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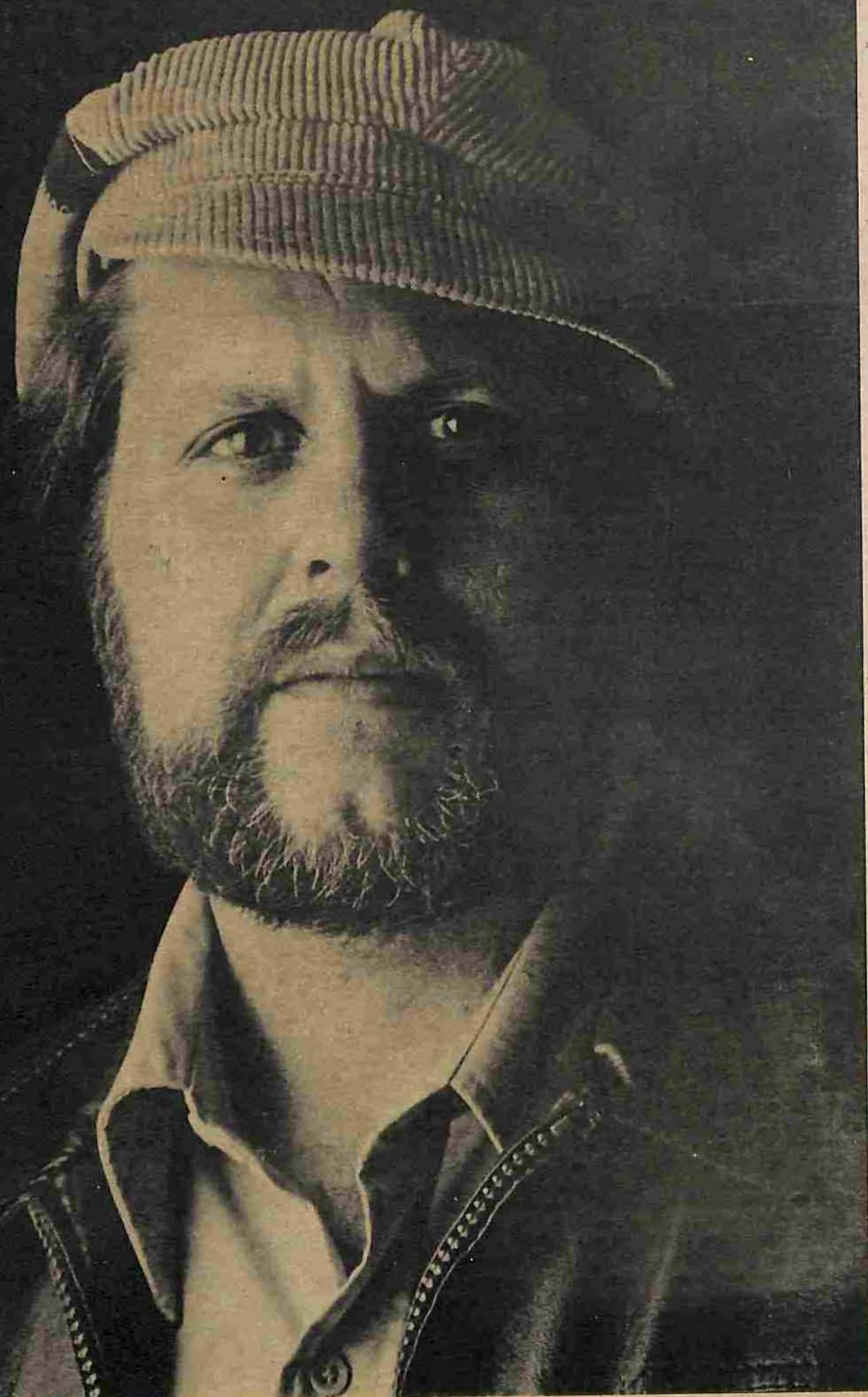
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BOB AVAKIAN DENIED POLITICAL REFUGEE STATUS IN FRANCE

Recently the long awaited decision by the French government Commission des Recours des Réfugiés concerning Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the RCP, USA was announced. Bob Avakian: guilty of being a revolutionary and an internationalist to boot. The United States of America: innocent of politically motivated persecution. Political refugee status denied.

The decision came in the form of a ruling denying an appeal of the initial rejection of Bob Avakian's demand for refugee status more than two years ago by another French government body. Despite the fact that the outcome of the process had been largely a foregone conclusion for some time, the extremely lengthy period of time taken by the commission to "deliberate," the unusual holding of two hearings, etc., testifies to the embarrassing situation the French government found itself in. How to reject the appeal: uphold the right of "any state" to (in the words of the commission's decision) "control" and carry out "surveillance" on "its citizens deeply committed to revolutionary activity"; maintain the proper respect for (in the words of the economy minister Delors, number three in the French government) the "leaders of the free world," i.e., the U.S. bourgeoisie — all while maintaining a certain facade of democracy and

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Poland

The More or Less Lifting of Martial Law

On July 22 Poland's revisionist rulers announced the formal lifting of the state of martial law in Poland. The latest development was trumpeted in banner headlines throughout the Polish press: "We are looking back on difficult times," mused the official PAP commentary. "Still, the worst is behind us. We have left uncharted (sic) terrain and are heading, by leaps and bounds, into the future." General Jaruzelski emphasized that the move was not influenced by Western sanctions or, as he put it, "alien diktat" and characterized attempts to apply pressure on Poland to bend to Western wishes as "laughable since the stick was too short and the carrot was not fresh." However, the legislative package being jammed through the Sejm (Polish parliament) and which accompanied the lifting of the "state of war" is proving once again that the good general and his ruling partners are hardly as confident as they are trying to appear and are certainly as experienced as anyone in brandishing varying lengths of clubs as well as in dangling less-than-appetizing vegetables. What has been codified so far reveals that the "leaps and bounds" by which the Polish authorities are slogging their way back to revisionist "normalcy" are no less laughable...or determined...than the West's cynical machinations displayed on the Pope's recent visit.

In what seems to have become a standard catch-22, the triumphal, unqualified and absolutely final lifting of the clampdown is now to be followed by — you guessed it — an 18 month period of *recovery* from martial law! And for this period a slew of "temporary measures" are being legally adopted by the Sejm — first and foremost a constitutional amendment to empower the government to declare a civilian "state of emergency" to deal with any domestic disorders, thus obviating the need for any embarrassing references to "martial law," "state of war," etc., in the future. Other "recovery" measures were: provisions allowing the government to re-militarize key enterprises when necessary and subject striking workers to court martial; extension of the working week from 40 to 46 hours and tighter restrictions on workers' rights to change jobs; regulations permitting the government to hire and fire uncooperative teachers and administrators in the universities; and extension of a law limiting unions to a single place of work.

In addition to a host of temporary measures a number of *permanent* regula-

tions, described by one government official as "modest proposals," will also be encoded. Three year prison terms will be meted out for belonging to an unregistered, dissolved or illegal organization, for "slandering the state," for "spreading false information that could lead to disorders or rioting" (five years for disseminating such information abroad), or for organizing illegal protest actions. Censorship laws will also be tightened to include even photographic exhibits and technical journals which opponents of the regime have taken to utilizing lately. According to officials, these permanent laws are of relatively "minor importance" and of course it is profoundly hoped that they will not have to be enforced!

This formidable array of repressive legislation provided the framework for a number of concessions as well — those duly negotiated as part of the deal with the West's bargaining agent, the Catholic Church, which agreed to guarantee the eclipse of Solidarity as a viable political force in return for a proportionate loosening of the clampdown and a bolstering of its own position. The grand centerpiece was of course the government's declaration of partial amnesty for political prisoners and violators of martial law who have been interned. So far, close to 200 internees have been processed and released from Polish prisons, though amnesty will *not* apply to a number of imprisoned top Solidarity leaders and some others. The state has, however, magnanimously provided pardon for "felonies committed while counteracting strikes or protest actions" — i.e., amnesty for ZOMO!

The authorities additionally offered amnesty to any underground Solidarity activists (but not those guilty of "severe crimes aimed against the political interests of the state") who have successfully avoided arrest to date. Here, the terms are naturally a bit more onerous — to be eligible an activist would have "to declare that he would stop his criminal acts and disclose the kinds of crimes he has committed, the time and the place." Nevertheless, so far five underground activists from Gdansk have already turned themselves in and been released by the authorities after completing the "necessary formalities." The response of the Western media to this attempt to defuse the underground it once championed with impunity was notable: *Newsweek*, for instance, demurred that,

"With the end of martial law, Solidarity's future seemed as dark as ever...many (activists) were expected to surface in the coming weeks." But, that the Polish rulers are not the only ones hedging their bets was indicated by underground chief Zbigniew Bujak's announcement that a handful of top leaders would remain in hiding "to assure that Solidarity will exist."

Another interesting little "socialist" carrot held out was a constitutional amendment *guaranteeing* Poland's farmers the right to own their land. On the heels of the Church's promise of several billions of dollars to assist private farming, this is obviously being floated out in hopes of winning this vacillating, and often troublesome, stratum lately enamored of Rural Solidarity to support of the regime's patchwork agricultural schemes as well as solidifying as many such petty-bourgeois elements as possible as part of the revisionists' social base.

Summing up the entire package before parliament, Jaruzelski declared that the ending of martial law was "proof of the good will of the authorities." "But," he added, "there will be no return to anarchy. Any attempts at anti-socialist activities will be muzzled no less decisively than before." And judging from the response in the Western media, all parties concerned seemed to feel that what had been signed, sealed and delivered under the auspices of the Pope's visit was being observed in the balance. It is being put out that the U.S. will soon restore Polish fishing and airline rights in U.S. territory, though other sanctions — like the ban on high tech — will remain in lieu of more "substantive changes" in Poland's political situation. Simultaneously with the lifting of martial law, NATO bankers also announced as promised a meeting to finally begin discussions on the rescheduling of Poland's debt.

This latter move is not all inimical to Western interests in negotiating a more stable arrangement for Polish refinancing to forestall any untoward jolts a Polish default could well send through the centers of Western finance capital (a point acknowledged by the *NY Times* which remarked that, "Such debt, of course, gives leverage to the debtor as well"). However, the U.S. bloc *would* like to utilize its position as creditor to further influence the political terrain in-

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Star Power, Fire Power, & World Power

A significant chunk of the U.S.' fleet, replete with aircraft carriers, battleships, fighter-bombers, cruise missiles, 16-inch guns — it's all there — is setting up the expanded U.S. butcher shop in Central America. Simultaneously, Henry Kissinger, mass murderer par excellence and past master of U.S. geopolitical skulduggery, is taking his place at the head of a new blue-ribbon commission on Central America. *Newsweek* magazine breathlessly captured the moment with a banner heading of "Gunboat Diplomacy" and the comment that "Kissinger's star power and the Ranger's firepower did make quite a match." Indeed — Central America always seems to bring out the best that the U.S. has to offer.

The centerpiece of the activity consists of a series of massive military maneuvers that U.S. officials are lamely describing as "routine." Under the guise of war "games," the U.S. has moved the aircraft carrier *USS Ranger* with 70 fighter-bombers and 7 escort ships to a point said to be 100 miles off the Pacific shore of Nicaragua. It is soon to be joined in the area by the battleship *New Jersey* which has its own escort of five ships. Meanwhile, the aircraft carrier *Coral Sea* and its 5-ship escort are headed for a similar position on the Caribbean side of Nicaragua. While these flotillas are conducting naval exercises, there will be about 4,000 U.S. Army, Marine and Air Force personnel in Honduras participating in their own exercises, accompanied by widened airstrips for U.S. transport planes, a new air and naval base on the Atlantic coast of Honduras, the positioning of large stocks of military equipment in that country, and the establishment of a raft of new radar and electronic surveillance posts to complement the already existing U.S. radar station near Tegucigalpa, Honduras' capital. All the exercises are slated to last for at least six months, but they are actually open-ended, with no termination date having been set for any of them. The only thing

"routine" about these maneuvers is the blatant, imperialist arrogance with which they are thrown at those who oppose the U.S. in Central America.

The naval exercises will openly include preparations and rehearsal for the imposition of a military *quarantine* around Nicaragua. According to the *New York Times*, a quarantine is defined as a "limited" blockade which "only" interdicts certain ships, as opposed to a formal *blockade* which stops all shipping, and is considered an act of war; one wonders what a quarantine is considered — an act of "limited" war perhaps? And the "justifications" for such action are familiar, hypocritical lies — being based, once again, on the supposed "arms flow" from Nicaragua to opposition forces in El Salvador. Assistant Secretary of State Langhorne Motley said most of it takes place "literally by pack mule" from Nicaragua through Honduras. This in itself would make the "arms flow" an arms *drip*, at best, and given the number of U.S.-directed *contras*, CIA agents and so forth running around this area, would probably require that the pack mules be invisible. In any case, given the massive military fortification of U.S. neocolonies in Central America (including through the dedicated assistance of such U.S. allies as Israel), the fact that one of the perks of being a generalissimo in this area has long been the opportunity to enhance one's Swiss bank account through the sale of U.S.-donated weapons on the black market (the main weapons source for the Salvadoran opposition being that black market), and the high incidence of surrender (with weapons) to the guerrillas on the part of the draftees in El Salvador's puppet army, the only way to reduce the actual arms flow to Central America — including to the Salvadoran opposition — would be to quarantine the U.S.

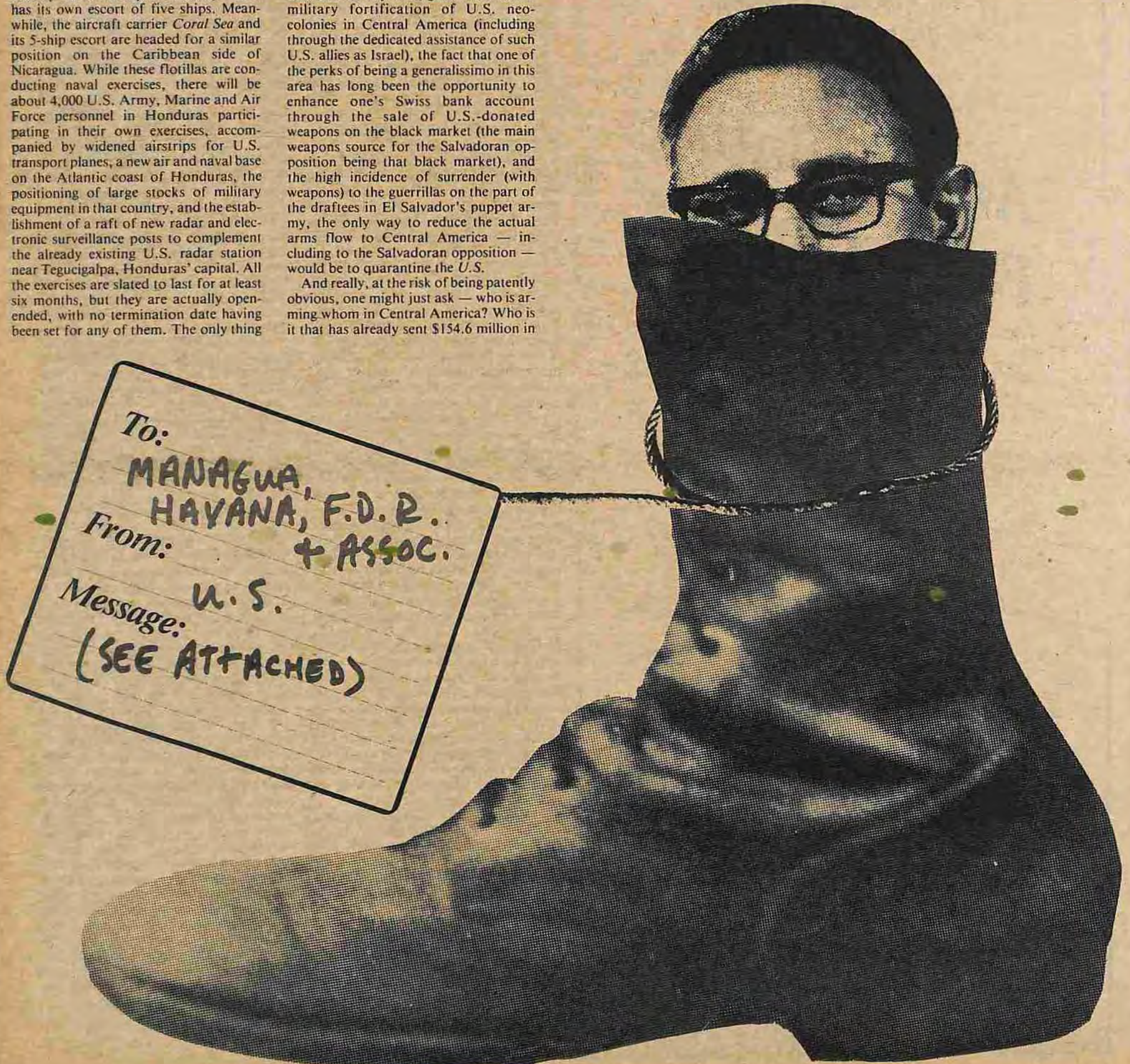
And really, at the risk of being patently obvious, one might just ask — who is arming whom in Central America? Who is it that has already sent \$154.6 million in

military "aid" to the region this year, with another \$70-plus million projected? Of course, that doesn't include the maneuvers that take place with greater and greater frequency. Who is it that is planning on over \$550 million in economic "aid" — for such peaceful projects as pacification, roads, highways and bridges suitable for troop transport, and other counterinsurgency projects? Who is it that has 150 CIA agents running all over the region? Who is it that has fortified Honduras, built up its air force into the most powerful in the region (while per capita income remains the lowest, along with Haiti, in the entire Western Hemisphere), sent 300 U.S. Army advisers and technicians into the country, run all this and much more out of the largest embassy in Central America, and turned the entire country of Honduras into a base of operations against Nicaragua? And all those liberals who love to answer "Reagan" to questions like these, manage to keep mum about the fact that much of this fortification began under "human rights" Carter,

who particularly made the decision to cultivate Honduras for use against Nicaragua way back in 1979.

Really, the blatant arrogance of these imperial gentlemen seems to increase geometrically by the week. At the same time that U.S. officials (and many of their tactical critics as well) chant incantations over every rifle in the hands of their opposition, they plaster the front pages of every major newspaper with their latest blood-letting schemes for Central America. In addition to new troop deployments, we have read of a "major expansion" of the well-publicized "covert" action to include many more than 10,000 men (soldiers of fortune can sign up at their local CIA recruiting office) and a campaign of sabotage against "Cuban installations." The anonymous officials from whence this story came refused to elaborate on any further details. There was also a report that the Pentagon is requesting an increase in the official number of U.S. "advisers" in El Salvador, from 55 to 125, and wants to officially allow them "in the field" to

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The Execution of Mr. Lee

On June 13th, another Black man was murdered in cold blood at the hands of the Baltimore police. Less than a year ago, Rupert Campbell, a Rastafarian, had been stomped to death by police in the Pimlico section of Baltimore, sparking off a rebellion which sent shockwaves throughout the city. This time it was a Black businessman, well known and liked in the community, who was gunned down — and this time, with Pimlico on their minds, police and local Black elected officials jumped immediately into the situation, working feverishly to prevent another shattering of the enforced calm in the Black community in Baltimore.

Early in the morning of June 13th, Booker Lee Lancaster was riding his motorcycle a few blocks from his home when a dispute broke out between him and a white man in a passing sports car.

Lancaster had apparently dropped something and made a U-turn to go back and get it when the man in the car rode up next to him and began hassling him. For several blocks they rode together exchanging angry words; as one witness recalled, Lancaster demanded to know why the man had tried to hit him with his car.

The car and motorcycle pulled to a halt in front of a gas station, Lancaster jumped off his bike, and never knowing it was an off-duty cop, confronted this white man who continued to harass him. The white man stepped from his car, grabbed Lancaster and then, without warning, fired a bullet into Lancaster's chest. Lancaster fell and the man fired again. Lancaster lay dead in the street for daring to stand up to an attack on the street by some racist fool.

The white man looked around at the crowd that had gathered and witnessed the crime and he called out, no doubt in fear, to identify himself as a police officer. "Call the police," he shouted. "Tell them there's an officer who needs assistance!" Then, with numerous witnesses looking on, this Officer Shanahan reached under the dead body and took a knife from a sheaf on Lancaster's belt and lay it beside Lancaster's hand.

In the meantime, a force of close to 50 cops, uniformed and undercover, descended upon the scene. With helicopters circling overhead they quickly sealed off the area and rushed Shanahan out even before the ambulance had arrived. The panicked cops shouted orders at people who had come out on their porches: "Get out of the way or you're under arrest."

The cops and the media set to work immediately to manufacture a coverup. First news reports claimed that the officer had been attacked by a "knife-wielding man" and that "a hunting knife was found under the victim's body." This initial lie being a little too blatant — and especially since many witnesses had testified to the contrary — the *Baltimore Sun* began reporting that the police had changed their story and now said that the police officer was not threatened with a knife: "the officer was trying to protect himself in a scuffle with a man" the paper blithely lied and suggested that the officer moved the knife in case the wounded man (who had died immediately) might try to use it! The *Sun* also made pointed comments about Mr. Lancaster being considerably larger than the officer. At the same time, the paper reprinted conflicting accounts from different witnesses of various details of the incident; exactly what led to the argument and who among the cops — the killer himself or his cohorts in uniform — removed the knife from the sheath. Obviously, all this was designed to create confusion, discredit witnesses, and lay the basis for declaring that Shanahan had acted in self-defense.

Several days later, a column in the *Baltimore Sun* continued constructing the defense for the officer (who had not even been suspended for the shooting but simply put on desk duty). The column candidly admitted that many officers carry extra weapons called "throw-downs" or "drop-knives" for just such occasions. It is "practically a reflex action. You fire your weapon, you'd better come up with a good reason why. And if you don't have one, you'd better come up with one, to give you a claim of self-defense. . . . There are people who see it as a move of self-protection. They're under pressure no one else can understand, and they have to make decisions in split seconds, and sometimes the rule book is ignored." But just in case this doesn't have you convinced, the column in the *Sun* proceeds to cover other bases — relating all the times when Shanahan was under pressure and could have killed, but didn't. "In Danny Shanahan's career he has never had to manufacture a reason." When all is said and done, this fine, peace-loving officer was just doing his job.

The murder and outrageous lies and implications about Mr. Lancaster in the press have sparked instant outrage in the neighborhood where he lived. Lancaster, known as Mr. Lee in the community, was 49 years old, had owned a small trucking business, a restaurant and nightclub, and was a member of a motorcycle club called the Thunderguards which had chapters in 13 cities. He was known in the community as a kind and generous man, someone who always helped people out, particularly the neighborhood kids. The day he was killed a petition was started calling for the NAACP to conduct an independent investigation into the killing, and within 24 hours 500 signatures had been

collected. At his wake and funeral, 2,000 people attended, including members of his bike club from as far away as Florida. A coalition to fight for justice for Lee Lancaster was formed immediately, composed of his friends, relatives, and organizations including the NAACP, the Black United Front, and others which had been active around Rupert Campbell's murder.

The authorities, still smarting from the Pimlico rebellion, have rushed to cool things out and convince people that this time the system would work, the Black leaders in office would see to it that justice would be done. Kurt Schmoke, the newly-elected Black State's Attorney, immediately ordered a grand jury to take up the investigation, and in so doing removed the case from the hands of the police whose handling of it had already stunk too blatantly of a coverup. This investigation, he stated, "should allay any fears that there is going to be a whitewash of this matter." Several other Black officials joined in the call for a grand jury investigation, including a Black mayoral candidate, William Murphy. On a radio talk show, State Representative Clarence Davis, member of the Board of Directors of the NAACP, compared the situation to Pimlico, deploring that rebellion and likening it to Vietnam. But this time however, according to Davis, there is no need for such outbreaks because Kurt Schmoke will take care of everything. The media echoed this ominous note. The *Baltimore Sun*, in an editorial on July 15, described the recent incident as an "explosive event" and praised the investigation as the "best possible response to a potentially ugly situation." (Typically, the murder itself is not described as "ugly" — only the potential of rebellion qualifies as ugly to the bourgeoisie.) And one TV station ran an editorial thanking the family and friends for working within the system and not taking the law into their hands.

The NAACP has stated that they are "pleased" with the State Attorney's action and will take no separate action at the present time. The coalition around Lancaster's death, which is headed-up by Clarence Davis and working closely with several other Black elected officials, has announced plans for the first mass action: a march to the police station to be held almost a month and a half after the murder.

Even as officials strove to keep the masses locked within the system in the aftermath of this new outrage, the police have continued their attacks against the masses of people in Pimlico. House raids, beatings, arrests, and robbery of Jamaicans' money continue to be part of the daily life of people there. People are not allowed to gather in groups, music cannot be played on the streets, and even the basketball hoop in the corner where the rebellion started was ordered removed by the police. Wearing dreadlocks or Rastafarian colors in Pimlico is still a sure way to get harassed and picked up by the cops, while many of those active in the rebellion, Jamaican and American-born, are now in jail. If only for a few moments, Pimlico had broken open the fragile order, raising sharp questions about the system and the possibility of overthrowing it — this kind of outbreak is something that must be suppressed.

Now, one more Black man murdered, one more possibility raised of a crack breaking things open, in the words of the *Baltimore Sun*, "in the steamy streets of a large American city in summer." Whether by investigation and ballots, or through their bullets and jails, the authorities are doing everything possible to try to prevent the masses from breaking through once again. □

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and the role of the party

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held in the latter part of 1982

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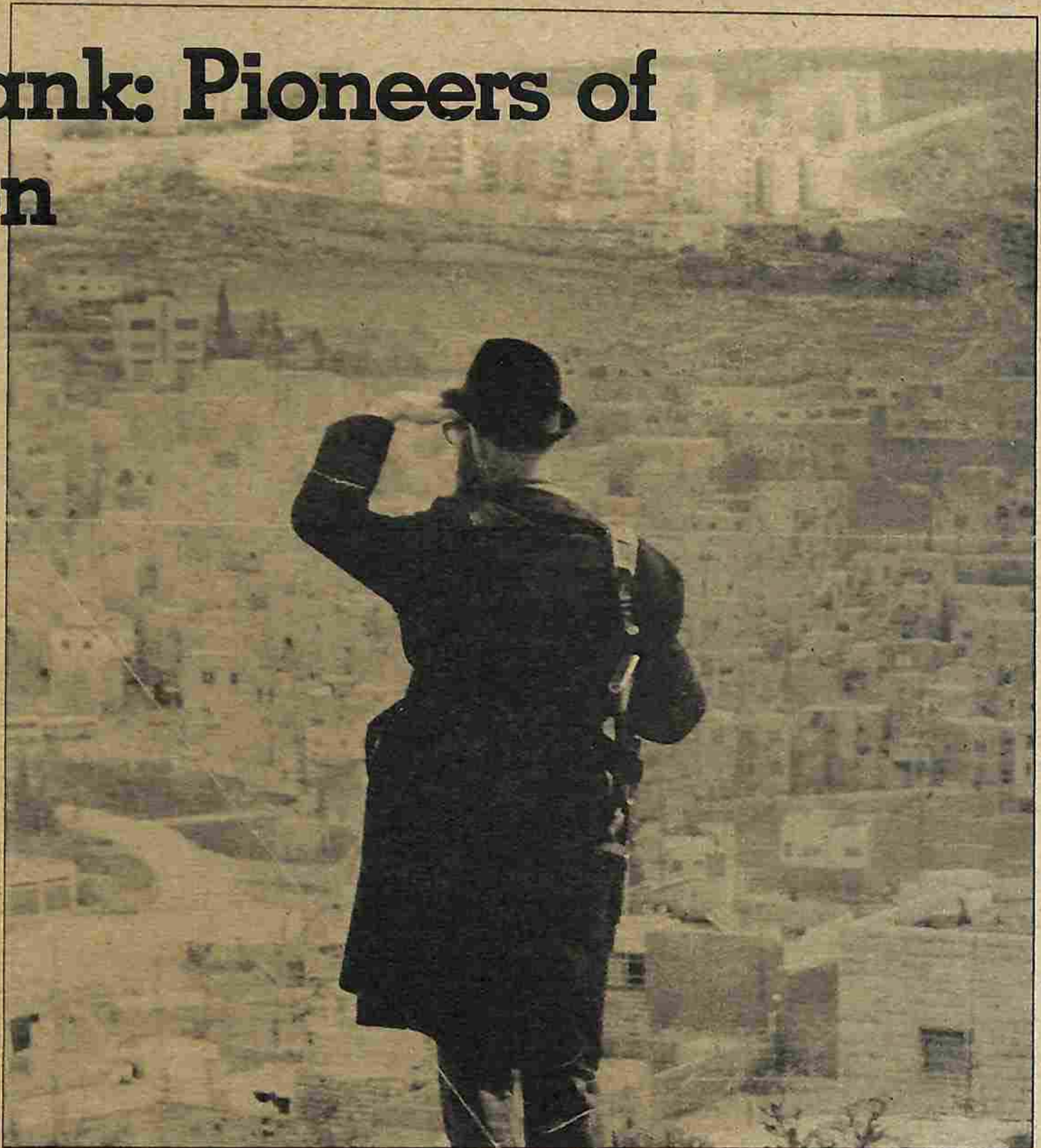
West Bank: Pioneers of Reaction

On July 26, unidentified "masked gunmen" opened indiscriminate machinegun fire on students and threw grenades into classroom buildings at the Islamic College campus in Hebron. Three Palestinian students and teachers were killed in the attack, 33 others were wounded.

As news of the attack spread through the Israeli-occupied West Bank, protests spilled into the streets. In Nablus, Israeli troops killed one Arab girl and wounded at least one other in the course of "dispersing" demonstrators. And in Hebron itself, the Israelis slapped yet another curfew on the 70,000 Palestinian residents; the authorities dispersed crowds — for example the relatives and friends of the wounded who gathered outside the hospital where they had been taken — with tear gas and gunfire.

Some Israeli government spokesmen issued stern condemnations of the incident, declaring that the "evil people" responsible would be brought to justice. At the same time, they maintained that the attackers could just as well have been Arab as Israeli. One military source quoted in the *New York Times* even claimed that the shooting may have resulted from a conflict between the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Moslem Brotherhood. He declared that the investigation would certainly look into this "possibility."

Such arrogant protestations notwithstanding, there is no question as to who bears responsibility for this latest attack. Whether the bullets are discharged from the weapons of Israeli occupation troops, the openly armed Israeli settlers in the West Bank, or "masked gunmen," there is an upswing in terror and repression directed against the West Bank Palestinians, an upswing sanctioned and facilitated in full by the Israeli authorities. The Israeli government has embarked on a program of accelerated settlement activity in the West Bank, in order to achieve their declared goal of expanding the number of "settlers" there from current levels of 25,000 up to 100,000 by the year 1986. This is the figure the Israelis consider the "critical mass" necessary to make their occupation of the West Bank irreversible. This, in turn, is but a prelude to the grandiose design of the Israelis and the World Zionist Organization to populate the



West Bank with 1.3 million Jews by the year 2010.

These plans, however, should not be taken at face value. Israeli claims last December that the number of settlers in the West Bank and Gaza would double over the next three months have proven false. While additional settlements were built during this period, there are as yet few additional settlers to inhabit them — even though the Israelis are offering the new dwellings at cut-rate prices, attempting to offer all manner of incentives in

getting new settlers to move into the area.

The linchpin upon which this colonization rests is the Israeli effort to increasingly fragment the indigenous Palestinian population, suppress any potential organized and coordinated resistance, absorb greater numbers of Palestinians into the bottom tiers of the Israeli dominated economy, and thus eventually render the population into relative docility.

But all such moves have failed to extinguish the Palestinians' identity and will to resist. While the Israelis have expropriated about 55% of the land on the West Bank, seized control over critical water sources, and implemented their "iron fist" policies with a vengeance, Palestinian resistance has broadened and grown. Indeed, by figures disclosed by

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School of Occupation

Generally, the U.S. press presents an image of the West Bank Israeli settlers as a mainly benign presence, devoutly religious believers wishing only to live and practice their faith in lands torn by a long-standing "cycle of vengeance." If there are extremists among them, we are assured, they are only a handful; and besides, it is the Palestinians who, by refusing to allow the Israelis to "live in peace," are mainly to blame for this vengeful cycle.

Aharon Gross, the 19-year-old who, like about half the Gush Emunim, emigrated from North America, was portrayed as such a benign "presence." This sometimes led to moments of awkwardness in press accounts — for example, the following excerpt from the *Christian Science Monitor*: "When Aharon Gross set out with a friend around the corner to stand opposite the Hebron vegetable market and wait for a minibus from Kiryat Arba which would pick up some kindergarten children — a helpful gesture which friends said typified him — he was wearing an Uzi machinegun slung over his shoulder. Like every Jewish settler, including seminary students, he was entitled to a 'personal weapon,' although his training had been minimal."

As for the Yeshiva Gross attended, it is located on the third floor of the

Hadassah House, the building in the heart of Hebron that a growing group of settlers have made their headquarters and fortress. A brief glimpse at some recent Hadassah House history reveals something of the character of the settlers and their operations.

Hadassah House was seized by the settlers in 1979, when a group of women led by Rabbi Levinger's wife broke into the building. While many Israeli officials publicly condemned the move at the time as provocative and ill-timed, the government has provided the squatters with financial support and, since 1980, a permanent military guard. Many of the adjacent buildings have been demolished or appropriated by order of the military governor in order to reinforce control over the site.

With the "Dandisi Affair" of March 1981, the settlers consolidated their control over Hadassah House itself. The Dandisis, a Palestinian family, operated a dry goods store on the building's ground floor. The elder Dandisi had been there for 30 years, paying rent first to Jordanian, then the Israeli authorities. When the Dandisis opened their shop on March 21, 1981, they found a hole approximately three feet square in their ceiling, extending through the floor of the settlers' quarters above. Reporting this damage to

the military authorities, the Dandisis were assured that the damage had resulted from spirited religious dancing (the Purim holiday having just passed). As the floor was made of reinforced concrete, and bore the marks of a pickaxe, they found this hard to swallow.

As they set out to repair the hole, the Dandisis were visited by none other than Rabbi Levinger himself, who struck them and berated them for working on the "sabbath" (Levinger's sabbath, of course, not the Moslem one). At day's end, having accomplished little in their repairs, the Dandisis locked their shop and went down to file a complaint at the police station. Here they were assured by the officer on duty that the problem would be straightened out.

However, when the Dandisis returned to their shop the following day, they met armed settlers at the door. The repair beams they had purchased to fix the hole had been thrown into the street. Entering their shop, the Dandisis found the ceiling gone altogether; in its place was a staircase the settlers had built leading to their living quarters on the next floor. Mattresses were scattered around the floor of the shop, and the store's merchandise was completely gone. The settlers then informed the Dandisis that there was no use in their returning to Hadassah House.

The Dandisis refused to leave, the father sitting himself down on the new staircase. He was beaten, trampled on, and thrown out of the shop by the armed settlers, among them Rabbi Levinger.

The Dandisis filed suit, and eleven parties living or working near Hadassah House also filed suit against the settlers — for diverse harassments — such as the efforts by Hadassah House settlers to block trade in the adjoining commercial establishments by blocking access to the shop and stoning customers from their windows.

On the basis of these and other complaints, the mayor of Hebron was able to mount a successful bid in the Israeli courts to block further settlement activity in the city's central district for two years. With the recent events of July 7, the mayor was dismissed, and the Israeli cabinet issued a green light to the settlers to forge ahead with their settlements. Housing Minister David Levy, announcing that there had been a decision "for some time" to go ahead with a plan to reconstruct the old Jewish quarter, declared that the "decision in its entirety will be implemented." The plan calls for resettling 500 Israeli families over the next three years. Undoubtedly, they will follow in the footsteps of the Hadassah House pioneers in "living their faith." []

In 1932, Mexican muralist David Alfaro Siqueiros was commissioned to paint a large mural near downtown Los Angeles on the theme of "tropical America." Siqueiros's mural showed a huge eagle hovering menacingly above a crucified Indian peasant, with other Mexican peasants shooting at the eagle. In a fit of outrage, the city of Los Angeles, then preparing to host the 1932 Olympic games, had the mural covered with whitewash.

Now, as Los Angeles once again spruces up its oh-so "civilized" image as host of the 1984 prewar Olympic games, more such whitewashing is the order of the day. A case in point is the mural, "Los Angeles History: A Mexican Perspective" by Barbara Carrasco which was commissioned in 1981 by the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), one of those organizations in charge of creating L.A.'s 1984 image. The 16-foot by 80-foot portable mural was to be placed in a proposed "mini-park" in the heart of downtown Los Angeles for display during the 1984 games. But the mural will never be displayed there as the city has now officially "decommissioned" the project and severed all ties with it. This action came after attempts by the CRA to censor parts of the mural failed — attempts to censor, as Carrasco put it, what the CRA called "inflammatory images for fear they might embarrass the city if displayed during the 1984 games."

"Los Angeles History: A Mexican Perspective" depicts a young Latina deep in thought, whose hair flows back for 20 yards intertwining 51 scenes and 72 portraits from L.A.'s beginning to the present. Of those scenes, Carrasco says, there were 14 specific scenes the CRA wanted removed. The first image the CRA found "inflammatory" was a portrait of the Virgin Mary, who, said an official, "had a look of repression on her face." The mass lynching of 21 Chinese workers in the late 1800s was another forbidden part of L.A.'s history, as was the portrait of the last Black slave in L.A. The internment camp at Manzanar of Japanese immigrants during World War 2 was also "too offensive," as were the Zoot Suit Riots. And farmworkers, Carrasco was told, "have nothing to do with the history of L.A." The CRA also

Olympic Whitewash

wanted removed the portraits of the "bandits" Tiburcio Vásquez and Joaquín Murieta, whose revolutionary exploits made them symbols of resistance to the U.S. theft of California and the Southwest from Mexico. And most ironically, the CRA demanded removal of a scene depicting the whitewashing of Siqueiros's mural in 1932. On top of all this, a CRA official criticized the main image of the mural, the young Latina, saying, "I think her skin is too dark, and her eyes, I have never seen such black eyes." Perhaps a little more whitewash would do the trick!

Carrasco refused to make the changes and the CRA refused to sign a contract guaranteeing the city would display the mural. When Carrasco hired attorneys and went to the media, the CRA became more vicious — putting out a press release denying ever demanding ownership of the mural. Carrasco told the *RW* that she has no less than 6 CRA memos on their own stationary demanding the copyright to the mural. Furthermore, the CRA said that this was not a case of censorship but that it was just a matter of "too many" images — yes, "too many" of a certain type! And during the months-long battle with the CRA, not only did Carrasco and her attorneys receive threatening phone calls ("from the CIA or some redneck out there who is really stupid," she said), but at one point the CRA even tried to sneak the mural panels off to a produce warehouse where the moisture would have destroyed them.

Finally, as the controversy began to generate unwanted publicity — such maneuverings are better done quietly — the CRA gave Carrasco all rights to the mural; but now, she says, the CRA is working to make sure that it won't be displayed anywhere in Los Angeles. What's more, she said, there's the threat that some other murals around Los Angeles with "inflammatory images" could be sandblasted between now and next summer.

So once again, the U.S. team is preparing to take the field a year from now under the banner of "freedom and democracy" (unlike the other side) in this Disneyland city of "free expression and culture" — no matter how much whitewash it takes. □

Recharging The Draft Machine

On July 19, a Federal Appeals Court in Los Angeles issued a loud blast against all those who hate and would resist the draft. Last November, David Wayte became the first, and still the only, man charged with refusing to register for the draft who has had his charges thrown out of court by a judge. Because of this, many people had placed high hopes on this case "sounding the deathknell," as it has been put, against the draft law. The government, too, has been holding back on some prosecutions pending outcome of the Wayte case, according to the *L.A. Times*. But the appeals court summarily overturned every aspect of the original ruling, upholding the draft law itself and the government's manner of execution, and in the process giving an indication (among others recently) that the government may be preparing a major assault on anti-draft forces.

In fact, the judge in the original case, Judge Hatter, had never questioned the basis of the draft law, but only the tactic of the government which focused prosecutors on those people most adamant and vocal in their opposition to the draft. The intent of this government policy was that, as one government memo turned over to the Wayte defense put it, "The first wave of prosecutions would encourage other nonregistrants to register." The government has a serious problem indeed, since by their own admission there are over 500,000 men who have refused to register (and the actual number is certainly far higher). In throwing out the charges, Hatter had ruled that while selectivity in prosecution is OK, in general, the government should use random selection or some other method which avoids the nasty appearance of violating the first amendment. As he suggested early on to the prosecution, "Why don't we dismiss this case and wait until you have a better way to implement your law?"

Nevertheless, these tactical disagreements had opened a Pandora's box of most unwelcome exposures in the course of Wayte's challenge to the government. For example, there was the temerity of the Wayte defense to call as witnesses high government officials such as Thomas Turnage (head of the Selective Service System) and Edwin Meese III (the presidential advisor in charge of the government's operations concerning the draft). These officials, it turns out, had conducted a series of meetings where they developed the plan to prosecute "vocal resisters" and focus the prosecutions in places likely to be favorable to the government; places such as Roanoke, Virginia and San Diego, California where the first two prosecutions took place. The Wayte lawyers had demanded documents from these meetings be turned over to the defense, and Judge Hatter had agreed. The prosecution, however, refused to do so; the point of the draft registration — and the crackdown on resisters — is not after all to put high imperialist spokesmen on the spot, but to sound the call to patriotic duty!

The appeals court cleaned the board of all this potentially very damaging legal debate. The policy of selectively prosecuting only vocal draft opponents is wholly vindicated — according to the court, it "does not demonstrate impermissible motivation." As for the documents from the Turnage/Meese meetings, they did not have to be turned over to the defense since — and here the court invoked classic "catch-22" reasoning — Wayte hadn't shown that there was discriminatory prosecution, and therefore he had no right to put the government to the trouble of providing these witnesses, etc., even though, as the court said, "Access to the documents might have been helpful to him" in proving discriminatory prosecution. The fact that the documents and witnesses would have

been helpful in exposing more of the government's maneuvers to break draft resistance is, of course, plenty enough reason for the court to uphold their secrecy.

Even Hatter's ruling that the government had implemented the draft regulation without the mandatory 30-day waiting period (for comment from the public) was overruled. In the original ruling, Hatter told the government, in essence, to clean up its act and avoid legal challenges on such technicalities. The appeals court impatiently waving aside such matters, ruled that the draft regulations were a "presidential proclamation," not a "regulation," and therefore no waiting period was required.

The appeals court decision is making it quite clear that no mere technicality nor even obvious illegal discriminatory prosecution is going to get in the way of the very necessary war preparations that draft registration is part of. If the issue of the draft has been somewhat put in the background in the recent period, the government has now clearly resolved to put it back front and center, with a renewed attempt to steamroller any who would resist.

Of course, the problems created by this approach are real and were pointed to by Hatter and by the one dissenting judge on the appeals court. The dissenting judge said of the majority decision that it "permit(s) the government to prosecute a citizen because he has spoken out rather than because he had violated the law. The result weakens our indispensable but fragile freedom to express unpopular ideas." The judge shows she has no qualms about the right of the government to field an imperialist army with the draft, but she wants to make sure we all have the right to "protest" as we're being dragged off to the battlefield or to jail. After all, isn't it that "fragile freedom" that we're supposed to be preparing to

fight a war to defend?!

This dissenter also took up Judge Hatter's point that the government has other means at its disposal for selecting those to prosecute: "The availability of alternative enforcement methods is borne out by the fact that the government has now implemented a system for identifying quiet nonregistrants." Indeed they have. On the very day Judge Hatter originally threw out the charges, the government announced the indictment of the first five draft resisters who were not vocal opponents of the draft. Coinciding with the recent appeals court ruling, the Selective Service announced it was turning over to the Justice Dept. the names of 70,000 nonregistrants for possible prosecution. The Justice Dept. says there are 93 cases now in the hands of U.S. attorneys around the country awaiting filing. "Federal officials" told the *L.A. Times* that this appeals court ruling may speed prosecutions that have been on hold pending the outcome of this case. Other indications of a new assault on anti-draft forces include the recent Supreme Court ruling giving the go-ahead to cutting off federal financial aid to students who refuse to register (and for that matter, students who refuse to say whether they are registered or not, even if they are not required to register, like, for example, women).

The fact that this Appeals Court decision was split (in a 2 to 1 vote) has left a slight crack which Wayte's attorneys hope will get them a rehearing before the entire Appeals Court. It is expected by both sides that this case will end up before the Supreme Court. And while it may take the Supreme Court to issue the government's "last word" on the draft law, it is certain that one way or another the government will uphold its law and its pressing necessity to draft an imperialist army. □

The Deadliest Smog of All



A 1951 nuke test blast lights up the sky over downtown Los Angeles.

Los Angeles, October 28, 1958: "Moderate smog throughout the Los Angeles Basin today. U.S. Weather Bureau forecast: sunny today and tomorrow except late night and early morning fog near the coast. A little warmer today with high temperature near 85." So read the weather report in the day's *L.A. Times*.

Over the next few days an "inversion layer" would develop over L.A. (this is when a high pressure system settles in over the Basin allowing no air to move in or out for days). By mid-day the sun has cooked all the nitrate oxides, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, and other choice ingredients into a thick yellow-brown soup.

But more was in the air than this on October 28, 1958, and much more was soon to come. Two columns to the right of the *L.A. Times* weather report was a two paragraph announcement from the Atomic Test Site in Nevada: an "underground" bomb had been detonated, sending a plume of dust 1,000 feet high (we might add, since the *Times* didn't, that this was "hot" dust). Proudly, they announced an unprecedented plan to shoot off 5 atom bombs the next day.

On the 29th L.A.'s weather report listed only light smog along the coast; a wind condition had set up, blowing from the desert into L.A. and off the coast. While blowing the smog out to sea, the wind also blew extensive radioactive fallout from the day's blasts into the L.A. Basin where it sat for the next few days as the inversion layer set in — cooking in iodine-131 and strontium-90. But all of this would have faded with memory, and in fact did for a few decades, with the repeated public pronouncements at the time from various government officials, the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in particular, that there was no danger. However, a recent *Los Angeles Herald-Examiner* article (by freelance writer Liz Blackman) has re-opened the matter on the basis of documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Hidden within tens of thousands of routine reports from the AEC and related

agencies are documents showing that while the AEC publicly stated there was no danger, the L.A. incident was discussed in closed-door meetings in November 1958 as an emergency situation.

The AEC admitted at the time that their tests revealed radioactivity levels 1200 times normal in L.A. the day after the blast — but of course, they said, this posed no danger whatsoever. Based on the FOIA and other material, Dr. Carl Johnson (an environmental health specialist at Colorado University) has determined that levels of radiation were an average of 211 times normal throughout October, 420 times normal in November, and for the next 6 months remained 80 times normal. He added that during the peak day there would have also been local "hot spots" where the levels could have been as high as 10,000 times normal!

Other scientists quoted by the *Herald*, including Dr. John Gofman of UC Berkeley, estimate that these levels can be interpreted to mean that one out of every 85 children at the time would die 20 years prematurely of cancer, that overall there would be another 20,000 cancers in adults caused by the fallout levels, and that there would be far more non-fatal damage (to chromosomes, etc.). The various experts indicate such figures would start to show up mainly 30 to 40 years from the incident — that is from now and for about the next 15 years.

This has caused quite a stir — tons of fallout have been dumped on small towns and farms in places like Utah, Nevada and New Mexico (where there are now over 1,000 lawsuits pending against the government for the damage caused by the tests), but it's a whole other matter to have heavily contaminated 6 million people in the L.A. area. (Near the site, radioactive soot covered everything — at times mushroom clouds became virtually a daily sight. Increased rates of leukemia and other diseases have been documented in these areas, though the government continues to deny responsibility.)

In October 1958, these tests were big

news in L.A. and elsewhere. As part of the "cold war" maneuverings at the time the U.S. and Britain had offered to end all above-ground atom bomb testing if the Soviets would do likewise. Of course, the U.S. had already gotten to the point where such tests were not that important, while the Soviets still had a lot of catching up to do. As test-ban talks were about to start the U.S. announced they would end above-ground testing on October 30th for one year if the Soviets would then follow. With that deadline the AEC began a torrid pace of tests during October — 29 bombs were detonated that month alone, 4 were set off on October 22nd and 2 were set off just hours before the deadline (they failed to get off all 5 on the last day as planned). But, not to worry, James Reeves, test site manager in 1958, assures us, "We were just as careful on the last days as on any of those atmospheric testings. We didn't relax on any of our criteria because it was the last day of testing. We even had one bomb left over."

The agency that came to the conclusion the L.A. episode was an emergency was comprised of 12 doctors and scientists who were part of the Public Health Service. But all matters relating to the atom bomb were under AEC control and the AEC suppressed this information. One former AEC director of health-physics familiar with the incident told the *Herald*, "I would have told my children and family to leave until the levels returned to normal" — but the head of the AEC said at the time, "No harm was done, none whatsoever."

However, another former government atomic physics honcho carried on the AEC tradition, recently saying of Gofman and his cancer statistics: "He's crazy, and you can quote me on that. It's absolutely wrong and dangerous to say such things before the public. If there are any effects from low-level radiation, they're so small that we can't find them. And if you can't find them, why are you worrying about them? Nobody has provided acceptable evidence that there is injury, likewise no one has presented accep-

table evidence that there isn't." Such evidence, he says, would require taking two populations of 6 million people under controlled circumstances, dose one of them with radiation and not the other, wait 40 years and measure the difference! By this robotized, Dr. Strangelove way of thinking, even if a higher rate of cancer and other disease does develop in southern California it will prove nothing since it wasn't a "scientifically controlled experiment"! In fact, recent re-evaluation of studies on Hiroshima and Nagasaki survivors shows that low-level radiation from fallout probably damages people much more severely than has ever been thought — radiation like that over L.A. is now considered to be 4 to 20 times more likely to cause cancer than thought previously. (*New York Times*, July 26)

Shortly after the recent *Herald* article appeared the *L.A. Times* ran an article quoting various experts and government officials insisting the 1958 incident caused no injury or damage, and otherwise trying to undercut the *Herald* exposure. This is a far cry from the hysterical ravings heard from many of the same sources when, say, a Soviet satellite is dropping out of orbit; why, then every micro-microcurie of potential or imagined radiation is a threat to the lives of millions! A clue to the reason for this loud protest of innocence of a long-past crime might be found in an editorial in the *L.A. Times* of 1958. All the furor around the radioactive fallout, the paper worried back then, "may increase sentiment in favor of halting all tests and thus (halting) further development of our primary defensive weapon without firm guarantee that the Soviet Union will do the same." And today, the *Times* editors must be thinking, we can do with even less of such bad press about "our defensive weapon" — after all, it's not just tests, but *use*, that's on the agenda. □

Bob Avakian Denied Political Refugee Status in France

Continued from page 1

"human rights" so dear to the French bourgeoisie and its socialist government in particular. This was their problem in reaching a decision.

The Geneva Convention of July 28, 1951, to which both France and the U.S. subscribe, states: "The term 'refugee' is applicable to any person . . . who . . . having cause to fear persecution due to race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group of political opinions, finds himself outside the country of national origin and cannot, or because of this fear, will not, claim the protection of said country." Frankly, if there were ever an open and shut case in point it was Chairman Avakian's. His lawyer presented a clear case, detailing not only the history of the legal charges against Bob Avakian, but a whole pattern of persecution — even police murder — directed at party members, the history of threats, official and unofficial, against Bob Avakian personally, and continued government "investigation" of him. Also presented was the infamous history of the results of such U.S. government "investigations" of revolutionary leaders. All this was well documented by mounds of testimony from people from all walks of life in the U.S., even by U.S. government reports, such as the Church committee. But no matter.

In fact the lofty realm of international law where might makes right and fine points of legalism are evaluated in relation to megatons and rapid deployment forces, there is no such thing as "an individual's right to asylum." As one leading international expert on asylum law put it, despite various treaties, international agreements, etc., the only right that exists is the right of a state to grant political asylum.

The decision by the state is thus in the final analysis a political act, governed by its overall interests, relations with other states, internal necessities, etc. We see that "refugees from the East" are quickly granted asylum status in the West, while Salvadorans and Haitians are sent by the U.S. back to the loving arms of the generals and Baby Doc. The real reasons for the French government's decision is thus more to be found in the declaration of Western heads-of-state at Williamsburg, the declaration of the recent NATO ministers' meeting held in Paris for the first time since 1958, Mitterand's candid (but oh-so-socialist) Western warmonger's speech before the German parliament, etc. The role of the commission in all of this is simply to provide the necessary camouflage. And this they did, basically continuing with what we have described in these pages before as a "two pronged approach" of claiming that Bob Avakian doesn't need refugee status because the legal charges against him have been dropped — and acting like all the other evidence doesn't exist or is of no consequence. The second prong, of course, is to say straight up that they do not like the politics of Bob Avakian (surprise, surprise) and therefore he does not deserve protection. In this particular ruling both these aspects were creatively developed — with the latter in particular assuming dangerous dimensions.

The Joint Communiqué

One of the most revealing items in the published decision of the commission is their reference to the Joint Communiqué of Fall 1980 "To the Marxist-Leninists, the Workers, and the Oppressed of all Countries." The commission chose to

quote a section of the Communiqué which referred to the conquest of power by the force of arms as "the central task and the highest form of revolution." One wonders why they chose to cite this work, not submitted by Bob Avakian or his lawyers, which is only linked by the commission indirectly to Bob Avakian (as Chairman of the RCP, USA which signed the Communiqué) when there is, of course, no lack of material directly from Bob Avakian making the same point. In fact the *New Programme of the RCP*, which was submitted by Bob Avakian and his attorney, was not cited. The answer is fairly obvious. Not only is Bob Avakian "guilty" of advocating revolution in the U.S. but he is the leader of a party which consistently supports the revolutionary position in all countries — something which apparently strikes close to home for the French guardians of the rights of man. This is especially interesting in light of the sentence referred to earlier upholding the right of "every state" to spy on and harass revolutionaries. Internationalism coming from the other side! It is a pleasure to be condemned for proletarian internationalism by such as these, and Chairman Avakian and the RCP are proud of it.

Dangerous Signals

But in the commission's written decision, all this is by way of introduction to "who this man is" — and why we must be rid of him. Then they get down to business. They begin by referring to Bob Avakian's "insistence" that he has been "the object of excessive police surveillance on the part of the FBI" and to the "frequent harassments of members and supporters of the party he heads" and then conclude — as referred to earlier — that "this control has not exceeded the limits of surveillance that every state has the right to exercise over its citizens deeply committed to revolutionary activity." Their evidence for this remarkable conclusion? That Bob Avakian made "several national tours in the United States to propagate the goals and programme of the RCP." No reference, of course, to all the evidence about murder, jailings, beatings, and threats. And as for the speaking tour itself (they apparently mean the Chairman's 1979 national speaking tour), no mention of the conditions under which it had to be organized, the difficulties, the threats, etc., nor what immediately followed the tour — the launching of a Secret Service investigation of Bob Avakian, the famous Klan/government-sponsored killings of CWP members in Greensboro, and the sharp intensification of attacks on the RCP.

Their argument on this point goes against the whole idea of political persecution. As the *RW* reported last May 1, Bob Avakian's lawyer argued in a commission hearing around that time against a similar line of reasoning, pointing out that if the commission persevered in its logic of the so-called legitimate right of the state (especially a democratic state) to "defend itself" against revolutionary propaganda, the whole conception of the right of political asylum would be called into question, since most refugees are, by nature, enemies of the state!

But what goes beyond the ridiculous to the vicious is precisely their upholding of these actions by the U.S. government. They explicitly defend "the control exercised on Mr. Avakian, according to the FBI's own methods." The French government is quite aware of these methods. Earlier in this same printed

decision, in the course of summarizing the arguments of Chairman Avakian and his lawyer, they themselves make direct reference to the U.S. government Church commission report and to its findings that the FBI has used (in the words of the French commission's summary) a "very particular form in order to suppress and destroy opposition organizations and their leaders." Especially in this context, to uphold "control" "according to the FBI's own methods" amounts to nothing less than an invitation to hunting season, as far as the French government is concerned.

The same none-too-subtle message is repeated later in the commission's decision when they state that it is unproven "that the American government is deliberately seeking to destroy his (Bob Avakian's) person and the Revolutionary Communist Party by methods contrary to human rights" (emphasis added). When the commission upholds "the FBI's own methods" of "control," it is clear that nothing, including murder, is too low for their lofty standards of "human rights."

Finally, in this regard, it should be noted that this line of argument — basically that this is a leader who advocates revolution and thus deserves what he gets — is totally consistent with the latest arguments of the U.S. political police about the RCP in general. What a coincidence! (See, for example, the article in *RW* No. 213 on L.A. police chief Gates' recent testimony in which he makes the exact same point.)

Deng Demo

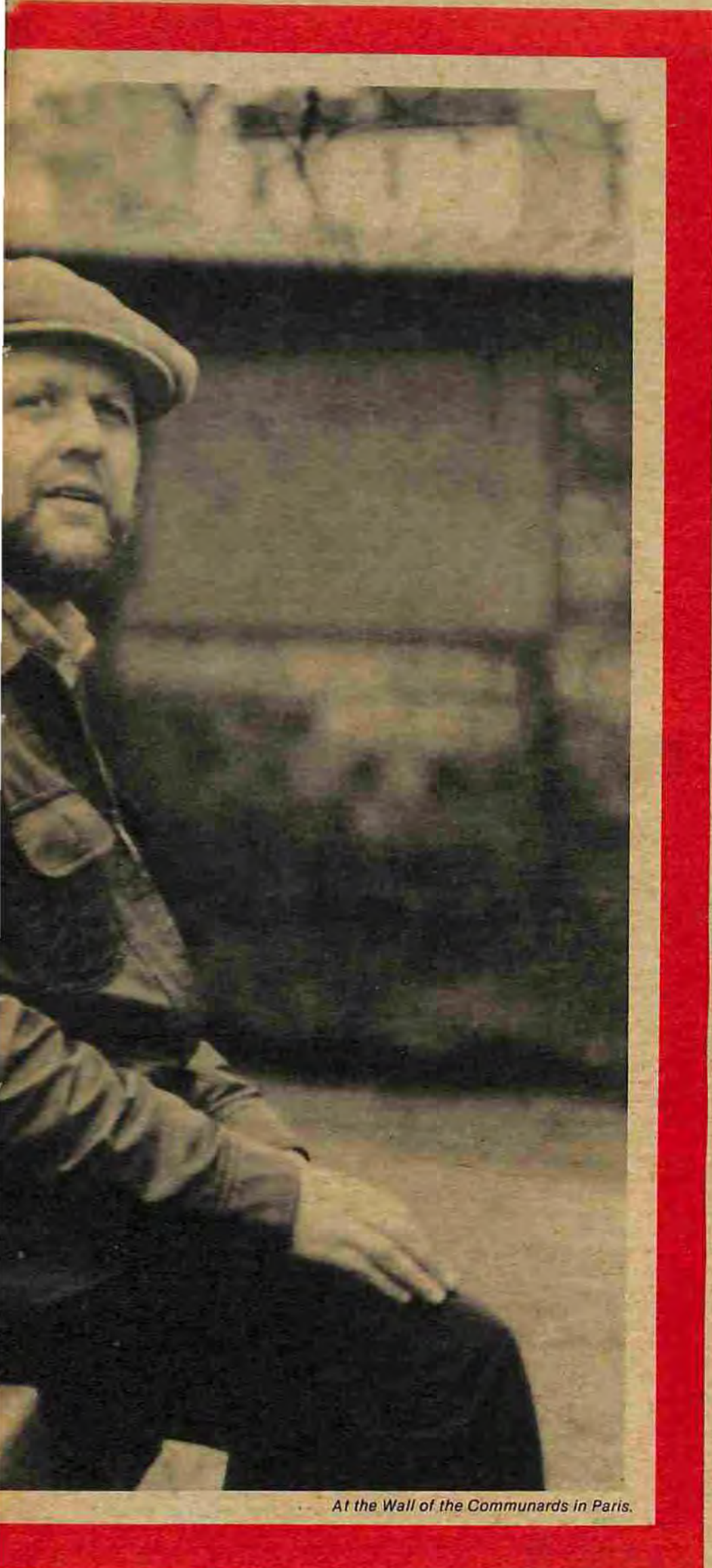
The ridiculous charges resulting from the January 1979 demonstration against Deng Xiaoping's visit to Washington — potentially 241 years in jail for Bob Avakian and others — notably provided a source of difficulty for the commission. Evading this was the task they set out for themselves in the next section of their decision. Eventually they ended up conceding that perhaps Bob Avakian had been mistreated by the police at the time of his arrest and, more importantly, that the charges had been "piled on" for political reasons. Nevertheless the commission chose to emphasize the dismissal of these charges and the fact that Bob Avakian had only spent one night in jail and was released on \$10,000 bail. The fact that the dismissal of this case only came about after several years of court battles, a widespread campaign in the U.S. and abroad and the large amounts of money and effort that went into this battle, went of course unmentioned, as did the fact that Bob Avakian's absence from the U.S. played no small role in the final decision to drop the charges on him. Apparently threatening someone for years with several lifetimes in jail is only part of the "normal control" exercised by every state!

Testimony Rejected

The commission was thus left with one issue to dispose of in rejecting the Bob Avakian appeal: his claim, backed up with an extremely large quantity of testimony, that his life would be endangered in the U.S. from the authorities and/or various reactionaries working in league with them. The commission simply stated that this had not been proven — which was made very much easier by their refusal to consider any of the hundreds of pages of testimony submitted in English! Thus with a simple "procedural ruling" they eliminated the murder of Damián Garcia, the thousand and more

arrests of party members and supporters (particularly around May Day 1980) and the death threats against Bob Avakian personally. The rationalization for this was that the commission is not a "judicial hearing" because, according to international agreements, in judicial hearings translators have to be provided by the state. Well, perhaps not technically, but the hearing can lead to a refugee being deported, chased from one country to another, perhaps back to the country and into the hands that the refugee is fleeing. "Judicial hearing" or no, the consequences for those who face them are the same. The ruling is not only aimed at blocking out evidence in Bob Avakian's case, but also at streamlining the rejection of appeals in general since very few people are in a position to provide the translation of all the necessary materials. (The appeal itself is required to be, and was in this case, written in French; what was contested here was additional, "proof" material.) The commission states the dangers to the Chairman are unproven; what do they want as proof, a body?





At the Wall of the Communards in Paris.

Bob Avakian's Original Demand

Below we are reprinting the original demand for political refugee status, as made by Bob Avakian on March 19, 1981 and printed in the Revolutionary Worker at that time.

March 19, 1981

I have today demanded political refugee status in France.

This demand is based not only on the fact that I have been the focus of blatant political persecution and have been singled out from the start for special attack as a revolutionary leader in the case of the Mao Tsetung Defendants, facing a possible 241 years in jail:

The murder of RCP member Damián Garcia by a police agent provocateur, besides the many police assaults against, and the more than 1000 arrests of, RCP members and supporters within the last year alone, including people arrested on the charge of "sedition" just for putting up a poster featuring a statement from me on the key role of the Party's newspaper in building toward revolution in the U.S.;

The exposed acts and plots of prison and other government officials (including FBI) to murder political prisoners in jail, including the recent murders of Dallas Thundershield and Bobby Garcia, Native American freedom fighters, and the ongoing plotting against their brother in struggle Leonard Peltier, along with the long list of revolutionaries framed-up and/or murdered by the ruling class and its agents in recent years as well as throughout the history of the U.S., including Malcolm X, Fred Hampton and other members of the Black Panther Party as well as many others;

The fact that the political police (FBI, etc.) and other government agencies and bodies have continued and over the past several years stepped up their attempts to subject me to "investigation," to keep me under surveillance and more than that to make me a target of their infamous COINTELPRO program (whose widely-exposed methods include murder of revolutionaries) and similar repressive schemes;

The fact that five people in Greensboro, North Carolina demonstrating against the Ku Klux Klan and describing themselves as "communists" were shot down in cold blood by Klan and Nazi scum, working with a member of the political police and the obvious complicity of the local police, that this murder was

brazenly carried out in front of television cameras and displayed to tens of millions of people across the U.S. and then these murderers were helped through the court system by judge and prosecutor to a verdict of "not guilty," set free and encouraged (along with others like them) to commit more such outrageous acts, and that our Party has received open death threats from a major Nazi leader behind those murders, openly boasting of plans worked out with the police to carry out such threats;

The fact that there have been numerous threats of this kind against myself by police, prison guards and others in the state apparatus as well as "unofficial" reactionaries and imperialist mercenaries;

All these things, among many more, are clear indications that if I were to remain in the U.S., and unless I renounced my most deeply-held principles and abandoned the cause of proletarian revolution and proletarian internationalism—which I refuse to do—I would continue to be the target of mounting attacks, through the "legal machinery" and otherwise, by the ruling class and its armed enforcers and agents, and I would be forced to devote my efforts more and more, during such a decisive period, merely to trying to stay free of their murderous clutches and dodge their assassination attempts.

This demand for political refugee status is thus a necessary step as a result of the increasing and increasingly vicious moves of the imperialist ruling class in the U.S. and its state apparatus and loyal assassins (whether wearing government uniforms or not) to suppress rebellion against them, to cripple the developing revolutionary movement in the U.S. itself and in particular to crush and wipe out the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA and myself as its Chairman. This demand is a crucial part of the battle to defend our Party and enable it and myself as its Chairman to fulfill our responsibilities to the proletarian revolution in the U.S. and make the greatest possible contribution to this process worldwide.

In all this, and overall, it is vitally important to grasp not only the temporary difficulties and the necessity the imperialist ruling class is able to impose in the short run on the revolutionary forces and the fact that it has real teeth, but

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nounced new measures against immigrants. When the Socialists first came into office they granted immigrants a special amnesty — "legalized" them. Now they are going to do a new wave of expulsions. As part of carrying through on the type of extradition measures described in the article "As the Dust Settled..." (RW, Dec. 10, 1982), the government has recently announced a crackdown and a streamlined expulsion campaign against illegal immigrants. The government spokesman, Max Gallo, recently stated that the French government intends to crack down on people who are travelling around with British passports who don't really deserve (in European chauvinist eyes) to be considered British — abusing the privileges of the Commonwealth, you know. British citizens have special rights to stay, work, etc., in France, and the French government just can't stomach allowing this to a bunch of Pakistanis and Africans. In less polite language, the message reads: dark people with British passports, beware! All this comes on top of the time-honored French policy, continued under the Socialists, of refusing political refugee status to citizens of French colonies and neocolonies. French socialism's services to imperialism, and imperialist war preparations in particular, are extraordinary.

Chairman Avakian's Situation

At this point, Chairman Avakian's situation is obviously very difficult. There is one more step in the appeals process, but no one really expects anything different from it. As we reported back in December 1981, he has temporary French

residency papers — but given the tone and content of the commission's rejection, no one should be foolish enough to feel confident about the protection afforded by that.

Increasingly the imperialists are moving to make it so Chairman Avakian has no place to put his feet down. There are today, as Chairman Avakian stated in his original demand for refugee status, "no states in the world where the dictatorship of the proletariat is in power and a revolutionary line representing the interests of the international proletariat is in command." And now a clear message has been delivered by the French and U.S. imperialists: if you insist on standing on revolutionary principle and acting on it, as Bob Avakian does, then that is *all* you have to stand on as far as we are concerned; we will give you no ground; no country will be safe. And with this they give a further lesson on the absolute need to carry through on the task of ripping state power from their hands and, as a necessary part of that task, to continue to defend revolutionary leadership.

The imperialists are trying to suppress a party, a leader, a voice. And they are doing so at a time when just such a voice as Bob Avakian's is sorely needed. A voice whose theoretical contributions in many different arenas have provided refreshing new thought and insight. A voice needed to go up against the suffocating terms of reactionary chauvinism spewed out by the ruling classes on the one hand, and the deadening, narrow and boring reformism generally being put forward in opposition, particularly in the U.S. at this time. All the more reason for many to oppose these suppressive moves. □

Perhaps that would indeed be quite "admissible evidence" according to imperialist justice. Of course, even that doesn't thoroughly satisfy. Consider the current case of the U.S. government against Salvadoran refugees; tens of thousands of Salvadorans are being killed by the government there, but even that is considered "unproven" political persecution. These are just "economic refugees" who should be deported.

A ruling like this goes along with the standard devices of democracy: deliver a political decision reflecting the class interests of the rulers, but find some way to package it in appropriate legalisms. This accomplishes the three-fold purpose of doing the necessary dirty work, making the heavy club of bourgeois dictatorship very visible to the oppressed, but wrapping it in enough legal and technical mists to continue the democratic delusions of the middle classes.

This refusal to consider the testimony fits a pattern which first appeared right when Bob Avakian filed his demand in France. At first, the officials refused even

to accept a demand relating to someone from the U.S. — that land of democracy. Then, after being forced to accept it, the authorities sent back their first rejection, stating that he had failed to show that his difficulties with the U.S. were of a political nature. Finally, when testimony to that effect was submitted, they refused to accept it. Hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil when it comes to the U.S.!

French Socialism and Democracy

All of this should go a good way toward dispelling any remaining illusions about the nature of French socialism à la Mitterrand. The political climate in France these days can easily be described in one phrase: reaction down the line. It's no longer the heady, bubbly pink days of the dawn of French socialism; instead it's more like plain old Hubert Humphrey Democratism. The illusory claims to be creating a "new order" in France have given way to the "realism" of austerity, repression, militarism and tighter connections with the U.S. war bloc.

As part of this the government has an-

West Bank: Pioneers of Reaction

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the Israelis themselves, the last year has witnessed a real upsurge in sharp, if often scattered and spontaneous, struggle. Having failed miserably in their efforts to shore up credible collaborators amongst the Palestinians in the area, the Israelis have come to rely ever more increasingly on ceaseless harassment and naked terror to achieve their ends. And the settlers, especially those of the Gush Emunim and the Kach Movement, are the prime instrument of this policy.

In recent months, Hebron has become a principal battleground. Settlements there have become a sharp focus of resistance and have even sparked debate within Israel itself. While the Zionist strategy mainly calls for building up settlements in areas surrounding West Bank cities and towns, thus encircling the main population centers and breaking up the continuity of the Palestinian population, in Hebron the government is pushing to take over sections of the central city itself. This spring the Israelis announced their intentions to establish six new settlements in the Hebron area; Housing Minister David Levy declared on national television that new settlements in Hebron were in the making, along with thousands of new housing units on the West Bank as a whole. (All this, of course, was going on during the heyday of the Reagan plan.)

After becoming Defense Minister, Moshe Arens went to Kiryat Arba, the large Jewish settlement outside Hebron, and toured Hebron itself in the company of Gush Emunim leader Rabbi Levinger. While the U.S. press has presented Arens as being sternly against settler vigilanteism, in fact his ties with — and active support for — the Gush Emunim settlers are well known in Israel. During his stay with Levinger, Arens stated that the settlement should take a more active

role in policing and maintaining order in the West Bank. Since January, there have been at least four incidents of mass vandalism of Palestinian cars in the Hebron area — in each case hundreds of windshields were smashed and tires slashed. In the recent period, a 4-year-old Hebron girl was shot, a bomb exploded outside the al-Qain Mosque, two Palestinian buses burned, and electric pylons for the city destroyed.

Then, on July 7, a Yeshiva (Jewish seminary) student was stabbed to death in Hebron — allegedly by Arab assailants, although the circumstances of the killing are suspicious. In retaliation, the settlers, mostly from the Kiryat Arba settlement, descended upon the town's central district. In the ensuing rampage, they set fire to the city's main Arab marketplace, destroying 90% of the stalls and stores. They did so with a nod from the Israeli military forces (who, according to military sources cited in the *Christian Science Monitor*, made a "conscious decision" to allow them to burn down Palestinian property in order to "avoid a possible violent confrontation" between themselves and the settlers).

As regards Hebron's Palestinian population, of course, the army found quite an active role for itself, putting the town under 24-hour curfew, conducting house-to-house searches and the like. (The curfew was lifted for a few hours on July 9, but was then reimposed after it was learned that Israelis opposed to the Hebron settlements, from the Committee In Solidarity With Bir Zeit University, were about to hold a demonstration in the area. The curfew was lifted again for 12 hours on July 11 until clashes almost broke out when settlers started to prevent Moslem worshipers from going into Hebron's Ibrahimi Mosque. The curfew was subsequently reimposed.)

The stabbing of the Yeshiva student, Aharon Gross, has itself become a focus of controversy. Gross was stabbed while waiting in a Hebron marketplace for a bus to pick him up. Three settlers stopped a van near the scene, left Gross bleeding to death in the street and took off after his assailants. Soldiers claim that Miriam Levinger, wife of a Gush Emunim leader and a trained nurse, turned away from Gross when "she was told he was an Arab." Gross's Yeshiva friends say that a soldier refused to help Gross because he too thought he was an Arab. By the time Gross was taken to the hospital (by a Palestinian), he was too far gone to be saved. Regardless of who actually killed Gross, it is clear enough that to the Gush Emunim and indeed the Israeli government, he was of far greater use to them dead than alive.

Within hours of the stabbing the military authorities dismissed Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe and the entire municipal council, a move approved by the Israeli cabinet two days later. At the same time, the Israeli cabinet seized the opportunity to announce that it was going ahead with its full plans to settle Hebron's central district. This task was no doubt facilitated by the fact that the Arab marketplace, which the settlers all but destroyed July 7, lies in precisely the

area of town earmarked by the settlers for their expansion plans.

The above, then, suggests a far different picture than that found in the U.S. press. In its coverage of the events in Hebron in early July, the U.S. media generally bent over backwards in its selective portrayal of events, so as to give the greatest credence to the Israeli position. The remarks of Moshe Arens that "the initiation of the cycle of violence generally or always comes from the Arab part of the population" and "the people who have been murdered in the area have all been Jews" — were dutifully carried by much of the "objective" Western press. And as regards the events themselves, the Jewish settlers were held to have shown "great restraint" in their burning down of the Arab marketplace — after all, in response to murder, they only destroy property. Etc., etc.

In fact, as the killings of July 26 resoundingly reaffirm, the Zionist State and its West Bank "pioneers" can only thrive on the continued expropriation and murder of the Palestinians. But for all Israel's grandiose "settlement" plans to create more "facts on the ground," they still face the greatest fact on the ground of all — the 700,000 West Bank Palestinians who still stand very much in their way. □

Bob Avakian's Original Demand

Continued from page 9

more fundamentally the deepening crisis the imperialists are engulfed in and the fact that their teeth (along with the rest of their system) are rotting and remain only to be yanked out. The period ahead, as our Party has repeatedly stressed, will not only be marked by the intensifying danger of world war, with all the terrible destruction that means, arising from the nature of the imperialist system, from the crisis of the imperialists and the contention between the rival blocs headed by the two nuclear superpowers; this period will also be marked by the growing trend to revolution, rising revolutionary upsurges and perhaps unprecedented opportunities for revolution on a world scale—holding the possibility that the most decisive destruction will be that done by the oppressed masses to the imperialist system — perhaps even pulling down major pillars of it (whether presenting the gaudy but peeling cover of "democracy" worn by imperialists like those in the U.S., or the cracking "socialist" facade behind which lurk the equally imperialist rulers in the Soviet Union and its bloc).

Seen in this light, the more unbridled and undisguised viciousness of the U.S. imperialists—throughout their empire, in every part of the world, and including within their own "home base"—must be taken as a sign of their growing vulnerability and an urging to step up the work and struggle to prepare actively for and advance toward proletarian revolution in the U.S. itself and the final goal of communism worldwide. It is with this orientation and consistent with this goal that the decision has been made to demand political refugee status in France at this time.

Thus, while on the one hand the taking of this particular step is dictated and conditioned by immediate necessity (including the fact that there are at present no states in the world where the dictatorship of the proletariat is in power and a revolutionary line representing the interests of the international proletariat is in command), on the other hand there is the question here too of transforming necessity into freedom through struggle. And this forced exile itself can and must be a focus of and vehicle for exposure of

the imperialists, in particular of the bourgeois dictatorship and murderous rule that is the reality behind the hypocritical bombast about "democracy and freedom, the American way." At the same time, the battle to free the Mao Tsetung Defendants and overturn that "legal" railroad must be vigorously waged, because that is a major attack that must be fought as an important part of building the revolutionary movement, because these comrades are needed out on the streets and their ability to carry out revolutionary work must not be limited by the confines of prison, and because that battle will be one important factor influencing the conditions under which, the specific ways in which—and perhaps even the extent to which—I myself and our Party as a whole are able to make our contribution and fulfill our responsibility, especially in the crucial period ahead.

And in an all-around way, the increasing necessity and opportunities to intensify revolutionary activity in the U.S. must be met and seized. Most of all that means carrying forward from the victories won in spreading the use and influence of the Party's main weapon now, the *Revolutionary Worker* newspaper, and in drawing thousands of fresh forces from among the masses into the task of wielding that weapon. This will continue to be decisive, both in more immediate political battles—such as the call for a revolutionary, international May First, building on the advances represented by and achieved since the historic demonstrations of last year, and the various aspects of the struggle to strengthen the Party, beat back attacks on it, and defend revolutionary leadership—and overall in building the revolutionary movement and preparing for the time when, with the class-conscious proletariat at the head and the leadership of the Party, political power will be seized and exercised by the masses and U.S. imperialism, that bulwark of reaction throughout the world, will be brought down and in its place will arise a socialist bastion and base area for the revolutionary struggle of the international proletariat, actively supporting and promoting the advance toward communism throughout the world. □

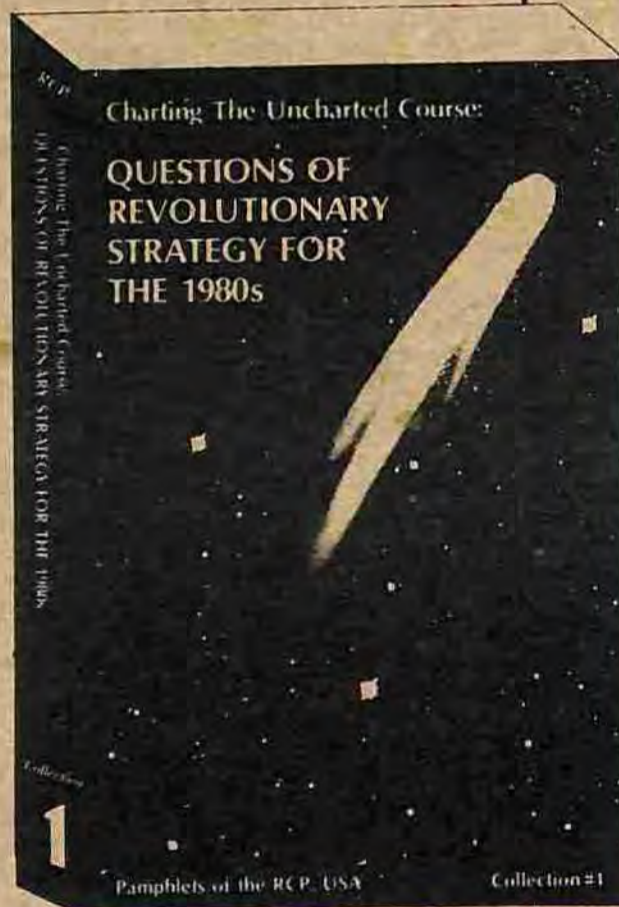
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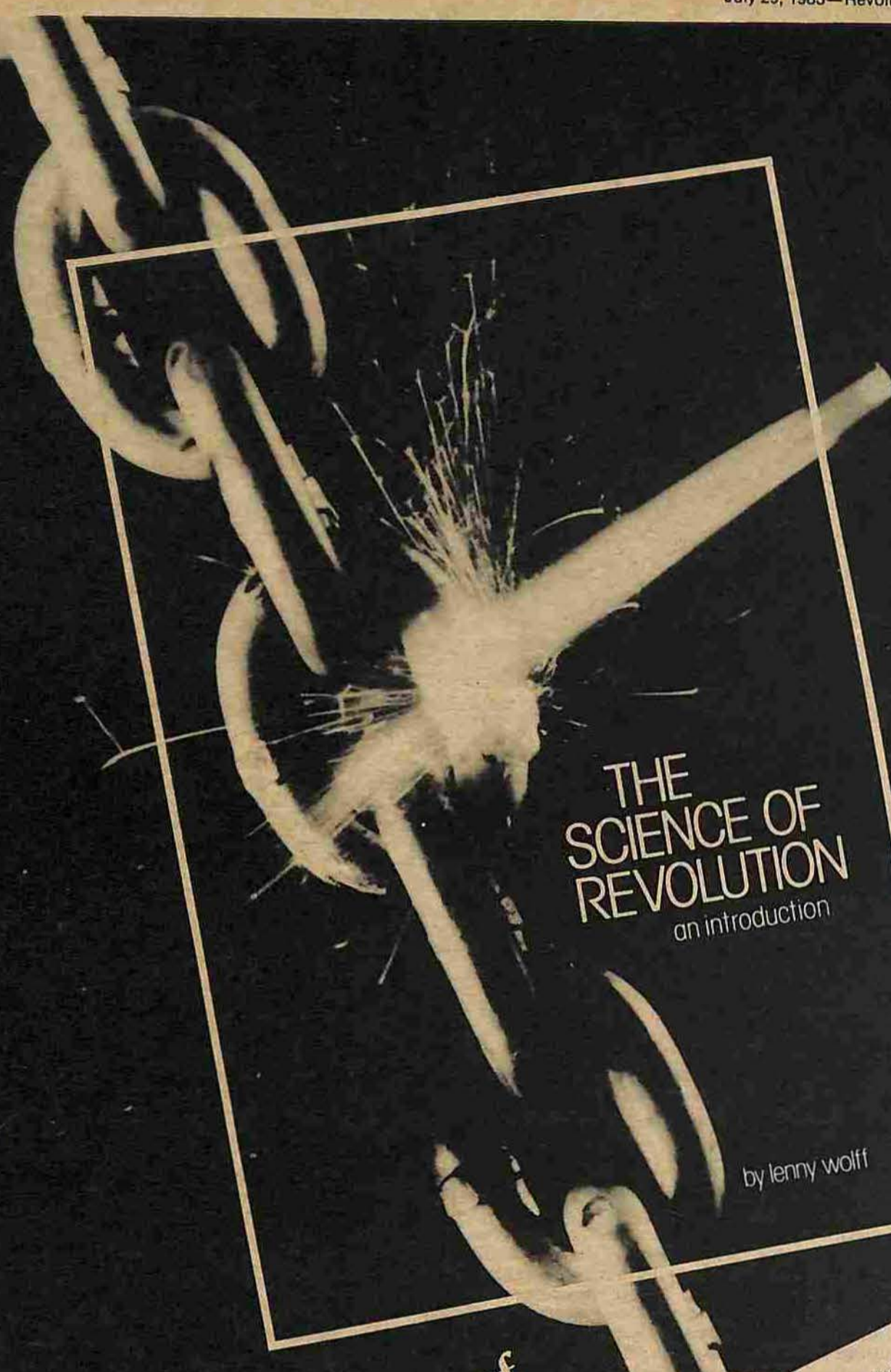


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Star Power, Fire Power, & World Power

Continued from page 3

check on how their orders are being carried out. And the contents of a no longer secret "working paper" prepared by an interagency task force for the National Security Council also showed up in the press — under a heading claiming that the U.S. is considering a 40% increase in military "aid" to its puppets throughout Central America. But this is all just a "shield" — purely a defensive "response." The Western Hemisphere is, after all, U.S. private property — how else can it hold on to its loot?

Blue Ribbon Blue Bloods

Such military muscle found its perfect accompaniment in the appointment of a national "bi-partisan" commission on Central America. The commission membership contained a few noteworthy fellows: Lane Kirkland, president of the AFL-CIA whose American Institute for Free Labor Development has long been a leading U.S. counterinsurgency force in Latin America, having developed, among other things, the *death to the tiller* land reform program in El Salvador; Richard Scammon, a political scientist and one of the architects of the death-squad democracy election held last March in El Salvador, where hundreds of thousands of Salvadorans had the opportunity (and necessity) to vote for the U.S. fascist puppet of their choice; Robert Strauss, former chairman of the Democratic Party, former chairman of Carter's re-election campaign and former FBI special agent; John Silber, president of Boston University, who emphatically declared that his school would provide no funds whatsoever, private or governmental, to any male student who does not register with the Selective Service; and several other less notorious but equally deserving representatives of U.S. imperialism.

But as to who is the star of the blue ribbon show, there is no doubt; Henry Kissinger wins hands down. His qualifications for the job are impeccable, with two of his many assignments particularly standing out. During the Vietnam war, he ran diplomatic interference for the entire gamut of U.S. war crimes, taking an active role in setting up the bombing of North Vietnam, the invasion of Cambodia and the secret war in Laos. With the sound of carpet bombing and search-and-destroy missions providing the background music, Kissinger actively threatened the Vietnamese that unless they capitulated to the U.S., an even worse fate would befall them. Thus, he has plenty of experience at the precise skills required for current U.S. diplomacy in Central America. And to back up the point, Kissinger is known throughout Latin America for his active role in the "destabilization" of the Allende government and the subsequent coup that installed Pinochet and resulted in the slaughter of 30,000 Chileans. The irony of Kissinger's official comeback at a time when his former protégé is reeling has yet to be commented on in the bourgeois press. But there has been an effort to make sure that a 1970 statement from Kissinger is widely reprinted: "I don't see why we need to stand by and watch a country go communist due to the irresponsibility of its own people." And lest there breathe a soul too dull-witted to make the proper analogy, a more up-to-date quote from a recent interview in *Public Opinion* magazine also seemed to turn up everywhere. Kissinger was asked about the outcry over the U.S.-directed *contra* activity in Nicaragua. His reply: "It escapes me why we have to apply the Brezhnev doctrine in Central America and assert that any communist government that has established itself can never be changed." In other words, this is *Monroe Doctrine* turf — and if the U.S. doesn't like you, you better get the hell out.

The stated goal of Kissinger's blue ribbon commission is to arrive at a "national consensus" policy around Central America that the U.S. ruling class as a whole can unite around. The high stakes in the region — and especially the disastrous consequences of failure — are

making this a difficult proposition. It seems to be reminding one of America's foremost Dr. Strangeloves of a previous experience. "I think it is imperative that we avoid the bitter debate that characterized the Vietnam period and also that we avoid the same kind of uncertainty about objectives and what was attainable," Kissinger declared at his first press conference. "I think the commission will try to make its contribution to avoiding another Vietnam type of crisis." Given the far more serious crises facing the U.S. now, such infighting is even more of a problem. But here is where an even more important qualification of Kissinger's will serve him well in his new assignment. Kissinger is probably the U.S.' number one geopolitician, and he has a very necessary ability to see all the U.S.' problems in terms of its growing contention with the Soviet Union. Since the preparation for the coming explosion to resolve this contention is what is principally driving the U.S. juggernaut in Central America (and elsewhere), and must of necessity form the basis for any U.S. moves in the region, Kissinger's thorough grounding in this vision will provide the best hope for arriving at agreement within the ruling class. At least that is the principal thinking behind his appointment to head the commission.

Maximum Impact

From the military moves to the Kissinger appointment to the orchestrated press coverage of both, the whole operation around Central America was designed to garner the maximum impact. *Newsweek* quoted a "chuckling" anonymous strategist for the White House saying, "We finally got everybody's attention, didn't we?" In this case, "everybody" included Nicaragua, the immediate focus of all this intimidation, the other opposition forces throughout the region, especially in El Salvador, and the Soviets and Cubans who have considerable influence over both.

Despite the fact that the U.S. has been applying increasing pressure in the region — in the form of *contra* assaults, dire threats, and other maneuvers against Nicaragua, and a stepped-up offensive against the strongest areas of the guerrillas in El Salvador — pro-Soviet revisionist influence in Central America has not suffered a reversal. The isolated *ex-somocista* *contras* have failed to hurt the Sandinistas — in fact, their attacks have more served to rally support for the regime. The U.S. has been unable to crack the historic compromise alliance (of more pro-Western bourgeois forces, somewhat more nationalist forces and pro-Soviet revisionist forces) in El Salvador nor the similar coalitions at somewhat lower stages of development that exist elsewhere in the region. Continuing political and economic turmoil, and what the above-mentioned National Security Council "working paper" describes as the "inherent weaknesses" of the U.S. dependencies in Central America, are providing further upheaval and more opportunities for Soviet maneuvering in the region — and the U.S., desperately needing the ability to contend with the Soviets in other key areas of the globe, fears the effect of a continuing Soviet challenge so close to home. Of course, the Soviets recognize that this is the area where the Monroe Doctrine holds more sway than the Brezhnev Doctrine, and so they have a lot more flexibility in finding ways to influence-monger — a fact which is pushing the U.S. even harder to get at the revisionists in the region. In the *Public Opinion* magazine interview, Kissinger called for the U.S. to throw its superior weight around in Central America, stating, "If we cannot manage Central America, it will be impossible to convince threatened nations in the Persian Gulf and in other places that we know how to manage the global equilibrium." In other words, the balance will be weighted toward the Soviets, instead of the U.S.; it all depends on who shows they can "manage the global equilibrium" as it

teeters toward world war. As previous U.S. efforts in Central America have not had the needed effect, new efforts are being attempted — as the U.S. tries to force a Soviet setback and the acceptance of absolute U.S. control over the entire region.

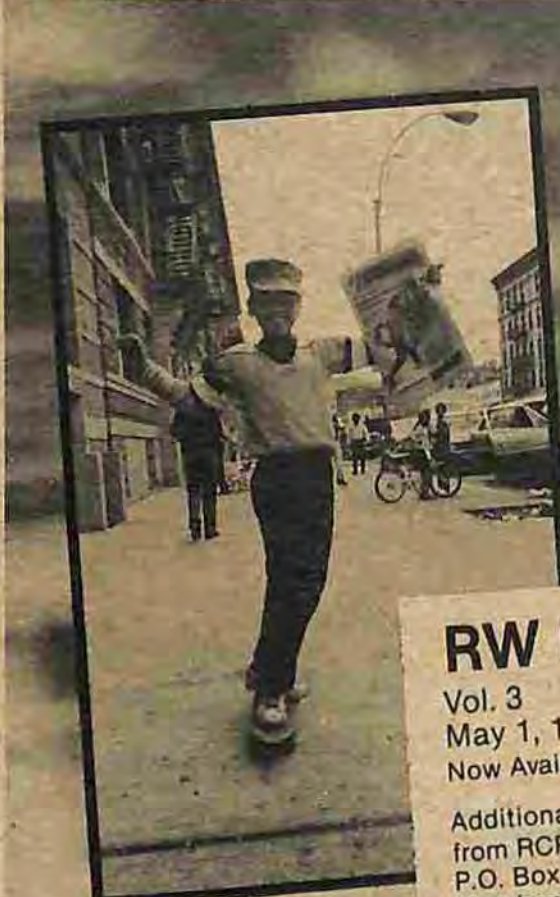
But how to do this is still a matter of frenzied debate within the U.S. bourgeoisie. After all, the consequences of failure are so great. The critics can wail long and loud over every nuance of Central American policy, but they do tend to fall into some general categories. For example, there are the "Marshall Plan" advocates — those who like to cry crocodile tears about the poverty in the region and propose a massive influx of U.S. investment to build up the infrastructure (and prop up sections of the population), increasing even further Central America's economic dependence on U.S. imperialism and using this to politically diminish and isolate the Soviet influence. For a while such talk was gaining a lot of followers, but the realities of the crisis-ridden U.S. bloc must be faced. Of course, the U.S. still has some reserves and some more "aid" to be found for its Central American camp followers. But the massive "Marshall Plan" proposal is something else. In fact, some in the ruling class are beginning to remind everyone that the original Marshall Plan required the winning of a *world war* in order to be put into effect!

Another bone of contention is the well-publicized "covert" action against Nicaragua. As we go to press, the House of Representatives is the scene of a truly meaningful debate around this subject. Liberal opponents are calling for the replacement of "covert" with overt action — to the tune of \$80 million — in "aid" to the U.S.' puppet governments in the region, so that they can apply the squeeze to Nicaragua more directly, all under the continued guise of "stopping the arms flow." Several former secretaries of state and McGeorge Bundy, former National Security assistant to presidents Kennedy and Johnson, have signed a letter favoring the more overt action. Appearing on ABC's *Nightline*, Bundy, who used to plan CIA covert action and much more against Cuba and Vietnam, argued against this type of operation since it has "historically been extremely unsuccessful." He ought to know. Bundy was quite worried that the continued operation of the *contras* would strengthen the very side that the U.S. needs to defeat — calling it "a license to fail." However, the liberal National Security type thought that the massive land, sea and air operations surrounding Nicaragua were another matter; this was all right in his book.

However, there are others who are vociferously objecting to these as well. The main fear of the liberal critics is that all the U.S. military activity in the region

will somehow leap beyond intimidation and become a real shooting war in Central America. This is a worry shared by the U.S. ruling class as a whole. Needless to say, concern here is not exactly based on pacifist sentiments, but rather on the very real fear of failure — a failure that could be devastating in its consequences to the U.S.' overall global necessities. When Reagan was recently asked whether he could rule out the sending of U.S. combat troops in an invasion of Central America, he answered with a reference to the *USS Maine*, the sinking of which was the pretext used to launch the 1898 imperialist war to take over Spain's colonies like Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippines. The implication was that if something similar happened in Central America now, the U.S. would have to respond in kind. This answer, and the subsequent announcement of flotilla deployments and the like, gave rise to a lengthy editorial in the *New York Times* entitled: "Forget The Maine." The problem, according to the *Times*, is that those days are long gone and there is a more recent experience that was not quite so positive — Vietnam. The prospect of anything even remotely resembling a quagmire in Central America — in the face of the global imperatives that are driving the U.S. — is a hair-raising one to these gentlemen. So, while the *Times* is all for stopping the "arms flow" (through "joint action of hemisphere nations"), keeping Soviet bases out of the U.S.' hemisphere, diminishing Soviet influence and even finding the ways to get Cuba away from the Soviets and looking more in the U.S.' direction, the newspaper warns against rash moves that could spell disaster for the U.S.' ambitions. "The president who remembers the Maine in the Caribbean forgets the Maddox and Turner Joy in Tonkin Gulf. He is inviting, perhaps provoking, incidents, practicing neither vigilance nor diplomacy but adventurism. He is drifting into war and turning minor problems into colossal defeats." Stansfield Turner, former CIA director, has a similar viewpoint; but the unity between hardies and softies on the really essential issues compelled Turner to remark that while he doesn't like the policy on the *contras*, nor on the flotilla, still, regarding Reagan, "You have to admire his boldness."

It is the spectre of "colossal defeats" — and not merely in Central America — that is propelling all the sides in this inner-bourgeois debate. And what is at issue is quite clearly what will best serve the U.S.' global capacity to wage war. In the meantime, the liberals and their caterwauling of a "better way" to stick it to those who fail to kneel before the U.S. are providing the perfect counterpoint to — and cover for — the most naked and arrogant imperialist aggression. As recent history in Central America has shown, both of these sides are equally capable of that. □



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Welcome to the organization

Submitted to the RW by a San Francisco artist.

Come September when 110 high schools in New York City will sound off the morning school bell, when thousands of youth are supposed to be at attention, pledging the flag and beginning another year in some grinding cellblock called high school, a whole lot of youth will not be there. Every year 45% of some 250,000 youth in New York City's high schools drop out. The majority of the city's school youth — 73% — are from the oppressed nationalities with quite a number of foreign-born youth. Almost half of these youth not only do not graduate, most quit in their first year of high school. One Puerto Rican community organization in the city estimates that the dropout rate is actually higher, at 68%. For those youth who are in school the situation for the bourgeoisie is equally problematic. More than one third of the youth are considered chronically absent, missing 15 or more days out of a 90-day semester.

With a phenomenal dropout rate, high absenteeism, and a situation where the Board of Ed, and other bourgeois think-tanks are summing up that "the values underlying our society are no longer held by young people," the imperialists are devising plans to deal with the problem. The 1983 report of the Twentieth Century Task Force on Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Policy complains that "...too many young people are leaving the schools without acquiring essential learning skills and without self-discipline or purpose.... The public schools, which constitute the nation's most important institution for the shaping of future citizens, must go further.... They should foster understanding, discipline, and discernment, those qualities of mind and temperament that are the hallmark of a civilized polity and that are essential for the maintenance of domestic tranquility in a poly-ethnic constitutional democracy." The New York City Board of Education in a bulletin from the Division of Curriculum and Instruction announced last winter that beginning the school year 1982-1983 "citizenship education is one of our most important educational priorities...for every teacher in every subject...." The bulletin provocatively poses the question, "Given the evidence of violence, social apathy and often blatant disregard for many of the most valued basics in our social code, can the school fulfill the essential function of educating students to be thinking, aware and constructive citizens?" The former chancellor of the schools, Frank Macchiarola, responded "YES" and proclaimed further, "For too long educators and students have treated citizenship as if it were a dirty word. We are going to reverse this trend."

As part of this effort to train a generation of patriotic subjects a 300-page book

called "Citizenship Education in New York City" is being promoted by the Board of Ed. Because of the particular teaching methods the book calls for — like psychological mind-whipping and behavior modification techniques such as role playing for the youth — teachers must themselves go through a special training session to use this particular manual. Advice to teachers includes the following: "If students suggest, or want to demonstrate, qualities they admire which may not support socially positive behavior — such as being defiant of authority, tough, or aggressive — it is probably best to take the approach of joining the small group and asking why the students admire that behavior.... Possibly a role play using a respected authority figure such as a basketball team captain and a defiant student would be helpful."

The first chapter of the book focuses on "Building Self-Awareness" because in true bourgeois ideological outlook "before students can empathize with or consider others, they must begin the process of understanding and accepting themselves." Who the "others" are that the youth are supposed to be empathetic towards filters through rather quickly as the lessons go on. For instance, youth are asked to consider that when a monument to John F. Kennedy is covered with graffiti "imagine a situation in which the teenage son of the late president is passing by and sees another young man his age writing all over the monument." (Fans of the "Dead Kennedys" will appreciate this lesson.) There are numerous lessons calling for students to role play, hold discussions and write papers which are designed to show that vandalism, graffiti, apathy or disrespect for authority hurt the youth and their community. But not far below this attempted manipulation, the real concerns of the ruling class emerge — and that is how a dangerous section of youth view and act towards *them*, their pigs, their property and their whole political system. As the lesson plans go on this increasingly is the point.

One lesson plan calls for youth to answer "how does a good citizen act?" The youth are then to consider a given set of values and to rate their agreement or disagreement with them. Dispersed among values like being nice to one's neighbor are things like "a good citizen always obeys the law, even if he/she believes the law is unjust. A good citizen will defend the actions of his/her country, whether he/she approves of these actions or opposes them. A good citizen is willing to serve in the armed forces during wartime even if he/she does not believe in the reasons for that war."

Another class plan asks the youth to role play the pigs in "Try on a Police Officer's Badge." What would the student do if "you approach a speaker who is campaigning at a busy intersection during an election. He makes derogatory remarks about the president, the mayor and the American Legion. The minute he sees you, he turns to the crowd and yells, 'here comes a dirty fascist pig!'"

In another hypothetical situation, someone named "Jennie" who strongly believes in the ERA has to decide whether to go to a demonstration in support of the ERA when the Parks Department won't give a permit and the police have threatened anyone who shows up. To help the youth decide the proper thing to do there are things to weigh like "Jennie's father has a bad heart. Any severe shock could kill him." But the heart of what is at stake here is revealed in other considerations given like "Many of the participants who will be at the demonstration are revolutionaries supporting the overthrow of our government" or "It would be possible to get the park permit at another time if some of the more radical members of the group were not so visible." Reactionary teachers and others will certainly be keeping notes on just how and who responds to "hypothetical" situations like this one.

The book by self-admission is aimed at "forming attitudes." One part of this is to encourage and train one section of youth to act as piglets. In a lesson called "What Rules? What Penalties?" the teaching guidelines suggest that "A class committee might also record infractions of the class rules and experiment with different penalties (approved by class majority vote) to see how each affects the keeping of the rules." There are other lessons designed to form the attitude of snitching to school authorities or the police when a student observes other youth engaging in undesirable behavior

like in a lesson called "When Do You Call The Police?"

In addition, interspersed among many lessons on proper social behavior, the armed might of the state is always there for the youth's consideration. For example, in another "hypothetical" scene where looters are going into a store during a blackout it is asked should a youth join in, considering that among other things "the police have an emergency directive to shoot looters on sight."

Indeed this brute force is not a hypothetical consideration and where psychological coercion may fail, right outside the classroom of almost every high school in the city sits a police squad car. In 1980 a division called the Truancy Task Force was set up inside the New York City Police Department itself and was assigned to three areas of the city specifically to patrol and pick up youth and herd them into the schools. The Board of Education has its own "scholastic SWAT team," as the *New York Times* calls it, of "peace officers" whose numbers are to increase by September to include a security guard in every elementary school in the city's five boroughs. A task force on school safety last year made several recommendations which included the installation of surveillance cameras and silent panic buttons in the schools, giving the police greater access to youth inside the schools, having the schools play a bigger role in determining jail sentences for convicted youth, and locking up all school exits and entrances that are not needed to meet the fire codes.

From brutal coercion to the not-so-subtle behavioral modification techniques and political mind-drilling, the youth in New York City schools will be getting quite a lesson in American citizenship. The problem is it may not be quite the one desired by the enforcers of law and order.

Revolution

CONQUER THE WORLD?

The International Proletariat Must and Will

by Bob Avakian

This special issue of Revolution contains the full text of a talk given recently by Bob Avakian, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA. Three short excerpts from it were published in the Revolutionary Worker newspaper.

- Its sections are:
- Further historical perspectives on the first advances in seizing and exercising power—proletarian dictatorship—and embarking on the socialist road.
 - More on the proletarian revolution as a world process.
 - Leninism as the bridge.
 - Some summation of the Marxist-Leninist movement arising in the 1960's and the subjective factor in light of the present and developing situation and the conjuncture shaping up.
 - Some questions related to the line and work of our Party and our special internationalist responsibilities.

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Martial Law

Continued from page 2

side Poland and has made it clear that no bailouts of substantive credits will be forthcoming. The contradiction here is an interesting commentary on the extent to which the Western and Eastern-bloc imperialist financial networks have become increasingly "locked in" to each other (Poland being a particular concentration of this phenomenon) and that, for their respective strategic reasons, both the U.S. and the Soviet-led blocs would right now rather avoid any major shocks with unpredictable consequences.

Typically, the tone of Western press commentary was that the latest measures taken by the Polish regime were simply a warmed over version of military rule. Such measures, however, demonstrate not, as a *Chicago Tribune* editorial

whined, that all this "amounts to martial law dressed up in a civilian coat and tie" (and certainly the Trib would never take such a potshot at one of the West's own dictatorships like, say, the Marcos regime in the Philippines which has really and truly lifted military rule!). Rather, they underline that the bourgeois state apparatus, be it of the Western or revisionist Eastern variety, does in fact employ different forms for exercising its dictatorship over the masses depending on political necessity/expediency, with force as the bottom line — something the Trib would prefer to obscure. And Poland's rulers have demonstrated some fluidity.

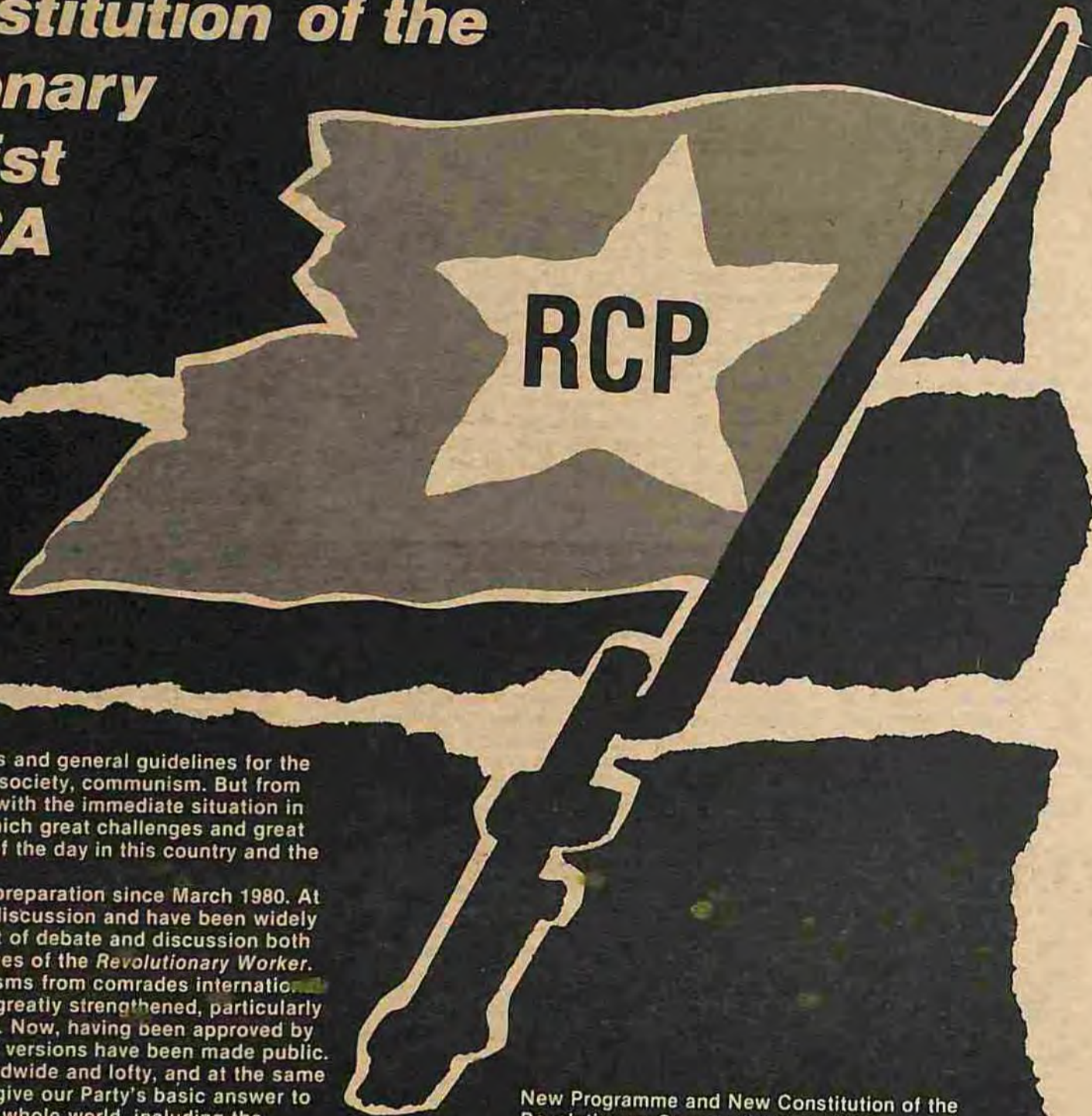
First, the army stepped in with martial law; then there was the "formal suspension" of martial law last December since which the junta has gradually abrogated its administrative functions back to a revamped party/governmental apparatus

while acting as its "guarantor." Now Jaruzelski has announced that the Military Council of National Salvation is in fact being dissolved. The fact that many of the same generals and colonels who ran things during martial law will now be running things in their capacities as civilian ministers and party administrators merely highlights that for now these particular "centrist" forces are the consensus representatives of the revisionist rulers as a whole in carrying out the state's function of suppressing the masses as well as mediating the sharp inter-bourgeois conflicts on how to proceed which had previously paralyzed the PUWP.

And despite some gratuitous Western speculation to the contrary since the Pope's visit, if there were any doubts about the desires of that *other* party to the Polish affair, the fact that Andropov

bestowed upon Jaruzelski the Order of Lenin on his 60th birthday — right after the Pope's visit — was a rather timely indication of Soviet approval, at least thus far, for the way in which the general and his clique have been maneuvering. Of course the Soviets must be as skeptical as anyone about Jaruzelski's recent claim that "the party is much stronger than it was last year" and that the military may now discreetly retire to the wings. That remains to be seen and is something the revisionists have yet to declare "codified." In any case, what has been cynically codified in the East, as well as in the West, with respect to Poland is definitely in the nature of "temporary measures" in preparation for far more decisive martial exercises to come when the rubber stamp of the Sejm, or any other bourgeois parliament, will be even more superfluous than it is now. □

New Programme and New Constitution of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA



These documents contain basic principles and general guidelines for the struggle all the way to worldwide classless society, communism. But from this perspective they are written especially with the immediate situation in mind. This is a battle plan for a period in which great challenges and great revolutionary possibilities are on the order of the day in this country and the whole world.

These documents have been weapons in preparation since March 1980. At that time they were published as drafts for discussion and have been widely circulated. They have since been the subject of debate and discussion both within the Party and more broadly in the pages of the *Revolutionary Worker*. This process included comments and criticisms from comrades internationally as well. In this way, the drafts have been greatly strengthened, particularly in their proletarian internationalist character. Now, having been approved by the Central Committee of the Party, the final versions have been made public.

These are documents whose vision is worldwide and lofty, and at the same time which pose immediate challenges and give our Party's basic answer to the urgent situation facing the people of the whole world, including the masses of this country. Not only are the problems addressed, but so too are the basic solutions offered by the road of proletarian revolution.

With the publication of these documents, our Party calls on people to take them up and invites individuals and groups broadly to engage in serious discussion with us about them. Write us, meet with us—unite with us to carry them out.

New Programme and New Constitution of the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA.
\$3.00 (include \$.50 postage)

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Published as a separate pamphlet

New Constitution

Contains a section on the General Line of the RCP, USA and 11 Articles

A Revealing Recommendation

For the past few weeks, the federal courts have been the staging area for moves by the government to both greatly intensify and broaden its campaign of attacks on the Revolutionary Communist Party and its supporters in Atlanta. And in the fine tradition forged by the Atlanta authorities over the past three years, the Feds are breaking new ground to do it.

A "recommendation" handed down on July 19 by Robert Castellani, a magistrate in the Federal District Court for North Georgia, declared that the conviction and sentence of four RCP supporters arrested at the Bowen Homes Housing Project on *Damián García Day* one week before *May Day 1981* should be upheld by the District Court. The four had been convicted for "failure to disperse" and ordered to pay a \$500 fine each or serve one year in jail — with the highly unusual provision that they be jailed until their fine is paid. Tradition has it that the magistrate's recommendation is simply rubber stamped by the District Court. This may come in a matter of weeks, leading to an order for the defendants to pay their fine, a total of \$2,000, or immediately start serving their sentence.

Now, under "normal" circumstances a conviction and fine for "failure to disperse" would not warrant much attention. But as it turns out, this case is quite significant as well as revealing of what the Atlanta authorities have been up to these past few years. Before getting into it, it is important to note that, as has been previously reported on in the *RW*, since 1980 the Atlanta authorities have made over 200 arrests, most of them concentrated around *May Day*, and many taking the form of mass arrests in projects and at the MARTA Five Points train station in downtown Atlanta. This includes the unprecedented sweeps through two housing projects on the morning of *May 1st* last year (1982) and holding of over 50 people in "preventive detention" to keep them from attending a *May First* demonstration at Fort McPherson. In the past year it was revealed that each year the Atlanta police department secretly establishes a *May Day* Task Force led at the highest levels to coordinate these arrests. It is in this context that the story of the case in question, the "Bowen 81" case, takes on much significance.

May Day 1981 came right in the midst of the most intense period of the Atlanta Black youth murders. Each week was bringing another killing. Black people, mainly concentrated in the projects that house a large percentage of the city's Black proletarians, were not only outraged at the growing number of unofficial and official attacks but were beginning to take matters into their own hands — concentrated by the Bat Patrols in Techwood Homes that became an international symbol of resistance to the oppression of Black people. In this context there was openness to the proletarian internationalist politics and to the call to "break out, break free" on *May Day* in the projects, equalled by the growing concern of the authorities.

Working closely with the police (as has since been revealed), the "Tenant's Union Presidents" (a position of authority over housing project residents bestowed by the Atlanta Housing Authority on the most willing and loyal tenant) of Bowen and Techwood Homes attempted to organize attacks on *May Day* activists and "drive them out of the communities." The one at Bowen, a Mr. Williams, had pulled a gun on activists the day before *Damián García Day* — a move that backfired as dozens of tenants threatened to remove him from the scene and one plastered his own pickup truck with *May Day* posters while Williams watched helplessly. On *Damián García Day*, though, with a massive show of police power, a small group of reactionaries under Williams' direction again

tried to start a fight. The cops immediately declared the situation to be an "emergency" and started rounding up all the activists they could get their hands on. The absurdity of their "failure to disperse" charge is vividly shown by the arrest of one activist *inside the house* of a tenant who had invited her in.

Not surprisingly, the cops and state repeatedly ran the line in court that they had made the arrests to "protect" the activists from the angry "citizens," and as such, of course, they were acting quite "fairly" and "reasonably." As the State Supreme Court explained in its decision upholding the conviction last spring, "We find the action taken by the police to be reasonable and permissible. There was a danger of violence which was raised by the appellants' conduct and activities and the residents' response to them. . . in such a situation, we find it permissible for the police to have isolated the smallest, most manageable group (i.e., the appellants) and requested them to leave in order to defuse the potential danger."

Of course none of this had anything to do with politics. In fact, the federal magistrate's "recommendation" to uphold the conviction in the federal courts gave a rather unique twist to the old "You weren't arrested for what you said but for what you did" line: "It is first important to understand the reason for the petitioners' arrest. Petitioners were not arrested for what they were saying; the content of their speech did not cause their arrest. They were arrested because they refused to obey a police officer's request to move in the face of an emergency." Oh, now that explains it — they were not arrested for what they said, but because they wouldn't shut up! The court, as have all the voices of the state in this matter, offers the ludicrous cover that the reactionary attack at Bowen Homes was not launched because of the politics involved, but because the *May Day* activists had "stepped on people's lawns." They have judiciously left out of their decisions the statement Mr. Williams could not keep from blurting from the stand in the original trial that he had led the attack because "we don't need no communism in Bowen Homes." He didn't go on to explain who "we" were, but you can guess.

In fact, what we have here is essentially a classic set up — one that has become pretty much standard operating procedure in Atlanta. Several mass arrests over the past few years had been preceded by strikingly similar "confrontations" organized by such "citizens." On *May 1st 1982* Mr. Williams led a re-run attack after meeting in the early morning with cops at a Burger King near Bowen Homes, a fact vehemently denied by the authorities despite the existence of *police transcripts* proving it. The state and federal court rulings on the Bowen 1981 case are aimed at sprinkling the holy water of "higher court decisions" on this strategy.

It is quite fitting as well that this scenario is being played out in Atlanta, whose officialdom is so top heavy with "Black leaders" from the civil rights movement, with of course Andy Young at the helm. This strategy that they have been employing against the RCP and *May Day* bears an uncanny resemblance to the one used by the sheriffs, the Klan and FBI in attacking the Civil Rights movement in the early 1960s. Back then the Klan would attack demonstrators, who would then be further beaten and arrested by the cops "for their own protection." What was devised by these forces for the '60s is now being fine-tuned and developed for the '80s by the Andy Young types of Atlanta.

Indigency Witchhunt

But even beyond all this, the developments in federal court have added a whole other dimension to this case.

Three weeks before the federal magistrate handed down his "recommendation," he held a hearing to determine whether or not the defendants qualify as indigents (unable, because of low income, to pay for a lawyer and transcripts). The reason for this hearing was that if the defendants are indigent, their sentence — which forces them to serve as much as a year in jail until they are able to pay their fine in full — is blatantly unconstitutional. (Indigents must be allowed to pay their fine over a period of time without being jailed.) Undeterred by this, the original trial judge had simply denied indigency without so much as asking the defendants if they had a job.

But in ordering this hearing, the federal magistrate set the stage for a broadside against both the party and those who have come forward in opposition to these attacks, one that both revealed the extent of the government's surveillance on the party and itself raised the stakes of their efforts.

What this was all about was graphically explained in the magistrate's subsequent "recommendation": "At an evidentiary hearing in this court, each petitioner testified about his financial condition. Two of the petitioners have attended college for four years and two have attended for two years. All petitioners are capable of working and have been employed in some capacity within the last year. The state has produced evidence that each petitioner has been able to raise substantial amounts of money for bailbonds in these and other cases related to their activities as members (sic) of the Revolutionary Communist Party. Bond fees of at least \$2,576 have been raised for these petitioners during the last two years. (One defendant) also paid a \$3,000 fine in another case in August, 1982. Several of the petitioners have been represented by retained counsels in other criminal cases brought against them. The testimony further shows petitioners have not yet made serious efforts to raise the money to pay the fines because they are still disputing the constitutionality of the convictions. Petitioners in the past have been able to raise money from their families, friends, and supporters as well as their own ability to work. Based on the present record, the magistrate does not believe petitioners are entitled to the relief they seek on this ground." The fact that the ACLU is active in the defense is also cited as further evidence against indigents.

"Fight us, will you?" the good magistrate has puffed. Not only is the broad support that has come forward to fight these outrageous attacks and the defendants' own defiance in the face of them cited by the court as grounds for denying indigency, but the fact that they have the gall to not just go ahead and pay their fine, fighting the case instead, is *itself* evidence against them. This typical gangster logic (first we bust you over and over, then we punish you for fighting it) was furthered by the downright laughable Catch 22 assertion that the defendants, two of whom are Black and all of whom have faced *repeated* arrests for their activities with the RCP, should have no trouble getting jobs with their "college education." Webster Brooks, an RCYB member, is one of the defendants in this case and has been singled out for repeated arrest and jailing by the Atlanta authorities, forcing him to spend much of his time either in court or in jail. During the indigency hearing he testified that for two years his main "employer" has been the state of Georgia. Robert "Zeke" Hill, who has also been repeatedly arrested, was fired from one job at a university restaurant when he was banned from the campus for his political activities — a fact presented by the state at the hearing as evidence he did not want to work!

The hearing itself was nothing but a

witchhunt. In the days leading up to it, state prosecutor Duane Cooper (who has been especially assigned to "RCP cases") had sent out dozens of subpoenas. Undercover cops were openly snooping around Revolution Books. Past and present employers were subpoenaed. Also subpoenaed were the landlord, lawyer, and all financial and corporate records for Revolution Books; four different bailbondsmen (all of whom had bailed out one or more of the defendants in the course of the last three years); bank records for the roommate of one of the defendants — all, of course, to "prove" the defendants themselves were not indigent. Cooper tried to force the bondsmen to reveal names of people who had paid them for bonds, which if he had succeeded would have been unprecedented. (The magistrate in the course of the hearing played the good cop, tempering some of Cooper's grossest "excesses" while allowing most of what he was seeking to be entered into the record.) All of these moves were quite unprecedented in indigency hearings. One bondsman told the *RW* that in 20 years as a bail bondsman this is only the second time he has had to testify in court.

Along with this, Cooper did a good deal of open bragging in the hearing about how much we are "watching you." He grilled one defendant, a former Mao Tsetung defendant, about how he had paid for his "numerous trips" to Washington, D.C. Several times he even listed personal items people had in their homes such as stereos and airconditioners, specifically identifying them and asking how they were paid for. At one point he began waving around a fundraising letter that had only been distributed through the mail during the RCP's recent fund drive.

The message, forcefully aimed at the broad forces who have taken a stand against the various attacks on the party, including offering financial support, was that this is indeed hot property — get too close and you will get burned, even if all you do is contribute toward bail or legal expenses. Beyond that and itself quite significant is the particular bent on the party itself taken in this round of proceedings. Much of Cooper's effort went into proving that the RCP as an organization is to be held accountable for all of this supposed "lawbreaking." This is itself quite a shift from just about every past court hearing in this and dozens of other cases, where the politics and even the existence of the party has been ruled irrelevant and out of order. These were all simply a matter, as Cooper is fond of repeating, of "petty criminals causing trouble." But in this hearing the party and its overall work was quite *relevant*. Under the absurd guise of "economic ties," even Revolution Books suddenly became a specific target. Cooper himself brought out the dozens of arrests and trials these four defendants have gone through, giving special and repeated emphasis to the fact that 7 people have also been sentenced to one year in prison for participating in a mass American flag-burning in Techwood Homes on *May Day 1981*. (One of the defendants in this case is also one of those convicted in that flagburning.)

Clearly there is some "legal" groundwork being laid here. Really, this is certainly a lot of effort to put into getting people into jail for something as "minor" as "failure to disperse." But as Cooper made quite clear, there is much more than the prosecution of a few misdemeanors going on here — and this recent round has further revealed just how much is at stake. As federal magistrate Castellani so aptly put it in the hearing, "There is a certain time when legal niceties have to give way to substance." □

RW,

On July 22, I was released on early parole after serving 3 1/2 months of a one-year sentence for "misuse of the national flag" (the conviction resulting from the burning of an American flag at a 1979 demonstration in Atlanta supporting the Iranian revolution in which I took part, only days after the takeover of the U.S. embassy in Iran). When someone is released from the Georgia prison system, they are given a \$25 "inmate release" check. What better than to donate this \$25 to the prisoners' revolutionary literature fund!

In spite of, and because of prison's confined and stifling atmosphere, I found many determined, unbroken spirits and awake, questioning minds. But there's a lot of difference between rebelliousness and class consciousness. Behind the prison bars, as in the larger prison of America — we revolutionary internationalists have got some work to do.

In prison I had the opportunity to know people from all over the state. Many, particularly women in their teens, did not know what the word "revolution" meant. But this didn't mean that they did not have their own, sometimes very astute and often contradictory opinions on almost everything — the possibility of world war, the role of electoral politics, Jesse Jackson for president, the Miami rebellion. ... When one such woman, an 18-year-old Black woman from a tiny Georgia town, borrowed "Break the Chains! Unleash the Fury of Women as a Mighty Force for Revolution!" she stayed up late into the night to finish reading it. Then she was so excited she woke up her roommate to read it aloud to her. The next day she asked me for everything I had to read "about the situation of women."

One Black man, prison self-educated along Black nationalist lines, borrowed my pamphlet "Black Nationalist with Communist Inclinations" and didn't want to return it. "I really like that pamphlet because there's a lot in it I disagree with," he told me, "I need my own copy so I can really study it."

After reading his first RW, a white 19-year-old from small town south jumped all over me because the paper was not available throughout the state. "Boy, is that paper to the point," he said, "and if you think there aren't Georgia country kids all around who would dig the shit out of something like this — you're wrong!" But we differed on the question of patriotism. "I still feel like I've got a stake in this country," he explained, "But when I think about it, I feel like I'm sitting on top of a mountain that's crumbling. In one direction I see fire, the other is ice. So which way do I jump?" I loaned him, from "Reflections and Sketches," "On Phil Ochs, or Why You Can't Have Kennedy And Revolution Too." The next day he told me "we've got to talk about this — I really agree with Phil Ochs!"

One project-raised white woman regularly shared my RW. Late one night, after a particularly long discussion on the RW coverage and analysis of the social forces in the anti-nuke movement, she told me "I don't mean this the way it may sound, but... I wish there could be a revolutionary in every jail!"

Unfortunately for the bourgeoisie, there will not be a revolutionary in every jail. But there can be and should be a *Revolutionary Worker* and other revolutionary literature. Behind the bars of Georgia's prisons there is a searching for answers and hope for the future. Even in one of the most backward regions of the U.S.A., there is fertile soil for revolutionary proletarian internationalism to build. I'm donating this money with the hope that others will do the same, so that seeds can be planted and sprouts tended. Let's shine the light of revolution even more brilliantly behind the prison walls!

Diane Monroe
Atlanta Flag Burner

Revolutionary Internationalist Greetings,

I am writing to request the below listed book and pamphlets through the Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund due to our present inability to provide funds, as is the case for most captives, but you may rest assured that all literature sent will be diligently circulated, as is the *Revolutionary Worker* at present. Before circulation though, they will contribute significantly to the educational efforts of our embryonic collective here. However, if you are unable to provide the requested literature at no cost, please, by all means, keep the *Revolutionary Worker* coming. My comrades and I earnestly send our gratitude for the *Revolutionary Worker's* invaluable information, and will also send our thanks for your anticipated consideration concerning the below listed publications. We will win.

1. Box Collections of RCP Pamphlets Nos. 1 and 2.
2. *The Science of Revolution* by Lenny Wolff
3. *The New Programme and the New Constitution of the RCP, USA.*

I am a prisoner at Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. I understand you give free copies of the RW to prisoners. I cannot afford to subscribe because I am indigent. If assuming you give free subscriptions to prisoners please send me a subscription and put me on your mailing list?

Lucasville

Shine the Light of Revolution Behind the Prison Walls Contribute to the Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund

The Revolutionary Communist Party receives many letters and requests for literature from prisoners in the hell-hole torture chambers from Attica to San Quentin. There are thousands more brothers and sisters behind bars who have refused to be beaten down and corrupted in the dungeons of the capitalist class and who thirst for and need the *Revolutionary Worker* and other revolutionary literature. To help make possible getting the Voice of the Revolutionary Communist Party as well as other Party literature and books on Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought behind the prison walls, the *Revolutionary Worker* is establishing a special fund. Contributions should be sent to:

Prisoners Revolutionary Literature Fund
Box 3486, Merchandise Mart Chicago, IL 60654

Dear RW

I am a prisoner who is presently incarcerated under the rule of the Michigan Department of Corrections because of the oppressive system and its constant miscarriage of laws and entrapment.

I have been a constant reader of your fine paper the *Revolutionary Worker* until recently. A fellow comrade who was locked (caged) beside me in the segregation/punitive isolation unit here has gone to the inmate population, and now, I'm unable to stay abreast with the world crisis and political happenings. I request and/or seek your support/solidarity and/or charity in affording me a subscription without required payment, as I am presently financially insolvent.

My interests and wants are political and revolutionary enlightenment towards succeeding and dispersing this capitalist and imperialist beast here and abroad. A coup d'etat won't do; it must die.

Ionia

Greetings Comrades,

I'm writing this letter to you with hopes of finding out if there is any way that I can receive a copy of one of your back issues of RW 121. I would like that copy, if you can send it to me, please do.

Can't Stop, Won't Stop, Victory will be ours.

Tamal

RW,

I am a state prisoner in Hinds County Detention Center and through a fellow prisoner by the name of xxxxx I became aware of your paper. I would like a copy of your paper as well as a subscription if possible. However I am indigent. I would appreciate very much if you could arrange a subscription for me.

Jackson, Mississippi