

What
we
think

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Since none of the docks delegates are elected it was quite probable, as we pointed out on the first day of the strike, that some of them would renege on their previous decision and accept the Pearson 'formula' rather than fight.

Already in Hull and Ipswich the weaker elements, encouraged by the retreat of the National Committee of the Docks Group, have opted for Pearson.

This is not at all surprising. No big and decisive struggle has ever begun without wavering and vacillation, particularly when the leadership spends all its time trying to avoid a fight and trying to convince its rank and file that the task is hopeless and defeat inevitable.

But it is not Ipswich or Hull that is going to decide the outcome of this struggle.

It is the most politically conscious dockers in ports like Liverpool, Manchester, London and Southampton who have been in the forefront of the struggle against Wilson and Heath.

They know they have everything to lose and nothing to gain from Pearson's recommendations, which are nothing more than the rotten bait for the Devlin trap.

They know, moreover, that while the union leaders, the employers and the government are frantic about accepting Pearson, no one is keen on implementing the recommendations of the 1969 Bristow report on the use of registered dock labour in container terminals.

Dockers would also like to know how Mr Jones, who he could accept the Scarman inquiry in 1967 which demanded an increase in basic rates, an end to overtime and a 50 per cent cut in overtime rates and, in 1970, swallow the Pearson inquiry which stated the exact opposite!

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The 'Star's' support for Mr Jones throughout the strike

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ALBERT GITTINS, Royal Group dock, London: This deal doesn't give anything to us. It's obvious they took all the employers' recommendations. It's quite ludicrous to put up overtime without putting the basic rate. You've got to work 50 hours overtime to get this money. As an NAS&D member I think Phase Two is the real fight.

BERNIE STEERS, NAS&D member, Royal docks: I don't think anyone expected a fair deal from the so-called independent Pearson inquiry. All they've produced is the same package in a different wrapping. There's nothing new. We went on strike for a basic increase. There's nothing on the basic and I see no reason for calling off the strike. What happens in the docks now is the yardstick by which the whole trade union movement will be judged in next two to three years.

'We will continue the fight'

INTERVIEWED in Liverpool before yesterday's conference, a number of dockers were determined to continue the fight no matter what the outcome.

Transport and General shop steward Jim Nolan—a member of Liverpool's port modernization committee—commented:

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'We should continue the fight for the £20 basic. The alternative is being mandated to negotiate Devlin Phase Two and we don't want that.'

'I don't know how Friday's mass meeting here will go, but I think there's a good

possibility of our deciding to carry on with the fight.'

Rank-and-file T&G member Frank Hughes, a leading Labour Party left-winger in Liverpool's Scotland constituency, told the Workers Press he thought most Merseyside dockers would now think that the real fight had just begun.

'They won't go back without something being won.'

'When we negotiated the £16 basic here last year it was a real milestone around the employers' neck and Merseyside will fight to maintain that.'

'Dockers don't need telling this is a showdown with the Tories—after all, they've been telling us for months and months they're going to try and break the unions. Well this is it.'

'What's been worrying me is the problem of leadership. The stewards are putting forward this policy of £60 for 20 hours, but the question of redundancies is left hanging in the air.'

'They must formulate a policy of no redundancies and maintaining the register. Otherwise are they saying they'll accept four to 5,000 men going off the docks never to return, if the ante is high enough?'

'We'll have sold our birthright and within 12 months the £35 will have gone.'

While thumbing through his copy of the port employers 42-page Devlin Phase Two proposals, T&GWU shop steward told us:

'We've got no satisfaction at all from the inquiry. It says—just like the employers—no increase at all unless you pay for it through modernization, through the loss of hundreds of jobs under Phase Two. Devlin Phase Two is completely unacceptable at any price.'

'If we lose this fight then everyone else had better look out. This government has set out to do the unions—particularly shop stewards.'

On the contrary, as pickets among the 200 from Liverpool, London and Southampton who lobbied Transport House yesterday were quick to point out, it is only the beginning.

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'There's our flag and we're not going in', shouted Royal Group London dockers as they held up the banner of their shop stewards' committee, while one Liverpool picket shouted: 'We'll see you at Christmas, because we'll be still out there.'

The struggle that has opened up on the docks is not just another wages battle.

It is intensely political. The strike was provoked by the employers and the Tory government with the aim of driving back the dockers, implementing Devlin Phase Two on the employers' terms and opening the way for mass unemployment and anti-trade union laws.

The union leaders, from the very beginning of the struggle, have been in head-long retreat from this onslaught.

Boosted

Yesterday's decision is only the culmination of this capitulation to the Tories.

Every docker can now see just where leaders like Jack Jones—who has been boosted continuously by the Communist Party and the 'Morning Star'—really stand in relation to the class enemy.

The Pearson Report, as the Workers Press has repeatedly pointed out, is a Tory manoeuvre designed to weaken the dockers' fight for their £20 basic wage.

Thanks to the union leaders, the Tories have succeeded in the first part of their plan to split the fight.

But the main struggle is still in front.

There must be no confusion on the docks.

The majority at the docks delegate conference voted for the most humiliating climb-down since the general strike of 1926.

After two weeks on strike, if this vote is accepted, the dockers will be going back with absolutely nothing gained, and will be left wide open for the second phase of Lord Devlin's speed-up scheme.

No wonder employers' chairman George Tonge found the vote 'satisfactory'!

Waking up

As one group of Merseyside dockers told Workers Press:

'It's a sell-out. That sums it up. We completely reject what Pearson said.'

'The young element of the working class is waking up, and they're not a toothless tiger either. You've got to get it home to the factory workers: our fight is their fight. If they lick us they lick them.'

'On the present basic there's no danger of that bank manager being in our cupboard.'

'We're not going back on these terms, and if the Tories send the troops in it'll only make the position worse.'



Lobbyists outside Transport House yesterday echo the headline of yesterday's Workers Press.

'The issue is Devlin' says Hull chairman

COMMENTING after Hull dockers' Tuesday decision to accept Pearson, Mr Len Ludders, chairman of the Humberside area of the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers, told the Workers Press:

'The issue is the second Phase of Devlin. This is a diabolical decision because the delegates have been mandated to a £16 basic minimum and at a further meeting of the Transport and General Workers' Union this first mandate was repeated.'

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'We expected this straw to be thrown, but we didn't expect it to be clutched so quickly.'

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Praise

Stalinist broadcasts from the Soviet Union and E Europe have been full of praise for the leadership of Jack Jones in this strike.

And now that a big clash between rank-and-file dockers and the union leadership over Pearson and Devlin approaches, the Soviet bureaucracy makes haste to come to the aid of its fellow bureaucrats in Britain.

If Pearson 'recognizes the validity of the dockers' demands', then clearly the strike should be called off.

This is the logic of the Moscow Radio position.

The Kremlin, like the Tories, wants to break this strike, just like its Polish allies broke the strike of Asturian miners and Irish cement workers, and just as its French Stalinist allies betrayed the great sit-in general strike of May-June 1968.

The dockers' strike is political, full of revolutionary implications for not only the whole British working class, but Europe as well.

Bail refused in firearms case

WHEN Bowes Egan, 29, was charged at Bow St magistrates court yesterday with 'conspiring to contravene the Firearms Act', police opposed the granting of bail.

His solicitor told the court that among those prepared to stand surety for him were Michael Foot, Ben Whittaker and Humphry Berkeley.

Bail was refused and Egan remanded in custody until August 6. The question

of bail was referred to a judge in chambers.

Detective Chief Superintendent Reynolds arrested Egan in Belfast on Tuesday morning.

He said he was continuing with inquiries in connection with the throwing of two canisters of CS gas in the House of Commons last week.

Bowes Egan stood as a People's Democracy candidate for a Fermanagh constituency in the Stormont election last year.

July £1000 Fund With two days to go we need £98 10s

ANOTHER magnificent post brought in £121 14s 10d yesterday, bringing our July Appeal Fund up to £901 10s 0d.

This means we must collect £98 10s 0d in two days. We have every confidence that we will reach our £1,000 total as we have done every month, but please do not delay.

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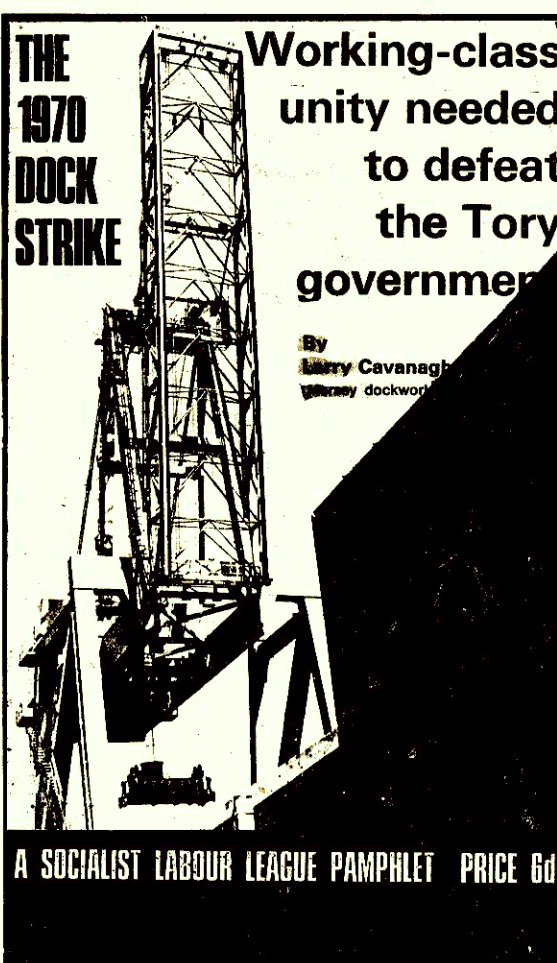
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Conservative warnings during the General Election campaign on the state of the economy were fully justified, he said at a meeting at Alnwick, Northumberland.

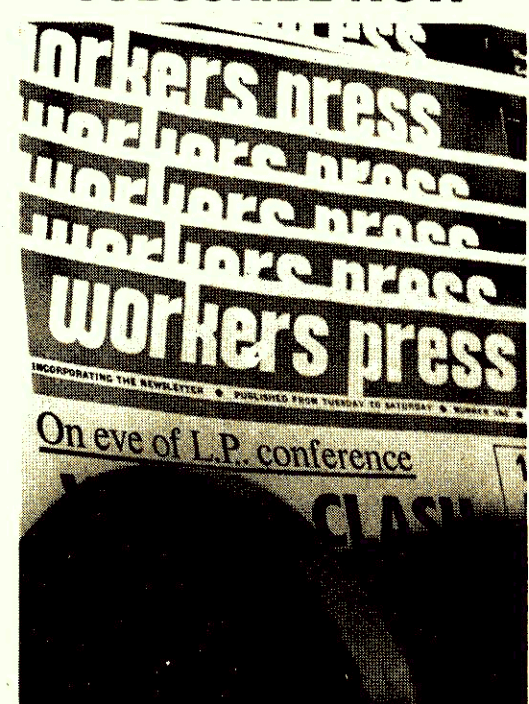
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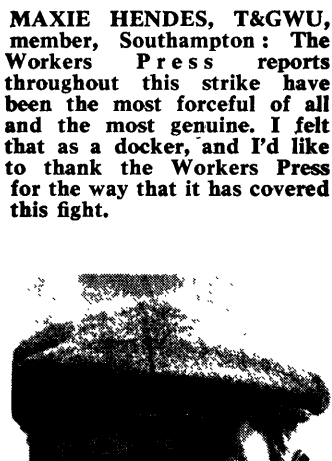
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FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

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They all share and try to impose on the working class the reformist policy best summed in the phrase 'peaceful co-existence'.

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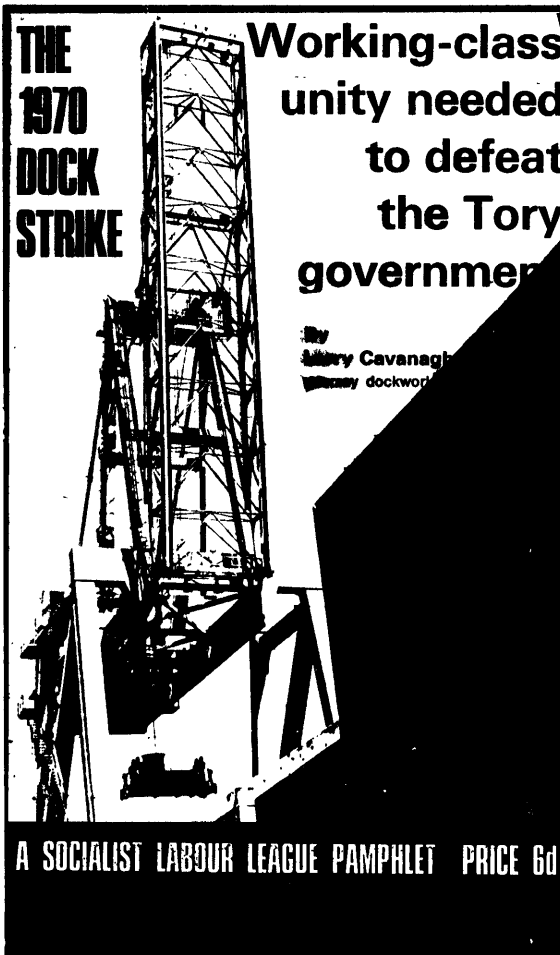
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Black Panthers protesting during the trial of leader Huey Newton.

BLACK NATIONALISM: THE BIG DIVERSION

by CHARLES PARKINS



GIs in Seattle: Black youth have been the main people to be drafted to Vietnam.



Washington DC: The scene of some of the most vicious police attacks on Negro youth.

AS NEGRO youth fought with police on the streets of several American cities in the last fortnight, newspapers and police officials were anticipating that this would be the start of another 'long hot summer' in the black ghettos.

The reasons are not hard to find. At Ashbury Park, New Jersey, where fighting went on for three nights running, a civil rights official said:

'Housing in the West side is among the worst I've ever seen. They can't even move from one hovel to another'.

Unemployment

The local chief of police himself attributed the cause of the rioting to the high unemployment among Negro youth in the city.

Having long been the most oppressed section of the American working class, super-exploited, badly-housed, victims of discrimination, racial insults and police brutality, black workers have also been the chief victims of unemployment.

The spread of mechanization and automation has taken away many of the unskilled jobs to which they were confined, and they have usually been the first to be laid off in any recession.

Large numbers of Negro youth have grown up in the black ghettos without any prospect of a job, and, because they were either unemployed or in dead-end jobs, the black youth have been the main people to get drafted; sent out by the society which oppresses them, to fight for its interests in Vietnam and elsewhere so as to help it oppress other people.

Growing up in the ghetto slums, offered no future except unemployment and war, suffering poverty in a 'land of plenty', and oppression in the 'land of the free', the black youth are confronted daily in their poverty by the symbols—in shop windows, on television and in films—of the prosperity which is denied.

In two parts: PART TWO will appear in Friday's Workers Press

them, acting as an insult and an incitement to revolt.

In one city after another, beginning with the Watts insurrection in 1965, these youth have taken to the streets and fought American capitalism, its police and its troops. Their revolt has exposed the basic rottenness at the heart of mighty America, the heart of world capitalism.

The Watts revolt was the first shot of the American revolution.

It has often been observed that the threat of revolution is the most effective way of bringing reforms.

It was only after insurrectionary conditions had arisen in one American city after another that the US establishment began paying serious attention to Negro demands and the government attempted to introduce some measure of reform.

However problems like unemployment and racial oppression are built in to the very structure of American capitalism.

Reforms

The reforms introduced by the Nixon Administration have solved nothing and with the crisis of US capitalism growing worse, unemployment is increasing.

In April this year the unemployment rate among Negroes rose from 7.1 per cent to 8.7 per cent. Among the youth the figure is much higher, having risen from 28 per cent to 34 per cent—more than one in three.

The Nixon government's scheme to get firms to take on and train more black workers has proved a flop. According to 'Time' magazine of June 8:

'Launched with much fanfare 18 months ago, the combined government-business

drive to hire hard-core unemployed—particularly blacks—is becoming a casualty of the economic slump.'

The JOBS scheme — Job Opportunities in the Business Sector—was established jointly by the Department of Labour and the National Alliance of Businessmen.

The government undertook to pay training grants averaging \$2,400 per man to companies that took on and trained unskilled labour. The government expected that 140,000 workers would be enrolled.

Cancelled

In the year ending June 1970, only 99,000 were hired, and of these fewer than 40,000 were still in their jobs by the end of March. The Chrysler Corporation cancelled a JOBS contract which would have provided for 4,450 workers. Chrysler's chairman Lynn Townsend is also head of the National Alliance of Businessmen.

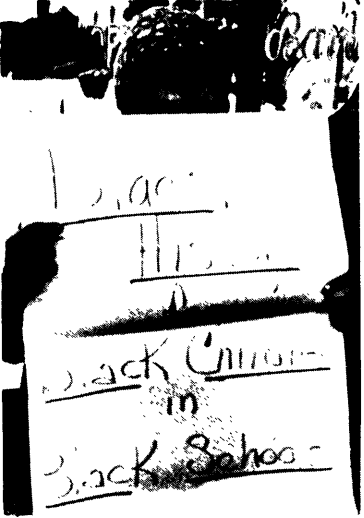
Another company which is involved in the JOBS scheme is Zenith Radio Corporation. Since the scheme began, 28 per cent of their trainees have left, while another 61 per cent have been laid off.

A Zenith spokesman, Mr Leonard F. Luce, stated: 'Should there be a further downturn in the economy, it

Black Panthers prepare to face police attacks.

will be necessary to lay off the balance of those still with us.' 'Time' reports that a Senate Labour Sub-committee looking into the JOBS scheme found that the scheme had not reached Negro teenagers at all and furthermore found serious abuses in the scheme.

'A few companies have used government training grants to subsidize their wage costs and have skimped on teaching. Others have used the programme to recruit and hold



unskilled labour in dead-end jobs.

'A California company, for example, contracted to give 322 hours of on-the-job training at a cost to the government of \$4,173 per man, but most of the jobs were so simple that it took only from two hours to two days to learn the routine. A Detroit manufacturer agreed to train machinists, but turned some of them into general labourers.'

These companies are obviously not interested in solving problems of unemployment or economic insecurity.

They are simply getting what they can out of the scheme — a supply of cheap labour and government subsidies as well. Very nice, says the capitalist!

Of course, this sort of phenomenon is not confined to America.

We have seen something very similar happening in this country when firms move to development areas in Scotland and the North East and in their altruism 'help' the unemployed by taking them on at low wages, helping themselves to 'nice fat government subsidies into the bargain.

It has happened in Britain too that firms which have taken government subsidies for moving into these areas then proceed to lay off their workers at the first whiff of recession.

Anarchy

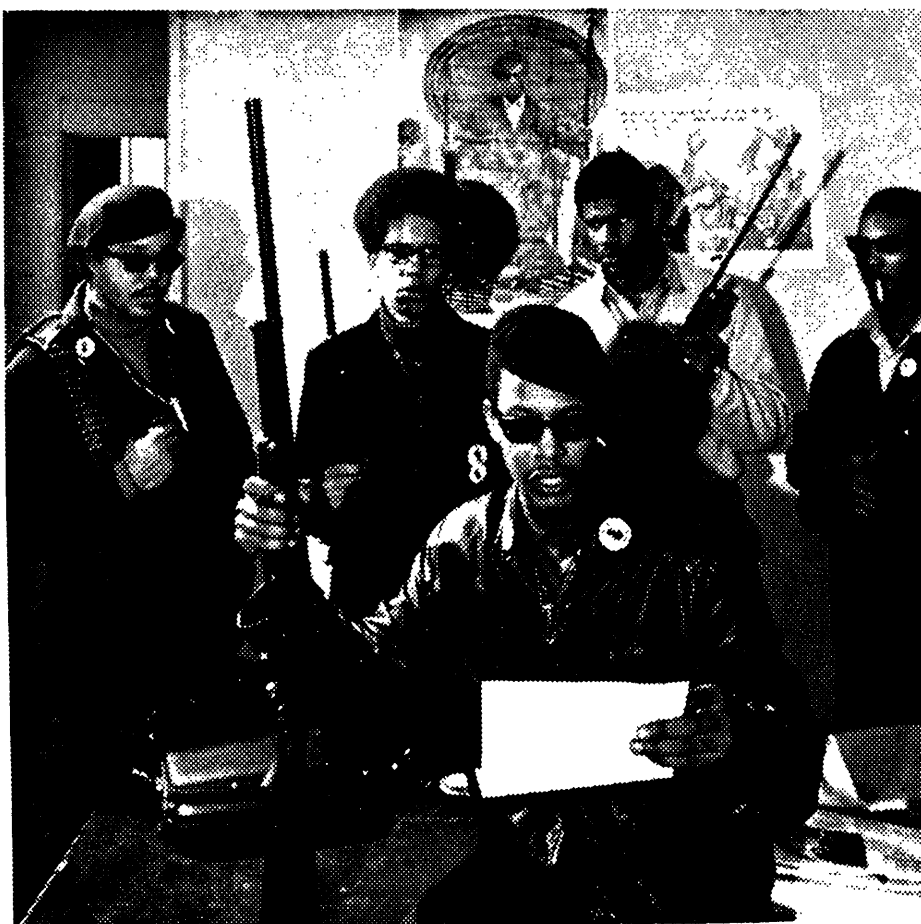
The anarchy of capitalist production is such that attempts to modify and regulate it by government intervention usually end up as merely schemes for turning public money into private profit. The problems of the working class remain unsolved.

American capitalism can offer no future to the Negro youth. To solve the problem of unemployment and bad housing requires the removal of capitalist chaos, and its replacement by a socialist planned economy.

In this period of economic crisis, capitalism cannot even offer palliative reforms. This is shown by the failure of the JOBS scheme. The Senate sub-committee which examined the programme's failure remarked:

'To ask the private business sector to use the JOBS programme as a solution for unemployment in a declining economy is like asking them to solve a financial crisis by writing more checks.'

Not only are the companies laying off workers whom they had recruited under the scheme, but the Nixon administration intends to cut its allocation of funds to the



JOBS programme, as part of a general cut-back in expenditure.

The failure of Nixon's reform programme underlines the seriousness of the capitalist crisis centred on the United States.

Although Marxists have consistently drawn attention to the economic crisis as being central to present political affairs, there has been no shortage of revisionists with theories about 'neo-capitalism' or 'permanent arms economy' according to which America should not be in any crisis at all.'

However the American capitalists do not share the confidence and faith in capitalism which some 'socialists' seem to possess.

United States capitalism, at the head of the whole system

is certainly not enjoying any new phase of expansion.

As for the 'arms economy', the Vietnam war has only compounded the contradictions in the American economy and helped it along to breaking point.

If the US economy cannot maintain full employment in a war situation, then what happens if the war ends?

There will be no jobs for the GIs returning home.

So whatever course the American ruling class takes it faces a serious internal crisis.

This means that the American bosses must turn to more repressive measures against the working class, the students and the black youth. To prepare politically for reaction, behind their 'law-and-order' slogan, the Democratic and Republican leaders will turn

again to an alliance with the segregationist forces in the South.

This means a resurgence of extreme racialism as a force in American politics and a halt to desegregation. This has already started.

At the same time, the Nixon Administration and its big business backers have sought out amongst the black people those whom they can use as allies.

The old Christian pacifist-style 'Uncle Toms' are no longer sufficient to hold back black militancy and the American ruling class realizes this.

What it has done in the last few years has been to consciously cultivate its own tame brand of 'Black Power'.

Continued tomorrow.

TV

BBC 1

11.25 a.m. Cricket. Fourth Test Match. 1.33 p.m. Watch with mother. 1.45 News, weather. 1.55 Bric-a-brac. 3.00 Goodwood racing. 4.15 Cricket. 4.25 Play school. 4.45 Jackanory. 5.00 Adventure weekly. 5.20 Royal International Horse Show. 5.44 Abbott and Costello. 5.50 News, weather.

6.00 LONDON MAGAZINE. News. 6.45 THE DOCTORS. 7.05 TOM AND JERRY. 7.15 TOP OF THE POPS. 8.00 THE EXPERT. 'The Witness'. Part one. 8.50 NEWS, weather. 9.10 ROYAL INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW. 10.30 24 HOURS. 11.15 Weather. 11.17 DECIMAL SHOP. Part five: Open forum.

REGIONAL BBC

All regions as BBC 1 except: Midlands, North, South and West and E Anglia: 6.00-6.45 Your Region Tonight, weather. Nationwide. 11.47 News, weather. 6.00-6.45 Wales today, weather. Nationwide. 6.45-7.05 Heddiw. Scotland: 6.00-6.45 Reporting Scotland. Nationwide. 11.47 News. N Ireland: 6.00-6.45 Scene around six. News, weather. Nationwide. 11.47 News, weather. Road works report.

BBC 2

11.00-11.20 a.m. PLAY SCHOOL. 7.30 p.m. NEWS and weather. 8.00 NOT A WORD. 8.30 THE MONEY PROGRAMME. 9.10 W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM. 'THE LETTER'. 10.00 JAZZ SCENE at the Ronnie Scott Club. 10.50 NEWS and weather. 10.55 LINE-UP.

ITV

2.15 p.m. Redcar racing. 4.17 Origami. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 Flipper. 5.20 How. 5.50 News. 6.02 APPLAUSE! APPLAUSE! 6.30 PEYTON PLACE. 7.00 NEVER MIND THE QUALITY, FEEL THE WIDTH. 'Only Four Can Play'. 7.30 FILM: 'San Antonio'. With Errol Flynn and Alexis Smith. 1877 and bands of outlaws oppose Texas Rangers in open and widespread warfare. 9.30 THIS WEEK. 10.00 NEWS. 10.30 CINEMA. 11.00 TALES OF EDGAR WALLACE. 12.00 midnight MAGIC MAN.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 2.15-4.15 London. 4.30 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 Captain Scarlet. 5.20 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Cheaters. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Film: 'The Siege Pinchut' with Aldo Ray and Heather Sears. 9.00 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 9.30 London. 11.00 Hadleigh. 11.50 Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 4.25 News. 4.27 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 11.55 Faith for life. Midnight weather.

SOUTHERN: 2.15-3.45 London. 4.05 Houseparty. 4.15 London. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.20 London. 6.00 Day by day. 6.35 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 7.05 Film: 'The Foreman Went To France'. With Clifford Evans, Tommy Trinder and Constance Cummings. A foreman from an aircraft factory in Britain battles to rescue three top-secret machines before they fall into Nazi hands. 8.35 Saint. 9.30 London. 11.00 News. 11.10 Untouchables. 12.05 Weather. Action 70.

HARLECH: 2.45-4.10 London. 4.25 Women today. 4.40 Hubble bubble. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.20 London. 6.01 Report. 6.10 Mad movies. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Movie: 'The Philadelphia Story'. With Cary Grant, Katherine Hepburn and James Stewart. 9.00 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 9.30 London. 11.00 Engelbert Humperdinck. Midnight weather.

HTV (West) colour channel 61 as above except: 4.23-4.25 and 6.01-6.35 Scene West.

HTV west colour channel 41 as above except: 5.20-5.50 Y gwylt. 11.00 Y dydd. 11.30-12 midnight Hyd a lled.

HIV Cymru/Wales black and white service as above except: 5.20-5.50 Y gwylt. 6.01 Y dydd. 6.30-6.35 Report Wales.

ANGLIA: 2.15-4.15 London. 4.30 Newsroom. 4.40 Plupp. 4.50 Flipper. 5.15 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 'Ulysses' With Kirk Douglas, Anthony Quinn, Silvana Mangano and Rossana Podesta. 9.00 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 9.30 London. 11.00 Man in a suitcase. 11.55 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 2.15-3.45 London. 4.02 Women today. 4.10 Peyton Place. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 Sincerely. 5.15 London. 6.00 ATV today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Movie: 'I Am at the Stars'. With Curt Jurgens, Victoria Shaw, Gia Scala and Herbert Lom. The story of Werner Von Braun. 9.00 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 9.30 London. 11.00 Untouchables. 11.56 Who knows, weather.

ULSTER: 2.15-4.15 London. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Floris. 5.20 London. 6.00 News. 6.05 Nanny and the professor. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Cartoon treat. 7.10 Branded. 7.40 Name of the game. 9.00 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 9.30 London. 11.00 Avengers.

GRANADA: 2.15 London. 4.10 News. Short story. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.15 London. 6.00 Newsview. 6.05 Take me to your leader. 6.30 Champions. 7.25 Film: 'Never Put It In Writing'. With Pat Boone, Milo O'Shea and Fideleina Murphy. A young executive posts a letter to his boss telling him what he thinks of him. 9.00 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 9.30 London. 11.00 Invaders.

TYNE TEES: 2.15 London. 4.05 Newsroom. 4.10 Please Sir! 4.40 Hatty town. 4.55 Floris. 5.20 London. 6.00 Today at six. 6.30 Police call. 6.35 Sky's the limit. 7.05 Love. 9.00 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 9.30 London. 11.00 News. 11.45 The man with all the resources.

BORDER: 2.15 London. 4.13 News. 4.15 Nanny and the professor. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 Mr Piper. 5.15 London. 6.00 News. Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 '999 River Street'. With John Wayne and Evelyn Keyes. A taxi driver finds himself involved in a web of crime. 8.30 London. 11.00 Engelbert Humperdinck. 11.55 News, weather.

SCOTTISH: 2.15 London. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.15 London. 6.00 Summer scene. 6.30 High living. 7.00 Film: 'All The Brothers Were Valiant'. With Robert Taylor, Stewart Granger and Ann Blyth. 9.00 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 9.30 London. 11.00 Engelbert Humperdinck. 12 midnight Late call.

GRAMPIAN: 2.15-4.15 London. 4.20 Freud on food. 4.50 Win a word. 5.15 London. News, weather. 6.10 F troop. 6.35 Crossroads. 6.55 Movie: 'Decision Before Dawn'. 9.00 Never mind the quality, feel the width. 9.30 London. 11.00 Engelbert Humperdinck.

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Name _____

Address _____

INTERNATIONAL youth NEWS

USA

Growing political awareness amongst youth



A group of the unemployed youth from Asbury Park, New Jersey involved in the fighting

FIVE STUDENTS shot dead at Kent State University in May, university and schools strikes which swept the country after this and Nixon's Cambodian invasion, a Negro youth shot in Jackson, Mississippi, and Kansas City riots by oppressed Negro youth in Ashbury Park, New Bedford and Michigan is just a basic record of recent campus and town events in the United States.

But these are not a repeat of previous years' struggles. 'Something basic has

Guard were not just firing at students but were, in reality, aiming at the working class. (The same men had earlier been battling with pickets during a Teamsters' strike in Ohio.) 'We had a situation where something like 1,200 high-school kids came out on strike in New York City College. When the anarchists came out with the line that they had to do their thing, the kids were angry, they wanted to know concretely what to do,' explains the WL reporter. From the outset, the Workers League fought during the strike for a rally of the labour movement in New York's garment centre. They put forward demands for the immediate withdrawal of all US troops from SE Asia, an end to the repression of the Black Panthers and

of these events were the Ashbury Park riots, in which 165 people were injured. A Workers League youth team visited the town some days later and saw state troopers there still in full riot gear. These men had reportedly 'fired in the air', during the July 4-5 weekend, and yet 92 people were injured from shotgun pellets. The troopers were given 'a certain freedom of thought', according to a military spokesman. But it is clear these men acted in the same 'unnecessary' way as the National Guardsmen are said by an FBI report to have done at Kent State. The rebellion took place in the heart of the Negro ghetto area. A seven-block area was burned and gutted. As angry Negroes, frustrated by lack of jobs and bad housing, surged towards the business area, they were met by the police and New Jersey state force. Negro youth interviewed by the Workers League team said they had no jobs and no prospects in the future. Unem-

employment in the 22,000 population town is around 15 per cent amongst black teenagers (nationally it is 30-35 per cent). With only seasonal and service jobs available, at about \$1.16 cents an hour and the prospect of no skilled training of any kind, these young people face a bleak future indeed. The youth are very bitter about the do-gooding efforts of what they call the 'Uncle Toms', one of whom has embarked on the fruitless project of teaching courses for the civil service examination—a likely job in the service in Ashbury Park must be few and far between. 'The Ashbury Park riots,' says the Workers League reporter, 'as well as the ones in New Bedford and Michigan are clearly related to the rising unemployment among teenagers. Hundreds of thousands of youth without jobs confront a future that is bleaker than ever before. 'Many of them are Vietnam veterans who have come back to no job and no future. Many of them are just passing time until they become cannon fodder.

'The deepening crisis in the capitalist system hits both black and white workers. Unemployment, inflation, lousy housing, no recreational facilities of youth without jobs confront youth. 'But so long as they are divided by racialism, the bosses are off the hook. 'More than anything else they are afraid of blacks and whites uniting around demands for jobs and decent pay.'

From the young Negroes interviewed, there was a clear impression that they were not taken in by the election of a black mayor in Newark, or the appointment of a black police chief in their own town. It hasn't brought any changes—what can they do in the system, was the main reaction. In a very elementary way some of them are beginning to see that it is not a question of colour, but of class. Says one of the Workers League team: 'In the coming months there are going to be more and more rebellions and riots in cities across the country. 'In every case there has to be a struggle to unite black and white youth to fight against the common enemy, to raise demands that unite them against the system that oppresses all working people and uses racism to divide and conquer.'

In this very explosive situation amongst the youth and as the working class moves into political action, the Workers League has a basis to mobilize the militant youth and join the struggle for an international revolutionary youth movement.

A DISCUSSION ARTICLE



THE DAY Yuri Gagarin rocketed into space marked a new advance in the productive forces of mankind.

That the Soviet Union rather than imperialist US initiated this new historical stage in technology demonstrated the inherent strength of the planned economy of a workers' state.

However, not only did the Soviet space programme highlight the crisis of capitalism, but it turned the spotlight on the crisis of the Stalinist bureaucracy, and in particular on the extremely contradictory nature of their development of technology.

The backwardness of Soviet agriculture and the shortage of consumer goods are proverbial.

Less well-known is the extremely uneven development of Soviet industrial technology as a whole. There are very great weaknesses in vital industries such as the chemical and computer industries.

Contradictions

These contradictions brought about by the extremely uneven development of the productive forces have forced the bureaucracy to attempt increasing collaboration with imperialism in a frantic attempt to stave off an economic crisis in which the Soviet working class will call into question the existence of the bureaucracy.

In 1920 Lenin stated: 'Not until the country is electrified and our industry, agriculture and transport are built up on the foundation of up-to-date large scale production shall we be victorious.' (My emphasis.)

At no stage in history has the Stalinist bureaucracy been able to come up with more than a caricature of the necessary forces of production.

As a result the sacrifices of the Soviet working class have been unnecessarily great and the overthrowing of world imperialism by the international working class delayed.

In Bernal's 'Social Function of Science' (p. 443) there is a quotation from a Soviet article written in 1936:

'It is essential that the scientific research institutes shall become the most important factor in the progress of heavy industry. The reorganization of scientific research is one of the greatest problems of the country. To a great extent the rate of subsequent development of Soviet economy and national defence depends on the successful solution of this problem.'

SOVIET TECHNOLOGY (1)

This statement was made at a very significant time—1936. The great show trials of old Bolsheviks were being prepared, as was the decimation of the Red Army high command.

In biology the rise of Trofim Lysenko (see Zores Medvedev's account of this aspect of the bureaucracy's mismanagement of science and its disastrous effect on Soviet agriculture) had already begun.

The technical lead which the Soviet Union had created in

mental science (which is generally therefore of an excellent standard) and at one time was supposed to achieve overall co-ordination of R&D in USSR. The academies operate a large number of research institutes.

However, a series of sweeping changes in the early 1960s took some R&D institutes working on industrial problems away from the academy's control and gave them to the appropriate industrial ministries.

Although research is conducted in the higher educational institutes—the VUZy—they are generally not so successful as their counterparts in Britain and US.

This is because their staff have enormous teaching loads, few promotional possibilities and a shortage of auxiliary staff. Furthermore, it is extremely difficult to get a doctorate under the Soviet system. It takes about ten years compared to three in Britain.

The various industrial ministries run a whole series of R&D institutes, as do the military authorities.

No other country, apart possibly from the United States, exerts such an enormous R&D effort.

The returns are not commensurate with the effort and the Soviet Union has remained very backward in a whole range of important areas of technology.

Beginning in the late 1950s, 'reforms' were made to redress the situation and improve the central planning and organization of R&D.

Since 1957 the bureaucracy has vacillated between tendencies to reduce centralization and tendencies to increase it. While R&D co-ordination used to be left to the Academy of Sciences and a series of separate ministries, in 1961 the State Committee for Co-ordination of Scientific Research was set up to provide overall R&D co-ordination.

Failed

This failed to bring any radical improvement and in 1965 it was replaced by the State Committee for Science and Technology. The idea of overall administrative co-ordination was scrapped and once more control devolved to individual ministries.

Soviet industry is extremely slow in applying research results and the diffusion of new processes and products is likewise very slow, in spite of having probably the world's largest technical information service.

In the USSR it takes from five to seven years to build a large chemical plant and get it 'on-stream' compared with one or two years in Britain and the United States.

Bureaucratic inefficiency and compartmentalization are one reason for such weaknesses.

For example, Atlas 382 resin is widely employed in a French-built fertilizer plant near Moscow. Even though this compound has hundreds of other technical uses across a wide spectrum of industries, the Russians only use it in the one plant.

Little wonder, since the responsibility for spreading information about its usefulness to other industries lay with the Fertilizer Division of the Chemical Industries who, of course, did not care two kopeks about any other division.

H.B.

Continued next Thursday

IN TWO PARTS PART TWO WILL APPEAR NEXT THURSDAY

certain important aspects of military technology—tank design and tactics—was wasted in the initial stages of the war because they were associated with officers executed in the military trial.

Since the war the Soviet Union has made tremendous advances in the fields of nuclear weapons, aerospace technology etc., but such successes have been achieved in spite of the bureaucracy and at great human and material cost to the Soviet working class.

The bureaucracy is, as I shall show in this article, still searching for a technical solution to its problems.

The Stalinists are technological determinists not Marxists and believe technology is the prime factor in history.

One consequence of this is that the bureaucracy is constantly searching pragmatically for the technological or organizational magic wand with which to make their economic and political problems disappear.

An imperialist organization OECD (Organization for European Co-operation and Development) published last year a 700-page analysis of Soviet Science Policy.

Report

This report estimates that in 1965 4.9 million Soviet citizens had received a higher education, and a third of them were 'engineers'.

Their estimates of the number of people engaged in full-time research and development (R&D) ranged from 1,655,000 to 2,291,000 and for the total R&D expenditures in 1965 they estimate between \$14.8 and \$20.7 billion.

Of this sum, between 10 and 12 per cent goes on fundamental research and less than 50 per cent on development.

In America 55.5 per cent of R&D expenditure is spent on development. It is generally believed that the Soviet Union is strong on research, but relatively weak on development.

There are three main centres of R&D in the USSR—the academies, industry and the higher education institutes.

The present Soviet Academy of Sciences can trace its origins back to the Imperial Academy of Sciences founded by Peter the Great in 1725. Besides the USSR Academy each constituent republic has its own academy.

The academy presidium exercises great control over funda-



A street in Asbury Park, N.J., USA following the rebellion of unemployed black youth

changed amongst US youth,' says a report by one young American Workers League member.

She was involved in the May student strikes in New York City College and has just visited Asbury Park, New Jersey where, during the July 4-5 Independence celebrations weekend, this small seaside town was the scene of a ferocious rebellion by unemployed Negro youth.

The background to the campaign by young members of the Workers League to mobilize Negro and white youth is the increasing class tensions created both by US capitalism's economic crisis and the extension of the SE Asia war into Cambodia.

It is the heightening of this conflict which leaves the liberal protesters, anarchists and 'do-your-own-thing' merchants way behind big sections of high school, college, unemployed and Negro youth moving into political action for the first time.

The Kent State shootings played a big part in bringing about a basic change in the attitude of youth, says the report.

The wave of college and high school strikes which immediately followed against the shootings and the war revealed an elementary consciousness amongst many sections that more was needed than just a student protest this time, because the National

the murder of students, a halt to Nixon's anti-labour offensive and for the building of a labour party as an independent political party of the working class to mobilize against Nixon and his Wall St backers.

They explained in their campaign the direct link between mobilizing the US working class against Nixon as a blow to assist the liberation fight of the SE Asian people. They met with a big response not only in New York, but in San Francisco, Philadelphia and other cities. Leaflets were distributed in Spanish and English.

Students at the New York City College sent a telegram to the Labour Council of New York (AFL/CIO) demanding that they call the rally.

One was eventually held on May 21 at City Hall. It marked the first such rally called in the same name of the labour movement against the war.

It was, says the reporter, a big step forward also for the students.

For the first time they turned to the working class. During the sit-in strikes it was noticeable that for the first time the students organized patrols; they stopped people destroying university property and there was no pot-smoking.

'The bourgeoisie recognized this and they were scared. They just left the students to it.'

Following hard on the heels

SIMONSTOWN:

CLASS STRUGGLES IN AFRICA

By N. Makanda



ONE OF the items of discussion in which Vorster, Smith, Rogers (US envoy), Heath and others were engaged in July was the Simonstown agreement.

This is part of the military link-up between the S African government and its imperialist senior partners in Whitehall, the Pentagon and NATO.

The agreement has a long history. After the 1806 seizure and occupation of the Cape by Britain, and in the midst of the first of a series of decimating, land-robbing and labour-hunting wars of conquest against the Batwa, Khoi-Khoi and Bantu inhabitants of the Cape, the British Admiralty made Simonstown the headquarters of its S Atlantic Naval Squadron.

Patrolled

From there both the Atlantic and Indian Oceans were patrolled against Britain's colonial rivals (France and Holland in particular) and had a major hand in the last stages of the slave traffic, during which the capture by British ships of 'prize Negroes' became a favourite murderous sport.

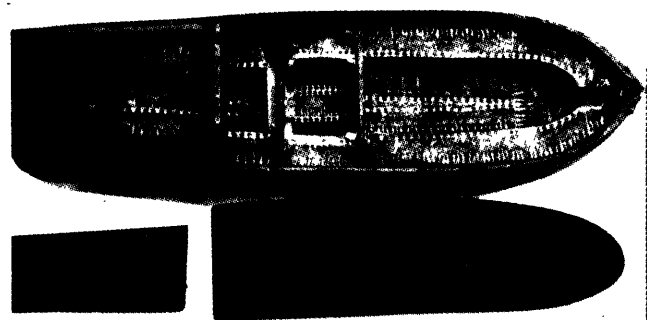
At the same time the Squadron protected and guided the immense British merchant navy as its vessels plundered the shores of Africa and India.

The same navy played a large role in the subjugation by force of coastal resistance by the Asian and African people and in the fortification of the many military vantage points along the coasts.

During this period of conquest, re-enslavement (under the guise of ending the slave traffic), colonial plunder and the sheer devastation of age-old coastal cities and cultures, Simonstown remained for long the major strategic base in the whole of the southern hemisphere for the British navy.

Its special value lay not in its size—it remains small to this day—but in its protected harbour, its situation and the fact

A basic and continual link



A model of an 18th century slave ship showing how closely the slaves were packed together

that it had long been used for safe anchorage as an alternative to the more exposed Table Bay. The decision of 1814 was partly based on the previous use of Simonstown for military purposes by the Dutch conquistadores of the Cape.

Depot

In 1741 the government of Holland had set up a military and naval depot at Simonstown and under Dutch rule barracks and a docks were constructed, largely by slave labour.

Both naval and merchant ships from and to Holland made use of the port. It became well-known to rival colonial powers, the main one being Britain, who, in fact, achieved the 1795 defeat of Hol-

1955 Agreement

The actual so-called Simonstown agreement was dated July 4, 1955, that is almost exactly 15 years ago.

Under this agreement Britain, which until then held the base despite the 'independence' of S Africa in 1910 (as a 'white' outpost of British imperialism), transferred control to the S African government.

At the time the government was in the hands of the same party as now rules—the 'Boer' Nationalist Party—which all British governments continued

the same essential relations as they had previously done with the Smuts (Doubly) Party.

This was doubly natural.

Firstly, because there has never been any difference between the segregation policy of Smuts, the hero of the British Empire and a co-founder of the 'Commonwealth', and that of Malan, Verwoerd, Vorster and other Nationalist Party leaders. There is, in fact, no difference at all between 'segregation' and 'apartheid'.

The words mean exactly the same thing. Secondly, there has been no change in the nature of various British governments.

Whether Labour or Tory in foreign policy, all governments have been imperialist governments and objectively pro-apartheid.

Continuity

There has thus been a continuity of policy both in S Africa and in Britain, and the present 'talks' merely form part of this double continuity.

After the 1955 agreement Simonstown was handed over ceremoniously on April 2, 1957.

An essential part of the agreement was that Britain is guaranteed the use of facilities at Simonstown 'both in war and peace'.

Moreover, the Simonstown agreement is not an isolated one.

It is part of a much wider agreement between Britain and S Africa concerning 'the defence of the S Atlantic and Indian Ocean sea-routes' (as a S African handbook puts it diplomatically).

The Simonstown agreement is thus part of a general military agreement between Britain and the apartheid regime in S Africa, and this, in turn, is the S Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Heath who 'abhors apartheid' belongs to the same club as Vorster whose whole policy was, in fact, laid down firmly by another 'Englishman', the imperialist of Victorian times, Cecil John Rhodes.

The Simonstown agreement is as thoroughly British (imperialist) as apartheid itself.

JUST OUT

64 pages

Fourth International

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1970 THE YEAR OF LENIN AND TROTSKY DOCUMENTS OF SOVIET OPPOSITION

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Cuban crisis grows

CASTRO'S 17th anniversary speech has revealed an unprecedented break-down in the Cuban economy.

The massing of manpower and resources for the sugar cane harvest has shown up in falls in production in every other sector.

Cement was down 23 per cent on 1968, steel down 38 per cent on last year. Tyres were 50 per cent down on anticipated production, fertilizers 32 per cent and dentifrice 11 per cent.

Milk production dropped 25 per cent. Cigars have had to be rationed.

Production has also been deficient, according to Castro, in vegetables, meat, fats and drinks.

Sacrificing everything to sugar production meant stripping every other sector bare of both labour and materials. The regime's response to this crisis, when stripped of its leader's demagog, will be a sharp turn to the right.

In his quest for trained technical personnel, Castro will pander to the better-off layers in the middle class—at the expense of the workers and poor peasantry, who have once again been called upon to make even greater sacrifices.

EMIGRES DEAL
This could even involve a deal with those who left the island when Castro began to nationalize the US holdings after 1960.

Soviet pressure is also building up in the direction of 'Ivestia' Castro is advised to forge close links with the capitalist classes of Latin America—economic as well as political.

The article contains the text of a telegram sent to Castro on the 17th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada barracks:

'The process begun recently by the Latin American countries, the breaking of the

BY ROBERT BLACK

economic blockade of Cuba, will certainly permit the reinforcement of the economic links between the country of victorious socialism in the western hemisphere [Cuba] and the other countries of Latin America.

This process has a dual effect, mutually profitable, and that is why any recrimination on the part of the N American neighbour could not stop it.

'This policy is already well-understood with the Castro regime enjoying good political relations with the Peruvian military junta and the anti-communist Mexican dictatorship.

Presumably the torturers' regime in Brazil and the striker-shooting dictatorship in Argentina are next.

REPERCUSSIONS
Castroism — and all those who have tried to present it as a revolutionary alternative to Stalinism—is going into a deep crisis that will have its repercussions not only in Cuba and Latin America, but throughout the world—and especially in the ranks of the ex-Trotskyist renegades of the 'Unified Secretariat'.

This Pabloite group has based practically its entire political perspective on the emergence of a Castroite 'third force' between imperialism and Stalinism.

It now shows itself tied to both, confirming everything we have said about the Castro variety of petty-bourgeois nationalism since its emergence in the early 1960s.

In Cuba and the whole of the semi-colonial world, just as in the advanced capitalist countries and the Stalinist states, there is no substitute for the building of the Fourth International.

Fierce anti-Stalinist film by Opposition

BY A FOREIGN REPORTER

IN FILMED interviews smuggled out of the Soviet Union, leaders of the anti-Stalinist opposition have made the fiercest attack yet on the bureaucracy by the Soviet 'underground'.

The film shown on American TV on Tuesday consists of speeches made by three leaders of the main opposition groups:

Andrei Amalrik, who speaks for the most pessimistic sections of the opposition who think the Soviet Union is heading for an inevitable war with China.

Vladimir Bukovsky, from the literary opposition.

Peter Yakir, son of the Red Army leader murdered by Stalin in 1937, who heads the pro-Leninist wing of the anti-Stalinist movement.

For this reason, Yakir's contribution is the most important and the most powerful:

'We are all being arrested, all those who have taken part in the democratic movement. But that's not the point. We are apparently being arrested because it doesn't suit the authorities to have people about who criticize them.

'But there's no going back. If we're not here there'll be others, and there are many of us, many young people, and no independent-thinking people in the Soviet Union will go back to what used to be.

'They will beat us, they will kill us, but all the same people will go on thinking differently.'

Defiant

On the surface the opposition seems small. But it draws its strength and courage to make this defiant attack from the growing movement amongst Soviet youth against the entire Stalinist system and ideology.

'In Stalin's day, millions of people were destroyed and nobody knew about it. Now

Read Oppositionist documents in the latest 'FOURTH INTERNATIONAL' see advert inside

we're trying to publicize every arrest and every dismissal.'

Bukovsky, who was recently released after a spell in a Stalinist 'mental home' for taking part in anti-Stalinist demonstrations and protests, described how he met a French Communist Party member who had gone to the Soviet Union.

Disillusioned with the workers' living and working conditions, he organized a strike, was arrested and promptly declared insane.

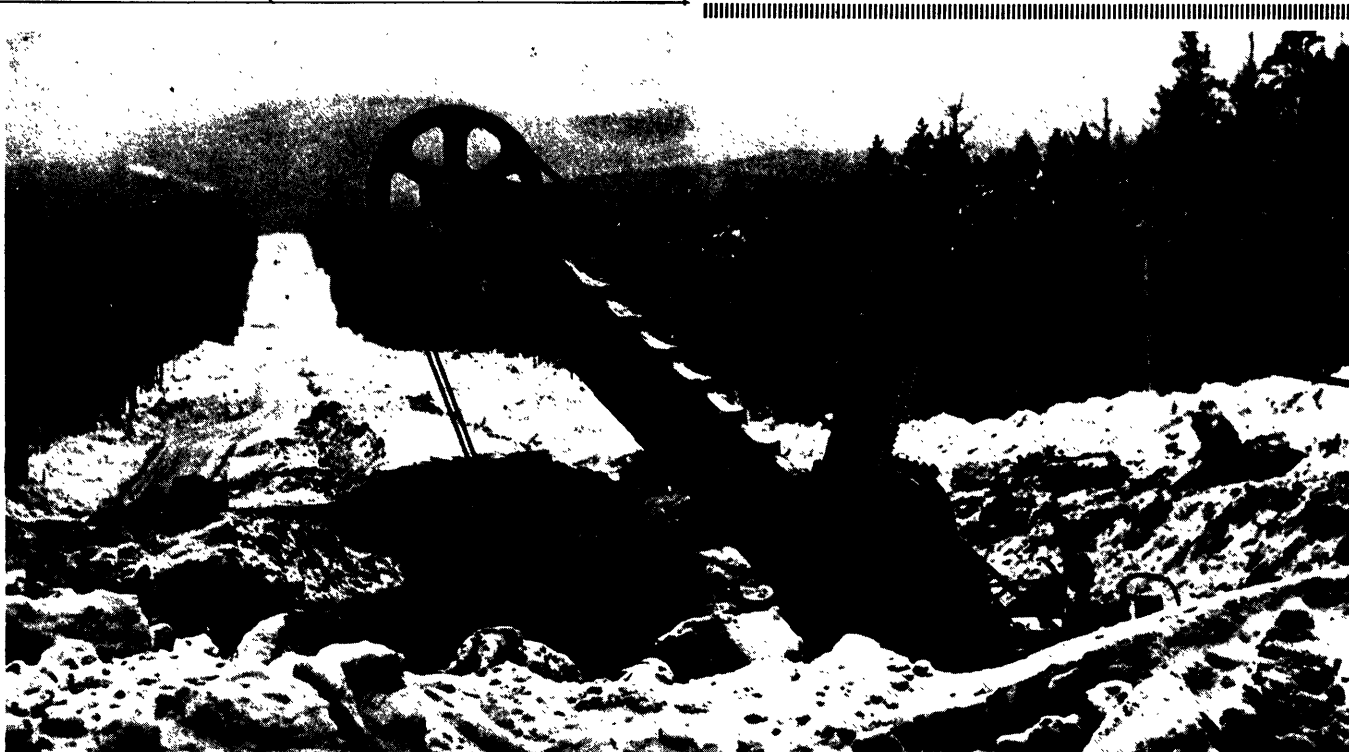
'In the mental home,' said Bukovsky, 'he just couldn't understand what had happened to him, how Communists could do such things. For him, Communism and the struggle for a better life were more or less the same thing, and he just couldn't understand.

'Towards the end of his stay there he really began to go out of his mind, I think, because he kept telling everybody that the Soviet government was under the influence of the Vatican.'

Contact

With Stalinist repressions in the Soviet Union and Europe mounting daily, its victims have been forced to use any avenue of contact with workers and socialists in the capitalist world that is open to them.

It was for this reason only that they agreed to make the film and allow it to be smuggled to the West by former Columbia Broadcasting System Moscow correspondent William Cole.



The breakdown in vital communications, essential to the agricultural and industrial development, are just one aspect of the crisis.

Soviet bureaucrats face severe economic crisis

THE SOVIET bureaucracy is in the grip of a severe economic crisis which it finds increasingly difficult to disguise.

The intense activity of official bodies to assist agriculture, the 'economic reforms' in industry debate and the new labour code indicate the seriousness of the situation.

Symptoms of the crisis can be seen in official industrial output figures for the first half of 1970.

These show consumer goods industries failing to fulfil output and marketing plans.

In 1969, despite the allocation of increased funds for agricultural investment, production fell by 3 per cent.

A significant characteristic of the Soviet economic scene is the lack of industrial workers' co-operation.

Many Soviet factories remain over-manned and the relaxation of labour controls has resulted in a high labour turnover, especially in the newly established Siberian industries.

Dependence on capitalist enterprises to supply whole factories and assist in establishing new industries have re-iterated the Soviet economy's continued backwardness.

Unable to return openly to Stalin's methods the bureaucracy nevertheless seeks to overcome its problems administratively.

The 1971 labour code is a prime example of this—a code drawn up to deal with the workers' scarcely veiled opposition to increased labour productivity at their expense.

Stiff measures
While nominally guaranteeing the workers rights to employment, to leisure and so on, the code aims specifically at increasing labour productivity by stiffer measures against indiscipline and absenteeism.

Speaking on the code to the Supreme Soviet, Vasily Prokhorov said: 'Among the mass of honest workers, who constitute the overwhelming majority, there are persons who are careless and undisciplined, who do not realize their responsibility to society, and who do harm to their collective, to industry, to the national economy and to society. The legislation on labour is called upon to play an important

AUSTRALIAN LETTER

Sydney, July 23—Readers of this column may remember (June 30) the chairman of the Shell group of companies being reported as saying that he was not quite satisfied with the group's profit for 1969.

This had climbed from \$18.5 million (about £8.6 million) to \$26.5 million (\$12.5 million)—an increase of almost 43 per cent.

The gentleman was not joking, as hundreds of workers throughout Australia discovered less than two weeks after the profits were announced.

A claim for a \$12-a-week increase for maintenance workers at a Shell refinery in Sydney was rejected.

The strike which resulted rapidly spread to other refineries in other states and by the beginning of this week the joint action by workers in this key industry was threatening to bring the country to a standstill as petrol supplies dried up and fuel supplies for aeroplanes were threatened.

Obviously with only \$26.5 million in the bank you cannot afford to be paying 1,000 maintenance men all that extra money a week, so they were offered increases ranging from \$6.20 (£2 17s) to \$8.70 (£4) spaced over two years.

Mr Jack Faehney, chairman of the National Oil Industrial Committee is reported to have said: 'Their demands are way-out. They would have a snowballing effect in other areas of industry. They would start

the same old inflationary leap-frogging business all over again.'

At least some of what he said was correct! Australian workers are not going to sit back while profits for the oil industry go up and their standard of living goes down (the cost of living has increased over the last quarter by almost one dollar a week).

The unprecedented number of struggles taking place throughout the country at present are proof of this.

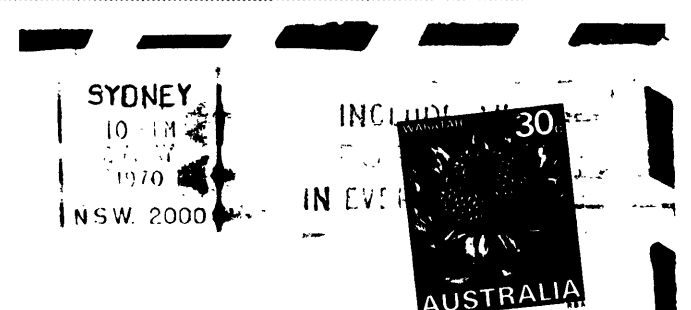
Oil maintenance workers have gone back today (July 23) pending a full inquiry into their claim by the Commonwealth Arbitration Commission, a decision favoured by president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (equivalent to the British TUC) Mr R. J. Hawke, but closely fought among local union men, and only agreed to by 271 votes to 258.

Over 600 petrol tanker drivers who struck because Shell suspended a number of them without pay when they refused to do scab deliveries have not returned to work.

The men say they will not return unless they are paid for what was virtually a lock-out.

AUSTRALIA'S position in the Territory of Papua-New Guinea is increasingly being revealed for what it is—a colony being prepared by the government for super-profits by western capitalism.

The latest confrontation came between the establishment and a group of natives



belonging to the Tolia tribe of the island of New Britain who are forming themselves into a political group known as the Mataungan Association.

Members of the tribe were 'squatting' in an area of land they claimed was theirs by right but which the administration said they had bought and was going to be redistributed among some of the local people.

The Tolias were warned if they did not leave the land they would be evicted by force. Hundreds of police were mustered in the area and preparations were made to move

in troops of the Pacific Islands Regiment (mostly natives of the area).

So far the expected violent clashes have not occurred, mainly because the Tolias backed down at the last minute.

But a growing political awareness among the islanders means that a head-on collision is inevitable.

Both the action of the islanders, and that of the administration and the Australian government (which is responsible for the territory and is said to be using ex-Rhodesian and S African police) point to this.

No retreat now
● FROM PAGE ONE
is the most consistent feature of this reformist daily.

While most dockers suspected, correctly, that Jones was preparing a retreat, the 'Star' did its damndest to portray Jones as a militant leader determined to win the strike.

On July 10 Mick Costello of the 'Star' wrote: 'Mr Jones asked if he thought the strike would take place said bluntly: "Yes".'

On July 16 the same Costello wrote: 'The decision is final. There will be no recall of delegates unless there is a move on the basic rate.'

(Famous last words!) As if this wasn't enough to maintain the fading charisma of Jones, the 'Star' on July 18 ran an article headed: 'Bosses get a rapping from Jones.'

In fact Jones was pleading with the bosses that an increase in the basic did not mean an automatic increase in piecework rates.

On July 25 when dockers were becoming exasperated by this shilly-shallying, Costello once more came to the rescue and reported Jones as saying: 'The strike is solid and we shall not be browbeaten.'

Now the reason behind these reports is revealed with the broadcast from Moscow Radio reported on page one.

WEATHER

London area, SE and central southern England, E and W Midlands, Channel Islands: variable cloudy and mainly dry with bright or sunny intervals. Light SW wind. Near normal. Max. 23C (73F).

SW England: Cloudy but dry with some bright or sunny spells and perhaps rain later. Light or moderate SW winds. Near normal. Max. 20C (68F).

NW and central northern England: rather cloudy. Occasional rain later in the day. Mild or fresh, SW normal. Max. 19C (66F).

Edinburgh: Cloudy with rain at times, becoming brighter with sunny spells. Fresh or strong SW winds, becoming moderate. NW. Rather cool. Max. 15C (59F).

Glasgow area, N Ireland: Cloudy with rain at first, becoming brighter with sunny spells. Fresh or strong SW winds, becoming moderate. NW. Rather cool. Max. 16C (61F).

Outlook for Friday and Saturday: Cloudy at first in the South with a little rain later, becoming mainly dry with sunny periods. Changeable in the North. Temperatures rising to near or a little above normal, particularly in the South.

The issue

● FROM PAGE ONE
overtime will be minimized because no employer will pay overtime when he can put another shift on.

The Pearson report puts everything on to the local modernization committees and knocks the national joint council on the head.

I expect the next attack will be on the National Dock Labour Board.

After a couple of years the employers will be demanding the right to hire and fire and greater disciplinary powers with further reductions in the labour force.

Despot
His son, Quabus bin Said, who removed him, is a modern, Sandhurst-trained despot fully prepared to be the obedient servant of the oil monopolies.

He will no doubt build a few schools and clinics as a sop to the people of the area, but one of his first acts will be to strengthen the Sultanate forces for use against the liberation army now controlling most of the western Dhofar region.

Liberation forces are also in action near Oman, to the North of the country. The coup must be seen in the context of the Tory negotiations with Iran to maintain a military force in the Arabian Gulf protecting the vast oil fields.

The Tories hope to rule the area through 'progressive' puppet sheikhs, who will use a small part of the vast wealth to give token benefits to the population, while threatening to use the British military machine against any movements for real independence and socialism.

Bombings
In Dhofar RAF Canberra bombers fly daily raids against the unarmed tribesmen and shepherds from whom the liberation forces draw their support and recruits.

The labour movement in Britain must demand British troops withdraw from the Gulf, whether there are open forces of occupation or 'seconded' to the puppet states.

Jordan trade unionists will fight deal

JORDANIAN trade unionists have expressed opposition to the Rogers Middle East 'peace plan'.

This follows the acceptance of the plan by the Jordanian, Egyptian and Sudanese governments.

The Jordanian General Federation of Trade Unions declared they will 'paralyse the imperialist presence in the whole of the Arab homeland'.

The oil-workers, in a separate statement, announced their rejection of the US plan and their support for the Palestine revolution.

Yesterday's two-hour Israeli Cabinet meeting to examine the plan was 'inconclusive', according to Jerusalem reports.

Differences
Despite differences between the Cabinet majority, who accept the plan, and the ultra-right-wing Gahal Party minority in the coalition, who oppose, talks will go on to secure an agreement on a reply to the proposals.

And in the Sudan, following Nasser's similar move on Tuesday, the government yesterday suspended all radio broadcasts by Palestinian liberation organizations in Khartoum.

The ban was imposed, said an official, because of commando attacks on the US proposals.

This treacherous action followed a Sudanese government

AIR STRIKE DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL

THE trade union side of the National Joint Council for Civil Air Transport is meeting today to discuss the disputes at British United Airways and Skyways.

BUA has threatened closure if its 3,500 workers strike on Monday for pay parity with BOAC.

SMITH READY FOR TALKS

RHODESIAN 'Prime Minister' Ian Smith announced in his all-white Parliament yesterday he was ready to talk with the Tories 'if I am satisfied the talks will be serious and constructive'.

LATE NEWS

About 1,000 Co-op insurance agents—on strike over a £3-a-week expenses claim—yesterday picketed talks at the TUC's London headquarters.

FREIGHT LOSS
1969 profits of almost £4 million by the National Freight Corporation—set up under the 1968 Transport Act—were turned into a £2 million loss by interest charges on debts, said the NFC annual report yesterday.

Losses of National Carriers Ltd had been reduced by some 10 to 15 per cent and the freightliner ratio of loss to turnover cut in half.

VAUXHALL LOSSES
Vauxhall Motors lost £3,280,000 in the first six months of this year, including a trading loss of £1,090,000 together with interest and other charges.

Chairman and managing director Mr David Hegland said that severe restraints in the home market had been partly responsible.

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