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Bensonhurst Murder Trial

ONLY THE PEOPLE CAN BRING JUSTICE FOR YUSUF



racist Bensonhurst murderers.

s we go to press, New York
City is tense. Juries are
deliberating in the trials of Joey Fama and Keith
Mondello, two of the white racists who murdered
Yusuf Hawkins in Bensonhurst. As soon as the juries
went out to deliberate, the powers got into a panic
that the Black people of New York would rebel if the
murderers from Bensonhurst got off. But if the
people rise up and rebel, it will be righteous. Because the whole way these trials have gone down
shows why nothing short of revolution can end the
oppression of Black people in Amerikkka.

See page 3

in Peru!
Down With U.S.
Intervention in Peru!

MAY 17, 1990 -

TEN YEARS OF

Support the People's War

PEOPLE'S WAR IN PERU

FROM KROME TO L.A.

People Demand:
"Shut Down INS
Concentration Camps!"



5 BOB AVAKIAN
On What Is Going
Down Now

ANC/South African Government Negotiations

Talking in the Language of the Oppressor



DeKlerk and Mandela

Setting fire to a tire barricade in a South African township.

During the first week of May the apartheid South African government and the African National Congress (ANC) held several days of talks. This is the first time that the white rulers have ever held official discussions with the ANC. Earlier this year the South African government had to let ANC leader Nelson Mandela go after holding him in prison for 27 years. These moves are signs that the hated apartheid system is on the run and that the oppressors are having to scramble like crazy to try to save their system.

But the ANC/government negotiations also raise serious questions for the Azanian people (the oppressed black people in South Africa) and those around the world who want to see apartheid smashed. Are these talks going to contribute in any way to the genuine liberation of the Azanian people? Or are they a deadly trap, aimed at most at making some cosmetic changes in the situation while saving the basic system of oppression in South Africa? The talks early this month were supposedly preliminary discussions to lay the basis

for more negotiations in the future. But already the whole thing smells very rotten to oppressed and revolutionary

Going into the talks, the government representatives made it very clear that they were not going to back away from some key conditions. These conditions include "guarantees" for the political and economic "rights" of the South African whites under any future setup and the demand that the ANC completely give up armed struggle in words and

Continued on page 14



Supreme Court to Hear Flag Case May 14

Last year the people won a major victory when the Supreme Court was forced to rule in favor of Joey Johnson and declare the Texas anti-flagburning law unconstitutional. This badly stung the U.S. ruling class, who responded with a major campaign to enforce patriotism and flag-worship. President Bush started campaigning for a con-stitutional flag amendment restricting freedom of speech, and the U.S. Congress passed a law criminalizing destruction of the American flag. Within days people across the country protested this Fascist Flag Law by publicly burning flags. Four flagburners were arrested in Seattle, Washington, and four were arrested on the steps of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Joey Johnson was one of those arrested at the Capitol, but the government refused to indict him for this flagburn-

On May 14 the combined case of the seven flagburning defendants will come before the Supreme Court. As we go to press, the Emergency Committee To Stop the Flag Amendment and Laws has called on people to demonstrate on May 14 outside the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. See next week's RW for coverage.

Three Points

by Bob Avaklan Chairman of the RCP, USA

What do we in the Revolutionary Communist Party want people to learn from all that is exposed and revealed in this newspaper? Mainly, three things:

1) The whole system we now live under is based on exploitation — here and all over the world. It is completely worthless and no basic change for the better can come about until this system is overthrown.

2) Many different groups will protest and rebel against things this system does, and these protests and rebellions should be supported and strengthened. Yet it is only those with nothing to lose but their chains who can be the backbone of a struggle to actually overthrow this system and create a new system that will put an end to exploitation and help pave the way to a whole new world.

3) Such a revolutionary struggle is possible. There is a political Party that can lead such a struggle, a political Party that speaks and acts for those with nothing to lose but their chains: The Revolutionary Communist Party, USA.

This Party has the vision, the program, the leadership, and the organizational principles to unite those who must be united and enable them to do what must be done. There is a challenge for all those who would like to see such a revolution, those with a burning desire to see a drastic change for the better, all those who dare to dream and to act to bring about a completely new and better world: Support this Party, join this Party, spread its message and its organized strength, and prepare the ground for a revolutionary rising that has a solid basis and a real chance of winning.

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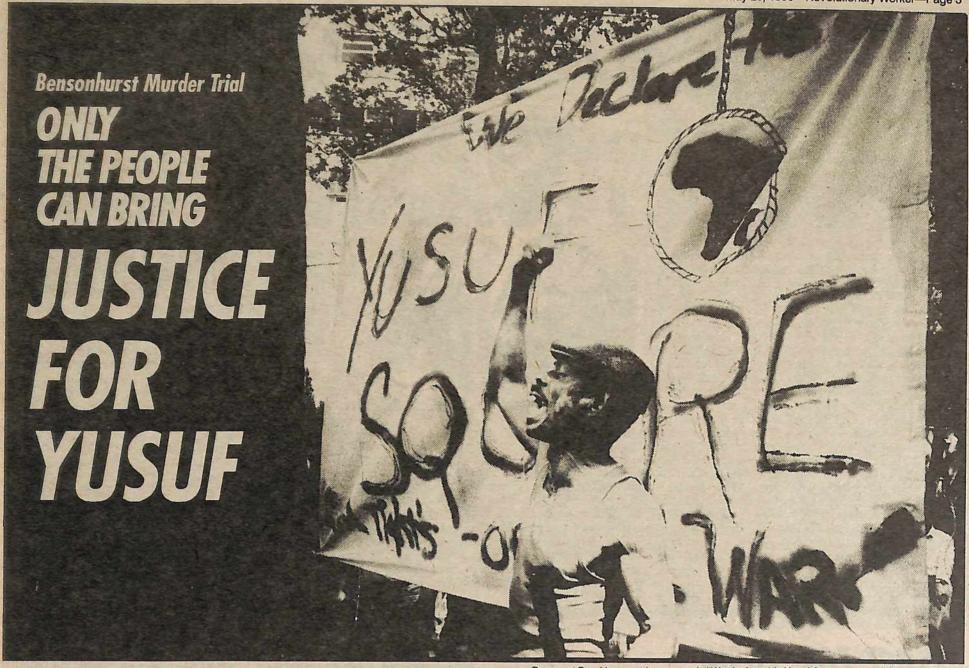
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Banner at Brooklyn courthouse reads "We declare this Yusuf Square—civil rights or civil war."

On a day in August 1989-a day when Yusuf Hawkins and his friends went looking for a used car in Bensonhurst, New York—a white lynch mob murdered Yusuf Hawkins in cold blood. It was a reality that had reared its head in Howard Beach. At the end of the 20th century in Amerikkka this system turns young white men into racist killers. And at the funeral for Yusuf Hawkins, and in the days that followed, the anger of the Black people and people of all nationalities who hate this racist setup spilled into the streets of New York. The motormouth mayor of New York, Ed Koch, fell-widely hated by the basic people for his defense of the "Howard Beach, Bernhard Goetz, Bensonhurst mentality." And a new crew stepped in, headed

up by David Dinkins, with phony words about healing the city.

So it was clear to everyone from the outset of these Bensonhurst trials that if there was no justice for Yusuf Hawkins there would be great outrage in New York City. The people were watching to see what the system would do when a Black youth was cut down by a murdering mob-all because of the color of his skin. Yet as the trials progressed, insult piled up on injury. The trial turned into a showcase for wiseguy racists to strut their racism and their male-dominator talk-trying to blame the murder on Gina Feliciano because she had invited her Black and Puerto Rican friends to her birthday party in Bensonhurst. The prosecutor's case suffered from the disease of "Bensonhurst amnesia"—witnesses disappeared, witnesses recanted, legal maneuvers prevented statements from being brought into evidence. And as the closing arguments were made, there was the definite impression in the media that these murderers might just walk. Here you had a situation of a cut-and-dry racist murder case—with a Black judge, a Black and white prosecution team, and a Black mayor presiding over the city—and it still looked shaky for a conviction! Was some heavy political plot—a real life "Q & A" situation—going down? Or was it something even deeper, a systematic thing?

Why didn't the prosecution and the powers-that-be make an in-depth effort in Bensonhurst to find the killers and to

find witnesses? There were at least 30 whites in the mob. Yet only seven were indicted and only five for murder. Important statements given to the grand jury and the police were prevented by legal maneuvers from being brought into the trials. Everybody knows that these guys are guilty of cold-blooded murder, yet the prosecution didn't present much real evidence to "prove it." The difference between how they treated this case and how Black people get treated was not lost on the people. The authorities didn't search white men in Bensonhurst looking for the murder weapon. They didn't subpoena whites whom they knew saw the murder. They didn't respond to death threats and contracts put out on witnesses (most of whom ended up not testifying).

They didn't do any of this because it would have meant openly admitting that this is not a problem of a few individual racists-the problem is a whole social and political order that is based on white supremacy and breeds racism. Even the way the prosecutor argued to the jury fed the lie that the murder in Bensonhurst was a rare event. But what went down in Bensonhurst is a concentration of the oppression that comes down on Black people every day in this society. Really going after the murderers would have meant shaking up the whole setup where Black people, as a people, are kept down—the whole economic and political setup that produces neighborhoods like Bensonhurst all over Amerikkka. It would have meant challenging the "we just want our community to be left alone" attitude which has been the rallying cry of white supremacy from Selma, Alabama in the 1960s to Bensonhurst in the 1990s. It would have meant shaking up a whole network of police, mafia, and political cooperation in the power structure that perpetuates racist oppression. It would have meant calling out a whole brotherhood based on the assumption that in Amerikkka Black people and women are kept down and property is

For the powers to really go after these murderers, they would have had to go after a very key pillar of their whole establishment—national oppression. And this has caught them in some serious problems. They know that millions of Black people and people of other nationalities as well are outraged by these attacks. They dumped Koch precisely to preempt this rage from erupting



A tug-of-war: Flagburners vs. court official.

Continued on page 4

Statement by Carl Dix, Saturday, May 12

The following is a statement from Carl Dix, a national spokesperson for the Revolutionary Communist Party, in response to a statement by New York Mayor David Dinkins on the eve of the verdicts in the Bensonhurst trials.

Last night Mayor David Dinkins, in his much touted address on race relations, issued more calls for people to come together, to (as he put it) turn to each other, not on each other. Further, Dinkins says that people who are coming together to fight against the racist atmosphere being enforced in New York are part of the problem, and he promises stern law enforcement against them-which means cop brutality and arrests, like they have dished out to people calling for justice for Yusuf and to the students fighting at John Jay and Long Island University. Well, we think that these kind of calls are not only useless, but worse than useless. They say to people who are suffering the brunt of the attacks that the system and the powers-that-be are launching on people that they have to put up with it, that they have to live with it. It also says to others they can ignore all the suffering in their midst and go about their business as usual, that everyone should just come together on the basis of what is happening now. Well, what we think is really needed is revolutionary unity. People need to unite to fight all the abuses—the white supremacists and the male supremacists who are responsible and behind it all. This is the same kind of unity that is being forged out here in front of the Brooklyn Supreme Court, which the masses have renamed "Yusuf Square." Here, people of all nationalities have come together to raise the cry for justice for Yusuf and to battle to make that cry real, fighting for life sentences for the two murderers who are on trial, and now getting ready to fight for twenty-eight more life sentences—cause the whole racist lynch mob has to be rounded up and made to pay for their crimes!

Before the primary election back in '89, I said in my statement, "Some Straight Talk on the New York Elec-

Carl Dix

tions," two very important things. The first is that David Dinkins is a front man for the powers-that-be and their attacks on the people. . .including their very vicious attacks on Black people. He is, in no way, a representative for Black people or anyone who is struggling against their oppression. The second is that no matter who won the election, what we get is more of the same and worse. We witness more vicious attacks on Black people, by racists both in and out of uniform; more degradation of the homeless; more attacks on women; more anti-immigrant attacks. Developments since that time have proven that both of my previous statements were right

Let's listen to David Dinkins on the Bensonhurst

case. He tells us that we'll have to live with the verdict, no matter which way it goes, and he says that Stephen Murphy had a bit of trouble going to lunch on Wednesday, as "when a lawyer is attacked on the steps of the courthouse, we're all assaulted." Well, Dave should speak for himself. I felt assaulted when Yusuf Hawkins was gunned down by the lynch mob that was organized by Murphy's clients in Bensonhurst that night, and I feel re-assaulted every time Murphy gets up there and makes justification for this assault—saying it wasn't murder, it wasn't a racist attack, it was just a mistake.

You see, the real deal is that the powers-that-be have

given the green lights to racist murderers who strike down Black youth, whether they are cops in uniforms or a group of racists out of uniform. We can't let that go down, we won't let that go down, we haven't let that go down! We've been out here in front of the courthouse battling for justice. You see, for all of us in the Revolutionary Communist Party, this battle for Yusuf is a part of getting ready for what is really needed to solve this mess that the system forces people to endure, and that SOLUTION IS ALL-THE-WAY REVOLUTION!—leading millions of people rising up and doing this blood-soaked system in and putting a whole new and different society in its place.

Like I said, that's why we're down here at Yusuf Square, uniting with the anger of people at this outrageous murder and the outrageous lack of a trial that is being put through—directing people's anger into a battle for justice for Yusuf and what that really means, and against the powers-that-be. And through the course of it all, we're forging the kind of unity that we are going to need to end these outrages once and for all.

JUSTICE FOR YUSUF!

JAIL THE WHOLE RACIST LYNCH MOB FOR LIFE!

DOWN WITH

THE OPPRESSION OF BLACK PEOPLE...

REVOLUTION IS THE SOLUTION!

JUSTICE FOR YUSUF

Continued from page 3

into open rebellion against them. But they can't stop the racist shit without tearing away at what's keeping them in power.

JUSTICE FOR YUSUF!

May 8. One jury in the first Benson-hurst trial is already deliberating. The other jury, for Joseph Fama, accused of shooting Yusuf Hawkins to death, is about to. And a lot of cops stand guard at the Brooklyn courthouse. Wooden barricades mark off a protest area. But nobody is going to get in this pen. This is Justice for Yusuf Hawkins Day, initiated by the RCP and endorsed by a broad array of progressives and activists. The call for the day declares: "Get Cold—Be Bold! Bust the Terrordome! No Work—No School. Justice for Yusuf!"

One by one some people walk up the steps of the courthouse: "Yusuf! Yusuf!" The police make their move, shoving the revolutionaries down the courthouse steps. The cops grab four people, including Mary Lou Greenberg of the RCP, and take them away in handcuffs. Message delivered: the enforcers in blue will not tolerate the cry "Justice for Yusuf."

The revolutionaries fan out, calling on more and more people to get to the courthouse, a political battle is on! An hour later the chants demanding justice rise up from a crowd whose size has grown. Again the police move in, hand-cuffing anyone who refuses to stop chanting. Nine more people are arrested—including a Black man on his knees praying for justice. The crowd can't stand how the police are treating people. Most of the revolutionaries are taken away in what smacks of a prevention detention type move by the authorities. One cop driving the rebel prisoners to jail brags that he's Fama!

Lunchtime. The crowd thickens, clustered around a Black man who has showed up in front of the courthouse threatening to burn the American flag. He wants to burn it in protest over the reparations he says the U.S. government has to pay Black people. He hesitates and the crowd demands the flag's destruction.

"It's a symbol of white supremacy. Burn it!" a Black woman activist demands. An RW reporter questions the crowd and can't find anyone who'll say the flag should not be burned. An RCYB member holds up one end of the flag.

And soon flames start to eat up the red, white and blue.

"Burn! Burn!" The voice of a Black woman cuts through the crowd, "We killing hypocrisy. The hypocrisy stops here. We tired of the babies dying. The babies are dying!"

A court officer is in near tears as he lunges for the flag and runs off with it. But the people have seized the initiative—a liberating rush. Soon they are taunting the enemy, laughing in their face. A young Black high school student models a Klan-style hat with Fama's name on it. Only a few hours earlier the cops were threatening to have this youth turned over to a truant officer for not being in school. The crowd yells, "Fama, you forgot your hat!" Stephan, from False Prophets band, notes any cop on the scene could go to the trunk of their car and get another Klan hat for Fama. The crowd cracks up.

Moments of "lull" are filled with intense struggle over what will it take for Black people to get free. There's testifying about what it means and has always meant to be Black in Amerikkka. Can people of all nationalities take this on? And on what basis will they unite? May 1st Manifestos get out everywhere as a Maoist, internationalist line contends with revolutionary nationalism. A core of people of different nationalities gets to know each other in the heat of the struggle. And before they leave they mark their victory by collecting money to get leaflets printed up announcing that this will go on tomorrow, and the next day, and the next. . .

May 9. The front page of the New York Daily News features a photo of the flagburning and a headline blares: "TENSION" The word is out—something is going down at the courthouse that's taking this racist shit on. RCP spokesperson Carl Dix is featured on a morning TV talk show and addresses the crowd at the courthouse throughout the day. More and more people arrive at the courthouse. The air is charged with determined anger.

Some backward white guys try to provoke the crowd—and end up dodging behind the police barricades for protection. The people are nose-to-nose with the pigs and in one voice shout, "Fight the Power! Fuck the Police!" Someone chants, "Whose streets?" And people reply, "Our streets!" "Whose court?"... nobody is gonna say OUR court. The cry

of "Yusuf Square" goes up and the crowd chants it together. A banner is strung up from trees in Cadman Plaza in front of the courthouse. "We declare this as Yusuf Square. Civil rights or civil war." A "liberated" space in the enemy's face!

A wild new mix of forces is coming together to do this: Over the week there's young Black people from all over Brooklyn, members of the RCP and RCYB, proletarians from the South Bronx, members of the Revolutionary Homeless Organization, and activists from the battle around Tompkins Square Park. A white woman from Bensonhurst saw the busts go down on Tuesday at the courthouse and joined the action. Wed-

nesday afternoon two Haitian men march into the square with the Haitian flag. One of the guys teaches the crowd a familiar Haitian battlecry: "coupe tet, boule cay," which means "cut off their heads, burn their houses."

PUTTING THE RACISTS ON THE RUN

The people of Yusuf Square have refused to give racists any peace. Racist whites who come into the crowd are immediately surrounded by people chanting "No peace for racists." And then there is Stephen Murphy, lawyer for Bensonhurst mob leader Keith Mondel-



Crowd at courthouse chases Murphy out to lunch.

io. Murphy also defended and got off Michael Pirone, one of the whites who murdered Michael Griffith in Howard Beach. Murphy not only defends these racists, he verbally attacks their victims in court, justifying attacks by racist killers. The media constantly prints his lies that the murder of Yusuf had nothing to do with racism and that Gina Feliciano is to blame for inviting Black and Latin people-that he tags drug dealers-into Bensonhurst. Whenever he emerges from the courthouse and people surround him, chanting justice for Yusuf, he breaks into a smile. The people get angrier. On Wednesday when he comes out of the courthouse he is chased by a crowd of about 50 people. He is urged to duck into a restaurant by undercover cops. The people chant, "No peace for racists" and "War," singing and playing "Fight the Power" and "Fuck the Police" on a ghetto blaster.

Images of doom stalk the oppressors. The media hysterically reports that communist revolutionaries, the "Revolutionary Workers Party," are in the midst of all this. Impassioned commentaries fly in the press over the people having their say about Murphy. Pete Hamil of the New York Post rails against the "mob" violence. Gail Collins of the New York Daily News writes, "...I understand the sentiment. I, too, would like to kick Murphy in the ass and squish garbage in his face. He is just that sort of guy."

IT'S SYSTEMATIC

Exposures pour out from the people, powerful indictments that show the oppression of Black people is a systematic thing that comes down on them in every part of their lives. The people confront the enemy, proud and confident. Revolutionaries arrive back at Yusuf Square, fresh from prison. Mary Lou Greenberg, spokesperson for the RCP, New York City Branch is greeted by women in the crowd when she steps up to speak, recognizing her from when the police had carted her away in handcuffs. Mary Lou says there can be no reconciliation with racists and that the unity among the people can only be "based on going up against the white-supremacist system." She challenges white people: "If you say that these racist dogs in here don't represent all white people then you gotta step forward and prove it!" And she calls on sisters to be at the front in this battle.

Men who make sexist remarks suddenly find a bunch of women and some men challenging them that this shit is just as bad as the oppression of Black people.

A CITY ON THE BRINK

As we go to press, the city is very tense. Youth report heavier than usual security at a lot of high schools to prevent them from walking out. Bob Hebert of the Daily News registers broad anger: "What seemed different yesterday were the people listening to the protesters—ordinary working people. African-Americans, young and old, men and women, who were nodding quietly in agreement. The prevailing feeling was that Yusuf Hawkins was an absolutely innocent victim and if the murderers escaped justice, then any talk about the rule of law was meaningless. Two dozen African-Americans were questioned outside the courthouse. None were protesters. Every one said there would be a riot. Twenty said a riot would be justified if Fama and Mondello were not convicted of murder.'

In an interview with New York Newsday on May 11 Moses Stewart, Yusuf's father, says, "All of this about Moses calling for calm is crap. If they tear down that building across the street, then so be it. If your son was killed, wouldn't you be angry? That boy Fama may serve 25 to life. When he comes out he's 45. He can still work for 20 years and raise a family. What do I got? I can go to Evergreen Cemetery and watch my son's grave."

The mayor has given a major address to the city—as the rulers try to head off and isolate the social explosion they fear. (See Statement by Carl Dix, page 4.) A verdict could come at any moment.

But the people have already delivered their verdict: Guilty! And as they fight through on justice for Yusuf Hawkins, the people need to fight from the perspective that only revolution can solve this problem—and build this fight in a way that prepares for the decisive battles to come. Because only when the oppressed rise up against this system and take the power of life and death out of the hands of the oppressor will we see a day when white youth are no longer turned into racist killers and Black youth are no longer gunned down because of the color of their skin.





Bob Avakian
On What Is

Going Down Now

Speaking to what is going down now in the U.S., especially the attacks on Black people and on women, our Chairman, Bob Avakian, cut through the lies and garbage to bring out these truths.

We must work to build the unity of all oppressed people—of all races and nationalities, men in unity with women—on the basis of equality; but at the same time, especially in these days, we must be very clear about this:

Women are subjected all their lives to male-supremacist outrages. Black people suffer oppression, as Black people, everywhere they turn in this society. For women to have gut feelings against men, for Black people to have gut feelings against whites, is not at all the same thing as the other way around. This is a *male-supremacist*, *white-supremacist* system we live under. Men who are chauvinists, whites who are racists, have this whole system behind them, and in turn they help to prop up this system, with all its brutal oppression. Our fire must be aimed at this male chauvinism and white racism—and the system they serve.

If we ignored these basic truths, we would not be able to overcome real divisions and build the real unity we need—revolutionary unity.

In the face of all the 'racially motivated violence' being brought down, what is needed is not hypocritical—or even well-intentioned—calls for 'peace and reconciliation.' Talk about 'changing racial attitudes,' without focusing on white supremacy and fighting against it, is useless—or worse than useless. What is needed is to draw a hard line against white supremacy and to wage a bold, massive, non-stop and uncompromising struggle against this white supremacy and the system that upholds it.

If Bensonhurst is such a 'good neighborhood,' then let's see the proof. Let the 'good people' of Bensonhurst come out themselves and take an open, strong stand against the murder of Yusuf Hawkins. Let them demonstrate against this outrage. Let them welcome Black people into the neighborhood and join with them in fighting against racism and white supremacy. White people who say they are not racists should do no less than this.

Much Black youth today have very little belief in the 'traditional work ethic'; they have very little faith in the 'American dream'; they have very little respect for 'traditional authority.' Is there something wrong with that? No, it is fine—it is a good thing. What there is historically among Black people is a culture of resistance, and among the Black youth today there is more and more an attitude—an attitude of defiance, of contempt and hatred for the powers-that-be. That is a very good thing indeed. It is something that everybody who feels fucked over in this society should learn from and draw inspiration from. The point is to give this a revolutionary direction—to lead this in going all-out against this system and all its rotten relations—to over-throw this and build something far better in its place. That is just what we intend to do.

We are opposed to everything that oppresses and degrades women. We are opposed to the 'end-of-the-empire' decadence that is so common in the U.S. today and we are also opposed to 'traditional morality' that binds people in 'tradition's chains.' We are fighting for a future where there will not be any of this. A future without any degradation and oppression of women in any form. A future where no longer are people treated as property, where human beings no longer use and abuse other human beings. A future where humanity as a whole relates and cooperates freely. This is our mission, and we are moving to make it real.

The RW received the following press release from Los Angeles:

FOUR DAYS OF STRUGGLE AGAINST L.A.'S INS DETENTION CENTER **MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND-MAY 25-28**

SHULLDOWN AND ARTICAS COME SAMESTANION CANA

Powerful actions on April 29 in Miami and May 1 in Los Angeles battered the walls of U.S. Concentration Camps. In Miami, over 5,000 Haitians and supporters stormed the Krome "processing center"! Hundreds of refugees who fled the terror of the Tonton Macoute's Haiti face detention, deportation, even rape and murder at Krome. Then on May First, on the opposite coast, hundreds of revolutionary youth and others shut down the secret Pico-Union "detention center" in Los Angeles for a short time.

These two outbreaks tore thru the secrecy and terror surrounding the U.S.'s concentration camps for immigrants and refugees. The very people they want to lock down and silence went right up in their face. They showed that determined, mass action is both POSSIBLE, and the only way to stop and prevent the government from rounding up, detaining and deporting immigrants. These brave actions have opened up new opportunities to take the struggle to a new level. The immigrants, refugees and youth have set an example for all! It's time to continue and step up the struggle. Now everyone must take up the challenge! In that spirit we hereby issue the following call:

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND: WAGE 4 DAYS OF STRUGGLE SHUT DOWN THE PICO-UNION CONCENTRATION CAMP FOR GOOD!

The Pico-Union concentration camp, at 1115 South Alvarado, is disguised as a fortified motel. It holds up to 250 people, including women and children who face deportation to death squad regimes around the world-especially to Central America. The Camp is located INSIDE one of L.A.'s seven police-occupied, officially "barricaded" oppressed communities. For over 40,000 people in these barricaded neighborhoods, "martial law" has been declared under the pretext of combating drugs. Outsiders are barred from entry and civil liberties have been completely stripped away. Mass arrests of Black and Latino youth are aimed at a whole section of people the government has no future for, and who it fears as a threat to its rule.

Nobody who knows of these concentration camps can fail to act! Those under the gun need to step up their struggle. And for everyone else the question is posed: Will you be like the "good Germans" who lived next to Auschwitz and pretended not to know? Or will this important beginning of resistance be seized upon and taken to a higher level?

In 1967 the movement to end the war in Vietnam called for a week-long series of actions called "Stop The Draft Week." Many kinds of defiant actions were organized, all aimed at shutting down the induction centers. The ability of the government to pursue the War in Vietnam was challenged in a real way right in the belly of the beast.

Such a struggle is called for right now! The Pico-Union Concentration Camp must be closed, as part of the struggle to shut down all the concentration camps in the U.S. Think of how inspiring it will be to oppressed people in this country, and all around the world to see people in what is still the belly of the beast closing down the U.S.'s concentration camps. A whole new future can be posed against the one the government has in store!

We call on everyone who refuses to tolerate these nazi-style concentration camps to wage 4 days of struggle in La centroamericana, the Pico-Union district of Los Angeles. Mobilize your friends, your congregation, your posse. Join in the Coalition to Shut Down the U.S.'s Concentration Camps. Spread the word: Be at 7th & Alvarado, Damián García Park (formerly MacArthur Park), 4 P.M. sharp on Friday, May 25. For more information, or to get involved, contact the Coalition to Shut Down the U.S.'s Concentration Camps at (213)285-

Coalition to Shut Down the U.S.'s Concentration Camps

CALL FROM LA RESISTENCIA: COAST TO COAST: STEP UP THE STRUGGLE TO SHUT DOWN AMERICA'S CONCENTRATION CAMPS NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION, JUNE 10TH!

Interview with Haitian Activist from Krome

Watch Them - Veye Yo!

Florvil Samedi was one of the speakers at the May 5 La Resistencia demonstration against the Pico-Union INS concentration camp in Los Angeles. He is a Haitian immigrant active in the Krome concentration camp struggle in Miami. The following excerpts are from an interview with him by the RW.



Florvil Samedi

FS: People got to fight for their freedom.... People are living now in a concentration life. It is unfair to put them in a concentration camp again.

RW: Do you think they're trying to keep these camps and the opposition to them a secret?

FS: Oh sure, they're going to keep it a secret because it is a way they could make money. It is a way they could make people afraid to talk, it is a way they go oppressing people. They're going to keep it a secret. It is the people who have to keep their eyes open and denounce them anywhere they hide it. Because from here, it's possible they could move it from here and take it somewhere else. All the freedom fighters have to watch them, day and night, keep an eye on them, anytime they move it, to find out where they go with it.

RW: What brought you to the U.S.? What happened to you in Haiti?

FS: That system destroyed my family—killed my father. My father is the one who had to raise us up, to send us to school, to do everything, and then they

killed my father. RW: Was this the Tonton Macoutes?

FS: Yeah. But what we call the Tonton Macoutes in Haiti is what you call police over here. It is just a different name. Like in Miami, we call them Tonton Macoutes... They don't have no difference from the Tonton Macoutesthey are the same.

They disappeared one of my cousins who had been living with me, and they tried to force me to work for the president, who had killed my father. So I refused that, I said that I don't want to go. So I had another friend, we was together, and he refused too. But he don't have no tactics to fight with the criminals, and three days after he came out, they killed him. Me, I stayed in hiding for a month and a half, until I found a way to come to the United States.

So when I came to the United States-I had never been here before-I didn't know that the headquarters of the Tonton Macoutes was right here in the United States. So it is when I came over here and they ask me why I came over here, and I say, "Well, I came over here to save my life." They say, "To save your life, how?" So I explained what hap-pened in Haiti, what happened to me, what happened to my father, what happened to my friend, what happened to a cousin of mine. And they say, "Well, you know," and they're sorry about it, and "we're going to send you in a hotel called Krome, you can sleep out there and tomorrow morning, they're going to fix you up and let you go." So that tomorrow morning came after 17 months and nine days. They locked me up in a concentration camp for 17 months and nine days because I say what the government do to my family

And after that they finally let me go. But up to now, I still fight them. . . . Because I see how many ugly, stupid things happen inside Krome, because I've been

inside of it. They beat the people anytime they want, they whip the young boys, they rape the ladies, they do whatever they want. Because, you know, that's a camp where they hide you so they can do whatever they want. It's just like if you got a goat, you put him in a cave—you know, you could do whatever you want with him because nobody's going to hear about that. That's why all the concentration camps, they are held in hiding. And all the officers and security in the concentration camp, all of them, are the reactionaries who have been in the Vietnam War, the war of terror, you know, who hated people. They always put people like this in charge of the concentration camps, and they're Nazis too. So I think the people have to keep an eye open, to do something about it.

RW: Did you know there were other concentration camps around the country, other than Krome, before this week?

FS: After our march on April 29 in the front of Krome, it is after that that people started calling us to tell us what was going on, and how many concentration camps they got. They got one in Houston, Texas, we knew about and one in Louisiana we knew about, but they got one in El Paso, Texas, and we didn't know about that before, and we didn't know about the one in Los Angeles. And they got one in Boston and in New

Like me, I have to travel up till they kill me to denounce these, to tell the people where they got concentration camps in the United States. Because a country like the United States, which calls itself a democratic country, I didn't think they could have an ugly, stupid, bad-smelling thing like a concentration camp right here in the United States. I been thinking about that. I knew that they had them during World War 2, but I knew they had shut them down. I don't know how they reopened the ugly, stupid things like that, right in the United States. Man, that's a shame.

I hope one day your city will be open,

because I see people living in a closed-off city now. The ones who live in the concentration camps and the ones who live behind the barricades-it's the same concentration. I know the day is coming when the city will be open.

RW: You said you didn't know when you were in Haiti that the headquarters of the Tonton Macoutes was in the United States. I guess you didn't know they had concentration camps here

FS: Nothing at all. They told me they were going to send me to a hotel to sleep up in Krome, and I thought, "Well, them people gonna treat me good." It was when I got up there, and they tell me to take off my clothes and they give me a prisoner uniform. . . that I find out I'm a prisoner.

RW: Some of your friends were deported back to Haiti from Krome and killed by the government?

FS: I know four of them who were killed by the government. But the U.S. government knows that too. You know what they do in a concentration camp. The people who do the talking about what the government does, they could just deport you just like that. But when you denounce them-your government and the U.S. too-just to get the other people afraid not to talk, they get two other officers from the immigration over here to bring you right to your government to lock you up, to kill you, whatever they want. So that's how they

But you know, you talk—they're going to kill you, man. You don't talk, they're going to kill you. Me, I prefer to talk when they're going to kill me. They know that they're going to kill me. I got to tell people, never mind about me, today or tomorrow, they're going to kill me. I don't mind about that, and I'm ready for that. Because either they're going to get me, or I'm going to get them.

get the people afraid to talk.



May 1, Los Angeles.

The RW received the following statement from L.A.

TO THE PEOPLE OF PICO UNION FIGHTING TO TEAR DOWN THE CONCENTRATION CAMP DETENTION CENTER AND THE BARRICADES:

Dear comrades,

I greet you with love, admiration and courage for a very grave cause. I support any and all measures taken by the people. There will be hardship in such a struggle, but we are the forerunners and must lay down the foundation.

I urge you to continue your struggle for the common people, for example those locked up in detention centers and prisons and jails, for without our effort they have no chance.

Here is the trouble with the battle today—the system is using divide-and-conquer methods on us to stop us from uniting and bringing an end to oppression among all the oppressed. The pyramid power structure must be turned around. Twelve percent rules the world.

I'm a Black man, 40 years old, college degree with honors, Vietnam vet and homeless. I support this struggle not because I'm Black but because its moral and humanistic. I too have had my arms twisted, head bashed against the wall, handcuffed, rights violated and thrown in jail. Repeatedly. Your blood is the same color as mine. Your pain is my pain, your suffering is my suffering and your will to change the system is my will.

Closing the detention center is a battle we must win!



Police attack May 1 march, Los Angeles.

Pico-Union: Voices Against the Barricades

Los Angeles, California. Starting on May Day and continuing through Cinco de Mayo, hundreds of revolutionaries, radicals, progressives and immigrants from the neighborhood demonstrated at the Pico-Union INS concentration camp and "punched a hole in the terrordome." The facility was shut down for a short while and the authorities went berserk, attacking and brutally beating scores of demonstrators. During the five days of demonstrations there were 23 arrests with a total of \$106,000 bail and the neighborhood was sealed three times in five days by the cops. The people dared to expose this concentration camp, located in one of LA's six police-occupied, barricaded zones, right in the middle of the largest Central American community in the country. And as La Resistencia has said, "This battle has just started!"

The following quotes are from residents in the Pico-Union area and from others who participated in the protests against the concentration camp:

"Excellent!"

Young Mexican man who wanted his one-word summation of May First quoted in the RW

"It was very good, because this place has to be closed. . . . They discriminate against the Latino people. They always discriminate. They don't want to give us papers to work. It was good what they did."

Salvadoran man in his early 20s

"What they did against the detention camp, I thought, was very good. They deport the undocumented, that's how the Migra acts. Also, those whom the Migra persecutes, they call us drug addicts. . . . I see this is very wrong, what the government is doing. I see no other way but to destroy the system—make a revolution, throw down these assholes—because I see no other solution. It's a question of method. The system is degenerate with all its prejudice, so much oppression. So I think it's very good what all these young people are doing, the revolutionaries."

Mexican worker in his 20s

"Many things happened here. Many were beaten like animals by the police."

Young Mexican man

"I believe that the role of the youth was quite important. . . . It is the people that we need to trust. It is the people who will take the vanguard. It is the people themselves who need to fight tomorrow. They need to be prepared. The youth are without an opportunity to improve their lives, without the opportunity to lead a decent life, without the opportunity to an education. They hit the streets here, because this is what this system offers them: the streets, to sell drugs. The system doesn't offer an opportunity to improve themselves. Therefore, it really is quite a key factor in the battle for May 1.

"This detention center is an expression of repression against the people who come from our country, Latin America—hungry, forced by these imperialist dogs, from war imposed by this shame. The people come fleeing this same repression from the puppet governments of Latin America. . . . But I know that this detention center must be closed, because the people will always keep on struggling."

Salvadoran youth

"Eventually people die. We're all going to die. But there are different ways to live. One way is to live, and die, for a cause. Our people all know this because it's what matters most. The other is to live on your knees, face down. We don't want to live like that. We're not animals that they have to lock us up and chain us in. We're not some kind of being that doesn't think and that can't take matters into our own hands. That's why, in this objective of closing down this detention center, people should know: we are here, and we are the people. We are, and we hold to, the people's interests. Our people, their sentiments, are here. It's not somewhere else. Don't go looking for it somewhere else because this is where it is. They know full well that it's here. We all know this is urgent. And they can't hide it. We are together. Let's go forward, and let us not lose the path. Here we are!"

May 17, 1990 — Ten Yea Support the Peo



Down with U.S. In

rs of People's War in Peru ple's War in Peru!



Scene from the people's war painted in Peru.

tervention in Peru!

NY, SF Conferences Oppose

Last month two conferences opposing U.S. intervention in Peru were held in San Francisco and New York. The conferences were in response to a call by the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru (CSRP), which put forward two themes: "The U.S. has no right to intervene militarily in Peru or anywhere in Latin America—under the war on drugs pretext or any other," and "We must break through the disinformation and outright censorship in the U.S. media of news about the revolution in Peru."

In the recent period the situation in Peru has been further intensifying, and this has made it more urgent than ever for people in the U.S. to oppose the U.S. moves in Peru. The people's war led by the Communist Party of Peru is advancing and winning important victories. U.S. military intervention against the people's war in Peru is getting even more blatant. Last month the Bush administration announced that a Green Beret base will be set up in Peru's Upper Huallaga Valley. The openly stated mission of the Green Berets is to train Peruvian soldiers to fight the guerrillas of the Communist Party of Peru. The April 8 presidential elections revealed a lot of infighting within the ruling classes and were a sign of the sharp crisis of the reactionary system in Peru.

The meeting in San Francisco was held on April 7 in the Women's Building. Those attending included some youths and older people from Latin America, and they heard several speakers: Dr. Bernardo Garcia-Pandavenes, professor, Ethnic Studies, Laney College*; Earl Gilman, Network of Solidarity with Latin America; spokesperson for RCP, Bay Area Branch; and Jorge Ramirez, national spokesperson for the CSRP.

On April 21, 65 people met in an all-day conference at Hunter College in New York City. A broad mix of individuals and organizations was involved in building for the conference and participated in it. The speakers at the opening plenary session were Carol Andreas, author of When Women Rebel: The Rise of Popular Feminism in Peru; Robert Knight from WBAI radio's "Undercurrents" program; a representative from MOKAM (Haiti-World Autonomous

Cultural Movement); Carl Dix, national spokesperson for the RCP; and Jorge Ramirez, national spokesperson for the CSRP. Excerpts from these speeches follow this article.

One participant told the RW, "This was no academic conference but more like, 'Roll up our sleeves, share information, and learn from each other and struggle out some thorny problems holding back our movement.' There was a shared spirit of urgency and determination to take up the task of building a nationwide, broad and combative movement to expose and oppose the criminal U.S. military intervention and counterinsurgency in Peru."

There were several workshops. The first workshop was led by Carol Andreas and Gilma Camargo, a Panamanian recently involved in a National Lawyer's Guild fact-finding tour of Panama after the U.S. invasion. The discussion fo-cused on exposing U.S. intervention in Latin America. In the second workshop Robert Knight discussed the role of the media in justifying U.S. intervention, and William Palomino, a progressive Peruvian activist, spoke about the reactionary slanders against the people's war by sections of the Peruvian "left." A videotaped interview with Luis Arce Borja, editor of the Peruvian newspaper El Diario, was also shown during this workshop. Arce Borja exposed and condemned the government attacks against El Diario and its staff, and pointed out that the U.S. is afraid of the truth coming out about the people's war and the U.S.'s growing genocidal intervention. In the third workshop, Jorge Ramirez was joined by a representative of the Coordinadora Latinoamericana in a wideranging discussion around "taking on the U.S. in its 'backyard'—the way forward for national liberation in Latin

In the closing plenary session, a draft National Program of Action put forward by the CSRP was discussed.

Throughout the conference there was intense wrangling and debates over important questions in building a stronger movement to oppose U.S. intervention. Among the most important of these questions was overcoming the lies and

distortions that are put out by various reactionaries about the people's war and the Communist Party of Peru which are used to justify U.S. intervention. There was discussion about the need for people broadly in this country to learn more about the people's war by learning from what the Communist Party of Peru itself says and from the viewpoint of the oppressed in Peru. Another problem discussed was how the reactionary attacks against the people's war in Peru have even found their way into some journals and newspapers that progressive people rely on—and the need to change this situation.

There was also discussion about the media disinformation around Panama. While the situation in Panama has different features than Peru (in particular that there is no people's war there), it was pointed out that there is a similar problem of people in this country being politically paralyzed by the lies in the bourgeois media and not mounting the kind of strong opposition to the U.S. invasion that was needed. Another ques-tion aired was the need to overcome some narrow political views within the anti-intervention movement. Robert Knight, for example, pointed to one example around the March 24 demonstration in Washington, D.C. against the U.S. war in El Salvador: "It should not have taken deep political struggle to include condemnation of the U.S. invasion in Panama in a march that was primarily concerned with El Salvador."

These debates and discussions were carried out with a spirit of unity and strong desire to overcome problems and strengthen the movement against U.S. intervention. As the conference ended, small debates continued about how to get more people involved and about various points in the draft Program of Action.

Just two days before the New York conference, the New York Times had reported that the U.S. forces at the Vietnam War-style base in Santa Lucía in the Upper Huallaga had exchanged fire with guerrillas of the Communist Party of Peru. This news pointed to the possibility of more direct military action by the U.S. forces in Peru and gave an added urgency

to the conference. And the day after the conference, the U.S. government announced the plans for a Green Beret base in Upper Huallaga. These developments made the need for a strong movement against U.S. intervention and in support of the revolution in Peru an even more urgent question.

Jorge Ramirez

National spokesperson for the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru

Today, even the reactionary press admits that from a quarter to a third of the country's territory is out of the hands of the Peruvian army and is more in the hands of the revolution. It's important to understand that it's a situation where the Peruvian armed forces have demonstrated that they have been unable to stop the advance of the revolution.

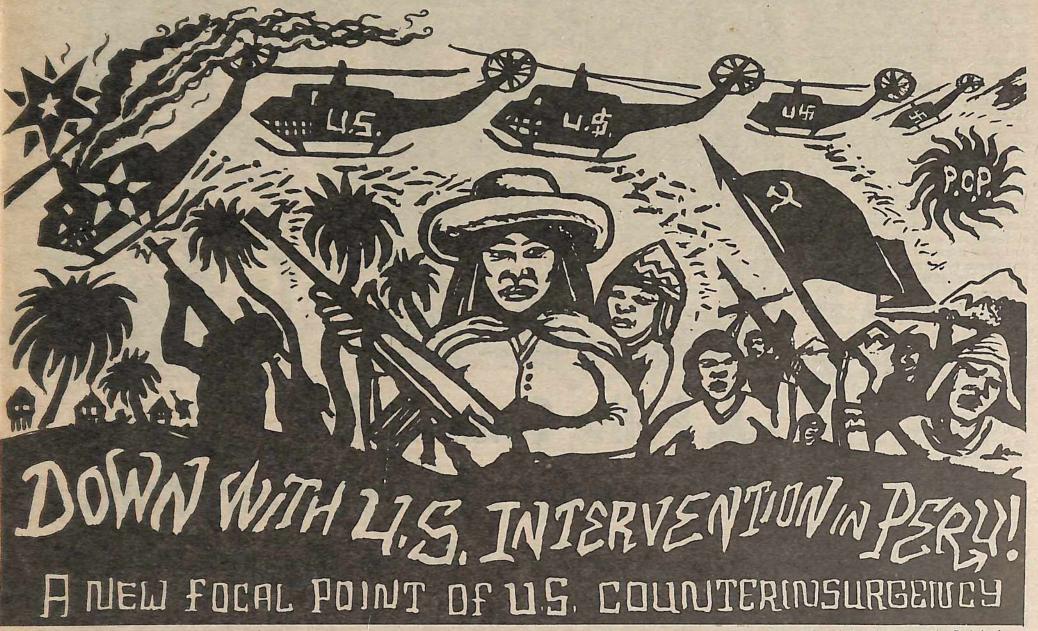
As far as pointing out how serious the U.S. is about increasing its military intervention in Peru, we should look at the fact that the new ambassador to Peru, who was appointed on November 3, is none other than Anthony Quainton. Anthony Quainton was not only the head of the Anti-Terrorist Section of the U.S. State Department but also was the ambassador to Nicaragua during the time that the U.S. developed the Contras, during the time that Managua's harbors were mined, and also during the time they published the famous manual of psychological warfare of the CIA which talked about assassination of labor leaders and political leaders in Nicaragua.

One of the things the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru did was on March 24, we were down in Washington, D.C. in the demonstration against the U.S. war in El Salvador. And we ran into some Salvadorans there. One Salvadoran youth came up to us and said, "Look, I want you guys to know something very important. That is that in El Salvador today there are campesinos, there are guerrilleros who are fighting



Guerrilla fighters of the Communist Party of Peru.

U.S. Intervention in Peru



Graphic from flyer announcing Berkeley forum.

who would be a lot more demoralized about the defeat of the people in Nicaragua and the blows that people are taking in Central America and the invasion of Panama, if it wasn't for the revolution in Peru, the people's war there." Don't underestimate how much people in El Salvador are looking to what's happening in Peru and looking for strength and inspiration today. And this spirit is a lot what guides our work in the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru.

Representative from MOKAM

(Haiti-World Autonomous Cultural Movement)

MOKAM salutes you on behalf of at least 50,000 people that occupied the streets of Manhattan yesterday! [The demonstration was against the govern-ment's targeting of Haitians and African people as "AIDS risks" and refusal to let them give blood donations-RW.] Yesterday we fought racism and imperialism together, and I think we made a good blow on them. We address you today based on our experience as a people. We have been invaded in 1915 by the American imperialists. Their pretext then was that we had "a mess". . . what they left behind was a bigger mess than what we had. Today the Americans find a lot of pretexts to invade more countries in the American hemisphere. They are talking about a "drug war," and I think again this is a smokescreen. They have their plan, and they are not planning on getting rid of drugs in Peru. Although there may be differing views of the Communist Party of Peru, we believe that the U.S. has no right to intervene militarily in Peru or anywhere in Latin America under the "war on drugs" or any other pretext. They're just looking for smokescreens, and we here will not give them that pretext. We have a duty right here to do some serious fighting. We have a duty to break through the disinformation and outright censorship in the U.S. media of news about the revolution in Peru so that people can come to grips with what is really going on in Peru.

Robert Knight

Senior producer of the nationally syndicated "Undercurrents" program on WBAI radio, recently received a national award for coverage of the U.S. invasion of Panama

The invasion of Panama is a very ominous cloud on the future of this hemisphere. . . . Why would George Bush commit so vile a crime against humanity as this invasion? Quite clearly in order to create a puppet government, or as the media is prone to say, a handpicked puppet government—a president sworn in by John Bushnell of the State Department on a U.S. military base while some 2,000 of his fellows are being killed, and who at the turn of the year on January 2 says, "Well, yes we approve of your nominee to head the Panama Canal Commission, and yes we're ready to talk about how you can keep those military bases beyond the year 2000." This is the essence of the Panama invasion-to keep the military beachhead in this hemisphere. Now, from Washington to Panama is 2,000 miles. The United States can conduct an invasion for a distance of 2,000 miles, so it has Central America covered already. Therefore, to maintain bases in Panama at this high price means only that they are prepared to invade another 2,000 miles further south. Another 2,000 miles which, if you are that out on a map, exactly crosses the coca-producing region of the Andes, including Peru, Bolivia, Venezuela, Colombia, and half of Brazil.

Carol Andreas

Sociologist, author of When Women Rebel: The Rise of Popular Feminism in Peru

The war against the coca production is not a popular war in Peru. No candidate put himself forth as the person who was going to come down strong on that. And the main general in charge of that war on

the army side was dismissed from his post because the police photographed him protecting planes being loaded up with cocaine paste. And the police have been caught doing the same thing in earlier periods. The police and the army are vying for this North American money. At present Bush has promised \$39 million to the army and \$26 million to the police. And more and more over the past six months both the U.S. and the Peruvian policy makers, particularly the army people themselves, have said that priority must be on fighting the insurgency there, not on combating the drug traffickers. So we're talking about a situation where the people that are coming into power as well as those who have been in power, as well as all of the other people who were candidates, are promoting the idea of moving toward more and more support for those who are profiting from the export economy and for moving toward more and more support from the United States in the counterinsurgency plans in Peru.

Carl Dix

National spokesperson for the RCP

What's involved here is whether we're going to shoulder our responsibility to especially oppose the aggression of our rulers against the people around the world. By doing this we can accomplish some important things. We can contribute to ending the yoke of imperialist domination on the people of Peru and bring closer the day when the masses there can usher in a bright new future. Because that's a righteous struggle that's going on down there, and it demands that we look at it and support it, because it is going up against the same bloodsuckers that are down on us here. It's also crucial that we build support for the people's war in Peru because of the kind of revolution that's being waged down there and the impact of such a development in today's world. The goal of the people's war in Peru isn't just to force talks over sharing power with some reactionary rulers or to put some new faces in

power in the capital city. And in carrying out that revolution they aren't looking for an international sugardaddy to back them up so that they can have their day and they can become new exploiters of the people. Uh-uh. This ain't no half-steppin' revolution but one that's aimed at going all the way beyond ripping power from the reactionary rulers in Peru and their imperialist backers, the ruling parasites who've gotten fat by sucking the blood of masses, those who ain't got nothin'. The revolution's going to accomplish that, but it's got to go beyond that all the way to totally remaking society, all the way to ending every foul manifestation left over from this dog-eat-dog setup, from men dominating it over women, from whites lording it over non-whites, one nation dominating much of the globe and everything like that. It's all got to be obliterated, and that's the aim, that's the goal that this revolution has set tisest.

This is a revolution that's not just important for the people fighting it. As our party has said in its New Year's message: "That's our class turning the world upside down deep down in the Andean mountains of Peru. That's our struggle. It belongs to us. It belongs to the proletariat and the oppressed of the world. It's what we, the oppressed and slaves, have dreamed about for centuries. For us, this is the most important and precious kind of revolutionary struggle in the world today—the struggle to end ALL oppression." The existence of this kind of revolution can and is providing inspiration to the oppressed and downtrodden the world over, including right here in the United States-in the belly of the beast, as we used to call it in the 1960s and need to call it more today-to step up their own struggle, the struggle to end their own oppression. The efforts in terms of building support for this kind of revolution, the efforts of people here and the efforts of others to build support for the people's war in Peru and to counter U.S. attempts to crush it, contribute to the efforts to prepare the ground politically for revolution right here in the United

he Los Angeles Police Commission recently issued its official Report in response to a Complaint filed by the ACLU of Southern California on behalf of Libros Revolución bookstore. The Complaint filed on Avent 1 1000 Complaint, filed on August 1, 1989, documents two years of politically motivated police attacks, disruptions, interrogations, threats, and surveillance aimed at the staff and customers of Libros Revolución. The Complaint documents a COINTELPRO-type political-police operation against the bilingual revolutionary bookstore which is in the heart of downtown Los Angeles. The 25-page Police Commission Report, signed by LAPD Chief Gates and Police Commission President Robert Talcott, is a clumsy and unsuccessful whitewash. And while it tries to defend, dismiss, or deny crimes by the police, the Report in fact CONFIRMS the main charges in the Complaint.

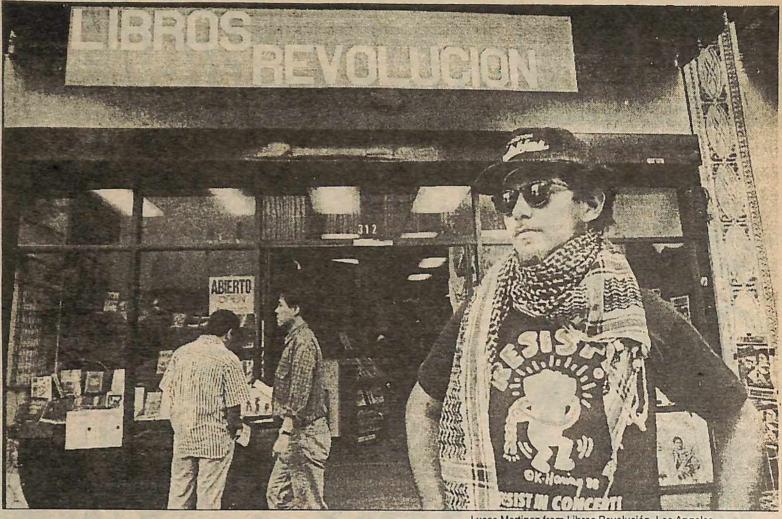
The Report carefully avoids admitting or denying the existence of a political-police operation. Instead it concludes there is "no evidence" of a police opera-tion against the bookstore. Yet just before releasing the Report, the City At-torney responded to a FOIO (Freedom of Information Ordinance) request by turning over 35 pages of LAPD ATD (Anti-Terrorist Division) spy documents on the bookstore's spokesperson, Lucas Martinez! These files-heavily blacked out and limited to a three-year period ending in 1982—confirm that Lucas has been a target of the LAPD's political police for years. And the City Attorney's cover letter indicates this is only the tip of an iceberg: "Beyond the documents provided, we respectfully decline to admit or deny the existence or non-exist-ence of any other records maintained by the Anti-Terrorist Division of the LAPD identifiable with your request"! All this provides important new evidence of covert police operations against the store. And this calls for raising to a new level the battle to expose and defeat the attacks against Libros Revolución.

"War on Drugs" Covers **Covert Operations**

A series of incidents in early 1989 indicates that the "War on Drugs" was being used as a cover for covert actions against the bookstore. The Commission Report reveals that the police fabricated a record of "possible narcotics activity" for one staff person who was stopped by the police while distributing a fact sheet on the new immigration law to immigrant day-laborers. In a more serious incident, Lucas Martinez-who had previously been threatened by uniformed police— was followed and stopped by several squad cars after he left the bookstore. Five cops with hands on their guns ordered him out of his van, searched him and the car, and examined his arms for needle marks! He was told, "We got a call from a stakeout on 8th Street that said to check you out."

The Report reveals that a "surveillance officer" was stationed in the same building the bookstore is in, and that he gave the order "to detain a vehicle for possible' involvement in a narcotics transaction." All this makes the vehicle search more suspicious. A backpack next to the front seat wasn't touched by the cops, who went straight to the ashtray, glove box, and rear deck. The van had been burglarized the night before, and those same areas had been rifled. Whatever they expected to find there didn't turn up. But it's a strong possibility this was a failed setup.

The Report admits that a surveillance post existed in the building where the store is located. This raises all kinds of questions. Was this command post used to coordinate covert operations against the bookstore? Was it used by other police divisions and agencies for operations against the store? Was it used to coordinate the actions of "private" rightwing forces against the store? Was it in place at the time of a mysterious flood on the night of May 1, 1988, which caused thousands of dollars of damage to the store? And could this spy post have been



Lucas Martinez from Libros Revolución, Los Angeles.

L.A. Police Commission Whitewashes Covert Operations Against Libros Revolución

used to conduct electronic surveillance or even access to the store after hours?

Coverup and "Deniability"

The Complaint filed by the ACLU is the first challenge to the procedures and guidelines set up by the settlement of an earlier ACLU lawsuit, Coalition Against Police Abuse v. LAPD. This CAPA suit was filed on behalf of a politically diverse group of organizations and individuals and revealed details of political spying by the LAPD. Political groups were in-filtrated by undercover cops. Spy files and names of activists were entered into the computers of "private" right-wing groups. And these actions were coordinated by the Public Disorder Intelligence Division (PDID). At the same time, it came out that a PDID undercover cop was standing five feet away from his "target," Damián García, a member of the RCP, when Damián was murdered in an East L.A. housing project on April 22, 1980. The person police allege murdered Damián was conveniently not identified until after he was killed and the Coroner's Report listed an LAPD detective as "personally know-

The CAPA suit was settled right before the 1984 L.A. Olympics-in part to put an end to the exposures and outrage they created, but also to streamline LAPD covert operations and settle some longstanding conflicts with other police agencies, especially the FBI. Reflecting a shift from open political covert operations to using the cover of "criminal" investigations, the new division was called the Anti-Terrorist Division (ATD). Certain restraints were put on who could be targeted (which had to be "approved" by the Police Commission). And a procedure was set up to reopen the settlement if it were shown that the LAPD was violating the agreement.

Chief Gates and the Police Commission have handled the Complaint around Libros Revolución very carefully—trying to keep covert political operations out of the spotlight. The Report makes a point of preserving the LAPD's "deniability." For instance, while the ACLU has maintained that all divisions that engage in "intelligence" operations are subject to the CAPA guidelines, the Report claims the CAPA settlement and procedures only apply to ATD. This is no minor question when talking about the LAPD, which has an extensive and elaborate apparatus. ATD is only one of many LAPD divisions involved in "intelligence"

In addition, the Commission didn't even investigate ATD, and ATD was never required to answer questions about covert operations against the bookstore. And even if ATD had been questioned, much of its work might have remained hidden. The growing use of multi-agency operations, especially under the guise of the War on Drugs, means new ways to preserve "deni-ability." For example, ATD is part of the L.A. Task Force on Terrorism (LAT-FOT) which includes the FBI and the L.A. County Sheriffs. By agreement, all the records for LATFOT operations reside with the FBI. And this means the LAPD can "deny" the existence of any files or knowledge of certain operations and still maintain they are abiding by the CAPA agreement.

The LAPD's use of "unofficial" rightwing groups also provides them with 'deniability." And this goes way beyond just the hiring of informants and provocateurs. Several years ago the whistle was blown on an elaborate project involving the LAPD and "Western Goals" (a private right-wing operation whose Advisory Board includes John Singlaub and a number of other Contragate figures). This project set up a nationwide "private" computer network filled with police files on thousands of "subversive" groups and individuals. Once set up, this data bank could be accessed by (and used to direct and coordinate the operations of) both "private" and "official" covert actions. And there has been evidence that these type of "anti-subversive" efforts by the state are continuing. The S.F. Bay Guardian recently reported that California and 20 other states are setting up and training "militias" as a backup force for the explicit purpose of domestic suppression in the event that National Guard forces are sent to invade some other country. These militias train with National Guard facilities and equipment. They recruit their membership by wordof-mouth and through the pages of white-supremacist and survivalist magazines. And they have their own intelligence-gathering operations.

Political Targets and Disinformation

A June 1989 issue of FBI Enforcement Bulletin features an article titled, "The Role of Analysis in Combating Modern Terrorism." In this, LAPD chief Gates talks about how they are especially concerned with identifying "leadership, funding, philosophy, and other recognizable factors." According to Gates, "Analysts should begin to identify general group membership and leadership positions by using flow charts. Link ship positions by using flow charts. . .link charts. . and other visual representations."

The LAPD's history of targeting members and supporters of the RCP is widely known. Libros Revolución has no formal or legal ties with the RCP, but it actively promotes its publications. The ACLU Complaint documented an incident in which the police interrogated a bookstore supporter based on information that could only have come from political intelligence files. And this interrogation was clearly aimed at trying to "prove" the supporter was connected with the RCP or establish he was a spokesperson for the RCP. Also, evidence that the RCP is still a "targeted group" recently surfaced when it was found that the ATD has been covertly subscribing to the RW for the past five years. Gates had recommended in the FBI Bulletin that, "To fill previously identified investigative gaps, analysts must make use of open-source material such as daily newspapers, targeted group publications, and other pertinent periodicals."

The Commission's Report completely ignores the charges that Lucas Martinez is a target of the LAPD. But the files released on Lucas leave no doubt that he has been a political "target" of the po-lice. The files contain reports on overtly political arrests-for "using a bullhorn" or selling the RW. And they record his attendance at legal demonstrations in support of Iranian students and at the

Salvadoran consulate. The files also reveal an extremely dangerous disinformation campaign against Lucas and the RCP. There are total fabrications in their secret files: one From Krome to L.A.

People Demand: "Shut Down INS Concentration Camps!"

The RW received the following reports about actions against INS Concentration Camps in L.A., Miami and Houston.

LOS ANGELES

On May 10 the Southern California chapter of La Resistencia held a press conference in front of the INS Detention Center in Pico-Union, "Little Central America," to announce a "coordinated National Day of Action" to shut down America's concentration camps for immigrants and refugees. The date is set for June 10. Speakers at the press conference included Father Luis Olivares of La Placita (Our Lady Queen of Angels) Church, Dick Laird and Keith James of La Resistencia, and Rojo, the youth from the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade who stood atop the Pico-Union concentration camp roof on May 1 and proclaimed the goal of all-the-way revolution. As they have every time in the past two weeks that people have protested in front of their formerly secret concentration camp, LAPD and INS pigs hovered nearby and on the roof. The press conference got coverage in both the Spanish- and English-language press in Los Angeles and TV and radio as well. Later in the day, La Resistencia and the RCYB held a demonstration at the L.A. Federal Building (where the INS office is housed) in solidarity with the demonstration of Haitians in Miami against the Krome INS Detention Cen-

MIAMI

Thursday, May 10. The intersection at 79th and Biscayne is a major transit point for drivers and bus passengers in and out of Little Haiti. It's also where the regional headquarters of the INS stands, a towering structure exercising day-to-day dictatorship over the lives of hundreds of thousands of immigrants in South Florida.

Veye Yo called for a demonstration across from this INS building after learning that two teachers who had spoken out in the local press about sexual abuse and torture of prisoners at the Krome detention center were fired by the INS. The firing was obviously in retaliation for the role the teachers played in exposing the crimes being committed inside one of Amerikkka's concentration camps. And it was this kind of exposure that sparked a mass militant action on April 29 which stormed the gates at Krome. (See RW No. 555).

Soon after people started to assemble, a torrential rain began and people took shelter in a nearby restaurant. Among those present were some youth—Puerto Rican, Black and white, who came with the RCYB. They brought a banner in Creole and English that said, "Shut the Camps Down—Ann Femen Kan-yo." Some Iranian activists brought a banner saying "Shut down the Camps!" When the rain stopped, the Brigade youth went out to the corner with their banner and started chanting and a group of Haitians took the May Day banner that had been present at the gate crashing at Krome

and held it up for traffic to see. Car horns started blowing in unity with the people's chants: "Freedom for Haitians," "Shut Down Krome," "Haitian, Latin, Black and White—Get Together for the Fight" and "Assassins, Assassins, Close Down the Camps!"

Florvil Samdi addressed the crowd, talking about the demonstrations he had just been to in Pico Rivera in Los Angeles. He emphasized that the struggle against these camps is nationwide in scope and that we have to DO IT OUR-SELVES—that we can't rely on or be intimidated by those who are locking the people up in concentration camps. By this time the crowd had grown to about 150 people. As rush hour traffic grew, so did the number of horns being honked in unity with the demo. Emboldened by this support, a group of women led people to go into the street and demonstrate right in front of the INS building.

HOUSTON

Wednesday, May 9, members and supporters of the Houston chapter of La Resistencia went to the city council to publicly denounce the recent police/INS crackdown on immigrants in the Gulfton district, which is an area with the largest concentration of Central Americans in Texas. (See RW No. 555.) La Resistencia also put out a call for the formation of people patrols to "stalk the stalkers" in the neighborhood targeted by the pigs for a so-called "war on drugs" clampdown.

Thursday, May 10 La Resistencia announced to the press plans for nationally coordinated actions to shut down INS concentration camps and stop the bar-

Today, we join with our Haitian brothers and sisters in Miami who are demonstrating at the INS offices there. Freedom and Justice for Haitian Refugees! Shut Down Krome! Shut Down Pico-Union's Concentration Camp!

The power is in our hands—if we dare to act—to completely change the situation in the interests of the immigrants and refugees throughout the country. Today, across the country from Miami, New York, Houston, Chicago, El Paso, and Los Angeles, we're announcing that our Campaign to Shut Down America's Concentration Camps will launch a coordinated National Day of Action on June 10 to Shut Down all the camps.

These concentration camps for immigrants and refugees are not acceptable...they are not tolerable...we will refuse and resist them at every turn. And remember our words: We will most definitely shut them down for good!

From the May 10 press statement by the L.A. Chapter of La Resistencia

ricading of immigrant neighborhoods. After this, the first of the people patrols by La Resistencia went through the neighborhood leafleting the people and calling on others to join the effort to shine the light on the government's attacks on immigrants. A number of immigrant and Black residents in the area stepped forward to give statements about the massive day-laborer roundup a week earlier and how the cops are continuing to harass people. "They claim

they're looking for drugs," said one man, "but they're just hassling people. You say, 'This is no war on drugs, it's a war on the people.' You got that right." The people patrols plan to continue to be on the streets and are now planning for a major action in early June, along with actions in other cities, to shut down the concentration camps and tear down the barricades.



Father Luis Olivares speaking at May 10 press conference, Los Angeles

file alleges that Lucas participated in a 1981 May Day demonstration in which "RCP members were carrying 'mace' and large treble fish hooks tied to lead weights to use against officers." Another charges that he "attempted to incite a large crowd (800 to 1,000) to riot during the Watts Festival." And there is one file that alleges that Lucas was part of a group building for May Day 1980 which advocated "the killing of police officers." This document is dated only two and a half weeks before Damián García was murdered and could have been written to

set the stage for and justify the cowardly murder of Damián. In 1983, when the involvement of the LAPD in Damián's murder was raised, Gates repeated this exact lie—that the RCP "advocates violence against the police"—to justify actions against the RCP.

At the August 1, 1989 press conference announcing the filing of the Complaint, Lucas Martinez stated, "This is not ordinary treatment for a bookstore, but Libros Revolución is not an ordinary bookstore. . . . It is the joining together of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism with the heartfelt needs of the oppressed from around the world, as well as many others in this society disgusted by the current climate of reaction and flag-worshipping, that unleashes the possibility of changing all these oppressive conditions in a thoroughgoing, revolutionary way."

The City Attorney has informed the ACLU that as far as the City is concerned, the investigation into this matter is completed. But with so much at stake

for the oppressed, the powers-that-be cannot be allowed to whitewash their past and continuing attacks on Libros Revolución. It is crucial that the bookstore's work continue to advance, and that the counteroffensive against the powers' attacks be stepped up. Libros Revolución is calling on supporters broadly to condemn the L.A. Police Commission's whitewash, take out the exposure of these political-police operations even more broadly, and continue to build political and financial support for Libros Revolución.



Red Flag for Damián García

The RW received the following letter from a reader in prison:

April 30, 1990

Dear RW:

I respectfully request that the RW renew my subscription to the paper. I am very much interested in the activities of this upcoming month, of the May Day Manifesto. In fact, I have succeeded in getting at least 60 of the brothers at this facility to undertake a three-day fast, in the name of Damián García.

undertake a three-day fast, in the name of Damián García.

I hope that the struggle is taken to a higher stage, because some of the issues makes me fighting angry. Struggle to Victory!

Talking in the Language of the Oppressor

Continued from page 2

deeds. In response, Mandela and other ANC representatives said over and over again that the white settler colonialists have "nothing to fear from the ANC." They repeatedly called white South Africans "fellow citizens" who have "common ground" with the black people. Such "guarantees" to white people are nothing but a promise by the ANC leaders that the privileged position of the white oppressors will be protected. It shows that what the ANC leaders are after is not an all-the-way revolutionary transformation of society but a "share" of the power and wealth in South Africa for themselves and a small section.

Is such "power sharing" what the youth who rose up in the 1976 Soweto rebellion or in the mighty upsurge of 1985-87 fought for? Did the countless black rebels shot down by apartheid troops or activists, like Stephen Biko, assassinated by government murderers die for such pitiful aims? Only reactionaries and imperialists or those acting in their interests can answer "yes."

How can there be any "common ground" between the oppressors and the oppressed? The only way for the Azanian people to win real liberation is to over-throw the whole ruling system of national

oppression and imperialist domination, and seize state power by force. Whites in South Africa who want to stand with the black people must become traitors to the racist settler-colonial system. The white minority rulers in South Africa live like parasites off the black people, and they control the state and the military which protect their privileged position. Any government, even one that calls itself "democratic," where these types still have a big say and power, will not bring real freedom for the masses of black people.

On the question of armed struggle, the joint statement published at the end of the talks said: "The government and the ANC agree on a common commitment toward the resolution of the existing climate of violence and intimidation from whatever quarter as well as commitment to stability and to a peaceful process of negotiations." Mandela also said after the talks that "the ANC will look into the question of armed struggle and take appropriate decisions." Although these statements were not the final renunciation of armed struggle that the government demands, they were further steps by the ANC in that direction.

In terms of actual practice, the ANC has already stopped their nonrevolutionary armed actions, which mainly involved

sporadic sabotage attacks. Beyond this, Mandela has been telling the Azanian masses to throw their weapons "into the sea," and the ANC has been welcoming the sending of South African troops into black areas in the name of "stopping black-on-black violence." At the same time, the sale of guns to whites is running at a record high in South Africa. Armed white vigilante groups are increasing in many areas. Black political activists opposed to negotiations with the government are being harassed and attacked. Recently several top leaders of the Pan Africanist Congress were killed or seriously hurt in suspicious car crashes. To call for the Azanian people to throw down their weapons in the face of all this reactionary violence is nothing short of criminal!

It is an outrage that black people have no political rights in South Africa. But putting forward the right to vote as the goal, as the ANC does, is not a solution. Black people need to fight to liberate the whole country. And this will take war. The settler colonialists are not going to be talked into giving up their power and privileges. They will defend their position with the guns that they control. Power will have to be violently taken out of their hands by a revolutionary war of the masses—a people's war.

Just before starting talks with the government, Nelson Mandela said, "The NC is aware that there are many whites who have a fear of democratic changes. Therefore, the ANC emphasizes once again that white society, including the Afrikaners, do not have anything to fear from the ANC." What made this statement even more outrageous was that Mandela used the Afrikaans language in saying this particular part of the speech. Although Afrikaans is spoken by some oppressed people in South Africa, it is basically the language of the Boers-descendants of the Dutch and French settler colonialists. Especially since the 1976 Soweto rebellion, when youth rose up against the forced teaching of Afrikaans, this language has been one of the main symbols of the oppression of the Azanian people.

In a short story titled "Ark of Bones," Black writer Henry Dumas (who was killed by New York police in 1968) wrote of a ghost ship that rises in the Mississippi with the loud moaning of the bones of millions of Black slaves. If the bones of the youth shot down by apartheid guns during the Soweto rebellion and many other uprisings in South Africa could rise up, they would condemn the ANC's talks with the government and cry out, "Shame!"

Red Women's Detachment

During the Cultural Revolution in China, comics were a popular form for waging ideological and political struggle. These comics were frequently adapted from revolutionary plays or films and were widely distributed, reaching many people who found it hard to read and who lived in isolated parts of the country where it was not always possible to see plays or films.

One Chinese comic artist, talking to a foreign journalist, explained how he approached drawing these "people's comics." He said: "I go a lot to the country. I work and eat with the peasants. There I find helpful hints for my work; I learn to express myself in forms that the peasants want and understand. Every peasant has something to teach me: how to work with my hands, which is a great spiritual gift, and how to make up stories that tell about it. These peasants suffered under the society of the past and then fought in the Revolution; their lives make up a story that we must retell to them over and over."

In celebration of International Women's Day, the RW started to run the Chinese comic edition of "Red Women's Detachment." This comic, put out in 1966, was inspired by the revolutionary ballet The Red Detachment of Women. The story takes place during the Second Revolutionary Civil War in China (1927-1937), on the Hainan Island in the South of

China. It is the story of Wu Qing-hua, who is a poor peasant girl—a servant to a local landlord. Many times she has run away, but each time she has been caught, brought back, and cruelly beaten. This time she escapes and meets members of the Red Army and makes her way to the camp of a Red women's fighting force. There she receives political training and joins the "Red Detachment of Women." In the battle with the hated landlord she comes to understand the "Revolution is not simply a matter of personal vengeance. Its aim is the emancipation of all mankind."

In the last episode (RW No. 551): The Kuomintang troops attack and occupy Coconut

Village. Entrenched on a hilltop the Red Women's Detachment puts up a stubborn resistance, beating off several enemy attacks. Red Army Commander Hong Chang-ching tells Qing-hua that the Party has approved her application for admission to the Party. He says, "From now on you're a vanguard fighter of the proletariat. If we should fail to get away, then you Party members who have pulled back will be the mainstay of the future. You will shoulder the responsibility till victory is ours!"

Written by Liang Xin, Adapted by Sung Yu-jie. Illustrated by Li Zi-shun. Translated and published by Foreign Languages Press, Peking, 1966.



104. Hong watched till Qing-hua and the others were out of sight. Then he turned and saw Huang Chen-shan and his men charging and brandishing their swords. He trained his machine gun on Huang who was running in front of his men.



105. The bandit chief was shot dead before he reached Hong's position. Hong himself was seriously wounded.



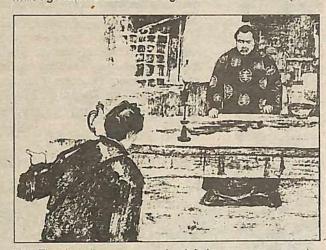
106. Shortly after the women fighters had withdrawn to the other side of the hill, the scout reported that there was no news from the front. "Check up on the weapons," said Qing-hua firmly, "and gather all the ammunition together while I go back to see how things are."



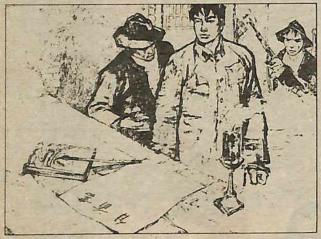
107. In a dark ancestral temple Nan was complaining to Battalion Commander Hu, "Sir," he said, "we've lost a whole company just fighting a small detachment of women!" "Where are the main Communist forces?" demanded Hu furiously, "Just get me out of the clutches of these women!"



108. An orderly came in and handed a dispatch to Hu. After reading it he said, "We've been split up by the Communists. We'll proceed to brigade headquarters at daybreak tomorrow. So we'll be getting out of this inferno of a place!"



109. The battalion commander left in an angry mood. Presently Lao Si came in to announce, "Commander, he's come to again." Seriously wounded, Hong Chang-ching had lost consciousness and was captured by the enemy. But despite their torture he had not given the enemy any information.



110. When Hong was brought in, Nan pointed to a sheet of paper on the table, which bore the heading, "My Confession." "Mr. Hong." he said, "if you will call on the women's detachment to surrender, you can still have riches an honor." Hong held his head high and looked proudly at the landlord.



111. With a sarcastic laugh Hong took the brush and crossed out the words "My Confession." Then he wrote: Chop off my head if you wish, Others will follow behind When I am under the sod!



112. "Just fine!" Nan roared in a fury. "Now you can die for your just cause! Drag him out!"



113. Hong was tied to a huge tree. Behind him were bundles of cotton which had been soaked in kerosene. He looked for the last time at the lovely countryside. Fixing his fierce eyes on the murderers, he shouted at the top of his voice, "Down with the Kuomintang! Long live the Communist



114. Within seconds Hong was enveloped in flames and died a hero's death. Qing-hua saw all that was happening from the hilltop, but she could do nothing. If she did, the whole campaign might be adversely affected. She was overcome with grief as she watched, unable to save her close comrade-in-arms from the enemy.



115. With tears in her eyes Qing-hua retraced her steps.

Students: Don't Believe the Hype! **Bust Through Apartheid Amerikkka!**

In Apartheid Amerikkka youth and students who want to change the world are systematically kept away from the basic people—the ones who have nothing to lose.

Here's a Chance. . . to get out of the books and in the street. . . to go where it's hot and happening. . . to DO SOMETHING THAT MATTERS.

Come to New York and Los Angeles This Summer to Help Distribute the Revolutionary Worker Newspaper

It's a summer project of the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade in cooperation with the Revolutionary Communist Party.

Starting JUNE 1 lasting through the summer. Two weeks minimum, maximum all summer—it's up to you.

WE GOT AN APARTHEID SITUATION RIGHT HERE IN THE U.S.A.

ou and your friends are going to look at a used car for sale. Your posse is Black and Latino. You come up out of the subway-you're in a white neighborhood. Suddenly a mob armed with baseball bats is in your face. They say you don't belong in the neighborhood. Bang, your friend Yusuf is shot dead. All because of the color of his skin.

ou're a teenager in Brooklyn. In one week your friend Jose Luis and two other Latino and Black youths have been killed in cold blood by police. Maria says: "Cops are pigs. That's the way I feel. They're killing us. God forbid if a ten-year-old is running around, the cops is running after him, he'll trip and they'll shoot him. They can't kill us just because we frown."

IS THIS APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA?

NO! IT'S NEW YORK CITY, THE BIG APPLE, USA.

ou're walking home, kicking back with your friends, when a foot patrol stops you asking for ID. You have to prove you belong here, this is the Barricaded Zone. Suddenly—sirens blare. Lights flash from everywhere. Uniformed men descend on the neighborhood. The invaders jack people up and ID everyone in sight. They cart people off to jail-OR-if you can't produce the right papers-off to a concentration camp several blocks away.

IS THIS NAZI GERMANY, 1939?

NO-THIS IS LOS ANGELES 1990 and it's REALLY HAPPENING. They say it's a War on Drugs. But it's a WAR ON THE PEOPLE.

THERE IS A WAY OUT OF THIS MADNESS AND YOU CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION:

People are seeing through the hype and exposing the lies. In Los Angeles they joined forces and took down the barricades. In New York, youth marched on the Brooklyn bridge, chanting "Justice for Yusuf." In Brooklyn kids—who have been written off by this system as a bunch of hopeless criminals—marched on the police precinct and spoke the truth about the power relations in this country.

AND MORE: People taking history into their own hands to rise up and build a society free of all exploitation and oppression. This is not a foggy dream of a never-gonna-happen ideal. We've got the program, the leadership, a plan that can make it real.

AND...

A newspaper—the REVOLUTIONARY WORKER—that helps the people break through the hype and the lies and get ready for revolution!

SO. . .

If you CARE about your sisters and brothers in the ghettos and barrios and the people of the world,

THEN YOU'LL DARE TO CROSS THE TRACKS

AND BE THERE THIS SUMMER. . . to learn from the people. . . to break down the walls of Apartheid U.S.A. by getting down with the people and spreading revolutionary politics among them.

For more information and to make arrangements, including a very basic interview:

Contact the RCYB at: (213) 840-2234 Call and leave a message.

Or write: P.O. Box 30735 **Terminal Annex** Los Angeles CA 90030-0735

