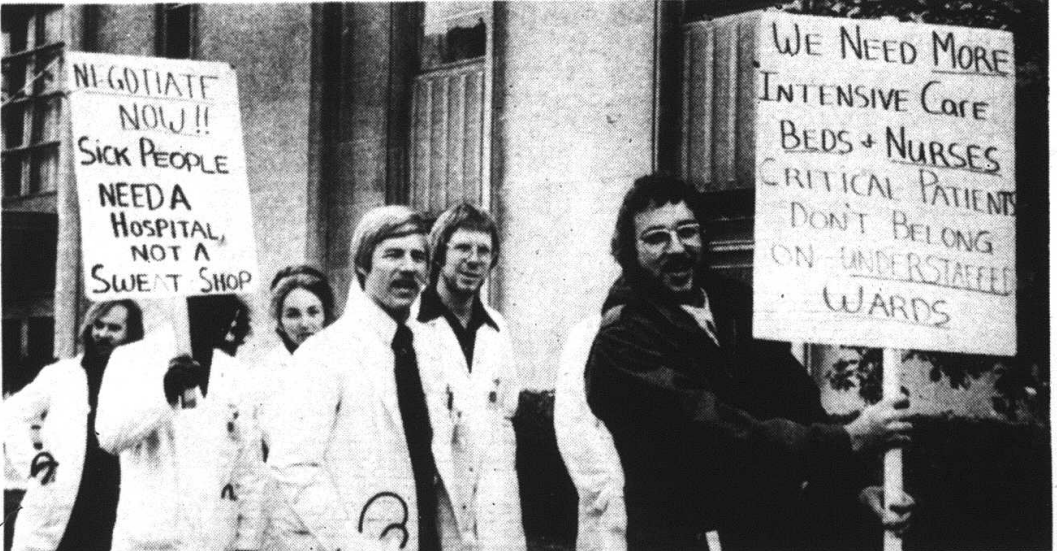
In Oakland, 50 Teamsters from six locals met. The meeting included Teamsters from San Jose, who have already gotten hundreds of signatures on the TDC petitions. About 30 Teamsters from three or four locals met in both Seattle and Portland.

In all four cities, the movement is broadly based. Grocery, UPS and warehouse workers are included as well as freight drivers. And it is united. Black and white Teamsters and men and women are involved in most cities.

Every meeting voted to set up some kind of steering committee or continuations committee to keep things going. And in every city there was sympathetic TV, radio, and newspaper coverage of the meetings.

In assessing the meetings, Packer told Workers' Power that the most important aspect was a commitment to building an ongoing rank and file group. "Everywhere we stressed that the Teamsters for a Decent Contract is not a one-shot affair. We do not intend to fold-up and go home after the new contract is settled," he said.

"It's clear that we now have the possibility of building a massive, well-organized rank and file movement in the Teamsters Union. And everywhere we're getting a tremendous response to that idea." □



## Chicago Doctors Strike For Better Patient Care

CHICAGO—The mammoth Cook County Hospital here has been virtually shut down for the past six weeks in what has become the longest strike by doctors in US history.

450 house staff doctors defied a court ordered injunction to return to work and are demanding control over their working conditions.

Conditions at Cook County are miserable. So bad, in fact, that the safety and proper care of patients, can no longer be guaranteed. Doctors complain of poorly func-

tioning life support equipment, inadequate emergency supplies, and "terrible" lab facilities. For some patients this means death, for others needless suffering.

Doctors, nurses and all hospital employees are demanding an end to these inhuman conditions. The house staff doctors are refusing to return to work until the hospital governing commission agrees to their demands for improved conditions, fewer hours, full time Spanish interpreters, and a wage increase.

Dr. James G. Haughton, commission director, refused to negotiate the demands of the house staff. He insists that the doctors and hospital workers have no business telling him how to run the hospital.

The truth is that Haughton has proved himself incapable of maintaining Cook County's health services and ignores the problems on the wards. To him, his \$80,000 a year job is just one step on the way up to a higher government position

with HEW.

While he sits in his plush air conditioned office, patients must defend themselves with paper fly swatters against the swarms of insects that invade the open windows of their un-air conditioned wards.

Housekeepers, clerks, technicians and nurses have voiced support of the doctors' demands. A hospital-wide walkout is planned if Haughton continues in his refusal to negotiate. □

# How Two Mexicans Were Held Up By Three Robbers, One Court, The Immigration Service, & One Mushroom Grower

**Supporting Roles Played By: The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, The United States Government, and the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union.**

Jose Vavalas and Francisco Aquilera are young Mexicans, who crossed the American border illegally. They speak no English. They, along with thousands of other Mexicans without papers, have come to Southern Pennsylvania in search of work on the local mushroom farms.

**Last June Vavalas and Aquilera**

Vavalas and Aquilera did not receive a hearing on a public defender's motion for their release until six weeks after imprisonment. Release was denied.

### RACISM

Finally their employer was convinced by the American Civil Liberties Union to post bond for the



**AMERICAN DREAM**  
Gay Semel

For the mushroom industry this agreement has meant an unlimited supply of legal, non-English speaking, cheap labor.

**Puerto Rican mushroom workers not only work for less, they are forced to pay a high percent of their earnings back to the growers for substandard housing and food.**

The workers have no one to turn to—as the whole deal has been thought up, organized and approved by the two governments.

### NO UNION

And the workers have no union.

At least they thought they had no union.

Last year, several Puerto Ricans working at a mushroom packaging plant were informed their monthly dues to Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union were being raised from \$2.00 to \$10.75.

Many said they didn't know they were represented by the union. Others said they had never seen an agent of the union.

All 50 Puerto Rican workers were fired. Shortly after, the bosses brought in trucks carrying Mexican workers without documents.

Other farm owners and mushroom processing plant owners soon discovered that they could pay illegal Mexicans even less. And as they were illegals and afraid of deportation they are also afraid of fighting back.

Soon more and more of the Puerto Ricans found themselves replaced with even cheaper Mexican labor.

Both groups of incredibly exploited workers have been successfully pitted against each other. They are fighting each other, rather than fighting the mushroom bosses.

The holdup of Vavalas, and Aquilera was part of the ongoing war between the two groups.

The story shows the profound racism of the system... it also shows how racism is used to divide workers.

### DEPORTED

**Vavalas and Aquilera are back at work in the custody of their boss.**

After the trial they will be deported; shipped out of the country like used up bits of machinery. Meanwhile the poverty of Mexico and Puerto Rico assures the mushroom bosses of thousands of desperate and jobless young workers ready to take their place.

The immediate solution to the plight of Vavalas, Aquilera and the thousands of Puerto Rican and Mexican workers screwed by the mushroom bosses is a real union that will organize them to fight the bosses, not each other.

The final solution is to end the system of bosses, borders and unemployment. □



Agriculture is a multi-million dollar industry—but not for farmworkers.

were held up and robbed of \$400. The local authorities went wild. They arrested three unemployed Puerto Ricans. They also held Vavalas and Aquilera in custody for ten weeks—as material witnesses. The excuse for jailing the two Mexicans was their lack of identification. Vavalas and Aquilera explained their ID was in their wallets, which had been stolen.

two out of their back wages and they were released.

Thus far this story illustrates the profound racism of American justice. For lack of identification, two non-white victims of a holdup are kept imprisoned for ten weeks.

Imagine the scenario if the victims had been two middle aged white businessmen. Jail would not have been the result of their reporting a holdup.

But there is more to the story. Mushroom growing is a multi-million dollar industry in South-eastern Pennsylvania. The growers have made vast profits off cheap labor—first Appalachian whites, then blacks, then Puerto Ricans.

Since the late 60's Puerto Ricans have been brought to work in US farming areas. They are brought through an agreement with the government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the US Department of Agriculture.

## labor notes

by Jim Woodward



The strike of printers continues at the **Washington Post**. Most of the other unions at the Post are respecting the printers' picket lines. But slightly more than half of the 800 Newspaper Guild members are still working, contrary to the instructions of their local. Many of the reporters and other white collar employees bought the company's line that the printers were attacking freedom of the press when they damaged the presses at the beginning of the strike.

In fact, the Post strike has ripped the veil of secrecy off the newspaper industry's scab school in Oklahoma City. The **Newspaper Production and Research Center**, as it is called, trains newspaper executives to continue operations during strikes. The Washington Post had been sending executives to the school for about a year, in anticipation of the printers' strike. Robert Spahn, who runs the school, says he doesn't mind being called a scab. "I've been called far worse than that," he explains.

One out of every six workers in the United States was unemployed for at least some length of time last year. For black workers, it was one out of four.

**Lloyd McBride**, Director of **United Steel Workers District 34**, has formally announced his candidacy for president of the union in the 1977 elections. McBride, who is the first officially declared candidate, is a strong supporter of incumbent I.W. Abel and of Abel's no-strike deal. But other district directors who also support McBride are likely to get into the race before too long. Running on McBride's slate will be Frank McKee, District 38 director, and Lynn Williams, Canadian director.

Los Angeles cab drivers are angry that their union, **Teamsters Local 640**, has joined forces with the Yellow Cab Company in trying to cut the drivers' rate of pay. The union has already agreed to make the drivers pay the pension contributions that the company used to pay. Now they want the drivers to accept a cut in their 49% commission when a fare increase goes through.

The recession is over for some... General Motors stockholders. **GM profits** for the third quarter were **\$243 million**. That's 15 times higher than their profits a year ago.

GM workers at the **Boxwood Road plant in Delaware** have voted strike authorization over work standards disputes. There are at least 200 such unresolved grievances. Speedup continues even though some workers are still on layoff. Nevertheless, the local UAW leadership is stalling on actually calling a strike. The Boxwood Road plant makes the Chevette. GM's new small car. A strike now would seriously hurt GM's hopes of selling 250,000 Chevettets this model year.

**Chrysler Corporation** is recalling 6,000 1974-model Plymouths and Dodges because several policemen have died of carbon monoxide poisoning in them. A city official in Baltimore charged that the cars were intentionally sabotaged while being assembled at the Lynch Road plant in Detroit. A Chrysler spokesman said that was nonsense; that the problem was faulty design.

**What's happening where you work? Sent items for this column to: Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203. Or phone 313-869-5965.**

### Workers' Power 134

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## Racist Offensive

# Liberals Retreat

Liberal politicians are for lots of good things. Such as equality, freedom and social justice. At least on paper. Their dedication to these ideals usually lasts until a serious fight has to be made.

The latest striking example is the issue of busing for school integration. To a large extent it was liberals who originally called for the busing programs. They were unwilling to wage the truly enormous social struggle needed for real integration and an end to racism in this society. They were also terrified by the idea of an independent militant black movement fighting for integration or anything else.

The liberals adopted the issue of school busing as a piecemeal way to win partial reform. Once upon a time, busing seemed like the easiest way for them to regain control of the black movement.

But in the last couple of years, in Boston, Louisville, and other places less well known, the school integration issue exploded on the streets. Black parents put their families, including their children's lives, on the line to break racist boycotts. They went to school despite the rock-throwing crowds bordering on lynch mobs. In places like Columbia Point in Boston, they began physically defending themselves.

When the struggle for black equality actually gets underway, liberals discover to their horror that there is a "white backlash" organized by racists. They also discover that when black people have to fight back against a racist offensive, they don't necessarily stick to the "peaceful," "gradual," "legal" methods the liberals have in mind.

### "EXPERT" SWITCHES

James Coleman is a famous liberal "busing expert." His 1966 testimony led to many of the court-ordered busing plans. Last week, he testified again, to the Senate Judiciary Committee—to say he's changed his mind. Like other liberals, this scholar has rediscovered the "white backlash."

Coleman did a new study. This one shows that whites fleeing the cities leave black cities "re-segregated." Actually this study proves that real school integration means busing that includes the suburbs and the schools of the rich. But Coleman and his friends are not about to fight for that. They have a different answer: give in to racism.

This scholar was not only speaking for himself. His change of heart was major news in almost newspaper. He represents a trend that will grow. The Democratic Party platform in 1976 will not support busing. It may openly oppose it.

Among the major pro-busing forces, the NAACP is still pushing hard in the courts. Busing is practically the only serious program these black middle class leaders have going, so they are tied to it. But even the NAACP is now split. In every city where busing is actually causing a crisis, there is a wing of NAACP that wants to drop it.

No one is surprised that the right wing of the Republican Party, led by Gerald Ford, stands four-square against busing. But the truth is that as things come to the crunch, Gerald Ford and the liberal establishment wind up in the same camp on this issue.

They may arrive there by slightly different routes. But one thing is certain. You can always trust a liberal—to be a liberal. □

**Workers' Power** (313) 869-5965

## Chemical Workers Want Decent Contract

NITRO, W.Va.—Members of Steelworkers' Local 12610 have been on strike against Monsanto, a chemical company here, for over four weeks now for a new contract. No new progress has been made in negotiations. In fact, the most recent proposal from the company offers less than their original contract.

The courts have shown which side they're on, issuing an injunction prohibiting pickets from blocking traffic into and out of the plant. Management and non-union per-

sonnel are inside trying to run the plant, working 16 hour shifts.

Strikers on the picket line expressed confidence that the workers would stick together until a decent contract, including better health and retirement benefits and a cost of living, is won.

They point out that the non-union workers, who have to work 16 hours when management tells them to, are getting worn out a lot faster than the men on the picket line. □

Jo Kimbrough

# FARMWORKERS FILE CHARGES

In the California farm workers' elections, charges have been filed against more than 30 growers—all on complaints filed by the United Farm Workers Union.

The California Agricultural Relations Board (ALRB) now has begun to process a few of these. They range from complaints against favoritism to harassment and intimidation. They were filed during this fall's organizing drive by the United Farm Workers Union (UFW).

Fifteen of these growers are charged with firing workers because of their support for the UFW. Twenty-one are charged with denying union organizers access to workers in the labor camps and on their lunchbreaks. Eight are charged with improper assistance to a rival union—telling their workers

to vote Teamster. Four are charged with threatening workers with deportation. The list goes on.

So far only a small part of the total complaints have been processed, and charges are made only when the evidence is overwhelming.

At White River Farms, the ALRB ruled that just before the election there, over 300 workers had been hired in return for promises to vote "no union."

At Crosetti Orchards in Santa Cruz, UFW organizers and supporters were threatened with a machete. Two days later the supervisor told the whole crew that they should vote Teamster "if they liked their jobs." The Vener Co. in San Diego County fired 102 workers because they were UFW members.

All of this goes to prove what the UFW has been saying since the election drive began in September—the agribusiness corporations and their allies have been conducting a state-wide campaign of harassment against the UFW's drive to organize California farm workers.

In the first two weeks, the IBT and the UFW won about equal numbers of elections. Since then the UFW has pulled steadily into the lead.

All over California, in spite of the growers' harassment, workers are coming to the UFW and asking for help in organizing. They know that only the UFW is willing to fight for them, and that only with a fighting union can they hope to win anything. □

David Marshall

# Free Puerto Rico! Free The Five!

CHICAGO—600 supporters of the movement to free five imprisoned Puerto Rican nationalists demonstrated on November 1 here.

Over 30 community and left groups took part in a spirited march from the civic center to the federal building. The march was punctuated by the chants "Free the Five in '75" and "Free Puerto Rico Right Now."

The rally was held to gain support for the five nationalists who have been in US federal prisons for 21-25 years.

Raphel Cancel Miranda and Lolita Labron, two of the imprisoned nationalists, led armed attacks on President Truman and the Congress in 1950 and 1954 in order to call attention to the continued colonial status of Puerto Rico in the form of "commonwealth." They are among the longest-held political prisoners in US history.

The rally was also dedicated to Puerto Rican independence and the liberation of all political prisoners.

All the speakers emphasized the link between Puerto Rico's struggle with that of Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Angola.

The last speaker, Juan Mendez, of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, summed it up: "We should not see them [the five imprisoned nationalists] as mere prisoners, but as prisoners of war. We are in a war and we'll always be in a war until all oppressed people are free. The independence of Puerto Rico is a contribution to the revolutionary process taking place throughout the world." □



# Campus Workers Strike

PHILADELPHIA—Members of Operating Engineers Local 835 on the University of Pennsylvania campus here have been on strike since October 16.

The university is without the services of over 1200 workers, including dining service employees, library workers, and animal handlers, who refused to cross the picket line. Their absence is being felt.

The strikers are asking for a 10-12 percent pay hike. In the past seven years the operating engineers have received no significant pay raise. They have had enough.

The university has offered only a three percent raise in the next year. A student strike coalition is active in supporting the strike. But many students have sided with management.

The feeling among the strikers is that maintenance workers are always put on the bottom. "When we were kids our fathers worked for sweatshop wages...well, it ain't far from that now," claims George Murray, electrical operator. James Murray, a steam operator

said, "Why can't they cut some cream off the top and put some at the bottom?"

That's what the strike is aiming for.

Chris Petro

# CABBIES GET SNOWED

PHILADELPHIA—With the Bicentennial activities here next year expected to draw millions of tourists, the taxi business will go through a boom at the same time as drivers' old contract was to expire. That's why the new contract just signed between Teamsters Local 156 and the Yellow Cab Co. is poor, even though it contains some important gains.

The tourist business put the Local in a particularly strong bargaining position. Instead of taking advantage of that position, the local leadership brought in a new proposal six months before the old contract was up. Although there are some gains in the area of driver commissions, important issues around pensions and driver grievances were ignored. Unfortunately, coming off the

worst contract the drivers ever had, the new one looked too good to pass up. The local leadership sprung the contract at a meeting attended by only 150 out of a membership of 1500, and got it approved.

A rank and file group, Committee for a Strong Union, attempted to mobilize people against the contract but were caught by surprise both by the speed with which it was ratified and also by the number of concessions the company was willing to make to avoid a contract struggle.

For the moment the Committee has been stymied by the first wave of enthusiasm for the new agreement, but there remains a layer of discontented drivers who saw the new contract as a snow-job. These drivers could provide the basis for action in the future. □



# Coup Rumors Swamp Lisbon

Lisbon is filled with rumors this week that a right-wing coup in the armed forces may be tried this weekend. Detailed information on plans for the reported operation were revealed Monday morning by the newly-formed left-wing Armed Forces Military Vigilance Commission.

The Commissions's account has not yet been verified. But the military high command has scheduled certain troop maneuvers this week that support the Commission's report.

**The right-wing strategy is to use the maneuvers as a prelude to the coup. They are being held under the pretext of preparing to defend Portugal from a possible invasion from southern Spain.**

Units stationed to the south of Lisbon will be moved to the north. There they will be re-shuffled, placed under right-wing commanders, and sent to occupy the Southern agricultural region. Reportedly, the right-wing strategy was mapped out at an October 27 meeting of the Military High Command Studies Institute.

The brains behind this reported operation is a Col. Oliveira Carvalho. (Not to be confused with Gen. Otelo de Carvalho, the commander of COPCON.) Oliveira Carvalho has intimate relations with the U.S. embassy in Lisbon.

With him were Col. Ramires da Oliveira, a representative with the NATO command in Brussels, and a Major Espirito Santo. He has just returned from a course on invasion and spying techniques, held in the United States.

While this group was making its plans, the

## LISBON, Tuesday, November 4



government has re-armed elements of two fascist paramilitary police units that existed under the pre-1974 regime. They are to be used, along with right-wing commandos from the newly-formed "Military Intervention Unit" (AMI) to neutralize Lisbon, where revolutionary workers and soldiers are strongest.

The announcement of these plans may bring the struggle in the Army to a head. The Command is waging a war of attrition

against left-wing soldiers. In the next two months, tens of thousands of conscript soldiers are supposed to be "de-mobilized." That means they will lose their guns and join the ranks of the unemployed.

**The purpose is to break the power of Soldiers United for Victory, the revolutionary rank and file soldiers' movement. Rank and file soldiers are fighting back. In the Lisbon area, a thousand troops who guard the major arms supply depots recently voted not to let any more arms leave the depots. The arms are being used to supply right-wing forces.**

In Oporto, a thousand SUV soldiers led a mass march of 30,000 last week. SUV now has members in every unit in the central military regime. A powerful response by the ranks may force cancellation of the planned maneuvers.

### TIED TO ANGOLA CRISIS

**The timing of this struggle is closely tied to the crisis of independence in Angola. If the right can create chaos in Portugal on November 11 it would prevent the government from turning full power over to Angola's legitimate liberation movement, the MPLA.**

In Luanda, Angola's capital, right-wing Portuguese paratroopers have seized key parts of the city. The MPLA's mass media

installations were wrecked.

The United Revolutionary Front (FUR) in Portugal this week is building a campaign to alert workers to the danger of a right-wing coup. FUR demands the total, unconditional turnover of power to MPLA on November 11 and Portugal's recognition of the MPEA government.

There is a third front to the escalating class war in Portugal. In the southern region, farmworkers are taking over landlords' estates. They have fought with landlords, right-wing government troops, and middle-class mobs organized by the Socialist Party and the Popular Democrats.

In Barrota, farmworkers and industrial workers have joined forces. At a Saturday night mass meeting, the workers' commissions at nearby fertilizer plants voted to supply fertilizer directly to the peasants to prevent factory owners from sabotaging the struggle.

At the American-owned multinational Timex corporation, the management tried to lay off a large number of workers. Workers' commissions responded by calling an emergency meeting of all workers' commissions in the Lisbon area, and representatives of Timex workers from other European nations to fight back with international solidarity.

**The days to come are a crucial test for the powerful Portuguese workers' movement—to smash the right-wing offensive and open the way for armed workers to take power**

# War-Torn Lebanon Collapsing

by Dan Posen

Every night, TV news shows the films of Lebanese hotels reduced to rubble by mortar fire. But they don't explain why.

Eight months from now, Lebanon will probably no longer exist. In fact, it may take much less time than that.

Lebanon's rickety political structure was set up in 1943. It was designed to hold together a feeble capitalist regime by setting up the elite section of the Christian Maronite sect as the permanent rulers. Middle class Sunni Moslem politicians were allowed to be their junior partners.

The poorer workers and agricultural laborers are mostly Shiite Moslems. They were effectively shut out from any power.

**The conflict in Lebanon often appears to be a battle between religious groups. But its real roots are the fantastic gulf between rich and poor—and the influence of outside powers.**

As long as its political structure survived, Lebanon has been a

useful beachhead and economic vehicle for western capitalism in the Middle East. It was a thriving commercial crossroads and a headquarters for all the major corporate powers with Middle East connections.

The major cities, Beirut and Tripoli, are glittering showcases with modern ports, rich night spots and world-famous tourist hotels.

When the power of the government was challenged once before, in 1958, US President Dwight Eisenhower sent US marines to Lebanon to restore its authority.

But under the glittering facade, Lebanese capitalism is pitifully feeble. In the shadow of the wealthy apartment buildings and offices is a growing class of Moslem workers, many of whom have left the poverty-stricken countryside. These are people for whom there is little work and practically no hope.

**Capitalist economy in Lebanon has never been able to unify the country. The Christian Maronites, once a majority, are now a**

minority. Many of them have no share in the artificial wealth of the commercial and banking elite. And Lebanon, with its right-wing rulers, totally tied to the commerce and military protection of the West, never became a real part of the Arab Middle East.

This year, those contradictions have exploded in heavy mortar and machine gun fire.

### COLLAPSE

This spring, US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger spend about \$3 billion in promises of US aid to set up the so-called Sinai peace settlement between Egypt and Israel. Indirectly, the collapse of Lebanon is part of the price for that settlement.

The Egypt-Israel Sinai deal left Israel with a totally free hand to invade southern Lebanon at will, pulverize Pastinian refugee camps in Lebanon from the air, kidnap the people and blow up their villages: Thousands of Lebanese peasant farmers fled.



A scene from Lebanon. The glittering commercial facade is being pounded into dust by rocket and mortar fire. The U.S., Israel, and Syria are getting ready for the carve-up of the country.

The Zionist regime in Israel cannot accept the right of Palestinians to return to their land, or even live on its borders.

Even in refugee camps, the Palestinians represent a national resistance movement which threatens the power structure of Israel. This regime hold power only because it has robbed the Palestinians of their homes, their land and their national rights.

Palestinian Arabs in Lebanon also came under murderous attack from near-fascist Christian armed groups. These groups, such as the Phalange party and the "Defenders of the Cedars," have been secretly armed and supplied by Israel, Jordan, the US and Iran to terrorize the Palestinians. The Palestinians began fighting back after Phalangists with machine guns massacred 27 Palestinians on a bus.

Cease-fires were announced, and Palestinians tried to pull back from

the fighting. But new attacks came, and the whole Moslem population was drawn into the battle. They are fighting for their survival.

**The government of Syria also has a political and territorial interest in Lebanon. It believes that both Lebanon and Palestine (Israel and its occupied territories) belong to it.**

So Syria is pouring Russian-built arms into the fighting, to establish its own base for the coming carve-up of Lebanon.

If the crisis continues, Israel (with quiet US support) is likely to simply take over southern Lebanon. Syria may respond by moving in troops of its own.

The masses of people in Lebanon are the victims of these maneuvers. They are used as pawns for the imperialist giants and the ruling classes in the Middle East. Until those rulers are overthrown, the promises of self-determination and peace in the Middle East will be a cruel hoax. □



Armed warfare began in Lebanon when Palestinians were attacked by right wing Phalangists. Israel, which has bombed refuge camps in southern Lebanon, secretly supports the Phalangists.

BOSTON—On November 1 a demonstration held in the Portuguese community of East Cambridge drew 200 spirited marchers chanting, in Portuguese and English: "Out with the scum, power to those who work," and "Chile, Chile Never Again, Workers and Soldiers United will Win." The

Portuguese Workers Committee, the Portuguese Immigrant Group, the Cambridge Tenants Organizing Committee, and the Somerville Tenants Union sponsored the demonstration.

The demonstration was supported by the Boston International Socialists.

# "Alice Doesn't Day" Didn't

by Karen Kaye and Susan Flynn

October 29 was declared "Alice Doesn't Day" by the National Organization for Women. NOW called upon women to strike that day. The purpose was to demonstrate women's importance to the economy. But Alice Doesn't Day didn't.

In most cities the event received a lot of publicity, but not much participation. There were no significant strikes of working women or housewives.

In Los Angeles 800 women demonstrated at UCLA. Women in Detroit demonstrated, but no strike action was organized. A Pittsburgh radio station contacted several major employers of women and found no unusual absenteeism.

Interestingly, a similar action in Iceland October 24 was highly effective. Telephone service, newspapers, airlines, theaters and schools were forced to close or severely curtail operations. Men took children to work with them while women attended a rally of 25,000 in the nation's capital. Nursery schools were closed.

**Alice Doesn't Day could have been effective too. But it was barely organized for. Few people knew about it in advance.**

A member of Detroit NOW explained in the Detroit Free Press that members had received their instructions from National NOW too late to organize a strike. She also complained that the action was scheduled only two days after NOW's convention, leaving little time for organizing.

Karen DeCrow, newly reelected president on the MC slate, stated that this program was revolutionary because it meant fighting for jobs for all women rather than for better jobs for a few professional women.

"But behind the 'revolutionary' rhetoric, NOW's new leadership still stands firmly in the mainstream—if in a different current.

## CANDIDATES

Endorsing political candidates will not win equality for women in job opportunities or pay, or lighten the burden of housework.

No Democratic or Republican candidates have any program to expand the job market or raise pay to keep up with inflation. Politicians are quite busy slashing social services—putting more burdens on the family. Their main concern now is to keep big business in good shape at whatever expense to women.

NOW's proposed drive to organize secretaries will not get at the root of what's hurting women today. Under today's conditions of nationwide cutbacks it will take the muscle of the big unions to win improvements for unorganized women. NOW has never had anything to say to the women in

these unions about how to use their power.

Thus despite the MC's talk, the only course left for NOW will be to continue to win token advances for

middle class women, to complain about advertising images, and to put on splashing events that accomplish little, like "Alice Doesn't Day."

We'll see the power of the nation's "Alice's" when working women, and not a middle class organization like NOW, organize and say "We Won't!"



N.O.W. members stop traffic in Philadelphia during their national convention.

# CLUW Plans For Convention

by Barbara Winslow

The long awaited November 1-2 meeting of the National Coordinating Committee of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) was another bust. There wasn't a quorum. Only 69 of the 85 needed delegates showed up.

This meant that the elected national leadership of CLUW could not take any actions, or make any decisions to prepare for the December 6-7 Constitutional Convention.

And this was exactly what Olga Madar, president of CLUW, wanted.

CLUW has been a wayward child of the women union bureaucrats ever since it was founded in March, 1974. Its unexpected popularity among working women gave birth to an organization of active members, working women eager to take on their employers' sexist policies.

The actions they organized in CLUW's name often went against the official and conservative policies of unions CLUW's leaders are responsible to. During CLUW's brief history its bureaucrat leaders have been working frantically to erode democracy at the membership level.

Now they are ready to go in for the kill at the convention. There they want to establish CLUW for once and for all as an organization for women union officials, not for working women.

## FREE HAND

The absence of a quorum gives Madar a free hand to plan this important convention herself. Nonetheless, the NCC delegates discussed some of the issues facing the convention.

The first controversial issue will be the convention agenda. Without consulting either the officers or the steering committee members, Madar prepared the conventional call and agenda. It provides for no time for serious debate and discussion on issues facing CLUW.

Instead, time is allotted for such activities as singing the national anthem, reciting the CLUW pledge (whatever that will be) and listening to a range of politicians and union bureaucrats.

Delegates challenged this agenda. Madar responded with "We are all human beings here, and human beings don't treat people the way you treat me."

Despite Madar's whining, an alternative agenda will be presented.

## CLUW'S FUTURE

The most important fight of the convention will be over CLUW's future as an organization of trade union women.

A resolution has been submitted which states "that the Coalition of Labor Union Women has the right to issue policy, make decisions and take actions regardless of the policies or decisions or wishes of one or any of the international unions."

This resolution specifically revokes a decision taken at the January NCC which said that CLUW members could not engage in activities against an employer without the consent and approval of the union involved.

This resolution must be fought for and won at the convention if CLUW is to survive as an organization of women workers. Otherwise members will be a passive power base for international union leaders.

The second fight at the convention will be over CLUW's structure. Madar wants CLUW's decision-making bodies to be based solely upon union representation.

Her plan makes no provision for chapter representation.

It is only through a structure of chapters which unite women from many unions that CLUW membership has any meaning. Madar's

proposed structure would effectively kill CLUW as an independent organization of union women.

Instead, it would place CLUW under the control of the international unions, specifically UAW, AFSCME, and the AFT. The international unions and their leaders like Madar have no more interest in fighting for the rights of working women than they show in fighting for any members.

## CHAPTERS

The chapters of working women have had that interest, and under the existing structure, some power to act on it.

One hopeful development in CLUW has been the work of the Wayne County CLUW Caucus. The caucus is a group of Wayne County CLUW members who want to make CLUW an effective organization for working women.

They have sent out flyers calling for a broad opposition to Madar's policies for the constitutional convention. The caucus wants to center the fight on independence from the International Unions.

For more information about Wayne County Caucus write PO Box 542A, Detroit, Michigan 48232.

Unless the CLUW militants who have been trying to build it into an organization that fights for working women can get together and win at the constitutional convention, CLUW's original promise to fight for women's equality will be lost.

## CONFUSION

Whatever the immediate reasons for the failure of "Alice Doesn't" it is another sign of the confusion and dissension that has grown with the nation's largest feminist organization.

This dissension was out in the open at NOW's convention. Held in Philadelphia October 24-27, it was attended by over 4000 women.

The main business of the convention was a challenge to the conservative leadership by an opposition called the Majority Caucus (MC). Its slate of candidates won most of the national offices and a majority of seats on the National Board.

The MC's slogan was "Out of the Mainstream and into the Revolution." Its platform included endorsing political candidates who are willing to support feminist issues, broadening NOW's program to include the fight against racial discrimination and for gay rights, demanding full employment for all women through support of full employment legislation, and direct organizing of secretaries, nurses and waitresses for better pay and collective bargaining rights.

# COMMUNITY AIDS TEACHERS IN FIGHT WITH SCHOOL BOARD

by Jim Berenson

CAHOKIA, Ill. — "Throwing them in jail—that's what flared everybody up." That's how one resident described the community uproar that followed the jailing of four leaders of the striking teachers here.

These four were just the appetizers for the school board. Three days later 123 teachers were arrested for continued picketing.

The picket lines were kept alive by the community. 150 people including students, other area teachers, chemical workers, postal workers, teamsters, carpenters, and laborers from Cahokia, and the neighboring St. Louis metro area

picketed for the teachers.

The 387 teachers from Local 1272 began their strike on October 2 demanding wage increases, smaller class sizes, and an improved grievance procedure.

## COURT ORDER

When the Cahokia School Board obtained a court order prohibiting picketing, the four leaders of Local 1272 were locked up. Warrants were issued on 123 teachers for illegal picketing.

One teacher was arrested and handcuffed after parking her car. She hadn't even been picketing. As she was carted away, her children

were left stranded and bewildered in the car. By this time almost all of Cahokia was furious with the school board. Mass rallies of well over 300 people denounced the board and its hostility to the teachers.

At one point a crowd succeeded in preventing a TV newscaster from covering the negotiations. Earlier that evening he had delivered an editorial ridiculing the teachers.

On the 26th day of the strike, a contract was approved, which was not a clear victory for either side. But the Cahokia School Board isn't finished yet. They intend to press for a sentence of six months in jail and one thousand dollars fine for each of the 123 teachers.

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# ANGOLA

## National Liberation Vs. Neo-Colonialism

# U.S. B Aim T

Why is Angola such a rich prize? The wealth of the former colony is immense. Foreign investment is very high. The white settler population is large, well-organized and highly armed.

For these and other reasons, plenty of countries are very interested in the Angolan struggle—and what's in it for them.

Zaire is one of the most conservative and pro-US states in Africa. Washington is backing its President, Mobutu, with a \$60 million aid package this year.

Mobutu is also the brother-in-law of Holden Roberto—the leader of the National Front for the

Angolan Independence is scheduled for November 11. All Portuguese administration is supposed to end. A transitional coalition government is supposed to take over.

Today no one knows what will happen.

For months, bitter civil war has been raging in Angola. Three organizations, all claiming to stand for national liberation and Angolan independence are fighting for power.

The war has very little to do with a power struggle among "rival liberation groups." And it is not a purely internal struggle among Angolans.

There is one genuine liberation organization in Angola: the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). During years of struggle against Portugal, MPLA organized and won the support of the masses of African workers and slum-dwellers.

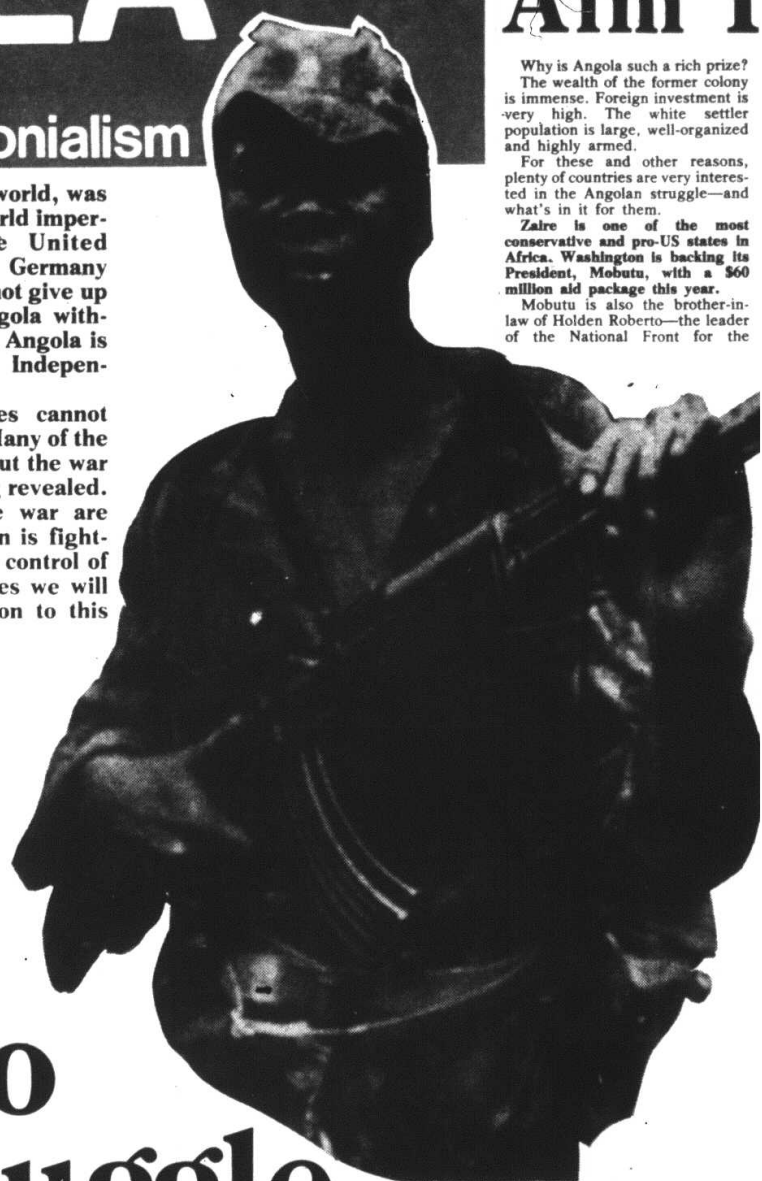
Portuguese colonialism, one of

the most vicious in the world, was totally defeated. But world imperialism—including the United States, Britain, West Germany and South Africa—will not give up economic control of Angola without a bitter struggle. So Angola is being ripped apart as Independence Day approaches.

The following articles cannot cover the whole story. Many of the most dramatic facts about the war in Angola are just being revealed. But the politics of the war are clear: national liberation is fighting against neo-colonial control of Angola. In coming issues we will be paying close attention to this unfolding crisis.

Special Report  
by  
DAN POSEN

# From Slavery To Armed Struggle



Portuguese ships reached the mouth of the River Congo in 1482. Soon they were rounding up Africans for slave traffic to Brazil. The raw materials and vast wealth created by slave labor in the Americas started the machines of industrial Europe spinning.

Slave traffic ended in the 19th century. But conditions for black laborers in Angola were little better.

Portuguese governors supplied black "contract laborers" for Angolan coffee and cotton plantations, diamond and iron ore mines. In 1954, 300,000 villagers were kidnapped for contract labor. This was a typical year.

One Portuguese government inspector reported that conditions were more brutal than slavery. A black worker was worth less than a pack animal.

### OIL WEALTH

In the 1960's European and US investment began pouring in. Gulf Oil, Texaco, Total, Petrofina and

Krupp were a few of the most prominent corporations. The oil industry produced incredible wealth for these multi-nationals.

Today 5.6 million people live in Angola. There were 500,000 whites before they began fleeing last year. There are 1.1 million black wage earners. The other 4 million blacks survive on subsistence agriculture.

In industry, average skilled wages were about \$5 a day. Unskilled workers make less than a quarter of that. The average wages in agriculture amount to about \$80 per year. This is the "civilization" that colonial rule produced.

### UPRISING

Before 1960, there was little organized resistance to colonialism—because the punishment was so terrible. There were whippings, burnings, lynchings. But in 1958, a group of nationalists formed the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

In 1961, they attacked the prisons in the capital city of Luanda. The MPLA freed many of

its jailed members, beginning the armed independence struggle.

Throughout the war, Portugal's position in Angola remained fairly strong. Exports of oil, diamonds, coffee and iron ore created a huge trade surplus. The fabulous Angolan wealth protected the Portuguese economy.

However, the MPLA grew almost every year. And when Portugal's government was overthrown in April, 1974, the struggle in Angola raged on. The old fascist governor was replaced—by an equally reactionary one. The new colonial government requested a "cease-fire," asking the liberation movement to surrender its weapons. MPLA refused.

### STRIKES

A new series of strikes broke out on the Benguela Railways, and among bank employees and dockers. The white settlers began arming, their weapons of South African origin.

Portugal had already lost its

other colonies in Africa to liberation movements. The new President, Spínola, wanted to hang on to Angola and its wealth if possible.

In September, Spínola went to the Cape Verde Islands. There he met with President Mobutu of Zaire and two other men—Holden Roberto and Jonas Savimbi.

Roberto and Savimbi lead two organizations which talk about national liberation in Angola—National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA) and Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).

They met with Spínola for one purpose—to push MPLA out. Their aim was an Angolan government controlled by Portugal and western imperialist powers.

Spínola's scheme died two weeks later—not in Angola, but in Portugal. Tens of thousands of workers around Lisbon took over the streets, set up barricades and threw his right-wing government out of power.

But imperialism still has not given up its battle for Angola. □

# Who's

The liberation movement MPLA controlled eleven or twelve of Angola's 16 provinces this summer. Two crucial port cities, Lobito and Benguela, and the capital, Luanda were in MPLA territory.

The campaign to destroy MPLA has had some effect. The Organization of African Unity represents the independent African ruling classes. The OAU repeatedly tries to force MPLA to compromise with FNLA and UNITA. It has forced MPLA to negotiate with organizations the liberation movement has already defeated.

One truce after another has been agreed on. Each one gave FNLA armies time to regroup, re-arm, and renew the fighting.

In the latest round, FNLA and



# Backed Invaders Go Split Angola

Liberation of Angola. FNLA. Throughout the liberation war in Angola, FNLA's actual base of operations was in Zaire. The liberation movement MPLA considers the FNLA to be Zaire's army of occupation.

It could only hold power by terrorizing the population.

## CABINDA

Mobutu, naturally, has a price for his support of the FNLA. He wants the far southwest tip of Angola, called the "Cabinda enclave." Cabinda is an oil and mineral-rich area. Gulf Oil takes

100,000 barrels out a day, and Gulf supports FNLA as well. If war creates enough chaos, Mobutu's basic plan is to grab Cabinda—or have Roberto give it to him.

Mobutu and Gulf are only two of FNLA's many friends. China, too, supports the FNLA. And this August a shipment of arms for South Africa from France was re-channelled by French President Giscard d'Estaing—to the FNLA's armory.

Meanwhile, American arms were airlifted from West Germany.

South African mercenaries and former Portuguese fascist secret police also assist the FNLA in its attacks on the MPLA. UNITA, Union for the Total Independence of Angola, has formed a military alliance with FNLA—to break the MPLA.

Still another power in Africa is directly involved—South Africa.

On August 22, South Africa invaded Angola. South African troops captured towns, destroyed areas of the countryside, and launched a major counter-insur-

gency program in southern Angola. Today they supply UNITA's troops in central Angola.

South Africa's aims include wiping out the Angolan bases of the liberation movement fighting South Africa, SWAPO, South West African People's Organization. SWAPO is fighting to liberate Namibia, a territory South Africa illegally occupies.

The white ruling class of South Africa knows that Angola's future could determine the future of Southern Africa. It wants to make sure Angola is controlled by a reliable puppet, not by the MPLA. The FNLA's Holden Roberto, who is in the pay of everyone, is a better choice for them.

What has happened is that Angola has been invaded from both the north and south—by Zaire through FNLA in the north, and by South Africa with help from UNITA in the south.

The invasions aim to reduce Angola to a poverty-stricken miniature by destroying the MPLA liberation movement. But they are a long way from succeeding. □

# November 11: Fight Goes On

Angola is explosive as November 11 approaches. The Portuguese army's most reactionary elements are still active there.

Portugal's revolution began in Africa. Portuguese capitalism was dependent on wealth stolen from its African colonies. Angola was the largest and richest of them all.

## COLONIALISM

The Angolan armed liberation movement led to the collapse of Portugal's colonial power.

The whole fascist regime in Portugal collapsed. Then the working class revolution in Portugal began. And so Portuguese workers have carried the revolution that began in Africa into Europe.

The victory or defeat of the Portuguese workers can again depend on the Angolan struggle. It is just days before Portugal is supposed to be completely out of Angola. And parts of its Armed Forces are still deeply involved

there. Revolutionaries in Portugal are very concerned. Angola will only win national independence through an MPLA victory. Until it does, Angola will be a staging area for Portuguese counter-revolutionaries.

Isobel do Carmo, the leader of the Revolutionary Party of the Proletariat (PRP) in Portugal, explains that there are two possible ways for imperialist powers to sabotage the November 11 independence date.

One is to create tremendous chaos in Portugal. That way there will be no government strong enough to implement the independence agreement, and complete the withdrawal of Portuguese troops.

A second possibility is to ally the Portuguese Army in Angola with the FNLA. Portuguese troops are commanded by the most reactionary officers.

The stakes are very high. A

victory for national liberation in Angola could help bring down the repressive Mobutu regime in Zaire. And when the oil and mineral riches of Angola are no longer ripped off by foreign countries, the whole racist capitalist structure of southern Africa will be threatened.

There will be a chance for African people to control their countries and lives. The chances for socialist revolution will be greater than it has ever been. □

[Most of the information for these articles came from several sources. On October 22, representatives of the MPLA spoke in New York about the struggle in Angola and the role of imperialism. Other sources of information include "Africa" magazine's October issue and issue #3 of "Our Common Struggle", published by the Portuguese Workers Coordinating Committee in Britain.]

# FRANCO'S UGLY LEGACY

## Terror, Torture, Murder



Jose Baenz

One of Francisco Franco's last acts as chief of state in Spain was to order the September 27 execution of five Spanish revolutionaries.

One of the five shot down by a firing squad was Jose Baenz, a member of the Revolutionary Antifascist and Patriotic Front (FRAP). He was convicted on the basis of a "confession" he signed after incredible torture.

While he was being held in the Carabanchel Prison, he testified to the treatment he had received. This is his story:

"At the DGS (Direccion General de Seguridad—general Security offices) they told me that I had participated in the murder of a policeman and that they were going to beat me until I confessed.

"They were going to leave me alive long enough to sign a statement, although it wouldn't be for long, because they were going to garrote me. When I refused to confess, the beating and torture began.

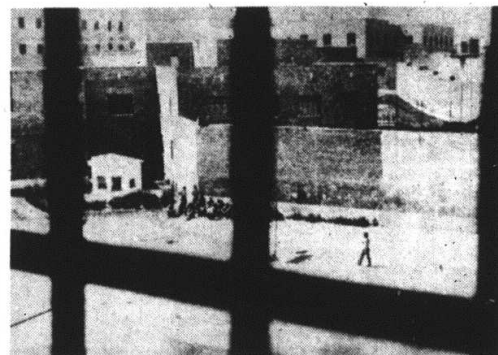
"They bounced me back and forth hitting me with clubs and their fists. I fell down several times, but they picked me up right away to continue the beating.

"Once while they were shooting me from behind, they grabbed me by the throat and banged my head over and over again against a piece of metal furniture, injuring my face—especially my forehead, cheek, and left eye—on the edges of the furniture.

Because of negotiations over US airbases in Spain, Washington had no comment when Jose Baenz and the other four militants were killed.

Jose Baenz and the four other murdered men will be remembered by the Spanish working class. They are symbols of the hundreds of thousands of others who fell victims of Franco's US-backed fascist rules.

They did not live to see the revolutionary upheaval that will shake Spain in the next few years, but they will be among its heroes.



Carabanchel Prison is one of the most notorious in Spain. This is where Jose Baenz testified he was beaten, choked and almost crippled by police torturers. Then he was tried and shot.

Basque workers responded to the death-sentences with a general strike that paralyzed the province. Here in Bilbao, a construction site was closed down. In its death throes, Franco's regime resorted to some of its greatest barbarism. When it topples, the impact will be felt throughout Europe.

# s Who In Angola

UNITA formed a powerful anti-MPLA military alliance. They captured Macamedes and Sa da Bandeira, towns crucial for arms shipments.

UNITA has its strongholds in south central Angola. Its base is almost completely among tribal peoples. UNITA has made a show of independence from foreign influence.

But today UNITA accepts aid from South Africa. And South Africa has just invaded southern Angola to protect territory it has already seized. UNITA is little more than an imperialist front helping to divide Angola.

MPLA's goals are stated by its leader Augustinho Neto: "to build

our country with our own hands and to watch that no foreigner comes to dominate, or to take the place of the colonizer we have already beaten."

MPLA is not a revolutionary socialist workers' movement. It is unclear about who will hold real power in Angola. The MPLA probably contains many political currents who agree only on the need for national independence.

However, MPLA has proven itself to masses of Angolan workers and starving farmers. Its activities are not simply military. MPLA created a trade union organization, 'National Trade Union of Angola, to organize, particularly among agricultural laborers and villagers. This is another way that the MPLA has fought

against the tribal consciousness that weakens Angolans, leaving them open to powerful foreign controls. During the liberation war MPLA forces set up some of the basic elements of national administration, including distribution systems, medical care, and education. It is the only organization to win thousands of urban workers to national consciousness.

MPLA also began to change the Portuguese colonial social structures. For these reasons, it won the loyalty of a huge section of the poorest peasants and laborers, a majority of the population.

MPLA has proven to be the only real national force. For this reason the most oppressed and exploited Angolans fight on its side. □

# Year of the Wildcat

by Cal Williams

There is a new prosperity in the coalfields today. In the valleys of Appalachia, the run-down dreary little coal camps are being torn down. The shacks are being replaced with shiny mobile homes.

The population of West Virginia is growing again. And most important, there are jobs for the young. Jobs in the mines.

The West Virginia Coal Association has promised 40,000 new jobs in the next five years.

The high cost of imported oil has led to this resurgence in the coal industry.

As a result, small town coal operators and businessmen are driving new Cadillacs and making jokes about sending volunteers to New York City. They are bragging about the "500 Year Career." They say Appalachia has 500 years worth of coal.

The miners have already tasted some of this prosperity, but they have had to fight for every penny. Behind the \$12,000 yearly income now promised to young miners, there is hard struggle.

## STRIKES

In the first six months of this year alone, there were 1,400

strikes. There is war going on over working conditions in the mines.

The issues are everything—safety, job assignments, promotion. They are the questions of who will run the mines, the miners or the bosses.

The coal companies themselves have aggressively tried to push the miners back on every point. They fire safety committeemen. They manipulate the work.

In the Ohio Valley, in March a strike led to a wildcat of 30,000. Most people believe the North American Coal Company provoked the strike.

North American wanted to remove the safety observers from the roof-bolters, a right just won by the miners in last year's contract. The miners won again.

The wildcat movement reached its peak in August. Then in a colossal strike, 80,000 miners went out against injunctions and court interference, for the right to settle grievances at the mine. The strike developed into one for the right to strike itself.

Led by hundreds of radical young miners, roving pickets shut down most of the mining in Appalachia.

Today these strikes continue.

and the strike statistics of 1975 will tell an incredible story of struggle.

## MARGIN TO WIN

This prosperity, based on the high cost of coal, at a time of gigantic profits for the coal companies has given the miners the margin to fight and to win. Miners are now among the highest paid industrial workers in the nation.

There is now much more involved in the struggle than money, however. The constant danger of working in the mines binds the miners together. The need to protect working conditions forges a natural leadership, trained in understanding the industry and fighting the management.

116 men had died in mining this year by October 16. This is more than last year. At the same time, the rate of disabling injuries is appallingly high. It is higher than in construction and three times higher than in manufacturing. In no other modern industrialized nation is mining allowed to be so dangerous.

And there is something else.

Few people really believe that the prosperity will last. Therefore, the sentiment is to "fight for what you can get now."

There is too much poverty to forget the last depression.

When the rest of the nation enjoyed the relative prosperity of the fifties, in Appalachia the Great Depression just dragged on.

The remnants are everywhere—the impoverished widows, the disabled miners, the barefoot children. All the people with no place to go when the coal camps are torn down.

Two things caused this. First, the demand for coal was sharply reduced by increased use of liquid fuels after the Second World War.

Just as important, however, was mechanization.

In 1950 John L. Lewis, the legendary dictator of the UMWA signed an agreement with the coal operators which gave the companies the unrestricted right to mechanize.

The results were catastrophic. In what was already a poor region, and depressed industry, 300,000 jobs were lost.

In the next years the best part of a generation was forced to leave the coalfields. In the late fifties alone, 1.5 million people left their homes and families for the slums of

the North—Cincinnati, Detroit, Chicago.

There was no future in Appalachia.

Today the miners' militancy is built in part on the knowledge that poverty will continue. That there will be future depressions.

It is also built on the knowledge that today there is another threat to the lives and standards of the miners, a threat just as dangerous as that presented by John L. Lewis and mechanization.

It was the search for profits that led to the last depression in Appalachia. The oil companies exploited the vast riches of the middle eastern oil fields, and the coalfields were left to rot.

There is no reason to believe that this will not be done again. The coal industry can be switched at least partially to the west. Appalachia will face another generation of depression.

In Montana, Wyoming and the Dakotas, there are fifty foot seams, which yield 75,000 tons an acre. The output of these mines is eight times that of the deep mines.

## JOBS LOST

There are already estimates that as many as 30,000 deep mining jobs will be lost to strip mining in the next five years.

In Appalachia everything is tied to mining. The land. The lives of all the people. Therefore, the future of the miners' movement is of the greatest importance.

Today the miners face not only western strip mining. There are other threats as well.

In Congress, steps are now being considered that would restrict miners' rights with legislation. Congressional action, for example, has made effective strikes by railroad workers virtually impossible. Similar measures may be taken against the miners.

In the August strike, the courts entered the struggle by fining the unions more than \$1 million. They jailed strike leaders and made it clear that they would break up the union rather than allow the strikers more victories.

In the union itself, there are steps to stop wildcat strikes and if necessary drive the militants from the union. Arnold Miller and the reform leaders actively worked to break the August strike. At the same time, the reactionary old Boyle forces are on the rise, challenging the Miller leadership from the right.

The outcome of all these challenges depends on the rank and file miners, on their strength and capacity to struggle.

## EXTEND STRUGGLE

In particular, it depends on the young miners who led the August strike. If they can maintain and extend their struggle, they can do more than defeat the companies and beat back the courts and Congress. They can build a movement in the miners' union that can eventually take back the land and all its wealth.

If the rank and file movement is broken, however, the giant companies—Continental, Kennicott, Standard of Ohio—will continue their offensive.

The cycle of depression and poverty will continue unbroken in Appalachia.

The next article in this series will discuss the role played by various forces in the UMWA in the struggle over Appalachia's future.



# Gays Fight For Civil Rights

SAN FRANCISCO—"When you deny a person economic rights you deny him (or her) everything."

The point was well made, but during the recent session, California legislators, voted down a bill which would have outlawed job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

At the same time, a gay civil rights bill was defeated for the sixth straight year in New York City, leaving gays still unprotected against discrimination in employ-

ment, housing and public accommodation.

Because most gay workers, both men and women, can still be legally fired for their sexual preferences, those who come into the open to organize as gays run the immediate risk of losing their jobs, in addition to being socially destroyed. Yet it becomes increasingly clear that only a broad-based fight, not lobbying efforts and celebrity support, will win full rights and acceptance for gay people.

That fight must be made in the unions. In California, Union W.A.G.E., the rank and file women's organization, calls for "an end to economic and social discrimination" against gays as one of its basic goals.

Numerous mass confrontations between Bay Area Gay Liberation and the San Francisco School Board have won protective clauses for gay teachers.

In addition, B.A.G.L., whose labor committee includes workers

from a dozen unions, has won endorsements for gay rights legislation from numerous local unions, including Teamsters, AFT, Retail Clerks, Hospital Workers, and AFSCME.

B.A.G.L. has actively participated in labor struggles, including the Teamsters' Coors Beer boycott, the UFW boycott of Gallo and graps and the Retail Clerks' strike at Doubleday books. Organizations like these, fighting as gays and workers, will play the crucial role in the future of gay liberation.



# Letters

to

# Workers' Power

## News Gets Out

Dear Workers' Power,

Back in May of this year the members of Lodge 863 of the Brotherhood of Railway and Airline Clerks on the Chicago and Northwestern R.R. voted to have a local newsletter to keep the members informed on what is going on.

The Union bureaucrats were against it, so they put up a fuss. They didn't want anyone to know what the company was doing; harassment of clerks, conspiring to force militants out of jobs, trumping up false charges for discipline, etc. So they refused to

pay for the newsletter.

But three of our rank and file brothers stood up and said they would print it anyway. They used their own money.

Well, we like it, and when we put it to the October union meeting whether the union should pay for the paper, it again affirmed the May vote.

The local union stuffed shirts still refuse to pay, but the paper will come out anyway.

We are starting to organize and we will not be stopped.

M.W.  
Chicago

### FIGHT THE UTILITIES

## Ripped Off By California Edison

Dear Workers Power,

Your articles talk about how workers get pushed around at work. We also get pushed around as consumers.

The California Edison Company is a perfect example of this. They have just ripped me off for \$710.

I requested some electric services for a small chicken farm I work on my free time from being a freight driver. They gave me the wrong kind of service and now they won't give me back the right

services or my money back.

I formally complained to the Public Utilities Commission and that was of no use either.

As a working man I cannot afford to hire my own lawyer. We should fight the utilities just like we fight the employers at work.

Rev. M.K. Thomas  
Member and Chaplain  
Local 208  
International Brotherhood  
of Teamsters  
Compton, California

## Mayor Rizzo

# THE KLAN'S CANDIDATE

Dear Workers' Power,

Mayor Frank Rizzo of Philadelphia received a last minute endorsement for his re-election campaign from Scott Nelson, who is running for mayor of Houston, Texas.

The reason this endorsement is interesting is because Scott Nelson is the Imperial Wizard of the

Texas Fiery Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

Nelson describes himself as a "racist and proud of it". He also wants to see Rizzo run for President.

Rizzo has refused the endorsement, which is something like a skunk pretending not to smell.

J.G.  
Philadelphia

## Christmas Cheer For \$20,000

Dear Workers' Power,

While most people in New York will be struggling to pay fuel bills this winter, a select few will be playing Petropolis. This is a new game, a takeoff on monopoly, to do with petroleum rights.

At the moment, sets sell for \$195 and \$790. Coming soon will be \$20,000 set with 18ct. gold rigs and derricks to play with.

No doubt this kind of activity will help to bring on lots of Christmas cheer.

C.B.  
Peterborough, England



## Workers' Power Wants To Hear From You

What you like about the paper—and what you don't. What you think of the political ideas we present, and your comments on problems facing working people. But please be brief.

Write to: Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, Michigan 48203.

International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers

## LOCAL 761, IUE

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949-4481

Workers Power  
P.O. Box 14455  
Louisville, Kentucky 40214

# 'Please Blast Me Again' Says IUE Local President

Gentlemen:

I have received one of your "socialist" newspapers and was very happy to see that our Local,

Local 761, made news in your paper. I was very happy to see my name as being on your s--- list.

To be honest with you, I have not had time to read all of your paper yet, but I will. I felt it absolutely necessary to let you know that I feel the same way as one of our ex-governors. One of his statements was, "I don't care what you say about me as long as you mention my name." The man I am talking about is Governor Happy Chandler.

As I read your paper, it was very clear to me what you are. I will have to say that in my opinion you are trying to fool the workers when you call your paper "Workers' Power." I have seen many times the symbol for "Black Power." I notice you mention in your paper the KKK and I have also seen their T-shirts mentioning "White Power." I notice on the back page of your paper you have a black hand squeezing a Ku Klux Klansman.

In my opinion, from what I have seen in your paper, I would very much like to see both of you "radical groups" put on deserted island and let you fight it out among yourselves so that the good, honest blacks and whites of our Community and throughout

the United States can work and live in peace and harmony without any discrimination.

I think we would then have one of the best Countries in the World. I will see that your "message" is delivered to our members.

Could I make one last request. The next paper you have coming out, would you please blast me in it again because I appreciate all the publicity I can get.

Sincerely,  
Kenneth G. Cassidy  
President  
Local 761, IUE

Editors' Note: In September, 1975, Workers' Power printed a special issue about the crisis caused by busing in Louisville, Kentucky.

In one article Workers' Power criticized Cassidy and the IUE executive board for organizing and leading racist activities.

Part of that article said: "For the black members of Local 761 the actions of the executive board are a racist insult. It is a long standing, though often neglected, principle of the labor movement to stand for black equality. But the leaders of Local 761 seem to have forgotten that and now are openly siding with the racists."

## Our Real History

Brothers and Sisters of Workers' Power,

I think you all are doing a beautiful thing with your paper. I read Workers' Power and it lets me know about all the things I want to hear about.

I think there's something else you should write about, too. Everytime we turn around the TV is throwing something about the American Revolution in our face. But they never talk about our real history or how people like us make the revolutions that change things.

You all should do some truthful articles about our heritage of struggle, not that bicentennial

bullshit they throw at us. Our real history shows the power we really have—that's why they want to keep it from us.

Keep doing your thing—rage on.

Elizabeth  
Detroit

## ABOUT PORTUGAL

Comrades:

I like your coverage on Portugal. It's hard for me to tell how representative the trends you describe are, though. This is a problem that seems to be true of coverage of all revolutionary struggles, at least I experienced the same thing about Chile.

How about some articles doing a broad survey of trends in the Portuguese working class and political groups? This would help in letting people know whether the great things one reads about are the actions of exemplary minorities or whether they're reflective of the whole class.

Yours in struggle,  
Everett Long  
Nashville, Tenn.

## Weekly

Dear Workers' Power,

Pluto Press sends congratulations to Workers' Power on the move to a weekly newspaper.

An important stride has been taken in the building of the international workers' movement.

You will be in the forefront in the spreading of revolutionary socialist ideas.

Yours fraternally,  
Alastair Hatcher  
for Pluto Press, London

# 'Taking Care Of Business'

by Glenn Wolfe

"The one liberation movement that did not exist in the 1960's was a workers' liberation movement."

"Today in 1975 a new type of worker militant and radical is starting to appear throughout the working class. [They] are going to be the charter members of a movement for social change that will be unstoppable."

These words come from a new I.S. pamphlet "Taking Care of Business—The Struggle for Workers' Power." It traces the development of the socialist movement over the past few years and provides a glimpse of the future: a future which will be better for the workers movement than any period

since the CIO was organized.

## REALITY

"The Struggle for Workers' Power is no abstract history lesson. It starts from the reality of today. It explains the 1974 recession and charts the economic and political developments since then. It leaves us with a clear understanding as to why the workers rank and file movement is growing. It also explains why that growth can only continue so long as revolutionary socialists take responsibility for turning that movement into a mighty weapon of united working class struggle.

It contrasts the middle-class

protest movements of the sixties with the workers movement of the seventies. It compares the issues of black liberation, Watergate, and Vietnam with the economic crisis facing workers today. The pamphlet provides us with a picture of the whole development of American politics over the last few years.

It does more than that. It sets out to show that the development of the International Socialists as a strong, fighting, workers' organization is an indispensable part of taking the struggle for workers' power forward.

It succeeds in doing this because it doesn't avoid the difficult questions, the doubts and suspicions that many militants have when taking the step to becoming socialists.

The pamphlet ends by fitting our fight into the world-wide picture of increasing working class struggle. It explains the complex issues and events involved in the Portuguese workers' revolution.

## RECRUIT

The pamphlet makes no secret of the fact that its aim is to recruit people to IS. Every line of the 24 pages is a powerful argument for joining IS. We want all our supporters, all the regular readers of Workers Power to get a copy and read it. And more than that we want you to discuss the ideas in this pamphlet with IS militants.

Ask your Workers' Power seller for a copy of this important pamphlet or send 25c to Workers' Power for a copy. Either way, don't miss it. The ideas in this pamphlet concern every worker who is determined to take the step from words to action. "Taking Care of Business" is a job that now faces all of us.

[To order a copy of "Taking Care of Business—The Struggle For Workers' Power," send 25c to Workers' Power, 14131 Woodward Ave., Highland Park, MI 48203.]

## Get To Know I.S.

# Rallies Planned In Major Cities

In last week's Workers' Power Floyd Bevins, an auto worker and member of UAW Local 898, told why he joined the IS. He put it this way: The IS "showed me a way to organize things so we could eliminate the waste of so much wealth and so much work. I came to realize that the IS could lead the struggle for workers' power."

We want readers of Workers' Power to know who we are and how we get things done. During the next month we are going to be holding special meetings in cities across the country. At these meetings we want to show you what the IS is all about.

The IS is a growing organization. Why? Because IS takes an active lead in building workers' power and fighting the bosses.

## DEMAND JOBS

IS members played a leading role in forming the rank and file contingent that marched in Washington on April 26 demanding jobs.

When the postal contract was about to expire, postal workers turned to Workers' Power as the only source of news that they could

trust. And more recently it has been the IS that has been the only organization in the country that has been actively supporting the Portuguese workers' revolution.

Come see us first hand and check us out at these meetings. Our members will be speaking about their experiences in organizing at their places of work and within their unions.

Militants from your city and others will be speaking. There will also be leaders of our national organization. After the talks there will be questions and discussions. We're not just going to talk though. Entertainment is planned and there will be parties afterwards.

Our activity in leading working class struggles is reflected every week in Workers' Power. It is now time that you don't just read about us, but actually join with us. Joining the IS makes militants more effective.

Keep an eye on this page in future weeks for more information about special meetings in your city. If you want to come then talk with one of our members or with the person you buy the paper from every week.



# What We Stand For

The International Socialists are open to all who accept our basic principles and are willing to work as a member of our organization to achieve them. We stand for:

## WORKING CLASS REVOLUTION

Working class revolution will destroy capitalism. Reform schemes cannot patch it up. The wealth produced by workers will be collectively controlled by workers to provide a decent life and freedom for all. Today that wealth is stolen from working people by the capitalist class. Socialism can be won only through workers' revolution. The capitalist state must be destroyed. So must its institutions: the legislature, army, police and courts. A socialist society will be ruled democratically by mass organizations of all working people.

## MASS ORGANIZATIONS OF THE WORKING CLASS

Today the trade unions are the only mass working class organizations. We work for rank and file control of the unions to make them fighting instruments of workers against the employers. We fight for workers' action against the economic and social crisis of capitalism: Defend working conditions. No controls on wages. 30 hours work for 40 hours pay to fight unemployment. The right to a job at union wages for everyone. Organize the unorganized, Nationalization of industry without compensation and under workers' control.

## BLACK LIBERATION

We stand for black liberation. Full equality for black people and all national minorities. Defend the black community and other oppressed peoples against all forms of racism, police terror and discrimination. We call for independent organization by black and other specially oppressed people to struggle for their liberation and to build unity among all workers that will lead to socialism. Independence for Puerto Rico.

## WOMEN'S LIBERATION

For complete social, economic and political equality for women. Free quality childcare, birth control, and abortion on demand. Abolish oppression of gay people, and all sexual oppression.

## YOUTH

Equality for young people. The right to good jobs for all youth. Stop police intimidation of young people. For schools controlled by students, teachers and community. For a revolutionary socialist youth movement.

## AGAINST IMPERIALISM

We oppose US imperialism, its nuclear weapons and its alliances such as NATO. Unconditional support to movements for national liberation. We oppose Russian imperialism and its war bloc, the Warsaw Pact, which controls Eastern Europe. For an independent movement of the working class and oppressed peoples everywhere against imperialism, East and West.

## FOR WORLD SOCIALISM

The first successful socialist revolution was made by the Russian working class in 1917. But the revolution was isolated, and destroyed by a counterrevolution led by Stalin. Workers' councils, political parties and trade unions were all crushed. Today Russia, China and the rest of the "Communist" countries are not socialist, but societies in which workers are exploited by a bureaucratic ruling class. We support workers' struggles in Russia, China and Eastern Europe for democracy and freedom. For workers' revolution to overthrow Stalinism and replace it with socialism.

## REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

To win the fight for socialism the most militant sections of the working class must be organized into a revolutionary party. The revolutionary party is a political force linking workers in separate factories, unions and industries, helping to organize and lead them to take state power and control society as a class. All the activity of the IS is directed toward building such a revolutionary party out of the struggles working people are waging today.

## I.S. BRANCHES

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## International Socialists

If you agree with the views expressed in this paper and  would like more information, or,  would like to join the International Socialists, then send this form to:

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS**  
14131 Woodward Ave.  
Highland Park, MI 48203

Name \_\_\_\_\_

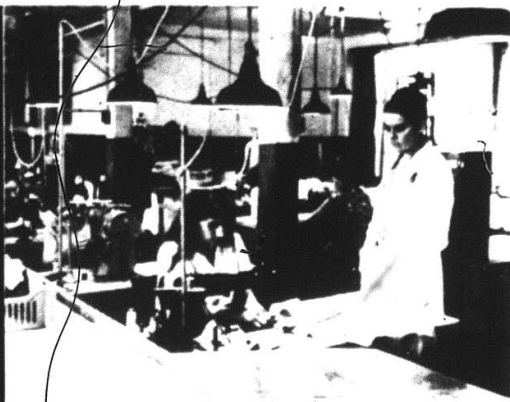
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Trade Union \_\_\_\_\_

# VIEW FROM THE AUDIENCE

BOOKS MUSIC TELEVISION ADS MOVIES TRENDS BOOKS MUSIC TELEVISION ADS MOVIES TRENDS BOOKS MUS

## BLOW FOR BLOW



### misery of work ends

**Blow For Blow.** A collectively directed film, 1971. In color. French with English subtitles. US distributor, Red Ball Films. PO Box 298, NYC, NY 10014.

Blow for Blow is about a strike and occupation by textile workers in a town near Rouen, France in the early 1970's.

The first time I saw the film was at a Seattle IS conference on Building the Working Women's Movement. I had heard Blow for Blow was a good film, but I wasn't ready for its impact.

At another IS conference on women's liberation the audience clapped and cheered for seven minutes after the film ended. It is one of the finest political films ever made.

The story opens with women working in a small textile plant. Their work is described by the camera, and by the music which is based upon the clacking of the weaving looms.

Every detail of the terror, degradation, boredom, and monotony of the work is explored. The women cut, sew, prepare cloth at a faster and faster pace. They can't smoke—can't talk—can't sing—can't smile—can't pee. The foreman paces up and down glaring at the women—feeling them up—telling them to shut up, work faster.

#### DOCKED

The wretchedness of their lives extends after work. The women are docked pay; the shift ends ten minutes too late to catch the bus home—they have to wait an extra hour at the bus stop. Then they have to shop, then cook, then clean for a husband and children.

One of the women has a nervous fit. "I want light, air, sleep!" she screams. The women fight back. First by sabotage. A machine breaks down. A bag of flour is thrown at "sourpuss," the supervisor. After two women are fired all the women walk out, demanding better wages, working conditions, and the reinstatement of their fired sisters.

The union official rushes in, greets the strikers as "comrades," promises them militant support and then tries to sell them out.

He is a Communist party member whom the women haven't seen

for years. They hate him.

**They refuse his deal and occupy the plant.**

For so many of us, who know what it's like to be sold out time and time again by some male chauvinist union bureaucrat, this was one of the best and most revealing scenes. We cheered even louder, when the women hiss and boo this sellout. More important, they ignore him, taking matters into their own hands.

#### LIVES CHANGE

**The second part of the film deals with how the women's lives changed as a result of the occupation. For the first time, the**

**women get to know each other.**

Elodie, one of the older women said that "in the factory, we didn't know each other; we learned to know each other." They get a chance to eat together, to sing, to dance, and to talk. They talked about their lives.

"Until this strike I was a nobody," said one woman. Another married woman spoke about the problems of working on a different shift with your husband. There are no conversations, sex is an occasional "quickie," and you can't spend time with your children.

Probably the most explosive and exciting part of the film takes place when the women, after days of

occupation, seize Boursac, the owner. The intensity of their hatred for him is brilliantly done.

**They put Boursac in a glass office and treat him the way he treated the women. No eating—no smoking—no sleeping—no pissing. Their revenge—blow for blow.**

One striker said, "All of us were for seizing the boss... We felt that the occupation... was not enough to make him give in to our demands. What he couldn't stand was that we affect him personally, touch his precious person."

Marie Madelaine wanted "to be even nastier. When we work, what do they stop us from doing? Then we did the same to him."

Other factories are out in sym-

pathy for the women. Boursac, under pressure by the government, is forced to give in to the demands of the women.

#### VICTORY

The strikers know that they have won an important battle. They also know that there will be other battles to come. But the lessons they have learned in this occupation—sisterhood, solidarity, and militancy will help them in the future struggles.

Blow for Blow was the collective effort of roughly 100 people; 60 factory women and other actors and actresses as well as film makers. Everyone involved with the film was paid the same—\$300 a month. And everyone had an equal voice in making the film.

Marie Madelaine, a spool maker, said, "They invited me to join the film, but my first thought was that it was a shitty script. Then they told me we could speak out, that we could make some changes. I accepted."

"The original scenario was wishy washy—the language was unreal. It was a man's language—we changed all that."

**It wasn't easy to get Blow for Blow in this country. The French government did not want to promote a film that attacks the bosses and government, and glorifies workers' struggles.**

It did all it could to prevent the film from getting here. It wasn't shown until 1975, three years after Blow for Blow was first released. But now that it is here, people should show it and go see it as much as possible.

**Lenin said that a revolution was "the festival of the oppressed." The film Blow for Blow captures the spirit of that "festival."** □

Barbara Winslow

## when women take over



### the factory, the boss, their lives

SEE BLOW FOR BLOW

It will be shown soon in Chicago, St. Louis, Seattle and Detroit. For details, see "What's On", page 10.



# Workers' Power

## Ford Panics; Axes Everyone

### THE LOST AND FOUND

by Gay Semel

The sudden and major reshuffling of the government's top national security posts is part of building "his own team." President Ford confidently told the press. But behind the bluster stands a desperate man.

Gerald Ford's presidency has been a total bust. The country is in economic and political chaos. Ford may be the first incumbent in memory to have trouble winning his party's nomination, let alone re-election.

His only relative success has been following Nixon's policy of detente. Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger's outspoken, hawkish position against detente made negotiations around the strategic arms limitation (SALT) talks with Russia difficult.

Schlesinger's dismissal was designed to make clear, at this critical point in the SALT talks, Ford's position.

Henry Kissinger's removal as national security advisor is merely camouflage to produce the effect of a broader shake-up. In fact, Kissinger's hand is strengthened.

His position on detente has been affirmed and his chief rival has been removed. He remains Secretary of State.

Axing CIA Director William Colby was simply long overdue. As more and more of the CIA's dirty work was uncovered, Colby's continued presence as CIA head was an embarrassment.

Ford's major problem however is finding a domestic program to run



ROCKY—On to bigger and better things.



COLBY—Dirty tricks.



SCHLESINGER—The hawk's wings clipped.



KISSINGER—Consolidates.

on. That's where Rockefeller fits in.

#### DOMESTIC POLICY

The economy has gone through the most severe depression since the 30's. Overall production has declined 14%. It has slowly begun to crawl back. But the slowness and shallowness of the recovery strikes fear deep into the collective heart of the capitalist class.

In response, Ford's economic program has zigzagged wildly. First he told us to "bite the bullet" and preached the gospel of a balanced budget. When WIN lost,

he put forward a budget with a total deficit of \$120 billion.

Now he has swung violently back to the right again, demanding the sinful city of New York repent without federal aid.

Unemployment continues to hover around 8%. Thousands of those laid off have already moved from the unemployment insurance lines to the welfare lines. There is no relief in sight.

Ford is running scared. He faces serious competition from Ronald Reagan, the darling of the Republican right wing. Attempting to head Reagan off, Ford is running politically to the right.

He needs a domestic issue and he thinks he has found it in New York. By maintaining a hard-nosed position against aid to New York, Ford hopes to bring the right back into his camp.

But he cannot pull anti-New Yorkism off with Rockefeller (N.Y. State Governor for 16 years) as his running mate. Rockefeller had to go.

Rocky did last Monday. He released a letter to Ford stating he was withdrawing his name from consideration for re-election as Vice President in 1976.

Rockefeller's exit is not a simple matter of Ford dumping Rocky. The separation is by mutual consent.

#### ROCKY: THE SYSTEM FIRST

Rockefeller, like most of the international capitalist class, recognizes the possible serious conse-

quences of New York defaulting. He is strongly opposed to Ford's program.

Rockefeller is a capitalist first. He wants to save his system. Running with Ford ties his hands. By pulling out he releases them.

Rockefeller may only organize against Ford behind the scenes. Or he may eventually move openly. But he is not going to allow the system that brought his family billions to go down the tubes because of the political and economic stupidity of Gerald Ford.

Rockefeller is not alone. He represents a substantial section of the American ruling class.

Ford may have missed the forest for the trees. He may win the Republican right wing and lose everything else. Like Nixon's "Saturday Night Massacre," Ford's "Sunday Night Massacre" may prove to be the beginning of his undoing. □

## PHONE WORKERS STRIKE AGAINST LAYOFFS

NEW YORK—Western Electric installers in downstate New York struck for two days last week. The issue was layoffs. By the end of the week, they had backed the largest corporation in the world down—a little.

Technically, the walkout was a dispute over work formerly done by Western Electric (WECO) installers now being contracted out to electricians. But over 1100 instal-

lers have been laid off. That is more than half the membership of Communications Workers of America (CWA) Local 1190.

Until now, the union leadership has done nothing because the layoffs have been "according to the contract." They would have still done nothing if it weren't for the pressure from Local 1190 members. The installers were outraged that Western was laying off and at

the same time refusing to bid for available work.

Virtually all of the downstate New York Telephone and AT&T Longlines CWA locals supported the walkout. New York Tel, AT&T Longlines, and Western Electric are all subsidiaries of AT&T.

The other CWA locals refused to cross Western's picket lines even though the CWA International refused to sanction the strike. CWA Local 1101 president Ed Dempsey was prepared to ignore the Western picket lines. But the membership of his local reminded him that Western installers had honored their picket lines for seven long months in 1971. They were not about to cross a Western line, whatever Dempsey said.

New York Telephone workers were also well aware that the question of layoffs was not isolated to WECO. The threat of layoffs has been held over their heads for a year. One Western steward told those respecting his picket line: "This is not just our strike. We're being laid off now, but you know that you're next in line."

After two days on the streets, Local 1190 settled with WECO. They won back much of the work contracted out, and a pledge from the company to bid on more future contracts than they had planned to. They did not win enough work, however, to bring people back from layoff.

While the strike won only partial gains, it showed that layoffs are not simply a matter of contractual corrections. They are also a matter of power, and how much the union is willing to fight for. □

# Give Your Fair Share

The money for the fund drive is pouring in. But still not fast enough.

\$11,500 has been sent in. This just about keeps up with the schedule.

Thus far IS branches continue to carry most of the burden. This week three branches were outstanding. The New York City branch sent in \$1,100. Bloomington sent in \$950. And the three Detroit branches sent in a total of \$1,340.

These branches all deserve congratulations.

Now Workers' Power readers are going to have to do more. It

has never been so necessary. And never before has it been put to such good use.

This week a new pamphlet, "Taking Care of Business: The Struggle for Workers' Power" was published.

The new weekly Workers' Power is already a great success, but it costs more.

The Portuguese Solidarity Campaign continues.

So send the money in. Next week will have to be better. The success of all these campaigns affects every militant, every supporter of the Portuguese revolution, and every reader. □

## NOW WEEKLY! WORKERS' POWER

A revolutionary socialist weekly, published by the International Socialists.

Subscriptions: \$10 per year, six months \$5. Supporting: \$15. Institutional: \$15. Foreign: \$15. Introductory subscription: \$1 for 4 issues.

I enclose \$..... Please send me a subscription to Workers' Power.

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Enclosed is my donation to the IS Fund Drive in the amount of \$ .....

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