

French Fail to Quell North African Upsurge

Mutiny Spreads Among French Army Draftees

By George Lavan

OCT. 9 — As thousands of French troops with the most modern equipment failed to put down the guerrilla warfare that broke out a week ago in the Rif mountains of independence-seeking Morocco another deadly threat rose before the eyes of the French imperialists—mutiny in the French Army.

For two days the city of Rouen in France has been the

Crisis in France

By Daniel Roberts
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scene of large-scale fighting by soldiers and civilians against the French government's special strikebreaking police, called the CRS. These police, who are equipped like troops, were called in on Oct. 6 to force a group of 500 army reservists into trucks which would take them on the first leg of their trip to North Africa.

When the young draftees (they have just finished their 18 months of compulsory military training) refused to mount the trucks, the steel-helmeted CRS blocked the barracks gates. A group of mutineers seized a truck and drove it full speed into the wall, making a breach. Then their fellows poured through the hole and marched through Rouen shouting that they refused to go to North Africa. They also tore insignia

of rank from the shoulders of their officers.

SUPPORTED BY WORKERS

A group of mutineers, in a barracks surrounded by the CRS held off their besiegers by throwing everything available at them. Workmen in the vicinity, seeing what was going on, rushed to the aid of the army reservists, attacking the police from the rear. The CRS had to turn around and try to hold off the ever-growing crowd of civilians. Fighting kept up till the evening of Oct. 7 with the size of the civilian allies of the reservists swelling to 1,500. On several occasions they broke through the CRS lines and some workers were able to enter the barracks to fight alongside the draftees.

Support for the mutineers swelled visibly at quitting time at the factories. Forming columns, and singing the International—the song of the Socialist, Communist and union movements—factory workers, armed only with their fists and stones they could pick up, hurled themselves against the reinforced CRS, armed with tear gas guns and clubs and protected by helmets.

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THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XIX — No. 42

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1955

PRICE: 10 Cents

National Guard Opens Plant To Scabs in Indiana Strike



Scabherding!

Contingents of the National Guard imposing martial law in New Castle, Indiana, are shown above around the foundry of the Perfect Circle Corporation. Scabs and police in the plant opened fire with pistols, rifles and shotguns on UAW-CIO pickets and their sympathizers on Oct. 5. A pitched battle ensued. Seen at right is a UAW-CIO picket sign. Pretending to be shocked by the shooting-gallery tactics of the company and the police against the strikers, and declaring the strikers equally guilty for the violence, Governor Craig ordered out the troops to preserve the peace. This preservation turns out to include limiting pickets to five and military scabherding for the company, which resumed production Oct. 10.

UAW Local Pledges "Never to Give Up the Fight Until We Win"

By Henry Gitano

NEW CASTLE, Indiana, Oct. 11 — Under protection of National Guard tanks, sand-bagged machine-gun nests and fixed bayonets, the Perfect Circle Corp. today reopened its plant with 90 scabs after its brutal shooting last Wednesday of striking CIO auto workers and their sympathizers.

Negotiations have broken down completely. After Governor George N. Craig of Indiana established martial law here yesterday, as well as in Hagerstown and Richmond, the company immediately decided to reopen. Don Ballard, Indiana UAW-CIO official, said: "We refuse to attend any meetings within the shadow of fixed bayonets and Sherman tanks." The foundry today was surrounded by four tanks, two half-tracks, machine-gun nests,

Oct. 12—UAW-CIO local 370, which represents the embattled Perfect Circle strikers, today condemned Gov. Craig's use of the National Guard in New Castle, Indiana, as being not martial law but "glorified plant protection." The members resolved "never to give up the fight until we win our rights or the company goes broke." UAW officials pledged that the International's \$25 million strike fund was behind the hard-pressed local.

The text of an angry letter written by Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to Democratic National Chairman Paul Butler, was released on Oct. 11. Wilkins warned that unless the Democratic Party does something about Democratic-run Mississippi it may lose the Negro vote in the 1956 elections.

Rep. Powell, who is himself a Democrat, asked that a delegation from the meeting be sent to see the National Committees of both parties and ask them what

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Harlem Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, addressing an outdoor protest meeting of 20,000 called by the CIO Retail, Wholesale, Department Store Union in midtown Manhattan, declared that if neither the Democratic or Republican parties responded to the demands of the Negro people for action on Mississippi, then the time had come to start a new party.

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SOCIALIST PUBLICATIONS AND PRESS FUND BEGUN

The Socialist Press and Publication Fund, which opened a drive Oct. 15 to raise a minimum of \$15,000 by Jan. 31, 1956, deserves the support of every reader of the Militant. The proceeds will help

finance the publication of a series of important books and pamphlets, as well as providing much needed financial support for the Militant and the Marxist magazine, Fourth International.

The subject matter of the planned publications ranges from immediate issues facing American labor to the most fundamental problems of world politics. The first pamphlet that your contributions will help publish is "Desegregation! Labor's Stake in the Fight for Negro Equality," by Jean Simon. Also scheduled is "Twenty Years of the CIO" by Art Preis which has been appearing serially in the Militant.

Heading the book list are works by the great Marxist leader and writer, Leon Trotsky, as well as a major compilation of the writings of James P. Cannon, founder of the Socialist Workers Party and a leading figure in the labor and radical movement for the past forty

five years. Those seeking a clear understanding of the inner laws of the great revolutionary developments in China and the entire colonial world will welcome the reprinting of Trotsky's "Theory of the Permanent Revolution" which will appear in an improved translation with a new preface relating it to contemporary events. A second project will make available a complete collection of Trotsky's writings on the United States.

Publication plans for the writings of Cannon include rich material on the early history of the American Communist movement, selections from his ever-popular Militant column, "Notebook of an Agitator," and a compilation of his speeches on Socialism.

Help realize this splendid project. Send a generous contribution to the Socialist Press and Publications Fund, 116 University Place, New York 3, N.Y.

Curran Tightens Grip On NMU at Convention

By James O'Hara

NEW YORK, Oct. 7 — The CIO National Maritime Union closed its national convention today. The week-long sessions, attended by over 500 delegates, took its most important action when it gave legal authority to Joseph Curran, the union's President, for his latest move to consolidate his bureaucratic power.

The convention voted to accept Curran's recommendation of the reorganization of the leading staff of the union. The posts of national secretary and national treasurer were consolidated into the post of secretary-treasurer.

AIMED AT STONE
This organizational move was aimed directly at the Union's National Treasurer, M. Hedley Stone. Stone has held down this post since the early days of the NMU and is one of the few surviving lieutenants of Curran from that time.

Originally part of the Stalinist apparatus that raised Curran from the ranks and educated him for the number one job, Stone was alert enough to break from his old pals in sufficient time to take his place in the group around Curran that first edged away from the Stalinist machine, and then, when the cold-war period began, went all-out in a war of extermination against their former friends and comrades.

Stone's fall from grace came last November when he voted in the national council against Curran's line on the hiring hall. Curran had set a course of retreat before the demands of the National Labor Relations Board. The union hiring hall was opened up and the shrinking number of jobs were offered to non-union as well as union men. This breach in



CURRAN

one of the basic defenses of union conditions in the maritime industry alarmed the membership of the union.

Stone and Vice-President Duffy voiced that alarm at the national council meeting. In Curran's book this is unpardonable sin. Both of these officers buttoned up and never permitted the membership to learn of their disagreement. They played the game according to the rules that Curran has set down. Nevertheless they were charged by Curran with flaunting the will of the majority. The convention action, and the public flogging of Stone by Curran, sealed the treasurer's fate.

How a Workers and Farmers Govt. Would Deal With Mississippi

By George Breitman

[The following is an excerpt from a speech made by George Breitman at the Detroit Friday Night Socialist Forum Oct. 7 on the reign of terror in Mississippi. After analyzing the reasons for this terror that resulted in the lynching of Emmett Louis Till and the acquittal of his killers, Breitman posed the question of what should be done. We print his answer to that question below.]

What then should be done? What should we be fighting for today? I can tell you in two words: federal intervention. Federal intervention, with troops if necessary. That's what should be demanded and done. The federal government should step in to Mississippi and put a stop to the reign of terror, punish the lynchers and protect the rights of the Negro people.

That's what the Negro people of Mississippi—and of Michigan too—are waiting to hear and to see, a demand that the government of the United States quit hiding behind legal technicalities. It must quit dodging its responsibilities and step in with all the power at its command to uphold and protect the civil rights of the Negro people. Mississippi and its courts have already proved to the whole world they have no intention of recognizing or protecting these rights. That's what has to be done in this situation—and nothing less will do the job.

If we had a Workers and Farmers government in Washington today, that is, a labor government elected by and responsible to the working people organized into a party of their own, do you think it would hesitate for five minutes to intervene in a situation such as the one that exists in Mississippi and other Southern states today? Not for five minutes. Not for three minutes. Not if it really were a government with a feeling of responsibility to the workers and with a shred of concern for the democratic rights of the people.

Without hesitation it would consider it a duty to declare a state of emergency in Mississippi, as the federal government has the power to do. It would move into Tallahatchie County, take the lynchers of Emmett Till into custody for a real trial,

dismiss or arrest the sheriff and the other co-conspirators of Milam and Bryant, issue warnings to the Citizens Councils to discontinue their coercive activities, order the school boards to put an immediate end to segregation and to initiate integration in the schools within one week, order the election officials to start registration of all who want to vote, and set an early date for election of all officials and posts in the county, at which the right of anyone to vote would be defended and upheld by the full power of the federal government.

That's the very least a Workers and Farmers government would do in a situation like the one in Mississippi. It would probably do a great deal more to insure that there would be no more tampering or flouting of the Bill of Rights in the

Lynchers' Senator Picketed

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the CIO United Packinghouse Workers, picketed Oct. 8, the U.S. Customs Building in Chicago. Senator Eastland, a Democrat representing the poll-tax state of Mississippi where racist terror reigns, was directing an investigation of "Communist" propaganda in Illinois. Signs carried by the pickets read:

"This committee should investigate Mississippi."
"Witch hunts in Chicago won't stop child-lynching in Miss."
"Senator Eastland — who killed Emmett Till?"
"Mississippi is the real threat to internal security."

PRECEDENTS

It would say further: We are taking these emergency measures by virtue of the same powers that were utilized in the past by the capitalist class when they ran the government, as, for example, they did when they proclaimed a state of emergency in the 1890's because the workers of the Pullman Co. dared to go on strike for better conditions. At that time, some of you may recall, the President of the U.S., a Democrat named Cleveland, sent troops into the strike areas and arrested strikers and their leaders, including Eugene V. Debs, the union leader who later became a Socialist. In this way they broke the strike.

The only difference will be (Continued on page 2)

Immediate Federal Intervention! -- An Editorial

How many more lynchings, beatings, floggings and kidnappings must we have before the federal government acts to protect the Negro people of Mississippi?

Negro leaders are warning that the whitewash of Emmett Louis Till's lynchers at the farcical Sumner, Miss. trial was a go-ahead signal to the child-murdering white supremacists to step up their reign of terror.

Dr. T. R. M. Howard, front-line leader of the Negro people in the Mississippi delta area, told the editors of the Pittsburgh Courier, Oct. 8, "Unless the federal government steps in . . . there will be an outbreak of violence in Mississippi . . . which will shock the very imagination of the American people, and of the entire civilized world."

Then why doesn't the federal government step in? And why aren't the self-proclaimed Democratic-liberal friends of the Negro people, the officials of the AFL and the CIO, and the leaders of the mass Negro organizations themselves demanding, loudly and insistently, immediate

federal intervention, including the sending of U.S. Army troops into lynch-ridden Mississippi?

Does the federal government lack authority for such intervention? Not at all. It simply does not want to act. When Big Business wanted to intervene in the Korean civil war on the side of the landlords and Syngman Rhee's dictatorship, hundreds of thousands of American boys were mobilized by Truman for "police action" against the workers and peasants of Korea.

But for the protection of one million Negroes in Mississippi, living under a reign of racist terror, the federal government has not lifted a finger.

The decision of an all-white jury composed of the sympathizers of the lynchers, Roy Milam and J. W. Bryant, was a declaration of war by the racist Southern ruling class. It was their answer to the historic U.S. Supreme Court decision of May, 17, 1954, declaring school segregation unconstitutional.

If there were any truth to the declara-

tions of love for democracy and freedom that come out of Washington every day the brazen challenge of the Mississippi lynchers would be taken up by the government. Troops would be sent immediately to Mississippi. The lynchers would be brought to justice and the Dictatorship of Jim Crow would be removed so the people of Mississippi could freely elect their own government.

The two capitalist parties, Democratic and Republican, that share the power in Washington are not going to take such a step of their own volition. They are too preoccupied with the filthy game of courting the Southern Dixiecrats as a "balance of power" to even utter one squeak of protest against what is happening in Mississippi.

Moreover, the rule of Big Business in the U.S. is bound up with the maintenance of the open-shop, cheap-labor system in the South. The open-shop South, in turn, depends on the perpetuation of the Jim Crow system. And the Jim Crow system cannot survive without racist terror.

Thus both Big Business parties have a vested interest in maintaining the rule of the Southern oligarchy.

That is why the political policy of the labor officials has crippled the effectiveness of the American labor movement in the struggle against Jim Crow. The labor officials are tied to the Democratic Party machine. And as long as those ties remain the unions are prevented from forming a powerful fighting alliance with the Negro people in the North and South and smashing the Jim Crow system once and for all.

The labor officials stand at the head of the greatest power in America — the working class. It is a power that can wipe the Jim Crow terrorists right off the map.

That power must be unleashed. The Negroes in Mississippi cannot wait. Labor must fight with all its organized might to force the federal government to intervene in Mississippi and enforce 100% the constitutional rights of the Negro people there.

