

U. S. FLYERS -- PAWNS IN STATE DEPT. GAME

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May Drag U. S. Deeper in War On Moroccans

By George Lavan

Transfer of all French troops in Europe to North Africa for more brutal suppression of the independence struggles in Algeria and Morocco is being considered by the French capitalist class.

Such a move would not only mean a heightening of the reign of terror against the peoples of these French colonies, but would even more directly involve U.S. imperialism in the massacre of colonial peoples. Included among the troops it is proposed to send to North Africa, are the French components of the NATO army, which is principally financed and armed by the U.S.

Pierre Montel, Chairman of the Defense Committee of the French National Assembly, in explaining the proposal Aug. 6 said that the holding of North Africa was essential to the defense of Europe and the "free world" and that therefore NATO should recognize as France's principal military mission the defense of the West Mediterranean-African area.

Should the U.S.-controlled NATO go along with this proposition, the mission of the North Atlantic Alliance, hitherto explained as a defense against a Soviet attack, would be enlarged to include the putting down of colonial independence struggles.

French imperialism already has ten divisions — including some of its NATO troops — in North Africa where they are mainly engaged in operations against Algerian resistance fighters. It is noteworthy that the NATO top command has acquiesced in this employment of NATO troops.

U. S. ROLE

Even more alarming for American workers has been the role of the U.S. Air Force in the fighting operations in Algeria. When it leaked out that at least one American plane and pilot had been involved in a paratroop attack on Algerians, the U.S. Air Force tried to pass it off as a "NATO exercise." An inquiry by the anti-colonial newsletter, Toward Freedom, at NATO headquarters in Europe brought a reply from a British general that "NATO has never conducted exercises over Algeria."

Another example of U.S. military aid to the French militarists in North Africa was Washington's granting of priority two months ago to a shipment of helicopters, very effective in anti-guerrilla fighting, to the French Army in Algeria.

The strong backing for Montel's proposal of the transfer, if necessary, of every French soldier in Europe to Algeria and Morocco, was shown in its endorsement by General Joseph Pierre Koenig, French Minister of Defense.

POLICY WAVERS

French imperialist policy toward Morocco has wavered in the past few months. The reign of terror against the Moroccan people has failed to break the resistance movement which has grown steadily since the French removed the pro-nationalist Sul-

tan two years ago and set up a hated puppet in his place.

Grandual, the recently appointed Resident-General of Morocco proposed minor concessions to quiet the population. In addition to holding talks with some leaders of the outlawed Istiqlal (Independence) Party he was understood to have proposed the abdication of the puppet Sultan and keeping the throne empty for several years.

These proposed token concessions, however, met with furious resistance from the wealthy French landowners and businessmen in Morocco as well as from the capitalists in France with Moroccan holdings.

Furthermore, the French military, whose repression in North Africa has failed so far, now feel that it should reap the first benefits of the coexistence deal formally begun at Geneva. Coexistence for French imperialism means that it now can transfer armies from Europe to massacre its colonial subjects.

That watchdog of U.S. imperialist interests, the N.Y. Times, thinks this is moving a bit too fast. Pointing out that the U.S. has huge naval and air bases in Morocco, it editorializes (Aug. 8): "There is no question that French North Africa must be held for the free world, and that France is at present the only nation which can do so. . . . But it would deprive NATO of virtually all active French troops . . . tend to upset the still precarious balance of power established in Europe."

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Armistice with China Seen in the Making

By Carl Goodman

An armistice in the cold war between U.S. imperialism and the Chinese government is in the making. While not as dramatically staged as the Big Four Geneva conference,

this is the essence of the "Little Geneva" conference between U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, Ural Alexis Johnson and Chinese Ambassador to Poland, Wang Pin-nan.

The talks between the two ambassadors deal ostensibly only with repatriating U.S. citizens in China and return of Chinese students now in U.S. to their homeland. However, under Point Two of their agenda the ambassadors are to discuss "other practical matters of issue between the two sides," and thereby open negotiations between the two governments.

According to a news source close to the Indian government, the Mao regime wants: (1) Admission of its government to the



"YOUR MOTHER SPENT THE NINE MONTHS BEFORE
YOUR BIRTH READING 'DAS KAPITAL' —"

Wall Street Rejoices Over Output by Labor

At the Texas Instrument plant in Dallas a woman worker now assembles seven booklets in the time she used to do one. Weavers at the Schwarzenbach Huber Co. in Altoona, Pa., now weave synthetic fabrics three and one-half times as fast as they did in 1950; a worker there who tended 24 machines five years ago now tends 65.

This is how an article on the tremendous increase in U.S.

workers' productivity starts off in the Aug. 9 Wall Street Journal. This productivity jump of American industry is based on introduction of new machinery, a certain amount of automation, which, however, is just beginning, re-organization of work methods (time-motion studies), speed-up and bonus plans.

Actually the government has not issued a productivity index covering all manufacturing industries in the U.S. since 1937. A U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics productivity report is expected to be released this fall. It has been repeatedly held back in order not to "disturb" labor-management contract negotiations.

Undoubtedly it will reveal gigantic increases in workers' productivity. BLS figures available for a few industries indicate this. Thus between 1939 and 1953 per-man output in the cement industry rose 40.5%, in the glass container industry 38.2%, pulp and paper 17.1%, tobacco products 43.4%, rayon and synthetic fibers 187.8%.

Individual companies in other industries report worker output has increased as much as 25% a year.

At General Electric the value of production per worker increased from \$7.45 an hour in 1949 to \$12 per hour in 1954 — 61%. Average hourly wages in the same period rose, however, only from \$1.49 to \$1.93 — 29.6%.

Hallcrafters Co., a Chicago electronics manufacturer, admits to a per-man output increase of 25% in the past year. The Carpenter Steel Co. in Reading, Pa. sets its per-man increase in pro-

ductivity since 1945 at 38%. Since June, 1953, productivity at the Dixon Powdermaker Furniture Co. in Florida has risen 14%. The Gillette Razor Blade Co. reports its worker productivity up 150% in the period 1940-1955.

This increased productivity of their workers is bringing fabulous profits to the bosses. The Wall Street Journal in the midst of its rejoicing is compelled to note a fly in the ointment. U.S. workers have some ideas about their increased productivity.

For example, they don't want an introduction of automation that throws them out of work. They don't want more speed-up. They want wages to be increased as productivity increases.

Oust 15 Officers Of Fur Workers

Heads of the AFL Amalgamated Meatcutters and Butcher Workmen ousted 15 officers of the Fur and Leather Workers on Aug. 9. In addition, they placed the New York Joint Fur Council under trusteeship.

Recently, the independent fur union — bureaucratically expelled in 1950 by the CIO for allegedly being "Communist" dominated — merged with the Amalgamated. The merger agreement gave Amalgamated officers sweeping powers to purge the fur union of "Communists." The ousters were instigated by AFL President George Meany as condition for approval of the merger, but the AFL Council still refuses to give its OK.

"Tremendous Advances," Mr. Eisenhower?

By Harry Ring

In a cheap bid for Negro votes in 1956, Pres. Eisenhower made the bald-faced assertion Aug. 8 that because "the Republican party has been firm in its insistence that there can be only one class of citizenship," the Negro people have made "tremendous advances" under his administration.

He said the Republican party had accomplished "the complete realization of its election promises to the Negro people, thus proving the promises had not been 'mere political platitudes.' These apparently unembarrassed claims were made public in the form of a letter from Eisenhower praising a report by the Republican National Committee's director of minorities.

With proper indignation, the report that was lauded by Eisenhower scored "the disgraceful spectacle" of Congressman Adam Clayton Powell being attacked physically by Democratic Representative Bailey of West Virginia, "just because he (Powell)

insisted that the constitutional rights of Negroes be protected in the school building program."

It was on June 8, just six weeks before Bailey swung his fist at Powell that Eisenhower himself swung a verbal haymaker at the Negro congressman. Powell had presented an anti-Jim Crow amendment to the military reserve bill, and the Dixiecrats, of course, were unhappy about it.

Branding the Powell amendment as "erroneous" and "extraneous" to the Reserve bill, Eisenhower, the champion of "one class of citizenship," said: "The mere fact that we can't all have our own ways about particular things in social progress, does that mean that we don't want to defend our country? Why do we make defense of our country dependent on all of us getting our own way here?"

The Republican report claims the elimination of the official Jim Crow policy in the armed forces as its major accomplishment. The fact is that steadily mounting pressure from the

Negro people and the increasingly damaging effect abroad of a Jim Crow army forced the shift in policy.

DODGES FEPC

With good reason the report dodges the explosive issue of a federal FEPC law. In its 1952 platform, the Republicans passed the buck to the states on FEPC, declaring, "Federal action should not duplicate state efforts to end such practices (job discrimination)."

To bolster this plank a bit, candidate Eisenhower solemnly vowed that he would "confer with the Governors of the 48 states" about ending Jim Crow. Naturally he didn't say when he would "confer."

A statement by the CIO Automobile Workers Union in support of a federal FEPC was presented to the House Judiciary Committee July 27. It gives some revealing facts on the effect of discrimination, facts that thoroughly explode both Republican and Democratic claims about

representing the interests of the Negro people.

During the week of June 5-12, the UAW report points out, there was unemployment among 3.7% of the white working force. In the same week, 7% of the non-white workers were looking for jobs.

As to income, the average white family in 1950 had a yearly income of \$3,813, while that of the non-white families was only \$2,312. The UAW's charge that the gap in wages has widened since then is supported by the study in last week's issue of the Militant showing that the gap in wages in the Detroit area grew from \$1,300 in 1951 to \$1,800 in 1954.

The UAW statement also proves that the higher jobless and lower income rates for Negro workers are due to deliberate discriminatory practices by the employers. The Michigan Employment Security Commission in 1953 found that 82.6% of industrial firms specified "white" workers in their job

orders. Only in the domestic and service fields did the agency find a greater willingness to hire Negroes.

That this situation is not peculiar to Michigan is further borne out by the findings of the Midwest Committee on Discrimination in Higher Learning. A digest of their report published in the Lorain Labor Leader of July 22 includes the following facts about discrimination against college students in Ohio and six neighboring states:

Fifty-six percent of the colleges and universities report difficulty in finding jobs for members of minority groups. Approximately 60% of the college placement offices say they get job requests with discriminatory qualifications. The committee found that more than half of the colleges accept such discriminatory requests and a significant number of them ask questions themselves about race and religion in their application forms. "Tremendous advances," Mr. Eisenhower?

Assail Pentagon For Witch Hunt Against Draftees

Union Bucks Gov't Effort to Break Strike

By Art Sharon

Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union officials have asked for a congressional investigation of the connections of Attorney General Brownell with one of the strike-bound non-ferrous metal firms.

Addressing its request to Senator Kilgore, chairman of the Senate Judiciary committee, the union communication said, "The Attorney General is known to have a long and close association with Roger W. Straus, chairman of the board of American Smelting and Refining Co."

The union statement charged that Brownell was "in violation of proper impartiality as a Government official in an attempt to break a strike in this industry." Brownell had issued a statement on July 28 charging that the Mine-Mill union was Communist-dominated.

The union has been on strike since July 1 against the three leading non-ferrous metal firms, Kennecott Copper Corporation, Phelps Dodge Copper Corporation and the American Smelting and Refining Company.

One of the three, Phelps Dodge Copper Corporation settled its strike with Mine-Mill last week.

Brownell moved against the union by citing it under the provisions of the "Brownell Butler Act," the Communist Control Act of 1954. Should the government succeed in its attack, the union would lose its bargaining rights under the National Labor Relations Act.

The government moved against the union after many appeals by industry bosses for government intervention. Instead of using the Taft-Hartley law the government chose its newest weapon, the Brownell Butler bill.

The union has announced its determination to fight the government's union-busting move all the way up to and including the Supreme Court, and has served notice on the strike-bound companies that any attempt on their part to refuse to negotiate would be viewed by the union as company violation of the rights of the union under the National Labor Relations Act.

The government's blow at the union and the "hang tough" position of the two large copper corporations reflect the strong desire of these corporations and the government to find a way to break the Mine Mill union, and thereby set a precedent for similar action against other unions.

Meanwhile only the independent United Electrical Workers Union has come out in defense of Mine-Mill against the government attack.

'Close-to-Mother' Guilt Charge in Landy Case Shocks Entire Country

By George Lavan

Two events have focused public attention on the U.S. Armed Forces' McCarthyite policy of smearing its enlisted men with discharges other than honorable for their alleged ideas or associations prior to inductions.

One was the dramatic case of Eugene W. Landy that has shocked the entire country. Landy was second highest student in the graduating class at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, Long Island. On the eve of graduation Landy was informed by Navy officials that he was being denied the reserve Navy Commission he had earned because his mother had once belonged to the Communist Party.

The second event was a sweeping expose, backed up by 110 case histories, of the U.S. Army's refusal of honorable discharges to draftees, not for anything they had done while in the army but for "forbidden" political ideas or associations before they were drafted. These charges were presented to Secretary of the Army, Wilber M.

Brucker, by Socialist Party leader Norman Thomas and Rowland Watts, both representing the Workers Defense League, and Kenneth Birkhead, National Director of the American Veterans Committee.

At the U.S. Merchant Marine School, where young Landy was an honor student, application for a Naval reserve commission is required of all students. A few days before graduation Landy was called to Naval intelligence headquarters in New York and questioned for several hours.

A CONSERVATIVE

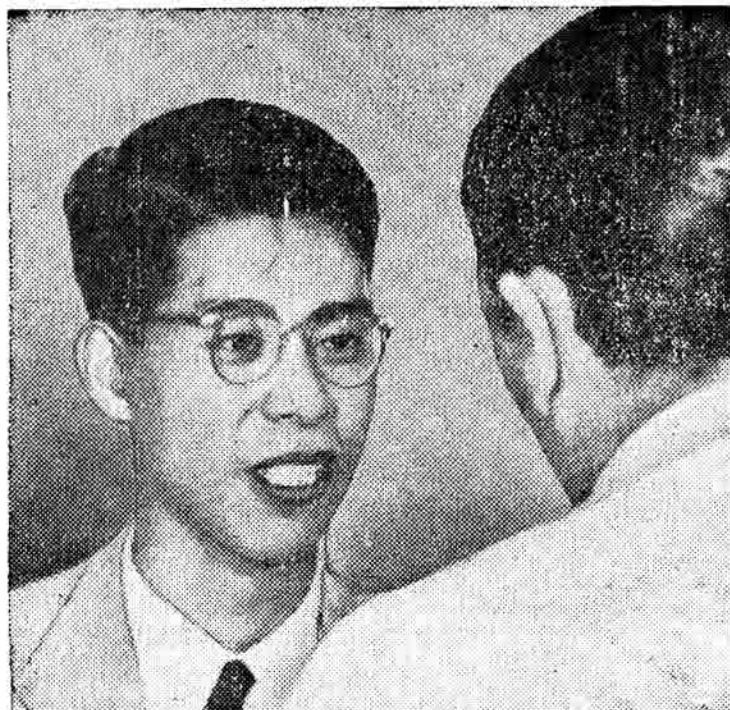
He made no attempt to conceal the facts about his mother's past political affiliations, which his questioners were already aware of, but thought his own conservative political beliefs

(Continued on page 3)

Visitor in Moscow



Premier Ho Chi Minh of North Viet Nam (right) is greeted in Moscow by Soviet President Klementy Voroshilov. The popular enthusiasm for the Indo-Chinese leader in Moscow reportedly exceeded official arrangements. One purpose of his visit, it was believed, was to find out if the Kremlin would stand by last year's Geneva treaty which promised unification elections for Viet Nam. The U.S. and South Viet Nam oppose holding such elections.



Dr. Chia Lin-hsieh, shown above in Yokohama, Japan, on way home to China. A 1951 graduate of Stanford University, where he studied nuclear physics, he was one of the large group of Chinese held in the U.S. despite their desire to go home. U.S.-China deal brought about release of U.S. fliers in China and Chinese students in U.S.

Can't Get Gov't Out of Business

By Paul Abbott

Did you know that the biggest capitalist outfit in the country is the government? I mean an outfit like Chrysler or Standard Oil or Woolworth's. And did you know that for all the talk about getting the government out of business, Congress is blocking any big-scale action?

Some interesting facts about this are given by Henry T. Simmons in the Aug. 8 Wall Street Journal. According to him, "nobody knows the exact number of the Government's individual business activities." But the Hoover Commission recently estimated that "the Defense Department alone is conducting 2,500 commercial and industrial operations." It figured the capital investment at \$15 billion.

The Council of State Chambers of Commerce, in an earlier study, "fixed the total capital investment in all Government business-type facilities at more than \$30 billion, equal to the total net worth of 29 of the nation's biggest corporations."

Even this tremendous figure may be low, since, Simmons declares, "Some individuals have guessed the figure at more than \$40 billion."

COFFEE ROASTING TOO

Government business activities include such varied ventures as airlines, steamship lines, helium plants, laundries, bakeries, grocery chains, scrap metal processing, dry cleaning plants, ice plants, tree and garden nurseries, repair shops, acetylene plants as well as rope and paint making and coffee roasting.

With a \$17 million investment, the government has a monopoly in helium production; and officials have just announced plans to expand production 50% through a new plant that will cost \$6 million.

The Hoover Commission revealed that the military department maintains four fleets of transport aircraft totaling 697 planes. These hauled 3.9 million passengers last year.

And, says Simmons, "The Navy's Military Sea Transport Service operated 221 ships last year, making it the world's largest commercial steamship fleet." This fleet hauled two million passengers and 23 million tons of cargo last year. Not counting depreciation, interest, military pay, etc., its operating costs for the year were \$549 million.

Of the Defense Department's 48 shipyards, 32 have been leased to private operators, but the 10 actively operated by the Navy "employ close to half of all the nation's shipyard workers."

In the grocery business, the Defense Department operates 438 commissaries at home and abroad. "Last year, the military commissaries rang up \$306 million in sales."

The "PX's" corresponding to neighborhood drug stores, are even more widespread. The 450 in the U.S. and about 2,700 overseas, sold some \$540 million worth of sundries and durable goods last year, including even automobiles.

Businessmen, always on the lookout for a fast buck, have complained bitterly about this stiff competition inasmuch as the government mark up ranges only 3.5% to 5% above cost. In response to the complaints, both Democrats and Republicans have promised again and again to get the government out of business.

Some real deliveries were made on these promises. The government dumped 24 of its 27 synthetic rubber plants at give-

away prices. A barge line, the Inland Waterways Corp., was knocked down for \$9 million. The Army's chlorine plant at Muscle Shoals went for \$15 million. "Other sales included a hotel, the Bluebeard Castle, in the Virgin Islands, and an alcohol plant in Muscatine, Iowa."

Then the program ran into stumbling blocks. The Pentagon bucked giving up its commissaries and PX's because of the need "to increase the attractiveness of the military service as a career." The low prices in the government grocery and drug stores are a lure needed by the recruiting sergeant.

Even more important — "Bureaucrats are reluctant to lose part of their Government empires. Government-employee unions have resisted because they dread the loss of jobs, and they've had the backing of lawmakers who don't want to see the folks back home deprived of income from Government activities in their areas."

And so this year the first session of the 84th Congress, which is not exactly known to advocate socialism, "lacked onto defense appropriations the unprecedented requirement that the Pentagon get the okay of both House and Senate Appropriations Committees before dropping any of the military's business activities."

The purpose of this is plain. "The lawmakers want close scrutiny of any plans to do away with Federal plants and payrolls in their home districts."

PRACTICE AND THEORY

For the Congressmen, of course, this is only a practical question. They're just making sure no political butter slips out of their hands. In theory they're still 100% for 100% private enterprise.

The Wall Street Journal hasn't got around yet to assessing the implications of the government getting deeper and deeper into business and of Congressional reluctance to get the government out of business. Simmons doesn't say anything about it either. Possibly they have a good idea of what analysis would reveal and prefer to remain silent.

In business for itself, the government adds to the general anarchy of the capitalist system — in fact, intensifies the anarchy because of the extent and size of its operations. But the trend itself is evidence of the rotten ripeness of capitalism for conversion to socialism.

Private capital, despite its power and scope, is incapable of meeting a number of swiftly growing general needs. Some of these such as housing, medical care, schools, etc., are felt by everyone. Others are felt primarily by the government because they involve the general war-making capacity that is the main concern today of the capitalist class and the executives it has put in political office.

Lacking the resources of a planned economy, the U.S. government response, to certain needs at least, is to go in business itself — and on a colossal scale.

Socialism will not come by the government getting more and more involved in business. Its increasing involvement, however, is another sign showing how deep and strong the current is that is moving toward socialism.

U.S. Flyers Revealed as Pawns In State Department Diplomacy

By Joseph Hansen

The capitalist press has sounded two big themes over the release of the U.S. flyers by the Mao regime: (1) joy over their freedom, (2) indignation over the delay in their release and the bad treatment they allegedly received.

The first theme, we may grant, reflects the emotions of millions of Americans and we do not need to accuse the press of hypocrisy. The indignation, however, is a different matter.

The fact is that the State Department is responsible for the continued incarceration of the men since at least January.

This startling revelation was made by Joseph Alsop Aug. 5 in the widely syndicated column "Matter of Fact." This is one of the columns that every important newspaper follows, yet none that I have seen moderated its line of "indignation" or took the State Department to task. In fact, none of them have seen fit to comment on the information.

Alsop says that "now it can be told how the liberation of all the fifteen American airmen then held in Chinese jails was tentatively arranged many months ago."

"The man who did the job was the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dag Hammarskjöld. He made the deal with the Chinese Prime Minister Chou En-lai in the course of his trip to Peking in January."

According to Alsop, the Mao regime "agreed to release the flyers forthwith if their families were first permitted to visit them."

This request was simply a "face-saver" that Peking wanted. Visits from the families would have permitted the Chinese government to announce "that they had decided to let the flyers go in response to their parents' moving pleas for mercy."

If we are to believe Alsop — and there is no reason to doubt the accuracy of his secret information — "Hammarskjöld brought back a positive cut-and-dried commitment that this course would be followed."

THUMBS DOWN

What happened? It will be recalled that the Chinese government did invite the parents to come to China to visit their sons. For a few days there was great public hope that the parents would go. But the State Department quashed the whole thing.

It did not tell the flyers' families that a visit would mean their release. Instead it strongly discouraged them from accepting the invitation. Consequently none of the families defied the State Department — and their sons stayed in Chinese jails.

Why did the State Department follow such a callous policy? Here is Alsop's explanation:

"But at that time, the Eisenhower administration was still paying very great deference to the viewpoint that now seems to be represented only by the shrill and solitary voice of Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy. The policy-makers felt that helping to save the face of the Peking government might look like appeasement. They further felt that the Peking government would make propaganda hay of the visits of the flyers' families."

If the possibility of the Chinese government making "propaganda

Birds of a Feather



U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and George K. Yeh, foreign minister in Chiang Kai-shek's cabinet on Formosa, shake hands in Washington last December after signing a "mutual security" treaty. The pact formally binds the U.S. to defend Chiang on the island where he was driven by the Chinese people and symbolizes Wall Street's long-range aim of smashing the new government put into office by the Chinese revolution.

hay" out of the visits was that motivated the State Department, then it would seem that Washington decided to keep the flyers in jail to make its own "propaganda hay" out of their plight.

The more serious reason, however, appears to have been fear of McCarthy's charge of "appeasement." From this we must conclude that the big concern of the State Department at the time was not its standing with world opinion but with the opinion of the McCarthyites. Its diplomacy was directed not so much toward other countries as toward the Republican right wing and the war-mongering China lobby on Capitol Hill.

This facet of the diplomacy of the Eisenhower administration has been pointed out many times in the Militant. It explains much about the sabre-rattling and inflammatory declarations that otherwise appear to lack political motivation.

NOT THE MAJOR PIVOT

The fact, remains, however that this is not the whole explanation. The standing of the senator from Wisconsin is not the major pivot on which Eisenhower's foreign policy has turned.

In an article in the Sept. 14, 1953, Militant I pointed out that the audience Dulles was most concerned about was the American people. His primary problem as the agent of Wall Street, deliberately preparing for World War III, was to mobilize this colossal force.

To psychologize the American people for war, Dulles must succeed in two aims: (1) instill hatred of the enemy — the countries in the Soviet orbit; (2) appear as the banner-bearer of peace.

In pursuit of the first aim, the cold war was launched under

it became a major factor in politics. The psychologizing of the American people for war was turning into its opposite. It became imperative to make a big shift toward waving the olive branch.

MCCARTHYITE FASCISM

Meanwhile, however, the hate-communist propaganda and the accompanying witch hunt had fostered a new force — McCarthyite fascism. This movement, generating a power of its own, blocked any abrupt turn and had to be put in its place first.

Thus we witnessed the paradoxical phenomena of the Eisenhower administration turning toward a diplomacy of "peace" while repeatedly setting off sensational war scares to appease the McCarthyite movement as it worked to lock this horror in the closet. The underlying logic of the situation, however, enabled us to discount the sensational scares and correctly predict what would happen with Eisenhower's foreign policy.

The new course is now well under way and we may expect it to continue for some time, no matter what its minor oscillations may be.

Alsop claims that the "log jam" in relations between China and America was broken by an ultimatum from the Mao regime: Either a meeting at the ambassadorial level, in which case the flyers would be released, or Chinese forces would move on once to free Quemoy and Matsu from Chiang Kai-shek's garrisons. This threat, says Alsop, forced Dulles' hand.

That is a possible explanation for the timing of the present conference at Geneva, but more likely it simply coincides with the timing the State Department had already decided upon in relation to the previous conference at Geneva with Moscow's representatives.

Alsop is correct in my opinion, however, in his conclusion that "What is now happening in Geneva can only be a beginning."

NEW SALES TAX HITS WORKERS OF ILLINOIS

By Al Simmons

CHICAGO, July 30 — Last April the workers here elected James Daley Democratic mayor by an overwhelming majority. The mayor's first act after election was to join Republican Governor

Stratton in pushing through a bi-partisan tax program that will cost Illinois workers an estimated \$100,000,000 a year.

This program called for an increase in the state sales tax of 1/2% and the levy of a Chicago sales tax of 1/2%. So by August 1, Chicago workers had an extra 1% added to their sales tax making it a total take of 3% for the city and state politicians.

Mayor Daley and Governor Stratton said they needed the new tax to improve the Fire, Police, School, and Health and Sanitation Departments. This is an old story. Since 1930 workers have had to bear the burden of taxes levied by both Democratic and Republican state administrations.

In 1932 when the big corporations either stopped paying taxes, or paid much less, or became delinquent because of the depression, the governor, who was a Democrat, proposed that organized labor accept a 2% sales tax as a means of relief for the unemployed.

The workers voted for it, but the older workers will remember how hard it was to get any unemployment relief although the sales tax was earmarked for this purpose.

Since the depression, Illinois has seen many Democratic and Republican administrations. Politicians came and went but the sales tax remained. For 25 years they have been promising to use the money collected through sales taxes to improve the Fire, Police, School, Health and Sanitation Departments.

THE RESULTS

Today the Chicago Police Department is considered one of the most vicious strikebreaking agencies in the country. And hardly a week passes by without the headlines in Chicago newspapers exposing the graft and corruption in this department. Fires break out continually in Chicago's slums. Yet the Fire Department is ill equipped and undermanned. Hundreds of people lose their lives.

Schools are terribly overcrowded. Some schools operate on a shift basis like a factory. Teachers are underpaid. As for Health and Sanitation — in some areas of the city garbage is never collected.

Now Mayor Daley and Governor Stratton wanted another \$100,000,000 to do what their

Tito Renews Ties With the Kremlin

By Daniel Roberts

The Yugoslav Communist Party is ready to renew relations with the Soviet Communist Party that were broken in 1948, when the Yugoslav CP was expelled from the Cominform. Tito announced the new policy in an interview July 25 made public on Aug. 2.

Resumption of ties between the two parties was first proposed by Nikita Khrushchev, Secretary of the CPSU, at the time of his and Bulganin's visit to Belgrade last May.

The renewal of political ties is one more of a series of moves in a process of reconciliation between the Stalinist and the Tito regime. Another step in that direction was the pledge of friendship to the Yugoslavs made Aug. 8 by Matyas Rakosi, chief of Hungary's Communist Party.

This was in response to an attack Tito had made on the Hungarian and Czechoslovak CP leaders, in which he accused them of not toeing the Kremlin line of friendship to the Yugoslav government. Tito also denounced them for having framed CP members in their country as "fascists" and "U.S. spies" allegedly working in collaboration with the Yugoslav government.

Rakosi blamed these trials on Gabor Peter, chief of Hungary's security police who was purged in March, 1954. This dishonest alibi was similar to that of Khrushchev and Bulganin who blamed the Soviet-Yugoslav break on the purged Beria.

PURGE IN HUNGARY

As a further offer of good faith to the Titoists, the Hungarians are now conducting a purge of persons connected with the frame-up trials of Laszlo Rajk and other alleged "Tito-fascists." Thus the Aug. 9 N. Y. Herald Tribune reports that a day or two after Tito lodged his complaints against the Hungarian leaders, Calman Czakó, state prosecutor in the Rajk trial was removed from his post.

While recent relations with the Stalinists, the Yugoslav leaders are weakening their military ties with the U.S. government and the NATO alliance.

Tito has suggested that the Yugoslav-Greek-Turk military alliance become inactive in as much as international tensions have eased. Borba, official Yugoslav paper, has also criticized the alliance.

The Titoists have announced, however, that Yugoslavia will not return to her pre-1948 position in the Cominform bloc. The Titoists have demanded a substitute organization for the Cominform, in which they would be accorded equality.

The stand flows from refusal of the Titoists to see the Yugoslav economy integrated into that of the Soviet bloc. The 1948 break came because of the resistance of the Yugoslav government to a merger which would have proceeded on dictatorial terms set by the Kremlin. This would have led to the oppression of the Yugoslav working people for the benefit of the privileged Soviet bureaucracy.

The Yugoslav CP leaders would have been transformed into mere flunkies for the Stalin regime and purged if not sufficiently compliant.

SHOWED INDEPENDENCE

The Titoists were able to resist because, unlike the leaders of Communist parties in the rest of Eastern Europe, they had a genuine mass following among workers and peasants. This had been consolidated during the course of the war waged against both Nazi occupiers and Yugoslav capitalist and landlord quislings. Furthermore, during the war, the Yugoslav CP developed traits of independence towards the Kremlin, by disregarding Stalin's orders to wage a purely "patriotic" instead of a class war.

After the 1948 break with the Kremlin, the Titoists turned to the left, seeking to draw the working people close to the regime. For instance, they granted workers in state-owned industries the power to elect the factory management instead of having it appointed by the state.

The Titoists also appealed for working-class support throughout Europe, and, on May Day 1950, called for a revival of working class internationalism in the spirit of Lenin.

However, they were never able to overcome their training in Stalinist opportunism. They



TITO

soon shrank from the consequences of following a revolutionary policy, fearing that it would bring down on their heads the wrath of U.S. imperialism as well as the Kremlin.

They had no real confidence in the course of linking their own fight to the world-wide struggle for socialism. They settled for the perspectives of building a "unique" brand of "socialism" within the limited confines of economically backward Yugoslavia — thus reshaping the reactionary Stalinist concept of building "socialism in one country" to their own purposes.

They reneged on their pledge to the working class not to trade political principles for economic aid from the U.S. government and lined up on the side of the UN when that body endorsed Truman's counter-revolutionary "police action" in Korea.

The Titoists now hope to take advantage of the relation of international tensions to obtain economic aid from both sides. For it they undertake further betrayals of Marxist principles. They hope by skillful maneuvering to develop their economy along the lines of nationalized property, to guarantee comforts and privileges for the ruling bureaucratic layers, and at the same time to avoid economic forced marches which would strain the relationship of the regime with both workers and peasants to the breaking point.

In return for an end to the Cominform blockade on Yugoslavia, and a recognition of its independent status as a workers' state the Titoists are painting up the "new Soviet leaders" as men genuinely concerned with liberalizing the monstrous Stalinist dictatorship and building socialism.

Thus, Tito has proclaimed that Khrushchev and Bulganin are ready to accept different socialist countries on a basis of equality and have abandoned Stalin's attitude towards the satellite states as a result of their experience with Yugoslavia.

These pronouncements are designed to help the Kremlin dictators cope with deep mass unrest in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe growing out of their bureaucratic rule.

At the same time, the Titoists are careful not to cut all ties with U.S. imperialism, which, for its part does not want to see Yugoslavia absorbed in a military agreement with the Kremlin.

To keep alive his relations in that direction, Tito has praised the "peaceful intentions" of the U.S. government and declared for its benefit that "Karl Marx could not have foreseen the state of capitalism in the United States today" and that "a collapse of capitalism there was hardly likely."

THE MILITANT ARMY

The July 18 issue of the Militant carried the text of Albert Einstein's last message to the world pleading for the outlaw of war. That issue also made a socialist analysis of the great scientist's plea.

Reports are beginning to come in from our agents on the results of sales and distributions.

Helen Sherman writes: "Twenty copies were sold at the noon class-break to summer school students on the University of Minnesota campus. Interest was expressed, not only in the Einstein statement and the commentary, but in the general content of the paper. Gray's cartoon, 'Little Men What Now,' has received special notice and comment here in Minneapolis — what a wonderful picture of the Big Four situation!"

George Clement of Philadelphia tells us that "Herbert Newell and Lou Morris sold eight copies of the Einstein issue up at Temple University, and we have already made plans for Herb and Ethel Peterson to go back again this week. Lou reported that they had a long

discussion with a whole group of students who gathered around, and that a couple promised to come back again to continue the discussion."

Automation is a problem of great worry, in spite of the glorious promises of bigger and better jobs by the profit takers. Helen Baker writes from Seattle: "We had a very interesting experience in our door-to-door work. We met a group of people who are concerned about the outcome to the working class of automation. They were people who could not find any steady work and were existing on work from the casual laborer's hall. We told them of the socialist demand of 30 hours work for 40 hours pay and they agreed it was fine, but was not enough. We discussed for over an hour. We expect to go back armed with new arguments that we did not think of the first time. These workers had never met with socialist ideas before, but are interested in discussing with us. We seem to be giving them new food for thought."

Joan Jordan informs us that in San Francisco "we have been able to sell every issue that has a Negro question headline and almost every issue that has a feature story on the front page dealing with Negroes. The segregation and Reverend Lee issues have gone very well."

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Monday, August 15, 1955

Wilson Does It Again

Charles E. Wilson, U.S. Defense Secretary, has won a reputation for candor. On occasion he says what he and his fellow members of the U.S. ruling class really think, even when the others don't believe that these thoughts should be voiced in public.

Now Wilson tells the country that Geneva or no Geneva, the Eisenhower administration will continue to prepare for war. Asked at a news conference on Aug. 9, whether the new Soviet "verbal cordiality" might justify some relaxation of the arms budget, Wilson replied "I wouldn't think so."

He didn't believe that planning of U.S. armed forces should be based on short-term factors such as "apparent changes in propaganda" or "wishful thinking at home."

"The United States must maintain a reasonable posture of defense or military strength for the long pull," he said and added that the arms budgets would reflect long-term trends in the world.

Now these remarks do not accord at all with the sweet music about peace contained in Eisenhower's and even Dulles' recent declarations. But that's Wilson for you. He speaks right out where others won't. Or almost so. For, of course, not even Wilson is going to be candid enough to say: "We, the men of Big Business, are still hell-bent for World War III. We are

stymied for the time being because the Soviet bloc has matched our strength.

"But our military preparations are designed to put us ahead once again. And then we'll roll. In the meantime our peace propaganda will mask our war preparations. They might even win for us a reputation for seeking peace, which we will turn to good advantage in lining up support for our side."

If Wilson had said all that he would have surpassed himself for bluntness. He also would have told the whole truth. For Big Business is driven on the road to war by an insatiable greed for profits. It seeks ever to expand. Its aim is to subdue the entire world and reorganize it to provide markets and fields of investment.

These aims determine the "long pull" to World War III for which Charles Wilson, U.S. Big Business "Defense" Secretary, is preparing.

Though Wilson was not as candid as he could have been, what he said about being guided by the long pull and not being swayed by "changes in propaganda" is instructive for the working people.

They, too, must not succumb to wishful thinking about possibilities of lasting peace under capitalism. They, too, must adopt a policy based on the long term trends.

That means to persevere in the class struggle for socialism, which alone can bring genuine peace to the world.

The Petition of the 73

We welcome the action taken this week by the 73 educators, clergymen and writers who petitioned Eisenhower to call off further Smith Act trials.

This action coupled with the resistance in the entertainment industry to the witch hunt, the nation-wide indignation at the Navy's action in the Landy case, and other developments, are signs that a little of the elementary courage that is supposed to be our American heritage is returning.

We must note, however, that the letter makes no reference to the continued punishment of Smith Act victims who have already served prison sentences. While the 73 rightly deplore indictments, under the Smith Act "membership clause," of leaders of the Communist Party who have already served one prison sentence, their letter fails to mention the civil rights arbitrarily denied men and women who have been convicted and served time under this thought-control law.

To this day the first victims of the Smith Act, the leaders of the Socialist Workers Party who were convicted in 1941, cannot vote, cannot hold office nor enjoy a number of other basic rights. From a legal point of view these socialist fighters and leaders have been made permanent pariahs.

It would have greatly strengthened the petition to the President, in our opinion, had the 73 included the demand that civil rights be restored to all victims of the Smith Act.

An even more serious flaw in the petition is the fact that the case against the

Smith Act is pleaded in part by reference to the "easing of tensions in other fields."

Are we to believe then that basic civil liberties hinge on the current line of the State Department? Is this letter suggesting that should the cold war become hotter the government has justification for its persecutions and persecutions?

The right to think, to speak and to advocate are neither gifts of the government nor small change issues dependent on the current needs of the State Department. To suggest compromise on these rights is to make a fatal concession to those who would destroy them.

The 73 men and women who signed the petition are sincerely alarmed, we believe, at the inroads the witch hunt has made into the pattern of American life. They want to act in defense of our democratic tradition.

But we are firmly convinced that this defense cannot gain full effectiveness until a stand is made on the basis of firm principle.

That means fighting for the restoration of the civil rights of all Smith Act victims. It means opposing any more Smith Act trials. It means fighting for repeal of this witch hunt legislation. It means, above all, rejecting the reactionary view that State Department diplomatic needs transcend in importance the Bill of Rights.

In the absence of such a clear and uncompromising stand, the defense movement can become lost in meaningless debate over whether or not the present international climate permits relaxation of police measures against minority political parties.

Time to Prepare

U.S. capitalism, doped up with armament spending, is walking on clouds. The stock market is booming, profits are sky-high, there is full employment for everybody except the unemployed, and there aren't enough of them to cause the Big Business government any real worry. If you read the papers you may believe you never had it so good.

But the corollary of the picture presented by the Big Business press is that things are so good they can't improve. How can you improve on perfection? Therefore, at the best, things can only continue as they are or go down. For working people a downturn means one thing above all — unemployment, too many workers and too few jobs.

Therefore a wise step for the labor movement in today's boom would be to prepare for the inevitable downturn (we don't want to use the more frightening term, depression). The best preparation would be getting the 30-hour week at 40-hours pay. That would mean 25% more jobs in a period of joblessness.

Nor would it be mere protection against future unemployment. It would be a real substantial gain for workers in the present period of booming production. Ten hours a week more for workers to get away from the speedup, the tension, the foremen and supervisors, would be a trade-union gain comparable to the winning of the 8-hour day in the past.

It would mean more time for leisure, fun, culture. It would give the working mother more time to do her second job —

shopping, housecleaning, bringing up the children. There can be no argument about it, the 30-hour week is desirable now and necessary for the future — when the bloom fades off capitalist prosperity.

But there is another important factor which makes 30-for-40 not only desirable now but of immediate bread-and-butter urgency. That is automation — the introduction of a whole new series of machines and mechanical-electronic systems that causes mass layoffs of workers in the midst of full production.

For example, in the telephone industry last year almost 20,000 switchboard operators lost their jobs to automation. This was no putting down in service; on the contrary, while the 20,000 operators were being kicked out, the number of telephones in this country increased by two million. The telephone industry today is 83% mechanized. The monopoly now has plans on the drawing board for 95% mechanization and more layoffs.

The CIO Communications Workers of America, at its recent convention, had to face the threat of automation. It came up with a fairly conservative answer: the 1955 bargaining demand for a 35-hour week with no reduction in pay.

This is only a half step. On the basis of its own experience, the CWA should have demanded a 30-hour week at full 40-hours pay. And, recognizing that the problem is not simply the problem of the communication workers, it should have called on the whole labor movement to make the winning of this demand the next big goal in labor's struggle.

Moroccan People Answer the "Ratissage"

By George Lavan
(Last of a series.)

French imperialism's repression following Moroccan labor's one-day strike in 1952 left but one pro-independence voice unimprisoned or unexiled. That was the voice of the Sultan, Sidi Mohammed Ben Youssef.

Though the French "protectors" of the nominally independent kingdom of Morocco had taken by force all the real powers of the Sultan, they had kept the monarchy as a figurehead. As the nationalist movement grew, Sultan Mohammed Ben Youssef ceased to act as a French puppet and aligned himself with the Istiqlal (Independence) Party. Thus was united with modern nationalism all the historical traditions of Moroccan independence for 1,000 years before the French imperialists took over.

The situation was embarrassing for the French Protectorate officials and infuriated the wealthy French settlers (colons). Ben Youssef's popularity with the masses increased as he came out for trade unionism, constitutional monarchy, free education and other liberal reforms. In a way Ben Youssef's role in the Moroccan struggle reminds one of the role of Mossadeq in Iran. Though not royalty, he, too, was a great feudal landowner who embraced the nationalist movement and certain reforms.

With his royal person beyond touch, the liberal Sultan, in the period of the French repression, symbolized to the masses, in every public appearance and act, the nationalist movement. Moreover, his resources and the palace establishment probably were used to help the underground Istiqlal leaders.

FAKE REVOLT

In August 1953 the French imperialists put an end to the situation. They staged a fake revolt of the Moroccan people, installed a new "Sultan," and arrested and exiled Mohammed Ben Youssef.

The new "Sultan," Ben Arafat, is universally hated in Morocco as a quisling; and Sultan Ben Youssef, whom the French have imprisoned on an island in the South Pacific, is a national hero. The mere mention of Ben Arafat's name in the public prayers (the Sultan in Morocco is not only king—but head of the church) is enough to empty the mosques.

To meet the public hatred which the removal of the legitimate Sultan had so increased, the French rulers stepped up their military operations. Not a day has passed since then without killings by the French.

But the Moroccan people have fought back with political assassinations, arson, bombings, derailment of trains and other acts of retaliation. Their chief victims are the quislings — Moroccans who have sold themselves as police, detectives, informers, etc.

JEWS SUPPORT STRUGGLE

Although Zionism, in its blind anti-Arab chauvinism and power-policing for Israel, opposes Moroccan independence, the large Jewish minority in Morocco does not go along with this reactionary policy. There are some 300,000 Moroccan Jews, and prominent among the signers of petitions for the return of the Sultan are leaders of the Jewish communities. Moreover, the imperialists have arrested, tortured and murdered many Jews for their participation in the independence struggle.

The ferocity of the French repression may be gathered from an account of a ratissage (raking operation) which the French authorities allowed an American correspondent to witness. It took place on the morning of the greatest Moslem feast day (like Christmas in the U.S.) in Port Lyautey. Here is the description of the raking operation after the Medina (Moroccan section) of the city had been surrounded by French troops on August 9, 1954.

"Police, working with maps, split the Medina into a half dozen sectors. Then, the legionnaires, working systematically, began breaking down the doors of every house. Once a door was smashed, in went the goumiers (Berber troops) and drove out every male, except small boys. Women cried out in terror, and were beaten back with clubs or gun butts.

FORM GAUNTLET

"On top of a low hill in Port Lyautey's Medina is a dusty sheep market. Legionnaires drove the Arab men there and herded them under the muzzle of a Patton tank. A dozen policemen formed a gauntlet, six on either side. One by one, the Arabs were thrust forward, each with his hands on his head.

"Entrez donc, Monsieur," said a reserve police colonel. "The session is about to begin." He smiled broadly, then hit a middle-aged Arab with his right fist, below the belt. As the Arab

went down, the colonel knelt him in the groin. The Arab tried to get up; another cop caught him across the jaw with a club. Down went the Arab and the next cop kicked him, twice. He got up again and ran into the arms of still another policeman, who poked him into a sitting position with a muzzle of a carbine.

"Altogether, more than 20,000 Arabs were routed out of their homes to run the gauntlet that day. Slugging, clubbing and beating that many men is an exhausting job, so the police spelled one another. . .

"The gauntlet was only a beginning. After they had run it . . . each man was placed in a long line. The line shuffled past a six-foot pasha, who wore brown checked pants and a blue sports coat. A gesture, a slight shove from the pasha, and an Arab was pushed into one of the two groups. . . . Before the day was done, 6,000 men, including most of those between 17 and 25, had been herded into the suspect group.

"They were loaded into cement trucks and hauled off to jail. As they went, their womenfolk came pushing out of the houses,

screaming and crying 'Allah.' The police fired into the air to force the women back and to keep the prisoners' heads down in the trucks. The cops were not too careful about keeping their fire high.

"The ratissage ended at 6 p.m. Then a tall somber pasha made a speech to the Medina people. 'You must resume your peaceful way of life. If you don't, the same thing that happened today will happen again. Only next time it will be worse . . . with jet airplanes shooting down on you from the sky.' At about that moment, a flight of French jets flew low over the crowd.

"That evening, as the troops and tanks rumbled back to their barracks along the boulevards of the European section, French men and women . . . lined the streets, and cheered the military." The official French report of the particular ratissage described by White was that "in the course of the roundup 20 Arabs died."

TERROR FAILS

This ratissage is but one, and by no means an extreme example, of thousands the French have staged in Morocco in the past two years. Despite the fantastic lengths to which the French imperialists have gone — importing detectives from France, police dogs from Tunisia, offering huge rewards, imposing curfews and restrictions (such as no bicycling in the Arab sections), using electric torture machines (taken over from the Nazis) — the reign of terror failed to break Moroccan resistance.

Moreover, the movement began to make important advances. One of these was the emergence of

the National Resistance Movement, based primarily on the working class. Another is the formation of the Union Marocain du Travail (Union of Moroccan Labor). In the formation of this labor federation the Moroccan workers were aided by the AFL and CIO, whose willingness to help is in a large measure inspired by fear that the Moroccan labor will go communist.

THEIR DILEMMA

French imperialism is confronted with a dilemma in Morocco. The terror used up to now has failed to smash the independence struggle. Capitalist politicians in France waver between employing greater force or granting minor political concessions to lull the nationalist movement. This latter policy appears to be working temporarily in Tunisia. There a few political concessions — far from real independence — split the nationalist movement in half. Can this be done in Morocco?

One of the biggest obstacles is the colonial-fascist French in Morocco itself. These landowners and capitalists oppose the slightest concessions. Their assassination gangs have killed not only Istiqlal leaders but French settlers who suggested that to save French economic control some political concessions should be made.

Whatever French imperialism may decide on as its next tactic, American workers should give unqualified support to the Moroccan people in their demand that the French imperialist "protectors" get out and let the Moroccan people decide their form of government in complete independence.

Exchange Information and Gifts



U.S. farmer William Lambert receives bread and salt, traditional symbols of peace and friendship, from L. P. Omishchenko, oldest member of collective farm near Odessa. At bottom, young Mike Moser, gives prime Iowa ham to Alexander Tulupnikov, touring U.S. farm belt with Soviet delegation. Under a socialist U.S. and democratic workers' regime in Russia exchange visits would be more than diplomatic moves. They would be a regular feature in a program of mutual aid.

... ASSAIL PENTAGON

(Continued from page 1)

would show he was no "security risk." The Navy gunsmiths gave him to understand that everything was all right. Then on graduation eve, he was informed that he would not get a commission.

Navy officials in Washington, D.C., questioned by reporters, said that the denial of Landy's commission was "a considered action by the Navy," and that investigation had revealed that Landy was "extremely close to his mother and she has been a Communist."

Standing disconsolately by while his classmates received their commissions as ensigns, young Landy was fearful for his future. He had won a scholarship to Yale Law School. Would this, too, now be withdrawn because of his association with his mother? Moreover, should Landy be drafted into the Army, his mother's past political affiliation would, under current Army procedure, mean that at the end of his service he would get an undesirable discharge or at best a general discharge, but in no case an honorable discharge, no matter how well he had performed his duties.

It was this policy that Norman Thomas, Rowland Watts and Kenneth Birkhead demanded that the Army repudiate. Thomas declared that in putting "disloyalty" tags on the victimized GI's the Army was making it impossible for them to get jobs after they were discharged. He implied that this witch hunt reached its present pitch when the top brass capitulated to Senator McCarthy and his investigators, Roy Cohn and David Schine, a year ago.

Rowland Watts, Executive Director of the Workers Defense League, presented a 251-page analysis of 110 cases of draftees accused by the Army of "subversive" beliefs and associations prior to their induction.

The charges, largely based on the secret testimony of "faceless informers," were in many cases of a fantastic nature. Thus one GI was accused of having belonged to the American Youth for Democracy when he was eight years old. Another allegation against him was that he closely associated with his mother, allegedly a member of the Communist Party, and corresponded with her.

Another draftee was charged with the following: "You have a father who is reported to have said that if communism offered anything good he would accept it."

In the 110 cases cited by Watts only 14 involved charges that draftees themselves had belonged to the Communist Party. In the other cases charges ranged from membership in socialist organizations, association with relatives, reading a copy of the Daily Worker, down to taking the anti-free enterprise position in a high-school debate.

THOUGHT CENSOR

Watts asserted that the thought-control discharge policy meant, in effect, that the Army had assumed the role of censor over all American young men from the ages of 15 to 30. Furthermore, he declared it maintained this political censorship for six additional years while they were in the reserves.

While those GI's who are given undesirable discharges lose all veterans' benefits, even those who are given general discharges lose state benefits including bonuses. In some cases the Army has not decided on the type of discharge to be given after months of review by officials. Watts adduced evidence that the Army had denied hearings to draftees; imprisoned them without trial; and had imposed punishments without trial. He demanded that if the Army drafts a man it give him a discharge based solely on the character of his service.

Army Secretary Brucker's sole comment at the end of the session was: "The matter will be studied by competent people. I think the system we have now is working well but I have an open mind on the question."

The Workers Defense League is a non-partisan legal aid society for the defense of political, labor and minority rights. It played a leading role in the Max Shachtman passport case. A number of its top officials are identified with the Socialist Party or New York's Liberal Party. It greatly stresses its anti-Communism. Rowland Watts, its Executive Director, is an acknowledged legal expert on the Army's discharge policy. His research on this subject was in part made possible by a grant from the Fund for the Republic.

World Events

THAT PRESIDENT ARMAS OF GUATEMALA, puppet of the U.S. State Department, is personally involved in the government's grain scandal was revealed by a leftist university students' weekly, *El Estudiante*. The paper charged that Commercial Guatemalteca, S.A., had recently paid \$25,000 to Armas. The paper gave the number of the check. The company is on trial, charged by the Minister of Finance with speculating in corn imports during a grave scarcity that has sent the corn index skyrocketing from 211 to 295 in a few months' time. Corn imported by the company was not only sold at exorbitant prices but was teeming with weevils and unfit for human consumption, the minister charged.

THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT has taken the first steps with representatives of the Chinese People's Republic to negotiate repatriation of Japanese nationals held in China. Like the formula for the U.S.-China talks, this is meant as a prelude for more important questions, with trade high on the agenda. The Japanese government does not recognize the People's Republic. It maintains official diplomatic relations with the Chiang Kai-shek regime on Formosa.

RIGHT AND LEFT-WING SOCIALISTS IN JAPAN have denounced a government appeal that urges the people to support U.S. air bases. The Socialists said the announcement was "symbolic of Premier Hatoyama's rearmament policy." Japanese workers and farmers have protested extending runways of existing U.S. air fields, because this cuts into farmers' lands and also would permit aircraft carrying atomic bombs to operate from the strips. The popular opposition to the bases is so intense, says William J. Jordan in the Aug. 6 N.Y. Times, that "in at least one case the citizens forcibly prevented surveyors from working and compelled them to leave the area."

A DRAWN-OUT CABINET CRISIS IN INDONESIA may force postponement of general elections scheduled for September. The law requires an actual cabinet to be functioning at the time of elections. Several weeks ago, the government of Premier Ali Sastroamidjojo fell when the most reactionary wing — representing Moslem feudal landlords and former Army officers in the Dutch colonial army — combined to pass a vote of no-confidence. According to the July 27 France *Observateur*, they also had the behind-the-scenes backing of the U.S. government. The weak Indonesian capitalist class is trying to balance itself between the feudal elements and U.S. imperialism on one side and the labor movement and organized peasants on the other.

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The Negro Struggle

New Threats of Violence

Ominous new threats of lynch violence against Negroes in the Deep South are being voiced by the enemies of school desegregation and the right of Negroes to register in elections. Again the mob-murderers are being deliberately incited by the actions and inflammatory agitation of high state officials.

The Aug. 6 Pittsburgh Courier reports that Dr. A. H. McCoy, President of the Mississippi NAACP, has received death threats on both his home and office telephones. Dr. McCoy was warned to get out of town and told, "If you stay, you will be shot."

When he asked for police protection, he was told that the cop on the beat would "keep an eye on your house."

On May 7, the Rev. George W. Lee, of Belzoni, Miss., the first Negro in his county to register to vote, was blasted to death by a shotgun mob. A local coroner's jury decided the death was "accidental." But at a memorial meeting for Rev. Lee, Dr. McCoy declared that everyone in town, including the sheriff knew who the killers were.

At the same time that Dr. McCoy received the death threats Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary of the NAACP, said that unsigned death threats had been received through the mail by a Lowndes County, Miss., school teacher and his wife. The couple are two of the three Negroes registered to vote in that county.

All of these threats came at the same time that Gov. Griffin of Georgia was announcing that he had named 25 special "secret deputies" to be scattered over the state to aid the fight to maintain Jim Crow schools. His Attorney General announced that Mississippi had named a thousand such deputies for the same purpose. Meanwhile the Georgia governor addressed the Alabama state legislature, calling for joint efforts of the two states to "avoid the disaster" of desegregation.

The Alabama legislature demonstrated its willingness to cooperate by adopting a bill which deliberately defies the U.S. Supreme Court decision banning Jim Crow schools. The bill gives city and county school boards unprecedented police power in deciding which school pupils will attend. The widely touted "liberal" governor of Alabama, "Big Jim" Folsom, hypocritically refused to sign the bill but permitted it to become law by the simple act of also refusing to veto it.

The NAACP has demanded of Attorney General Brownell that the Justice Department take prompt action in Mississippi to "avert violence and to protect Negro citizens in their right to vote."

On the basis of the past do-nothing record of the Justice Department, we sincerely hope that NAACP is taking additional measures to protect the lives of their valiant Southern representatives.

From a Striker's Wife

(The following letter to the Portland, Ore., Labor Press was reprinted in the August issue of the International Molders' and Foundry Workers' Journal from which we have taken it. — Ed.)

During the long, hard struggle of the Fir-Tex strike, which is still going on here at St. Helens, a bystander was heard to say: "What is America coming to, with women and children on the picket line?"

It seems to me that it is about time that women and children become concerned with the jobs of their husbands and fathers — especially when you desire to have your children grow up with the belief that right is right. They should understand that they should never take something that doesn't belong to them — EVEN A JOB!

I want my children to know what it is like to stand on the picket line and see people going through the line, and to know what a "scab" is. When they grow up and work they will remember what we've tried to teach them: That money is not the most important thing in the world; that love for one's fellowman, honesty and backbone are far more important.

After all, had it not been for men like these, who are willing to fight for principle, wages would definitely not be what they are today, and working conditions would certainly be rough.

I would much rather my husband deny us the "worldly things" than to have him go against the principles he believes in. We come from a part of the country where unions are few and far between, but, believe me, I have made it a point to buy union, to patronize union stores and to teach my children to do the same.

The almighty dollar has always induced some people to go against principle.

honesty and integrity. But I for one would rather go hungry than to take the bread from a child's hand — and that is just what the scabs are doing in this strike.

How could anyone believe that 400 men of the union could be so wrong, and a few bosses so right?

I am very proud of the way the men have conducted themselves on the picket line — no obscene language, unless you call the word "scab" obscene. Have you ever looked that word up in the dictionary? It means "a crust on a sore" and it also means "one who takes the place of a striker; a strikebreaker."

One person claims he heard obscene language on the picket line. It's hard to understand how he heard it when he drives through the picket line at high speed with rolled-up windows.

Unionism gives millions of workers a sense of dignity, independence, achievement, a measure of security, and hope for a better life. Unionism has been the principal instrument of the working man in protecting himself against exploiters.

Yes, I am one of those who stood on the picket line and called a scab a scab, and I do not bow my head in shame. I can still walk down the street and look people in the eye without flinching. And if my children grow up to say that I did wrong by standing on the picket line, then I will know that our teaching of the difference between right and wrong was all in vain.

I am signing my name to this because I am not ashamed of my convictions. Those who believe what they write should not hesitate to do the same.

Mrs. C. F. Waggoner, Jr.
254 N. Tenth Street
St. Helens

Notes from the News

"SALT OF THE EARTH," the labor film produced by the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, could not be shown in Chicago when AFL projectionists refused to operate the projectors. The Illinois American Civil Liberties Union is participating in the legal action to permit showing of the film.

PROFITS HIT ALL-TIME PEAK. The nation's largest corporations report that profits in the first half of 1955 broke all records. Business Week says that General Motors cleared \$661 million — 50% over the same period last year. U.S. Steel reports \$178 million, a 39% increase over the previous peak. The new highs for some of the country's industrial giants are: Bethlehem Steel, \$82 million; General Electric, \$102 million; Standard Oil of New Jersey, \$344 million; Texas Company and Continental Oil each reaped \$125 million. All figures are those cleared after payment of all taxes.

COMMUNICATION WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO, issued a press release Aug. 8 blasting a company scheme to allow American Telephone and Telegraph officials to charge their charitable and community contributions to operating expenses. Joseph A. Beirne, CWA president stated "There is no reason why the telephone subscriber should be forced to foot the bill for the charity contribution of a company official."

THE LABOR SPY RACKET is not a thing of the past, President James A. Suffridge of the Retail Clerks Union charged at its recent convention. "We have evidence . . . that will be even more startling than anything you may have read about in the LaFollette civil liberties investigation" he declared.

THE SCREEN ACTORS GUILD, AFL has called a strike of its 10,000 members employed in the filming of television movies. The union demands that actors be paid for second issues of films in which they appear. They are paid for the first and third through sixth showings but not the second.

HARVEY KITZMAN, United Auto Workers Regional Director in charge of the Kohler strike, warned Governor Kohler, relative of the factory owner, against calling out the militia. "If some body is hurt, then the governor alone will be at fault," he charged. Union officials assured the governor that they did not condone violence but insisted on their right to picket products bound for the plant.

SOUTHERN STRIKERS at the Godechaux and Colonial Sugar plants have been hit by a new legal attack. A report to the newspaper Labor lists the latest series of fines and jailings ordered by Bogalusa, La., Judge Walter B. Hamlin. They include a \$1,000 fine of Packinghouse Workers Local 1167, \$150 and five days in jail for five union officials and five members and \$100 fines for each of 23 other strikers.

A PERMANENT INJUNCTION forbidding all picketing by garment workers of the struck Scribner plant in Fayetteville, Tenn., was issued by Chancery Judge R. E. Lee. Last month Judge Lee issued an injunction barring International Ladies Garment Worker members from coming within 1,000 feet of the plant. The latest move bars all picketing within the borders of Tennessee!

CARL STELLATO, president of United Auto Workers Ford Local 600, is being sued for divorce by his wife, Virginia. She claims that she was continually being left alone at home because of her husband's union activities. When she asked him to leave the labor movement on July 30 it precipitated a violent quarrel, resulting in their separation.

WHITE COLLAR WORKERS in steel plants have received wage increases equal to the pattern set in the agreement between the United States Steel Corporation and the United Steel Workers. The union paper Steel Labor estimates that 35,000 white collar members of the USW received an average raise of 17.02 cents an hour.

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Calvin De Crescenzo

By Sam Ballan

Calvin De Crescenzo was not even 31 years old when he died, but at that early age he had given more than one third of his life to the cause of revolutionary socialism and militant trade unionism.

He was barely 21 years old when he was elected organizer of the United Paper Workers Union, Local 292, CIO — the youngest organizer in the New York area. Previously he had distinguished himself in the union as chief shop-steward of his plant.

Within a year thereafter he was elected to the union's executive board, receiving the third highest vote, running only behind the president and the vice-president.

Time and again he was re-elected to the executive board, sometimes in the face of the most violent opposition from right-wing elements.

Unquestionably he was the most popular union militant in Local 292, and his popularity went far beyond the confines of the Paper Workers Union. He was known and respected by many members of the New York CIO Council as an intransigent fighter on class-struggle issues.

STUCK TO PRINCIPLES

Of the greatest interest to militant trade unionists and socialists, was the courage and relentless determination with which he held on to his socialist convictions in the union, in the face of the witch-hunt and the continuous re-baiting to which he was subjected.

Late in 1946 the president of the union collaborated with extreme right-wing elements in the local and officers of the international to illegally remove Calvin and several other officers of the union from the executive board.

They succeeded in doing this under cover of a heavy barrage of red-baiting. This was one of the first evidences of the witch hunt in the unions.

The most remarkable thing about it was the manner in which Calvin reacted to this unprecedented assault by the union bureaucracy. Many militants were stunned and demoralized, and some surrendered completely to the bureaucracy, but Calvin remained firm and unshakable, not only in his convictions but in his actions as well.

His conduct during the crisis in the union and his subsequent activity during the entire period of the "cold war" was in every respect a model for all revolutionary socialists.

WORKERS RALLY

When the removal order came through, Calvin really showed his metal. At an unforgettable mass meeting of his plant the union bureaucracy attempted to get the workers to ratify the illegal order removing Calvin and the militants from their union posts.

They met a stunning defeat. More than that, under Calvin's leadership the workers passed a counter-resolution which not only demanded the reinstatement of all those militants illegally removed, but what is of the greatest significance, roundly denounced the witch hunt and red-baiting as a reactionary weapon of the bosses in their fight against the labor movement.

This resolution was unanimously passed! Not a single worker voted against it. This was Calvin's greatest achievement!

The union bureaucracy was completely taken aback. While they had been successful in their witch-hunting tactics in all other plants in Local 292 (which was an amalgamated local) Calvin's plant alone stood as an impregnable fortress.

Calvin knew how to swim against the stream. He not only resisted the power of the witch hunt, but the blandishments of the bureaucrats and the company he worked for.

HIS LEADERSHIP

The essence of his leadership lay both in his faculty for presenting the ideas of socialism in the language of the workers, and in his instinctive ability to concretize the greatest socialist concepts in the smallest actions.

He infused the workers with confidence on the basis of an uninterrupted and daily struggle for their every-day demands.

He never tired in fighting the workers' grievances. He would take up a worker's grievance no matter how small, and fight to win it with the same enthusiasm and determination that he would a great battle.

He also knew how to listen to workers patiently, sometimes for



CALVIN DE CRESCENZO

hours. In this he was the very opposite of the trade-union bureaucrat.

COME BACK IN UNION

Calvin's come back in the union was slow but sure. After the crisis in the union he was elected

shop steward. The next year he was sent as a delegate to the International Convention of the United Paper Workers, CIO. The year thereafter he was re-elected to the executive board, and remained on the board until his death.

Though his come back was slow it was based on solid achievement. Death came at a time when his prestige in the union was at its height. Only two months ago he had a successful strike of the workers in his plant.

Even his opponents acknowledged this strike to be a magnificent victory for the workers, and paid tribute to his leadership of it.

Calvin De Crescenzo was a genuine proletarian revolutionist. He was a true son of the workers who held aloft the banner of socialism in one of the most difficult periods in American labor history.

He did this because he had the deepest and most unwavering conviction that the cause he so proudly upheld was invincible and would triumph in the end.

SHOPMATES CALL OFF WORK TO PAY TRIBUTE TO CALVIN

BROOKLYN, N.Y., Aug. 9

— More than 200 people attended funeral services held here this afternoon for Calvin De Crescenzo, who was killed instantly by lightning last Friday while on vacation.

The Warshaw Co., where he had been employed, complied with the demand of his shopmates to close down the plant so they could all attend the funeral.

Sam Ballan, Buffalo Chairman of the Socialist Workers Party, and former Director of Organization of Local 292, United Paper Workers, CIO, in which Calvin had been a leader since his youth, paid tribute to his dead comrade.

He pointed to the closing of Calvin's shop as testimony to the high regard which the workers held their long-time shop steward. "I didn't hear of any plants closing down even when Philip Murray died," he said. "The closing down of Calvin's shop is an expression of the place he won in the hearts of his fellow-workers by his leadership and selfless devotion to their cause."

Vincent Copeland, New York Organizer of the Socialist Workers Party announced today that a memorial meeting would be held for Calvin on Sunday, Aug. 14, at 3 P.M. at 116 University Place, New York.

Our Readers Take the Floor

A Farmer's View Of Southern Labor

Editor:

In regard to labor strikes here in the South first will say I live in northwest Louisiana, in (- - -) Parish. We call our counties parishes.

The telephone strike was a pretty big thing. It was just partly closed down, there was not much struggle over it. I think labor gained some in that scrap.

The strikes in south Louisiana are in the sugar cane country. That's big factory farming down there. They are in the habit of having cheap labor, but now Labor is getting organized and asking for more of what they make. At times the struggle is rather tough. I understand the communities are in sympathy to a great extent with Labor, but the courts are on Capital's side. They are hiring scabs from far and near. Most of what I know I get from the press.

Labor has a hard fight here in this Dixiecrat country. The politicians keep the union blind and divided. They usually play one race against the other to win their point. I feel that the right to work law is a fake to fool the worker, especially on the big farms.

I hope these few lines will give you some ideas of what we have here. I am a retired farmer just hanging on to the world, watching the wheels go round. (name withheld) Louisiana

P.S. Good luck to you.

An Irish Reader Describes Factions Inside Labor Party

Editor:

As a regular reader of the Militant perhaps you will allow me to correct your impression of the British Labour Party; neither it nor the Independent Labour Party have ever been specifically Socialist. They are committed to nationalization of the means of production and exchange, to the welfare state and to a mixed economy: the difference between the parties and groups within them being on a matter of timing.

Socialist Parties are the Socialist Workers Federation, the Socialist Party of Great Britain, the Socialist Labor Party, the

Worker's League, and Common Wealth. Within the Labour Party socialist groups are to be found: the new World Socialist Movement, the Socialist Federation and the revisionist Fabian Society.

Attlee, the Labour Party leader, is to be found left of center. The right-wing leader is Morrison, the party's deputy leader; the party treasurer Gaitskell leads the extreme right wing, where he is supported by Shawcross, Gordon-Walker, Robens, Callaghan and the direction of the T&GWU (Transport and General Workers Union) and the TUC (Trade Union Congress) block vote, which controls the party.

Attlee's left center following includes Griffiths, Shinwell, Ede, Dalton, Strachey and Younger. Socialists such as Zilliacus, Silverman and Brockway are to be found on the left, supported by pacifists such as Hughes and Davies. Between this left wing and the left center lie the Bevanite or Radical Group. Unlike the socialists, who are few and disorganized, the Radicals constitute a menace not to Attlee but to the ambitions of Gaitskell and his followers. And it is in this light that you must examine the quarrels between Bevan and the Labor leaders; but neither side are socialist.

We in Britain need a united Socialist Party every bit as much as you do. It may well be that Acland at Gravesend, although beaten, will constitute the banner for such a party.

But please drop the (Bevan-Attlee) difference. Though Gaitskell sits well to the right of at least three members of the present Tory Cabinet, and Morrison is not much different, Attlee himself consistently opposed the anti-Bevan witch hunt, and though not a Radical, is no status-quoist, but naturally cannot overrule the party committees.

Now that the Radical representation on the Parliamentary Committee is increased from Wilson, to Wilson, Bevan and neo-Radical Greenwood, and that the left center is only decreased by one member, we can hope for a more progressive approach from the "Shadow Cabinet."

Nevertheless, the Gaitskell-Morrison group still hold the power, and Gaitskell, knowing that the immediate succession to the party leadership is between him and Griffiths, may well decide that to expel the 50-odd

From Detroit

"Too Hot," Say Workers -- Close Down the Plants

A record heat wave has produced among other things a recurrence of heat strikes in Detroit auto plants. Heat strikes on summer's hottest days used to be a tradition here, especially in plants of the Chrysler corporation, but since the long Chrysler strike of 1950 they have been few and far between, until this summer, that is.

This year tens of thousands of workers have walked off the job because of the heat. General Motors plants in Detroit and Flint have also been heavily affected this year. On one occasion the telephone operators in Detroit walked off the job demanding some kind of air conditioning facilities to combat the 100 degree heat in their place of work.

The revival of the tradition is attributed to several factors in addition to the unusually long heat spell. These are: the fact that most workers have worked fairly steadily this year, and feel that they can afford to lose a day's pay occasionally; increased pressure of the speed-up; general dissatisfaction with the results of this year's auto negotiations and the new contract.

While millions of Detroiters suffered through the blistering heat this past week, the common council debated, in air-conditioned chambers, a proposal to "do something about the scandalous way women are strolling around downtown" in shorts.

DOWN WITH SHORTS!

Louis C. Miriani, prudish president of the council, recommended a city ordinance banning shorts less than knee length for both men and women

in the downtown areas. This action has provoked lively debate in letters to the editor columns of the local press. In spite of the council's threatened action, shorts well above the knee are still very common among working people who have to escape the heat without the benefit of air conditioning, even in the downtown areas.

A threatened bolt from the UAW-CIO by 6,000 skilled auto workers in Detroit, Flint, Lansing, Bay City, and other automotive centers has failed to materialize.

Skilled workers dissatisfied with UAW settlements at General Motors and Ford formed an organization known as the Society of Industrial Skilled Trades of North America. Leaders of this group indicated at an organizational meeting held in Flint on July 17 that they would shortly petition the NLRB for recognition.

One of the leaders, John Gall, speaking before the skilled tradesmen said, "We are presently inadequately represented by the UAW-CIO. As things now stand there is little if any reason for workers to want to become skilled tradesmen when they can make almost as much by remaining unskilled."

The initiative of the leaders was short lived. After a meeting with officials of the UAW, Gall and other leaders of the group announced they were pulling out of the new organization. They gave no explanation, but denied that a "deal" had been made.

Bevanites would insure his succession. Whereas to leave things as they are now, the Radical wing will inevitably grow at the expense of the status-quoists, since the Radicals control most of the constituency parties and with them the selection committees for choosing new candidates.

Consequently, during the course of the present Parliament, if it runs its full five years, the total Socialist, Pacifist, Radical and neo-Radical membership of the parliamentary Labor Party should rise from its present 72 to about 85, with the left center remaining constant at about 50, thus leaving the status-quoists in a majority would prevent the Gaitskell extremists from dictating the party policy.

L.O.
Dublin, Eire

American Workers Oppose War Moves

Editor:

I wish to comment on Daniel Roberts' article in the July 25 Militant entitled "A Cold War Armistice or a Genuine Peace?" Comrade Roberts discusses the factors behind the "peaceful coexistence" line of the Big Four Conference. He explains the worsened position of the U.S. which has resulted in a new, world balance of power. Listed as the factors weakening the U.S. are the revolutionary upsurge of Asia, China, the stalemate in Korea, and the rapid expansion of Soviet economy with its production of A and H bombs.

In my opinion Comrade Roberts has left out a major factor — if not the most important one. And that is the American working class, a working class that has become increasingly disenchanted with American capitalism, a working class whose new attitude has had an important effect on U.S. foreign policy.

It is true that the U.S. workers have not gone out barehanded to fight tanks as have the workers in East Germany. Nevertheless, below the apparent quiescence a re-evaluation is taking place, a re-evaluation unfavorable to U.S. capitalism. It is well accepted by most U.S. workers that we can expect either a war or a depression. In spite of the seeming prosperity, there is no confidence that it will continue. Each small layoff starts a chain of "depression" talk.

The American worker's attitude toward war is even more instructive. The loyalty and belief in the fight for democracy of World War I changed somewhat in World War II, although much illusion remained. With the Korean War, even the newspaper columnists of the capitalist press had to admit, the attitude had changed still further. The Korean war was admittedly the nation's most unpopular one. With the hostilities in Indo-China, the papers indignantly announced the U.S. would not permit Ho Chi Minh to destroy "democracy."

Popular reaction was such that statements were hastily published that no U.S. troops would go to Indo-China — only technical advisers and material. Even this was pulled back and U.S. help to the French has been given without the benefit of publicity. Why? The only explanation is that the American workers are not behind capitalism's imperialist designs.

Although the opposition to war has not taken an organized form as yet, nevertheless the opposition is there, and the U.S. government must take it into account in forming its policy.

It is conceivable that U.S. capitalism, armed with the A and H bomb, and sure of the enthusiastic support of its own working class, might well take a chance on war — even without allies — after all, capitalism's life is at stake. But with defeats in Asia and Europe — and without the support of the American working class, U.S. capitalism must try for coexistence.

D. M.
Chicago, Ill.

Los Angeles Trotsky Memorial Meeting

Speaker:
Tom Kerry
Organizer, Los Angeles Local, Socialist Workers Party
'Socialism and World Peace'
Fri., Aug. 19, 8:15 P.M.

Auspices:
Socialist Workers Party
1702 E. 4th St.