

Protesters Rout Klan—Boston Cops Riot



BOSTON, October 16—Hooded and white-sheeted Ku Klux Klansmen were surrounded by an angry, jeering crowd of 1,500, pelted with eggs, and, scared out of their wits, were run off the streets of Boston today. Not even a full-scale riot by scores of motorcycle and mounted police defending the KKKers could disperse the protesters, who came determined to stop the fascists' provocation. It was the first solid anti-racist stand after years of unrelieved racist terror for black people in Boston. October 16 was a stunning blow against the cross-burners and lynchers that has been heard across the whole country.

Under Reagan reaction, the KKK figures it has a license to spew out its race-hate poison everywhere. A Klan-endorsed president in the White House, Democrats and Republicans united in an anti-Soviet war drive have made it open season on unions and minority rights at home. And Boston is where rampaging mobs of white racists took to the streets against busing. An ideal place for a Klan march, figured "imperial wizard" Bill Wilkinson. But the all-purpose hate mongers of the KKK not only target blacks, Jews, communists, labor; Catholics are also high on their hit list. So when Wilkinson said he'd parade in front of City Hall on Saturday, they all came out to stop him: Irish from South Boston and Dorchester, Italians from East Boston and Somerville, students from Cambridge, blacks from Roxbury, unionists and others, mobilized in part by several left groups.

The Klan never made it to the plaza. When the robed nightriders appeared in broad daylight a block away from their target, hundreds of anti-Klan demonstrators surged forward and surrounded them (and their police escort) on all sides. Seconds later, the Klansmen were bombarded with eggs, tomatoes, bottles, garbage and anything else that could be found. The KKKers ducked; Wilkinson was shown on nationwide



(Above) Boston cops protect Klan. (Below) Spartacist contingent on October 16.

TV cringing. The cops, meanwhile, began beating on anyone around, particularly news photographers. As the crowd threatened to overwhelm the tiny phalanx, the terrified, humiliated fascists were bundled into paddy wagons—under police protection, not arrest—and whisked away. Only the cops prevented them from being stripped of their KKK costumes and pounded into the pavement. As the police vans left, the protesters cheered their victory. The Klan would not parade its racist terror in the streets of Boston.

But the fight was far from over. No sooner were the Klansmen gone than the racists in blue abruptly launched an obviously planned attack on the demonstration. Mounted police wheeled around their horses and chargeo into

protesters in Cambridge Street. Motorcycle cops roared into the crowd in City Hall Plaza. Then came the club-swinging, mace-spraying riot police, pushing demonstrators into other cops. There were police sharpshooters on the rooftops, plainclothesmen riddling the crowd. For many protesters there was no escape: everyone was fair game. Our own comrades barely escaped serious injury: some were maced, others black-jacked. Twelve demonstrators were hospitalized, scores received lesser injuries. There were two arrests, but all the criminals—cops and Klansmen—went free.

For hundreds of anti-Klan demonstrators, the bloody cop attack was a brutal lesson on the class nature of the capitalist state. Cries of "fascists" filled

the Plaza, directed this time at the police. WEEI Radio broke into the World Series broadcast with bulletins on the police charge. Many thousands more were shocked as they watched the scene on TV. Everyone saw it: the cops, mortal enemies of blacks and workers, are defenders of the Ku Klux Klan. A couple from Somerville told *WV*: "When we came here and people were chanting that the police were going to protect the Klan we didn't believe it... I truly understand it now."

The KKK attempt to march on Boston City Hall grew out of a television appearance by Wilkinson on a local station two days earlier, part of the KKK's campaign to gain a "respectable" image. As the "imperial wizard" spoke,

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For Labor/Black Mobilization Against Racist Terror!

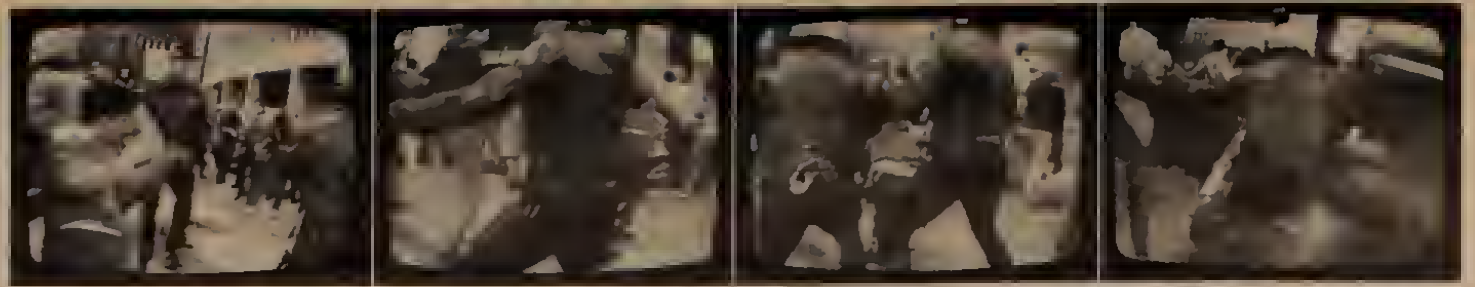
KKK Run Out...

(continued from page 1)

members of the Progressive Labor Party (PL) and its International Committee Against Racism (InCAR) rose from the audience and pelted Wilkinson's pin-striped suit with eggs. One PL supporter made it to the stage and tried to throw a few punches as the show stopped. Infuriated, the KKK terrorist leader on Friday morning demanded the arrest of the anti-racist protesters and vowed to stage a provocation the next day by parading in full Klan regalia.

In response to Wilkinson's threat, PL/InCAR announced a counterdemonstration at City Hall Plaza. Later Friday afternoon the All-Peoples Congress (APC), a vehicle for the Workers World Party (WWP), announced an anti-Klan rally at the same time and place. An APC leaflet advertised a noon Saturday press conference with black State Representative Mel King. (The NAACP closed down its office and told people to stay home on the 16th.) On Friday evening, the Spartacist League/Spartacus Youth League (SL/SYL) held a forum on "Black Liberation Through Socialist Revolution," with guest speaker Charles Dubois, a militant auto worker from Detroit, where we announced a class-struggle contingent for the Saturday demonstration. Most of the audience stayed to make posters and calls were made to mobilize Spartacist supporters.

Mel King never showed up at the APC conference, as Boston's establishment black leadership entirely boycotted this crucial protest to stop the KKK terrorists. By 1 p.m. Saturday a few hundred anti-Klan demonstrators had gathered at City Hall. When a contingent of several dozen SL/SYL support-



WV Photos
A graphic lesson in the class nature of the state: TV shows Mayor White's cossacks attack anti-Klan protesters.

ers arrived, the police demanded that our signs be taken off the wooden sticks which are standard in Boston demonstrations. They clearly wanted protesters defenseless against what was coming. WWP spokesmen, who have frequently resorted to anti-communist violence to exclude Spartacists, this time invited the SL/SYL to join a picket line, noting that we had the largest contingent present. Many youths from white working-class districts seldom associated with anti-racist protests also showed up. One group carried a sign saying, "Dorchester and S. Boston Says Klan Keep Out." Some Irish kids brought homemade signs saying, "Ku Klux Sux" and "Fux the Klux." Mean-

while, a dozen or so PL/InCAR supporters showed up chanting "Death to the Klan." First they refused to enter the picket (by now up to 300), then briefly marched on the line only to withdraw again to the sidelines.

While the sectarian PL Stalinists have been known to leave anti-Klan protests rather than participate in any united-front action, Workers World sought to build a classic "popular front" with representatives of the capitalist class. From their podium, they called upon strikebreaking governor Ed King and mayor Kevin White to join them. All-Peoples Congress signs demanded, "Roll Back Reaganism"—a veiled call to vote Democratic in November. Most ominously, APC leaders invited Curtis Sliwa's Guardian Angels to join the line. The "Angels" are a lumpen vigilante group that stomps through New York City subways and has spread to other cities. We have called them potentially "a paramilitary auxiliary to the cops in terrorizing the ghettos" ("They're No Angels!" W/V No. 275, 27 February 1981). The sinister presence of the Guardian Angels at today's demonstration was clear; they appeared to concentrate on forming a cordon in front of PL just minutes before the Klan arrived.

As the Klan marchers neared City Hall Plaza shortly before 2 p.m., the crowd saw what was happening and the picket line broke as militants rushed up to stop the KKK. At this point Workers World bullhorns tried to stop them, saying, "Stay where you are, keep the picket line going—That's not the way to fight the Klan, stay on the picket line." Thus they proved that their call to "Stop the Klan" was just empty rhetoric. But the militant elements in the demonstration ignored their advice.

The cops were not able to drive away the anti-Klan protesters, despite their vicious attacks. At one point the cop motorcycles headed straight for the middle of the Spartacist contingent in the hopes of breaking it up. But every time there was an opening, the crowd simply flowed around the cops. After 10-15 minutes of the police riot, demonstrators returned to the plaza where many regrouped around the SL/SYL banner reading, "No Trust in Capitalist Politicians/Troops/Cops! Black/Labor Defense Against Racist Attacks!" In particular, blacks were attracted by the Spartacist soapboxing (see excerpts back page) as union militants from Detroit auto, Chicago steel and New York maritime called for class struggle to smash the fascists. Many joined in our chants, "Smash the Klan, this is the hour—Labor and blacks have got the power!"

Scandalously, at this point Bob

Avakian's Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) made common cause with anti-communist racists against the Trotskyist SL/SYL. When Spartacist supporters stressed the duty to defend the Soviet Union against Reagan's imperialist war drive, an RCP bullhorne began screaming about "Soviet social imperialism" while a clot of white punks cheered, "Right, what about Poland?" When SL comrades pointed out to black militants that the Avakianites had joined the ROAR racists in opposing busing in 1974, the RCPer stammered, "That was a wrong position." But while these "Jim Crow socialists" say they've changed their line on busing, they still line up with Ronald Reagan and the KKK on Russia.

The Battle for Boston Busing

Boston is not Klan territory, yet in recent years it has been a hotbed of racist hatred. The reason is historical. In the 1800s, rich Boston merchants refused to allow heavy industry (steel, auto) into Boston proper because "the Yankees wanted to maintain its serenity" (*Boston Globe*, 27 September). The city was scarcely touched by the CIO organizing drives of the 1930s. After the decline of textiles and shoemaking, major industry was restricted to outlying areas: General Electric in Lynn, General Motors in Framingham, General Dynamics in Quincy. Unlike Detroit and the Midwest generally, there was no mass migration from the South. So today, while non-union high-tech industries flourish along Routes 128 and 495, Boston's Irish and Italian white ghettos have an even lower standard of living than black Roxbury. Who would

San Francisco Elections

You Can't Fight Reagan with Democrats—

For Mass Strike Action to Bring Down Reagan!

Build a Workers Party!

Vote Richard Bradley

Vote Diana Coleman

Spartacist Candidates for S.F. Supervisors!

This year San Francisco voters have a chance to register principled opposition to the Democrats and Republicans, whose bipartisan program of racism, union-busting and war spells misery for working people and minorities in this country. Spartacist candidates Richard Bradley and Diana Coleman are running

for S.F. Board of Supervisors on a class-struggle program to mobilize labor and all the oppressed to fight back against union-busting and unemployment, against KKK/Nazi racist terrorism, against U.S. imperialism's anti-Soviet drive toward nuclear war.

Bradley and Coleman are campaigning "For Labor/Black Mobilizations to Stop the Klan/Nazis!" Bradley, a black activist and former auto worker, helped initiate the November 1979 Detroit rally which stopped the KKK from celebrating its Greensboro massacre. Coleman, a veteran of the women's liberation and antiwar movements and a former phone worker, was an organizer of the April 1980 mobilization which stopped the Nazis from celebrating Hitler's birthday at the S.F. Civic Center.

The American union "leaders" who do nothing to fight glivebacks and plant closings are now working overtime to turn out electoral support for the Democratic Party. Bradley and Coleman say: "You Can't Fight Reagan with Democrats!" If the front lines of Reagan's war drive are the Near East, Central America and Poland, the battleground of his domestic war on U.S. workers and minorities is the big city. And Reagan's field marshals are the Democrats like S.F. mayor Dianne Feinstein, who were there before him with the racist cutbacks, the strike-breaking, the killer cops. Bradley and Coleman stand for mass strike action to bring down Reagan. Through their campaign they are fighting for a workers party and a workers government to end exploitation and oppression through socialist revolution to achieve the class rule of the workers.

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SL calls for mass labor/black mobilization.

WV Photo

the KKK appeal to today, the Portuguese?

This history set the stage for the bitter struggle over Boston busing. In 1974, thousands of segregationist bigots led by Louise Day Hicks' ROAR marauded through South Boston and marched on City Hall denouncing "forced busing." Racist punks stoned school buses bringing courageous black children to integrate all-white schools. Paramilitary fascistic outfits like the South Boston Marshals fielded vigilante squads to terrorize minorities. It was this mobilization of race hate in Boston that spelled the defeat of school integration throughout the North.

Suburban liberals had subjected the city to a savage racial polarization by trying to bus poor blacks into the white Irish/Italian ghettos, with a plan that provided no significant educational gains. But to be for or against busing became a plebiscite on racism. As supporters of racial integration in every area of social life, the Spartacist League fought unequivocally to smash the racist offensive. We called to implement busing, even though it is a somewhat artificial democratic demand that by itself cannot bring about real integration and quality education for oppressed minorities. We called for extending busing to the suburbs and for low-rent, racially integrated public housing. As for the hard-core anti-busing bigots, said the SL, they must be crushed by "mass mobilization of black organizations, trade unions, socialist groups and all other forces prepared to defend black schoolchildren...."

Yet in the midst of this race terror, with the lives of black schoolchildren threatened, the bulk of the so-called "left" was just as treacherous as the black and white liberals. While the SL campaigned with mass leaflets for labor/black defense, the reformist Socialist Workers Party (SWP) opposed this as "make believe." The "realistic" SWP called instead for federal troops—the armed fist of the racist, capitalist state—as a "real, meaningful solution." (We pointed out that if troops were brought in, it would be to enforce a segregationist "law and order" and prevent any organized defense by black and union militants.)

Black Liberation Through Socialist Revolution

In 1974 and again today, the Boston black masses are sacrificed to racist reaction by the black and white liberals. The reformist phony socialists call on the racist, capitalist state to send troops to enforce busing (1974) and to "ban the Klan" (1982). Meanwhile, as any Marxist could have predicted, the bosses' cops and troops repeatedly attack those who fight against the race terrorists. Only the Trotskyist Spartacist League has fought for the program of independent labor/black mobilization, so sorely needed in 1974 and the key to today's victory. This



Workers World Party (left) and Progressive Labor at Boston City Hall.

WV Photo

means a struggle against the capitalist order which breeds racist reaction. Today as the KKK preys on the frustrations of poor whites suffering from massive unemployment and the catastrophic decay of American cities, the Trotskyists call for factory occupations (sitdown strikes) against plant shutdowns; for unlimited, unconditional unemployment insurance; for a 30 hour workweek for 40 hours pay and to provide jobs for all.

While "daishiki Democrats" and reformist hustlers lead the black masses down to defeat with illusions of "community control," the Spartacist League fights for a program of revolutionary integrationism and a multi-racial vanguard socialist party. We seek to harness the power of labor in the struggle for black equality, fighting within the unions against the poisonous racism which cripples united class struggle, and for a class-conscious leadership to oust the pro-capitalist bureaucrats. This is a road of long, hard struggle, to mobilize the workers movement as the vanguard of all the oppressed. But it is the only one which can liberate us all.

For labor/black mobilizations against the Klan! Break with the Democrats, black and white—Build a workers party to fight for a workers government! For black liberation through socialist revolution! ■

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Black Auto Militant on Boston Radio

Labor Must Break with the Democrats, Smash the Klan

We print below excerpts from remarks by Charles Dubois, a Detroit black auto militant who spoke at the Boston anti-Klan demonstration, on WRKO radio in Boston, October 16.

Dubois: I wanted to comment on the speaker that was speaking previously.

Moderator: Frank Neisser.

Dubois: He's from the All-Peoples Congress, right?

Moderator: That's right.

Dubois: Here's the thing about this group, you see, which had supposedly organized a "stop the Nazis" demonstration down there. The way they organized it politically leads into the Democratic Party; what they want to do is tie the working people and black people back to the Democratic Party. And what gives that away is the gentleman's statement that he was "surprised" at the police's behavior. When we organized the [November 1979] demonstration in Detroit [to stop the KKK], and also a similar thing just recently in Chicago, this last June 27 when the Nazis tried to march against the gays on Gay Pride Day, one thing you have to take into consideration is the police. It's all this liberal claptrap about being surprised at the police's behavior, and the whole question of "free speech for the Nazis."

Moderator: You consider that liberal claptrap, free speech?

Dubois: Look, the Nazis or the Klan do not organize for free speech. They did not debate with the people in Greensboro. They shot them down in the broad light of day. [**Moderator:** Right.] You see, that's what they will do to us when they can actually get away with it.

Moderator: Unless you get them first?

Dubois: Unless we stop them. And that's what was important about today. Because people turned out in massive numbers, I guess to the tune of 1,000 people. This is very important, because if they [the Klan] had gotten away with marching today, unopposed... in fact, they got run out. You see, Boston was the city where busing got killed in the streets, which has set the climate for what's going on in America today. In terms of not only Ronald Reagan, also Jimmy Carter [whose] talk about "ethnic purity" was right after busing [was killed].

Moderator: I'd like to know your view of the actions of the individuals in Channel 4 studio the other day, specifically throwing eggs at [KKK "Imperial Wizard"] Bill Wilkinson and throwing a

punch at him. Were those techniques that you feel are going to get the cause of racial harmony anywhere?

Dubois: First, we're talking about tactics, and tactics flow from strategy. We say that only labor and black mobilizations can stop these people.

Moderator: Does physical violence have a place in a practical assault on racism?

Dubois: Self-defense has a practical purpose and in fact is essential and effective in stopping race terrorism. These people don't organize and march to just speak. Like in Greensboro, or like in Chattanooga, back in 1979, when they assaulted two black women. That's not free speech. What is key for black people and working people in this country to understand is that we must organize self-defense in the form of workers defense guards.

Moderator: Well, you know something, Charles. I'm going for a moment to play-act the role of a white supremacist, take what you just said as spoken by a white supremacist. If I don't take my gun and go shoot the niggers, they're going to come rape my wife and daughter and take all my worldly goods, so it's self-defense.

Dubois: Let's look at what's really going on. That doesn't happen. What does happen is the Klan murders people.

Moderator: So what's their justification?

Dubois: I don't care about their justification; their justification is the fact that they stand for the racist, capitalist system. I think that workers and blacks have to defend themselves. Look, it relates to the question that the person two speakers ago asked about the Panthers, saying that the so-called "extremist" groups...

Moderator: He thinks they're just as wrong as the Klan.

Dubois: [...equating the] Panthers with the Klan. It's typical liberal moralism, when people look at all things as being equal. All things are not equal. The Panthers didn't go around bombing churches and killing little schoolgirls. They were not involved in race-terror. They advocated self-defense, and the police/FBI organized terror against them. The police and the FBI do not organize terror against the Klan, because the Klan stands for the racist status quo. And what that means is we have to finish what the Civil War didn't finish.

Moderator: You've made it quite clear where you stand. I thank you. ■



WV Photo

First They Tried to Kill Our Comrades Morenoite Deadly Lies

Before Stalin had Leon Trotsky assassinated, he claimed that the great communist revolutionary, founder of the Red Army and co-leader with Lenin of the Russian Revolution, was an agent of the Nazis and the Mikado. (During the Hitler-Stalin Pact, of course, it was supposed to be "agent of Roosevelt and Churchill.") In the United States the Stalinists launched goon attacks trying to silence the Trotskyists, while instigating red-baiters in the unions and the capitalist state to employ naked repression against supposed "fifth columnists." This ultimately led to the jailing of the Minneapolis 18, Trotskyists railroaded by the government in league with the Teamster bureaucracy of Daniel Tobin.

These methods of the Big Lie, murderous provocation and frame-up are now the modus operandi of Nicholas Kramer, the strutting boss of the Los Angeles-based Internationalist Workers Party (IWP), and of his mentor Nahuel Moreno. The Morenoites have been stung by the exposure of their political banditry, their endless violations of proletarian morality and virulent anti-Sovietism by the Trotskyists of the Spartacist League (SL). In their frenzy

to "get the Sparts," Kramer & Co. have linked up with some big-time witch-hunters. But it's open to question whether the Morenoites or their allies are the more sinister.

On October 2, IWP thugs in Los Angeles carried out an attack with a deadly weapon on SL supporters protesting outside a supposedly "public" IWP meeting from which we had been excluded. Kramer himself aimed a murderous blow at the head of a militant phone worker (see "Attempted Murder!" *WV* No. 315, 15 October). Then the Morenoites put out a slander sheet retailing every lie by U.S. reformists against the Trotskyist SL and throwing in their own fabrications to pepper the sauce, in order to smear the targets of their vicious assault. Now the IWP would-be killers have embarked on a McCarthyite purge campaign in league with the most rabid anti-communists in the American labor movement, the bureaucracy of the Communications Workers of America (CWA), against class-struggle unionists and *Workers Vanguard*, the newspaper of the Spartacist League. The spectacle of the hammer-wielding Morenoite goons and the CIA-connected CWA

tops posing as innocent victims and defenders of workers democracy is something like genocidal Cambodian ex-tyrant Pol Pot organizing a war crimes tribunal.

For all their macho posturing and gangsterism, Nicholas Kramer and his "Internationalist Workers Party" are extremely tender when it comes to political debate. And no wonder. With an international *líder máximo* who is a well-known swindler and thief—whose political course zigzags from Peronism to Castroism to Maoism to social democracy to Sandinismo to support for the bloody Argentine military dictatorship—they find it desperately necessary to hide the facts of their own history. In fact they are willing to kill to suppress the truth and to quarantine their members from the Trotskyism of the Spartacist League. (For further information about the checkered career of Nahuel Moreno, see our *Moreno Truth Kit*, available from the Spartacist Publishing Company.)

Big Lies and Total Fabrications

Most smear jobs throw in a sprinkling of facts to give a veneer of plausibility to

their lies. Not Nicholas Kramer. The two-page IWP printed leaflet justifying its October 2 assault on the SL, "Self-Defense Group Defeats Attack on Workers' Meeting in Los Angeles," is an unbroken string of fabrications out of the whole cloth. No, we did not physically attack their meeting or use force to enter the building. No, we did not refuse to pay the admission price. No, we did not physically attack a woman, Anna Ramirez, at the ticket table, nor did SL supporters try to attack a Latina IWP'er on August 21. And we didn't threaten to call the police. Quite the contrary. The IWP refused to let our comrades enter and slammed the doors to the room when we chanted "political exclusion." They said only two SLers would be permitted to buy tickets to this "public" event. As for Kramer's mythical "large number of workers who had come to attend the event" who spontaneously "organized a self-defense squad to expel the aggressors from the building," this was an armed goon squad which showed up at the event with lethal weapons. They attacked SL protesters without provocation.

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Spartacists Defend Argentine Workers

Morenoites Front for Bloody Junta

What is Nicholas Kramer's Internationalist Workers Party (IWP) and whose interests does it serve? The fundamental political line of this centrist-talking, Los Angeles-based group is a left-wing version of Latin American nationalism. The IWP is an offshoot of the current led by Argentine adventurer Nahuel Moreno, a notorious political quick-change artist who switches his line so often that we have dubbed him the Cantinflas of pseudo-Trotskyism. And it is in his Argentine habitat that Moreno's treacherous reformism is most starkly revealed. His despicable support to the murderous Galtieri junta in its South Atlantic war with Margaret Thatcher's Britain should repel all class-conscious workers. To justify this betrayal, Kramer resorts to wholesale lying about the internationalist line of the Trotskyists. This textbook example of Morenoite slander ominously prefigured their potentially murderous assault on supporters of the Spartacist League (SL).

The June issue of the IWP's newspaper carried a polemic entitled "The 'Left' Wing of Imperialism," with a second headline, "Social Democrats, Maoists, PLP and Spartacists in the Military Camp of Reagan and Thatcher." Thus the IWP cynically lumps together reformist supporters of "democratic" (or at least anti-Soviet) imperialism with the communist SL, which called for the defeat of both reactionary regimes in the bloody Falklands/Malvinas diversion. To back up their amalgam, the Morenoites make the incredible claim:

"And by the way, where were PLP, the Spartacist League, the RCP and the

social democracy in the struggle against the Galtieri dictatorship in Argentina? Quite simply, none of these organizations ever published a single article or carried out any campaign against the Argentine dictatorship before the war with England. Just like their newspapers, the bourgeois and imperialist press has now discovered that under the Galtieri dictatorship human rights were violated."

—*El Bolchevique*, June 1982

Not only is this slander of the SL a demonstrable lie, it is a cynical attempt to hide the Morenoites' own record of alibiing the murderous junta. Where was the Spartacist League? On the front lines, in fact leading those who denounced the Argentine military butchers from the very moment of the Videla coup in March 1976. No articles, no campaign? On the contrary, when the pro-junta Stalinists and the bourgeois liberals tried to cover up the reign of terror engulfing Argentina we were the ones, in the United States and internationally, who exposed the bloody reality as part of our campaign to free Chilean union leader Mario Muñoz, then being held in one of Videla's prison camps.

Beginning with our article "Military Coup in Argentina—Down with the Junta! For Workers Revolution!" *Workers Vanguard* published no less than 15 articles on Argentina in 1976 alone, in addition to another 21 articles on the Muñoz campaign! The headlines alone tell the story: "The Bloody Repression Behind 'Gentleman's Coup' in Argentina," "Rightist Terror Stalks Argentina," "Argentine Junta Tightens Bloody Grip." We published lengthy interviews with those who had escaped the junta's hellhole ("Life in Videla's



Spartacist League campaign against junta terror in Argentina, 1976.

Jails") and with lawyers who had gone to Buenos Aires to investigate the horror ("There's a Bloodbath Going on in Argentina"). We broke the news in the U.S. of 20,000-30,000 Argentine leftists seized by the military, and as

many as 1,300 Chilean refugees sent back to Pinochet's torturers. We called and participated in scores of anti-junta protests.

More than any other individual, continued on page 14

Los Angeles Phone Militant Says: Stop the Witchhunt Against MAC!

We reprint below a leaflet issued by Los Angeles phone union militant Larry Ackerson on October 25 in reply to a witchhunting campaign launched by CWA Local 11502 president Janice Wood. Ackerson was the target of an assault with lethal weapons by the International Workers Party, followers of Argentine pseudo-Trotskyist Nahuel Moreno.

* * * * *

Last week I attended the October 21 membership meeting of Local 11502. At that meeting president Janice Wood rammed through a dirty lying motion aimed against members of the Militant Action Caucus (MAC) and against *Workers Vanguard*, a socialist newspaper. The motion not only defended the scabbing of Jim Green, a CWA member and steward (who daily crosses the AFL-CIO-sanctioned IATSE picket line at Group W Cable), but also his role in a potentially murderous attack carried out by the Morenoite International Workers Party (IWP) at a misnamed "public" meeting October 2. Green was part of a goon squad armed with claw hammers and other weapons that prevented unionists and socialists from entering this "public" forum. Green personally took part in the goon squad's assault on myself and others who were there protesting exclusion and violation of workers democracy. I bore the brunt of this assault. A hammer blow was aimed at my head, which missed my head and struck me on the shoulder. I was struck on the head with a martial arts weapon, a numchaku. Luckily my skull wasn't cracked but my injuries did require hospital attention. This attack is documented in photographs as is Green's role in it.

Now Green and his cohorts are compounding their crimes by slandering the targets of their goon attack. And union president Wood is backing them up with suppression and outright physical intimidation. At the October 21 union meeting, the exec board brought in a motion in the service of Green and fellow scab Elizabeth Wiatr which sought to alibi their scabbing and attacked as "slandorous lies" *Workers Vanguard's* truthful account of the October 2 IWP meeting. After presenting this outrageous motion—asking Local 11502 members to take a position on what happened at a meeting of a left group most of them never heard of—Wood basically filibustered until a few minutes before the meeting was ended. The atmosphere created by Wood's remarks was one of witchhunting hysteria as *Workers Vanguard* was denounced, slandered, threatened with legal action in the bosses' courts; Wood said she wished something could be done to stop *Workers Vanguard* from selling outside our union meetings. Then she turned the floor over to Green for an unrestrained barrage of total fabrications about the October 2 meeting and vicious cop-baiting slanders. A MAC supporter was not permitted to respond, a vote was quickly rammed through and the meeting hastily adjourned.

Why is Wood so ready to whitewash a cowardly thug, liar and scab like Green before the membership? In order to obscure her culpability in keeping the company's job-slashing plans hidden from the membership.

Wood sits on a powder keg in this local. PT&T has formally announced its intention to destroy the livelihood of at

least 1,700 phone workers. With 10-plus percent unemployment on the one hand, increasing company harassment, forced transfers, downgrades, layoffs and firings on the other, the potential for a militant response to the company's attacks, as happened recently in Riverside and San Diego, is more and more a reality.

MAC warned of the impending company attacks last April after president Wood spilled the beans at an April 14' stewards meeting. When MAC printed this information and called for an immediate fight against the layoffs, Janice Wood denounced the leaflet as a pack of lies. In San Francisco CWA, MAC member Kathy Ikegami is being

ber Kathy Ikegami on trial for her political views. This purge trial grew out of Imerzel's vendetta against an April MAC leaflet exposing his and Wood's policy of covering up for the impending job cuts.

Kathy was elected by members of the local as an alternative to Imerzel's pro-Watts, pro-Democratic Party, pro-company leadership. Imerzel's initial claim for the trial was that Kathy was not carrying out her duties as an executive board member. The real problem for Imerzel is that Kathy was carrying out her duties the way MAC thinks a union representative should—by telling union members the truth, by urging a fight against Ma Bell to save

forward he leered at Britton and asked, "Do you support the political views of Leon Trotsky?" So what if she does? I think our union would be a thousand times better off if it were run by a leadership that did, rather than the weak, sniveling, pro-CIA, pro-company bureaucrats that run it now.

What Imerzel's trial and Wood's recent actions have in common is trying to make an issue out of the well-known fact that Kathy Ikegami, myself and many other members of the Militant Action Caucus are supporters of the political positions of the Spartacist League which publishes *Workers Vanguard*. *Workers Vanguard* is an honest paper written from the standpoint of the



Claw-hammer murder attempt (see arrow) on militant phone worker Larry Ackerson.

WV Photos

subjected to a political purge trial for having brought our union leadership's collusion with Ma Bell's job-cutting to the attention of CWA members there.

But MAC's charges have already been shown to be true! PT&T now openly declares these plans, some of which have been known to our local leadership for months.

On March 30, 1982, CWA District 9 official R.W. Rivers sent a letter to "all PT&T and Bell of Nevada local presidents—subject: distribution services, CEA/I&M-forced surplus in 1982 and 1983." The punch line of this letter is the same as recent company announcements: "it is inevitable that some of our people face choices between unattractive options.... If the available options are unacceptable some may have to choose separation or retirement." Such "unattractive options" include "involuntary resignation" of employees in Riverside who refused to take a \$130 a week pay cut for a job 100 miles away. So I ask, "Who was really lying, Janice?"

As it has become more obvious to the membership of Local 11502 that MAC was right in pointing out the union leadership's fronting for the company, Wood's attacks on the MAC have escalated. It is common in union meetings for Wood and her thought-police to use red-baiting worthy of Joe McCarthy and Ronald Reagan.

The Wood witchhunt in Local 11502 is an extension of the elaborate purge trial in San Francisco. The recent red-baiting attacks in Oakland, San Francisco and L.A. are being orchestrated from the upper echelons of the CWA. At the CWA Convention in Detroit last July, Watts closed the last session with: Get MAC!

In my old Local 9410 (San Francisco), president James Imerzel has put executive board member, convention delegate, steward and MAC mem-

SL pickets
protest anti-
communist
exclusion
moments
before
murderous
attack.



our jobs, by speaking out at the last union convention against the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD, the CIA's labor front through which our union makes itself an accomplice of union-busting and murderous reaction in Latin America and all over the world).

Last week I myself witnessed part of Imerzel's insulting show trial, an outrageous violation of the rights of Kathy Ikegami and the union members who elected her to represent them. The fact that this is a kangaroo court has also been obvious to other union members attending. Imerzel asks all the questions, responds to all the testimony, and decides the validity of objections. The "trial" court judges say nothing, as does his trial court chair and sometime girlfriend, Olga Vargas. All of these people are hand-picked by Imerzel and run on various slates for office with him. On Wednesday October 20, Barbara Britton of the L.A. MAC testified about Wood's change of story concerning her report to the April 14 stewards meeting. Before his cross-examination Imerzel announced that he was going to refute the statement that he was running a McCarthyite witchhunt trial. Leaning

working class and all the oppressed. It is the paper that told the truth about Ma Bell's job-cutting schemes, the paper that brought the news about the Kathy Ikegami show trial to phone workers here in L.A. It is the only paper to actively combat the lie that the Democratic Party is a friend of the working people and to expose the link between the union bureaucrats' pro-Democrat, pro-Cold War policies and their refusal to lead the unions into action against the bosses and against Reagan's union-busting, the racist cutbacks, etc. It is the paper that says, "Picket Lines Mean Don't Cross," the paper that fights for mass mobilizations of labor and minorities against the KKK and Nazi race-terrorists. It is a newspaper I am proud of.

What *Workers Vanguard* wrote about Green and his friends' violent assault at the October 2 IWP meeting was also nothing but the truth. And it is strange and sinister that union president Wood felt it advisable to jump into a dispute between leftist groups (on the wrong side, of course). Why did she? Was it just vulnerability to the questions of scabbing and job-cutting raised by

continued on page 15

Spartacist Candidates in S.F. Elections

Vote Coleman and Bradley!

SAN FRANCISCO—Two years ago many traditionally Democratic workers were so fed up with conditions under Carter (runaway inflation, mass unemployment) that they voted for Reagan or stayed home. Now that things have gotten even worse—in fact, the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression—the Democrats and their friends the labor bureaucrats are telling the workers, in effect, that they got what they deserved and should return to the fold. But the worldwide depression shows the problem isn't just "Reaganomics," it's the capitalist system—a system which the Kennedys and Mondales defend as ruthlessly as Reagan. While the liberals and reformists are rebuilding the classical "popular front coalition," Spartacist candidates for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors say: "You Can't Fight Reagan with Democrats—For Mass Strike Action to Bring Down Reagan! Build a Workers Party!" And their message is getting through.

The Spartacist candidates have concentrated on the black and working-class areas of the city. We have gone to shipyard workers, phone workers, longshoremen, transit drivers, supermarkets and banks in black neighborhoods with our call. The Coleman/Bradley campaign against both the capitalist parties has attracted wide attention and publicity this year. The socialist union militants have appeared on two local TV stations, at least five radio stations, and their successful suit against the political censorship and slander of the Spartacist candidates by the Registrar of Voters was covered in both major dailies, the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Examiner*.

Richard Bradley often tells labor audiences and journalists that the first thing he would do if elected is take down the Confederate flag, symbol of slavery, that has flown for years in a flag display over the San Francisco Civic Center. Word must have gotten back to City Hall, because that flag was taken down before this Sunday, October 24, when the labor marchers arrived.

Last year, after 32 years' absence, San Francisco labor leaders revived the tradition of a Labor Day march. (ILWU head Jimmy Herman commented, "There is a lot of pressure from the bottom, a lot of discontent.") In 1982, the AFL-CIO, Teamsters and ILWU had 20,000 unionists march up Market Street for the Democrats on the eve of the elections, under a thin veneer of non-partisanship, "Vote Labor for Jobs and Justice." "The intent is to get out the vote," said ILWU's Dan Beagle, "We're basically supporting the Democratic slate in this election."

All the same, the union tops were afraid to let Republican or Democratic candidates speak at the rally, remembering what happened last year when former VP Fritz Mondale and SF mayor Dianne Feinstein were vigorously booed. Rally speakers Lane Kirkland, Jimmy Herman and Ed Asner urged, "Fight Reagan...on November 2." What candidates could they risk putting up at the microphone? Democrat-mystic Jerry Brown who tells working people, "Small is beautiful"? Black Democratic Los Angeles mayor Tom Bradley, career veteran of the racist chokehold-killing LAPD? Even the media had difficulty politically distinguishing law-and-order Bradley from his law-and-order opponent for govern-



Spartacist candidates take program of class struggle to black and working-class areas: Bethlehem shipyards (top left and bottom right), with phone workers (bottom left), at SF State University (middle right).

You Can't Fight Reagan with Democrats! For Mass Strike Action to Bring Down Reagan! Build a Workers Party!

nor, state attorney general George Deukmejian: both support the death penalty and both plan to get the unemployed off the streets by sponsoring mammoth bond propositions to build more jails.

No to the Gun Ban—for the Right of Self-Defense!

A major issue in the election has been gun control. Mayor Feinstein's total ban and confiscation of handguns in SF left the citizenry, particularly blacks, helpless before the killer cops and the crazies. Meanwhile, Feinstein (who had the confiscated guns melted down and molded into a cross which she gave to the pope!) is driving around town in a limousine with armed bodyguards. Recently, the local gun ban was overturned on appeal, but Proposition 15 is on the ballot to outlaw most pistol sales in California, freeze gun ownership to the ones already owned and mandate prison terms for those caught with unregistered

handguns. Coleman/Bradley say, "No to Prop 15—For the right of black armed self-defense!"

That gun control leaves all those on Reagan's hit list defenseless was seen as the shotgun terrorists and nightriders surfaced last year in Contra Costa County to drive three black families from their homes. On September 1, the NAACP announced a settlement in its suit for damages against the Richmond police for "negligence" in protecting these families, a settlement hailed as an "historic pact" by the Communist Party (CP) of Angela Davis. Some victory—when the families were forced to sell their homes and flee the county long before the lawsuit ever came up in court! And what will more cop "protection" mean from the same police who just beat black prisoner Willie Drumgoole to death in his Richmond cell!

Consistent with their calls to rely on the bourgeois state for protection against the race-terrorists, both the CP

and black Democrat/DSAer Ron Delums advocate legislation to "ban the Klan." Well, they got it. A bill outlawing "extremist" groups originally initiated by Deukmejian and introduced by black Democratic state senator Diane Watson, just passed the California legislature. Last January the Spartacist League denounced the bill as setting "the legal framework for police action against the left."

Witchhunter Deukmejian proved his intentions when he slandered the Spartacist League as "terrorists" in a 1979 Report on Organized Crime in California, a label which set us up to be gunned down in the streets. Coleman and Bradley worked on a campaign of public protest and legal redress which beat that lie and forced Deukmejian to retract. But the state of Reagan, of Jerry Brown, of Tom Bradley and Deukmejian can only be "relied upon" to defend the race-terrorists. Bradley and Coleman call for

continued on page 12

San Francisco Democrats' "Dirty Tricks"

Spartacist Candidates Beat Back

Elections Censorship/Slander

SAN FRANCISCO, October 22—The city thought they could get away with knocking the political guts out of the Spartacist campaign for Board of Supervisors and help the Democrats by censoring the campaign literature and ballots of candidates Diana Coleman and Richard Bradley. But they were dead wrong. Today, in a court-ordered agreement the Spartacist candidates won their demands for reasonable redress of this gross violation of democratic rights. The Registrar of Voters was ordered to correct the candidates' ballot designation in every voting booth, mail out their corrected political statements to all 300,000 legal registered voters of San Francisco, and to make public notice in the major newspapers. Nobody could recall such a gross case of tampering with candidates' statements.

The candidates sued Jay Patterson, Registrar of Voters, charging political censorship after his office mailed out political statements of all the candidates which deleted all references to "Democrats" from the Spartacist political statements and the word "socialist" from the ballot designation. Where Bradley had proclaimed, "Democrats—enemies of labor/minorities," the statement was doctored to read: "enemies of labor/minorities," a particularly dirty trick to make it appear as if Bradley, himself a black activist and ten-year union militant, was calling himself an anti-labor racist!

Coleman and Bradley are the only candidates campaigning against the Democrats. As Coleman said at a victory press conference, October 21:

"My statement which is supposed to read, 'Break with the Democrats—build a workers party,' has been changed to

Candidate Richard Bradley: city tried to slander ten-year union militant and black activist as "enemies of labor/minorities." They didn't get away with it.



'Break with *blank*, build a workers party.' So the heart of our program which is that we are socialists who say you can't fight Reagan with Democrats, was cut out of our statement."

Patterson claimed it was a "typo" and a "misinterpretation of the law." But we had documentary evidence that references to the Democrats had been allowed in previous candidates' statements, and a proof sheet of the ballot designations with the words "socialist union militants"—demonstrating that there had been deliberate censorship. But it is no accident that the working-class socialist candidates were singled out for political censorship. Dianne Feinstein doesn't get her ballot censored.

Deleting the critical references to the Democratic Party and the word "socialist" from Bradley and Coleman's ballot

designation clearly benefits the Democratic Party in its campaign to present itself as the "friend of labor and minorities" and the only alternative to Reagan. This pro-Democratic Party bias was underlined by the refusal of every member of the Board of Supervisors contacted to lift a finger to help this suit in defense of democratic rights. Their "I got mine" attitude was openly expressed by liberal Democratic supervisor Richard Hongisto, who asked Coleman, "Why should I politically aid people who are trying to take my job?"

Throughout the proceedings the behavior of the registrar and his assistant graphically demonstrated their contempt for socialist and working-class candidates, and showed the conscious motivation for their action. The registrar said he didn't think the correction was "worth it." And even after the settlement was ordered by the judge he did not want to comply. When it became clear that the candidates' socialist program was going to be mailed, his assistant, Michelle Corwin stated, "You mean, we have to print this crap?"

The settlement is a victory not only for the Bradley/Coleman campaign but for the democratic rights of all leftists, workers and minorities. Sponsors of the Spartacist candidates and supporters of the campaign came to court prepared to testify against this outrage.

This suit was endorsed by Matt Ayon (secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 9), Dr. Steve Becker (director, Home Care Program, UC Medical Center), Manuel Ceballos (vice president, Mexican American Political Association), Jacquelyn Clark (executive board member, ILWU Local 6), Greg Day (candidate for Board of Supervisors), Stan Gow (executive board member, ILWU Local 10), Paul Harris (past president, National Lawyers Guild), Kathy Ikegami (executive board member, Communications Workers of America, Local 9410), Paul Kangas (candidate for Board of Equalization), Mike Kasian (executive board member, ILWU Local 6), and Howard Wallace (community organizer and labor activist) [material in parentheses for purposes of identification only].

As Coleman and Bradley have been saying to San Francisco workers throughout the campaign: "You don't get anything unless you struggle"—including democratic rights. And the message ought to be clear to those who

City OKs fix of goof on socialist vote statement

By Amy Linn
Examiner staff writer

San Francisco Examiner

S.F. Will Fix Errors On Two Candidates

Two Spartacist candidates for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors won an out-of-court settlement yesterday that calls for the city to spend \$40,000 to correct errors about them printed in the voters' handbooks.

Richard Bradley and Diana Coleman had sued Registrar of Voters Jay Patterson for deleting the word "Democrats" from the political statements allowed each candidate. They also charged that the designation "Socialist Union Militants" which they wanted placed under their names on the sample ballot had been changed to "Social Union Militant."

"This is a blatant case of political censorship," said Coleman in a statement.

Karen Coshak, Coleman's campaign manager, said the Spartacists are a local group affiliated with the national Spartacist Party. They regard themselves as a labor-socialist organization. Their program is to mobilize the working class through the unions.

In their lawsuit, the two charged violations of the election code and demanded that all ballots for next month's election be reprinted.

Under the settlement worked out between the city attorney's office and the candidates' lawyer, the city will have to send out notices to all registered voters correcting the mistakes. Patterson estimates that notices will have to be sent to 300,000 households.

According to Patterson, a printer's error was responsible for changing the word "Socialist" to "Social."

Patterson did acknowledge that he misinterpreted the election code by deleting the word "Democrats" from the phrase that was supposed to read "Democrats, Enemies of labor/minorities!" from Bradley's statement and from the phrase that said "Break with Democrats, build a worker's party!" from Coleman's statement.

Patterson said he thought the election code prevented candidates from mentioning political

San Francisco Chronicle

SF press (21 October) covers outrageous censorship as "goof."

are trying to stop the Bradley/Coleman campaign and the Spartacist League from getting its program to the working class and minorities—don't try it! The point was made by Diana Coleman at the press conference which announced the court-ordered settlement:

"Now these measures are the minimum necessary to insure our democratic right to present our uncensored views to the voters. And they are the minimum necessary to allow the voters to exercise their democratic rights to know our views and to vote for us if they so desire. We think it's a shame that someone in the Registrar of Voters office, by their stupid and misplaced malice towards us is going to cost the citizens of San Francisco approximately \$60,000. That is very unfortunate. But we have a message to the voters and that message is going to get out. We are campaigning as the revolutionary class-struggle alternative to the Democratic and Republican parties of capitalist austerity, racism and imperialist war." ■

City and County of San Francisco

Registrar of Voters



ERRATA

This mailing supplements the San Francisco Voter Information Pamphlet already mailed to you. Below are printed the statements of Board of Supervisors candidates Richard Bradley and Diana Coleman as originally submitted. The underlined material was erroneously deleted in their statements as printed in the Voter Pamphlet. Also enclosed you will find the corrected ballot designations for candidates Bradley and Coleman.

RICHARD BRADLEY

My address is 1726 Grove Street
My occupation is Building Maintenance Mechanic
My age is 32

My qualifications for office are: Supporter Spartacist, labor/socialists who mobilized to stop Nazi provocation against gays—Chicago, 1982. Ten years UAW militant. Black activist. South Carolina desegregation struggles, 1964-67. Oppose anti-Soviet war preparations/austerity drive! Not a man or penny to imperialist armed forces! Military victory to Salvadoran killists! Israeli/imperialist troops out of Lebanon! Democrats—enemies of labor/minorities! Build a workers' party! Strike action to bring down Reagan! Jobs for all, decent housing, free medical, childcare, education, transit! Stop INS raids—citizenship rights for undocumented workers! No gun control! Smash Nazi/Klan terror! Throw out bosses—establish workers' government!

Richard Bradley

DIANA COLEMAN

My address is 603 Kansas Street
My occupation is Letter Carrier
My age is 36

My qualifications for office are: Supporter Spartacist, labor/socialists who organized stopping Nazi celebration of Hitler's birthday, San Francisco 1980. Union militant, six years CWA, Member National Association Letter Carriers. Break with Democrats—build a workers' party! Strike action to bring down Reagan! No gun control—labor/black defense against Klan/Nazi terror! For massive public works under union control! Jobs for all, decent housing, free medical care, childcare, education, transit! Full equality—minorities, women, homosexuals! Citizenship rights for undocumented workers! From Afghanistan to Poland to El Salvador—down with Reagan's anti-Soviet war drive! Throw out the capitalists! Seize banks, industry—no compensation! Establish workers' government!

Diana Coleman

RICHARD BRADLEY
Socialist Union Militant/Militante de Unión Socialista 社會主義聯盟鬥士

DIANA COLEMAN
Socialist Union Militant/Militante de Unión Socialista 社會主義聯盟鬥士

II

The name of PHILLIP BURTON was incorrectly spelled on page 3 of the sample ballot. His name should also be added to the list of supporters of the argument in favor of Proposition A on page 45.

III

Your polling place may have changed. Please refer to the address label on the reverse side

Registrar ordered by court to send this uncensored statement to all 300,000 voters in San Francisco.

29 OCTOBER 1982

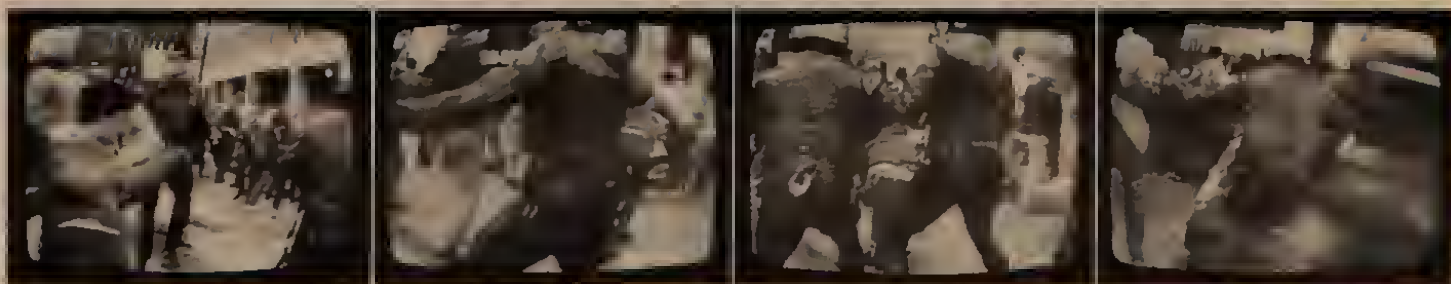
KKK Run Out...

(continued from page 1)

members of the Progressive Labor Party (PL) and its International Committee Against Racism (InCAR) rose from the audience and pelted Wilkinson's pin-striped suit with eggs. One PL supporter made it to the stage and tried to throw a few punches as the show stopped. Infuriated, the KKK terrorist leader on Friday morning demanded the arrest of the anti-racist protesters and vowed to stage a provocation the next day by parading in full Klan regalia.

In response to Wilkinson's threat, PL/InCAR announced a counterdemonstration at City Hall Plaza. Later Friday afternoon the All-Peoples Congress (APC), a vehicle for the Workers World Party (WWP), announced an anti-Klan rally at the same time and place. An APC leaflet advertised a noon Saturday press conference with black State Representative Mel King. (The NAACP closed down its office and told people to stay home on the 16th.) On Friday evening, the Spartacist League/Spartacus Youth League (SL/SYL) held a forum on "Black Liberation Through Socialist Revolution," with guest speaker Charles Dubois, a militant auto worker from Detroit, where we announced a class-struggle contingent for the Saturday demonstration. Most of the audience stayed to make posters and calls were made to mobilize Spartacist supporters.

Mel King never showed up at the APC conference, as Boston's establishment black leadership entirely boycotted this crucial protest to stop the KKK terrorists. By 1 p.m. Saturday a few hundred anti-Klan demonstrators had gathered at City Hall. When a contingent of several dozen SL/SYL supporters arrived, the police demanded that our signs be taken off the wooden sticks which are standard in Boston demonstrations. They clearly wanted protesters defenseless against what was coming. WWP spokesmen, who have frequently resorted to anti-communist violence to exclude Spartacists, this time invited the SL/SYL to join a picket line, noting that we had the largest contingent present. Many youths from white working-class districts seldom associated with anti-racist protests also showed up. One group carried a sign saying, "Dorchester and S. Boston Says Klan Keep Out." Some Irish kids



A graphic lesson in the class nature of the state: TV shows Mayor White's cossacks attack anti-Klan protesters.

brought homemade signs saying, "Ku Klux Sux" and "Fux the Klux." Meanwhile, a dozen or so PL/InCAR supporters showed up chanting "Death to the Klan." First they refused to enter the picket (by now up to 300), then briefly marched on the line only to withdraw again to the sidelines.

While the sectarian PL Stalinists have been known to leave anti-Klan protests rather than participate in any united-front action, Workers World sought to build a classic "popular front" with representatives of the capitalist class. From their podium, they called upon strikebreaking governor Ed King and mayor Kevin White to join them. All-Peoples Congress signs demanded, "Roll Back Reaganism"—a veiled call to vote Democratic in November. Most ominously, APC leaders invited Curtis Sliwa's Guardian Angels to join the line. The "Angels" are a lumpen vigilante group that stomps through New York City subways and has spread to other cities. We have called them potentially "a paramilitary auxiliary to the cops in terrorizing the ghettos" ("They're No Angels!" *WW* No. 275, 27 February 1981). The sinister presence of the Guardian Angels at today's demonstration was clear; they appeared to concentrate on forming a cordon in front of PL just minutes before the

Klan arrived.

As the Klan marchers neared City Hall Plaza shortly before 2 p.m., the crowd saw what was happening and the picket line broke as militants rushed up to stop the KKK. At this point Workers World bullhorners tried to stop them, saying, "Stay where you are, keep the picket line going—That's not the way to fight the Klan, stay on the picket line." Thus they proved that their call to "Stop the Klan" was just empty rhetoric. But the militant elements in the demonstration ignored their advice.

The cops were not able to drive away the anti-Klan protesters, despite their vicious attacks. At one point the cop motorcycles headed straight for the middle of the Spartacist contingent in the hopes of breaking it up. But every time there was an opening, the crowd simply flowed around the cops. After 10-15 minutes of the police riot, demonstrators returned to the plaza where many regrouped around the SL/SYL banner reading, "No Trust in Capitalist Politicians/Troops/Cops! Black/Labor Defense Against Racist Attacks!" In particular, blacks were attracted by the Spartacist soapboxing (see excerpts back page) as union militants from Detroit auto, Chicago steel and New York maritime called for class struggle to smash the fascists. Many joined in our chants, "Smash the Klan, this is the hour—Labor and blacks have got the power!"

Scandalously, at this point Bob Avakian's Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) made common cause with anti-communist racists against the Trotskyist SL/SYL. When Spartacist supporters stressed the duty to defend the Soviet Union against Reagan's imperialist war drive, an RCP bullhorn began screaming about "Soviet social imperialism" while a clot of white punks cheered, "Right, what about Poland?" When SL comrades pointed out to black militants that the Avakianites had joined the ROAR racists in opposing busing in 1974, the RCP'er stammered, "That was a wrong position." But while these "Jim Crow socialists" say they've changed their line on busing, they still line up with Ronald Reagan and the KKK on Russia.

The Battle for Boston Busing

Boston is not Klan territory, yet in recent years it has been a hotbed of racist hatred. The reason is historical. In the 1800s, rich Boston merchants refused to allow heavy industry (steel, auto) into Boston proper because "the Yankees wanted to maintain its serenity" (*Boston Globe*, 27 September). The city was scarcely touched by the CIO organizing drives of the 1930s. After the decline of textiles and shoemaking,

major industry was restricted to outlying areas: General Electric in Lynn, General Motors in Framingham, General Dynamics in Quincy. Unlike Detroit and the Midwest generally, there was no mass migration from the South. So today, while non-union high-tech industries flourish along Routes 128 and 495, Boston's Irish and Italian white ghettos have an even lower standard of living than black Roxbury. Who would the KKK appeal to today, the Portuguese?

This history set the stage for the bitter struggle over Boston busing. In 1974, thousands of segregationist bigots led by Louise Day Hicks' ROAR marauded through South Boston and marched on City Hall denouncing "forced busing." Racist punks stoned school buses bringing courageous black children to integrate all-white schools. Paramilitary fascistic outfits like the South Boston Marshals fielded vigilante squads to terrorize minorities. It was this mobilization of race hate in Boston that spelled the defeat of school integration throughout the North.

Suburban liberals had subjected the city to a savage racial polarization by trying to bus poor blacks into the white Irish/Italian ghettos, with a plan that provided no significant educational gains. But to be for or against busing became a plebiscite on racism. As supporters of racial integration in every area of social life, the Spartacist League fought unequivocally to smash the racist offensive. We called to implement busing, even though it is a somewhat artificial democratic demand that by itself cannot bring about real integration and quality education for op-



BOSTON COMMON, 12 OCTOBER 1974

Spartacist contingent at protest against rising tide of racist anti-busing mobilizations, terror against black schoolchildren, stoning of school buses. While Democrats in Congress echoed the anti-busing program of racist mobs on the streets, and black Democrats and reformists called for troops and cops to protect Boston blacks, the SL's call upon trade unions and blacks to build integrated defense squads was

seen around the world.

The SL was the only organization on the left which consistently and unambiguously struggled to support busing (and its extension to the suburbs), stood against the call for government troops, and called for labor/black defense of the bused schoolchildren and black areas (such as the embattled Columbia Point housing project) attacked by night-riders and racist cops.

A Spartacist Pamphlet \$1.00

**American
Workers Revolution
Needs
Black Leadership**

\$1.00

Make checks payable/mail to:
Spartacist Publishing Co.,
Box 1377 GPO, New York, NY 10116



SL calls for mass labor/black mobilization.

pressed minorities. We called for extending busing to the suburbs and for low-rent, racially integrated public housing. As for the hard-core antibusing bigots, said the SL, they must be crushed by "mass mobilization of black organizations, trade unions, socialist groups and all other forces prepared to defend black schoolchildren...."

Yet in the midst of this race terror, with the lives of black schoolchildren threatened, the bulk of the so-called "left" was just as treacherous as the black and white liberals. While the SL campaigned with mass leaflets for labor/black defense, the reformist Socialist Workers Party (SWP) opposed this as "make believe." The "realistic" SWP called instead for federal troops—the armed fist of the racist, capitalist state—as a "real, meaningful solution." (We pointed out that if troops were brought in, it would be to enforce a segregationist "law and order" and prevent any organized defense by black and union militants.)

Black Liberation Through Socialist Revolution

In 1974 and again today, the Boston black masses are sacrificed to racist reaction by the black and white liberals. The reformist phony socialists call on the racist, capitalist state to send troops to enforce busing (1974) and to "ban the Klan" (1982). Meanwhile, as any Marxist could have predicted, the bosses' cops and troops repeatedly attack those who fight against the race terrorists. Only the Trotskyist Spartacist League has fought for the program of independent labor/black mobilization, so sorely needed in 1974 and the key to today's victory. This means a struggle against the capitalist order which breeds racist reaction. Today as the KKK preys on the frustrations of poor whites suffering from massive unemployment and the catastrophic decay of American cities,



Workers World Party (left) and Progressive Labor at Boston City Hall.

the Trotskyists call for factory occupations (sitdown strikes) against plant shutdowns; for unlimited, unconditional unemployment insurance; for a 30 hour workweek for 40 hours pay and to provide jobs for all.

While "daishiki Democrats" and reformist hustlers lead the black masses down to defeat with illusions of "community control," the Spartacist League fights for a program of revolutionary integrationism and a multi-racial vanguard socialist party. We seek to harness the power of labor in the struggle for black equality, fighting within the unions against the poisonous racism which cripples united class struggle, and for a class-conscious leadership to oust the pro-capitalist bureaucrats. This is a road of long, hard struggle, to mobilize the workers movement as the vanguard of all the oppressed. But it is the only one which can liberate us all.

For labor/black mobilizations against the Klan! Break with the Democrats, black and white—Build a workers party to fight for a workers government! For black liberation through socialist revolution! ■

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Black Auto Militant on Boston Radio

Labor Must Break with the Democrats, Smash the Klan

We print below excerpts from remarks by Charles Dubois, a Detroit black auto militant who spoke at the Boston anti-Klan demonstration, on WRKO radio in Boston, October 16.

Dubois: I wanted to comment on the speaker that was speaking previously.

Moderator: Frank Neisser.

Dubois: He's from the All-Peoples Congress, right?

Moderator: That's right.

Dubois: Here's the thing about this group, you see, which had supposedly organized a "stop the Nazis" demonstration down there. The way they organized it politically leads into the Democratic Party; what they want to do is tie the working people and black people back to the Democratic Party. And what gives that away is the gentleman's statement that he was "surprised" at the police's behavior. When we organized the [November 1979] demonstration in Detroit [to stop the KKK], and also a similar thing just recently in Chicago, this last June 27 when the Nazis tried to march against the gays on Gay Pride Day, one thing you have to take into consideration is the police. It's all this liberal claptrap about being surprised at the police's behavior, and the whole question of "free speech for the Nazis."

Moderator: You consider that liberal claptrap, free speech?

Dubois: Look, the Nazis or the Klan do not organize for free speech. They did not debate with the people in Greensboro. They shot them down in the broad light of day. [Moderator: Right.] You see, that's what they will do to us when they can actually get away with it.

Moderator: Unless you get them first?

Dubois: Unless we stop them. And that's what was important about today. Because people turned out in massive numbers, I guess to the tune of 1,000 people. This is very important, because if they [the Klan] had gotten away with marching today, unopposed...in fact, they got run out. You see, Boston was the city where busing got killed in the streets, which has set the climate for what's going on in America today. In terms of not only Ronald Reagan, also Jimmy Carter [whose] talk about "ethnic purity" was right after busing [was killed].

Moderator: I'd like to know your view of the actions of the individuals in Channel 4 studio the other day, specifically throwing eggs at [KKK "Imperial Wizard"] Bill Wilkinson and throwing a

punch at him. Were those techniques that you feel are going to get the cause of racial harmony anywhere?

Dubois: First, we're talking about tactics, and tactics flow from strategy. We say that only labor and black mobilizations can stop these people.

Moderator: Does physical violence have a place in a practical assault on racism?

Dubois: Self-defense has a practical purpose and in fact is essential and effective in stopping race terrorism. These people don't organize and march to just speak. Like in Greensboro, or like in Chattanooga, back in 1979, when they assaulted two black women. That's not free speech. What is key for black people and working people in this country to understand is that we must organize self-defense in the form of workers defense guards.

Moderator: Well, you know something, Charles. I'm going for a moment to play-act the role of a white supremacist, take what you just said as spoken by a white supremacist. If I don't take my gun and go shoot the niggers, they're going to come rape my wife and daughter and take all my worldly goods, so it's self-defense.

Dubois: Let's look at what's really going on. That doesn't happen. What does happen is the Klan murders people.

Moderator: So what's their justification?

Dubois: I don't care about their justification; their justification is the fact that they stand for the racist, capitalist system. I think that workers and blacks have to defend themselves. Look, it relates to the question that the person two speakers ago asked about the Panthers, saying that the so-called "extremist" groups...

Moderator: He thinks they're just as wrong as the Klan.

Dubois: [...equating the] Panthers with the Klan. It's typical liberal moralism, when people look at all things as being equal. All things are not equal. The Panthers didn't go around bombing churches and killing little schoolgirls. They were not involved in race-terror. They advocated self-defense, and the police/FBI organized terror against them. The police and the FBI do not organize terror against the Klan, because the Klan stands for the racist status quo. And what that means is we have to finish what the Civil War didn't finish.

Moderator: You've made it quite clear where you stand. I thank you. ■



WV Photo

"We Can Organize to Crush These Fascist Creeps!"

After protesters had driven off the KKK terrorists on October 16 in Boston, cops rioted against the anti-Klan demonstrators. Supporters of the SL/SYL galvanized the crowd with soapbox agitators. We print below some of their remarks.

Charles Dubois

Detroit black auto militant, who led a fight that drove KKK-hooded foremen from Ford's River Rouge plant.

We had the Klan try to march twice in Detroit and in Ann Arbor, and we stopped them both times. The key to that kind of mobilization is centralizing on labor, organized labor. That can nullify the kind of police presence you see here today, if you turn out organized labor along with the black community organizations and other minority organizations—we can be successful in driving out the Nazis and the Klan. They're not wanted here. Everybody showed they didn't want them here, they got run out. But who were their friends? The damn police. And who did they go after? They went after you, and you, and all of us. These guys in the blue shirts, they're with these guys in the white sheets.

Well, we can get labor together, and black people together. We can organize to crush these fascist creeps. When they were stopping busing on the streets, the racists mobilized. What should have happened, and what should happen today and tomorrow against the racist South Boston Marshals, against the Ku Klux Klan, is to get the blacks on the streets, and most important, the labor unions. We're not talking about [United Auto Workers president] Doug Fraser. We're talking about the people that Doug Fraser's selling out. He's in bed



Rouge auto militant, Charles Dubois (left): The racists in the blue shirts are with the racists in the white sheets.

with Teddy Kennedy and Ronald Reagan and [Chrysler chairman] Lee Iacocca—he ain't gonna stop the Klan. But everybody else—he's selling their jobs out, he's giving their money up, they've got the reason to be out here today. We can mount an effective drive to not only get the Nazis and the Klan, but their buddies in the White House.

That's what we're talking about—For labor action to smash Reagan reaction.

Alison Spencer

Spartacus Youth League.

We taught the Klan a lesson, that there's no room for the Klan on the streets of Boston. And there's another lesson for all of us to be learned here today. Which side were the cops on? Who did they protect here today? We say no trust in the capitalist politicians, in the troops or the cops. What we have confidence in is in the power of the labor movement. When labor flexes its muscle, the fascists turn and run.

The Klan and the Nazis have been emboldened in the Reagan administration. Because it's his war on communism, his anti-Soviet drive, that's killing labor and blacks at home. We're paying for this war drive: workers' wages are being cut, social services for minorities are being taken back, and the fascists see that as a green light to go out and murder in their white sheets, with their Nazi swastikas.

But the problem isn't just Reagan or

Reaganomics. The problem is capitalism. Remember "ethnic purity" Carter? The Klan carried out the murders in Greensboro then. You can't fight Reagan with Democrats. You have to build a class-struggle workers party.

Keith Anwar

Steel worker militant who recently won an NLRB ruling after being fired for honoring picket lines.

Brothers and sisters, my eyesight's beginning to come back now. I just got maced by that scum in blue defending the scum in white sheets. That tells you something about what the cops are, that tells you something about who rules this society, about the state and the federal government.

Now, why do the union leaders say that we have to rely on the Democrats? It's because they are against any kind of real struggle by the working class. What they tell you is that the Democrats are a lesser evil. Well the Democrats paved the way for Reagan. When did the war drive and the military buildup which is bleeding our cities dry begin? When did the plants begin shutting down and throwing people out in the streets? It began under the Democrats.

So, somebody yelled before, go back to the Soviet Union. Well, I'm going to tell you something—in the Soviet Union, the Klan and the Nazis don't ride. I want to tell you something else—we got unions in this country that are ours, that belong to the working people. There are bureaucrats up there that think otherwise, who think that the unions should be an instrument for keeping down the workers on behalf of the capitalists. Well, we have to kick out the union leaders who tell us that we can't fight, who do everything they can to prevent a fight.

We must defend the gains that we have made, we must go forward to a planned economy run in the interests of the workers. And the only way we're going to get it is by building a revolutionary workers party. I want to tell everybody here that the Spartacist League which has this contingent has the only answers in terms of fighting the Klan and the Nazis. So, I want you to pick up a copy of *Workers Vanguard*, and the newspaper of the Spartacus Youth League, *Young Spartacus*, and find those answers. Because the future held up by capitalism is a future of war and fascism—it's a future of barbarism. And we have a future of revolutionary struggle. So take a side and join us. ■

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Liberals, Reformists Defame Boston Anti-Klan Demo

On those all too rare occasions when the KKK/Nazis get a taste of what these racist terrorists deserve, there is a predictable outcry from the liberals over the "rights" of the fascists and a denunciation of the "violence" of anti-fascist demonstrators. No sooner are the Klan/Nazis sent packing than the liberals and their reformist hangers-on complain that they should have been debated, or that the capitalist government should have "banned the Klan."

After the KKK was run out of Boston City Hall Plaza on October 16 and the cops attacked the demonstrators with clubs, the reformists who stayed at home predictably attacked the anti-Klan demonstrators with words. They apologized for the cop riot and made excuses for the KKK. Most disgusting was a letter from the National Anti-Racist Organizing Committee (NAROC, associated with ex-Maoist Irwin Silber's *Line of March*) to Boston's black weekly newspaper, *Bay State Banner* (21 October). Arguing in the style and perhaps with the purpose of the bourgeois press after the Greensboro massacre, the letter wonders if the Klan was provoked by the anti-Klan demonstrators:

"In the aftermath of the confrontation that took place, we are left thinking that this Klan march was a freak incident, that the Klan felt compelled to defend its honor after suffering an egg-in-the-face."

The letter goes on to describe the mass outrage against the KKK as part of an event which "could be viewed as a circus."

NAROC does not want to see the Klan smashed, but instead wants to use

it as a focus for getting out the Democratic vote. It bemoans the fact that in Boston on October 16, "the weak presence" of "the anti-racist movement" [?] allowed "the political character of the demonstration to fall to immature and adventurist elements who emphasized physical attack over political confrontation." And just what kind of political confrontation is desired by these "mature elements"? No attempt to stop the Klan at all. Instead the letter insists that "Mayor White should have denied the Klan the opportunity to march." NAROC is going to have a hard time

selling this treacherous line to the 1,500 in the crowd at City Hall Plaza who saw, and in some cases felt firsthand, the clubs and motorcycle rampage of Mayor White's racists in blue.

The Communist Party (CP) "ban the Klan" strategy wasn't dampened at all by the cop riot in Boston. They offered some gentle criticism of Mayor White's cossacks in the *Daily World* (20 October):

"Over 100 cops were on hand protecting the Klan when trouble started. Some rocks and bottles were thrown, but not enough to warrant the wholesale clubbing of the large numbers of protesters

who neither provoked nor participated in the incident."

How many bottles are enough to warrant a cop riot against anti-Klan demonstrators, according to the CP? The *Daily World* criticizes the cops for clubbing the "innocents." What about those who are not so innocent of wanting to smash the Klan and Nazis? They are left to the tender mercies of the cops. Even if the CP gets its "anti-Klan" laws, history shows that the capitalist state will use them not to ban the fascists, which it needs in times of economic/social crisis, but to ban the left.

The liberals and reformists (such as the Socialist Workers Party) who oppose the Stalinists' "ban the Klan" strategy do so from a civil libertarian position of "free speech for fascists." This offers the KKK/Nazi terrorists a platform for their racist provocations. As we wrote after the June 27 demonstration in Chicago which brought 3,000 to Lincoln Park to stop the Nazis:

"The fascists' appeal is to increasingly desperate and backward working-class and lower middle-class white layers who are persuaded not by rational arguments but by force. The Nazis and Klan understand this well: their 'propaganda' consists of lynchings, cross burnings and swastika painting. As it was in Germany, the question is: who will win, who will die? Will the Red Guards or the storm troopers prevail?"

—WV, No. 309, 9 July 1982

Even today as the Kluxers threaten to stage a provocation in Washington, D.C. on November 6, the liberals and reformists are squabbling over tactics. They are not falling out over how to stop the Klan, but over how best to rely on the government: whether to call on Mayor Marion Barry to deny a permit or guarantee their "free speech." But these expressions of faith in the capitalist state—its courts and cops—won't stop the rising race-terror in Reagan's America. It will take the class-struggle policies of the Spartacist League, which has initiated and led mass labor and black-centered mobilizations which can run the KKK/Nazis off the streets. ■



Boston, October 16: SL contingent says, nothing to debate—stop the Klan now!

WV Supplement: "KKK Run Out!"

40,000 Distributed to Workers, Blacks

When 1,500 angry protesters ran the Ku Klux Klan out of Boston October 16, it electrified the city—it was the first setback for the race-terrorists there in years. This solid anti-racist stand touched a real chord in Boston—witness the enthusiastic reception for our WV supplement "KKK Run Out!" particularly among the black population. At press time, our comrades had distributed almost 13,000 supplements in the Boston area. Everywhere we went people were talking about the action.

One young woman clubbed by a cop during the police rampage, who was listed as a victim in the newspapers, worried what her reception would be the next day at the construction site where she works. On Monday her fellow workers congratulated her for helping

to stop the Klan, while known racists at the job laid low—they had been defeated. At Eggleston Station a black woman bus driver took a supplement, came back for more to supply her bus, and directed our comrades to leave stacks at the starter's booth for the other transit workers.

A black token collector at Central Square talked about the interlocking of the fascists and the bourgeois state: "I'm

from Alabama. I know all about the Klan. Once they marched through town and when we pulled their hoods off, we found the mayor underneath one of them."

Our comrades fanned out across the country with the supplement. With a print run of 75,000, some 39,500 had been handed out in the first four days. Distribution points included major radical centers and industrial concentra-

tions, from a speech by Angela Davis at the Hollywood Palladium to Midwest Chrysler workers now on the front lines of the American class struggle.

At press time, sites where 1,000 or more supplements were distributed included: Boston: Northeastern University (1,000), black neighborhoods (9,000). New York: transit yards and depots (1,450), Harlem Hospital (1,000), 115th Street & Lenox Avenue, Harlem (1,000). Detroit: Ford River Rouge (1,030). Chicago: "El" stops in black neighborhoods (1,000). Chrysler workers (1,325)—including Detroit's Jefferson Avenue (500), Cleveland's Twinsburg plant (325) and Newark, Delaware (500). San Francisco: October 24 labor march (2,900), black neighborhoods (2,100). ■

Free Barbara Hogan!

Apartheid "Justice": Labor Organizer Jailed for Treason

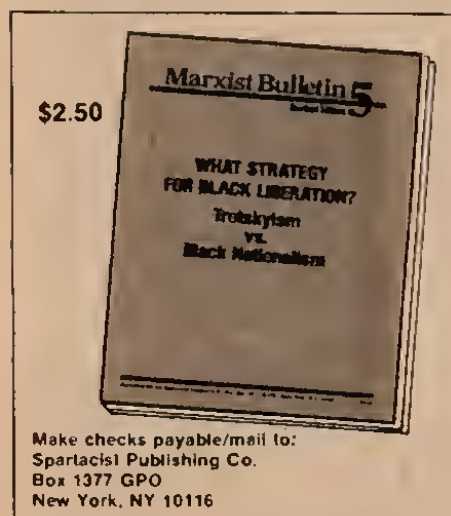
The racist South African regime, seeking to crush the explosive rise of black labor, has just convicted a white woman member of the banned African National Congress (ANC) of "high treason" because of her union organizing efforts among blacks. Barbara Hogan was seized in September amid a black strike wave, beaten by security police, and condemned to ten years in prison on October 21. She is the first white woman convicted of treason in

South Africa. This is also the first time that membership in the ANC, what she was actually convicted of, has in itself been declared tantamount to treason, which carries the death penalty.

Hogan's ANC work included organizing consumer boycotts in support of striking black workers and seeking to organize a union of the unemployed to fight apartheid. The last white union organizer punished by the regime, Neil Aggett, was found

"hanged in his cell" this February: thousands of blacks and whites marched together at his funeral, where ANC flags were openly raised for the first time in a generation. Like Aggett, Hogan's courageous work is an important break in the white racist front of the South African ruling class, for whom the rise of the black working class represents a potentially mortal threat. South Africa's superexploited black workers have the power to smash apartheid slavery; despite savage repression, they are gathering their strength, as last month's sweeping strike wave shows.

The international labor movement must come to the aid of their South African black brothers and sisters. Labor action—boycotts and secondary strikes—can be decisive in securing victory for the embattled black unions. Free Barbara Hogan! Smash apartheid—For workers revolution!



Vote Coleman and Bradley...

(continued from page 6)

mass labor/black mobilizations to stop Klan/Nazi terror, as was done in Detroit in 1979, San Francisco in April 1980 (ANCAN) and Chicago on June 27.

Both the "gun freeze" strategy to disarm the working class and the "nuclear freeze" strategy to disarm the Soviet Union have become liberal calling cards. Coleman and Bradley tell the voters that the "nuke freeze" movement led by Teddy Kennedy and the LBJ-era Vietnam War criminals is another channel for leading people back into the Democratic Party. The Spartacist candidates expose "freeze" hoaxes like California Proposition 12 with their provisos for "bilateral disarmament" (i.e., the USSR must disarm) and for "national security" (i.e., increased conventional U.S. weaponry). Coleman and Bradley call for defense of the Soviet Union against counterrevolution—Not one man or one penny for the imperialist army! They are telling the working people of this country that the fight against Reagan's domestic austerity and race-terror is necessarily linked to the fight against the anti-Soviet war drive. You can't fight one without fighting the other.

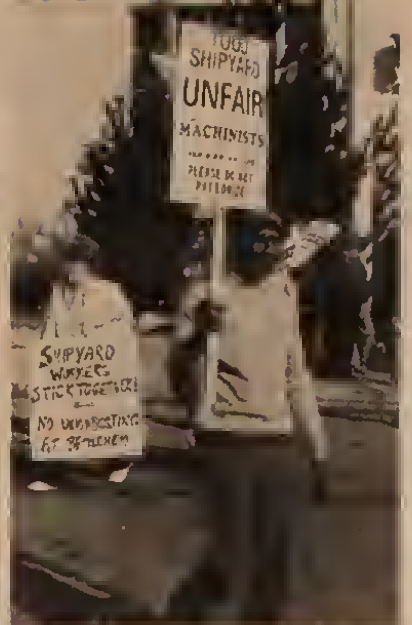
Bradley/Coleman Campaign Addresses Laid-Off Bethlehem Shipyard Workers

On October 20 Coleman and Bradley addressed a meeting of over 100 workers fighting to get their jobs back at Bethlehem Shipyards. Coleman told them, "When Reagan smashed PATCO he sent a message to every employer in the country to go after the unions. What the workers here at Bethlehem are doing in fighting back is what we need more of."

Some 370 office and shipyard workers were dumped September 30 when Todd Shipyards bought the Bethlehem drydocks and equipment for \$14 million



Spartacist campaign supports picket line militancy at Bethlehem Shipyard against mass layoffs.



WV Photos

and the city bought the land for \$1. Seizing upon the deal as a supposed renaissance of the city's ship-repair industry and a boost to her sagging political fortunes, an arrogant Mayor Feinstein crowed, "The sale itself is the best thing that's happened since the sale of Manhattan Island in 1624 for \$24." Not for the shipyard workers. Of the hundreds laid off at Bethlehem, Feinstein sniffed, "That was going to happen no matter what."

Abandoned by their 11 unions, the betrayed and enraged shipyard workers stormed at least four Board of Supervisors meetings in September and October protesting the deal. On one occasion they filled the chamber with thunderous chants, "We want jobs! We want jobs!" In mid-October they threw up a picket line for a few days and held \$22 million in repair work (literally) at bay.

Despite the Bethlehem workers' picket line militancy, their misleaders are trying to lead them into the embrace of Republican candidates, while Democratic Congressman Phillip Burton told shipyard workers at an October 20 rally, "I'm the best thing you've got." Speaking at the same rally, Spartacist candidate Bradley told the unionists not to trust any of the capitalist politicians.

Bradley told of his own experience fighting for sitdowns and plant seizures against layoffs in auto, and was applauded as he concluded, "What we need is a worker's party that will fight for the interests of the working class, and not for the interests of Bethlehem and Todd Shipyards." Diana Coleman called at the rally for the yard to be expropriated.

The Spartacist candidates are campaigning on a program of militant class struggle. As Coleman said at an

October 22 Spartacist forum:

"The Spartacist League is the only organization that represents a way forward for black and minority people in this city. We want an integrated revolutionary party. We look to the proletariat of this country, especially the black proletariat, as key in leading the American revolution. We think you need a party to do that, and we think the Spartacist League has the program and is the nucleus of that party. But it won't become that party until we recruit some of you people out there. So we say join the Spartacist League and fight for a socialist future." ■

Spartacist Campaign Needs \$\$\$ Too

Election campaigns are always expensive, but this year in San Francisco the candidates who are running against both capitalist parties ran into plenty of expense they hadn't counted on. Those who would try to stop the Coleman/Bradley campaign forced the candidates into court to fight for democratic rights against "dirty tricks" political censorship. Legal fees and court expenses

have been added to the costs of the campaign publicity, brochures, posters and all the rest.

The Democrats and Republicans rely on well-heeled backers and the "machine" to finance their campaigns, but those who run on a class-struggle program against the parties of racism, union-busting and nuclear Armageddon turn to you for support. *Workers Vanguard* readers everywhere can support this campaign by sending a generous check to: Spartacist Party Campaign Committee, Suite 46, 55 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94104.

Israel...

(continued from page 3)

served as a conduit for American counterinsurgency weapons to the Rhodesians, a convenient means of circumventing the imperialists' own hypocritical "sanctions."

Most important are Israeli ties with the pro-Nazi apartheid butchers of South Africa. Shahak documents these extensive political, economic and military relations. A particularly sinister development is joint Israeli-South African collaboration in the production of nuclear weapons. South African uranium is turned into nuclear devices at the Israeli facility in Dimona and then tested off the coast of South Africa. Mad bombers Begin and Sharon will certainly have little hesitation to use nuclear weapons on Arab capitals in their drive for an "Eretz Israel" that stretches from the Nile to the Euphrates.

Israel peddles its weapons for repression throughout Asia as well. Its spy agency Mossad trained and equipped the hated secret police of the ex-shah of Iran, SAVAK, adopting Gestapo techniques wholesale. Now Israel continues to ship spare parts to the great "anti-Zionist" Ayatollah Khomeini, who uses Israeli bullets to kill Kurdish peasants and Arab workers, and whose "Revolutionary Guards" have proven a congenial home for the talents of many Israeli-trained ex-SAVAK agents. Of course, the Near East arms transfer that has gotten the most attention recently is Israel's equipping and training of the fascist Phalange and Major Haddad's forces, Begin's Lebanese Ustashi and SS Einsatzkommandos, respectively. So when our

comrades of the Ligue Trotskyiste de France say that Begin's holocaust in West Beirut arms anti-Semitic fascist mobilizations in West Europe, this must be taken literally. The Israeli-equipped Phalange trained the German neo-Nazi group behind the September 1980 Oktoberfest massacre in Munich in a bombing that killed 53 and wounded 215.

Israel "Labor" Party's Dirty Hands

Although the Israeli arms industry has grown dramatically under Begin, its foundations were laid and the international connections made under three decades of rule by the Zionist "Labor" Party. Shahak quotes the Labor Party newspaper *Davar* (16 November 1979):

"A large arms industry is apt to contribute a decisive share to the Israeli war effort in terms of emergency conditions and prestige. It is important to state that the decisions on this issue were taken years ago and responsibility for them for better or for worse rests in the political sphere with former Defense Minister Shimon Peres."

Peres is now the leader of "Labor" in opposition and hopes to ride the storm in Israel over the Zionist holocaust in West Beirut to the premiership. But just as the Democrats paved the way for Reagan in the U.S., so the bourgeois-Zionist Labor Party paved the way for Begin in Israel with three decades of anti-Arab chauvinism and militarism. It is grotesque and pathetic to see the Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) appealing to their "Labor" Party comrades in the "Socialist" International to stop arming the bloody Salvadoran junta. This arms trade is as vital to the Zionist state as it is

to the forces of Major "Blowtorch" d'Aubuisson.

Begin/Reagan Anti-Soviet "Strategic Consensus"

Shahak writes that: "The Western press is full of reports about the alliance of South Africa, Israel and Taiwan which tries to drag the U.S. into a particularly harsh policy against the Third World and the Soviet Union." For the imperialists, of course, their cold and hot war against the Soviet Union began the day of the October Revolution. The Israeli quartermasters and their military clients are but convenient shock troops in that 65-year-old global war that now threatens humanity with a nuclear holocaust. In this context it is slanderous for Noam Chomsky in his introduction to Shahak's study to equate U.S. apologists for Israel and for the American invasion of Vietnam with the "'critical support' of many Trotskyists" for Soviet intervention in Afghanistan (an unmistakable reference to the international Spartacist tendency).

While the U.S. imperialists and their Israeli allies carry out mass murder on a genocidal scale to further global counterrevolution, the Soviets' (reluctant) intervention in Afghanistan has spread democratic measures such as land reform and female education against the resistance of CIA-financed and -armed feudal mullahs. And as Chomsky, usually a master of precision in his field of linguistics, well knows, the Trotskyists call for proletarian political revolution to oust the counterrevolutionary Stalinist bureaucrats who endanger the defense of and block the extension of the gains of the Russian October. As is historically the case, the chill of the Cold

War comes not last to Cambridge.

In his study Shahak stresses the impact that this burgeoning arms industry has on Israeli society. In 1978 Israeli arms exports were \$425 million, by 1980 they had grown to between \$1.3 and \$1.45 billion or more than 40 percent of Israel's total export revenue. Israel's largest industrial concern is also its largest arms producer: the Israel Aircraft Industries, employing more than 20,000 workers. Not only does this breed a bloated and privileged military officer caste but it fuels chauvinism within a working class dependent for their livelihood on war industries. The bonapartism and militarism represented by the Begin/Sharon cabal running the country today threaten to overwhelm Israeli society as a whole.

Some left-wing and Arab nationalists have long claimed that Israeli society, with the exception of its Palestinian Arab minority, is simply a garrison state without internal social or class contradictions. No doubt the massive growth of this arms industry, combined with the continued Israeli occupation and repression of the West Bank and Gaza, push Israel in this direction. But Begin's holocaust in Lebanon has deeply polarized an already fractured society as shown by the wave of anti-government protests it unleashed inside Israel. Massive demonstrations, antiwar sentiment in the armed forces with many officers threatening to resign over Lebanon, a restive working class with one of the highest strike rates in the world, could blow up the Zionist fortress from within. But this requires an internationalist vanguard that can unite Hebrew workers with Palestinian toilers in a joint struggle for a socialist federation of the Near East. ■

WORKERS VANGUARD

Waterboys for Kennedy and Messengers for Qaddafi

Sewer Socialists in '82 Elections

After having greased the skids for Ronald Reagan, the Democratic Party is now trying to make a comeback. It's the year of the anti-Reagan popular front, and of course the pro-capitalist AFL-CIO bureaucracy has joined in by declaring "Solidarity Day II" on November 2 to re-elect the same people who screwed labor in the past. The "ready for Teddy" crowd—comprising most of the so-called "left" groups—have heard the call and are walking the precincts, while those who shrink from publicly endorsing Democrats are mobilizing indirectly through the "freeze movement" and other pacifist/reformist schemes. Only the Spartacist candidates in San Francisco, Richard Bradley and Diana Coleman, are fighting for an independent working-class program: "You Can't Fight Reagan with Democrats! For Mass Strike Action to Bring Down Reagan! Build a Workers Party!"

The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), a collection of right-wing social democrats and New Left-overs, is not only working deeply in the Democratic Party—in certain places they have become the Democratic Party. "More than 200 DSA members hold elective office," boasted DSA honcho Joseph Schwartz in *In These Times* (22 September) and some of them have been influential Democratic officeholders for years: e.g., California Congressman Ron Dellums, New York City councilman Ruth Messinger, SF supervisor Harry Britt, Berkeley mayor Gus Newport, and so on. While *ITT* engages in endless "dialogues" over the problems of running "socialist" candidates, DSAer Ruth Messinger presented the Democratic politicians' solution: "Simply put, where our members have been elected, we want to reelect them"—i.e., look out for No. 1 (*ITT*, 28 July). These people are ordinary, run-of-the-mill Democratic politicians using "socialist" verbiage...and not much of that.

The DSA is a stalking horse for Ted Kennedy, and DSA leader Schwartz made this crystal clear for the more naive ranks:

"Nor would it be sectarian to consider running a prominent socialist such as Michael Harrington or Ron Dellums in a few key 1984 Democratic presidential primaries if either Kennedy chooses not to run or if Kennedy runs a centrist rather than staunch left-liberal [*!*] campaign."

—*ITT*, 22 September

Thus the social democrats are very much in the Democratic mainstream, and while Kennedy broods about his career, the DSA/Democrats do their best to prop up the system. They pound

the pavement for classical liberal Democrats like Phil Burton and Robert Kastenmeier. The DSA even refuses to endorse their own member running for Michigan governor, Zoltan Ferency, because he failed to gain the backing of the AFL-CIO bureaucracy. And Congressman Dellums, who has sat for years on the House Armed Services Committee, is pushing an "alternative" military budget of a "mere" \$200 billion and supports U.S. Marines in Lebanon.

behind the voting booth curtain. Meanwhile the CP's veteran labor writer George Morris proclaims, "Organized labor's real test—Nov. 2" (*Daily World*, 8 October). "Labor has endorsed candidates in many states like California's Governor Jerry Brown..." Got it now?

Occasionally the CP runs fake "independent" candidates like Richard Giovanoni in Chicago or the perennial Joelle Fishman in New Haven. But Gus Hall lectured a December 1981 central

candidate for governor of Illinois. "Our own political party" (whose?), she says, could "win some real democracy in this country." "A real majority government... wouldn't have government strike-breaking." No tax breaks for corporations, either. Hot diggity dog! Better remember those campaign promises! But about socialist revolution, "expropriating the expropriators," not a whisper.

This is the party that debates the Ku Klux Klan on TV and advises blacks to rely on the cops for "protection" against race terror. In California as elsewhere around the country, SWP gubernatorial candidate Mel Mason is running on a platform for a "workers and farmers" government. How many of these fabled "working farmers" do you suppose he has found in this land of multi-million dollar agribusiness? But it seems the American bourgeoisie does not at present have much use for the SWP's nutty brand of reformism, which touts Yasir Arafat, Fidel Castro and "socialist" Grenada.

Speaking of dustbins, something just crawled out—the so-called Workers League (WL). After years of lurking in Akron with its widely unread *Bulletin*, the WL has suddenly popped up in Detroit with a seven-person slate for various offices. With their four-color twice-weekly press and six "election headquarters" in Detroit, they've obviously got a lot of money to throw around for a tiny group. Who the hell finances them? Their election propaganda talks about a general strike, but in reality they are a bizarre sect that takes its orders from outside the working class.

These political bandits tried every get-rich-quick scheme in the '60s and '70s. The hallmark of the early *Bulletin* was its endless calls for a "Congress of Labor" to "build a labor party," which they saw being formed by the Cold War anti-communist Meanyite labor bureaucracy. Today the WL pretends to be a champion of black youth. But as a sign of their orientation towards the racist union bureaucracy, the *Bulletin* backed the 1971 New York cop strike, a position never repudiated by the Workers League!

In the mid-'70s the WL and its British godfather Gerry Healy went spinning out of the workers movement altogether, developing a penchant for CIA-baiting its opponents (and internal dissidents). Their London daily *Workers Press* suddenly folded and was mysteriously replaced by *News Line*, which spent many pages reprinting the communiqués of Libya's Colonel Muammar Qaddafi. Year after year the Healyite press lauded Qaddafi's dictatorship as some kind of "socialist" regime, even though it is based on a fanatical devotion to the Koran, which sanctifies the feudal enslavement of women and prescribes barbaric legal punishments such as cutting off the hands of thieves. As spinoff of the Qaddafi connection, the Healyites became publicity agents for the PLO. More recently the *Bulletin* has become a fanatical apologist of the ruthless reactionary Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran. Workers beware of this bizarre and sinister group!

U.S. elections in 1982 reveal not only the decay of the capitalist system but also the utter bankruptcy of the opportunist "left." Only the Spartacist League is fighting for an independent working-class perspective, for socialist revolution and a workers government! Vote for Bradley and Coleman in San Francisco! ■



WV Photos

SL protests "State Department socialist" DSA conference in August. Below: Spartacist candidate Richard Bradley (right) nabs DSA Democrat Dellums on war, racism.



Other DSA officeholders are just as wedded to the capitalist system. Take SF supervisor and DSAer Harry Britt, for instance. His latest gambit is a "Police-Britt Ballot Alliance." He is offering up the "gay vote" for ballot propositions which would enhance police pensions and overtime pay in exchange for the cops' neutrality on another initiative which provides for a fig leaf "civilian investigation" into police conduct. The fact that the cops will use their overtime pay to bash homosexuals, among others, has not gone unnoticed, and one writer for a local gay paper recently remarked:

"But, some will object, do not most of them [cops] come from the working class? Yes. So do scabs. But, their historic role is that of strikebreakers." —*Coming Up!*, October 1982

The Harry Britt and Ron Dellums are bourgeois politicians, pure and simple, and the DSA is deeply immersed in the capitalist Democratic Party. Appropriately, in San Francisco the DSA sports a genuine boss: Muni director and millionaire Richard Sklar, a direct agent of labor-hating Mayor Feinstein.

What "Lesser Evil"?

Rather than openly calling to "Vote Democratic," the Communist Party (CP) has revived its classical "fight the right" popular-front rhetoric. Ron Dellums and Gus Newport are described as "progressives" and "labor candidates" so the party faithful will know how to pull the lever when they get

committee meeting that where a "right-wing reactionary, racist Reaganite" is on the ballot, "if a bourgeois politician who is running against him/her is not 'evil,' we must give support, critical support or outright, wholehearted support—whatever is necessary—to achieve our overall goal." This apparently created some dissidence among more militant ranks, so the line was rammed down everyone's throat at an "extraordinary conference" in Milwaukee last April. More than any other "socialist" group, the CP bears the historic responsibility for criminally subordinating the trade unions to the Democratic Party, from the Popular Front period of the 1930s on.

The reformist losers of the 1982 election must surely be the Socialist Workers Party (SWP). Who needs these idiosyncratic social-democratic electoralists when the DSA is around? The SWP has recently lost hundreds of members. The Barnes clique is running a messy purge of old-timers in faction-ridden and bureaucratic bloodletting. And despite this hemorrhaging, the SWP is still sounding off like it is going to take over the country through the ballot box. It's election fever as usual for the SWP, running 60 candidates in 26 states as they turn out their demoralized members for another campaign of sewer socialism.

The endless SWP blather about a "peaceful, legal" road to socialism would have made old Karl Kautsky blush. A choice tidbit comes from a statement by Marie Cobbs, SWP

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Deadly Lies...

(continued from page 4)

The IWP leaflet claims that the fact that we brought out signs (protesting this anti-Trotskyist exclusion) shows that "their provocations had been planned in advance." Not at all. It shows that given the threats of force by Kramer's lieutenant Gregorio against *Young Spartacus* salesmen at Los Angeles Community College a week beforehand, Kramer's shoving of SLers at an August 21 Lebanon demonstration, and the threats by Kramer in an "open letter" last spring to use "ANY MEASURES NECESSARY" against the SL—we expected they might exclude us (which they did), and we were determined to protest this act of bureaucratic cowardice. The IWP came prepared, too, with claw hammers and martial arts weapons (numchakus), both quite deadly. But their Big Lie account of October 2 doesn't mention their use of hammers, sticks and chains in assaulting weaponless SL supporters and trade unionists. No wonder Kramer and his pals went after our photographer, unsuccessfully trying to destroy the evidence of their attack. But the proof is there (see accompanying photos).

Then there is the Morenoite claim that Spartacists were "provoking... mostly immigrant Latin workers, with racist attacks." This lie is positively absurd. *Cui bono*—who benefits? Why would any group make racist attacks against workers it was seeking to win over? Or, alternatively, why would unarmed demonstrators "provoke" an attack when the IWP goons were flaunting their lethal weapons? This ridiculous fabrication is of a piece with the U.S. claim that the Soviets are dumping "yellow rain" on brown-skinned peoples from Afghanistan to Laos in order to help Haig show how evil Commies are. What's going on here? Faced with the impossible task of defending Nahuel Moreno, who in his politics has the constancy of a prostitute plying her trade, Kramer & Co. must seal off their supporters with national, linguistic and physical barriers from our exposure of this charlatan. Thus IWP leaders literally ripped out of their own members' hands SL Spanish-language leaflets about our emergency protests against Reagan's racist deportations last spring.

To back up its fabrications about October 2, the IWP cites "at least ten physical attacks against different left organizations and labor groups" allegedly carried out by the SL, supposedly provoking cop intervention "on five different occasions." Proof? The Spartacist League's program of working-class struggle (against both capitalist parties) directly cuts across the attempt to put together a new "popular front" drawing in the labor movement behind the Democrats. Virtually the entire left is tied to this perspective by a thousand threads. (And most of them know it full well.) A truly marvelous array of centrists, reformists and liberals including Harrington's Democratic Socialists (DSA), the Stalinist CP, the "peaceful, legal" ex-Trotskyist SWP, the Shachtmanites of the RSL and LRP, the tiny

RWL cult-sect and the El Salvador CISPES popular front therefore label the Trotskyist SL "disruptive" and "violent." Of course, the IWP's sources are not exactly paragons of workers democracy. The DSA is organic to the labor bureaucracy and firmly enmeshed in the Democratic Party, and the CP has a record of Stalinist thuggery going back decades. (Including against the Morenoites: witness the Stalinists' September 1980 knife attack on Kramer's Revolutionary Workers Front [RWF].) But in the service of anti-Spartacist slander, anything goes it seems.

What all of these groups—DSA, CP, SWP, RSL, LRP, RWL, WWP, CISPES—have in common is opposition to the Spartacist League's revolutionary program. A de facto alliance of Big Liars against the SL was forged particularly to suppress our call for military victory to Salvadoran leftists. The reformists and liberals have repeatedly resorted to goon violence and called on the capitalist cops to exclude the SL from their popular-front marches for a treacherous "negotiated settlement" in El Salvador. The Spartacists warn that an illusory "deal" with the bloody Salvadoran junta—especially now that death squad leader d'Aubuisson is running the show—means a bloodbath of the workers and peasants. The Morenoites formally oppose negotiations, but never *counterpose* the call for an insurgent military victory to the liberal/reformist attempt to head off social revolution through a "political solution." Above all, the Morenoites violently oppose the SL slogan, "Defense of Cuba, USSR Begins in El Salvador!" Their anti-Spartacist witch-hunting and murder attacks are their ticket for full acceptance into the anti-Soviet popular front extending from the centrists all the way to Ronald Reagan. This is the real meaning of the IWP's call for a "unified slate of labor and socialist candidates."

Witchhunt in the CWA

We reprint on page five a leaflet by Larry Ackerson, a member of the Militant Action Caucus (MAC) in the CWA who bore the brunt of the Morenoites' murderous attack on October 2. Ackerson points to the coincidence of interests between CWA Local 11502 president Janice Wood, trying to cover up the mass layoffs now facing L.A. phone workers, and Morenoite scabs Jim Green and Elizabeth Wiatr, both appointed stewards in the Wood regime, who have been regularly crossing picket lines at an AFL-CIO sanctioned strike at the Group W Cable company. In a broader framework, the Morenoites' anti-Spartacist frenzy coincides with the CWA bureaucracy's witchhunting red scare aimed at driving out the MAC, the leading opposition force in the union. This campaign is focused on the attempt to purge MAC spokesman Kathy Ikegami, an executive board member of CWA Local 9410 (SF). As in the L.A. witchhunt, the bureaucrats are seeking to whip up an anti-communist frenzy over the militants' support for the political views expressed in *Workers Vanguard*. The class-struggle oppositionists have replied that *WV* is the paper that told the

truth to the workers about impending layoffs, bureaucratic purges and the labor fakers' determination to bind the workers to the Democratic Party.

But there may be far more ominous forces at work. Local 11502 president Janice Wood, so eager to alibi the Morenoites' anti-Spartacist thuggery and anti-union scabbing, broke a tie vote to defeat a MAC resolution calling on the phone union to break from the American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD), a CIA-connected labor front for U.S. imperialism, whose task is to smash militant unionism in Latin America. Here the virulently anti-communist bureaucratic/Morenoite alliance becomes understandable. At every union convention since 1972, the MAC has agitated against the AIFLD, which was largely the creation of CWA founder-president Joe Beirne. This was a considerable embarrassment for Washington's "labor" agents, who prefer to carry out their dirty tricks in the dark. MAC's record as the main opposition to this CIA union operation certainly has a lot to do with the current kangaroo court trial of exec board member Ikegami in S.F., and it may be behind the witch-hunt in Los Angeles as well.

MAC and *Workers Vanguard* have exposed the U.S. government and corporation funding of the AIFLD; its role in whipping up "popular" opposition to the leftist Allende regime in Chile in 1973; its phony agrarian reform aimed at undercutting revolutionary leftists in El Salvador. The class-struggle opposition in the CWA has shown that the AIFLD's "union-building" activities are literally union-busting. That AIFLD officials played a key role in engineering counterrevolutionary coups d'état in Brazil (1964), Chile (1973) and elsewhere. That is why MAC has demanded, "CWA Out of the AIFLD!" And that is why the Beirne/Watts bureaucracy of the CWA has made the Militant Action Caucus, and *Workers Vanguard*, their target.

At the very least, the Morenoites' anti-Spartacist frenzy links up with the AIFLD "labor" spooks' determination to rid the Communications Workers—the most consciously anti-communist union in the U.S.—of its class-struggle opposition. And maybe there's more than meets the eye. In Colombia, his base of operations since the 1976 Argentine coup, Nahuel Moreno's visceral Stalinophobia led his followers in the PST to sabotage (on behalf of two AIFLD unions) a May 1977 strike called by the Stalinist-led labor federation. The AIFLD ties with the CIA and use of counterrevolutionary Cuban gusanos are sinister; but the Morenoites are plenty dubious themselves. *Beware of Morenoite thugs and scabs!*

Trotskyists Defend Workers Democracy

For the ranks of Kramer's IWP, who have been fed a structure of lies about the Spartacist League, we would like to present some pertinent facts. When the SL mobilized 1,200 unionists to stop Nazis from demonstrating in San Francisco on 19 April 1980, your leadership refused to attend because it was "inconvenient." When the Los Angeles Spartacist League initiated a united-front demonstration defending Salvadoran refugees in March 1981, your leadership backed out at the last minute even though the date had been changed to accommodate them. *Workers Vanguard* defended Nahuel Moreno when he was arrested at a leftist meeting by Brazilian police in 1978 (*WV* No. 215, 22 September 1978). We defended Morenoite Carlos Petroni, arrested by the Nicaraguan Sandinistas in 1979 (*WV* No. 245, 7 December 1979). The Partisan Defense Committee, defense arm of the Spartacist League/U.S., protested against the LAPD attack against an RWF demonstration on May 1, 1981.

But we have denounced the treacher-

ous anti-Sovietism of Moreno/Kramer & Co., who join with Ronald Reagan in singing "solidarity with Solidarność," the Polish company union for the CIA and Western bankers; who refuse to defend the Soviet Union in Central America, where Reagan is attempting to "draw the line against Communism"; who want to extend Khomeini's reactionary "Islamic revolution" to the USSR, supporting CIA-aided mullahs in Afghanistan. While calling for proletarian political revolution to oust the Stalinist usurpers who endanger the conquests of October with their illusions in "détente," we unconditionally defend the degenerated/deformed workers states against imperialism. Moreno/Kramer offer themselves up as murderous instruments for the agents of Yankee imperialism against the Trotskyists of the Spartacist League. The Spartacist League consistently defends workers democracy and our own democratic rights because the struggle for the emancipation of the working people is thwarted by finking, scabbing and thuggery. ■

Front for Junta...

(continued from page 4)

Mario Muñoz became the focus of international protest against the rightist terror threatening political refugees in Argentina. This was due to the tireless, exemplary and successful class-struggle defense campaign waged by the Partisan Defense Committee (together with the Committee to Defend the Worker and Sailor Prisoners in Chile) and the international Spartacist tendency (iSt). By mid-June 1976 more than 500 individuals and organizations on five continents had endorsed the PDC campaign. In August, bowing to international pressure, the junta released Muñoz who flew to asylum in Austria. We also defended numerous other left political prisoners held in the Argentine junta's jails, Chilean militant Gabriel Salinas, Brazilian leftists Paranagua and Pilla, other Chilean worker refugees...and members of Nahuel Moreno's organization, the Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores (PST). SL demonstrators carried signs, "PST Leaders in Videla's Jails—Free José Páez and Arturo Apaza!"

The iSt's record of militant opposition to the Argentine dictatorship's terror is powerful and consistent. The Morenoite tendency in contrast has sought to achieve a modus vivendi with the junta by covering up its crimes.

- The first PST-supported newspaper issued after the Videla coup (*Cambio*, 1-15 May 1976) wrote, "The present government, judging by its statements to date, also is not inclined toward a policy of 'blood and fire' favored by the most hardline regimes on the continent."

- In an interview with his Portuguese supporters, Moreno asserted that the coup was "not a historic defeat for the Argentine proletariat," and went to great lengths to distinguish it from the Pinochet takeover in Chile (*Combate Socialista*, 15 October 1976).

- When the junta in early 1978 started talking about a "political opening," the PST responded that "the political opening could become a truly democratic outcome" under mass pressure (*Opición*, April 1978). While the iSt called for workers revolution to smash the junta, the Morenoites' maximum demand was for "free elections and a sovereign constituent assembly."

- The next month they made their intentions even clearer, referring to "military and management sectors who have democratic intentions" who "can come to play a positive role." The PST called for a new version of the "Commission of the 8," a popular front which joined them together with the Stalinists and six bourgeois parties under the

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Workers Must Fight...

(continued from page 16)

necessary to "save jobs." Since then, 40,000 jobs have been lost at Chrysler. If the capitalist depression continues and deepens, Chrysler could well go bust even if the workers gave up concession after concession. As the Russian revolutionary workers leader Leon Trotsky said during the Great Depression of the 1930s: "The workers cannot and do not wish to accommodate the level of their living standards to the exigencies of individual capitalists, themselves victims of their own regime."

Toward a Motor City Labor Revolt

Certainly it will not be easy to extract gains from the depressed auto companies, especially Chrysler. But for that very reason auto workers must break with the traditional trade-union view that what they can get out of a strike action is limited by the corporate balance sheet of their particular employer. If the auto industry is now in sorry financial shape, the American capitalist class as a whole possesses enormous wealth—\$190 billion alone in the annual military budget aimed at destroying the Soviet Union. A Detroit labor revolt must be directed as much at Washington as at the Big Three.

If auto workers seized the plants, shut



Chrysler Trenton Engine Plant workers outside their union hall.

WV Photo

down Detroit, mobilized the unemployed, held mass labor/black rallies, there would be a first-class political crisis in this country. And while the capitalist politicians—"friend of labor" Democrats no less than Reaganite Republicans—would attack the workers as lawbreakers and fomenters of anarchy, they would also be desperate to buy labor peace before a revolt centered on Detroit spread to other industries and regions. Demands that are now dismissed out of hand as "impossible" and "pie in the sky" would suddenly become winnable. At the minimum auto workers must demand a mass public

workers desperately need a leadership of works program and full union rights and wages and unlimited benefits at full union-scale wage levels.

A Motor City labor revolt sparked by a Chrysler strike would end the period of one-sided class war against the workers which began under Carter and escalated under Reagan. It would open a new period of social struggle against this racist capitalist system. What is lacking is a leadership with the will to fight and a program to win.

Fraser's only paycheck should be coming from the people he works for on the Chrysler board of directors! Auto

workers desperately need a leadership of elected strike committees composed of those who want to fight for the program they need:

- A shorter workweek with no loss in pay ("30 for 40") to immediately create jobs for millions of unemployed. For an automatic full cost-of-living adjustment to protect real wages against inflation.

- Mass organization of the unemployed under the leadership of the trade unions. Full unlimited recall rights and union membership rights at nominal dues for laid-off workers.

- Fight all forms of racial and sexual discrimination. For labor/black defense against Klan/Nazi terrorism and all racist attacks.

- Against chauvinist trade protectionism and deportations of "illegal aliens." Full citizenship rights for all foreign workers. For international working-class solidarity.

- Not a man, not a penny for the U.S. imperialist war machine. Defend the Soviet Union, Poland, Cuba and the other bureaucratically ruled workers states against imperialism.

- Break with the Democrats and Republicans, with the Teddy Kennedys as well as the Reagans. Oust the sellout union bureaucrats like Fraser and Kirkland—For a workers party based on the unions to fight for a workers government!

- Expropriate capitalist industry and finance without compensation. For a planned socialist economy to end unemployment, inflation and poverty. ■

second Perón regime (*Opción*, May 1978).

- But the Morenoites really pulled out the stops in whitewashing the junta at the time of the World Cup soccer tournament in Buenos Aires. They denounced "a campaign organized outside the country by the ultraleft" (the call for a boycott of the games) and its "exaggerations and imprecisions about the repressive reality which we endure." They even praised Videla's wife for participating in a "positive and great advance for women" by attending the games! In a small inside note, the PST mentioned that 55 of its own comrades had been kidnapped by the regime (*Opción*, July 1978).

So much for who denounced Argentine junta terror before the Falklands/Malvinas war! What about during the fighting, when Buenos Aires was seized by patriotic fervor whipped up by the generals to divert attention from the disastrous economic situation (and to frustrate a planned general strike)? Here the Morenoites' bloody betrayal of the Argentine workers reached its zenith. Under an enormous headline, "In the Military Camp of the Argentine Dictatorship," they called on the masses to salute their butchers (*Correo Internacional*, April 1982). They claimed a military defeat could mean the replacement of Galtieri "by a government a thousand times worse." A Peruvian Morenoite leader said after a visit to Buenos Aires that to call for "Down with Galtieri" would be "objectively on the side of England"! So craven was the Morenoite line that a high-ranking government official invited a PST leader to a private audience (reported in a scandalous article, "The PST and the Paradoxes of War," *Correo Internacional*, May 1982).

And the victims of the junta torturers and killers, the tens of thousands of "disappeared," their own comrades, some 100 of whom had been jailed or killed by the dictatorship? What about the "mothers of the Plaza de Mayo" who demonstrated weekly in front of the presidential palace holding pictures of their kidnapped sons and daughters? During April-May while the war was on, the PST effectively abandoned them. The 15 May issue of the Argentine PST's paper, *Palabra Socialista*, didn't even mention the "disappeared." The

Morenoites' international organ, *Correo Internacional* (April 1982), said that if the PST's latest martyr, Ana María Martínez were alive, she would have gone to die for the junta in the Falklands/Malvinas! And their American outfit headed by Moreno's strutting Gauleiter Nicholas Kramer mentioned leftist victims of the junta only in order to denounce the Spartacist League for bringing the subject up!

Nahuel Moreno, Nicholas Kramer: you lie! ■

MAC...

(continued from page 5)

MAC members here? Does Imerzel have a hand in this? And what about the CWA leadership's cronies in the AIFLD, who have had to put up with many years of outspoken MAC opposition to the CIA dirty tricks carried out in the name of labor on behalf of Central American military dictators and the like?

The motion passed at the October meeting was that *Workers Vanguard* "slandered" Green and Wiatr in three ways: (1) that they are supporters of a socialist organization, the International Workers Party; (2) that Green participated in a physical attack against Spartacist League supporters; and (3) that both Green and Wiatr have been scabbing.

All these are statements of fact! Examining them in reverse order:

(1) Group W workers in IATSE (broadcasting union) are on strike for union recognition in Santa Monica. Labor solidarity is what will win the strike. If CWA members daily cross their lines then it is scabbing. If CWA ever strikes at Group W then the IATSE bureaucrats will use this scabbing as a justification to tell their members to cross our lines.

This kind of class treason is a recipe for defeat for us all. Look what happened in last year's air controllers (PATCO) strike, the strike which was Reagan's personal test case for outright union-busting. Thanks to the union tops' notion that it's okay to cross the picket lines of other unions, the American airport unions (like the Machinists, who service the planes) refused to shut

down the airports and PATCO was broken. Air controllers in Portugal took more concrete solidarity action with PATCO than the American unions did! With leaders like this, no wonder American workers are reeling from defeat after defeat.

The responsibility for the scabbing against the Group W strikers rests squarely with our union leaders, who say it isn't scabbing and organize our members to cross the IATSE lines. And what about Green and Wiatr, who claim to be some kind of militant working-class leaders? MAC stands for a different kind of leadership, a class-struggle leadership that sees its job not as apologizing for the company but as organizing union members to fight and win. I urge CWA members to read in *Workers Vanguard* about the case of Keith Anwar, a militant Chicago steel worker who recently scored an important NLRB victory in his three-year struggle to reverse his firing for honoring a picket line.

(2) I can personally testify that I was assaulted with lethal weapons on October 2 and that Green participated in that attack.

(3) No one is accusing Green and Wiatr of being members of the IWP or any other group, but why are they in such a hurry to disclaim their known political sympathies? Green and Wiatr say they "are willing to sign affidavits stating that they are not members or supporters of any socialist or communist organization." Yet Green was a prominent participant in the IWP goon squad on October 2, and both Green and Wiatr have been publicly featured in photos in the IWP's paper, *Working Class Opposition*, showing them in attendance at IWP events. Their association with and evident support of this organization is their right. The question is, why do they now deny what the IWP press has publicly acknowledged? Why do they want to see a special loyalty oath against socialists introduced in this local? I know why. They have volunteered to be Wood's kept "opposition," leading the charge to witchhunt and purge MAC. By their craven and dishonest denial of their own political sympathies, they target union members who would not do the same. MAC is intended to be the first victim, but MAC would not be the only one.

Wood's whitewash of Green's murderous attack on me fits nicely with the increasingly heavy-handed way she has conducted union meetings. Her bureaucratic attempts to silence us have been largely ineffective, so now there is an appointed goon squad that moves to physically suppress MAC members while they are speaking. J.V. Stalin would understand Wood's methods very well.

Wood already purged MAC member Manuel Morales from the stewards list. The charges against him are so flimsy that it is obvious to the majority of co-workers that it was a political purge to drop him as a steward. A petition signed by two-thirds of his work crew demanding that he be reinstated has had no effect.

Wood's tactics are of a piece with her avid support for the AIFLD. At the April 1982 membership meeting Wood broke a 21-to-21 tie to pass a motion that restored our union's money going to this union-busting outfit. The AIFLD's reputation is so widely known that even the anti-labor *Herald-Examiner* has referred to its CIA connections. The AIFLD sets up company unions, breaks strikes of militant unions, and is complicit in the jailing and torture of union militants in Latin America.

Every member should ask themselves: by attacking MAC, whose members have consistently tried to break our union's ties to this CIA front, is Wood attempting to carry out AIFLD policy in our union?

If Janice Wood had the slightest interest in the truth she would hardly have lined up with Green's lies about the October 2 events while preventing us from replying. It is clear that the marriage of Green and Wood has as its purpose doing the company's dirty work. Green and Wiatr have blocked with the pro-AIFLD leadership of the local to conduct a virulent witchhunt against members of the Militant Action Caucus and in particular those who support the Spartacist League. We call on all CWA members to repudiate the witchhunt organized by this unholy alliance of a pro-CIA bureaucrat and a pair of renegade socialists.

Larry Ackerson
for the Militant Action Caucus
October 25, 1982

WORKERS VANGUARD

Fraser's Anti-Strike Referendum Solves Nothing

Chrysler Workers Must Fight!

DETROIT—Last month Chrysler workers greeted United Auto Workers (UAW) president Doug Fraser's latest sellout with walkouts in Detroit, Ohio and Delaware. After three years of giveback contracts the ranks said: Enough! The contract deal was rejected by a better than two to one margin.

Fraser, who has broken more wildcats than the Pinkertons, had no intention of leading a strike no matter what the membership wanted. So he called an *anti-strike* referendum for October 26 to demoralize and split Chrysler workers by making them vote and vote again. Fearing that they could not win a strike saddled with the likes of Fraser, a majority (reportedly 70 percent) voted to extend the negotiating to the end of the year.

But come New Year's, things will only have gotten worse. The question facing militants at Chrysler, particularly the 30 percent who voted to strike now, is not whether to fight but how to win against Fraser and his local henchmen. Fraser's gunpoint anti-strike "referendum" solves nothing. Chrysler workers, angered by years of givebacks and layoffs, will explode. Saddled with a leadership hell-bent on sabotaging their struggle, they hesitated to enter the battle. But the situation is intolerable and they *must* fight, and they must forge a militant leadership with a class-struggle program to win. *There is no other way!*

Key is the formation of *elected strike committees* with the authority to launch mass picket lines and spread the strike. Such committees would send out flying squads (as in the 1930s) to appeal to union brothers throughout Detroit and in the militant Canadian locals, starting with the giant Ford Rouge complex where thousands face being thrown into the streets. The Rouge Militant Caucus has called for joint mass picket lines as the means to spread the strike citywide and industrywide.

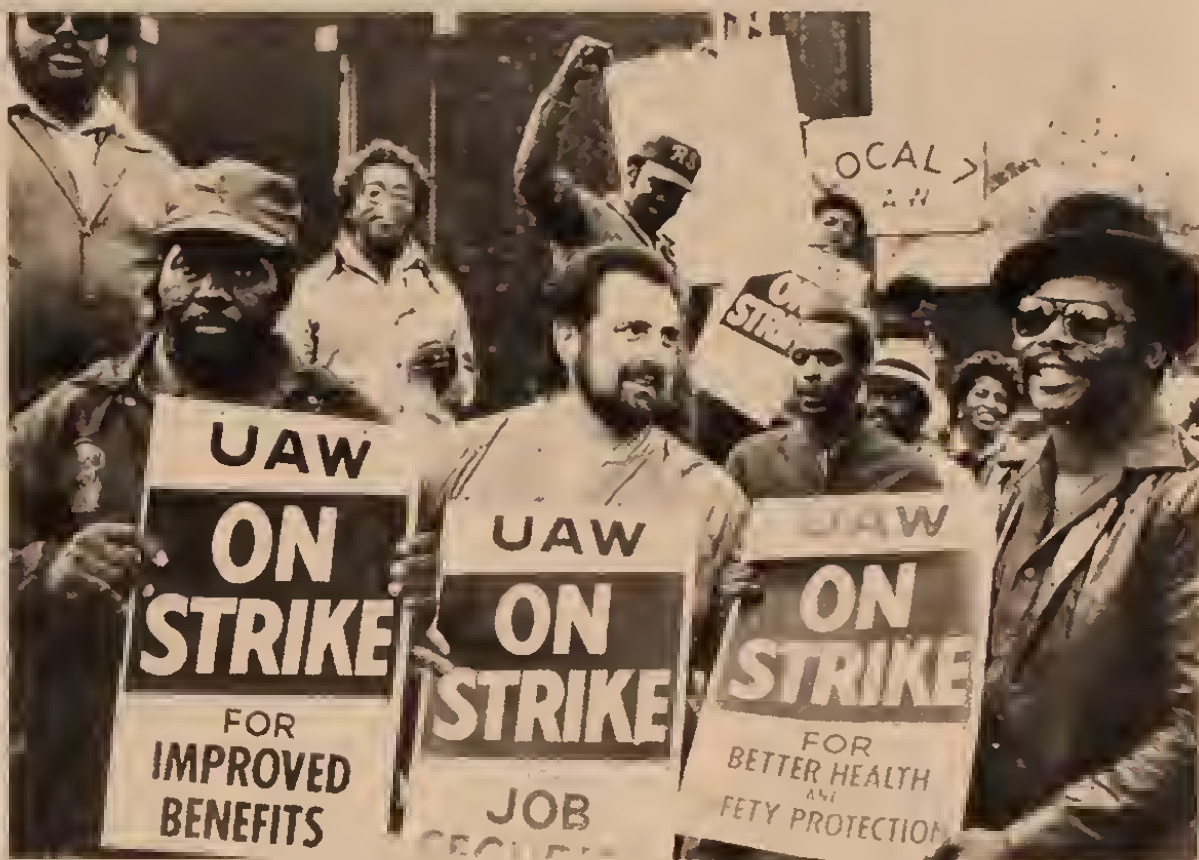
A *strike now* is what the bosses and the labor traitors in Detroit fear most. Since the air controllers union was fined, jailed and busted last year, any strike in auto will immediately run up against Reagan and the Democratic Party leaders, who are trying to make the workers pay for the U.S.' anti-Soviet war drive. Chrysler workers must

understand that the labor bureaucrats and Democratic politicians—"the popular front" in Detroit—who just forced the teachers back to work under binding arbitration will once again send the same "liberal" labor-haters like Congressman John Conyers, Detroit councilwoman Maryanne Mahaffey and the New Detroit/Coleman Young machine into UAW meetings to break their strike. Speaking of "liberal" labor-haters, remember it was Fraser's fa-

Communist Party, is pushing the same old game of "pressure Fraser" in a new package. This crew of opportunists and aspiring misleaders is led by the same Lee Cain who in 1979 invited Conyers and Mahaffey into the Save Dodge Main Committee to keep it safe for Fraser. Now they say they want "to hammer out in clear terms to the national negotiating committee just exactly what we want." Fraser and the negotiating committee know damn well

Iacocca for presenting too *favorable* a picture of the company's financial situation. Detroit local vice president and Fraser loyalist Charlie Ryan said angrily, "Iacocca started opening up his big mouth, said he had \$1 billion, and the workers listened to him instead of the leadership." The *Los Angeles Times* (7 October) commented about the "odd juxtaposition of classic union-management postures: The UAW is arguing that Chrysler is in worse

Fraser's sellout contract sparks walkout at Detroit's Jefferson Avenue plant, September 16.



WV Photo

vored candidate for governor, Democrat James Blanchard, who as a Congressman wrote the original Chrysler concessions bill, and voted against school busing and for tax breaks for segregationist schools.

Beware of Phony Anti-Fraser "Militants"

UAW chief Fraser is so hated in Chrysler plants across the country that he has to appear before the workers on videotape. But the workers must beware of the fake "militants" who refused to call for a strike while pleading with Fraser and UAW Chrysler division head Marc Stepp to resign so as to salvage the Solidarity House program of class collaboration and betrayal. Typical of this breed of fake "militant" is Larry Leach, president of Local 1264 in Sterling Heights. While he postured against Fraser's rotten deal, he took down the picket lines at Sterling Heights when the local actually walked against the sellout. A member of the Rouge Militant Caucus told *WV* that Leach's response to its call for joint picketing by Rouge workers at Chrysler plants was that these union brothers would be "resented" and that donations of coffee and sandwiches would be better!

The newly formed Chrysler Rank and File Committee for a Better Contract, supported by the pro-Moscow Stalinist

what Chrysler workers want. They want to throw back *all* the givebacks, restore the uniform industrywide contract and win a big wage hike.

Another similar reformist outfit, the Communist Labor Party, says that a strike would be "unrealistic" and calls on the Chrysler Council, which *approved* the sellout, to elect a new negotiating team. What all these fake-left groups, both inside and outside the plants, have in common is a perspective of pressuring Fraser. One black worker with 15 years seniority stood in front of the Jefferson Assembly plant last Thursday as Progressive Labor, the Workers League and Spark as well as the Spartacist League were selling and said, pointing to the *Challenge, Bulletin* and *Spark* salesmen: "All you people do is talk, talk, talk and you never act. The only ones who do anything are these guys," pointing to *Workers Vanguard*. The phony militants don't act *because they're still waiting for Fraser!* And now he's making them wait until January 1—that is, until hell freezes over.

The Chrysler Bankruptcy Scare

From the very start of the negotiations Fraser has tried to frighten the workers with the claim that any gains or any strike would mean instant bankruptcy for Chrysler. In fact, Solidarity House has attacked Chrysler boss Lee

financial shape than the company would have people believe."

Taking its cue from Solidarity House, Chrysler officials are now saying that "a strike of any duration at all would severely cripple us and could ruin us." But if Chrysler were really facing bankruptcy, Iacocca & Co. would be in a total frenzy. Instead they're playing it very cool. It's clear Chrysler has decided to take a strike in order to keep its \$2.50 an hour wage giveback advantage over GM and Ford. According to Harvey Heinbach, the auto expert for the giant Wall Street firm of Merrill Lynch:

"Chrysler has made a big thing of saying it's got \$1 billion in cash. As long as they are in a decent cash position, they are not in any danger of insolvency."

—*Detroit Free Press*, 19 October

The givebacks would reportedly allow Chrysler to save a few hundred dollars in labor costs per car over GM and Ford. Does anybody think that a few hundred is going to make that much difference when it comes to selling an \$8,000 to \$9,000 automobile? Only if Chrysler drove wages down to the level of, say, South Korea or Brazil would it gain a real competitive advantage over GM and Ford.

How many cars Chrysler can sell depends primarily on the state of the economy. Remember in 1979 Fraser told workers that the givebacks were

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Two sellouts: UAW misleaders Doug Fraser and Marc Stepp.