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UAW Parley Rejects 30-for-40 Proposal

By Tom Kerry

DETROIT, April 29 — "What do you think Walter Reuther will do about launching a serious struggle for the shorter work week?"

In one form or another, this question was asked of me many times during the course of my tour of the major industrial cities throughout the country.

The United Automobile Workers, potentially the most powerful union in the country, is the first of the major industrial unions to enter contract negotiations at this critical period of economic recession. Officials of smaller unions were frank in their concern over what the UAW would do.

They told me that the capacity of the smaller unions to wage a successful fight for shorter hours would be largely determined by the negotiating demands adopted at the UAW Special Collective Bargaining Convention opening in Detroit April 27.

Unemployed workers, squeezed out of the productive process through the advance of automation and mechanization, were equally concerned. Their hopes for a job rested on the union struggle for shorter hours with no reduction in takehome pay—concretized in the slogan of 30 for 40.

"What would Reuther do?" The answer was given the opening day of the UAW "crash" convention. The delegates entering the convention hall were greeted by a

picket line under the auspices of the Greater Detroit UAW Unemployed Coordinating Committee. The pickets carried placards calling on the convention to adopt the 30 for 40 demand.

Pickets and Buttons

In the lobby, delegates committed to the 30-40 demand distributed big buttons upon which was imprinted the slogan: 30-40-60. Translated, it meant 30 hour week at 40 hours pay with retirement at the age of 60.

Adherents of the National Committee for Democratic Action in UAW, the anti-administration group which has been spearheading the fight for 30-40, distributed buttons calling for 30 for 40 NOW! The emphasis on the word "now" was in answer to those who counterposed a policy of gradualism—a gradual reduction in hours over an extended period of time.

Reuther's opening speech to the convention, occupying the better part of two hours, dispelled any illusion that he intended to head up a serious fight for the shorter work week. Stripped of its verbal gymnastics, the Reuther speech constituted an impassioned plea for "flexibility" in contract negotiations.

This was a recurrent theme voiced by administration spokesmen throughout the convention. Yes, they were all for the shorter work week, but . . . don't tie us

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SWP Opens Mayoralty Race At New York May Day Rally

By Hedda Grant

NEW YORK, May 2 — The Socialist Workers mayoralty campaign was launched at an unusually spirited May Day celebration here last night. Richard Garza, the SWP nominee, told the rally that his party was determined that the political arena not be abandoned to the capitalist parties and that while it welcomed current discussion by local union officials on the need for a labor party, the SWP was moving ahead with plans for a vigorous socialist campaign.

162 Negroes Jailed By Louisville Cops

One hundred and sixty-two Negroes were arrested in Louisville, Kentucky, April 24 for sitting down in front of a cafeteria that serves whites only. As part of a sit-in campaign that has effected several downtown restaurants and cafeterias, large numbers of young Negroes, mostly girls, sat down on the sidewalk in front of the Blue Boar cafeteria, during the evening rush hour, singing and clapping their hands. Those arrested were hauled away in patrol wagons and charged with "breach of the peace."

L. E. Johnson, president of the Blue Boar Cafeteria Co., said he refuses to serve Negroes because other restaurant owners would "take it out" on him if he didn't. He said he would serve Negroes if "the heat" were taken off of him. At present, Negroes who get hungry in downtown Louisville are served only at certain dime and drug store fountains, but cannot get a restaurant meal.

done to the capitalist parties and that while it welcomed current discussion by local union officials on the need for a labor party, the SWP was moving ahead with plans for a vigorous socialist campaign.

The rally gave a standing ovation to Julio Medina, organization secretary of the 26th of July Movement in the U.S., who declared that the goal of Cuban-American friendship would find ultimate realization in a victorious American revolution.

Other speakers at the rally were Frances James, Socialist Workers candidate for president of the city council, and Larry Ireland of the Young Socialist Alliance.

Garza told the rally: "We are determined to do everything in our power to challenge the two parties of the big money and the big lie. We aim to challenge the bi-partisan support to CIA-brinkmanship, to challenge the witch hunters and racists, to challenge the rent gougers, to challenge the whole political gang that works to perpetuate Mr. Kennedy's capitalist system."

Detailing some of the problems that confront the workers and minority groups in the city, the mayoralty candidate pointed to the thousands of jobless, wide-scale sweatshop wages, segregation and discrimination, and the terrible lack of decent schools, hospitals and social services for low-income groups.

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Target Date Mapped For War Against Cuba

By Harry Ring

MAY 3 — It is now clear that Washington is drafting plans for a direct attack on Cuba before the end of this year.

This is openly acknowledged by correspondents of major news publications who have been involved in an unprecedented series of "off-the-record" top-echelon Washington briefings.

On the basis of these briefings, the April 27 *Christian Science Monitor* reported the government is now intensively debating this question: "... should it intervene in about six months either with or without support from Latin American countries and heave out Fidel

Castro, in possible defiance of international treaties and the probable propaganda debacle among peasants and the rest of Latin America?"

The most ominous indication that such war preparations are under way was Kennedy's secret meetings with ranking Republican leaders — Nixon, Rockefeller, Eisenhower, Goldwater and MacArthur.

These meetings could have no other purpose than to secure commitments of support for an act of war. (History shows that such moves for "national unity" are an essential prelude to war.) The speculations that Kennedy's meetings were aimed only at warding

off Republican exploitation of the invasion fiasco are simply beside the point. Nothing less than plans for war could be expected to bring about such a deal.

And all indications point to agreement by the key Republicans on the anti-Cuban venture. Following his meeting with the president, Nixon held his own "off-the-record" session with newsmen. The April 25 *Detroit Free Press* reported that the following was an accurate account of Nixon's views: "The United States must go it alone in seeking to wrest Cuba from Communist control . . . Another venture must be attempted within eight months as a maximum . . . President Kennedy must be prepared next time to commit maximum American power, if necessary, to avoid another debacle."

The plan to attack Cuba is also the real reason for Kennedy's demand that the press practice self-censorship. His claims that news accounts of the plans for the CIA-sponsored invasion was a factor in its defeat is so much hogwash. The Cubans (and most of the rest of the world) were fully aware of the invasion plans long before any news was trickled to the people of this country. The purpose of the censorship proposal is to catch the American people, not the Cubans, off guard.

This too was the purpose of Secretary of State Rusk's pious declaration to a Senate group May 1 that there are no plans for armed intervention in Cuba. A Philadelphia lawyer would be hard pressed to draw up broader escape clauses than those included in Rusk's "assurance."

If Cuba should "attack" the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Rusk said, then the U.S. will "defend itself."

But since Castro has repeatedly made clear that he does not intend to offer the U.S. any pretext of an incident at Guantanamo Rusk deemed it necessary to throw in an even more elastic "if."

The U.S. would also "defend itself," he declared, if the Cuban government "followed an aggressive course of action."

The groundwork for the new at-

(Continued on Page 3)

N. Y. Banquet Hails Fair Play's 1st Year

NEW YORK, April 29 — The first anniversary of the founding of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was celebrated at a gala banquet here last night. Five hundred people attended and scores of additional reservations could not be accepted for lack of space.

The gathering was an impressive testimonial to the work of the committee which has established it as the rallying center for all those who are determined to mobilize the American people to halt aggression against Cuba.

Spirited applause was extended to the speakers of the evening who included: Carl Braden, in his last public appearance before entering prison for defying the House Un-American Activities Committee; William Worthy, distinguished Negro journalist who has been in the forefront of the hands-off-Cuba movement; Roland Watts, American Civil Liberties Union legal director; Corliss Lamont, noted humanist philosopher; Stanley Faulkner, general counsel of the FPCC; and Richard Gibson, the committee's acting national executive secretary. James Higgins, assistant editor of the *York (Pa.) Gazette & Daily*, was toastmaster.

The enthusiastic support for the committee's work was registered concretely when, in response to an appeal by Melita del Villar, the audience contributed more than \$2,300.

Picketing of CIA Continues in Capital

MAY 2 — A two-week vigil and hunger strike demonstration against the Central Intelligence Agency was started in Washington last Sunday by the Non-Violent Committee for Cuban Independence. It began with a solidarity and orientation supported by members of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

The rally was an open-air meeting in Judiciary Sq., attended by people from various East Coast cities. After this the participants moved in front of the CIA building, at 24th and E Sts., where a picket line of 125 was established.

The fast and vigil was then initiated by nine NVCCI members, whose spokesman is Dave Dellinger of Glen Gardner, N. J. Their aim is to "appeal to the American conscience" to oppose U.S. intervention in Cuba and abolish the CIA, which planned last month's unsuccessful invasion.

They hope to be joined in their demonstration by other pacifists. Meanwhile they are continuing their fast (taking only water) and their picketing on a 24-hour-a-day basis. Those who want to join them either as fasters or pickets may do so directly in front of the CIA at any time between now and May 13, the last day of the demonstration.

The Fair Play for Cuba Committee announced today that its members would continue to support the protest by joining the picket line in front of the CIA at 1 p.m., Saturday, May 6, and Saturday, May 13.

Bus and other transportation is being arranged by Fair Play chapters in several eastern cities. In New York buses will leave at

7 a.m. on both Saturdays and return at 10:30 p.m. Round trip bus fare will be \$6. Those who want to participate are asked to mail or bring their fare to the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, 799 Broadway, New York 3. Its phone number is OR 4-8295.

MAY 3 — Seven pacifists demonstrating against the CIA in Washington, D.C., have been given ten day sentences for "loitering." It was charged they had leaned against walls or sat down. They are continuing their hunger strike in jail. The others remain in front of the CIA building.



RUTH SHIMINSKY, Socialist Workers candidate for governor of New Jersey registered a gain for civil liberties in that state. See story page 2.

2,000 Defy Arrest Threat In N. Y. War Drill Protest

By Jack Arnold

NEW YORK, April 29 — The anti-war protest demonstration in City Hall Park during the Civil Defense drill yesterday swelled to over 2,000 persons. This was about twice as many as those who refused last year to take shelter when the siren sounded. As before, a police official ordered and pleaded with the crowd to take cover or face arrest. He was met with shouts of defiance, derision and laughter, and these were bolder, more caustic and louder than in previous demonstrations.

The crowd broke into songs: "We Shall Not Be Moved" and "We Shall Overcome." Then the police began making arrests under orders of the pleading official. It was impossible to arrest the large

number present. Only about 50 persons were actually taken into custody. Even this was made more difficult by three young students who lay down under the police wagons and had to be arrested before the other prisoners could be hauled off.

As the all-clear signal sounded, ten minutes after the drill began, the demonstrators raised their hands in a V sign to express the feeling that the failure of the police to disperse them was a victory. More than a thousand walked from the park to the court house where a block-long picket line was set up. Elsewhere in the city, hundreds of students demonstrated on college and high school campuses. On several campuses students were joined by a few of their instructors.

Light Cast on N.Y. Labor Party Talks

A further indication of the thinking among the top union leaders in New York City who recently set up a committee to study the formation of a labor party is contained in an article in the April 24 issue of *Hotel*, official organ of the New York Hotel Trades Council.

The Council's president, Jay Rubin, is on the editorial board of the paper and a member of the study committee. The article, which is unsigned, takes issue with press speculation that the union leaders' move was designed to strengthen one or another faction or candidate within the Democratic Party. It continues:

"The press completely missed the point. This is the very thing — the attempt of the politicians to manipulate labor — that the present discussions are directed against.

"Behind the discussions is a great deal of history. Many unions for many years stayed clear of politics altogether. As harsh experience brought home the lesson that political action was essential to safeguard economic benefits and union rights, they began to get politically involved. Operating within the framework of the prevailing setup, they endorsed tickets and candidates, drew up political programs, encouraged their members to register and vote.

"It hasn't worked out happily and often has proved a trap, with the Democrats for the main part regarding labor as its captive and the Republicans just writing it off.

"Labor has been given no real voice in the choice of candidates, no influence in formulating support for reforms in the interests of the people.

"Labor is asking why people it backs don't stand up and fight after the election for the things they promise during election campaigns. It is naturally wondering

if it shouldn't strike out in a new direction.

"The poor performance of politicians in whose selection as candidates labor had no voice — that's one thing uppermost in the minds of the union leaders in the committee. The ignoring of labor on a number of issues of vital concern to it — that's another.

"One of these is the shorter work week. Washington has taken some useful steps to help the jobless — the extension of unemployment benefits, for instance — but it has taken no action that gets to the root of this grim problem. Labor's direct experience and exhaustive studies have convinced it that a reduction of the work week is the heart of the answer. But on this question it stands almost alone. Its views have been dismissed by all the politicians, even those thought of as liberals . . ."

The 15-man study committee includes the top officers of the New York Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO, and the president of Teamsters Joint Council 16.

... Mayoralty Race

(Continued from Page 1)

Multiply these conditions by every city in the country, he said, and you have a picture of the capitalist system that Kennedy is determined to commit the American people to defend regardless of the cost or peril.

There is heartening evidence, he continued, that the American people will not be committed to such a reactionary and disastrous course. Pointing to the growing anti-war activity of young people, the growing manifestations of opposition to witch-hunting bodies like the House Un-American Activities Committee, and the nationwide wave of protest demonstrations against the invasion of Cuba, he pledged that the SWP ticket would do its utmost to further this revival of American radicalism.

Hailing the Cuban triumph over the U.S.-organized invasion force and saluting the heroic stand of the 26th of July Movement in this country, Garza declared: "Their determination and revolutionary courage have contributed greatly to the radical awakening in this country. We have taken heart from their magnificent fight and hope they don't mind too much if we make it our fight too. It is not only the Cuban revolution that is at stake but the revolution of all the Americas in which Cuba marches in the vanguard."

Senior Citizens

In 1960, 24,000,000 people over 65 were dependent on some form of federal relief for survival. What they got is indicated by an Agricultural Department recommendation to give aged and disabled persons a meal allowance of 33½ cents.



Robert Himmel

... UAW Parley Rejects 30-40

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down to any definite commitment, because, you see, if we tip our hand to the corporations they will be able to accuse us of trying to increase labor costs. This line of reasoning was urged with spell-binding rhetoric by vice-president Leonard Woodcock.

How any concessions at all could be won from the profit-bloated auto corporations without "increasing labor costs" remained unanswered. The watchword was "flexibility."

Super-Flexible

Under this slogan, the main Reuther administration bargaining resolution, adopted by the convention, commits the top negotiating "team" to nothing. The key section reads:

"The UAW approaches the bargaining table in 1961 with an open mind, flexible with respect to how we solve the problem of getting our members back to work but rigidly determined to find an answer. We are prepared to explore the following approaches in seeking a solution:

"Reduction of the workweek or workday without loss in pay; longer vacations; additional paid holidays; industrial sabbaticals; early retirement; control of overtime."

In the event that none of these "partial solutions" to the problem of growing unemployment meets with the approval of the auto bosses, the resolution suggests:

"We are prepared to explore any additional approaches that management may suggest."

There are to be no "demands." That would be a gross violation of the principle of "flexibility." The sum total of specific commitment permitted by Reuther is to "explore."

Corporation Line

Lest there be any misunderstanding, the auto corporations have already announced the result of their "explorations," in advance of contract negotiations. On April 28, the second day of the convention, the *Detroit News* published excerpts from a speech by Kenneth D. Cassidy, vice-president in charge of industrial relations for Ford Motor Company. The essence of Cassidy's remarks was summed up in the headline: "Ford to Oppose Any Boost in Labor Cost."

Spokesmen for big business are not too impressed with Reuther's verbal fireworks. "Reuther is not likely to push very hard" for a shorter work week, says the April 27 *Wall Street Journal*. "President Kennedy already has flatly stated he is against a shorter work week," the paper comments, and adds: "As a member of the President's Advisory Committee on Labor-Management policy, Mr. Reuther will be under pressure to refrain from opposing the President on this point."

The active supporters of 30 for 40 were a small minority at the convention. A petition to bring

Bob Himmel, Sarah Lovell Enter Detroit City Election

DETROIT, May 1 — Two socialists announced their candidacy for city office last week and simultaneously urged Detroit's unions to nominate an independent labor slate for the city primary elections to be held in September. They were Robert Himmel, running for mayor, and Sarah Lovell, candidate for city council, both endorsed by the Socialist Workers Party.

In letters to the Wayne County AFL-CIO Council and independent unions, Himmel and Mrs. Lovell cited discussion by New York labor leaders of plans to organize a new political party for this year's New York City elections. They called on Detroit union leaders to "convene a city-wide conference

to draft an electoral program and nominate an independent and united labor slate for all Detroit municipal offices."

"Such a slate would have an even better chance of success here than in New York," they said. "Our unions have a relatively greater weight in the community and could count on strong support from organized labor's allies among the Negro people and the unemployed."

Support 30 For 40

A labor administration is needed in Detroit, Himmel said, because "it is time to halt the shifting of taxes from business to the working people; to stop the passing of laws that place the burden of our problems on the backs of the workers in order to favor big business profits and interests; to give the city's support to the fight for the 30-hour week at 40 hours' pay; to put an end to police brutality and other types of discrimination against the Negro one-quarter of our population."

Their letter to the unions also stated that Himmel and Mrs. Lovell, although they are already campaigning for election this fall, would gladly consider withdrawing their candidacies in support of an independent labor slate.

Both Himmel, a cook, and Mrs. Lovell, a proofreader, are active union members who have previously run for public office as socialists.

Break for Prisoners

The Georgia attorney general has ruled that prison labor may not legally be used to maintain or improve church property, since this would violate principles of church-state separation.

Socialist Fund

Since the copy deadline for the Fund Director's column comes a day ahead of the closing date of the Socialist Fund Drive (May 1), we are not publishing the final scoreboard until the next issue (May 15). However, we can definitely say that it will go over the top. Vencemos.—Marvel Scholl, Fund Director.

A new pamphlet

In Defense of the Cuban Revolution

An Answer to the State Department and Theodore Draper

By Joseph Hansen
32 pages 25¢

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Weekly Calendar

DETROIT

Cuba — What Next? Speaker, Ed Shaw, Midwest representative, Fair Play for Cuba Committee. Fri., May 12, 8 p.m. 3737 Woodward. Ausp. Friday Night Socialist Forum.

NEW YORK

The Committee to Defend Francisco Molina invites you to a party at Casa Cuba, 691 Columbus Ave. (near 94th St.), Sat., May 6, 9 P.M. Dancing and refreshments. Contrib. \$1.

Puerto Rico Today: Democratic Showcase or U.S. Colony? Speaker, Carlos Curras. Fri., May 12, 8:30 p.m. 116 University Pl. Contrib. 50 cents. Ausp. Militant Labor Forum.

You are invited to a Marxist graduation celebration. Sunday, May 13, 3 p.m. Complete buffet dinner at 5 p.m. Contrib. \$1.50. Militant Labor Forum. 116 University Place.

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, 5627 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. TEmpire 1-6135.

LOS ANGELES. Forum Hall and Modern Book Shop, Socialist Workers Party, 1702 East Fourth St. AN 9-4953 or WE 5-9338. Open 12 noon to 5 p.m. daily, Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MILWAUKEE. 150 E. Juneau Ave.

MINNEAPOLIS. Socialist Workers Party and Labor Book Store, 704 Hennepin Ave., Hall 240. FEderal 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 1-0969. Ask for Dick Clarke.

SAN DIEGO. San Diego Labor Forum, P.O. Box 1581, San Diego 12, Calif.

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

THE MILITANT

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Monday, May 8, 1961

A Weak Reed

If there are still people who pin their hopes on the United Nations to stop aggression and war, its performance during the recent invasion of Cuba should have dispelled their illusions.

The UN General Assembly was already in session, with Cuba's complaint on the agenda, when the invasion overture, the bombing of Cuban airfields by phony defectors — actually CIA-paid pilots from Guatemalan air bases — took place. Less than 48 hours later, U.S.-financed, trained and equipped counterrevolutionaries were debarking on Cuba's shores under cover of U.S. vessels and planes.

Not only did the UN not make any attempts to stop the invasion, it dared not even go on record condemning the U.S. for such flagrant violation of the UN charter and numerous international treaties and laws.

In the 1930's the futility of the League of Nations as an agency for preventing war was finally brought home to people when Mussolini, disregarding the whimpers from Geneva, brutally invaded and conquered Ethiopia. The recent Cuban test has demonstrated the equal futility of the UN in preventing a war or aggression today.

Even those Latin American governments, which are not completely sold out to Wall Street and thus have most to fear from a revived, rampant, U.S. interventionism, were exceedingly timid in the diplomatic maneuvering and doubletalk which occupied the UN during and after the invasion. To placate the masses of their own countries, who feel strong solidarity with the Cubans under the attack of Yankee imperialism, they backed a resolution which, while not naming the U.S., appealed to all states not to allow their territories to be used to promote civil war in Cuba.

This mild resolution introduced by Mexico (which at the same time refused to permit ex-President Cardenas to go to Cuba as a gesture of solidarity) was bitterly opposed by the U.S. delegation. Though passed in committee, it failed to get the required two-thirds majority in the Assembly. The virtually meaningless resolution which was finally passed was of no help or gratification to Cuba.

The revolutionary government of Cuba was wise to depend on its own armed workers and campesinos for its defense and not on the UN. It utilized the talking shop on New York's East River Drive for what it was worth — a rostrum from which to publicize the facts about the U.S. sponsorship and launching of the invasion.

Molina Frame Up Crumbling

The Committee to Defend Francisco Molina has revealed dramatic new evidence that the Molina trial was a frame up. A leading prosecution witness has turned up among the counter-revolutionary invaders captured in Cuba and has admitted that he gave false testimony in New York last month at the trial which resulted in Molina's conviction of second degree murder.

The witness, Humberto Triana, has disclosed to Cuban authorities that he and four other members of a counterrevolutionary group in the pay of the Central Intelligence Agency went to the El Prado restaurant in New York City last September armed with chains, knives and guns for the specific purpose of provoking a fight with supporters of Fidel Castro who were known to frequent the restaurant.

In the fight a nine-year-old girl was killed by a stray bullet. Molina, a pro-Castro factory worker, was indicted. The anti-Castro thugs went scot free, and the prosecution used their testimony to build a case against Molina.

The new evidence demands that a mistrial be declared and a new trial be begun or that Governor Rockefeller grant Molina a full pardon immediately. The latter course would free Molina quickest and should appeal to the New York State authorities as the more prudent. The more light that is shed on this case the more compromised the state legal system and prosecuting staff are going to be with the criminal activities and gross ineptitude of the CIA.

1st Amendment Jailings

While the top officials of the U.S. government are being exposed by events as hypocrites and liars, two of the country's most principled men are being sent to prison. Carl Braden and Frank Wilkinson began serving one-year terms May 1 for defying the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1958 when it was witch-hunting leaders in the developing integration struggles in the South.

Frank and Carl could have avoided personal danger then by taking the Fifth Amendment, but they chose instead to challenge the committee's right to do its dirty work. Just before they went to jail, Braden said, "I hope everybody will raise hell." The winds of change are in the air, inspired in part by the courage of these two battle-scarred veterans in the struggle for civil liberties and civil rights. We are sure the struggle will have registered advances when they join it again as free men.

A Dispute Over New Negro Mood

By George Lavan

A highly significant debate and a momentous proposal were unlooked-for features on the program at the banquet of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New York April 28.

The debate came over the attitude of American Negroes toward the Cuban revolution as expressed in an advertisement entitled "A Declaration of Conscience by Afro-Americans" which appeared in the April 22 *Afro-American*, leading Negro newspaper, and the April 25 *New York Post*. Signed by W. E. B. DuBois, Richard Gibson, Leroi Jones, Conrad Lynn, Julian Mayfield, Daniel H. Watts, Robert F. Williams, William Worthy and many others, the ad had been placed by the Fair Play Committee as part of its educational campaign against the attack on Cuba.

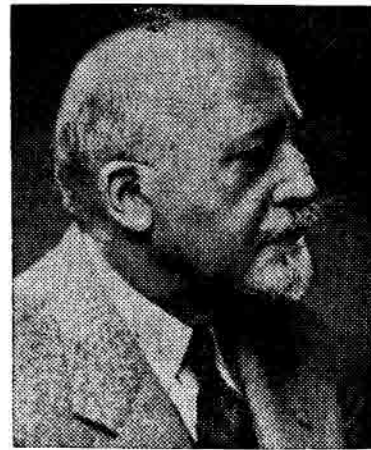
The momentous proposal made at the banquet was a call for Negroes to stage a civil disobedience campaign in this country if there is another attack on Cuba.

The Debate

First, the debate.

Rowland Watts, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union, who addressed the banquet on the constitutional right to travel freely, including to Cuba, diverged from his subject to take exception to the advertisement in the strongest terms. He declared that in his opinion the ad was a "serious disservice," that it was biased and "racist" in reverse.

Journalist William Worthy, one of the signers of the ad and the last speaker on the program, answered Watts's charges. The ad was not racist in any way, he contended, but it was militant and outspoken. It reflected the new mood of the Negroes in this country. Though this mood was new — having been crystallized by the struggle in the South and the independence struggles in Africa — it had deeper roots. Worthy traced these roots back to the March on Washington Movement, which succeeded in forcing the Fair Employment Practices Order from



Distinguished historian W. E. B. DuBois says the Negro people have a special stake in defending the Cuban revolution.

Roosevelt at the beginning of World War II.

That movement, too, had been criticized by white liberals for its militant tone and because it was open only to Negroes.

The fact of the matter is that Watts' reaction to the new mood of Negroes as expressed in the "Declaration of Conscience" ad is representative of the reaction of a whole layer of white liberals and radicals who have long, as in Watts' case, often impeccable records in advocating civil rights. This is what made the debate between him and Worthy so significant.

The Mood Has Changed

It was, in effect, a dialogue between the white liberal, who a decade or so ago had reached a position of advocating complete equality, and today's militant Negro. The liberal's positions and attitudes have not changed in the past decade, but the mood of the Negro has. Today these white liberals and radicals are made uncomfortable by the new tone of militant Negroes and criticize it as "nationalism," "racism in reverse," etc.

The March on Washington Movement, which Worthy cited as

a forerunner of the current mood among Negroes, was more than a militant campaign led by A. Philip Randolph to break job discrimination in wartime hiring. It was a manifestation of the Negroes' desire to be in charge, and set the aims and tempo, of the struggle for Negro rights.

It was a rejection of their former position of subordination inside the civil rights movement to the white liberals and labor bureaucracy. It was not a rejection of collaboration with white opponents of Jim Crow but an assertion that, as the most injured and interested parties, Negroes should have the right to call the tune and set the strategy in the national fight against Jim Crow.

The recently formed Negro American Labor Council, also headed by A. Philip Randolph, is a new manifestation in the labor movement of the same historical forces. It bewilders and angers the labor bureaucracy. It, too, is criticized as "nationalist" and "racism in reverse."

The same historical forces which have produced this new mood among American Negroes have also revived the tendency towards Negro "nationalism" which has always been present to one degree or other among this country's oppressed colored population. Old nationalist groups have experienced some growth and new movements, particularly the Black Muslims, have attracted considerable attention. These movements are truly separatist and do reverse some of the propaganda and arguments of the white racists. (But to equate this racism of the oppressed with the racism of the oppressors is a grave misjudgment). However, there is no trace of separatist sentiment in the ad objected to by Rowland Watts. Moreover Worthy and other signers are well known for their consistent struggle for integration.

Of the Humble

After making his reply to Watts' criticisms, Worthy proceeded to deliver a speech notable for two other points. First, he emphasized that the support for the Cuban revolution given by himself and others in this country was not a blank check. It was contingent, he said, on this revolution not being sold out, on its remaining, as it has so magnificently to date, a revolution of the humble and for the humble.

His second point was the proposal that ads be placed in at least four leading Negro newspapers in the East, Midwest, West and South calling for a campaign of civil disobedience in the event of a U.S. attack on revolutionary Cuba.

The more Negroes that can be involved, the more it will be feared in Washington," Worthy said. He cited his experience with the call for civil disobedience against Jim Crow army service. Along with Randolph he had been in a long and bitter interview with President Truman over this call in 1948. On the basis of this experience and the sensitivity already displayed by the Kennedy administration to Negro opinion, Worthy said, "I assure you such an ad would scare the pants off the White House, the State Department and the CIA."

... War Against Cuba

(Continued from Page 1)

tack on Cuba is being laid by the special investigation, headed by General Maxwell Taylor, on how the CIA "bungled" the last invasion.

Edwin A. Lahey and David Kraslow, Washington correspondents for the Knight newspaper chain, put it this way: "General Taylor, who has been joined in this study by Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, is clearly the architect for an invasion of Cuba and will not fail."

The propaganda justification offered for this plotting of naked aggression is that the Castro government threatens the "security" of the people of this country. This is truly the Big Lie in action.

The prospect of a long, bloody war in Cuba — and there can no longer be any doubt that it would be just that — is the real danger confronting the American people. American youth would be drained off in such a war as much or more than French youth have been in the "dirty" war against Algeria. And, implicit in intervention in Cuba is the terrible risk of global war.

But what "threat" does Cuba represent to the ordinary people of this country? The Cuban revolution is not the work of "subversive" plotters. Its aims and aspirations are openly and proudly proclaimed to the entire world.

The Cuban workers and peasants have ended U.S. imperialist exploitation of their country. They have abolished the capitalist property relations that made such exploitation possible and are now in

the process of building a planned economy that will afford people a happy and prosperous life.

Nor is this progressive socialist goal being imposed upon the Cuban people. This was evident as over one million cheering Cubans marched in the giant Havana May Day celebration with huge portraits of Karl Marx and with banners proclaiming: "Workers of the World, Unite!"

This may represent a "menace" to the capitalist rulers of this country. They fear that if the Cuban revolution is permitted to develop it will prove an inspiring example not only for Latin America but for the workers and minority people of this country.

After all, it isn't every day that we get a practical example of how to lick the problems of unemployment, Jim Crow, inadequate housing, schools and medical care.

We have every reason to demand a halt to Washington's criminal plot against the Cuban people.

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Behind Invasion Fiasco

Denver Guerrillas Grounded

By Herman Chauka

No investigation of how the CIA bungled its invasion of Cuba will be complete without a full-scale probe of the foul-ups which prevented a determined band of Denver guerrillas from joining the fray.

Two days before the invasion the *Denver Post* broke the news that a volunteer task force — the Volunteer Independent Pioneers — had set up a recruiting center in

the city. Commanding the operation was "Brigadier General" Alfred R. Zent, Jr., described by an associate as a "frantic" patriot.

Frantic or no, Zent seems to have a basic grasp of the American Way. To finance his army, he was working on a deal with U.S. firms whose Cuban properties had been expropriated. Each company was to kick in five per cent of the value of such property — when and if it was "liberated." With this deal as security, Zent was looking to swing a federal loan to take care of any unavoidable cash expenditures.

Volunteers were offered something to fight for. Each man would receive \$10,000 upon successful completion of the operation.

A reported "several hundred" signed up in Denver. The recruits came from various walks of life and gin mills. Chief recruiting officer was "Captain" Ray Correa, a local bail bondsman.

Correa fell victim to the first foul-up in an incident that underscored the urgency of President Kennedy's plea for self-censorship by the press.

In reckless disregard of national security, the *Post* disclosed that Correa had a rather impressive fighting record, including several prison stretches for attempted murder.

The paper also ran off at the mouth about the fact that Correa is currently on bail on a charge of swindling a 70-year-old man out of \$800 of his old-age pension.

This security disclosure resulted in Correa being temporarily stripped of his rank. But the operation still managed to get off the ground, even though a bit late.

On April 19, the day the invasion was crushed, 25 of the Denver commandos embarked for Miami via Chicago. The leader of the expedition, "Major" Andrews, handed Continental Airlines a check for \$3,533.66 to cover passage.

Then came another cruel blow. When they hit Chicago, Continental removed the "freedom fighters" from the plane just because the check was rubber.

Stranded by this unpatriotic act of self-interest, the expeditionary force holed up at the headquarters of the "Christian Democratic Movement," a Cuban counter-revolutionary outfit.

At last report they were still there. But a spokesman said they were greatly encouraged by President Kennedy's speech threatening direct intervention in Cuba.

Said the spokesman for the Denver Freedom Fighters: "We're on a standby basis."

ligious instruction in the city's public schools. She charged William was beaten by 15 students in the presence of three teachers and a vice principal and that they failed to come to his defense.

Strictly for the Birds — Before he left office, Eisenhower issued an executive order barring the Migratory Game Bird Commission from using military secrecy stamps on records and correspondence. But the *Washington Post* reports that the agency is still stamping some of its documents with the military security designation, "confidential."

Prize-Winner — An advertising booth of the Empire State Attic & Basement Co. in New York prominently displays a plaque citing the company for an "exemplary record" in the field. According to the Better Business Bureau, the plaque was awarded to the company by its own advertising agency.

Democracy in Action — After hearings are held in five major metropolitan areas, Secretary of



Kennedy's Tall Tale About Those Cuban 'Freedom Fighters'

As one justification for its invasion of Cuba, the Kennedy administration insisted that the counter-revolutionary invasion force was composed of genuine "freedom fighters" and didn't include any supporters of ex-dictator Batista.

In his April 20 speech threatening direct intervention in Cuba, Kennedy said: "According to press reports, the final message to be relayed from the refugee forces on the beach came from the rebel commander when asked if he wished to be evacuated. His answer was: 'I will never leave this country.' This is not the reply of a mercenary."

There was more truth than poetry in the "rebel" commander's statement. He was captured by the Cubans April 26.

Who was this "freedom fighter"? His name is Roberto San Roman. His title in the invading force was "brigadier general."

This represented a promotion. In the army of Batista he was a captain who, according to the April 27 *New York Times*, "had fought in the hills against Dr. Castro" at the time Batista was trying to preserve his bloody rule.

But why quibble about facts? Anything goes when you're fighting "communist immorality."

Agriculture Freeman will decide whether or not to continue his predecessor's order permitting packers to add 13 per cent more water to smoked hams. The order was based on packers' assurances that customers prefer it that way.

Oiling the New Frontier — In an April 27 speech, Sen. Wm. Proxmire (D-Wisc.) said: "Big oil has scored again in this administration by winning conspicuous omission for its fat 27.5 per cent depletion loophole from the President's recent tax message."

Here to Stay — High school students and their parents in Annapolis, Md., staged a picket-line demonstration in support of Sherman G. Brett, a high school biology teacher who was ousted for answering students' questions about sex. Said one angry parent: "Sex is here to stay. Let's face it."

Postal Subversion — The Daughters of the American Revolution has demanded that the government stop issuing stamps with pictures of "foreign persons and places."

Letters from Our Readers

Liked Cuba Issue

Chicago, Ill.

Enclosed is money order for \$3. Of this \$2 is for your socialist fund and \$1 to help compensate for all your extra efforts and expenses in last week's special issue on Cuba.

It was eight pages of fine reading and hard work gone through to give your readers a fine paper.

You try so hard I feel it my duty to try also. After all it is something we share together.

S.T.R.

A Socialist Hemisphere

Indianapolis, Ind.

I am sending \$3 to purchase *The Truth About Cuba*, by Joseph Hansen, and *Causes of World War III*, by C. Wright Mills. I want you to keep the \$2.25 balance as a contribution.

Socialism will never be contained by capitalism. The Monroe Doctrine will never keep socialism out of the Western Hemisphere. That fact has already been proven by Cuba under Castro and Brazil with Janios Quadros. I feel certain socialism will take over country after country in the Western Hemisphere until it forms a ring of steel around the United States.

Then socialism will prevail in the United States and we will no longer be under the heel of the capitalists. Then there will be jobs for everybody, socialized medicine for the people and the end of capitalistic rule by the profit-hungry rich.

Also, the Un-American Activities Committee should be abolished as it is an insidious, evil thing. It has ruined the reputation of many worthy people. The name *Un-American* is a worthy one for that witch-hunting committee as it is certainly very un-American.

Sorry I can't contribute more at this time as I am short of money.

I love the new tabloid form of the *Militant*. It is of much better quality and easier to handle.

R.A.L.

Learned from Experience

Kansas City, Mo.

I am a college student. I first heard of the Socialist Workers party in the 1956 elections. I read your platform then, was greatly impressed by it, but felt that the cause of the workers and farmers could best be served by working for liberal reforms through the Democratic party.

I worked hard in my precinct in the last election for Kennedy's new frontier but I am now rather disillusioned. We have seen no action on civil rights, medical care for the aged, urban renewal. We have seen vigorous opposition to a man being paid \$50 a week. The unemployed have received hand-outs (enough to keep them from starving) but no jobs. And the conflicting colonial ambitions of the Western imperialists and the pseudo-communist imperialists threaten us daily with new crises.

I have now come to the conclusion that labor must form its own political party if America is to survive.

W.O.

Still Rusty

Philadelphia, Pa.

Former seamen among the readers of the *Militant* may be interested in how things are nowadays on the rust buckets compared with conditions years ago.

The average seaman is my age, 36, or older. He is married and has a couple of kids. Seamen are either homesteaders, staying on the same ship year after year, or like me (the minority) take one relief trip after another so they can get some time home.

Thought for the Week

"Mexico is a bargain-basement Garden of Eden . . . Best of all, probably, is the availability of maids who will cook, clean, wash and iron for about \$15 a month — just about what we have to pay for a day's baby-sitting when we want to get away from New York for a few hours."—Richard Joseph in the *New York Post*.

Quarters are somewhat better on the new ships — two men in a room instead of three or four. But many old ships that should be replaced are still afloat.

Food is much the same, not the best, but usually plentiful. The union (after all these years) discovered Grace Line has a two-pot system and held up a couple of ships a while back. This brought some improvement.

Wages are about the national factory average (when you are working) but most depend on overtime. Everyone wants the ship to be at sea on a weekend instead of vice versa.

The 40-hour week is, of course, a tremendous advance. The pension and welfare plan is of supplementary benefit to the older seamen; but the most important improvement for us relatively younger ones is that we can draw unemployment insurance.

Shipping is tough. Even AB's can't be too choosy. Group 2 is a pool of part-time seamen. That is all the work they can get due to foreign competition from runaway ships.

R.J.

What Happened?

New York, N.Y.

Before the invasion the Cuban counterrevolutionaries said they had a big network of underground agents that reached into the top ranks of the Cuban army and militia. After they got clobbered the story was they didn't know the Cubans had so many planes and tanks. What happened?

H.C.

'Feeling of Intimacy'

Salt Lake City, Utah

What I particularly like about the *Militant* is the feeling of intimacy with various struggling people that is conveyed to the reader.

I particularly delight in the column, *It Was Reported in the Press*, and some of the jewels of idiocy it reports.

It would take weeks for me to glean from other publications the same amount of intimacy with the afflicted that I gain from each of your issues. I have long believed that the more we know of the intimate sufferings of others, the less we will be able to inflict suffering ourselves. Suffering teaches us humility and humble people do not go to war.

D.M.

Disillusioned Democrat

Sugar Creek, Mo.

Is there a Socialist Workers Party headquarters in Missouri? Is the SWP recognized in this state, and if not what can be done to rectify it? I, for one would like to start a movement in this direction. If one is already underway I would like to join it.

I believe the time has come for a three-party system. At the present time I am a registered Democrat but things are happening that I disapprove of. Or, to put it another way, nothing is happening to benefit a union working man such as myself. There are too many monopolists keeping the working man from getting a fair share of this life.

F.P.

The Truth

Monongahela, Pa.

Yours is the only newspaper that carries the truth. Fred Halstead's *Why Can't Everybody Have a Job?* is a report which all people should read. We must wake up. We need a change not for the worse but for the better.

O.P.

It Was Reported in the Press

Mixed Feelings — Just before the attack on Cuba, a memo was circulated among administration members reporting: "At a White House meeting of Cabinet assistants we have been advised again that speeches of Cabinet and sub-Cabinet officers do not contain sufficient reference to the President and his personal interest in, and compassion with the problems which face the nation." Queried on this after-the-invasion fiasco, press secretary Salinger said he thought the President was being mentioned enough.

Safe Driving — New York's Gov. Rockefeller has signed a bill adopted by the state legislature to revoke the driver's license of anyone convicted of advocating the overthrow of the federal government.

Atheist Student Attacked — Mrs. Madalyn E. Murray of Baltimore has asked local police to intervene on behalf of her son William, 14, who was beaten by a group of students following a legal challenge by the Murrys to re-