

# British Dockers Return to Work; Fight Continues

By John White

LONDON, July 5 — Few struggles in Britain can parallel the six-weeks strike of twenty thousand dockers which ended yesterday. True, there have been in the past many magnificent battles, where

workers have equalled the firmness, courage and sacrifice of these men. But you would search far through the pages of British working class history to find men on strike whose heroic qualities had to stand up to such an array of enemies outside and inside the labor movement.

Most dangerous and treacherous have been the enemies within. The right wing trade union leaders of the Trade Union Congress' General Council; London leaders of the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers Union (NASDU), some of them timid and fearful — afraid of the forces they unleashed when they extended the union to the North — and at least two of them conscious agents of the employers or the TUC or both; the Stalinists, who helped organize the strikebreaking activity of the London leadership, continually undermined the strike and denigrated it in the columns of the Daily Worker; all these forces combined in an attempt to defeat this struggle.

The General Council of the TUC backed their fellow bureaucrats of the Transport and General Workers Union. Leaders of the NASDU of "poaching" 10,000 TGWU members in the ports of Liverpool, Birkenhead, Manchester and Hull. They opposed the fight of the NASDU for the

right to negotiate for these men and declared they were prepared to spend over \$20 million to defeat the strike. The TUC General Council set up a Disputes Committee (see Militant, July 4) and endorsed its report which condemned the NASDU. They demanded that the 10,000 men in the Northern ports be excluded from membership of the union.

The trade union bosses knew full well that these Northern dockers would not return to the corrupt setup of the Transport and General Workers Union. But to preserve the power of the Transport Union officials, they were prepared to go to any limits to smash the militant movement in the Northern ports, even if it meant creating a body of non-unionists on the docks.

For their part, the London leaders of the NASDU and the Stalinists reached the peak of treachery last week when they agreed to accept the TUC decision and cut off the men in the North from the union. On a motion of a Stalinist the London leaders instructed the strikers to return to work — a move directly contrary to all traditional democratic procedure of the NASDU where rank and file meetings have had the final word in beginning or ending strike action.

This open betrayal of the North (Continued on page 3)

# H-Bomb Still Menaces World Despite Big 4 "Peace" Talk

## Chile Workers Win General Strike

### Mass Action Forces Govt. To Yield

JULY 13 — A smashing victory was won by the 24-hour general strike in Chile, July 7, which involved nearly a million workers. The police and army were mobilized under martial law by President Carlos Ibanez. But the completely effective strike proceeded with disciplined order and forced the government to come to terms with the striking transport and communication workers.

On the next day, July 8, the government yielded to the postal and telegraph workers who had been on strike for a week. Ibanez had previously refused to even meet with the representatives of the workers on the ground that the strikes were "illegal." The government promised that Congress would be asked immediately to authorize a rise of two grades on their fixed pay scales. The communication workers have given the "Congress" until Wednesday, July 13, to act. If it fails the strike will resume on Thursday, July 14.

By July 10, after a nine-day strike the government-employed transport workers went back to work with a 60% increase as well as other concessions.

Furthermore, the government gave a guarantee that there would be no reprisals against any of the strikers or their leaders. This guarantee was demanded by the labor movement as government employees are forbidden by law to organize strikes.

#### GENERAL DEMANDS

In addition to supporting the demands of the striking transport and communication workers, the Chilean Labor Confederation demanded a flat bonus for all workers to bridge the gap between prices and wages created by the worst inflation in the world. They also demanded increased pension rates and the repeal of the repressive Anti-Communist Law.

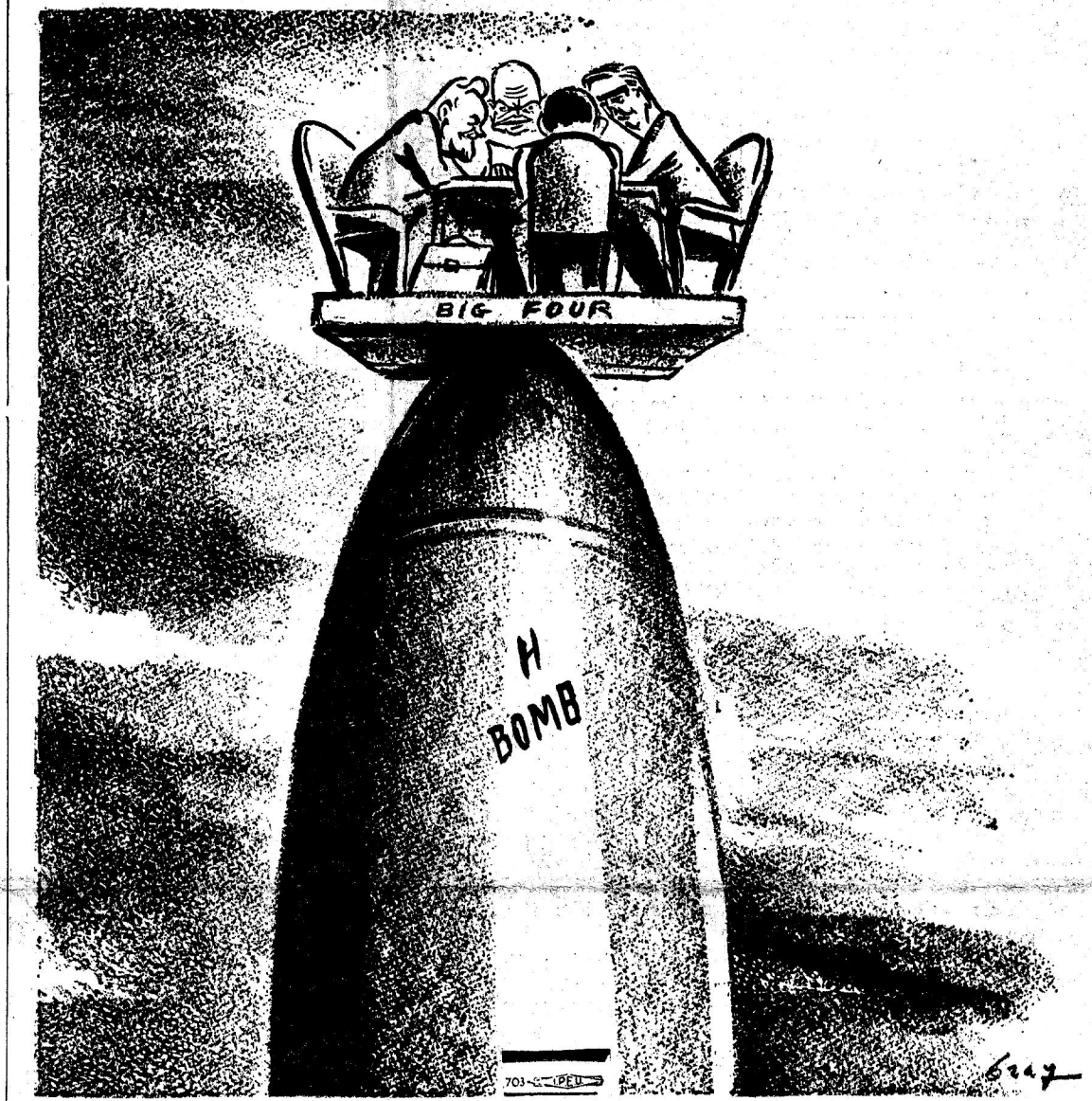
The Labor Confederation has given the government ten days to meet the rest of its demands. If it fails to do so by then, the Chilean labor movement will organize another general strike — this time, without the 24-hour limitation.

The new strike threat of indefinite length represents a victory for the left wing in the Chilean Confederation over the policies of the Communist Party. In reaching the decision for the general strike of last week, as N. Y. Times reporter, Sam Pope Brewer pointed out, "Some members of the Confederation wanted an 'indefinite' general strike. Others voted for a two-day strike. The Communists and their sympathizers, voting with conservative elements, helped carry a resolution limiting the strike to twenty-four hours."

To Brewer the conservatism of the Communist Party is hard to explain. Actually, the Stalinists are following a line wholly consistent with their past policies. They, together with right-wing socialists, are in a people's front alliance with the Radical Party, the political organization of the capitalist class of Chile. They have no intention of fighting for a workers government in Chile.

The Revolutionary Workers Party of Chile (Trotskyist), in the June issue of El Frente Obrero, (Workers' Front) points out the objective that a general strike movement should head for. They appeal to all workers' parties and the Labor Confederation to form a united front and establish a workers government that would reorganize Chile's collapsed economic structure along socialist lines.

### Little Men What Now?



## MINE, MILL AND SMELTER WORKERS BREAK COPPER KINGS' SOLID FRONT

July 14—Striking copper miners and smelter workers, belonging to the independent Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers (IUMMSWA), have broken the solid front of the copper kings. They have won a 11 1/2c. an hour across-the-board wage boost plus a half-cent spreading of the wage rates between job classifications. This latter provision gives little or nothing to lower wage categories but results in an additional four to seven cents an hour for the more skilled workers.

The copper strike in eight Rocky Mountain and Far Western states, as well as in New Jersey, began on July 1. The companies had failed to come across in negotiations. Moreover, the Mine-Mill negotiators were bolstered in their wage demands by the strike and settlements in basic steel.

Of the nation's Big Four copper producers, who employ some 60,000 workers, three — American Smelting and Refining, Phelps-Dodge and Kennecott —

were shut down by the strike. Negotiations with Anaconda continued without strike action.

The Anaconda offer contains an 11 1/2c. an hour across-the-board wage boost plus a half-cent spreading of the wage rates between job classifications. This latter provision gives little or nothing to lower wage categories but results in an additional four to seven cents an hour for the more skilled workers.

#### TARGET OF WITCH HUNT

A strikebreaking attempt on the part of U. S. Assistant Attorney General W. F. Tompkins appears to have borne little fruit thus far. Speaking in Texas where copper strikers are on the picket lines, Tompkins told the Houston Rotary Club that the government is all set to use the Humphrey-Butler Communist Control Act of 1954 against a "communist-infiltrated" labor union.

The IUMMSWA was one of those unions purged out of the CIO by Philip Murray and has since been subjected to smear and strikebreaking campaigns.

Another attempt to weaken the copper strike was a "red spy" hoax staged by Howard Rushmore, a character who lives off the witch hunt. Rushmore, a former professional witness at the McCarthy hearings, appeared on a Chicago TV broadcast and announced he was hot on the trail of a secret Communist leader. Then he "vanished" from his hotel room while the press and radio and TV speculated whether the "Reds" had got him.

His stunt was spoiled when he was recognized in a hotel in Butte, Montana, now hot on the heels of another "Communist" leader, who "has been stirring up copper mine strikes all over the West."

## Credit Revolutionary Pressures for Turn Away from 'Cold War'

By Joseph Hansen

In its advance publicity dealing with the conference of the Big Four, which is to begin at Geneva July 18, the State Department has stressed that little is to be expected from the parley. By this Dulles means that he counts on no major concessions in substance from Moscow and that Washington for its side will certainly offer none. What then is the purpose of the meeting?

Washington's official explanation is that it is simply an exploratory operation aimed at getting personally acquainted with the new heads of the Soviet Union and of further testing their proclamations of willingness to ease international tensions and their reiterated desire for "peaceful coexistence" with the capitalist world.

Nevertheless public opinion in general looks with hope at the parley as possibly marking a big turn in the "cold war," a turn that could open up the way to elimination of the threat of a Third World War and the catastrophic atomic destruction that has become the nightmare of our times.

The feeling that the Geneva conference does mark a turn in the cold war certainly rests on a solid foundation of fact. The turn, however, is not due to the series of concessions already made by Moscow, such as the Austrian treaty. Above all, it is not due to a change of heart by the Big Business rulers of America who have been preparing for World War III since 1945.

What has happened is a shift in the world balance of power to the disfavor of American capitalism. This shift is so marked that it has forced Wall Street to alter its timetable of war.

#### SYMPTOMS OF SHIFT

The shift has been registered in a very real way by the continued revolutionary ferment throughout Asia, by the power of the Chinese revolution proved by force of arms in Korea, by the difficulty of rearming Germany and Japan, and by the bitterness of the American people over involvement in the Korean conflict.

Along with this, the rise of the Soviet Union out of World War II to the status of a major power — the only one outside of the United States capable of developing atomic energy on a big scale — convinced the heads of America's 60 ruling families that an early war against this formidable force would prove suicidal.

It was necessary to draw back to disengage militarily in such areas as Korea and Indochina, to take more time to prepare, especially in rearming Germany and Japan, and to relax world tensions in order to regain the

diplomatic initiative and better psychologize the American people for the fearful contest envisaged in the blueprints for war.

The probability of such a turn became apparent to the Marxist movement with the debacle in Korea and was discussed in the Militant even before Eisenhower was sworn into office and agreed to the Korean truce.

#### NO BASIC CONCESSIONS

This in brief is the general background to the Geneva conference. We can conclude from it that Eisenhower and Dulles will concede nothing that conflicts with the basic aim of their policy which is to prepare for World War III. They can, however, go far in advancing diplomatic formulas and concessions that appear to favor peace. They may even offer to agree to such things as "disarmament," i.e., military cutbacks that are already called for in view of their revised timetable for war.

At the same time, holding out to the Kremlin's representatives the perspective they have in mind anyway — deferral of World War III — they will press in return for heavy payment at the expense of the Soviet bloc.

Here it can be predicted without much danger of going wrong (Continued on page 2)

## Einstein's Final Words Stress H-Bomb Danger

By Paul Abbott

Albert Einstein's final message to the world was released to the press last week nearly three months after the great scientist's death. The message was short but of the utmost gravity. It spoke of the threat of a Third World War and of the danger in such a war of the extermination of the human race by dust and rain from radioactive clouds.

It appealed for a new approach to the problem of war, an approach based on people rising above narrow interests and considering themselves "as human beings, members of the species man, whose continued existence is in doubt." (See full text on page 2.)

Einstein's statement was drawn up in collaboration with the noted English philosopher Bertrand Russell and signed in the last week of his life. Russell said, on making the message public July 9, that after Einstein's death he "approached men of scientific competence both in the East and in the West" for their supporting signatures.

The seven who added their names are among the most eminent scientific authorities in the world, including Leopold Infeld of Poland, Frederic Joliot-Curie of France, Hideki Yukawa of Japan and Herman J. Muller of the USA. Others indicated their sympathy with the statement but withheld their signatures because of witch-hunt pressure.

Einstein thus converted his final message into a demonstration of internationalism among the courageous signers in face of the gravest threat mankind has yet faced.

HOSTILE PRESS  
This proved especially irritating to the Big Business press, which met Einstein's warning and appeal with coldness or open hostility, attempting to minimize the importance of the statement and to talk away the danger symbolized by the H-bomb.

Particularly galling to the statesmen accustomed to sowing the seeds of future wars in secret deals was publication of the message on the eve of the Big Four conference. The big question hanging over that parley is precisely the one underlined by Einstein: the threat of World War III and atomic destruction.

From the Marxist point of view, Einstein's final appeal for action to end the threat of World War III is of considerable interest. As already indicated, one of its most commendable features is its internationalism (Continued on page 2)

### Einstein Bust



Sculptor Mitchell Fields puts finishing touches on a bust of Albert Einstein before its unveiling at a memorial tribute to the great scientist at Carnegie Hall, New York.

## State Dept. Officials Retreat on Passports

By John Thayer

One field of civil liberties where the logjam appears to be breaking is in the getting of passports. The passport division of the State Department, a special kingdom of McCarthyism, had long made itself odious to all believers in political liberty by its witch-hunting practices.

It elaborated the theory that a citizen had no right to a passport, but that a passport was a privilege which it might grant or withhold as it saw fit after an investigation of the applicant's ideas and associations. Passport applications were arbitrarily turned down on the grounds that "travel abroad by the persons involved would not be in the interests of the United States."

While the American press was hollering about the "iron curtain" around the Soviet world

they could never even find out what the testimony was on the basis of which they were denied the right to travel.

#### "SUBVERSIVE" LIST

The criteria for the rejection of passport applications or the seizing of passports previously granted were the usual witch-hunt abuses: Membership, real or reputed, in any of the organizations listed (without a hearing) on the Attorney General's "subversive" list. Association or kinship with any such person or with any person that some faceless informer had said was "subversive." People were refused passports because they were secretly reported to have uttered words critical of U. S. foreign policy.

These people could not get a hearing from the State Department to prove that they had been lied about. Indeed, as is usual in all the "loyalty" cases

they could never even find out what the testimony was on the basis of which they were denied the right to travel.

Then came two blows to the Gestapo-minded passport division. Last May 1, Dr. Otto Nathan, executor of Einstein's estate, unable to get a passport (probably because the division considered Einstein subversive) went to a federal court and succeeded in getting a court order that he be given a hearing or a passport. The State Department backed down and gave Nathan a passport.

On June 23 came the real crushing blow to the two-bit McCarthyism in the passport section. The case of Max Shachtman, head of the Independent Socialist League, who for years had been battling for a passport, came up before the U. S. Court of Appeals. In an extremely important decision, be-

cause it carries implications for the "loyalty" firings of industrial workers, the court unanimously ruled that the right to travel was an inherent liberty; that a passport wasn't a privilege but a right since no one can travel without one; and that the "subversive" list was no basis for passport refusals.

#### SOME RESULTS

The court ordered the State Department to give Shachtman a legal hearing or a passport. So far the State Department hasn't acted on Shachtman's passport. But it has acted on numerous other passport applications which it had held up for years or had refused outright. Indeed, the action of the State Department, afraid to hold hearings at which the flimsy nature of their witch-hunt charges would be aired, resembles more a rout than a retreat.

Clark Foreman, head of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, denied a passport since 1951, has now been given one. Dr. Martin Kamen, world-famous radiologist from St. Louis, Mo., refused a passport for eight years, is now allowed to travel abroad, just as if he were a free man. Willard Z. Clark, a businessman with interests in Ethiopia now may, after years of rejection, travel away from and back to the "home of the free."

Finally, in a case that involves not only the right to travel but freedom of the press — Joseph Clark, foreign editor of the Daily Worker, has now been granted a "limited" passport to cover the Big Four meeting in Geneva.





