

THE MILITANT

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Defense Shackled In N.Y. Frame Up

NEW YORK — An unprecedented violation of the rights of a man on trial for his life took place in a courtroom here last week. Acting on behalf of an unnamed federal agency, the prosecuting attorney asked the judge not to allow the defense to ask certain questions in its cross-examination of witnesses.

The case is the first-degree murder trial of Francisco Molina, pro-Castro Cuban accused of shooting a nine-year old Venezuelan girl in the course of a free-for-all fight with anti-Castro Cubans in a New York restaurant last fall. The hostile witnesses are Cuban counterrevolutionaries from Miami who took part in the restaurant brawl. It is an open secret that the unnamed federal agency is the Central Intelligence Agency.

During Castro's Visit

The case against Molina is a frame-up. Its setting was the orgy of hate and propaganda against Cuban Premier Castro during his stay in New York during the United Nations session last fall. Police, press and the State Department placed the stigma of guilt on Molina within minutes of the restaurant brawl. A scapegoat was needed quickly for propaganda purposes and Molina was chosen for two reasons: he was known to be pro-Castro and he was readily identifiable because of the loss of a hand in an industrial accident a few years before.

The day before the fight in El Prado restaurant, Walter Winchell's column gloatingly warned pro-Castro Cubans to stay out of that neighborhood. This undoubtedly was a reference to the arrival of a force of Cuban counterrevolutionaries from Miami. They

had been brought to New York to demonstrate against Castro and to terrorize the pro-Castro majority of Cubans resident here.

These demonstrators were described by their sponsors as refugee students from the University of Havana. While it is not impossible a few were students, the description was so obviously false for the majority that the *New York Herald Tribune*, for example, always put the word students in quotation marks when referring to them. It is believed that in their majority they were strong-arm men, pimps, Batista policemen, and similar elements who had found the atmosphere of revolutionary Cuba uncongenial.

It was soon after the entry of a group of these demonstrators into El Prado, a restaurant long frequented by pro-Castro Cubans, that the fight broke out.

How these demonstrators were recruited and brought up from Florida is a key question in the Molina trial. Were they detachments from the anti-Castro army in the CIA-sponsored secret camps in Florida? Did they come up under military orders and discipline? Did they bring weapons?

Enter Restaurant

The CIA doesn't want any cross-examination on such points. The judge is upholding the witnesses' refusal to answer. Defense attorney Samuel A. Neuberger moved in vain for a mistrial.

A public meeting on this matter and other aspects of Molina's persecution will be held in New York at 1 p.m. April 1, at Royal Manor Ballroom, Broadway at 157th St. It is sponsored by the Molina Defense Committee, Room 832, 154 Nassau St., New York.

Kennedy Pushes Country To Brink of Far East War

By George Lavan

MARCH 29 — This country is dangling on the brink of another war. American troops are poised on the borders of Laos awaiting orders from Washington which would send them into another Korean-type war.

Like a helpless victim in a nightmare, the American people have seen this war danger loom up suddenly and seemingly beyond their control.

Utilizing all the resources of press and television to create the ominous atmosphere of national emergency, President Kennedy announced the war crisis on March 23 and delivered an ultimatum to the Soviet Union — an order that unless certain conditions were quickly met U.S. military force would be used.

The U.S. record in Laos stinks to high heaven. It includes violation of the 1954 Geneva Truce pact neutralizing that country, ruining its economy, subverting its neutralist government to install a right-wing military dictatorship and starting a civil war. All this was done to convert Laos into a military bastion for a war against China which it borders.

The prospect of waging war in the remote, landlocked Laos, covered with jungle and mountains, makes Korea seem an ideal battle site by comparison. The fate of U.S. troops in that country would be grimmer and the casualty rate higher than in Korea.

Moreover, the U.S. would have to go it alone even more than in Korea. Its only support within Laos is a tiny handful of military brass, merchants and politicians, made into millionaires by U.S. aid and thus bribed to serve as a puppet government. Though U.S. taxpayers for years have been paying the salaries of the Laotian army, the rank and file, like the rest of the population, hates the corrupt puppet government and is expected to defect to the Pathet Lao at the first opportunity.

Indeed, the present debacle of U.S. policy in Laos stems from the defection of the army's paratroops led by neutralist Captain Kong Le, who has made a united front with the Pathet Lao. The sudden spate of reports about the unwillingness

of the gentle Laotians to fight and the attribution of this psychological quirk to Buddhism, is the U.S. newspapers' way of preparing Americans for a war in which U.S. troops would find no support among the people they were supposedly "saving."

Nor would U.S. troops get anything but token support from other countries. Britain and France from the beginning objected to the dangerous U.S. policy of converting neutralized Laos into an anti-Communist bastion. France, moreover, bitterly resents the fashion in which the U.S. elbowed it out of Laos, its former colony. Only militarily insignificant Thailand and the Philippines can be counted

ed on to send troops into Laos.

If Kennedy pushes the button for war, U.S. troops will have to be poured into Laos on a massive scale. If, as in the Korean war, China will not tolerate the danger of large U.S. forces approaching her border, then U.S. troops will face the same situation they met at the Yalu. U.S. military experts say that supply and transport difficulties in Laos would prevent holding off the Chinese army and that the only possible move would be to H-bomb China's principal cities.

Thus the war in Laos into which Kennedy is ready to plunge this country carries the built-in danger of becoming World War III.

Probe of CIA Urged By Socialist Leader

[The following letter was sent to both Democratic and Republican leaders of Congress by Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party.]

It is imperative that Congress begin a public investigation of the

Central Intelligence Agency with special attention to its role in instigating civil war in Laos and counterrevolution against Cuba.

Congress abdicated its power and betrayed the whole American tradition of representative and accountable government when it permitted the establishment of the CIA in the first place. Now this uncontrolled agency, the size of whose budget and personnel, let alone its activities, Congressmen themselves are not allowed to know, has become a Frankenstein's monster. It is a secret government-within-a-government which Congressmen themselves are afraid of.

The shooting down of the U-2 plane deep inside the USSR last year was for most Americans the first evidence of CIA machinations which could plunge this country into war. Yet not many years ago a neo-Nazi underground in West Germany, with plans to assassinate "unreliable" Social Democratic leaders if war broke out, was uncovered and traced to the doorstep of its sponsor and paymaster — the CIA.

CIA financing and training of forces for an invasion of Cuba has

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Farrell Dobbs

Why Can't Everybody Have a Job?

By Fred Halstead

In the richest, most productive country in the world there should not be, there need not be any person who wants a job and cannot find one. But as this is being written, in March, 1961, there are about six million workers unemployed in the United States. This is the largest number of jobless in 20 years, or since before the U.S. entered World War II.

Someone once said "life strikes the weak." That's the way it is with unemployment. It strikes most heavily at the groups that can least afford it, at the people who, for one reason or another, are in the least privileged positions even when there is work. These include the unskilled and semi-skilled, the Negro, the older worker and the very young, who find it hard to get their first job, and cannot really start living until they do.

Each Recession Is Worse

Two million of those now jobless are not eligible for unemployment compensation or have run out of benefits. This means millions of families without any income at all, dependent on relatives, public relief or charity. It means other millions of families whose income has dropped to less than half what it usually is. It means unpaid bills piling up, insurance policies lapsing, repossession of things bought on time. It means the abandonment of plans for a little something better out of life for millions of people, and the sinking feeling that they are sliding into poverty with not much they can do about it. In many cases it means actual hunger and malnutrition.

This is the nation's fourth post-war recession. As far as unemployment is concerned it is the worst. Each of the previous recessions left a larger number of permanently unemployed when it was over than when it began. Government experts agree this one will do the same. Economist Paul Samuelson, one of Kennedy's advisors,

says that even if the recession ends this year, at best there will be five million jobless at the end of 1961.

This kind of unemployment comes from millions of jobs being eliminated by technical changes and automation. It is called "structural unemployment" as distinguished from temporary job loss caused by the ups and downs of the business cycle. It comes because more products are turned out by less people.

For example, automobile production increased 50 per cent from 1947 to 1960. But the number of workers fell by 2.9 per cent. A miner now can produce twice as much coal as he could just three years ago.

If industry were operated for the benefit of the country as a whole, this would not be a problem. Increased ability to produce would simply mean a higher standard of living or shorter hours for workers. But the private owners of industry don't introduce machines for humanitarian or patriotic reasons. They do it to make bigger profits by saving money on wages. If they can't make profits operating at the full new capacity, then they lay off some of their workers.

Why They Automate

This problem will be with us as long as the big industries of the country are privately owned and operated only for the profit of the owners. While the capacity of industry to produce grows, the purchasing power of the majority of the people does not keep up with it. Every labor-saving machine increases the capacity to produce. But if workers are laid off, they are not able to buy as much as they could before, let alone more.

There's plenty of wealth in existence. It's just that the wealth gets concentrated into the hands of the very rich who can't spend most of their income for personal consumption. Instead they put most of their wealth in investments, to make profits. And they won't allow their

capital — money, factories, machines, raw materials, etc. — to be used unless doing so will make them even richer.

President Kennedy said in his economic message to Congress Feb. 2, "today most industries have the facilities to produce well above current levels. They lack only customers."

What Kennedy means is that they lack paying customers. There are plenty of needs and desires for the goods we have the capacity to produce. For example, there are still 32 million people living in poverty in the U.S., according to *Fortune* magazine (March, 1961). These 32 million Americans don't have much money to spend. Workers generally don't have enough to spend, even when they are employed.

That is why the AFL-CIO Executive Council has proposed a temporary income tax cut which would put more purchasing power in the hands of lower income groups. But the corporations object.

What Kennedy Wants

They say that the only way to get the economy operating at full capacity is to make it profitable for them. Kennedy agrees. Instead of the AFL-CIO demand, he asked Congress to give the corporations tax relief so that they would have an incentive to make further technological changes.

Kennedy says this is necessary in order to get more paying customers by lowering the production costs of U.S. goods so that they can compete better abroad. For the same reasons his administration favors more automation and proposes to hold the line on wages.

But more automation means still more capacity to produce and still more unemployment while they are waiting to capture the overseas markets. And it will be a long wait. Present international conditions don't allow

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Labor's 'New Party' Stirs Canadian Politics

By Tom Kerry

TORONTO — The most exciting topic of political discussion in Canada today is the New Party movement. After agreeing to join forces in launching the New Party, the Canadian Commonwealth Federation and the Canadian Labour Congress, have scheduled the founding convention for the latter part of the summer.

The March 20 issue of the *Toronto Globe and Mail* carried a seven-column banner headline quoting Prime Minister John Diefenbaker's statement to officials of his party assembled in conference, that the: Main Issue in Next Election Will Be Socialism.

This is tacit recognition that the main contestants in the next election will be Diefenbaker's Progressive Conservative Party of Canadian capitalism and the New Party of Canadian labor.

Motivated by fear of the New Party, the Social Credit Government of British Columbia, known as the Socreds, has jammed legislation through the provincial legislature designed to harass the labor movement and impede the development of the New Party.

The legislation, designated as Bill 42, seeks to prevent labor unions from making contributions to political parties. Canadian Commonwealth Federation leader Rob-

ert Strachan has angrily denounced Bill 43 as yet another item of class legislation aimed at depriving labor of its political rights.

"It is no secret," comments the columnist of the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, "that corporations in British Columbia contribute heavily to political parties, and particularly to the Social Credit Party. But Bill 42 makes no mention of restrictions on company donations . . ."

CCF and union spokesmen have announced that they will contest the legality of Bill 42 in the courts and are now conducting a vigorous campaign to arouse the ranks to the menace of anti-labor legislative attacks on the New Party.

The Socreds are alarmed at the rapid rise of New Party sentiment in British Columbia. "The increase in CCF representation in the legislature from 10 to 16 members in September," says the *Globe and Mail*, "was achieved mainly because the B.C. Federation of Labor fought full time." As far as the Socreds are able to ensure it, they add, "there will be no repeat performance."

Pending the formal constitution of the New Party at the founding convention the emphasis now is on the organization of New Party supporters' clubs. In some places

the old CCF machine is being renovated and streamlined for more effective action.

In Toronto, a new leadership was recently elected composed primarily of younger and more dynamic union elements, after the encrusted CCF leaders had demonstrated their inability to move forward with the spirit of the New Party.

Until the founding convention decides on a name for the new organization it will continue to be known as the "New Party" movement.

The factors impelling the Canadian workers to break with capitalist politics and organize their own independent political party are similar to those maturing in the United States.

Unemployment has bitten deeper in Canada than in the States. The Canadian rate of unemployment is now over 11 per cent. The cost of living is high and wages are lower than in the States.

The various capitalist political parties have enacted union-busting legislation, have openly played the role of strike-breaking agen-

cies of the bosses and have driven down the workers' standard of living.

Not being directly under the thumb of the American "labor statesmen" who worship at the shrine of the sacred "two-party" system, Canadian unionists are breaking away from dependence on the fork-tongued "friends of labor" in the capitalist parties and are taking the class-struggle road in politics.

Asked what message I should take back from them to the American workers, they replied: Tell them not to fear the plunge into the stormy sea of independent working-class politics. Or, as one of them put it, "Come on in, Yank — the water's fine!"

Restrictive Bill Is Opposed at Lansing Hearing

DETROIT, March 25 — Plans for continued campaigning against a bill that would make it harder for minor parties to get on the Michigan ballot were announced today by Arthur Fox, secretary of the Citizens Committee Against House Bill 159. "We will stay in business until this undemocratic proposal is dropped by the House Elections Committee, defeated by the House, or vetoed by the governor," Fox said.

The House Elections Committee held a hearing on the bill in Lansing last Wednesday. All the speakers opposed the bill.

William C. Marshall, executive vice president of the Michigan AFL-CIO, told the committee: "We believe House Bill 159 is inconsistent with democracy. We object vigorously to any legislation that takes away a public forum in our state."

Speaking for the Detroit chapter, American Civil Liberties Union, Robert Hodges called the bill "an oppressive burden for many citizens of our state."

Rev. I. Paul Taylor challenged the committee to "prove that the present law is inadequate."

"We must allow people to exercise their opinions," said attorney Charles Lockwood. "I know of no better way to do that than to make it easy for minor parties to get on the ballot."

Morton Eden, representing the Detroit chapter, National Lawyers Guild, said that "the essence of our democracy is the free ballot. If the effect of this bill were the elimination of all but two parties, this would be bad for our state."

Frank Lovell, state chairman, Socialist Workers Party, called for a reduction in the present ballot requirements for minor parties. "I think it would be better if the ballot were allowed to serve as the means of expressing and resolving political differences," he said. "This need will surely find expression even if you succeed in choking it off at the ballot."

Lovell also scored the committee for not giving attention to evidence of minor party votes not being counted.

Professor Henry Herrmann of Wayne State University asserted that "the education of our youth demands that they be exposed to all the ideas that exist in the real world. Minor parties play an important role in presenting sides of questions that would otherwise be ignored."

Other speakers included James Sim, Socialist Labor Party, John Conley, Detroit school teacher; and Ralph Chamberlain, unemployed auto worker.

Statements were sent to the committee by the executive board of UAW Local 600, Wayne State Young Democrats, Josephine Gomon, Rev. Charles A. Hill, Prof. H. Warren Dunham, Carl Haessler, Rev. Richard Devor and others.

...Probe of CIA

(Continued from Page 1)

been so brazen that conservative newspapers like the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, *Baltimore Sun*, *N. Y. Times* and others have printed information about U.S. financed training camps in Guatemala, secret transport of anti-Castro recruits from supposedly closed U.S. military airfields in Florida, payment of a monthly subsidy of \$400,000 to the CIA's favorite counterrevolutionary group — the Frente Revolucionario Democrático.

Now there is evidence that the CIA has recklessly brought this country to the brink of war in Laos.

An immediate public investigation of the CIA is required so the American people can get answers to these questions:

Why did the CIA violate the 1954 Geneva truce agreement neutralizing Laos? Why was a military mission to that country, forbidden by the Geneva pact, disguised as a civilian agency? Why was the U.S. commander in Laos, General John A. Heintges, also disguised as a civilian and attempts made to expunge all trace of his military connections — even to the extent of removing his name from the lists of West Point alumni?

Isn't it true that the CIA directed and paid right-wing militarists in Laos to overthrow the neutralist regime of Premier Souvanna Phouma?

Is the CIA involved in the air-drops of U.S. manufactured munitions to counterrevolutionary forces in Cuba? Is it supplying the plastic explosives and "match-box time bombs" to anti-Castro terrorists? Was it involved in recent assassination attempts against Fidel Castro and Che Guevara? Is it planning to involve the U.S. in actual military intervention in Cuba, when the invasion by the Cuban "government" cooked up in Washington occurs? Is the CIA arranging for an "attack" on Guantanamo Naval Base which will be blamed on Castro and provide the incident (Remember the Maine!) for sending U.S. troops into action?

The American people don't want to send their sons to useless deaths in Laos because of CIA machinations there. They don't want America's hands stained with the blood of revolutionists who have brought progress and hope to the common people of Cuba.

Before the CIA goes any further, the public should be allowed to know what it is doing. The American people deserve the truth.

Farrell Dobbs

First Sit-In Demonstration Hits Mississippi Capital

The sit-in integration movement has hit the capital of the toughest Jim Crow state in the Union.

On March 27, nine courageous young Negro men and women were arrested when they entered the "white-only" main public library in Jackson, Mississippi, and began using its facilities.

The next day 50 other students were attacked by cops with tear gas, clubs and police dogs when they tried to march on the jail in solidarity with those arrested.

The sit-in demonstrators, students at Tougaloo Christian College, joined the jail, no-bail movement by refusing to post bond. The marchers were students

at Jackson State College for Negroes.

The scene at the library was one of calm defiance. When the cops arrived, a detective announced: "All right, every one of you get up and get out of here. There's a colored library on Mill St. You're welcome there."

The students continued their library work.

"You can hear, can't you?" the cop shouted.

He was ignored again.

"All right, everyone of you are under arrest," he declared.

The students face a maximum penalty of four months in jail and a \$200 fine under a 1960 state anti-sit-in "trespass" law.

The only previous anti-segregation action in the state occurred last year with a wade-in at the public beach near Biloxi. The demonstrators were attacked by a gang of racists with clubs and chains.

Mass Convictions

Meanwhile, in Columbia, S.C., a local court was handing out sentences to anti-segregation demonstrators on a wholesale basis. In one day 136 Negroes and a white youth were convicted of breach of the peace for participating in a March 2 state capital demonstration against discrimination in employment and public housing. There were 198 arrested.

Those already convicted have received sentences of \$10 to \$100 fines or five to 30 days in jail. The sentences are being appealed.

Weekly Calendar

DETROIT

"How Free Are Americans?" Speaker, Dean Robb, President, Detroit Chapter, National Lawyers Guild. Fri., April 7, 8 p.m., 3737 Woodward. Ausp. Young Socialist Alliance, Friday Night Socialist Forum.

NEW YORK

"Are Freud and Marx Compatible?" A lecture by Murray Forbes. Fri., April 7, 8:30 p.m., 116 University Place. Contrib. 50 cents.

Reserve Wed., April 12, 8:30 p.m., for a report by Scott Nearing, just returned from extensive tour of Latin America, on "Unrest in the Caribbean." Ausp. Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Pl.

Local Directory

BOSTON. Boston Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave., Room 200.

CHICAGO. Socialist Workers Party, 302 South Canal St., Room 210. WE 9-5044. If no answer, call HU 6-7025.

CLEVELAND. Socialist Workers Party, 5927 Euclid Ave., Room 23, Cleveland 3, Ohio.

DENVER. Militant Labor Forum, 1227 California. Main 3-0993. For labor and socialist books, International Book Exchange, 1227 1/2 California. Open 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mon. through Fri.

DETROIT. Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward. TE 1-6135.

LOS ANGELES. Forum Hall and Modern Book Shop. Socialist Workers Party, 1702 East Fourth St. AN 9-4953 or WE 5-9388. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. daily, Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MILWAUKEE. 150 E. Juneau Ave.

MINNEAPOLIS. Socialist Workers Party and Labor Book Store, 704 Hennepin Ave., Hall 240. FE 2-7781.

NEWARK. Newark Labor Forum, Box 361 Newark, New Jersey.

NEW YORK CITY. Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place. AL 5-7852.

OAKLAND-BERKELEY. P.O. Box 341, Berkeley 1, Calif. Phone OL 5-1764.

PHILADELPHIA. Militant Labor Forum and Socialist Workers Party, 1303 W. Girard Ave. Lectures and discussions every Saturday 8 p.m. followed by open house. Call PO 3-5820.

ST. LOUIS. Phone Main 1-0909. Ask for Dick Clarke.

SEATTLE. 1412 18th Ave., EA 5-0191. Library, bookstore. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. Saturdays.

Good News

Fifteen hundred garment carriers in New York City more than doubled their gains in a new contract recently by relying on their own good sense and solidarity rather than on the advice of International Ladies Garment Workers Union President David Dubinsky. The manager of ILGWU Local 102 had negotiated a three-year contract with a \$5 weekly raise for the local's truck drivers, helpers and hand-cart pushers. Under the old contract their weekly wages were \$75, \$65 and \$57.50 respectively.

In a meeting March 20, the workers rejected the agreement and called a strike for the next morning, pointing out that Teamsters union members doing similar work got \$30 a week more. David Dubinsky advised against the strike, saying the workers shouldn't upset the economy in a recession.

The workers struck anyway, in the midst of pre-Easter shipments, creating what the trade paper, *Women's Wear Daily*, called a state of "medium hysteria" in some sections of the industry. The bosses quickly settled, granting a \$12.50 raise — \$7.50 now and the rest staggered over two years — as well as increased fringe benefits and an immediate bonus equal to the wages lost in the one day spent on strike.

In Detroit several hundred members of the Chrysler Local 7 unemployed committee voted unanimously to demand that the coming United Auto Workers convention revoke article 16, section 18 of its constitution "as an unwarranted attack upon the unemployed." This section, inserted at the 1959 UAW convention, requires jobless members to report in writing to their local in the last 10 days of the first six-month period of unemployment, and every month thereafter. Failure to do so for any reason costs them the right to voice and vote, and the right to run for union office.

When people fight against exploiters and bureaucrats, it's good news. Readers are invited to send such items to this column.—Editor.

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by Daniel Guerin

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Monday, April 3, 1961

The 'Fight' Was Minimum

Millions of Americans who do much of the country's hardest, most important and least pleasant work, and who have a life of poverty as reward for their toil, were cheated last week. They were robbed and cheated by the failure of the leadership of the Democratic Party to get a \$1.25 an hour minimum wage law, with meaningful extended coverage, through the House of Representatives.

The Republican and Southern Democratic Congressmen, following direct orders from those who get rich off human suffering, fought skillfully and ruthlessly to keep down the scale and the coverage. Those supposed to be on the other side, including Kennedy and the liberals, "fought" as though under the influence of overlarge doses of tranquilizer pills.

The AFL-CIO leaders, who could have organized powerful demonstrations and a campaign of devastating exposure to force the issue, did nothing. They relied solely on the leadership of the Democratic Party and on Kennedy to come through with something. Kennedy's strategy was not to fight seriously for the minimum wage platform he had campaigned on, but to maintain friendly relations with the Southern Democrats at all costs. He introduced a watered-down bill and then didn't fight for that either. The liberals threw away much of even that bill in negotiations with the Dixiecrats before the vote.

Then House Democratic leader Sam Rayburn failed to notify all the bill's supporters when the vote was going to take place. Finally, the vote was arranged to be by body count rather than roll call so it wouldn't show on anybody's record. The bill lost 186 to 185. The version that passed is for \$1.15 an hour for the workers previously covered and \$1 with no overtime provision for the 1.4 million to whom coverage is to be extended.

That means that millions of people will still be sweating in laundries or washing dishes, or standing on their feet all day in cafeterias all over the country, or collecting garbage or cleaning up schools and municipal buildings in the Southern states, for wages as low as 33 cents an hour.

Those who argue that it's good practical politics for the labor movement to rely on the Democrats should try living on such wages until that policy begins showing good practical results.

ACLU Raps Ban on Cuba Travel

The American Civil Liberties Union has voiced strong objection to the State Department's ban on travel to Cuba.

In a March 23 letter to Secretary of State Dean Rusk, the Union declared that the ban, which violates the constitutionally protected right to travel, was imposed not to secure the safety of citizens but as an instrument of foreign policy.

This is obviously the case. If it weren't, the State Department would not except business men and reporters from the ban.

Washington's real concern is the "safety" of its anti-Cuban foreign policy. Visitors to revolutionary Cuba who obeyed the laws of that country did not suffer any harm. But the great majority of them did come home convinced that the American people were being fed a staggering lie about what was really happening in Cuba and equally convinced that the foreign policy of working for the overthrow of the Cuban government should be reversed.

The ACLU offers the State Department a simple way to show that it acted in good faith in imposing the ban. It proposes that after prospective travelers are informed that the department doesn't think it safe for them to go to Cuba, "such travelers should be permitted expressly to waive their right to protection if they so choose."

We wonder how Rusk will answer that one.

Mr. Murrow Regrets

Edward R. Murrow now thinks it was "foolish and futile" to try to pressure the British Broadcasting system into dropping its slated showing of his TV documentary, *Harvest of Shame*, which depicts some of the scandalous conditions of American migrant farm workers.

In voicing this regret, Murrow didn't display any pangs of conscience that his first act as director of the U.S. Information Agency was to try to curb the flow of information. In fact he reiterated his previous silly contention that the film was intended for "domestic consumption."

Jack Gould, *New York Times* TV critic, suggests that Murrow was only an "obedient soldier" in the sorry episode and offers evidence that Kennedy's press secretary, Pierre Salinger, had intervened in the situation before Murrow put in his futile phone call to BBC. Gould thinks the move to bar the British showing was a concession to congressmen who owe their allegiance to the big farm interests responsible for America's *Harvest of Shame*.

It makes sense. If Murrow had any idea when he took the USIA post that he would have the opportunity to tell the world something about American reality, he was indulging in a "foolish and futile" dream. Like every other agency of the big business government in Washington, the function of this one is to tell what big business wants told.

Will Laos Be 'Saved' Like Korea?

By Harry Ring

President Kennedy's declaration that he is ready to plunge the country into war to preserve the "independence" of Laos bears a striking resemblance to Truman's decision that a "police action" was necessary to preserve the "independence" of South Korea. There too, the story went, intervention was essential to halt "Communist aggression."

That three-year war cost more than 150,000 American casualties. For the Korean people the toll was far higher. What were the fruits of that bloody adventure?

It is eight years since the war ended and South Korea is bankrupt. "There is an economic crisis at the moment," wrote A. M. Rosenthal from Seoul in the March 21 *New York Times*. "But it is not so much a separate crisis as part of an unending series of crises."

Hunger

Sixty-five per cent of the South Korean people live on the land. And, reports Rosenthal, "The farmers suffer from regular periods of hunger."

Nor is the situation better in the cities. The number of jobless is usually estimated at 2,500,000 — 25 per cent of the work force. Rosenthal says the real figure is probably much higher.

The mass unemployment is accompanied by devastating inflation. In January and February alone, the price of rice, barley and other grains shot up 50 per cent.

It cannot be claimed that Washington has not had sufficient time or opportunity to do something about the blighted economy. The Japanese were driven out of Korea in World War II and the country was carved in two by the United States and the Soviet Union. G.I.'s have occupied South Korea ever since.

During these 16 years, more than \$3,000,000,000 of our tax dollars have been poured into South Korea. But the only result has been the enrichment of a thieving gang of Korean businessmen and politicians who have brutally oppressed the poor while lining their

own pockets. They couldn't have done so without the okay from the State Department.

Until a year ago, U.S. guns and dollars made possible the continuing rule of Syngman Rhee, one of the worst tyrants in contemporary history. Last March Korean students sparked a popular uprising that finally toppled him. Since then U.S. occupation forces have been cooperating with the new regime of President Chang to once again "democratize" the country.

New Demonstrations

But as with Rhee, the "new order" has proven a fraud and the population is again seething with revolutionary discontent. On the first anniversary of Rhee's overthrow tens of thousands of students and workers in Seoul and Pusan demonstrated against Chang. They demanded jobs, reunification of the country and a halt to government efforts to reintroduce Rhee-style "security" regulations to suppress the people. As under Rhee, cops attacked the demonstrators with clubs and tear gas.

"One of the first and still unsatisfied demands of the revolution," says Rosenthal, "was for the punishing of business men who made fortunes by evading taxes or bribing tax collectors or paying politicians for import and export licenses or greasing the right Korean palms to be recommended to United States officials for plant-building funds."

"But," he continues, "the lists, published and unpublished, of the men who are to be charged reads like a Who's Who of Korean business. To have taken drastic steps against these men immediately would have been to paralyze the Korean economy."

Aside from the fact that the Korean economy could not be much more paralyzed than it already is, this scandalous admission points up the real crime of U.S. policy in Korea — a policy basically similar to the one projected for Laos.

The 1950 intervention Korea

movement of the people of both North and South Korea to reunify their country. The continuing division of the industrial north and agricultural south has been responsible for the stagnation of the South Korean economy.

In North Korea, where capitalist property relations have been abolished, industry has developed and unemployment largely eliminated.

"Reunification with the richer and manpower-hungry Communist state to the north would theoretically solve many problems," observes Rosenthal. But such a solution doesn't jibe with the State Department's determination to salvage the rule of such "free-world allies" as the corrupt South Korean landlords, industrialists and politicians.

Now Kennedy is ready to involve American people in a new war to save a similar ruling clique in Laos.

L. A. Candidates Urge Labor to Build Party

LOS ANGELES — Oscar G. Coover, candidate for mayor, William Hathaway, candidate for Board of Education, Office No. 2, were campaigning hard in the final stretch before the April 4 election. Both are endorsed by the Socialist Workers Party.

Last week they spoke to 300 members of United Shoenworkers Local 122, assailing the political bankruptcy of the local union leaders who have endorsed anti-labor Mayor Norris Poulson. "There must be a clean break away from Democratic Party politics, and the building of labor's own political party," Coover said.

On the same platform, but speaking in a different vein, was Bernard Sapiro of the Socialist Party-Social Democratic Federation, running for Board of Education Office No. 4. He told the meeting that he had deliberately chosen not to run against Democratic liberals.

Coover's comment later was that "Sapiro in this campaign is merely tipping his hat to socialism."

All three candidates later in the week took on reactionary candidates for the school board at the Mexican-American Political Association.

The audience wanted to know where the candidates stood on job discrimination, FEPC, the right of city employees to organize, and the high rate of Mexican-American drop-outs from school.

The reactionary candidates denied the existence of discrimination. The socialists refuted this, was carried through to thwart a defended the right of city employees to strike as well as organize, and attributed the high drop-out rate to immediate economic problems and the prospect of job discrimination, which they promised to fight.

What the Socialist Movement Can Do With a Little Money

By Marvel Scholl

Fund Drive Director

This week we have had two really gratifying letters from readers.

M. M. of Baltimore writes: "I resent the fact that you do not have Baltimore listed on your 'Branch' Quota . . . I herewith pledge a minimum of \$10 — which I will pay out of my unemployment checks by May 1st. The first \$2 is enclosed . . . But, put Baltimore down. You have friends here . . . \$16,000 isn't very much money. What can you do with that? It wouldn't buy a 'Coming Out' party for a Ford daughter!" So now we have a new listing!

A. K. of Detroit said in his letter: Have followed the concepts of socialism for five months and I am truly convinced that it is the answer for all humanity. Enclosed is \$5.00. Wish it could be more." A. K. also called attention to a very important omission in the last two columns — the address to which contributions can be sent. It is 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

M. M. raised a very good question. \$16,000 isn't a great deal of money but you will be surprised what we can do with even that much. For instance, during the last year we sent Farrell Dobbs and Joe Hansen to Cuba, to find out what was really going on down there. Later we sent Dobbs to Japan to learn the truth from the Japanese people about the mass demonstrations and general strike which prevented Eisenhower from going to Tokyo.

Then we sent Joe Hansen to Mexico City to attend the Latin American Conference in defense of the Cuban revolution. Right now Tom Kerry is on national tour, seeking out facts about unemployment, automation, and the situation in the trade union movement generally. He is speaking in most major cities on "A Socialist Program of Jobs for All." We also conducted a full-scale presidential election campaign. And all on voluntary contributions from our friends and supporters. Socialists learn to make dollars stretch!

Fund Scoreboard

BRANCH	QUOTA	PAID	PCT.
Allentown	\$ 120	\$ 100	83%
Boston	500	390	78
Detroit	625	405	65
Connecticut	150	95	63
New York	4,400	2,582	58
St. Louis	90	48	53
Chicago	800	425	53
Pittsburgh	10	5	50
San Francisco	500	245	49
Cleveland	500	243	49
Twin Cities	1,200	577	48
Milwaukee	300	142	47
Los Angeles	5,000	1,992	40
Berkeley-Oakland	500	185	37
Newark	150	49	33
Philadelphia	300	89	30
San Diego	280	71	25
Baltimore	10	2	20
Seattle	500	94	19
Denver	85	15	18
General		45	
Totals to March 27	\$16,020	\$7,798	49

Why Can't Everybody Have a Job?

(Continued from Page 1)

U.S. corporations to grab a big enough share of the world market so that they can use their full capacity at home.

Many businessmen and government officials would just as soon see fairly full employment as long as it could be provided within the profit system. One way this was accomplished in the past was through government war spending. The country got out of the depression of the 1930's with armaments production for World War II. It got out of the 1949-50 recession with increased armaments production for the Korean war.

But since then, although arms production has remained high, unemployment has grown alarmingly. The current recession occurred in spite of the \$46 billion a year being spent on war production.

Arms production no longer directly provides as many jobs as it used to, since missiles don't require as many production workers as conventional weapons like airplanes and tanks. But the main point is that armaments spending is an artificial stimulant. Like dope, it has to be taken in larger and larger doses to have any effect. It is also the major cause of inflation and the rising cost of living. Worst of all, it tends to lead to war.

So far, the Kennedy administration's program to deal with unemployment consists mainly of temporary relief — extending unemployment compensation for a maximum of 13 weeks; increasing surplus food allotments to destitute workers — and mild stimulants for the economy by speeding up certain government spending which has already been contracted for, expanding the government loan program for construction, etc.

None of these measures, nor all of them put together, will come anywhere near putting the unemployed back to work. Kennedy's own appointees admit this. On March 6 the President's Council of Economic Advisors told Congress it would take a \$50 billion increase in economic activity this year to approach full use of capacity. The most optimistic man in Washington today doesn't expect the economy to increase half that much.

Moreover, Kennedy's announced goal is not to eliminate unemployment altogether, but to reduce it to 4 per cent of the work force. That would still leave around three million people out of work — three million people who have bills to pay, and hopes and dreams like anyone else.

These things don't worry Kennedy and his advisors. After all they are not unemployed. Their personal lives haven't been upset by a sudden loss of income. Their time payments aren't beginning to lapse. Maybe they'd take a different attitude if they had to support a family on unemployment insurance at its present rates.

So Kennedy's real program comes down to this: It's O.K. to put people back to work but only if the rich can get richer out of the process. And while Kennedy is trying to set that up, the unemployed will just have to wait.

Union Leaders Wait

The trouble with most of the top union leaders, like AFL-CIO president George Meany and United Auto Workers president Walter Reuther, is that they too are waiting. They are depending on the Democrats to handle the unemployment problem, instead of getting the unemployed and employed workers mobilized to fight for a solution.

This policy is stupid and dangerous. It is stupid because the Democrats under Kennedy have just about the same attitude toward unemployment as the Republicans under Eisenhower; they aren't going to do anything effective about it unless they are forced to. It is dangerous because if the unions don't come quickly to the aid of their jobless brothers and sisters, the corporations will try to use the unemployed to undermine union wages and conditions, and possibly as strike-breakers.

Organized labor and the unemployed have common interests. Both want decent living standards and job security. Employed workers know that they can be thrown out of work tomorrow, and that conditions on the job get worse when a long line of jobless is waiting outside. They therefore have a big stake in fighting unemployment and raising jobless compensation and relief allotments. On the other hand, jobless workers, because of their involuntary idleness, are able, through demonstrations and picketlines, to put pressure on the politicians to pass legislation that will benefit all workers.

But leaders like Reuther and Meany have so far refused to make use of this source of strength, solidarity and mutual aid. They call conferences about unemployment, but they don't even allow the unemployed to attend; or if they do let them attend, they don't let them speak. They beg the government to help the unemployed, but they refuse to help the unemployed to help themselves.

Organize the Unemployed

In self-interest, the unions should take the initiative in organizing the unemployed. They should suspend dues and maintain full membership rights for laid-off union members. They should make union halls, finances, mailing lists and other facilities available so that their unemployed members can meet, set up unemployed committees in every local, and democratically elect their own officers to conduct the work of these committees. They should encourage and help the unemployed to bring these committees together on a local and national basis so they can exert the maximum political pressure on the government. They should enlist the support and participation of all unemployed workers, including those who never belonged to unions before. What a powerful force for good such a movement would be!

Jobless union men and women can help create such a movement. They can go down to their local union halls

and meetings and tell the union officers that they want to have an active unemployed committee, and that they want to have a voice in what it does. If they go about it correctly, if they appeal to the sense of solidarity and justice of the rank and file union members, they can get the ball rolling.

They don't have to wait indefinitely if the union officers drag their feet or turn a cold shoulder on their requests. They can organize themselves informally, without union facilities if necessary, and begin to carry out the functions of an unemployed movement while continuing to pressure the officers to sanction an official unemployed committee.

There are many things an unemployed committee can do. It can help the jobless to get the compensation and relief benefits they are entitled to. It can arrange to stop evictions and repossessions. Through inexpensive social functions, children's parties, etc., it can make life a little brighter for the unemployed and their families, and give them the feeling that they are not alone... And such activities can be just a beginning.

30 for 40

While the top union leaders are afraid to fight for any anti-recession measures that the Democrats won't go for, there is growing pressure from within the ranks of labor to change this policy. For example, the more practical and independent-minded members of the United Auto Workers have been campaigning for their union to begin a serious struggle for the shorter work week with no reduction in weekly take-home pay. They use the famous slogan "30-for-40" to demand the 30-hour week at 40 hours' pay.

This is a sound economic proposal, benefiting both the unemployed and the employed and therefore capable of arousing their united support.

At the present time about one-quarter of the auto workers are unemployed. If they can win 30-for-40, either through contract negotiations or the passage of a law in Washington, then, all other things remaining the same, it would take one-fourth more workers to turn out the number of cars that can be marketed now, and unemployment would be ended in that industry.

But all the other factors would not remain the same. Workers always tend to work more efficiently when they don't have to work so long, so the quality of cars would probably improve and more would be produced. But more cars would be sold because there would be a greater market for them when the unemployed had jobs and were getting full pay checks again.

If 30-for-40 was introduced throughout U.S. industry, most of those now unemployed would get back to work and most Americans would benefit from the change.

Of course, the corporations, the owners of industry, the big stockholders, would have their incomes reduced because they would be paying out more in wages. They and their political representatives in Washington, including Kennedy, strongly object. Their reasons for opposing 30-for-40 are not sound economic reasons, or sound patriotic reasons, however much they talk that way. It is just that they put their own profits above the welfare of the unemployed, the workers generally, and the country as a whole.

The corporations argue they can't operate at capacity now because their profits aren't high enough. If they must grant more wages on top of this, the profit picture will become even worse, causing more wealth to be withheld from investment or sent out of the country, thus creating more unemployment.

All right, for the sake of argument suppose they refuse to let the factories operate because they can't get richer out of the process. Will that mean the collapse of the economy? No, the factories can be operated without corporation executives and profit-takers. They can be nationalized, that is, taken over for the benefit of the people and run by a board of directors elected by the workers instead of appointed by the biggest stockholders and bankers. Industries could then be operated according to a national plan which would eliminate the causes of recessions and utilize the full capacity of American production.

That is the socialist answer to the long-term problem of unemployment, depressions and poverty amidst plenty. Socialists are confident that sooner or later the majority of the people will become convinced of the need for such a change. In the meantime 30-for-40 and other changes of an immediate nature can be put into effect — if enough people will fight for them.

Compensation for Duration

Probably the most urgent change is to provide the unemployed with enough jobless compensation to prevent their sinking into poverty and want. There are two things involved here: amount of the payments, and duration.

In a country as rich as ours, people out of work through no fault of their own should not have to suffer any cuts in their living standards. If the employers can't or won't hire people who are able and willing to work, then the employers are the ones who should be penalized, not the workers whose toil and sweat and brains have created the country's wealth. The only just and humane thing to do under such circumstances is to provide jobless insurance at trade union wage rates.

Congress has passed a law temporarily extending unemployment compensation for a maximum of 13 weeks. We endorse the stand taken by the Greater Detroit UAW Unemployed Coordinating Committee in its paper, *Voice of the Unemployed*:

"When is the right time to tell a man that he and his family can starve or go on welfare? After 26 weeks? After 39 weeks? In 1958, Gus Scholle [president] of the

Michigan State AFL-CIO said that there is never a time when such an answer can be given. He called then for unemployment compensation for the duration of unemployment. That demand remains valid today."

Voice of the Unemployed also reports a recent interview with Gus Scholle, who said: "The AFL-CIO must make the demand for compensation for the duration of unemployment a major issue. Anything short of this is a sell-out of the American workers... Other countries much less able to afford it have had such a setup for years."

In addition to adequate compensation, present conditions make urgent a big public works and housing program. This would kill two birds with one stone — provide jobs for the unemployed, and take care of the country's crying need for low-rent homes, schools, hospitals, child-care centers, roads, parks, educational and recreational facilities, flood control, conservation, and so on.

The only ones who could object to such a program are the big business interests that think no such facilities should be provided unless a private profit can be made on them. And to those who will complain that these measures will "cost too much," we would like to quote approvingly once more from *Voice of the Unemployed*:

"Did you ever hear anybody in high places worry about how much World War II or the Korean War cost? Did you hear them complaining that even in peacetime we spend a minimum of 46 billions every year in direct military outlay? Where are the complaints on the \$85.8 billions which we have spent on foreign 'aid' since World War II? Where are the chorus of protests on the \$5 billions we are getting ready to spend every year all over the world? As far as we are concerned, there is a war going on right now — a war against unemployment and human degradation. In the other wars billions were spent daily, and yet the well never seemed to run dry. But when it is a question of helping our own unemployed, they say it costs too much!"

End Job Discrimination

Imagine what things would be like if the unemployment rate today were twice as high as it is; if one out of every seven workers were jobless, instead of one out of every 14; if the number of unemployed were 12 million instead of six million.

Well, that's the way it really is — not in imagination, but in fact — in the Negro community where one out of every seven breadwinners is out of work right now! In the big industrial cities, the situation is even worse. In Philadelphia, two out of every seven Negro workers are without jobs. In St. Louis, one out of every five. In Detroit, two out of every five.

These figures reveal what a lot of talk sometimes tries to cover up — that racial discrimination is an economic, not simply a moral, question; that it exists in the North as well as the South; that, because of racial bias, Negroes have the least job security and are the first victims of automation. They prove the need for a national fair employment practices law with teeth in it. They show that a program against unemployment, if it is to have real meaning for the people hardest hit, must include a fight against job discrimination as a major objective.

This is a matter of self-interest for unemployed white workers too. Negroes make up such a big section of the unemployed that any movement to improve conditions must have their active participation and support to be effective. This means it must be concerned with the special needs of colored workers.

We Need Our Own Party

Unemployment, as we have shown, is not just an economic problem — it is political too. Relief appropriations, public works, shorter-work-week laws, all depend on having people in political office who place the welfare of jobless human beings ahead of profits and profit making.

The labor movement has the political power to have unemployment outlawed and abolished. Organized labor is really the most powerful political force in the country today. It may not look that way, considering how labor's demands are shelved by the Democrats and Republicans. But that's only because the labor leaders like Meany and Reuther don't use the power labor has. Instead of organizing a labor party, they tell the workers to elect more Democrats and depend on the Democrats. The Democrats don't have to give labor very much, because they figure that Meany and Reuther are going to tell the workers to vote for them anyway.

Both the Democratic and Republican parties are controlled by the rich. They are not responsible to the workers or the unemployed. There are more working people in this country than anybody else. Right from the start most of them would vote for a labor party that had a program to meet their problems. Even if the labor party didn't completely defeat the Democrats and Republicans in the first elections, it would immediately become the balance of power in Congress and most states. Then there would be some action. A labor party is needed. A labor party is overdue. A labor party is coming. Postponing it, as Meany and Reuther do, only postpones the day when the government will be based on human needs, not profits.

The unemployed want to go back to work. The tools, the machinery, the raw materials are waiting. If the nation's capacity were fully used, if everybody had a job, we could produce an additional \$50 billion worth of whatever we needed this year alone. That would be enough to replace every slum dwelling in this country with a brand new home. The only thing preventing it is the greed of those who already have too much. So why can't everybody have a job? We can if we all fight together for it.