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Detroit--The Biggest An Eyewitness Account



DANIEL CAMEJO, one of the thirteen victims of the new witch-hunt in Mexico, has been designated a "prominent Trotskyist" by the Díaz Ordaz government. For full details see pages 715-727

New Witch-Hunt in Mexico 13 Imprisoned

U.S. Citizen Deported From Mexico

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DETROIT, THE BIGGEST SO FAR -- AN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT

By Evelyn Sell

["Things are almost normal now," Evelyn Sell wrote August 1. "The curfew has been lifted, liquor is being sold again and the Federal troops are withdrawing.

["Stores are open, buses are running, schools are back in session and some of the prisoners have been released. The politicians are bickering over who did what wrong and trying to dream up plans to avoid 'more Detroit's.'"]

[What happened in Detroit and why? That question is being asked all over the world as "law and order" has been restored to the fourth largest city in the United States. It was the biggest ghetto uprising in the three-year wave of revolts and by far the costliest to the capitalist rulers.

[Evelyn Sell is a Detroit resident. The following account was written from the scene of the rebellion.]

* * *

Sunday, July 23

As I looked out of my tenth floor apartment window, I could see black and grey clouds of smoke streaming up from every point on the horizon. Dull orange glows flared up through the clouds.

Below me, crossing the lawns of the integrated public housing project in which I live, I could see pale white rectangles and the darker shapes of the human beings carrying them.

At first I didn't understand, but within moments it struck me: the people in the project were reclaiming items from the furniture warehouse a half block away.

My neighbors were laughing and exclaiming at the sight below. Suddenly a yellow-orange mass of flames shot up from the warehouse with the rumble and crackle of thunder and lightning.

Detroit had at last exploded like Harlem, Watts, Newark and countless other American cities.

Flames and reclaimed goods completely destroyed the myth that Detroit was invulnerable to ghetto revolt because of its "enlightened police methods," "massive antipoverty program" and "good relations between white and Negro leaders."

Ever since the long hot summers began, Detroit officials boasted that

they showed the nation how to avoid costly ghetto rebellions.

But they had only delayed the explosion. They could not prevent it.

Flames and fire-bombs licked away the facade. Millions of dollars are not enough to solve the overwhelming problems of the ghetto poor.

The "responsible Negro leaders" snuggled so cosily with the white power structure that they were not in tune with, had no control over and were unable to speak for the black masses.

But the Detroit uprising did more than just pose a crisis for the local power structure. Since the "safest city" in the country exploded, no city can be immune.

What could the national government do now to head off more and graver civil disorders? How could they fight their wars abroad and their wars at home at the same time?

Monday, July 24

We went shopping. One of the first things I noticed was an old, torn couch placed neatly on the curb for the garbage collector. Lying on its faded pillows was a large, empty white box labeled: "Furniture -- Handle with Care."

A grocery store was crowded with blacks and whites stocking up for the days to come.

In another place a stream of people was carrying goods out of a supermarket and several smaller stores. They had appliances, household furnishings, clothes -- whatever they needed.

A black man was standing inside the broken windows of an appliance store handing items to several whites on the sidewalk.

A white woman ran up, disappeared into a store and emerged a few minutes later. She hurried back down the street, her arms piled high with clothes.

Two young black women carried a huge pile of goods balanced precariously on a large piece of wood. When they got to the street corner, they patiently waited for the light to turn green.

Blacks and whites stood along the streets watching the activity in the stores. People driving by in cars slowed

down to look and laugh. A police car came along but no one stopped to look.

A little later, another police car drove up, parked in front of the supermarket and a tall officer with a rifle got out and ordered the people to get away.

He didn't even glance at people across the street who were still carrying items from the appliance store. About ten minutes later he got back into the patrol car, drove away, and the people returned to the supermarket.

Detroit Mayor Cavanagh remarked on TV that night, "It's like a carnival!" A perfect word to describe the atmosphere as whites and blacks together evened the score with cockroach merchants and thumbed their noses at the police.

That afternoon and the next day, I drove all over the city in the areas most seriously affected by the uprising. The lack of hostility between blacks and whites was remarkable.

The truth is, Afro-Americans were not engaging in indiscriminate attacks against whites. Their goals were very clear: to rid their neighborhoods of people who profited from black second-class citizenship.

The integrated character of the repossessions, fire-bombings and shootings made it impossible for anyone to call the uprising simply a "race riot."

The terms used over and over again were: "civil disturbance," "insurrection," "rebellion," "ghetto guerrilla warfare."

One police officer said, "This is more than a riot. This is war." Michigan Governor Romney stated, "I call this an attack on authority and on property, not an attack by one race on another."

A black U.S. congressman, John Conyers, called it "a war of the have-nots against the haves."

While blacks and whites were together on the streets, their "leaders" were meeting together to condemn the uprising and take steps against it.

Detroit's lone black councilman completely agreed with the pronouncements of the white administration. He said, "This is a completely lawless element. I support the basic policy decision [to call in National Guardsmen and federal troops]. At this point, we must have a safe and secure city."

Statements like this caused one young Afro-American to exclaim bitterly, "You leaders have failed the black commu-

nity. There's no hope for black kids. So I say let 'em loot. The black leadership brought it on the black people."

The only black voices raised in unconditional defense of the participants in the uprising were those of black nationalists like Attorney Milton Henry, Richard Henry and Rev. Albert Cleage.

The Henry brothers issued a statement on behalf of the Malcolm X Society calling for the immediate release of all prisoners, amnesty to all arrested persons, black ghetto control over rebuilding programs for the burned out areas and the withdrawal of all soldiers.

Rev. Cleage, gubernatorial candidate on the 1964 Freedom Now party ticket, protested the excessive bails put on prisoners and the rampant police brutality.

Tuesday, July 25

The crack of rifle fire woke me up again and again last night. When I looked out of the windows, I could see the black smoke from old fires and the grey and yellow of new ones.

The smell of burning rubble drifted into the apartment.

The night was full of the sounds of the uprising: army helicopters dipping low over the roofs searching for guerrillas, the sirens of police cars and fire engines, burglar alarms ringing inanelly in the burned shells of stores, the shouts of police and soldiers.

In the daytime, caravans of police cars bristling with rifles poking out of the windows were everywhere. There were jeep loads of soldiers with rifles at the ready and machine guns mounted at the rear.

There were tanks lined up across the lawn of the school I attended when the 1943 Detroit race riot took place -- a real race riot in which white gangs beat up and harassed blacks.

Two small skinny black children around ten years old were handcuffed together and guarded by a tall soldier in front of a shoe store.

A police van was packed with white prisoners.

Whole blocks of stores and homes had been turned into piles of bricks and twisted steel girders.

Newspapers reported the details of house-to-house guerrilla warfare between ghetto residents and the armed forces. Police stations, National Guard headquarters and fire stations were under heavy

attack from the ghetto guerrillas.

Police were routed from some areas entirely and were only able to reenter behind heavy forces of troops. Battles were taking place during the day as well as the night.

And city officials repeatedly tried to cover up the real situation with soothing announcements that "things are returning to normal."

Comparisons between Detroit and Vietnam were inevitable and very appropriate. Over half of the paratroopers patrolling and pacifying Detroit's east side wore combat badges won in Vietnam.

One paratrooper explained, "The last time we did this for real was when we moved into the Dominican Republic two years ago. But we practice all the time and we're ready to go anywhere in the world anytime with only an hour's notice."

Many of the soldiers interviewed said they felt uncomfortable about their duty in Detroit. Some were natives of the city or had relatives here. They would say, "It's our job and it has to be done."

But the Detroit police felt otherwise. The uprising was a direct challenge to their control over the city.

Up until July 23, they proudly boasted about their success in smashing a "riot" last August. They claimed that their special riot control plan succeeded in putting down a revolt on Detroit's east side.

It was apparent at the time that that "riot" was a fiction invented by the police department. The real test of strength came this week -- and the famous riot control plan proved a complete flop.

It took tanks, machine guns, state police, helicopters and the full support of state and national armed forces; and it took a savage attack against the black community.

Over 4,000 persons have been arrested, many routed out of their beds in the middle of the night on the spurious claim that "there's a sniper in here."

Prisoners have been beaten with rifle butts, crowded into cells, police garages, buses and federal penitentiaries and not fed for several days. Excessively high bail bonds of \$10,000 and even up to \$200,000 have been set.

Judges have declared that prisoners are guilty and will be treated accordingly although no trials have taken place yet.

Militant blacks are being arrested on phony charges. A bookstore owned by a black nationalist was visited by carloads of police on two occasions. Windows and display cases were smashed, books were flooded with water, pictures of famous black leaders were ripped from the walls and torn to pieces and the owner was calmly told by the officer in charge, "I ordered it. We heard you had a gun."

The full extent of destruction and murder by the police is only now being revealed. Gangs of police invaded private homes and apartments, smashing floors and furniture and shooting through walls and ceilings.

One tiny four-year-old black girl was killed by police as they shot up the building in which she was crouching in fear.

A witch-hunt can be expected in the near future in an attempt to place blame for what happened on militant blacks and radical groups and thereby to divert attention from the real culprits: our rotten capitalist society and the apparatus of force which maintains it.

Wednesday, July 26

There was no mail again today. The school across the street looked very empty without the usual stream of summer students walking inside.

I drove downtown and saw that the National Guard was still posted in front of J.L.Hudson, one of the largest department stores in the country and usually the busiest spot in the downtown area.

The magnitude of what took place could be measured by the paralysis that gripped the city during the uprising. All of the things which normally go on in a major metropolitan area were affected by the revolt.

Business, transportation, communication, industry -- everything halted or drastically slowed down. And this was accomplished by a relatively small number of Detroit's citizens.

According to last year's census, there were 1,640,000 people in Detroit. Figures for January, 1967, showed 694,000 blacks in the city. Of course, only a portion of these blacks took an active part in the uprising.

Yet they shut down the fourth largest city in the country, exposed the basic weaknesses of the capitalist rulers in this country, initiated a clear class struggle of blacks and whites together against common enemies and forced a sharp reexamination of the ruling class foreign and domestic policies.

U.S. CITIZEN IS DEPORTED FROM MEXICO

By Manolo Sarmiento

Peter Camejo, the brother of one of the 13 witch-hunt victims arrested in Mexico July 17, was deported from Mexico July 28 on the grounds that he came as a "tourist" but did not devote himself to "touristic activities."

[For full details on the Mexican witch-hunt, see pages 715-727.]

Peter Camejo, an American citizen, was born in New York. His brother, Daniel Camejo Guanche, born in Venezuela, has been charged with "conspiring to overthrow the Díaz Ordaz government."

Daniel Camejo, and the others arrested, are imprisoned without trial and have been tortured to obtain "confessions."

Peter hoped to provide for his brother's elementary needs: blankets, clothing and money.

Although Peter arrived in Mexico City on Friday, July 21, he was able to see his brother only once, on Sunday.

Red tape and bureaucratic stalling prevented Peter and Daniel from seeing each other more than an hour all told.

Peter reported that Daniel was filthy when he saw him. The prisoners were being given little food. They did not have cots or mattresses and were forced to sleep on the concrete floors.

Peter Camejo is a leader of the American antiwar movement in California.

The form in which he was expelled from Mexico appears typical of the arbitrary acts of the "gorilla" dictatorships elsewhere in Latin America.

In Bolivia, General Barrientos refused to allow Régis Debray's mother to see her son except under police surveillance. And then, she was allowed to see

him only once.

Mexico's Gustavo Díaz Ordaz is not a general, but he will go down in history as one of the presidents who has done the most to crush the democratic rights of the Mexican people.

This fact is not well known in the United States or Europe where the Mexican government passes as the continent's "democracy" in contrast to the openly and unrestrainedly reactionary governments of the other countries.

In other words, the government of Mexico has taken great care to prevent blemishes of its prestige abroad, trying to preserve a "liberal" image.

It is true that the Mexican government is the only one which has diplomatic relations with Cuba today. But at the same time, the internal repressions against groups of the revolutionary left and against the Communist party have begun to lead it down the path opened up by the military dictatorships.

Revolutionary opinion in the U.S. and in Europe must take account of the case of Peter Camejo to get the full measure of the cruelty and inhumanity with which the Mexican government is treating the political prisoners who already fill its jails.

This cruelty and inhumanity is not less harsh and reactionary than that of the military dictators because it is less known.

It is merely more perfidious and hypocritical because it is veiled by "international prestige" which permits it to act with greater impunity.

International denunciations of the repressive acts of the Mexican government are urgently needed.

A FLAW IN THE PENTAGON STRATEGY?

Hanson W. Baldwin, the military authority for the New York Times, complained July 29 that "racial rioting in American cities" exposed "military weaknesses" in Pentagon policies.

For one thing, the troops Johnson sent to Detroit were the closest to combat readiness for Vietnam.

But it is not only the invasion of Vietnam which is handicapped.

One of the divisions used in Detroit is the notorious 82nd Airborne Division sent to crush the 1965 uprising in Santo Domingo. "Earmarked...for use primarily in this hemisphere," it might well be needed elsewhere -- and fast!

STOKELY CARMICHAEL AT OLAS

Stokely Carmichael's attendance at the Organization of Latin American Solidarity Conference in Havana, and his recognition there as an honorary delegate, foreshadows a linking of the Afro-American freedom struggle in the U.S. with the world colonial revolution.

Carmichael himself has been quoted as stating, OLAS is "the most important meeting that there is in the world at the moment." (Reuters, July 27.)

Moreover, this historic anti-imperialist meeting in Havana, coincides with the most dramatic struggle of black Americans since the period of the Civil War, one century ago.

From the articles and dispatches appearing in the world press, it is evident that the leader of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is keenly aware of the significance of this conjuncture.

"We are going to be reunited with you in Havana," Carmichael stated in London, "because we think the Cuban victory is our victory and the courage of the Cuban people inspires our fight." (Associated Press, July 25.)

Carmichael has referred several times to Che Guevara's message to OLAS (see World Outlook, April 28, 1967).

"We must internationalize our struggle," he said in an interview with the Cuban newspaper Juventud Rebelde, "and, if we are going to turn into reality the words of Che to create two, three and more Vietnams, we must recognize that

Detroit and New York are also Vietnam."

Carmichael continued by calling for the coordination of the Latin-American revolutionary struggle with the struggle of American blacks and said that the way Premier Castro had stood up to the U.S. was "truly admirable." (Reuters, July 27.)

In a Havana news conference, August 1, Carmichael expressed the solidarity of the Afro-American freedom fighters with the Vietnamese revolutionaries:

"The Vietnamese are not exploiting us, nor discriminating against us," he said. "Where we have to fight is in the United States in order to fight against the structure of imperialist society." (United Press International, August 1.)

The recognition of Carmichael's status as a delegate rather than an observer was announced August 1.

Carmichael's attendance in Havana has not gone unnoticed in U.S. ruling circles. In an editorial July 26, the New York Times stated:

"[Cuba] sees the United States as its greatest enemy, which is why a welcome guest for today's ceremonies is none other than Stokely Carmichael, for if it be recognized that he can do Cuba no good, it will be thought that he can do the United States some harm."

It is evident that revolutionary Cuba is not impressed by the gratuitous advice of the New York Times.

A SALUTE TO THE CUBAN REVOLUTION FROM FRANCE

A salutation to the anniversary of Fidel Castro's attack on the Moncada barracks by a number of noted French public figures was carried in the July 27 issue of Le Monde, the French daily:

"We have received the following communication: 'Fourteen years ago, Fidel Castro and his comrades attacked the Moncada barracks, opening the road to revolution in Cuba and on the Latin-American continent.

"It has never been more evident than now that Latin America has entered a process of liberation of which the first chapter was the Cuban Revolution, which, in its eight-year existence, has won great victories for its peoples.

"In celebrating these conquests, we renew our solidarity with the Cuban Revolution, threatened but as full of hope, as it was on the first day."

The signers listed by Le Monde were: Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, Jean-Louis Barrault, Madeleine Renaud, A. Kastler (Nobel prize), Laurent Schwartz, Pierre Vidal-Naquet, Georges Balandier, Christiane Rochefort, Claude Faux, Giselle Halimi, Armand Gatti, Claude Roy, Lolleh Bellon, Vercors, Robert Gallimard, Robert Merle, Marguerite Duras, Dionys Mascolo, Jean-Marie Domenach, Léo Matarasso, Nathalie Sarraute, Anne Philippe, J.-P. Vigier, Agnès Varda, Jacques Demy, Aimé Césaire, Maurice Blanchot, and Claude Couffon.

U.S. FIGURES SEND GREETINGS TO OLAS

[The following is a translation of an article which appeared in the June 20 issue of Prensa Latina, the Latin-American news agency.]

* * *

NEW YORK, USA, June 19 (PRENSA LATINA) -- Numerous progressive figures and organizations in this city have issued statements supporting the First Conference of the Organización Latinoamericana de Solidaridad [OLAS -- the Latin-American Organization of Solidarity], which is scheduled to take place in Havana in July.

The texts of the declarations include the following:

Paul Sweezy and Leo Huberman, of the Monthly Review, said that "As longtime friends of the Cuban Revolution and coauthors of Cuba: Anatomy of a Revolution, which we are proud to say was one of the first books to recognize the socialist character of the Cuban Revolution, the editors of Monthly Review send warmest fraternal greetings to the First Conference of the Solidarity of the Peoples of Latin America."

Sweezy and Huberman added that "as North Americans who are convinced that United States imperialism is the number one enemy of the peoples of the world today, we wish all success to the peoples of Latin America in their just struggle for national liberation and social revolution."

The declaration of the two prestigious intellectuals states finally that it is "only through this struggle and that of oppressed peoples in all other continents that imperialism can be destroyed and the peace and progress of mankind can be assured."

John Gerassi -- writer and journalist: In his message, the author, journalist and teacher of journalism at New York University stated that "For the sake of Latin America, as well as for the sake of the American people, I wish with all my heart that you do defeat American imperialism soon."

He also said that he is "Firmly convinced that the only way for the peoples of Latin America to defeat American imperialism is by binding together as one." And therefore "I salute the First Conference of the OLAS and wish it success."

Grace Mora [Newman]: "There will be bloodshed. That is inevitable. That is the price of freedom. We need not look far to see courage and unity in all its

glory: The people of Vietnam! There will be other Vietnams -- we must be prepared to support them both in words and deeds!" said the sister of Dennis Mora, the Fort Hood soldier imprisoned for refusing to go and fight in Vietnam.

Referring to the recent events in the Middle East, Grace Mora said that "we are once more reminded of imperialism's line of action."

"The answer," she added, "to the war profiteers in our country is made clear by the Tricontinental." She also pointed out that even in the United States there are people who solidarize with the struggle of the colonial peoples for socialism. She stressed that "the struggles of the peoples of Venezuela, Bolivia, Guatemala, Peru, Cuba and all the other struggles in Latin America have served to inspire our own struggle."

Grace Mora outlined the struggle of the American people against the war in Vietnam and pointed out how this "in one way or another stimulates your struggle against the ruling class which exploits us all."

She ended her statement with an appeal to the peoples of the world to unite because "The time is now! Forgetting our petty differences and devoting our efforts to this struggle."

Walter Teague, chairman of the Committee to Aid the FNL [National Liberation Front of South Vietnam], USCANLFSV, expressed his support and "wish for the success of the First Conference in building the unity of the American Revolutionary Movements in the battle against imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism in Latin America."

Teague added that "we are in complete solidarity with your struggles against the same enemy and offer our assistance in whatever way we may be of service."

Finally, Teague said that his organization is one of the groups "which has recently made known its program to recruit American radicals with relevant skills to participate in the liberation struggles of Latin America and Africa."

Eugene D. Genovese, president of the 1967 Socialist Scholars Conference in the United States: "Your conference must mark a new departure and rally our forces in the developed as well as the underdeveloped countries. We eagerly look forward to its outcome," said the professor of history at Sir George Williams University, Montréal.

He added that it is clear that "The demand for movements based on the ideology of socialist revolution can no longer be viewed as extremist or adventurist." "Recent events," he concluded, "demonstrate that nothing else can mobilize the masses and that without such mobilization, imperialism will always prevail."

Peter Seidman, chairman of the Columbia University Committee to End the War in Vietnam, said that "Today you are meeting to discuss the issues confronting the revolutionary movements in the Latin-American countries. While the brave men and women of Vietnam struggle against American imperialism's most vicious weapons in order to achieve for themselves self-determination and the right to use their labor as they wish to build their own country, you meet to discuss in what ways you too will create the Vietnams of the future. I salute you as you continue this important struggle against the American imperialists."

Joseph Hansen, editor of the weekly The Militant, pledged in his message that "we will do everything possible to bring to our readers the truth about the Latin-American anti-imperialist struggle and about your very significant conference."

He likewise said that "For us and our readers the struggle of the Latin-American people against Yankee imperialism has been a source of great inspiration and admiration. We fully appreciate that every blow struck against the U.S. rulers by the revolutionary fighters of Latin America advances our struggle here."

Reba Hansen, the business manager of the weekly World Outlook, which has offices in Paris and New York, declared that "For the oppressed everywhere, the Cuban Revolution provided a new and timely example of the possibility of winning against the greatest odds. For revolutionary Marxists in all lands, including

inside the United States itself, it has been a constant source of inspiration in their difficult and hazardous battles."

"The Cuban Revolution," she added, "has now made possible the holding of the first continental-scale revolutionary conference."

Reba Hansen went on to express her best wishes to the conference, stressing that its "work may well prove decisive in opening a new series of revolutions that will finally bring the prolonged death agony of capitalism to a close."

The Young Socialist Alliance issued a statement in which they sent revolutionary greetings to the First Conference of the OLAS and pledged "our full support and solidarity to the Latin-American revolution."

They said that the "victory of the socialist revolution in Cuba has been a great inspiration to our generation of radicalizing youth in the United States."

In conclusion they said that "The victory of the socialist revolution here in the heart of world imperialism is inseparably linked to revolutionary advances around the globe."

The Revolutionary Contingent stated in a written declaration that "The Revolutionary Contingent salutes and supports OLAS and its membership in its fight against American imperialism. This struggle is the major thrust of revolution in our lifetimes -- it is the struggle of all revolutionaries everywhere."

Personal expressions of solidarity with the OLAS conference were also made by Fred Halstead of the Fifth Avenue Vietnam Peace Parade Committee; Frank Gillette, Sharon Krebs and Allen Krebs, of the faculty of the Free University of New York; Kipp Dawson, national coordinator of the Student Mobilization Committee, and the writer José Yglesias.

BOLIVIAN JUDGE STATES "DEBRAY IS AS GOOD AS DEAD"

The cynicism of dictatorial military justice in Latin America was newly demonstrated in the case of Régis Debray, the French journalist imprisoned in Bolivia.

According to the July 19 issue of the French newspaper Le Monde, the presiding judge of the military tribunal scheduled to try Debray has stated "the scoundrel Debray is as good as dead."

The "Permanent Court of Military Justice" announced that the trial will open August 15 in Camiri, 670 kilometers southeast of La Paz.

Under heavy international pressure, the tribunal states at this time that the trial will be public.

Debray will go before a presiding judge, two assessors, a prosecutor and the military council.

DOMINICAN COMMUNIST PARTY ASSESSES BALAGUER'S FIRST YEAR

By Antonio Valdés

An analysis of the first year of the Balaguer regime recently published by the Dominican Communist party [PCD] is of interest, both for what it says about the Dominican situation and for the healthy development it indicates within the PCD itself.

The analysis, entitled "A Year of Hunger, Repression, and Giving Away of the Nation's Wealth," was published as a paid ad in the July 2 issue of El Nacional, a bourgeois liberal newspaper with a large circulation.

It is from this source that the following excerpts have been translated.

The analysis begins by pointing out that in its first year the Balaguer regime has "tried to trick the people in order to disarm them; applied practical measures aimed at liquidating the state sector [the former Trujillo properties]; increased the country's military and economic dependence on imperialism; engaged in repression of democratic fighters, especially the constitutionalist military men; restricted the liberties of the working class and tried to shift the burden of economic crisis onto its shoulders by throwing thousands of unemployed onto the streets."

Pointing to the state of misery of the masses, the PCD declares that "hunger has reached alarming levels, filling Dominican homes with anguish. The enormous number of those already unemployed has increased by the mass of over 40,000 workers laid off by the government."

The alarming sight of a man who has died of hunger in one of the main streets appears in an accompanying photo.

In the trade-union sphere, the PCD states, the bosses have taken advantage of the reactionary government's policies to violate all trade-union agreements. "The government has decreed the freezing of wages at the very moment when prices are rising and the cost of living has become the most expensive."

Elsewhere, "there is a constant eviction of families....The poor peasants are ruined by the great latifundists and are systematically threatened with being thrown off their land. In the regions of Los Caobos, Las Cabilas, and Las Paredes attempts to remove peasants have been supported by government troops."

While increasing misery is the lot of the masses, U.S.-owned firms continue their plundering of the national wealth.

The document cites a number of cases in which the regime has increased the booty for U.S. investors.

It also cites the total complicity of the government with U.S. imperialist foreign policy, especially as directed against revolutionary Cuba through the OAS.

Meanwhile, the Dominican economy continues to falter, showing a trade deficit of \$30 million in the year of Balaguer's rule.

These social and economic policies have been accompanied by harsh repression. According to the report of the Dominican Association for Human Rights, the first five months of 1967 have seen "37 deaths for political causes, 9 kidnappings, 21 cases of harassment, 24 assassination attempts, 378 jailings, 49 beatings, 30 persons wounded, and 41 raids."

To this is added "the limitation of the rights of association and assembly, the prohibition of strikes and mass demonstrations, and the government's refusal to recognize the leaderships of a great many democratic trade unions."

Concluding the article, the PCD states: "Our party publicizes all cases of repression in order to demonstrate that within the framework of 'representative democracy' there is no possibility of resolving the crisis between the people and the ruling class, that it is not feasible to arrive at a solution in the interests of the people or to solve the problem of the dependency of our economy on the imperialist market. We do this to demonstrate that the only road is the STRUGGLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKERS AND PEASANTS POWER."

The call for "workers and peasants power" is a healthy change in the PCD position. The previous policy, publicized by Moscow, was the call for "the establishment of a government similar to that of April 24," based on the parliamentary principles of the 1963 constitution.

This was replaced by a call for an anti-imperialist united front, still leaving open the possibility of a "concrete alliance" with the liberal bourgeoisie. [See World Outlook, May 12, 1967.]

The shift must be understood in the context of the general ferment and flux within the Dominican left since the April 1965 uprising.

After the experience with Bosch,

the rejection of the "alliance with the national bourgeoisie" has become practically universal on the left. Thus the impact of the worldwide context of revolutionary realignment is sensitively reflected.

For example, the 14th of June movement, over a period of less than a year, evolved from an independent revolutionary grouping with healthy Marxist leanings into a sect that is now more Maoist than the traditionally Maoist Movimiento Popular Dominicano [MPD].

In the recent period the strongly pro-Soviet coloring of the PCD has receded before a Fidelista shade, a trend

similar to that taken earlier by the Guatemalan CP.

The PCD, for example, supported Castro's attack on the Venezuelan CP's rightist leadership, then reprinted the full text of Guevara's statement to the Tricontinental Organization, and most recently took a position on the Mideast crisis close to that of the Cubans and strongly critical of the Soviet leadership. [See World Outlook, July 28, 1967.]

Developments around the OLAS conference in Havana should reveal just how deep and lasting this positive evolution of the PCD is going to be.

IS GUILLERMO LOBATON STILL ALIVE?

Jacqueline Elau, wife of the Peruvian guerrilla leader Guillermo Lobatón, reportedly killed by Peruvian government forces, has declared that she believes her husband is still alive.

Bertrand Russell, in a separate declaration which appeared in the July 22 Marcha, a well-known radical Uruguayan weekly, called on Peruvian authorities to either release Lobatón or to hold a public trial.

Jacqueline Elau, who now lives in Cuba, stated at a press conference reported in the July 7 issue of the Cuban magazine Bohemia, that her belief was based on news from Peru on the activity in the guerrilla zone where her husband had operated as well as a statement made in parliament by the Peruvian deputy Mario Villarán that "Lobatón is alive and in jail in Puno."

She pointed out also that the only reports of Lobatón's fate have come from the Peruvian government and have been exceedingly contradictory -- for one thing claiming that his death occurred at five different places.

She noted that to date the Peruvian government has produced no concrete evidence of Lobaton's death.

Bertrand Russell said "The Peruvian deputy, Señor Mario Villarán has revealed in a sensational statement that the Peruvian resistance leader claimed dead for some time is in fact in a concentration camp.

"He asserted that Guillermo Lobatón has not been executed but that the Peruvian authorities are keeping him hidden and incommunicado."

The famous philosopher demanded

justice for Lobatón: "Lobatón's isolation cannot continue and he must be given the right to consult lawyers of his own choice. If he is not set free, the charges against him must be made public.

"The Peruvian government must give an immediate and complete explanation to Deputy Villarán and to the rest of the world."

Appealing for an international investigation Russell declared:

"I ask for the right of habeas corpus for Guillermo Lobatón and that elected representatives and jurists of other countries cooperate to carry out a thorough investigation of the recent charge against the Peruvian government."

Guillermo Lobatón was a close associate of the deceased Peruvian guerrilla leader Luis de la Puente Uceda and has been best known in the Latin-American revolutionary movement for his role as a leader of the MIR [Movimiento de la Izquierda Revolucionario -- Movement of the Revolutionary Left] guerrillas of the Túpac Amaru Front in the central region of Peru.

Lobatón was forced to leave Peru in 1955 under the dictatorship of Manuel Odría while he was still a student.

In 1956, he wrote a pamphlet, "The Second Front," in which he envisaged a continent-wide struggle against imperialism in Latin America and spoke of the armed struggle road to revolution.

He became a strong supporter of the Cuban revolution while a scholarship student at Leipsig. He visited Cuba, where he met Luis de la Puente and later returned to Peru, joined the Fidelista party MIR and was editor of the MIR paper, Voz Rebelde [Rebel Voice].

MEXICAN GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES NEW WITCH-HUNT

Mexico City

JULY 20 -- All of the newspapers here carried sensational headlines this morning reporting the discovery by the Dirección Federal de Seguridad [Federal Bureau of Security] of a "plot" to overthrow the Díaz Ordaz government and to install a "popular socialist type" regime. Thirteen persons who had been seized secretly and held incommunicado for a number of days were "consigned" to the Procuraduría General de la República [Federal Department of Justice].

The announcement was made yesterday by Assistant Attorney General Julio Sanchez Vargas at a press conference late in the evening. In detailing the case he virtually condemned the victims without a hearing, since no lawyers or anyone else had been permitted to see them.

Despite its striking similarity to previous "plots" uncovered in similar fashion by Mexico's political police, the new "conspiracy" had its novel elements.

It was allegedly inspired by Peking. Yet Cuba was also mentioned. The Soviet Union was brought in through a far-fetched reference. And to round things out, a Venezuelan Trotskyist was included in the list of defendants.

The discovery of the "plot" was highly opportune in relation to the campaign being waged by the State Department against Cuba. It came on the eve of the Latin-American Solidarity Conference which was scheduled to begin July 28 but which has been postponed to July 31. On July 18, the day before the Mexican assistant attorney general held his press conference announcing the discovery of the "plot," the Associated Press reported from New York (the dispatch does not appear to have been used by the Mexico City press outside of the English-language sheet, The News) that the Mexican government had decided to hold up issuing visas to delegates planning to attend the Solidarity Conference. Without a visa, explained the New York office of the AP, no passenger can board a Cubana plane in Mexico City. Thus these delegates will either miss the conference or have to go to Havana via Prague.

The arrest of the thirteen "conspirators" provided a convenient peg for red-baiting publicity to cover up the decision of the Díaz Ordaz regime to bow to State Department pressure in regard to visas for travelers to Cuba. Perhaps it is a step toward the rupture in relations long demanded of Mexico by the Johnson administration.

The main charge against the thirteen defendants, as officially stated by the assistant attorney general at his press conference, is that the "conspirators," to carry out their aim of overthrowing the Díaz Ordaz government, "planned to organize some so-called rural guerrillas and some urban guerrillas..." They allegedly sent representatives to various parts of the country "to proselytize and recruit youth and bring them to a 'training camp' in the State of Chiapas, where they were to receive instruction in guerrilla tactics along the lines of Mao Tse-tung."

The assistant attorney general offered no information as to whether this ever proceeded beyond the planning stage. He spoke quite definitely, however, about what was allegedly talked about even if it was never actually carried out. "After brief training they were to try to meet in the mountains and later initiate 'insurrectional centers' in various places in the country. Along with this, acts of sabotage and terrorism were to be carried out, principally in Mexico City."

According to the same authoritative source, "They also projected holding up the branch of the Banco de Industria y Comercio located at Avenida Coyoacán and Adolfo Prieto. In relation with this they had already prepared a sketch of the place, as well as making surveys to check the comings and goings, principally of the police, at this branch bank; the aim being, according to their confession to provide themselves with money to acquire arms and expand their movement."

A "projected" hold up, alleged by an assistant attorney general, while those charged are kept gagged and without legal advice or representation does not sound very impressive. Evidently recognizing this, the Mexico City English-language News (July 20) strengthened the government's case in typical McCarthyite fashion: "The group was also blamed for last winter's assault on the Banco de Industria y Comercio at Avenida Coyoacán and Adolfo Prieto."

While helping the prosecution, this version obviously implies an admonition directed at the assistant attorney general; namely, that in frame-ups he should know better than to reduce the size of the lie.

Actually the assistant attorney general cited only one specific alleged deed of this type as having been really carried out. This deed, therefore, constitutes the only possible crime that can be charged against any of the defendants beyond their thoughts or political views. Near the town of La Unión, not far from

Acapulco, seven persons tried to blow up a troop transport vehicle on July 3, according to the assistant attorney general. "They placed dynamite on the highway, intending to detonate it electrically. However, it exploded prematurely, damaging the truck only slightly." No one was injured.

The police, continued the government spokesman, arrested a person named Adrián Campos Díaz, and he allegedly confessed that the aim of this action was "to kill the troops and steal their arms and money 'in order to begin the war.'"

Beyond this dubious account of the feeble opening of the war by seven persons, the only substantial evidence which the assistant attorney general pointed to was literature issued or sold by the group, the "Marxist-Leninist Movement of Mexico." This was indeed substantial -- twelve tons of it seized in a raid on the pro-Maoist bookstore in Mexico City, El Primer Paso [The First Step], and the storage facilities of the bookstore's owner.

The literature consisted mainly of pamphlets and books and magazines printed in Peking, including the famous little red book of quotations from Mao Tse-tung, Lenin's State and Revolution and Marx's Communist Manifesto.

The newspapers printed frightening photographs of the tons of subversive literature, arranging portraits of Mao, Castro, Lenin, Marx and Stalin in dramatic rows in front of the literature. And to help strengthen the position of the prosecution, some of the newspapers made it "seventeen" tons instead of a meager twelve and at least one upped the ante to "twenty" tons. Evidently they had reason to doubt the accuracy of the scales used by the government in weighing its evidence.

Members of various tendencies were included among those arrested. They could scarcely have any connection whatsoever with any activities of the Marxist-Leninist Movement of Mexico, even if that organization were involved in the alleged damaging of a troop transport vehicle. However, they were all lumped together by the prosecution.

"The police investigation," said the assistant attorney general, "determined that in all these activities and the attempt against the army, the intellectual authors were the engineer Javier Fuentes Gutiérrez, former leader of the Mexican Communist party, of the Central Campesina Independiente [Independent Peasant Federation] and the Frente Electoral del Pueblo [Electoral Front of the People], which ran him as a candidate for federal deputy in the second district of

the State of Guerrero, and who later left these groups to form a pro-China tendency, after making various trips to Peking,



TWO OF THE ACCUSED. Adán Nieto Castillo and Daniel Camejo Guancho, two of the 13 prisoners charged with "conspiracy," waiting to be booked.

where he obtained promises of economic aid in carrying out subversive acts in our country; it was ascertained that the said engineer Fuentes received economic aid from the government of People's China through Pien Cheng, of the Hsinhua News Agency, who sent him six hundred pounds sterling [US\$1,680] a month, as well as through the distributors Guozi Shudian and Waiwen Shudian located in Peking, which sent free literature and propaganda to a so-called Distribuidora Interamericana de Publicaciones, the director of which is the same engineer Fuentes Gutiérrez, who in turn sells this material in a bookstore he owns named El Primer Paso, located at Enrico Martínez 14, utilizing the profits from sales for his activities, as well as to distribute throughout the country pro-Chinese Communist propaganda."

The balance of the indictment often attains the same high literary level; space limitations, however, preclude extensive quotations. Suffice it to indicate how the ramifications of the plot extended beyond the immediate inspiration of Peking.

Cuba was brought in by two references. The "foreigner" Silvestre Enrique Marenco Martínez, a Salvadorean, supposedly fought as a guerrilla in Central America and "later located in Cuba," according to the prosecution.

In its usual helpful way, the Eng-

lish-language News strengthened this by adding, "He is said to have fought in Cuba with Fidel Castro."

The other reference was to a federal deputy, Rafael Estrada Villa, "who is now in Cuba." Estrada was not indicted. The prosecution merely said that he was directing "subversive activities" in the town of Jilcayán. None of the defendants was accused of even being in touch with Estrada; but evidently he is a suspicious member of the legislature, having "moved away from the lawyer Vicente Lombardo Toledano in order to lead a revolutionary faction in the Partido Popular Socialista, with ideas also of setting up guerrillas in this region."

The Soviet Union was brought in as part of the assistant attorney general's account of the alleged attack on the army transport vehicle in the following way:

"It was established that two of the persons involved in the assault against the army in the State of Guerrero fled to the Federal District and hid in the home of Miguel Angeles Flores Bernal, who works for Fuentes and who, together with other elements of the group, returned to the mountains of this region, leaving them two kilometers from Petatlán, utilizing a Soviet made Moskvich automobile, carrying plates No. 330 LK, which was located at Acapulco, Guerrero, where it was abandoned, having broken down." Again, "Marenco Martínez likewise traveled in the Moskvich automobile (of Soviet fabrication)..."

This was sufficient for special attention in the press about the "Soviet-made" automobile. The news analysts, along with the prosecution, failed, however, to indicate what model Moskvich it was, whether it was made under Stalin, Khrushchev or Kosygin. The point is nevertheless important in considering evidence relating to the alleged activities of Maoists.

Other groups that have been victimized in preceding witch-hunt cases were dragged in by stating that "This group had also, mainly in the State of Chihuahua through Roberto Iriarte, made contact with the remnants of the 'September 23 Movement' which was the one that attacked the military barracks in Ciudad Madero, Chihuahua, in 1965, and with members of the 'Revolutionary Movement of the People' (Rico Galán-Ugalde) who are also to be found scattered in this region. No mention was made of any joint subversive crimes having been plotted and it remains to be proved that the Maoists were even on speaking terms with these groups.

Trotskyism was included in two ways. One of the defendants, Adán Nieto

Castillo, was described as a former follower of the presidential candidate Henriquez, as a former member of the Mexican Communist party who "today wears Trotskyist ribbons." Daniel Camejo Guanache, "a prominent Trotskyist," according to the assistant attorney general, "promised the group he would aid them with medicine, propaganda and orientation." In another reference the government prosecutor listed Daniel Camejo Guanache as "a Venezuelan, a Trotskyist, who promised aid, medicine and propaganda for their movement."

The thirteen named by the assistant attorney general were presented in the following order: Adán Nieto Castillo, José Luis Calva Téllez, Pablo Alvarado Barrera, Hugo David Uriarte y Bonilla, Silvestre Enrique Marenco Martínez, Raúl Contreras Alcántara, Miguel Angel Flores Bernal, Eduardo Fuentes y de la Fuente, César Catalán Sanchez, Enrique Escudero Mastache, Manuel Méndez Bravo, Adrián Campos Díaz, Daniel Camejo Guanache.

They were charged with the crimes of "conspiracy, inciting rebellion, damaging property with an explosion with damage or danger to things, that could have



UNDERNOURISHED VENEZUELAN CHILDREN. A film showing the realities of poverty among Venezuelan peasants is part of the "evidence" against the "conspirators."

caused grave danger to people, criminal association, and with respect to the foreigners Silvestre Enrique Martínez and Daniel Camejo Guanche they are charged in addition with violation of Paragraph III of Article 95 of the Ley de Población [Population Law], which provides prison penalties for illicit activities in the country by foreigners."

Having been "consigned" to the Procuraduría, the defendants are now allowed to see counsel and to make statements which may or may not be printed by the press. The Procuraduría is supposed to verify the accuracy of the police findings and validity of the charges and follow up in preparing the case for trial. The schedule for this has not been set. Meanwhile the defendants are held in prison where they may stay for a long time before coming to trial. The practice in Mexico at present, as in a number of other Latin-American countries, is to hold prisoners like these indefinitely behind bars.

The case of Daniel Camejo, designated by the prosecution as a "prominent Trotskyist," is of special interest. He is the brother of Peter Camejo, who is well known in the antiwar movement in California and who ran for mayor of Berkeley as the candidate of the Socialist Workers party in the last election.

Daniel Camejo vanished in Mexico City July 17. One of his friends saw him at 6:45 p.m. He left for an appointment at 7:30 p.m. but never showed up although he is usually very punctual. Several hours later plainclothesmen appeared at the room where he was lodging and took some of his personal belongings, including films.

The exact circumstances of Camejo's arrest are not yet known. Friends who frantically sought to discover where he was being held and what the charges might be were denied any information whatsoever by the police, who refused even to say that he was being held. Perhaps Camejo stopped off at the bookstore and was there at the moment the place was raided by the police as part of the government's plan to provide tons of evidence.

The police converted the sixteen millimeter films into a sensational item, giving a showing to the press which then made the films into a big feature, part of the main "proof" along with the damaged troop transport vehicle, the Moskvich automobile and the twelve, seventeen or twenty tons of literature.

One of the films was about social conditions in Venezuela and the guerrilla struggle there. The other was about the war in Vietnam. They were evidently duplicates of films that have been shown in

the past two years to antiwar audiences in the United States.

Exactly what role the films were supposed to play in the "plot" to overthrow the Díaz Ordaz government was not made clear by the press or the prosecution, the latter, in fact, not even mentioning them in the indictment read at the famous press conference. Particularly puzzling to the Mexican press was the fact that the sound track carried by the films was in English.

Nevertheless, to demonstrate the subversive nature of the captured movies, El Heraldó (July 20) published a photograph "taken directly from the film," showing naked Venezuelan children in a poverty-stricken district. Here is the report given by El Heraldó on this aspect of the "conspiracy" and the "evidence" offered by the prosecution:

"Yesterday in the office of the first assistant attorney general of the Republic, reporters were shown a 16-millimeter film taken in black and white, with an English sound track, showing various aspects of the FLN (Frente de Liberación Nacional) of Venezuela relating to the rural guerrillas and their urban wing and also the guerrillas in Vietnam.

"Various ideas were offered as to the aim of this red propaganda:

"(1) It was filmed with the express aim of showing to the American citizens themselves, the actions of their government in foreign lands.

[The Mexican press is obviously unaware of the news films shown everyday on television in the U.S. showing such actions not only in black and white but in color.]

"(2) The way in which American soldiers perish abroad, defending 'wars that are not theirs.'

[This again is shown virtually everyday in newscasts on American television.]

"(3) Is it possible that these films were introduced into Mexico with the object of later sending them overland to the United States of America?"

A simpler explanation, of course, is that some Mexicans might be interested in seeing examples of films that are being shown in the United States to audiences opposing the war in Vietnam and interested in the freedom struggles in the colonial and semicolonial countries. That there are Mexicans who view such things differently from Díaz Ordaz is shown by the fact the former President Lázaro Cárdenas is a member of the International

War Crimes Tribunal initiated by Bertrand Russell. The War Crimes Tribunal examined much evidence such as that contained in the film on Vietnam and presented it to the world so that people could judge for themselves what is going on there.

In any case the concern of the Mexican authorities over possibly subversive propaganda being made available to the people of the United States is touching evidence of the neighborly attitude of the

Díaz Ordaz regime toward the Johnson administration, its imperialist aggression in Vietnam, and the domestic problems that now face the president of the U.S.

Among leftist circles in Mexico there is growing concern about the reactionary nature of the Díaz Ordaz government, its propensity to engage in witch-hunting and its fawning attitude toward the imperialist bully on the other side of the Rio Grande.

VICTIMS OF MEXICAN WITCH-HUNT IMPRISONED WITHOUT TRIAL

Mexico City

JULY 24 -- Two days ago, Francisco H. Pavón Vasconcelos, Second District Judge of the Federal District in Penal Matters [Juez Segundo de Distrito del Distrito Federal en Materia Penal] committed the thirteen defendants in Mexico's latest witch-hunt to the Preventive Prison of the Federal District [Cárcel Preventiva del Distrito Federal] pending further proceedings in the case. No date has been set for the trial and the defendants may be held indefinitely. No bail can be obtained for them since the penalties involved in the alleged violations of the law, should they be proved guilty, exceed five years in prison. The thirteen thus stand in the same situation as Víctor Rico Galán, Adolfo Gilly and scores of other political prisoners in Mexico.

The frame-up was so raw, however, that Judge Pavón felt compelled to modify one of the charges levelled by the police against the defendants. Ten of them had been accused of conspiring to blow up an army truck carrying troops, arms and money. The judge threw out the charge against nine of the defendants, leaving only Adrián Campos Díaz charged with this crime. Campos is an illiterate peasant who was allegedly instructed to dig the hole in the highway where the dynamite was placed.

The charge was a key one in the police frame-up since it was the only overt act charged against the victims.

Ten of the prisoners were committed to prison by the judge on charges of "conspiracy, inviting [not inciting] rebellion, and criminal association." The ten included José Luis Salva Téllez, Pablo Alvarado Barrera, Hugo David Uriarte y Bonilla, Raúl Contreras Alcántara, Miguel Angel Flores Bernal, Eduardo Fuentes y de la Fuente, César Catalán Sánchez, Adán Nieto Castillo, Silvestre Enrique Marengo or Silvestre Enrique Marengo Martínez, and Daniel Camejo Guanche.

Enrique Escudero Mastache, Manuel

Méndez Bravo and Adrián Campos Díaz were committed on charges of "conspiracy and criminal association."

Silvestre Enrique Marengo Martínez, a Salvadorean, and Daniel Camejo Guanche, a Venezuelan, were charged in addition, with violating the laws pertaining to foreigners resident in Mexico.

A fourteenth alleged member of the "plotters" was arrested in Chihuahua on July 19. The police turned him over to the Procuraduría on July 21. A student of Philosophy and Letters at the University of Mexico, his name is Roberto Iriarte Jiménez. According to the press, he "acknowledged" that he had not been tortured and yet he was "speaking freely." The papers predicted that his testimony would counteract the exceedingly unfavorable impression created by the unanimous testimony of the thirteen that all of them had been tortured to extract "confessions."

The flimsiness of the frame-up can be gathered from the official summation by Judge Pavón on what Daniel Camejo allegedly "confessed."

"DANIEL CAMEJO GUANCHE," states the official document, "acknowledged that he was of Trotskyist persuasion, since he belongs to the Liga Obrero Marxista, Mexican Section of the Fourth International; that he is in the country as a tourist, since he is of Venezuelan nationality; that the aims of the group to which he belongs are to establish workers and peasants governments in countries by means of the active participation of the masses, for which they are trying, first of all, to arouse the consciousness of the masses and later to take power by means of arms or democratically; that he owns the two rolls of film that were picked up and which are related to the evidence uncovered in the investigation and which were sent from the United States and he had arranged to have them shown in Mexico; that he met Pablo Alvarado eight days ago when he was asking for magazines at the Press Department of the Cuban Embassy; that they talked about the contents of the

magazines and later they chatted in front of the Diana theater, where Alvarado came with two other youths; that he talked with them in a café and they told him that they had formed a revolutionary

Both films have been shown many times in the United States.

That is not all. Both films have been shown publicly in Mexico. Two showings were given on April 28 at the auditorium "Justo Sierra" at the University of Mexico. Another showing was given July 2 at the National School of Architecture, likewise at the University of Mexico. On both occasions considerable publicity was given to the showings, the turnout was heavy, and the reception among the students was very favorable. It would be interesting to know why the alert political police did not seize the films at the time if it is illegal to show the Mexican people films that are easily available in the United States.

Why this new witch-hunt at this particular time?

An interesting explanation is given by the Mexico City English-language newspaper The News. This sheet speaks all the more authoritatively in view of its efforts to bolster weak points in the frame-up by fixing them up in their own editorial office. In reporting that the Mexican government may bring the "plot" to the attention of the United Nations, The News said July 22:

"A high government spokesman called the group [of alleged plotters] 'not really very important, as far as being a danger to the stability of the government. But it is one more indication that we are alert to such attempts, and no one is pulling the wool over our eyes.'

"...There was speculation -- denied by the government -- that the arrests were in part a public relations gesture for other Latin American countries. These nations complain that Mexico's insistence on maintaining diplomatic relations with Cuba gives the Castro regime a base from which to direct subversive movements in other countries, protected by diplomatic immunity....

"There was speculation here that Mexico timed the announcement -- and gave it unusual publicity -- as an indication to its Latin American neighbors that the government is not soft on Castro-backed Communist guerrilla movements in other Latin American nations.

"A government spokesman denied this played any part in the arrests, but Mexico traditionally keeps any such maneuvering secret.

"'It was strictly an internal affair, and foreign policy considerations played no part in it,' the spokesman said."

The interpretation offered by The



"THESE BOOKS ARE DYNAMITE." Julio Sanchez Vargas, Assistant Attorney General, ponders over "rable-rousing Communist propaganda."

group to initiate armed struggle; that in a veiled way they told him they had carried out an assault in the State of Guerrero, but without giving him any extensive explanation; that as ALVARADO and his comrades told him they were very short of funds, he told them he would try to obtain medicine to help them, advising them that they should organize themselves first because conditions did not exist in Mexico for armed struggle."

Camejo's connection with the "plotters" thus dated back only a week before his arrest (or "confession") and consisted of conversation on political topics.

The two rolls of film, which were given sensational play in the Mexican press as "proof" of the subversive aims of the "plotters," speak with especially telling force against the police and their frame-up. The two rolls are duplicates of "Time of the Locust" by Peter Gessner, a film about the war in Vietnam, and "FALN," a reportage on conditions in Venezuela and the guerrilla struggle.

News is further strengthened by the report from New York that the Mexican consulates are blocking transit visas for presumed delegates to the Latin American Solidarity Conference which is to open July 31 in Havana. The report was denied by an unidentified spokesman of the Mexican government. He said that the government intended merely to enforce strict carrying out of all the regulations concerning issuing such visas.

In practice, of course, this can mean such interminable delays as to effectively block the transit of delegates via Mexico.

Today's La Prensa carries a report from Santiago de Chile datelined July 23 stating that Ultima Hora had learned that the Mexican embassy in Chile had canceled visas already issued to two Chilean socialist leaders who were considering going to Cuba via Mexico in order to attend the OLAS gathering in Havana.

Leftist circles in Mexico City are watching closely to determine whether the current witch-hunt signals the beginning of a wave of McCarthyism on a major scale in Mexico, whether it is a move toward breaking off diplomatic relations with Cuba in response to pressure from the Johnson administration, or whether, as indicated by The News, it is a diplomatic gesture intended as a concession to U.S. imperialism and its satellites in Latin America.

The thirteen prisoners conducted themselves in exemplary fashion in face of the torture and the efforts to convert at least one of them into an abject tool of the prosecution that could be utilized to bolster the frame-up. Their feelings were well expressed by Nieto Castillo when he was permitted to make a statement before the judge.

The July 22 Excelsior described him as "thin, pale and apparently tired." He took out a sheet of paper on which he had penciled something. He laid this out on a desk, gave his age as 43, married, two children, an atheist and with an income varying from 200 to 300 pesos a day [between US\$16 and \$24]. Excelsior then quoted part of his remarks as follows:

"First of all, I state that this trial is something fabricated by the public authorities to intimidate and repress the people.

"The only subversive agents here are the functionaries of the regime charged with upholding justice and solving problems in favor of a parasitic minority...."

"I state that the only subversive element is the present regime which does

not have the capacity to solve the problems of the people and which employs violence. I wish to state also that no accusation nor any concrete charge whatsoever has been made against me."

He continued, according to Excelsior, telling how he had been kidnapped by the police and held incommunicado, without food, and how he had no ties with the other defendants.

He accused the Dirección Federal de Seguridad of having kidnapped him along with the other defendants, and the Mexican Army of having beaten and tortured Adrián Campos Díaz until he lost consciousness, the public authorities with having utilized repressive measures in order to protect the monopolies, and the city's mayor of having broken his word by condemning the strikers on the Peralvillo-Cozumel bus line to "perish from hunger." [Nieto Castillo is a well-known labor attorney who served as counsel for the strikers.]

He then attacked Fidel Velázquez and Jesús Yurén of the Confederación de Trabajadores de México for selling out the rights of the workers and as corrupt leaders. He was quoted as concluding:

"The government can violate the rights of those who are struggling for a world without exploitation and it can convert the virtues of the defendants into crimes and the vices of the government into virtues. It can call us thieves, rebels, assassins, guerrillas, subversives, but there is something they cannot change: the verdict of history. Let the government stop committing foul actions against the defendants. For once let this government, instead of putting on theatrical acts and burning incense before the carriage used by Juárez uphold the laws laid down by our forefathers."*

In addition to being tortured, the thirteen defendants have been treated vilely by the prison authorities. They were given little food. They were left without cots, mattresses, sheets, blankets or pillows and have had to sleep on the icy concrete floor. They have been denied even shower facilities. When friends brought some of them blankets yesterday, the prison authorities refused to let them be taken inside.

Nevertheless the morale of the thirteen is high. Peter Camejo, who flew from Berkeley to visit his brother Daniel, reported yesterday that the thirteen were keenly interested in how the case was being reported since none of them had been

* Mexico has been celebrating the centennial of Benito Juárez's entry into Mexico after defeating the French invaders.

given access to newspapers. The political prisoners already there, such as Rico Galán and Adolfo Gilly, were able to convey greetings to them and assure them of their full solidarity.

Efforts are now underway in Mexico City to set up a defense committee and to seek aid for the prisoners and their fam-

ilies. Enrique Ortega Arenas, a well-known civil liberties attorney, has agreed to represent all the defendants. Collaborating with him is Héctor Castro, who entered the case in behalf of Daniel Camejo when friends sought his help in locating Camejo after he disappeared July 17. One of the defendants, José Luis Calva Téllez also asked Estela Jiménez Esponda to take charge of his defense.

WITCH-HUNT PRISONERS CHARGE BRUTAL PHYSICAL AND MENTAL TORTURE

Mexico City

The thirteen victims of Mexico's latest witch-hunt were given their first opportunity to make public declarations on July 21 after being publicly condemned by the prosecuting attorney and the venal daily press without a hearing. All of them denounced the police for inflicting the most brutal physical and mental torture on them. Twelve of them, who had signed "confessions" under duress, repudiated them. The thirteenth held out against putting his name down.

In the hearing, which was held before Federal Judge Francisco Pavón Vasconcelos, the alleged "ideological" leader of the thirteen, Adán Nieto Castillo, (another alleged "ideological" leader, Javier Fuentes Gutiérrez, the owner of a bookstore featuring pro-Chinese and other leftist literature, is at present visiting China) stated that he had been kidnapped by the police on July 12. He was submitted to endless torture, he said, to compel him to confess to something "about which I did not know anything."

"I was held incommunicado all this time," he said. As for the other prisoners, "I never saw them before in my life."

One of the prisoners, José Luis Calva Téllez, was in bad physical shape. He was reported to have suffered several broken ribs. After the hearing, Adrián Campos Díaz was taken to the prison infirmary coughing blood.

Telling about the "confession" placed before him by the police, Calva Téllez said, "I signed because they brought in my wife and said they would kill her. Then I felt the barrel of a pistol at my head."

The Salvadorean, Silvestre Enrique Marengo, said: "With each kick or punch at my head, they ordered me, 'Say yes; say yes,' until I lost consciousness."

The main "evidence" presented by the police, aside from tons of books, mag-

azines and pamphlets seized in a raid on the "El Primer Paso" bookstore, consists solely of the "confessions" extorted under torture. They therefore play a key role in the frame-up.

The nature of the "confessions" and what the prisoners had to say about them are clearly indicated in a resumé of the hearing published by the Mexico City El Día (July 22), a paper which, if anything, leans in the direction of the Díaz Ordaz government, although it is the most objective of the dailies. The following is a translation of the full text:

* * *

Full Text of Resumé

Raúl Contreras Alcántara: Charged with conspiracy, inviting [not inciting] rebellion, criminal association, damage to the property of others through an explosion and contemplated robbery.

He denied having participated in the acts imputed to him and complained that the declaration attributed to him was obtained through physical and mental torture.

He began his preparatory declaration at 12:30 p.m. The declaration he had made before the Dirección Federal de Seguridad [Federal Bureau of Security] and the agent of the Ministerio Público Federal [Federal Public Ministry] in the Procuraduría General de la República [Department of Justice of the Republic] was read to him.

From this it was learned that he knows Daniel Martínez, Angel Ruiz Marentes, Eduardo Fuentes de la Fuente and José Luis Calva Téllez (all of them implicated in the matters under investigation), with whom for various reasons he struck up a friendship.

He identified himself ideologically with the Movimiento Marxista Leninista Mexicano [Mexican Marxist-Leninist Movement], whose basic aim is to overthrow the federal government by means of a civil war, if this should prove necessary.

Being employed by the bookstore

belonging to the engineer Javier Fuentes, he knew of the monthly receipts of dollars and pounds sterling that were sent to the engineer Fuentes from the People's Republic of China. Being in charge of the accounts of the enterprise he knew that the outlay of money was greater than the income, yet the store's financial condition was good.

The defendant, said the declaration, asked the engineer Fuentes about the way the money was used and a little later he was told that he was working with regular guerrillas in Guerrero and that the expenses were paid by representatives of People's China.

He added that he knew about the pamphlets that were being circulated primarily on the campuses of the country and which recommended that the nation's problems be solved by means of war.

In October 1965 he joined the group, distributing some books, until he was placed in charge of the bookstore El Primer Paso, owned by the engineer Fuentes.

He acknowledged that it was his signature on the declaration made before the Dirección Federal de Seguridad, which he had ratified before the agent of the Ministerio Público Federal. Nevertheless, he denied that these declarations had been made of his free will; he said that he had been kidnapped by agents of the DFS, that his hands had been tied and he had been beaten. They had blindfolded him and put a sack over his head and driven him in an automobile to a private home where they continued to beat him. He showed the secretary of the Court the black and blue marks on his left arm and the broken third molar on the upper right jaw which he said were caused by blows.

He then stated that they threatened to kill him unless he signed the declarations. Since Thursday July 13 he had been held incommunicado. The medical service of the Cárcel Preventiva del DF [Preventive Prison of the Federal District] knew about the injuries to which he was calling attention, he said. He stated that the doctor who examined him told him it would be best if he told the judge that the contusions were the result of a fall.

He declared that the agents took him to a lower floor in the house where he was being held to beat him. Then they took him upstairs to sign the declaration and when he would refuse they would take him downstairs to continue beating him.

Since he was kept blindfolded all the time, he said that he was not able to identify either the house or the agents who beat him and presented the declaration.

He did not accept as his the declaration that had been read and stated that when the time came he would make the declarations he considered pertinent before the judge in charge of the trial, in the second district in penal matters.

* * *

Eduardo Fuentes de la Fuente:
Charged with conspiracy, inviting rebellion, criminal association, damage to the property of others through an explosion and contemplated robbery.

He denied any participation whatsoever in the deeds attributed to him and complained that the declarations read by the court were wrung from him by means of interminable torture and threats of death to him and his family.

He is 19 years old, is a sixth-year student in the preparatory school of the National University. In addition to studying he is a sales agent for books for the bookstore owned by the engineer Fuentes. His wages are minimal.

The declarations he had made on the 15, 17 and 18 of the current month were read to him. The first one was before the assistant federal director of Seguridad and the last two before the agent of the Ministerio Público Federal.

While the declarations were being read, he told the secretary of the Court that he did not know anything about what was said in them and that they had no validity due to the way they were obtained. The following points stood out in the declaration:

For some time he had known Raúl Contreras, Marengo and José Luis Calva Téllez, as well as the engineer Javier Fuentes, with whom he worked in the bookstore owned by the latter.

He said that he was fully convinced that due to the rottenness of the government in Mexico the problems of the people could not be solved, that he sought a radical solution to their needs.

Because of this, if the movement of Víctor Rico Galán was smashed, another one surged up immediately, raising the banners of the people, betrayed by the government which, if it did emanate from the Revolution of 1910, had brought about the bourgeoisification of the country's leaders.

He stated that he was in the mountains in Guerrero when the attack was carried out against the military vehicle, which they tried to blow up by means of a bomb placed in the highway, but since the operation failed, they could not seize either the money or the arms which the

truck was transporting.

He signed this declaration on July 15 and ratified it on the 17th before the Ministerio Público Federal. On the 18th he was again brought before this department and from the declarations which he formulated, which were read to him now, the following points stood out:

He dedicated himself to disseminating propaganda of a Marxist-Leninist nature, mainly among students, to whom he sold books published in the People's Republic of China and distributed here by means of the business owned by the engineer Fuentes.

He said he was convinced of the truth of the Marxist doctrine and that its objective was to change the present government of the Republic for one based on the proletariat; that is, controlled by the people. The changes could be carried out by means of armed struggle.

He added that José Luis Calva Téllez was the intellectual leader of the group to which he belonged and that he had heard news about the formation of the Liga Obrero-Estudiantil [Worker-Student League].

He declared that he went by bus to Acapulco to meet Calva Téllez and Marengo, who had prepared the attack on the military transport and from whom he had not received any news. Both of them told him that the plan had been carried out, but they did not succeed in seizing the arms and the money.

He acknowledged that the signatures on the sheets of the declarations were his but not the statements they contained.

He said that he was kidnapped on July 14 at the home of Calva Téllez at 7:30 p.m. They tied his hands and blindfolded him and then took him in a station wagon to a cabin in the suburbs.

There he was beaten, he stated, for four days. They burned his arms and shoulders with cigarettes while they threatened to kill him unless he signed the declaration and they indicated that they would kill his family if he refused.

During the time he was held, he said, he had lost six kilos [about 13 pounds] due to the meager amount of food given him. He charged the agents of the Dirección Federal de Seguridad with having beaten and tortured him and said he was able to recognize some of them because the blindfold fell off once.

He stated finally in the Court that those detained are being treated arbitrarily, since they do not know what they are charged with although they continue to be

tortured. He said that when the time came, he would make a declaration in the trial.

* * *

Manuel Méndez Bravo: Charged with conspiracy, criminal association, damage to the property of others through an explosion and contemplated robbery.

He denied all the charges and stated that as a result of the blows he had suffered, he had to be treated yesterday in the hospital of La Raza because of great difficulty in breathing.

He said that on Saturday July 15 he was kidnapped by agents of the Dirección Federal de Seguridad, tied and beaten, his eyes being blindfolded.

He was born in Nayarit and is 24 years old. He disavowed the declarations read to him and which he signed before the DFS and ratified before the Ministerio Público Federal because of threats of death from those holding him.

From these declarations before the DFS, the following stands out:

That he had known José Luis Calva Téllez for two and a half years, that he agreed with him to organize a group of students in the Coyoacán preparatory school, where the defendant was studying, in order to train them as urban guerrillas.

Calva told them that they were going to learn how to handle explosives and home-made incendiary bombs. He was invited to enter the Liga Obrero-Estudiantil and other groups in order to solve the problems which the government creates through its ineptitude in attending to the demands of the people.

He said he knew César Catalán, who prepared some explosives, as well as Hugo Uriarte.

This declaration was ratified in all its parts on July 16 before the Ministerio Público Federal, but yesterday Méndez Bravo, before the secretary of the Court in the Second District in penal matters, disavowed it.

He indicated that he would amplify his preparatory declarations before the judge in charge of the case.

* * *

Adrián Campos Díaz: Charged with conspiracy, criminal association, damage to the property of others through an explosion and contemplated robbery.

He denied the charges imputed to him and complained that he had been beaten, including on the head, by agents of

the Dirección Federal de Seguridad.

He was born in Guerrero and said that he had never left his village, where he worked the land belonging to his father. He denied knowing those implicated in the case. Since he did not know how to read or write, he signed the papers with the thumbprint of his right hand.

From the declarations read to him, it is inferred that Calva Vallejo and Marengo told him to dig the hole in which a battery filled with explosives was placed which were later detonated to blow up the Army truck which carried a lot of money and arms.

The plan was to take advantage of the confusion to seize the money and the arms of the soldiers, but due to the fact that the troops were not killed, they decided to leave, but not without having seen a woman who was riding in the truck with a baby in her arms, flying through the air.*

The declaration says that he hid in the hills and did not again get in touch with his fellow defendants, who visited him to inform him that they were preparing a new revolution to overthrow the government of the Republic.

He denied all the charges and said that all the admissions made in the declaration were false, attributing them to the Dirección Federal de Seguridad and the Procuraduría.

* * *

Pablo Alvarado Barrera, a normal-school teacher, was called to make his statement before the secretary, Ramón Ametk Bermúdez, but refused to do so, adding the same as his comrades: that the declarations made July 17 before the Dirección Federal de Seguridad and July 18 before the agent of the Ministerio Público Federal de la Procuraduría, were presented to him to sign with threats and moral and physical violence.

The said papers contain declarations signed by Pablo Alvarado and establish that on last June 23 he attended a meeting in Calva's house in which an assault was planned on the Coyoacán branch of the Banco de Industria y Comercio.

Jaime Palencia, who said he was going to China, was present. Pablo said that he asked Nieto for some money to make a trip to Chiapas and he gave him a thousand pesos [US\$80]; despite what had

been offered by Calva and other leaders of the movement, those in charge arrived in Chiapas and did not find anybody with whom they could proceed.

In another part of Pablo Alvarado's declaration he says that on June 13 he visited Calva at his home and was informed by him that they had just dynamited a military transport in Guerrero; that the chief of activities in Guerrero turned out to be the deputy Estrada Villa, who was in contact with the chiefs of the Mixteca tribes. That the deponent went to Oaxaca, receiving from Estrada Villa various medicines; that while there, the deponent set up a school, in the town of Tlacoachistlahuaca; that federal forces moved into Jicayán and the indigenous groups organized for rebellion disintegrated; that when he was informed about this item, Estrada Villa became angry asking why they hadn't risen against the army. This declaration was not ratified by Pablo Alvarado for the reasons already indicated.

* * *

Adán Nieto Castillo, considered to be one of the intellectual directors of the subversive movement, was part of the last group to appear before the judge to make a declaration. Concerning the prior investigations carried out by the Dirección Federal de Seguridad and the Ministerio Público Federal, he refused to sign any declaration whatsoever.

Upon being questioned if he wished to make any declaration on the charges against him, he stated that the legal process being pressed against him and the other defendants was prefabricated by the public authorities in order to intimidate the people and him personally. He testified that no prior investigation had been conducted against him and that he did not know any of the others against whom the proceedings were directed, in addition he had never had any ties with them. There exists no accusation, no charge against me, I say, so that I find myself detained unjustly, having been kidnapped and held for days in order to force me to shut up and stop defending the rights of the workers.

* * *

Jesús César Catalán Sánchez, born in Acapulco, Guerrero, student at the University, did not acknowledge the declarations he made before the Dirección Federal de Seguridad and the Procuraduría de la República because, he said, they were wrung from him by violence.

According to the said declarations, César Catalán was not in agreement on carrying out a revolution so precipitously, despite which he helped the group to organize the peasants and agreed to take charge of buying arms. He said he knew José Luis

* None of the other versions of the alleged assault report this, all the official accounts stating that no one was injured. -- Translator.

Calva and Adán Nieto, the latter through the aid which he solicited from the group for the truck drivers' strike on the Peralvillo-Cozumel line.

Before the judge he stated that he was waiting for the report of the medical service of the Preventive Prison to prove that he had been beaten by those who had apprehended him.

He acknowledged that at the Procuraduría de la República he had not been submitted to physical violence.

* * *

Hugo David Uriarte y Bonilla, an employee of the general management of payments at the Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público, was charged with conspiracy, inviting rebellion, criminal association, damage to the property of others through an explosion and contemplated robbery.

Before the judge in charge, he refused to ratify the declarations he made before the Dirección General de Seguridad and the Procuraduría de la República, according to which the defendant served as general coordinator of the movement and instructor of the urban guerrillas, alleging that they were wrung from him by violence.

* * *

José Luis Calva Téllez, charged with conspiracy, inviting rebellion, criminal association, damage to the property of others through an explosion and contemplated robbery.

He did not ratify the declarations he gave before the Dirección General de Seguridad and the Procuraduría de la República, which were read to him, stating that he was coerced physically and morally.

He was detained for five days in his home, located at Mitla 531, Colonia Narvarte, where the group to which he belonged met.

He denied all the charges imputed to him.

* * *

Enrique Escudero Mastache, born in Chilpancingo, 21-year-old student, a first-year pupil at the Technical Industrial School, living on funds sent him by his parents, disavowed his declarations made before the agents of the Dirección Federal de Seguridad and the Ministerio Público de la Procuraduría, alleging that he was forced to sign by violence. In the said declarations it was indicated that he knew Calva through similar ideological

views, but his attitude of trying to precipitate a rebellion always seemed bad to him. He said he also knew two of Calva's brothers, in the State of Guerrero. The deponent added that he only agreed to work on propaganda and to distribute it. He indicated that he was friendly with Pablo Alvarado and David Uriarte, who were always talking about armed rebellion. After his declarations were read to him, he refused to answer the questions of the public minister, the lawyer Fernández Estrada.

* * *

Miguel Angel Flores Bernal. He did not acknowledge the signature appearing on his declaration given before the Dirección Federal de Seguridad, because, according to him, he was compelled to sign it.

He suffers from epilepsy.

He sells books in general. Married.

He said he had been kidnapped and held for four days.

* * *

Daniel Camejo Guanche. Accused of the crimes of conspiracy, inviting rebellion, criminal association, damage to the property of others through an explosion and contemplated robbery. In addition, because of being a foreigner, he is subject to the penalties provided by the General Population Law.

He denied all the above charges and indicated that he was tortured physically and mentally by agents of the Dirección Federal de Seguridad, who held him incommunicado.

Under coercion, he added, the first declaration was wrung from him which he had to ratify before the Ministerio Público Federal under threat of death.

His statement was short, he said he was a Venezuelan by birth and had resided in Mexico for only a short time.

From his declaration which was read to him it was learned that he had offered direct aid to the Movimiento Marxista-Leninista de Mexico to overthrow the government, and teach urban and rural guerrilla war and put at the disposition of the guerrillas big contributions of medicines when the movement started.

He said he was a Trotskyist by conviction, a doctrine which he was teaching to the group of defendants.

Camejo Guanche disavowed these declarations because, according to him, they were fabricated by agents of the DFS, who compelled him to sign them.

The lawyer defending him told him to state everything he knew about the case, but he refused, declaring that he would do so in the course of the trial and that if he was not doing it now "it is because of the bad condition in which I find myself after so much torture."

* * *

Silvestre Enrique Marengo Martínez. Of Salvadorean nationality. He did not ratify any part of his declarations.

He is 36 years old, a bachelor, an atheist, a public accountant.

He worked in the bookstore owned by the engineer Javier Fuentes.

His monthly income was 1,200 pesos [less than US\$100]. In addition he re-

ceived money from home.

He was not able to obtain bail because the crime charged against him carries more than five years in prison.

The lawyer Enrique Ortega Arenas is to defend him.

He was charged with conspiracy, inviting rebellion, criminal association, damage to the property of others through an explosion and contemplated robbery. He faces penal sentences for the above crimes and those cited by Article 95 Paragraph III of the General Population Law.

He complained that he was kidnapped and taken to a house, whose location he does not recall because he was blindfolded, where he was kicked and beaten by agents of the Dirección Federal de Seguridad.

WHAT McNAMARA SAID AFTER HIS TRIPS TO VIETNAM

[The following article appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer, July 13, 1967.]

* * *

NEW YORK, July 12 (Associated Press) -- Back from his ninth visit to South Vietnam since 1962, Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara said Wednesday, "I can't comment on what additional troops, if any, will be sent" to Vietnam.

But he said there are "large opportunities for increasing the effectiveness of our existing forces" and spoke of "reducing the ratio of support to combat forces" -- a reference to the situation which finds many more behind-the-front troops than combat forces in Vietnam.

Of the Vietcong and North Vietnamese, the Defense Secretary said: "They are barely able, as best we can tell, by continued infiltration from the North and recruitment in the South to offset the very heavy losses that they are suffering."

Here is what McNamara had to say after each of his previous trips to Vietnam:

May, 1962 -- The United States had "no plan for introducing combat forces into South Vietnam. The South Vietnamese face a long war, not of months but of years."

September, 1963 -- In a joint statement with Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, Presidential military adviser, expressed his belief that "the major part of the U.S. military task can be completed by the end of 1965."

December, 1963 -- "I am optimistic over progress to be made during the coming year. Operations against the Communists from here on will be many and will be effective."

March, 1964 -- "I did not meet a single responsible official who doesn't believe that if a proper effort is made victory can be obtained. The path to victory may be hard. There is no magic formula for winning an anti-guerrilla war."

May, 1964 -- It may be necessary to increase the 15,000-man U.S. military training force in South Vietnam, but "I think, on balance, the number is not likely to increase substantially. There will be both increases and decreases associated with the strengthening of the Vietnamese forces."

July, 1965 -- "Over-all, the situation continues to be serious. As a matter of fact, in many aspects there has been a deterioration since I was here last, 15 months ago. But the picture is not all black by any means."

November, 1965 -- "We have stopped losing the war... The decision of the Vietcong to stand and fight expresses their determination to carry on the conflict. It leads to one conclusion -- that it will be a long war."

October, 1966 -- "I saw nothing that indicates any need for a change in the rate of deployment of U.S. forces in the months ahead. The military operations have progressed very satisfactorily during the past year. The rate of progress has exceeded our expectations."

PHILADELPHIA PROFESSORS CIRCULATE APPEAL FOR HUGO BLANCO

Six professors at the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University in Philadelphia were the signers of a letter circulated in the Pennsylvania area last month. The letter appealed to other prominent academicians to sign a message to President Francisco Belaúnde Terry of Peru asking for the release of Hugo Blanco and his fellow prisoners. More than 30 signatures were obtained from professors and other academic figures.

In their appeal, the original six professors explained:

"We are writing to you on behalf of Hugo Blanco, a courageous Peruvian fighter for the rights of the common man, now imprisoned by the dictatorial government of his native country and facing possible summary execution."

After explaining the facts of Blanco's work as a peasant organizer, his arrest, long imprisonment and trial before a military court, the professors ask their colleagues to "join this international campaign to save a brave and humane man's life and become a signer of a letter from the Philadelphia area to the President of Peru demanding immediate release for Blanco."

Pointing to the urgency of the appeal, the six warn:

"Only his death, the government feels, will close the books on a figure commanding so much popular support. The military court is only testing the winds, waiting for an opportune moment to catch unawares the Peruvian people and defenders of civil liberties and human rights around the world. Then they will murder Hugo Blanco."

The appeal was signed by Prof. Robert Rutman, Dept. of Chemistry, University of Pennsylvania; Prof. Leo Hurvitch, Psychology Department, University of Pennsylvania; Prof. Thomas Bradley, Swarthmore College; Prof. Gaylord Leroy, English Department, Temple University; Prof. Carl Niebyl, Department of Business Administration, Temple University; and Prof. Edward Herman, Department of Finance, University of Pennsylvania.

Meanwhile in Madison, Wisconsin, 200 students braved a rainstorm to participate in a salute to Cuba July 26. Organized by the Young Socialist Alliance, the meeting at the University of Wisconsin heard an appeal for the liberation of all Latin-American political prisoners, including Américo Martín and Félix Leonet in Venezuela, Hugo Blanco in Peru, Régis Debray and Hugo González Moscoso in Bolivia, Adolfo Gilly in Mexico and the new victims of the Mexican witch-hunt recently arrested there.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

World Outlook is now on its summer schedule. This means publication every other week on the average.

With the fall we will resume our regular weekly schedule.

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