

Mick Rose

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FORWARD!

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JUNTA "REORGANIZES": IT IS ANOTHER FRAUD YET!

The last several weeks have seen a lot of fanfare being made regarding the most recent proclamation which "determines" the "powers and responsibilities" of the Ethiopian military junta and that of its Council of Ministers. The junta's mass media has been making wild claims about the "revolutionary" and "Marxist-Leninist" nature of its recent exploits-- just like countless other decrees and proclamations that it had issued in the past. And once again the international press, bourgeois and revisionist alike, is echoing this same declarations. The Ethiopian masses, whose heroic struggle and combative initiatives are dealing heavy blows to the fascist junta, have long understood that this and the many others issued in the past are merely expressions of despair and arrogance at worst and sugar-coated bullets of counter-revolution at best. The deceptive nature of this manuscript as well as the disgusting serenade played by the junta's mass media and its "friends" elsewhere merits a few comments.

Any action of a government is determined by the nature of the state and the class it represents. The state in any society is not a body that stands above classes or reconciles class differences, but rather an organ of class rule by which a definite class exercises its dictatorship over other classes. The different kinds of states obtaining in the world today can be categorized broadly into two types of dictatorships -- revolutionary dictatorships and counter-revolutionary dictatorships. In the former case, we are referring to the people's democratic dictatorship based on the alliance of revolutionary and democratic classes and social strata under the leadership of the working class and its party as well as the state system of the dictatorship of the proletariat (i.e. socialist states). By counter-revolutionary dictatorship, we mean to refer to the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie and all other reactionary classes over the broad masses. This could assume a multitude of forms.

The present day Ethiopian state, controlled as it is by the fascist military goons and the social-fascist petty-bourgeois propagandists, both serving the bureaucratic and compradore bourgeoisie, falls within the latter category. Despite the fact that it has meticulously attempted to hide its counter-revolutionary nature by persistently masquerading behind high-sounding "socialist" phraseology and pompous pronouncements and slogans, and this thanks to the Haile Fida-Senai Likke clique of social-

fascist intellectuals, it remains to be a puppet of imperialism, especially that of U. S. imperialism, and is used as an instrument for oppressing and exploiting more than 90% of the Ethiopian peoples.

Why are we then being bombarded with such proclamations? What is their real nature? The answers are quite clear. When reactionary classes are besieged, they are led into hypocrisy and into utilizing dual tactics of repression and deception. Hence, they steal the slogans of the masses in order to benumb and confuse the masses so as to preserve their class rule, if only in a new form. Even the notorious Hitler has to masquerade himself as a 'national socialist', as a 'friend of the working people', etc. But Hitler, if it is to be remembered, came to no good end. The military clique and its cohorts are of the same stuff. In their own stupid way they try to sound 'revolutionary' while practising counter-revolution. The words of the great proletarian leader and teacher summarize all of this. "The victory of Marxism in theory," said he, "compels its enemies to disguise themselves as Marxists; this is the dialectics of history." (Lenin, "The Historical Destiny of the Marxist Theory").

In light of the above as well as the unequivocally proven fascistic nature of the Ethiopian junta, how should one see this latest decree about the "new" organizational structure? Under this proclamation, the derg consisting of all its members is called the "Congress" which will have a "central committee" of 40 and a "standing committee" of 17. Such a reorganization, we are told, is in line with "Marxist-Leninist principles"! And whether one likes it or not, what the junta would like us believe is that it has finally emerged as a Marxist-Leninist organization! But one may be inclined to think that a mere regrouping and change of names cannot transform reality; if this hadn't been so, Ethiopia would have been a socialist country two years ago. One "need" not ask such a question though as one would then become "anarchist", "anti-revolutionary" and what not -- labels that the junta so lavishly attaches to revolutionary and democratic forces.

The other parts of the proclamation deal with the "powers" and "responsibilities" of each of the organs of the derg -- its chairman, vice-chairmen, committees, the "congress" and their relations to the council of ministers. Let us just take a pick at their "duties" proclaimed therein. "The PMAC members assigned to various posts will have the responsibility of tracking down economic saboteurs, bringing them justice..." says one. "The duties of the PMAC members concerned include the disarming of reactionaries both in rural areas and urban centers and arming defence squads guarding the revolution..." says another. We all know, of course, that when the junta says "tracking down economic saboteurs", it means massacring revolutionary workers; when it says "disarming of reactionaries", it means disarming the peasants and arming the feudalists and its own hitlerite storm troops; and when it says "guarding the revolution", it means guarding the counter-revolution. All of these is borne out by the 2½ years of its fascistic rule! What this reorganization does, in sum, therefore is legalizing the already practised rights of each and every member of the Derg.

But why come at such a time? Since it usurped power, the junta has been beset with contradictions and factions even within its own ranks. Attempted coups and counter-coups, rumours of impending coups, are not unusual these days. Recently, for example, the Abune (the head of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church) had to interfere in order to avoid "bloodshed" of an impending coup, and to "safeguard the revolution"(!). Recent dissatisfactions amongst members of the armed forces which are expressed through mass defections as well as low morale are also shaking the very foundations of its power. Hence this proclamation is an attempt to cover up this state of desperation and to hoodwink the people into believing that there is a "collective" leadership, that the derg is a "democratic" body, etc. But facts are facts and nothing can be further from the truth. Teferi Benti or mengistu, Atnafu or any other demon can not change the nature of the state by decree!

One other aspect of the decree which demands close scrutiny is the expressed desire of the junta in coordinating "efforts of progressive forces (read social-fascist renegades and pro-junta elements) to establish a working class party". This, of course, is not a new "effort". Such a talk has been in the air for over two years. We were told at that time that it will be a party of "all classes", "of all people", etc. But for quite a while now the talk about a "working class party" has been getting louder and louder. Why this sudden "change of heart"? Since the EPRP, the vanguard of the Ethiopian proletariat and the undisputed leader of the Ethiopian New Democratic Revolution, declared its program over a year-and-a-half ago (after a 3½ years of clandestine existence), the junta and the renegade clique have been thrown into a fit of rage and desperation, and their vile scheme of presenting their so-called "party" was heavily frustrated at that time. After that their "Ethiopian socialism" was re-baptized to "scientific socialism", followed by such pompous slogans as "a new democratic revolution", "revolutionary united front", "a working class party", and what not.

What sort of a working class party can they possibly talk about? You have guessed it all: a "working class party" without the working class, no doubt!! The heroic Ethiopian proletariat, which has unequivocally supported, embraced and defended the EPRP, has already passed its verdict on such manoeuvres of the junta when it resolved in its September, 1975 Congress as follows:

...such being the reality and when the government has suppressed and trampled upon democratic rights, condemned and persecuted the organization of the masses, a party which is formed by the government for its own interest with hand-picked individuals who are neither elected by nor represent in any way the broad masses is unacceptable. Such a party cannot fulfill the interests, needs and objectives of the oppressed masses and as such cannot be supported by the oppressed masses in general and the proletariat in particular. Such a party is a device by which those who are thrown out through the front door worm their way in by the back door. Such a party cannot safeguard and promote the rights and interests of the masses. On the contrary, as its very creation is meant to dupe and lord over the masses, the proletariat vehemently opposes such devious aims and devices. (CELU Resolution)

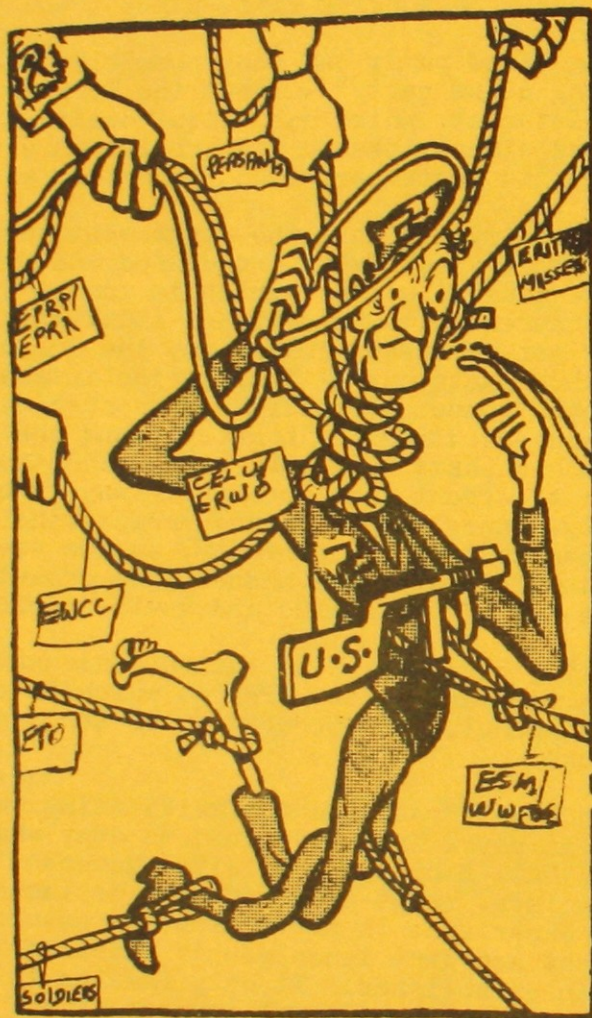
And it is such a working class which is called "unconscious" of its class interests! And it is its vanguard -- the EPRP -- which is called "anarchist" and whose liquidation is the principal preoccupation of the junta and its hired intellectual boot-lickers!!

Seen with this in mind their talk about "facilitating the establishment of a working class party" is simply a fraud designed to deny what is already common knowledge. The so-called "All-Ethiopian Socialist Movement", composed of an assortment of social-fascists, agent-provocateurs, declared CIA agents, most of whom have long years of experience in subversion and sabotage within the Ethiopian Student Movement and were ignominiously expelled from it at one time or another, has already been established. It only remains to be declared, "officially" that is. Then why the attempt to cover it up? For a change of name, perhaps!

A few more words about some other aspects of the junta's decree remain to be said. The junta claims that it has a "historic responsibility of preparing the masses and handing over power to whom it belongs -- the people." A lofty and welcome move, indeed -- if it were not just bubbles, that is! But we all know that this is just wild talk! "Preparing the masses" can only be taken to mean preparing the necessary public opinion for the declaration of their phoney party. Otherwise the masses are already prepared under the leadership of the EPRP to overthrow the dark rule of the fascist junta.

Further, "handing over power to whom it belongs" can only mean handing over power to their "party" -- to themselves, that is! "Handing" over power to oneself is called handing over power to the people. What a weird logic! But historic for its weirdness and absurdity nevertheless!!

Such are the features of this perfidious scheme. It is doomed to fail. As these fascists and social-fascists cannot reconcile themselves to their class enemies, i.e. the broad masses of the Ethiopian masses, they have to go on making attempts after attempts, manoeuvres after manoeuvres. How true it is that reactionaries never learn from their mistakes: they make trouble, fail; make trouble, fail again; again and again till their doom! This is the logic of all reactionaries. And these Ethiopian fascists and their intellectual mentors cannot go against this logic!



"Ethiopian Socialism"
"Scientific Socialism"
"New Democratic Revolution"...
"Reorganization"...
We tried them all.
What more should we try? ... if only we can smash the E..P..R...e..hh..the "anarchists"! And save my skin!!!

THE BESIEGED JUNTA
Who Pities it?
It did it all by itself!

The EPRP Commenting on the "Reorganization" decree:

THAT IS THE DUAL NATURE OF THE DERG TODAY: REORGANIZATION IN LIEU OF A COMPLETE POLARIZATION ON THE ONE HAND AND CONSPIRACY FOR ALLIANCE WITH ALL COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES.

Abyot, Vol. 2, No. 1

Smash EDU, These Dustbins of History!

The western media has, in the last several weeks, been reporting about apparent 'successes' by the so-called Ethiopian Democratic Union which is said to have captured several villages and towns in north-Western and western Ethiopia. Humera is reported to have fallen into the hands of these dust bins of history and several roving bandits are said to be controlling isolated pockets of territory, massacring peasants, burning villages where they were resisted. Such, for example, was the long story on the Washington Post of January 22, 1977.

The fascist military junta, besieged as it is by the popular mass struggle under the revolutionary leadership of the EPRP and its armed wing, the EPRA which is dealing telling blows to its fascist forces throughout the country, is conveniently keeping quite. In fact, its mass media is no longer mentioning the EDU in its propaganda; and, as Abyot (Vol. 2, no. 1) points out Mengistu is in fact "holding secret meetings and negotiations with the warlord organization of aristocrats The Mengistu-controlled media has changed its tune from "EPRP and EDU are one and the same" to "EPRP alone is the main enemy" and the reference to EDU as enemy or even as a reactionary is progressively vanishing." No wonder then such stories as the above passed unnoted by the junta's press! And the long expected reunion between these sworn enemies of the Ethiopian revolution -- the EDU and the junta -- may soon see the light of day!

The junta's ambassador to Yugoslavia, Col. Belachew Jemaneh, that notorious butcher of Ethiopian revolutionaries who was the head of Haile Selassie's Security Dept., as well as Minister of the Interior under the junta prior to his current appointment, is visiting in London now and conferring with his ex-accomplices in mass murder -- the leaders of the warlord organization. He is perhaps serving as the go-between for the EDU and Mengistu. The Junta's ambassador to Egypt, Getachew Mekasha was also in London. May we take it as a coincidence?

EDU and its roving bandits are supplementing the futile attempts of the fascist junta at "smashing" the EPRP and the EPRA and are working hand in glove with each other. The enemies of the Ethiopian revolution, U.S. imperialism and its local puppet as well as the reactionary states in the region, are hatching up one conspiracy after another. The current escalation of EDU's mercenary and roving bandit forces, which are also reported to be joined by defecting officers from among the junta's armies, must be seen in this light. As the EPRP has repeatedly warned and while "the aims of the EDU may correctly be characterized as 'a dream by elements whom history has sent to the dust bins,' it will be naive to underestimate these bandits and the service they may render imperialism in weakening the popular struggle against the junta and international capitalism."

As we have repeatedly been reporting the principal preoccupation of these feudal bandits and scums has been the "annihilation" of the revolutionary forces led by the EPRP and the EPRA. U.S. imperialism, such reactionary states as Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Kenya and the state apparatus of the Ethiopian junta itself have been instrumental in assisting these notorious enemies of the Ethiopian peoples. The junta's diplomatic apparatus has specially been of vital help to them (see Forward, #2)

* Those who recognize only the class struggle are not yet Marxists; they may be found to be still within the boundaries of bourgeois thinking and bourgeois politics. To confine Marxism to the doctrine of the class struggle means curtailing Marxism, distorting it, reducing it to something which is acceptable to the bourgeoisie. Only he is a Marxist who extends the recognition of the class struggle to the recognition of the dictatorship of the proletariat. This is what constitutes the most profound difference between the Marxist and the ordinary petty (as well as big) bourgeois. This is the touchstone on which the real understanding and recognition of Marxism is to be tested.
* V. I. Lenin, The State and Revolution

News Briefs

1. JUNTA GUNS DOWN DEMONSTRATORS

A huge anti-junta, anti-imperialist mass demonstration was held in Addis Ababa on January 28. Demonstrators distributed propaganda and agitation leaflets, expressing support to the EPRP and the EPRA, smashed windows and threw gasoline bombs at the USIS and British Council libraries, both centers of imperialist propaganda and subversion. The junta, this running dog of U.S. imperialism, ordered its butchers to shoot indiscriminately at the demonstrators and an official death of one and serious injury of six was reported.

2. UNIVERSITY AND HIGH SCHOOLS CLOSED DOWN

University students in Addis Ababa went on strike beginning January 27, once more telling the fascist junta and its intellectual hooligans that nothing will stand on their way from upholding and defending the just and revolutionary cause of the Ethiopian masses! High schools and elementary schools in the capital as well as throughout the country have been in similar states of crisis. Schools, university and down, continue to be centers of activism.

3. 97 JUNTA SOLDIERS FLEE FROM THE ERITREAN BATTLEFIELD

97 Ethiopian soldiers, led by a captain Abebe Chere, have surrendered to Sudanese authorities at a Sudanese village called Garora. According to "The Sudan Standard Sun" of January 9, these soldiers fled the battlefield when reinforcements failed to come during a battle with the EPLF.

Earlier, both the Sudan and Ethiopia had recalled their ambassadors following a speech by Numairi on Dec, 26 which accused the Ethiopian junta of conspiring to overthrow him. Since then both governments have been labeling accusations and counter-accusations against one another.

4. Desertion by Junta's Army Continues

Following the persistent agitation and propaganda work by both the EPRP and the EPRA, increasing numbers of the junta's armed forces are defecting and joining the ranks of the people's forces.

Abyot, Vol. 2, no. 1, reports for example that a total of 82 paratroopers have recently handed themselves up to the EPRA together with their leading officers and arms. Seven 2nd lieutenants who graduated from the Harrar Military Academy have done likewise. Further, a captain, a lieutenant and four labour union leaders who had finished their course in Bulgaria on "party construction", have also joined the EPRA; they did this after suddenly disappearing at the Rome airport on their way back to Ethiopia.

There are, of course, other reports which indicate that a handful of fascist and reactionary commissioned officers from among the junta's own ranks and its armed forces are also joining the EDU. Well, this is to be expected in any such class confrontation. While the predominant majority, perhaps well over 90%, would eventually join the side of the popular masses, the rest, the real die-hards will have to choose otherwise.

 * A well-disciplined party armed with the theory
 * of Marxism-Leninism, using the method of self-
 * criticism and linked with the masses of the
 * people; an army under the leadership of such a
 * party; a united front of all revolutionary
 * classes and all revolutionary groups under
 * the leadership of such a party -- these are
 * the three main weapons with which we have
 * defeated the enemy.

MAO TSE-TUNG

Learning by Negative Example: From The Pages of The Junta's Papers

The inheritors of Haile Selassie's palace are probably wondering why the circulation of their newspapers has decreased so drastically. Let us give them a hint: Gentlemen of the palace: it's because the utter nonsense, blatant lies, and the overdosage of empty promises that your papers carry every day are giving no reason to readers to buy them. Your newspapers, those same old propaganda organs of a counter-revolutionary state machinery, have not changed a bit in essence from what they were during the time of your predecessor. In one thing, however, you have surpassed Haile selassie: you have raised the art of demagoguery to an unprecedented scale.

Dear reader: we would like to bring to your attention the new gimmick that the junta's papers have been assuming for some time now:

-- On the left and right corners of their front pages quotations from the great Marxist-Leninist leaders and teachers side by side with the fascist slogans and statements from the archives of the murderous junta and the social fascist clique are printed in bold letters.

-- When you go through the rest of the pages you are bound to see an official announcement about the death sentence passed on so and so many "anarchists", which invariably means revolutionaries, and more specifically members or suspected members and sympathizers of the EPRP. In case you have been wondering how the word anarchist can be used to define Marxist-Leninists, you are in for a great surprise -- you see, these "gifted and blessed" pseudo-Marxists have decided that the scientific definition of anarchism is wrong -- so they have revised it to mean Marxist-Leninists. What else can you expect from these idiots and sworn enemies of the Ethiopian masses!

-- If you still have the patience to proceed, you will see articles with excessive subterfuge and phrasemongering about "revolution", "socialism", and you name it. Don't forget, of course, your ads for entertainment --

perhaps a movie like Dustin Hoffman in "Straw Dogs" (?) -- a classic of bourgeois decadence. Be that as it may, for we are not out to criticize them for doing so. Our purpose here does not go beyond warning the reader about the dastardliness of some of the "slogans" that appear in these newspapers. Note these, for example:

"The masses are the motive force of history," reads the right top corner of the Ethiopian Herald of a recent date. Nothing wrong with these words as such. They are in fact the exact words of the great Marxist-Leninist, Mao Tse-tung. But who is using them? The fascist junta that arrogantly claims, perhaps in the very same paper, that it is 'leading' the 'revolution' from the grand palace; this same junta who has unleashed a reign of terror on the masses unprecedented in their long history of class struggle. This is what makes it weird indeed!

Addis Zemen, the Amharic daily, had this recently: "Elect, be elected to hasten your country's growth, seize power and responsibility." Power through elections under a fascist junta? Nonsense! This 'slogan' is put forward at the time the junta is spreading its wanton killings and at a time when the masses, under the leadership of the EPRP, are saying "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun!" Why this nonsense, then? Clear and simple: to pacify the masses in order to crash their revolution. In vain, of course!

And lately they are using the slogan "Progressives unite!" We are not against progressives uniting. But who are the "progressives"? How are they to be united? These cunning gentlemen of the palace do not want to talk about the class nature of "progressives", or the principles and methods of unity. They have their own way of looking at things; and the masses have theirs.

All it adds up to is that these fascists and their intellectual hirelings have no relations whatsoever to the cause of the Ethiopian masses -- they are good in one aspect only: as teachers by negative example!

Junta Intensifies Propaganda Against Youth

The fascist military junta and its cohorts have in recent days stepped up their propaganda campaign against the ESM. They have even gone so far as to say that since the last year or so it has become a "counter-revolutionary" force.

What are the real facts of the heroic and militant Ethiopian Student Movement? What is behind all these recent slanders?

As a Chinese saying goes, "A thousand lies written in ink cannot hide a single fact written in blood." The history of the ESM is one such episode. It is a history of continuous struggle -- bloody and bloodless -- against all forces of reaction. Under the former rule of autocrat Haile Selassie not only were students butchered and imprisoned but were also victims of countless lies and villifications. Students were accused of being "foreign agents," of trying to "split" the country, of being "enemies" of the people that must be "eliminated", etc. All these, because the Ethiopian students stood firm for the cause of the emancipation of their peoples! With zeal and determination they fought and continue to fight for this worthy and just cause. This was not of course to the liking of their oppressors and exploiters; that is why, therefore, that they time and again attempted to destroy the movement -- both at home and abroad -- and discredit it in the eyes of the people. But all this came to naught! The ESM continued to develop in depth and breadth. Thus students were one of the main forces in the February 1974 revolutionary upsurge that later on ousted Haile Selassie into the garbage heap of history.

Since the junta usurped power from the popular masses in September, 1974, it has felt discomfort at the existence of the ESM. Understandably so, for the ESM has been at the forefront in bitterly exposing, denouncing and shaking the foundations of this fascist junta and its mentors. Many were the junta's attempts at disorganizing and demobilizing the ESM. Its dreams of riding roughshod over the people have repeatedly been turned into nightmares.

Far from losing their vigilance and determination, they continue to grow a hundredfold and to deal heavy blows to the junta and the social-fascist clique which was expelled from its own ranks at various junctures of its history. By learning from the masses and teaching the masses, they won their confidence and developed inseparable bondage with them. All these terrified and enraged the junta. Such was the outcome of the "Zemecha campaign," the junta's real purpose for which run counter to its outcome! Massacring, imprisoning and even organizing landlords to attack students was launched full scale at several zemecha stations, all of which was preceded and followed by well orchestrated barrage of shameless propaganda and dirty "charges".

The students have returned now and they have not been disarmed; they have in fact intensified their anti-junta struggles. Thus the present propaganda campaign is only a continuation of the old. The stage-managers of this dirty-old "trick" can be none other than the Haile Fida-Senai Likke intellectual bandits. We don't expect anything else from these running dogs of imperialism!

The present propaganda war against the ESM, including the World-wide Federation of Ethiopian Students, like the campaign and terror against the EPRP will be seriously rebuffed by the masses of people. Through their hard-won and acquired experience the broad masses can distinguish true from false. They have boundless love and esteem for their fine sons and daughters of the ESM. The masses deeply cherish the memory of those who have laid their lives for the cause of the liberation of their peoples and march with the utmost pride together with their children until final victory. No force on earth, however fascist it might be, can shake or cut this bond of unity that has been forged through long years of bitter struggle. As the campaigns against the EPRP and the heroic Eritrean masses have not been able to destroy them -- the very opposite had, in fact, happened in both cases -- so also will this one

(Cont'd from page 8)

against the ESM and the WWFES miserably fail. But reactionaries never learn from their mistakes. As Chairman Mao has said, "Make trouble, fail; make trouble, fail again. Make trouble fail again. Till their doom!" This is the logic of all reactionaries. The fascist clique in Ethiopia cannot go against this logic.

We will unite still more, stand even firmer, integrate with the masses even further, support, defend, and embrace the EPRP even higher to win greater victories!

* * * * *

Famine Escalating in Ethiopia

Not long ago -- in fact about the middle of October -- the junta's propaganda machine had it that "farm output has increased two-fold and the income of peasants has grown likewise." Such was a lead story on Yezareitu Ethiopia.

All of a sudden, on January 7, its media takes an all round turn and tells us the story which is only common knowledge to every body: that the danger of famine is eminent! The Washington Post (January 15) thus picks up the story: "Since mid-December, the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission has been ringing its alarm loudly, warning that as many as 700,000 people in Wollo and Tigre provinces face famine...." A ministry of Agriculture is also said to have said that "Ethiopia faces an overall grain deficit of up to 400,000 tons this year due to a wide variety of problems ranging from scattered pockets of crop failure to difficulties stemming from land reform." Ethiopian "relief" officials in Dessie are also reported to "estimate that they may have to feed 290,000 people just in the scattered pockets of drought they have already discovered across northern Wollo province" alone.

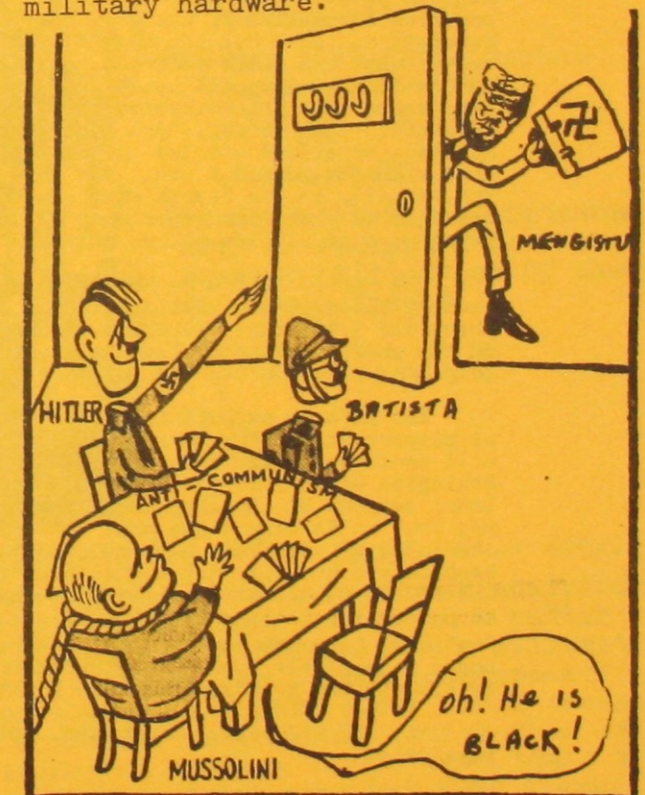
Similar warnings are being made about certain areas in Gojam and the

south-eastern areas.

The junta has given strict orders prohibiting 'drought'-affected people from moving out of their villages of residence adding that "they will be supplied with relief grain" right there. It also hastened to make its bizarre claim that "the present situation is drastically different from that of the previous one in that it has been clearly informed well ahead of time."

The WWFES would like to call upon international humanitarian groups and organizations to do all what they can to publicize and contribute towards curtailing this escalating famine situation in Ethiopia. Member unions have already launched a huge campaign in this connection and would continue to intensify their efforts.

As to the junta, no more confidence than we had on its predecessor can we entertain as its main preoccupation rests on repressing the masses through fascist white terror which, in turn, leads it to squandering hundreds of millions of dollars on military hardware.



"You Are the Very Person We Are Waiting For!"

ETHIOPIAN STUDENTS' UNION IN HOLLAND

Open Letter to Generalismo Teferi

The letter reprinted below has been widely distributed as one more attempt by member unions of WWFES, in this case by the militant Ethiopian Students' Union in Holland, at exposing the atrocities of the Ethiopian fascist junta.

OPEN LETTER January 3, 1977

General Teferi Benti, Provisional Military Government, P. O. Box 5707, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Generalismo!

We, members of the Ethiopian Students' Union in Holland, take the full liberty to come out in the open and condemn your notorious, fascist and tottering regime that is unleashing cold blood murder and arbitrary mass arrests against the forces of democracy and innocent civilians.

The reign of terror that your regime instituted is unprecedented in the history of our peoples. The crimes you committed, the series of executions that you carried out against the forces of democracy and revolution, the systematic assassinations of the militant youth, the secret massacres of arrested democrats, the mass arrests and the search of the houses of innocent civilians is all but unprecedented. Even similar repressive regimes have the self-respect; but you, you the dust of history, the blood-thirsty and trigger-happy murderers, do not have the slightest respect not only to world public opinion, which is shocked to hear the executions you carried out, but even for yourself.

You seem to have decided to halt by sheer force the locomotive of Ethiopia's history, the Ethiopian revolution, whose only genius chauffeur is the EPRP and whose brave guardian is the EPRA. But, that is the rule every ruling class has attempted. Kerensky had carried on a massacre of workers in Tashkent just to be overthrown after two months. Mussolini had slaughtered countless revolutionaries and murdered their leader, Antonio Gramsci, just to be hanged up side down by the same students of Gramsci, the workers of Milan. Batista and Chiang Kai Shek had also committed atrocities. In recent history, the notorious imperialist-puppet regime of Thieu in South Vietnam killed thousands and jailed a quarter of a million political prisoners. Neither Batista nor Chiang nor Thieu could stop that powerful locomotive of history, that festival of the oppressed classes, the revolution. As a result, they all have perished. If your regime tries not to be exceptional and tries to avoid meeting the same fate, then the only positive way out is to step down and leave for a provisional people's government. But, you have shown your determination to die on the throne you inherited from Haile Selassie. Then we say, "you take your own risk". The revolutionary peoples of Ethiopia organized and led by the EPRP and their peoples' war conducted by the EPRA will take care of you. You have now been besieged in the capital and more specifically in the Fourth Army Division Headquarters. You will continue to be besieged to your final emergency helicopter that will fly you to a neighbouring country, a la Batista, Thieu and Lon Nol!

The heroic Ethiopian and Eritrean peoples who have overthrown the half a century old regime of Haile Selassie do not need that long to overthrow a two years old tottering, bickering, cracking regime whose chicken legs seem to stand on two shaking sticks. They have already dealt heavy blows on your forces. Your soldiers are deserting and joining the revolution en masse.

You have no support from any oppressed social force. You have no international support except the forces of imperialism and reaction. The EPRP-led revolution will continue to deprive you of the local support and the heroic detachment of the Ethiopian Student Movement abroad will continue to deprive you of the international support by exposing the crimes you are committing. We are proud to inform you that in Holland alone most democratic and progressive organizations have condemned you for your acts of genocide. No doubt this will continue simply because you are not only fascists of the Hitler type but also stupid, rascals and morons as well. We will fight day and night to expose your crimes that have surpassed the killing of democratic elements to include their innocent parents. Beating a 90 years old woman whose grandson you just executed (Yitbarek Hizkias) shows nothing but your unimaginable cruelty and stupidity. Aren't you satisfied by killing her grandson? Or was his blood so thick to drink, blood-suckers!?

You may kill revolutionaries, but you can never, we repeat NEVER, kill the revolution!

Ethiopian Students' Union in Holland -- Member of the Ethiopian Students Union in Europe (WWFES)



This is a reprint of a photograph that appeared on a London newspaper showing member students of the Ethiopian Students Union in Europe -- UK Branch -- which held a hunger strike and picket against the recent wave of repression by the fascist junta.

(Wondering why they are covered? Not only the weather but also potential danger from junta's

secret police requires such a disguise!)



Partial view of The May 1975 Anti-fascist demonstration right in the center of Addis Ababa!!!

(Photo deliberately tampered with to safeguard against easy identification by the fascist police.)

INGENIOUS AND COURAGEOUS ACTIONS OF PEASANTS (Reprinted from *Abyot*, Vol. 2, no1)

It happened in Harrar. A junta delegation while touring the Harar administrative region for their new campaign of terrorizing peasants called on a public meeting. Before the junta delegates started addressing the public, a militant peasant walked to the front and handed over a little note to the main speaker. The note simply warned the junta delegation that unless they order their troops there to lay down their arms the peasants assembled there would finish them off in a surprise attack! The puzzled colonel ordered his men to lay down their arms. Then, the peasants opened their clothes and produced not arms but EPRP flags! The troops tried to retaliate just to meet the united resistance of the peasants!

The Struggle-- in Poems

Following are two Amharic poems that Forward received from its readers recently. Readers are invited to send in poems for this column either in English or in Amharic or in any other Ethiopian language.

ደብዳቤ ለአሁኑኛ ደገና

የና ታቸን ምጥፍ

/በባሽ የት ሕብረት ከሚገኝ ጋራ የተላከ/

/ከእውነት በጋለ/

አንተ ያሴዎባ ደገና
 ቶሎ ና ቶሎ ና
 ፍተሕ ለገደለው
 መደህኑ ነህና
 አንተ ያሴዎባ ደገና
 ድረስላን ቶሎ
 ለባላደረ ስያለቀ
 ታደሞ ተገሎ
 አንተ ያሴዎባ ደገና
 ገሥገሥ ድረስላን
 ወጣት ለደቻቸን
 ታርደው ስያለቀን
 አንተ ያሴዎባ ደገና
 ቶሎ ና ቶሎ ና
 ፍርድ ስረረበት
 በዛ አንተ ነህና

አንተ ያሴዎባ ደገና
 ተፋጥነህ ለሕመሙ
 ለምባቸን ይገርፋለ
 ባሎቻቸን ወደመሙ
 አንተ ያሴዎባ ደገና
 ተጠድረህ ከተፍ በለ
 ተውጠናለና
 በኃዘን ግዕበለ
 አንተ ያሴዎባ ደገና
 ቶሎ ና ቶሎ ና
 ባርነት ለገዛው
 ሠር ለውጭ ነህና

እግግን፣ እግግን
 እግግን ጤን ቋታለ
 እም የን ሊት ፃጽ ያን
 ደሜ ይወርዳታለ።
 ነፃነትን ለትወለድ
 ምጤ ጠን ተባታለ።

አህ በይ እግግ
 አህ በይ እምጤ
 ደምሽ የሚፈሰው
 አይዘሽ ለገዛው ነው።

አለላፍ በጋ ከረምት
 ያረገዘሰው ለጁሽ
 ነፃነት አብረከሽ
 ነው ለወለድሰሽ።

የምን ለቆሠ ለቆሠ
 አናንት ወገደም ፍ፣
 የምንድን የይ የፃ
 አናንት አህ ቶፍ

ምንም ደም ሲወርዳት
 ምጤ ሲጠናባት
 እግግ መምቷ
 አይደለም ግብ ቃቷ።

አሠይ የምሥራቸ
 አለል አለል በሉ
 ጤፍረ ዘለሉ
 ገረበት በተገሉ
 የና ታቸን ምጤ
 ለጁቁን ነፃነትን
 ለውጭላይ ነው አሉ

አንተ ያሴዎባ ደገና
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 አርባ አደረ ምት
 ከሀገር ባይጠፋ
 አንተ ያሴዎባ ደገና
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 ኃዘን ለጠናበት
 አጽናገው ነህና

All inquiries, comments,
 and/or suggestions
 may be sent to:

 FORWARD!
 P. O. Box 5372
 Madison, WI 53705

- Member Unions of WWFES:
- Ethiopian Students Union in Europe (ESUE)
 - Regional Union of Ethiopian Students in the Middle-east & N. Africa (RUESMENA)
 - Ethiopian Students Union in East Africa (ESUEA)
 - Ethiopian Students Union in North America (ESUNA)
 - World-Wide Ethiopian Women Study Group (WWEWSG)

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ABYOT

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