

157-1972, 26

TRIPLE JEOPARDY

RACISM, IMPERIALISM, SEXISM

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ABORTION LEGAL IN FIFTY STATES !!

The rigid laws against abortion in this country have been a means of subjugation of women and indirectly, also of outright murder. Wealthy women have managed for some time now to obtain these operations with little or no difficulty. It has been the poor woman, especially third world women from low-income strata who have been at the mercy of back alley abortionists. Statistics show that the non-white death rate at the hands of unqualified abortionists was substantially higher than for white women. Before the liberalized abortion law was passed in New York, thousands of women died at the hands of unscrupulous quacks. Nearly half the child-bearing deaths in New York City were attributed to abortion alone (1969 statistics), and out of these, 79 per cent were among non-white and Puerto Rican women.

The recent Supreme Court decision concerning abortions, therefore, is of particular interest to third world women. The Court has over ruled all state laws that prohibit or restrict in any way a woman's right to obtain an abortion during the first three months of pregnancy. While controversy over this issue had reached a fevered pitch over the last couple of years, it also produced some interesting alliances: The Pope and Black Nationalists on one side and many women and Rockefeller on the other. However, this historic decision will have far-reaching effects and appears to have averted attempts on the part of "Right to Life's" to overturn liberal-

EFFECT ON STATES OF ABORTION VOTE

Following is a table showing how each state is affected by the Supreme Court's decision on abortion:

States with legalized abortion laws not affected by the decision:

Alaska
Alaska
Hawaii
New York
Washington

States with relatively modern abortion laws that will require considerable rewriting to conform:

Alabama
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Massachusetts
Michigan
Mississippi
New Mexico
New Jersey
New York
North Carolina
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia

States with older anti-abortion laws that have been entirely invalidated and that will write new laws:

Arizona
Connecticut
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Massachusetts
Michigan
Mississippi
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
North Carolina
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia

ruled that for the first three months of pregnancy, the decision to have an abortion rests entirely with the woman and her doctor and the state should not intervene.

For the next six months of pregnancy, however, the Court ruled that a state may "regulate the abortion procedure in ways that are reasonably related to maternal health," such as licensing and establishing regulations concerning the persons and facilities involved.

For the last ten weeks of pregnancy, any state may prohibit abortions if it chooses except where it may be necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother.

The action of the Supreme Court will not effect existing laws in New York, Alaska, Hawaii and Washington where abortions are now legally available in the early months of pregnancy, but it will require re-writing of statutes in every single other state. (See Table)

While this historic decision seems to be a total victory and vindicates the right of a woman to have a safe and legal abortion if she so chooses, a note of caution must be sounded. The key words are "if she so chooses." Bitter experience has taught the third world woman that the administration of justice in this country is not color blind. We know that some black women on welfare have been forced to accept sterilization in exchange for a continuation of welfare benefits and some Puerto Ricans have been sterilized without their knowledge or consent. A young pregnant woman recently arrested for civil rights activities in North Carolina was con-

low-income strata who have been at the mercy of back alley abortionists. Statistics show that the non-white death rate at the hands of unqualified abortionists was substantially higher than for white women. Before the liberalized abortion law was passed in New York, thousands of women died at the hands of unscrupulous quacks. Nearly half the child-bearing deaths in New York City were attributed to abortion alone (1969 statistics), and out of these, 79 per cent were among non-white and Puerto Rican women.

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Rockefeller on the other. However, this historic decision will have far-reaching effects and appears to have averted attempts on the part of "Right to Lifers" to overturn liberalized abortion laws passed in New York, Hawaii, Washington and Alaska.

The new national guidelines drafted by the Supreme Court will result in broadly liberalized abortion laws in 46 states, but will not abolish restrictions altogether. The Court

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Kansas	

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Indiana	Ohio
Iowa	Oklahoma
Kentucky	Pennsylvania
Louisiana	Rhode Island
Maine	South Dakota
Massachusetts	Tennessee
Michigan	Texas
Minnesota	Utah
Missouri	Vermont
Montana	West Virginia
Nebraska	Wisconsin
	Wyoming

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We must be ever vigilant that what appears on the surface to be a step forward, does not in fact become yet another method of enslavement.

THIRD WORLD WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

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P.O. Box 3065 Berkeley Cal'94703

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Cease Fire

The cease fire which was signed on Saturday, January 27th was greeted in the United States with a collective sigh of relief. The war was who have been active in the anti-war movement over the past ten years are extremely cautious in their reactions. The U. S. Government and its aggressive policy in Vietnam has definitely suffered both a military and a political defeat - a defeat which occurred with the Tet offensive, yet the rulers of this nation have shown themselves to be totally untrustworthy, lying to the American people time and time again and talking peace but making war.

Time will tell whether the United States will honor its commitment to keep its nose out of Vietnamese affairs. If a coalition government is not formed in South Vietnam which is not acceptable to the U.S. ruling class, they can always claim that the truce has been broken and proceed with their sinister policies once again.

One of the side affects of the war in Southeast Asia has been a rising consciousness in many sectors of the U. S. population that Amerika is not the peace-loving, defender of democracy that it was once able to claim without too much opposition. The disastrous effect on the economy in the United States and the rising inflation and cutback in social services can be directly tied to the U.S. involvement in Vietnam. However, Nixon has already warned the American people NOT to expect an increase in spending for domestic affairs, so we can see that the military-industrial complex is still very much in power.

A big impetus for the anti-war movement in its beginning stages was the threat of the draft. Students all over this country began protesting the inequities of the selective service system. Blacks, Chicanos and Puerto Ricans as well as working class white youth were the ones bearing the brunt

& Volunteer Army

tusing to follow orders and many refused to go on combat missions. Hundreds of fraging incidents took place. (Soldiers shooting their officers or blowing them up with grenades.) Something had to be done to regain control over the peons. Nixon began to talk about a Volunteer Army. So along with the news that the Cease Fire had gone into effect, Secretary of Defense Laird announced that the draft had come to an end and that the Volunteer Army was now a reality.

(The selective service system was established in 1940 and has been in effect since that time, having involved millions of American men, with a peak being reached in 1966 at the height of the Vietnamese War when 383,629 men were inducted into the army.)

Although some greet the establishment of the volunteer army with satisfaction, for third world people in

this country, it could be a disastrous thing. There aren't enough jobs to go around now. In some areas of this country, the black unemployment rate reaches up to 25 to 30%. Many of these men will be forced into the army simply out of economic necessity. One of the main concerns during the past ten years, was the realization that poor and third world men in this country were being used as cannon fodder and as the mechanism to carry out Amerika's aggressive policies abroad.

This will be even more so with the volunteer army. The resistance within the armed forces will be completely eliminated. We have been subjected to an onslaught of propaganda from the armed forces over the last few months. "Your army wants to join YOU!" shouts the poster outside the army recruitment office. And the smiling black soldier with a neatly trimmed Afro hair style smiles out from the poster enticingly.

The army and national guard have been used in the past in labor disputes and to put down "civil disorders." In other words, not only can we look forward to the use of third world men as enforcers of Amerika's imperialist policies abroad, but also as defenders of the status quo here at home.

A situation is created whereby it is impossible to find jobs and out of desperation, Black and other third world and working class men will be forced to find their livelihoods by serving the repressive forces in the army and national guard.

of this aggressive war. Blacks and Chicanos and Puerto Ricans were drafted and served in Vietnam and died there way out of proportion to their numbers in the population.

A tremendous movement evolved against the draft and many forms of resistance were exhibited. Some refused to be inducted and were sent to jail; others went AWOL or deserted; draft files were burned or destroyed. However, others who for one reason or another chose not to go to jail entered the army and began organizing within its ranks.

The atrocities being committed in Vietnam as well as the massive anti-war movement in the United States caused many who were in the army to begin to question their role. Many of these young men were not politically active before they entered the army. Some had not even been drafted, but had signed up on their own. The resistance of many women to their men going into the service also played a role in the politicization of servicemen.

In days gone by, soldiers were treated as heroes and they wore their uniforms with honor. Women enjoyed walking down the streets with their boyfriends who sported their neatly pressed uniforms. Not so with this war.

A massive G.I. movement began to evolve. Coffee Houses were established near army bases which became centers of resistance to the war effort and to the trancal structures that existed in the army and other branches of the military.

Hundreds of G.I. newspapers sprang up on bases all across this country and G.I.'s in Vietnam itself even received these papers. In short, the military had a massive movement of resistance right within its own ranks. G.I.'s in Vietnam were re-



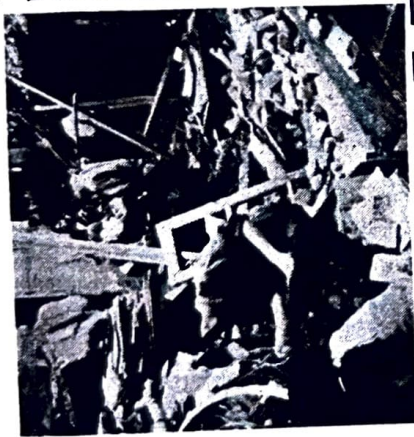
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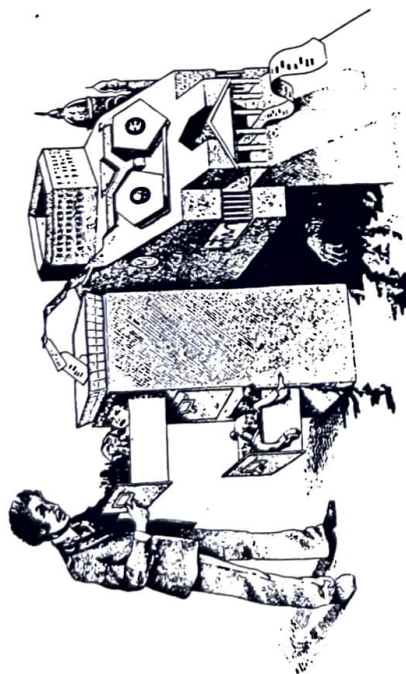
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ON THE JOB

During the 1940s, many Puerto Ricans came to the United States. They came because they had heard that America was the "Land of Opportunity." They came in search of better jobs and a better life. The United States invaded Puerto Rico on July 25, 1898 and installed a military government controlled by them. In no time at all, the Americans had grasped complete control over the political, social and economic affairs of the country. The destiny of the Puerto Rican people was in the hands of foreigners.

Many Puerto Rican women also came to the United States. Most of them were unskilled or semi-skilled. Many found jobs in the garment district in New York City where they worked in factories for long hours and low wages. Working conditions are bad and most are not protected by the union. The following interview is with a Puerto Rican woman who has worked in factories since the early 1950s:

How were conditions in the factory?

There were 17 workers mostly of Hispanic origin. In the winter they would give steam sometimes. At other times there was no heat and I had to wear heavy clothes and a sweater. In the summer there were no fans and the only thing they did was open the windows.

The workers complained but the boss didn't care about anything. There were many rats and sometimes they would pass by your feet. The boss didn't want the workers to get up to go to the bathroom or get a drink of water. The bathroom had no light and it had only one toilet. It was very dirty and there was no toilet paper.

Did you have a union?

In many of the factories that I worked in, there was no union and those that had unions were no good because they didn't represent or help the workers. The dues were \$5 a month and you got no benefits from them.

Was working difficult for you?

Yes, I worked hard for many hours and a low wage. I had to work until I was 8 months pregnant. They didn't throw me out until then because they weren't aware of the advanced stage of my pregnancy. I didn't wear tight clothes. I stopped working and took care of the baby and five years later I had another baby. When the second baby was older, I went back to work. I had to get up at 6 A.M., wake up the children and take them to a friend's house who would take care of them. I got paid \$40 or \$50 a week and out of this, I had to pay the lady \$15 for taking care of the children; plus I had to spend money on carfare and lunch.

How are things in the factory where you are presently working?

If you are absent from work the boss has his secretary call you up and find out why. There are no medical benefits. The boss insults you if he doesn't like you sometimes. You are not allowed to talk to your neighbor and if you do, the boss goes over and tells you to shut up. People who have been there for many years get higher pay. I make \$80.50 and after taxes are taken out I take home \$63.00. Some of the older workers make \$83.00. One woman went to the boss's office to demand that we get a union and paid holidays, vacations and better conditions. As a result of this action, she was fired that same day.

Each year we get laid off from December 18 to January 2nd. If we go for unemployment insurance, we get \$36 a week. If we work overtime, we make less money per hour than if it were regular work. The boss doesn't speak Spanish and there is no one to translate. The workers must communicate to the boss in the little English they know.

If conditions are so bad, why do you stay there?

I have no choice. There are very few jobs available. They are all similar and the pay is the same. In some places, it is even worse! I have no other skills and if I leave, I might not find another job for months.

The above interview shows how exploited and oppressed many women workers are. The garment industry is notorious for the kind of conditions described so vividly above. It is for this reason that we recognize that women are not just oppressed in the home, but especially on the job. The emancipation of women must include the liberation from these kinds of horrible conditions. This Puerto Rican woman states that she is "unskilled." Yet she is skillful enough to produce nearly \$300 worth of goods for her boss each day. Women must unite to fight these horrendous conditions and to show the bosses just how skillful we really are at resisting their enslavement.

The establishment of free daycare centers available to all including facilities for older children will go a long way towards alleviating

When did you come to the United States? And Why?

I came here in 1950 to get married. My husband came in 1948 and worked here and he sent for me. We couldn't get married in Puerto Rico because there were no jobs there and to get married you need a job and money.

Why did you start to work and where did you work?

My husband was making \$28 a week and this wasn't enough to live on. I started to work in a factory on Broadway near Lafayette Street as a machine operator. I earned about \$42 a week. Since then, I have had many jobs. I kept leaving one and looking for another, but most of the factories were the same. I had many different jobs because you get laid off a lot.

What kind of work did you do?

My job was to sew slips. I was required to make 60 dozen a day which makes 720 slips a day. If you made less, the boss would yell at you and if this continued, he would fire you.*

***Editors Note:** You can see just how exploited women who work in these factories are. If the slips she produced sold for as little as \$5 a dozen (a conservative estimate), this worker produced \$300 worth of goods each day. Yet, she was only paid \$8.40 per day. This means the boss made over \$290 profit on her labor EVERY SINGLE DAY!

In many of the factories that I work, there was no union and those that had unions were no good because they didn't represent or help the workers. The dues were \$5 a month and you got no benefits from them.

Was working difficult for you?

Yes, I worked hard for many hours and a low wage. I had to work until I was 8 months pregnant. They didn't throw me out until then because they weren't aware of the advanced stage of my pregnancy. I didn't wear tight clothes. I stopped working and took care of the baby and five years later I had another baby. When the second baby was older, I went back to work. I had to get up at 6 A.M., wake up the children and take them to a friend's house who would take care of them. I got paid \$40 or \$50 a week and out of this, I had to pay the lady \$15 for taking care of the children; plus I had to spend money on carfare and lunch.

How are things in the factory where you are presently working?

I work 7½ hours a day. I start at 8 AM. There is no union, no morning break or afternoon break for rest or coffee. You get only half an hour for lunch and you can't get up to drink water.

If you go to the bathroom you can't stay there long or else the floor lady goes in to see why you are taking a long time. They get mad if you go a lot. If you get a raise it is only a few cents extra and the boss is always on your back so you can work more. If you are sick you do not get paid. If there is a holiday and you don't work on that day, you don't get paid. If you have worked there for a year, you are entitled to a one week vacation which is also without pay. If you are absent for more than seven days during the year, no matter what the reason, you don't even get that one-week vacation.

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If conditions are so bad, why do you stay there?

I have no choice. There are very few jobs available. They are all similar and the pay is the same. In some places, it is even worse! I have no other skills and if I leave, I might not find another job for months.

The above interview shows how exploited and oppressed many women workers are. The garment industry is notorious for the kind of conditions described so vividly above. It is for this reason that we recognize that women are not just oppressed in the home, but especially on the job. The emancipation of women must include the liberation from these kinds of horrible conditions. This Puerto Rican woman states that she is "unskilled." Yet she is skillful enough to produce nearly \$300 worth of goods for her boss each day. Women must unite to fight these horrendous conditions and to show the bosses just how skillful we really are at resisting their enslavement.

The establishment of free daycare centers available to all including facilities for older children will go a long way towards alleviating the concern of many women who work to support their families. The women's liberation movement would do everyone a service if they turned their attention toward fighting to change some of the working conditions faced by women workers every day instead of concentrating on who is going to take out the garbage.

Third World women and other working women must unite along class lines. Many of these bosses are women. The women's liberation movement clouds the issue when it says that MEN are the enemy. We will not be confused by these obstructionist ideas and we will unite with our menfolk and ask them to help us fight the racism and sexism which forces third world women into the most exploited positions and which ensures that we will be the lowest paid of all.

Angela Davis: Repression & Resistance

Several members of the Third World Women's Alliance had an opportunity to talk with Angela Davis on a variety of topics that ranged from political prisoners and increasing repression in this country to problems of women's liberation. A one-hour interview stretched into a four-hour rap session. It would be impossible to reproduce the entire conversation at one time so we have decided to pick out what we consider the most important points covered and do a series of articles.

TWAW: Do you think the Nixon re-election is an indication that we are moving towards a neo-fascist state and will this mean a greater repression against people who are struggling for liberation and for socialism in this country?

ANGELA: The election of Nixon definitely indicates that we are entering into an era of intensified racism, intensified repression. It seems as if the whole function of oppression is undergoing a transformation. We have known repression as an attempt to define the limits of a movement, that is to say, to define the limits beyond which a revolutionary organization cannot go. But it is becoming increasingly evident that repression is now being used to prevent even the emergence of any kind of a movement, to nip it in the bud. Everytime some kind of a struggle emerges or is in the process of emerging, they crush it immediately before it even has a chance to get off the ground. I was talking to Rev. Ben Chavis from North Carolina and the kinds of things that have been going on there seem to indicate that in some way, North Carolina is being used as a testing ground. [Ed. Note: Rev. Chavis has been involved in Civil Rights activities in North Carolina and was arrested and charged with a variety of conspiracy charges. He has been convicted and sentenced to at least 25 years in jail. He is presently out on bail awaiting an appeal.]

In North Carolina they have scores and scores of sisters and brothers in prison who had just become, just begun to be politically active. He was telling me about a sister who was part of an organization either in Wilmington or Charlotte. She had been charged with attempted assault on a police officer or something like that. She was pregnant. She was found guilty and was told that her penalty would be to have a forced abortion.

TWAW: There is an expression in Spanish, "A mayor represion, mayor combatividad." Do you believe that the stronger the repression is, the greater the resistance?

ANGELA: I don't think that there is a natural relationship between them. That whole theory that the greater the repression, the greater the resistance, the greater the militancy is simply not borne out by history. Look at Germany and look at all the countries where fascism has seized power. The only way in which there can be a correlation between the two is if the movement is sufficiently organized, sufficiently strong to grow by

TWAW: Do you think that the masses of black people who supported and rallied around your case did so because you are a black woman who symbolized some kind of resistance to the Man or that there was a kind of deeper connection with your ideology?

ANGELA: The vast majority of the people who were active in some way or another in my defense did not do so because they had communist tendencies. The movement was not built in order to create that kind of a defense. There were over 200 Committees all across the country. Had we taken the position that people who supported me also had to support my politics, there never would have been that kind of a movement. And that was the mistake that was made by a lot of attempts to build defense movements in the past—that if you are going to support this political prisoner, you also have to agree with his or her ideology. And that isn't the function. If that were the case, then instead of just bringing them into the defense movement, you bring them into your political party, bring them into your organization.

The idea was to create a united front effort in which people did not have to assume any particular partisan stance, but were involved because they saw the need to fight repression in this country. That isn't to say, of course, that as a communist I'm not going to attempt to persuade more and more people that they should begin to consider Marxism-Leninism and socialist revolution as being the only solution to the oppression that we're facing, but within a defense movement, as a participant in building the national defense organization, I'm not going to attempt to use that in order to recruit more people into the party because that would be a hypocritical stance. And that would also exclude many other people who have already assumed specific ideological stances.

For example, there are a number of Pan Africanist groups or black separatist groups involved and we simply have to take the position that while we have various ideological differences, we are all the targets of oppression because we are all of the progressive spectrum of political ideology and activities. And that we're going to agree to unite around the issue of fighting repression. That was the whole basis of building the movement around me. That's another reason why we felt the necessity to broaden it out into a mass movement to defend all political prisoners because we did learn some very important lessons on how it is you go about building an effective movement to defend political prisoners.

TWAW: Have any attempts been made to get together with some of the Pan Africanist groups on common ground?

ANGELA: Max Stanford came up to me on a number of occasions and asked us to assist him in building his defense. The Republic of New Africa with all of its sisters and brothers in prison in Mississippi is also entered into a coalition with us. We've had a very good relationship with them in terms of fighting around the freedom of political prisoners. That's the way such an organization should emerge. Otherwise, we can't ever begin to talk about any kind of united front against repression. Which isn't to say that we totally forget our politics and our own ideology. We aren't uniting in a general fashion because we continue to be active as communists and as pan-africanists in other areas, but around the issue of freeing political prisoners, we have to build unity.

TWAW: Do you think that the repression against political groups and therefore the struggles to free political prisoners has led to a closer unification of some of the various groups or at least more connection between these groups than probably existed before?

ANGELA: I believe so. I heard Chaka Lumumba who is minister of defense I think, of the Republic of New Africa, give a very eloquent and very moving appeal around the freedom of the RNA. He first explained what they were all about, that they believed that in order to achieve black liberation, they had to separate from the United States and build a black nation. And that they did not involve any white people in their ultimate political strategy. But on the other hand, because they were being the target of such an intense repression, they recognized that they have to call upon all people of all colors who are progressive in this country to fight for the freedom of their sisters and brothers. And that's a very important advance over the fragmentation that has existed in the whole left movement in the past.

TWAW: Why did you choose the area of political prisoners to work in and what have you been doing since you were released from prison?

ANGELA: First of all, the victory of my freedom was a people's victory. It was won by sisters and brothers struggling throughout this country and throughout the world. It was only natural that after I was freed, I would see my most important contribution to be in the area of building a movement to free other political prisoners. I am in New York to help launch the National United Defense Organization. We recognized that if we allowed the entire movement that had emerged around the struggle for my freedom to subside and to simply fade away, we would really be missing a very important moment of history in this country.



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I think that this theory is not only incorrect but it serves often as an excuse for people to just sit around and wait until the repression comes down, or to develop their strategy in such a way as to encourage more repression without having the apparatus to deal with it. It's a very dangerous kind of thing. I remember when people were saying that all we need is Wallace. And now we have a Wallace (Nixon) and what is there? What is there in response to that?

4

TRIPLE JEOPARDY

canist groups of black people and we simply have to take the position that while we have various ideological differences, we are all the targets of oppression because we are in the progressive spectrum of political ideology and activities. And that we're going to agree to unite around the issue of fighting repression. That was the whole basis of building the movement around me. That's another reason why we felt the necessity to broaden it out into a mass movement to defend all political prisoners because we did learn some very important lessons on how it is you go about building an effective movement to defend political prisoners.

TWWA: Have any attempts been made to get together with some of the Pan Africanist groups on common ground?

TWWA: Why are you doing this? Why are you doing prisoners to work in and what have you been doing since you were released from prison?

ANGELA: First of all, the victory of my freedom was a people's victory. It was won by sisters and brothers struggling throughout this country and throughout the world. It was only natural that after I was freed, I would see my most important contribution to be in the area of building a movement to free other political prisoners. I am in New York to help launch the National United Defense Organization. We recognized that if we allowed the entire movement that had emerged around the struggle for my freedom to subside and to simply fade away, we would really be missing a very important moment of history in this country.



The kind of movement that had emerged around the struggle for my case was really unprecedented in recent years. So immediately after I was acquitted, we began to talk about building a national movement, a national organization to free political prisoners using first of all, the base and the structure that had developed as the campaign for my freedom progressed. And then of course, trying to broaden out as much as possible.

Since the acquittal I have been primarily travelling around the country and then of course, I made a short tour abroad but I have been talking about the need for a movement - the need for an organization to free political prisoners and victims of repression. I have found that there has been an absolutely tremendous response. I've spoken in perhaps 30 different places, both on campuses and in communities. And almost inevitably, there is a unanimous feeling that we need some kind of a movement which can act as a shield between the repression coming down from the government and peoples' movements.

Of course I've also raised some money for the organization because I've received honorariums in many of the places where I've spoken. All of those honorariums are going into a defense fund. I think that the vehicle of a defense organization, a united defense organization can be critical in ensuring the ability of peoples' struggles - the black liberation movement, the Chicano, Puerto Rican liberation movements, the anti-war movement, peoples' struggles in general. This organization can be an important vehicle in ensuring that those movements can continue to develop. We don't see the organization as being a substitute for a movement, but rather a shield so that movements can continue to grow.

Although the organization is political in its goals and aims - it has a political function, it is non-partisan in that we want to bring in as many groups and organizations and individuals from varying ideological perspectives around the issue of fighting repression. And each progressive and radical or revolutionary organization has an interest in playing some role in building that organization which can be a shield, and its not in any way and we want to do, but rather something which will ensure that we will better be able to work without the fear of being totally decapitated and totally crushed.

TWVA: In Harlem this week, you ended your speech with "Unity, unity, unity." The reality of the situation is that many groups are refusing to associate with each other, to come into coalitions with each other based on the fact that their general ideologies are divergent. How do you see us overcoming this problem when on an international level, not even the Soviet Union and the Peoples Republic of China seem to be able to overcome it?

ANGELA: When I was talking about the question of uniting around the issue of fighting repression, I did not mean to imply that we want to build a unified ideology because that would not only be incorrect, but it would be impossible. There is a very intense ideological struggle which is unfolding internationally and that ideological struggle is reflected in this country as well. That struggle has to be carried out as a struggle. As a Communist, I feel that we will be capable of vigorously participating in that struggle and being victorious because I think that the outcome of this

ideological struggle is going to depend upon the ability of the party with the correct ideology leading the masses of people in this country. I don't think that you can separate the ideological differences from the ability of whatever group or whatever organization is in question of actively building a revolutionary movement. On that level, the struggle just has to be fought out.

This does not mean that with the same groups and the same organizations we can't unify around the issue of fighting repression. That's not so difficult to conceive. We've already had some extremely enlightening experiences. Let me give some concrete examples. I think that there is going to be a very intense ideological struggle with reactionary pan-africanism. That is definitely on the agenda and that is taking place now. And while we unite for the sake of fighting repression, for the sake of freeing political prisoners, in the market place we are going to try to expose what I feel is an extremely reactionary function of pan-africanism here and abroad as well. That of course is going to also be reflected in an intense struggle against black capitalism which is being encouraged by Nixon and all kinds of people. Look at somebody like Jesse Jackson who has a reputation as a militant involved in struggle. He has a reputation to a lot of black people and many listen to him with his militant rhetoric and are really deceived. He has already entered into a totally capitalist position. His recent trip to Liberia where he says that black people have to invest in Liberia and we have to have dual citizenship like the Jews. We see that also includes the struggle against Zionism. But the struggle has to be fought out.

(to be continued)

WOMEN OF THE WORLD PROTEST BOMBING

The Cuban Women's Federation on behalf of all women in our country, condemns the U.S. government maneuvers aimed at avoiding, the signing of, the peace agreement, and at protracting even more, the barbarous war taking place in Indochina.

We support the Democratic Republic of Vietnam's appeal exposing the maneuvers of the Nixon administration aiming at eluding the commitments agreed upon. Today, as ever, we, reiterate to our Vietnamese sisters our unwavering decision of giving everything for the just cause being defended by the peoples of Indochina from the first anti-imperialist trench of the world.

Like all our people, we, women, are ready to take part when necessary, in the work of rebuilding Vietnam swept by the most brutal, genocidal war mankind has ever known.

The Yankee imperialists must be forced to sign and fulfill the commitments!

Stop the slaughter and destruction!

We have to put an end to this monstrous war!

We summon the women, the people all over the world, the North American women and people to weld together and unite efforts to achieve the peace in Vietnam!

It is necessary to eliminate all obstacles opposing this!

Let Life and happiness spring up again on the Vietnamese soil!

Let the peoples of the world jointly work out a future of welfare for humanity!

Patria o Muerte

Venceremos

The Women's International Democratic Federation, with 110 national member organizations in 97 countries, urges the Congress and the Representatives and Senators to take action for an immediate end to all air raids and acts of war against the population of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Republic of South Viet Nam and for the signing of the agreement to end the war and restore peace in Viet Nam without delay.

Peace in Viet Nam could be a reality today if this agreement had been signed in October of last year before the presidential elections in the United States, as originally agreed.

Millions and millions of people in all countries of the world were deeply disappointed by the breach of faith of the President of the USA. In defiance of the unequivocal worldwide demand for peace, the bombing was intensified to an unprecedented pitch on 18 December and particularly during the Christmas period.

The human conscience cannot accept such a crime, cannot allow people to be killed, mutilated and sacrificed in an act of genocide unprecedented in history. Members of the Congress,

In this hour when the heart of a nation is bleeding, when its children, the most sacred gift of mankind, its women and its mothers are being cold-bloodedly slaughtered, and when thousands of American mothers are grieving for their sons who have remained on the battlefield, we turn to you with the urgent appeal to take all necessary action to put an end to this monstrous project of destruction and barbarity!

On behalf of hundreds of millions of members of our organizations all over the world, in the name of life and peace, we demand an end to this horrible war!

Indochina.

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Patria o Muerte

Venceremos

Over 50 women representing 35 peace and women's rights organizations in the United States welcomed an international delegation from the Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF) to New York on January 16th.

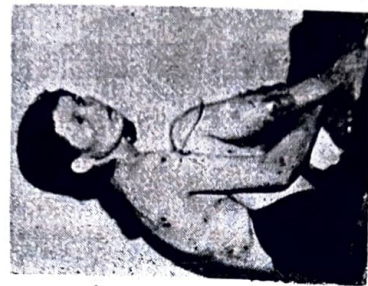
The WIDF delegation came to this country on behalf of millions of women all over the world to ask the United States government to sign the peace agreement and end the war in Indochina.

The Martin Luther King Center of Local 1199 Drug & Hospital Workers Union hosted this meeting where the delegates from France, Italy, India and Canada asked for a united expression of the many and diverse voices of women in this country and other nations of the world to join together to put an end to the murderous war in Indochina.

The American women present endorsed the statement which had been prepared to present to the U. S. demand that the treaty be signed.

government in Washington, D. C. (See text-this page), and joined in denouncing the continuing acts of barbarism being committed against the Vietnamese people.

The WIDF delegation went to Washington accompanied by several American women where they met with numerous members of Congress including Bella Abzug and Barbara Jordan to express their deep concern over the massive bombings and to get the support of American women to demand that the treaty be signed.



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REVOLT OF THE POOR

In our memory no one had ever come to really help us. History had taught all of us that negroes up North leave the slums and never come back. When we think on this deeply most of the black women who made it out of the neighborhood were chosen by the MASTER. You see, he recognizes himself in them. They do everything for money and nothing for no pay. They are very weak and unsure of themselves. Therefore, they "gots to be pretty," "always primping for Mr. Man," "tipping in the latest threads," imitating, aping the white scene.

The only women we were used to was the welfare visitor, sometimes good, sometimes bad and the "good lady in blue" - the visiting nurse. They were white. (Once we had a negro worker - a drag - a striving lady.) Then there is our faithful, old negro doctor. He always came out to us when we were real sick, especially the children. He still does. But he never tried to open our minds. He had no faith that our minds could be opened. We were the way we were because that was the way we were supposed to be. He would have been shocked, maybe even scared if he had known we could think. What does everyone out there call us - underprivileged? Well, underprivileged blacks is how he saw us. And he made his "little change" on us. Oh yes, a whole lot of "change." Welfare paid for every visit. And his "bougie" wife. She hated us! How she "togged" herself with that "change" and how she strutted to civic meetings with the white folks! We heard the doctor wrote a book about us two years ago. Nobody we know got a copy except the black middle class.

A New Voice

So someone coming in 1963 and wanting to take us to hear Malcolm X, a real black revolutionary, and talking quietly to us about our history of oppression as black women, taking our sides against the black men (We were fighting them over birth control.) was like out of this world. This was crazy; yet we listened. We never read the world news in the papers or looked at the evening bulletins on the T.V. We had never even heard of Malcolm X or Martin Luther King either. Then we learned that the white man had paid to have Malcolm killed, and no one had to tell us, we could figure it out for ourselves by then because no black man is killed by Mr. Man unless he is really with the people. We really dug this when they killed King, striving, "bougie" King, trying to come home, trying to help poor black sanitation men instead of helping "bougie" niggers to hustle an integrated cup of coffee.

No Unions for Us

Those of us who worked in the small factories knew our working conditions were unjust. There were no unions for us and we didn't have no faith in unions. We thought everybody had to do their own thing, fight their own individual battles. Most all of our factory experiences were short. The abuse was out in the open. It was not hidden. Most of us told the foreman off sooner or later and left.

A lot of us started out in the late fifties in that electronic factory in the next town. There is also that tomato



The majority of us women workers were Puerto Rican and black. The black and Puerto Rican men had all the heavy work in shipping and packing. The secretaries and foremen were white, usually Italian, maybe Irish. There were all the racist ideas we'd grown to expect, even accept in a way. But the restrictions on time off the line were terrible, especially for those women who felt they couldn't get jobs anywhere else. You couldn't be sick or go to the bathroom, never mind a smoke.

Most of us black women could get

was someone with us who rapped and gave us books on subjects we were curious about. Still we doubted. Wasn't this a hustle after all? Maybe they weren't right in the mind. The men said we should be careful of radical people. We didn't know that word, radical, then but black women who are poor, long ago learned not to take the advice of black men. These "mothers" always operated in their own interest. We were hip poor black women, not Dick-Happy, like too many of our self-destructive sisters, always longing for a man, fighting and "woofing" on other women, leaving our children for some man. Our children came before ANY man. Poor black women who put their children before "A MAN" are revolutionary. Poor black women who put their "MAN" before their children are counter-revolutionary.

RENT STRIKE

We tried to get together with other women to have a rent strike like they were having down in the big city. We just wanted to get rid of the roaches and have some decent heat. We got as far as reporting the building to the Health Department. We were not too together, fussing and carrying tales on each other. There was an organization that wanted us to make a big thing for the newspapers to make a bigger point. But some of us thought we were just being used so we didn't go for it. The group dropped us and the landlord moved, moved a whole lot of us out of the buildings. And we thought our men-folk would have a natural fit. They blamed us, they blamed the outsider and maybe we did, too, a little. But the men were so upset because they had



All these "jivers" for the man took care of their little business with us and we appreciated it. But we never had any experience with anyone who had faith in us, had faith that we could think for ourselves, that we could change our lives. You know, if you're poor, you're poor. You don't miss what you've never had. You just do the same thing, day in and day out. What could change our lives? Damn, our own people never wanted to help! They just wanted to get away from us. We disgusted them. Where was this freedom, except in heaven? We had never even heard the word revolution; even in school we don't remember the word being used. And we certainly had never seen a revolutionary.

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tion of poor women, black and white. You were put in packing first. Then you went to soldering and grinding, then counting and sorting parts. Starting pay was \$1.00/hour with a nickel raise after six months. The tomato plant was \$.85/hour. In the electronics factory they would transfer you to another department before your six months was up and you'd have to start all over again at \$1.00/hour. That's why none of us stayed long. That was all right with the bosses because there was always someone to take our place. In those days we thought, each person for themselves so we never bothered to rap with each other much over conditions.

considered too passive and excitable and the women, too pretty and competition for "Miss Anne". So you see many Puerto Rican women must work in those factories. Some of us know of full-blooded Indians in construction but the Indian woman is not considered for household work. She appears too impassive and Miss Anne gets nervous wondering what she is thinking.

We black women do take great pride in our household work but down through history black people's work was the dirtiest and the most unwanted. No other racial group HAD to do it. We blacks were always on the bottom and we kept these other racial groups free of it. How could black people take pride in this kind of work hated and refused by everyone else in society?

We blacks have been studied a lot lately and we have taken the opportunity to read some of these studies. We are called a passive people. We have learned to study the history of words. Passive has the same LATIN root as the word passion. The LATIN root means suffering. Passivity is the smothering of suffering and passion is the explosion of suffering. Passivity and passion, the ways to keep living when you're damned, even by your own people. We smile at these studies that can never touch the roots of things.

SOMEONE WHO RAPPED

We were living in real cramped quarters back in the fifties and early sixties, seven or eight of us in one or maybe two rooms. We were isolated from each other even though we lived close together. Some nights those halls "jumped out" with fights, bloody, too! But when it was a quiet night we would read, even think deep on things when we turned the lights out to sleep. There

places near to each other and our men came along, all mean and complaining. Some didn't come along. Some just left because we had changed. We were mad now and we were not taking shit from anybody. We could find new men, like that old saying about never chasing a bus because there's always another coming along.

Welfare, as usual, didn't give much help and in fact, tried to cut our money down. For a long time that department had been able to have their way with us. We didn't fight back. Like our children didn't fight back in school either. But some of our sisters were so "uptight" by now that they moved on the welfare workers, beat up a few and dazed the department to bring charges. Not all of us were so daring but it sure raised our spirits.

The schools always complained about our children. Either our children were dumb or "little animals". Our kids were scared to tell us how bad it had always been for them in school because we always sided with their teachers. We had learned to look up to teachers. We asked for help for our children in school. There was none. Then we got the help we needed from outside the school.

The outsider was still there, listening to our hurts, our rage, making things come together. Our business never hit the streets. Our secrets were kept, even within families. The children listened and began to learn far quicker than they had ever learned in school. We became so impressed with their progress we agreed to help and we formed a FREEDOM SCHOOL - right in our kitchens where everybody gathered anyhow. A tape recorder was brought to us and we used it with the children and afterwards we taped our own discussions about the school and plans for the next week.

BLACK WOMAN

09A 9031

TRIPLE JEOPARDY

WAR IN VIETNAM

We got interested in the Vietnam War in 1966 when some of our young men began to come home in boxes. We were given material from the Vietnamese fighters themselves. We could compare it to what we were being told by the men. Many other young black men were signing up to go and we were very disturbed that they did not know the Vietnamese peoples' side. A whole lot of us tried very hard to talk the young men out of going, tried to show them how it was really a war against people like us - black women and children. But our sons and brothers ignored us. We were just black women and the schools had long ago convinced them not to listen to poor people, particularly high school. These black men saw only "the bread", the chance to get away from home, see the world and the chance to be big and bad like John Wayne, as white as the wall. Some of the women in the neighborhood wanted their sons to go. They were already trouble at home, tripping out and going to jail. They thought the army would make men of them. We always depended on white authority when we didn't know what else to do with our children.

We took an opportunity to go to the city to picket an Army-Air Force Recruiting Center in the black slum area. We took some of the older children with us. We wanted to bring this unjust situation to the attention of more poor

black mothers and their children. We came home and argued with those women in our community who said the boys should fight for their country against communism. But we understood their real fears. THEY were the striving poor. They had really accepted capitalism, although none of us ever used the word, as the only way for them to escape upward. Then, of course, this system WAS in their interests. But we war and they were sending their sons to their death. They could not believe us. Whitley was Superman!



COLLEGE AND EVERYTHING

Some of the women who organized that picketing came back to our neighborhood with us. We had told them about our school and they wanted to help us. A few of us thought it just might be possible for "bougies" negro women to come home. Those who had their doubts kept their mouths shut.

Some of us were very touched deep because they were honest-to-goodness trained school teachers, had gone to college and everything. We were open to them. They were against the unjust Vietnam War, had taken real action against it and they had offered themselves to us for no pay. We were so happy to have them. We insisted on paying them with our surplus food. Some of us noticed their embarrassment, but others just remarked that it was easier to give than to take. We all had to learn how to take.

Finally they had to leave us. Our thoughts as we look back on it was that they couldn't take all our love and gratitude. Perhaps they couldn't take the fact that we had minds of our own. We could think for ourselves, given half a chance. We had ambitions of our own - not to be "bougies" - but to reach out to everybody like us and move with them to change all our lives. We knew we were somebody!

They thought we should want to go to college and have our children make high marks. We wanted our children to learn HOW to think, as we had learned, not WHAT to think. Lord knows, we had had enough of that! They favored the children who were quick in the mind. They ignored the children who were slow but thorough. We opposed this "bougies" way of teaching. We wanted our children to know the power of poor people had to understand things deeper than the "bougies". For instance, we did not permit the children to compete with each other. We slowed them in history how this competition had been used to divide and con-

quer us.

At the same time we wanted these educated black sisters to feel our love and respect for them. We struggled with them after school hours, helping them to look at their family problems in a wider way, showing how secure they were compared to us and how they could fight harder for their just rights, therefore. We struggled with them to see our ways, how full of love and togetherness they were. We did not split up like their anti-war group had had to do. We told them that we had done those foolish tricks in the beginning and once was enough. We could not afford to pay those kind of dues again - being evicted and getting beat up on by our old men. Even though we teased them about their funny, "bougies" ways, we loved them for coming to us every week and giving us their time. They even brought their own children and we loved them like our very own. To this day we think about them, wonder about them, and miss them - five years later.

WE UNDERSTAND

We think we understand why they had to leave us. Some of us really thought they would stay and be taught by us. But we had to learn how home-deep is the "bougies" way among our educated black women even when they want to help us poor black women. That "bougies" fear of the poor can make them want to annihilate us if they can not control and lead us. Their fear of us is very strong.

(to be continued)

OFFICE OF THE NARCOTICS WAR?

boisterous lip service to attempting to combat this evil and from time to time makes a big display of confiscating millions of dollars worth of heroin, we know, in fact, that this scourge could not be possible without the consent and collusion of the police and governmental agencies.

WOMEN who are addicted to drugs, not only ruin their own lives, but cause tremendous damage to unborn children. Babies born of addicted mothers come into the world addicted themselves. They are forced to undergo all the horrors of withdrawal. The sight of these newborn babies screaming out in agony as they lay in their incubators is enough to make you sick with anger and despair.

LAST WEEK, amidst a lot of fanfare, the Narco Department displayed a vast array of confiscated heroin on the television. They stated that this was one of the largest hauls they had ever succeeded in capturing. What was new in this case, however, was the blatantly political overtones. Statements were made to the effect that these plastic bags had come from the Peoples Republic of China and that this indicated that China was involved in the dope traffic.

FOR NARCO agencies in the United States to suggest that China is in some way involved in the dope traffic shows how corrupt they are. The proof shown were the plastic bags containing the heroin, each stamped "Made in Peoples Republic of China" What is ludicrous about the situa-

tion? We learned about China in School, we were taught about the Opium War. Our impression was that China was a country of dope addicts and the British were fighting this plague and on and on. The truth of the

THE PROBLEM of dope addiction in China could not be solved under the old regime. However, after the triumph of the revolution, the Chinese were able to totally wipe out dope addiction and eliminate this problem. This was only possible because the revolutionary government in China was really committed to its elimination. The new government had no need of keeping the people in a state of stupor.

IT IS the United States and its international agencies that have been implicated in the dope trade. Everyone knows that the CIA has been involved on an international level for their complicity in the billion dollar dope trade. Their puppet, Marshall Ky of South Vietnam was discovered to be using the air force as a transporter of heroin.

THE PEOPLE to people contact between the Chinese and American people has been a tremendous success. Everywhere the Chinese visitors have gone, they have been greeted with warm welcomes and they have done much to break down barriers that have been set up for so long.

PEOPLE in this country are very indignant about the dope problem and they thought that this accusation was a good way of discrediting the Peoples Republic of China. However, we have had much experience with the sinister tactics and lies of this government, and we will not be fooled by their childish accusations.

LONG LIVE THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD!!



Learn from the staff, people of the staff will be the best

Learn from the staff, people of the staff will be the best

WELFARE

One of the saddest aspects of the past and present welfare system is that it continues to dehumanize those who must use it. While it is an ineffective system which fails to house, feed and clothe the nation's poor adequately, those who administer it boast of generosity and in the same breath complain about waste and expenses. When people are so mistreated in comparison to their more fortunate fellow citizens, it is a wonder that any welfare office is physically still intact.

By 1940 many states had taken over from the federal government the responsibility of issuing relief to those in need. The Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program (AFDC) is the heading under which most welfare is issued. A survey taken in late 1939 pointed out shocking discrepancies in the way different states were allowed to administer relief. A family with dependent children living down South would receive about \$8.00 in relief per month. If the same family lived in one of the New England states, their grant would be over \$60 a month.

Migration to North

In the South local relief agencies have kept payments so low that a person would be better off going to work if they can find a job. No matter how cheap the wages were, they amounted to more - if only a little more - than welfare payments. Relief



These are programs which provide jobs, counselling and training for relief clients, however, even here there are drawbacks. Many of the benefits which welfare recipients are entitled to are not explained to them. Self-righteous and incompetent case-workers may choose not to inform the clients of existing benefits and programs. Often a woman who wants to work runs into difficulty finding and paying for adequate childcare and may have to also use her own money for carfare. This in itself is discouraging, yet welfare administrators would have the public believe that all welfare recipients do not want to work. The fact is that many who do want a job cannot afford to look for one because of the expense involved.

Welfare vs. Jobs

as a permanent worker with full benefits. This seems to be a more positive solution to the problem rather than hassling the client. One more statement can be added to clarify the economic plight of women in this capitalist, male-dominated, racist society. Despite the lies which have been perpetuated along with distorted historical accounts, surveys show that in terms of economic status, white men, of course, are the highest paid in all job categories. Third World men, contrary to popular belief, are second; white women are third and Third World women are LAST.

Many people criticize the welfare system for giving too much, for having so-called cheaters on the rolls, for being too lenient. Bourgeois poli-

an average increase of 15% in food costs. Here, we pay twice, once in welfare payments and again in higher food bills. 224 million dollars went to subsidize shipping companies. In order for American shipping companies to compete with higher foreign shipping wages, the federal government subsidizes the salaries of merchant seamen. The average merchant seaman earns from \$13,000 to \$30,000 annually.

Corporate Welfare

Wealthy corporations get enormous benefits even in their so-called efforts to help train and employ people living in poverty areas. For their "help" the corporations are aided by the government through numerous tax exemptions and by having some of the costs of machinery and equipment paid for by the government. Some corpora-



offered. Black women and their children suffered greatly under these practices. Local relief agencies cooperated with farmowners. Often women and children would be taken off relief rolls and told to go to work in the fields. While many claim that people from the South moved North to get on welfare because payments in the North were higher, a closer look shows us that many people in the South who were agricultural workers lost their jobs due to modernization. Machines were used to do the work of field laborers and as a result thousands became unemployed. Hostile attitudes towards Blacks who sought welfare along with the fact that many Blacks were turned down for jobs as well as welfare motivated many to move North in hopes of finding employment.

White Families Too

Black women who did get relief were constantly harassed into working at some kind of job. Despite accusations which label all Black women on relief as lazy and rip-offs of the welfare system, a survey taken by the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare showed that 19% of all Black mothers on welfare worked, while only 10% of the white women worked. Another study proves that white families make up 55% of the total number of people receiving relief. Yet, the racist, chauvinist attitude of society contends that welfare for whites is a right but for a non-white it is a hand-out and something those in need should be ashamed to accept.

these problems and who have marketable skills are turned down for jobs? Yet, in a period of very high unemployment, the welfare administration is insisting that those on welfare get up off their backs and find jobs. WHERE ARE THE JOBS? People are losing jobs all across the country, so why is there this asinine assumption that welfare recipients can find jobs? Another factor which comes to light is the way the recipient can be pitted against those already working. A welfare client can be ordered to work for a certain company or starve. Suppose the other workers at the company belong to a union. The recipient works there and does not receive a check from the company but gets paid by the welfare department. Since he or she is not an employee that person cannot join the union. Hostility mounts because the union knows that ordinarily any person holding that job would be a union member. The company, on the other hand, is delighted because not only do they have one less union member to deal with, but also obtains free labor because the client is drawing a salary from the welfare department. Too often the client ends up victimized because the pay is lower than someone else who is doing the same type of work. The client is in no position to ask for a raise or demand permanent status. Of course the other workers may see the client as a threat and fear that soon welfare recipients may be forced to work in their positions and displace them. The climate created, especially for the client, is filled with tension. A reasonable solution might be for the union to put pressure on the company and demand that the person be hired

any state which are meant to arouse public hatred for poor people especially members of the Third World. Recipients can easily get the public upset about the slaughter of the Vietnamese, the billions spent on the space programs, the brutality of our prison system, the exploitation of all workers, etc., by simply harping on welfare spending. Yet, they fail to mention how little actually goes to the nation's poor

The Cost to Taxpayers

The government's own figures can spell out the facts. First it is necessary to point out that there are many categories which come under a general heading known as social insurance and these include, Disability Insurance, Unemployment Insurance, Social Security Benefits, federal railroad retirement and veteran's programs. Then, there is public aid and it's this category that causes people to raise the most hell. 12% of the nation's budget is spent on social welfare (social insurance and public aid) yet only 1.9% of this actually goes to needy persons. In 1971 about 63 billion dollars was spent on social welfare. Ten million went to farmers. This isn't called welfare, it's called a subsidy and 7% of the nation's wealthiest farmers receive an average of \$14,000 a year in welfare. All of this for not growing anything on their farms. They are not subjected to the inhumane figure of \$2400 for a family of four. The money to "keep" farmers is not only paid out in taxes but also accounts for

tions are eligible to have 25% of the employees salaries paid for by the government as well as having some of the training cost paid for. It is a real sham and a undisputable fact that here in Amerika, home of the world's richest corporations, the government must pay industry to do what it should do-hire people who need jobs! This is monopoly capitalism showing the ugliest side of its face.

\$2400 is an outrageous figure to ask any 1 person to live on yet the ruling class attempts to make the public believe that a family of 4 can do it. Even a government agency, the Dept. of Labor has produced figures which are contrary to this belief. In 1969 the Dept. of Labor produced what is called a "Budget for a Moderate Living Standard". According to its findings, in order for a family of four to live moderately well in New York City, the annual income would have to be \$11,236!

Little more can be said except the obvious; the nation's poor are living at a subsistence level, while the rich

HISTORY

TRIPLE JEOPARDY

ations can expect generous relationship between the slumlord and the welfare client should be obvious. The New York City Dept. of Welfare pays as high as \$600 a month in rent for a family of four to live in a tenement, yet the public lashed indignantly when the National Rights Organization called for a needed minimum amount needed for families over the poverty line. Government grants the smallest amount to aid mothers and yet spends considerably more on other groups. One survey showed that the government spent 2.6 dollars on 2.8 million people were receiving Old Age Assistance to the Blind and Aid to the Mentally or Totally Disabled. It



for their cut of the welfare check. Many clients complain that food prices go up right around the time the checks are issued. These food price increases hurt everyone who

Needless to say, a change of ownership and control is in order. Those who produce the country's wealth must decide how it should be spent. Under the capitalist system, workers are paid salaries and owners are able to use the wealth as they see fit. A system which is based on private ownership is responsible for the wars, pollution, poverty, racial and sexual bias which is ripping this country at the seams. This is because the people have no say about what owners do with so-called private property.

A Matter of Priorities

Consider the way that the government has chosen to spend our tax dollars—with or without our consent or knowledge: just think about the wealth produced by the workers in this country and it should be clear that if workers were able to determine how this money is spent, if taxpayers had a direct voice in how tax money is spent, there would be no increases in taxes. These funds would be used to create and improve services and facilities that serve the PEOPLE. When services like garbage collection, day care centers, health clinics, etc., are denied funding, the government is telling the taxpayers that they will have to do without these services and that the money will be used elsewhere.

People in this country constantly engage in an economic tug-of-war with the government and this would not happen if we could run our own communities and have financial control over our tax money. This point



that their services are worst. In December 1972 Con-Ed was asking for a deposit of \$55 for new subscribers to have their lights turned on. The high cost of having the lights turned on and the cost of keeping them on creates a financial burden for all poor people especially since this outrageously expensive utility is essential. Yet both corporations have continually harassed and terminated the services of those who can least afford to pay.



se to spend only 2.8 billion dollars on welfare or not. Merchants who participate under the Food Stamp Program have also raised their prices. It is too often that the prices in ghetto areas are the highest and the quality of goods the lowest, not only in grocery stores but in department, furniture and clothing stores as well. Check cashing businesses also get their share of welfare money. Often the exact cost of cashing a check is not known to a customer. For instance, instead of a person being told that it will cost \$1.08 or \$2.39 to cash a check they are usually confronted and confused with percentages. A sign in the store may say it will cost 1.5% of \$100 plus an additional 25 cents or something on this order. At any rate these figures and percentages are presented in such a way as to hassle a person who because of the lack of time, ability or patience cannot figure out the change in dollars and cents and therefore must take the word of the cashier.

Who Benefits?
The most part one of the largest most urgent bills for a welfare is the rent. Right away the

ly budgeted so that she MUST spend all of her money. Meanwhile those she must deal with, the slumlord, grocer, light company, etc., are the ones who benefit from her poverty. Her time and energy is spent trying to survive.

We Pay for Everything

But why must anyone be treated like this? Economists have stated that it would cost 27 billion dollars a year to bring everyone up to an acceptable standard of living (\$6500 for a family of four). In spite of ruling class rhetoric concerning higher taxes, this can be done and without the taxpayer paying out additional money. It should be pointed out that we pay for EVERYTHING, even those services that we are told we are not entitled to, along with other programs that don't benefit us.

In 1969, 32 billion dollars was spent on the crime bill, according to the F.B.I. That same year 27 billion dollars was spent to wage war on the Vietnamese people. Yet, the government will spend less than 3 billion dollars on this nation's poor. Obviously the ruling class is willing to spend more money to wage war on yellow people than it is willing to spend to wage war on poverty.

In 1965 sales for General Motors rose to 20.7 billion dollars. This was larger than the revenue income of ANY foreign government with the exception of the USSR and the United Kingdom. So, with the exception of all but 2 countries, GM sales could actually support the people of any foreign country. The stockholders did not build GM—the workers did—yet the workers do not own nor control the wealth they produce. They therefore are not able to determine how these profits can be used.



LETTER FROM A

Last November 28th, the Brazilian government, - a dictatorship since April of 1964, condemned three young revolutionaries to death: Ariston de Oliveira Lucena, Diogenes Sabrosa de Souza--both members of Vanguardia Popular Revolucionaria-- Gilberto Ferreira Lima. One of these young men is my son: Ariston. The other two are my comrades, as loved and respected by me as my own son.

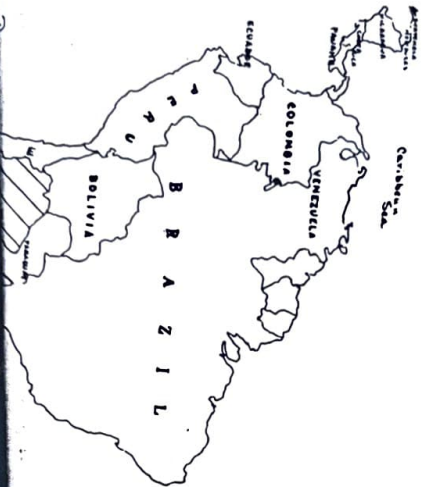
I was imprisoned in Brazil in 1970 after a shootout at my home between several of the dictator's police and my husband, who died heroically. My three youngest children were also imprisoned. They were kept in an orphanage and one of them, nine years old, was mentally and physically tortured by the tyrant's lackeys. Our story may still be remembered by the Mexican people who temporarily took us in when we were liberated through the kidnapping of the Japanese consul in Sao Paulo in March, 1970.

I am a humble woman, daughter of the people, daughter of exploitation and misery in which the immense majority of my people live. I barely know how to write. I only know that my duty is to struggle against that which I feel is arbitrary, unjust and discriminatory in my country. I only know that I must fight against North American imperialism which keeps the Brazilian dictatorship going economically and ideologically. My revolutionary practice is a product of my hate, because I believe that, in my country, there have been and are people capable of directing our internal affairs more righteously and more justly, and that the

rades of his -- in a revolutionary commando which bore the name of my assassinated husband - - kidnapped the Japanese consul so that through liberating him they could gain the release of my children, myself and other comrades, so we could come to Cuba.

We all left prison half dead. We were insulted, beaten and tortured. Now my son is condemned to death and I can neither shed tears which would shame him with my cowardice, nor ask for clemency from the dictatorship. It would be like a betrayal of my son's courageous position. In any case I wouldn't ask for justice from those who neither know what it means nor practice it. All I can do, Mr. Domingo, is ACQUISE.

present of lack of funds with which to keep them up, while it finances private schools where the children of the ruling class are educated. Because education is classist in my country, and the people receive an education which is deformed in schools which are at the service of interests of the ruling class and the foreign boss rather than the interests of the people. Children and youth -- those who are able to go to school -- are educated in order to assimilate them into the system. That's why the dictatorship doesn't want to enlarge the educational system, in order to prevent the children of the people from getting a real education. In my country, Mr. Domingo, we have a 60 percent illit-

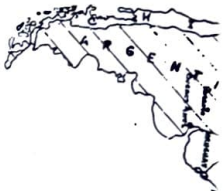


... of the dictatorship is in-
acceptable. That power is, in fact,
the same one which aspires to domi-
nate our entire continent.

My husband fought consciously a-
gainst the dictatorship. As a work-
er he suffered exploitation in his
own body. I am of peasant origin.
I am from the North East, from that
dry and arid land where 60 percent
of the people are unemployed or sub-
employed. I saw my own son die of
hunger when he was only a year and
half old and I have seen hundreds of
children die like that in my coun-
try. We are used to seeing death by
starvation in our country. But, Mr.
Domingo, we are not resigned to al-
lowing this to continue. That is
why we are fighting. That is why
thousands of young people suffer
torture today, the most barbarous
tortures you can imagine. That is
why thousands and thousands of Bra-
zil's best young people are ready to
die in the efforts to see our coun-
try freed from oppression, exploita-
tion and imperialist intervention.

Ariston is an optimistic young
man. He is 19 years old. He never
knew the joys of adolescence because
the revolution claimed all his ef-
forts. I raised him with a great
deal of difficulty, working as a
maid, ironing and washing clothes
all day long so he wouldn't meet his
brother's fate. My husband earned
a miserable salary. Ariston took up
his father's gun, not out of venge-
ance, but out of political convic-
tion. While my son was working with
Carlos Lamarca organizing a training
camp from which to initiate armed
struggle in the countryside, com-

10
ft



Atlantic Ocean

I ACCUSE the fascist dictatorship
in Brazil, not of wanting to assassi-
nate my son but of keeping my coun-
try in a situation in which millions
of children have no access to public
health, to education, to food. I
ACCUSE it of maintaining a situation
of exploitation which daily kills
dozens of small children with under-
nourishment. I ACCUSE it of tortur-
ing, imprisoning and killing hun-
dreds of young people who daily sac-
rifice their youth for a life of
struggle preparing the road which
will lead to our people's libera-
tion. I ACCUSE it of handing our na-
tural resources over to imperialism,
to foreign capital whose exaggerated
intervention in my country has forced
the denationalization of our economy
since the government gives foreign
capitalists such good terms that
they are able to work with our in-
ternal resources by bringing a mini-
mum of capital into the country. The
twenty companies owning most money to
the Bank of Brazil are foreign.

I ACCUSE it of maintaining a re-
pressive army that consumes three
times more of our national budget
than that which is assigned to edu-
cation. I ACCUSE the dictatorship
of closing public schools under the

emergency rate.

I ACCUSE the dictatorship of
keeping hundreds of teachers and
doctors in prison while in the coun-
tryside a and in the cities there
aren't enough hospitals or class-
rooms. I ACCUSE it of maintaining
the most ferocious kind of censor-
ship through a total control of mass
media: in that way it often misleads
public opinion and, through the pub-
lication of false news items, tries
to demoralize the revolutionaries. I
ACCUSE it of keeping dozens of hon-
est journalists in prison; many of
these, far from being revolutionar-
ies, have simply identified them-
selves with the people. I ACCUSE
the Brazilian dictatorship of having
removed even the most elemental in-
dividual rights, including the right
of "habeas corpus," and of having
restored the death penalty -- not in
order to apply it to the torturers,
to those who steal the sweat of the
people, but to young revolutionaries
who oppose Garrastazu Medici's ter-
rorist, fascist and sell-out regime.
Mr. Domingo, I, a woman of the
people, wife, mother and comrade of
Brazilian revolutionaries, ACCUSE my
country's government of playing the
role of imperialism's gendarme in

10
ft

BRAZILIAN COMPANERA

TRIPLE JEOPARDY

South America. I accuse it, from my Latin American woman's heart of having contributed morally and materially to the overthrow of the Bolivian nationalist government, in order to put a fascist dictatorship in its place. I accuse it of mobilizing troops last November on the Uruguay-Paraguay border in order to prevent the triumph of progressive forces in the elections there. I accuse it, already, of facing the upsurge of people's revolution and progressive government's nationalism as a servant of imperialism's plans; as a new tool to be depended upon for a new Americanization of the war if the tide of revolution gets to the point where the imperialists have to try to detain it.

The North American imperialists know that their direct intervention in Latin America is now and will be in the future almost impossible. That is why they need a gendarme, a government of a large and potentially rich country, that will do its dirty work intervening in its place. That is why they keep making loans to Brazil, and the other economic powers collaborate. That is why a war industry is being developed. That is why they have bought my country's bourgeoisie. That is also why the "Trans-Amazon" highway is being built -- under the pretext of relocating the North Easterners who live in arid lands, bringing them to the humid and swampy lands of the Amazonian jungle; this is not only an attempt to colonize that re-

Mr. Domingo, my son may be shot by the dictatorship. It has its own "legality" and acts in accordance with it. I don't accept this legality imposed by a minority on a majority. We revolutionaries who are ready to fight always run the risk of dying. We may die in the first battle. My husband was assassinated. My son was in the armed struggle when he fell prisoner. We are fighting a war which has cost and will cost many lives. This is the price of revolutionaries must pay for a better life for future generations. Because in Brazil, as in almost all of Latin America, the present is one of struggle. My younger children, as small as they are, are preparing for the struggle. I am ready to fight and I am outside Brazil only obligated by circumstances. But we know that if the dictatorship assassinates, imprisons and shoots our comrades, it is in an effort to demoralize us, to try to close off our path, kill our optimism and our faith in the revolution.

I don't speak as an intellectual. I say what I learned in the process of the struggle, in the practice in itself, as a revolutionary; as an exploited person who knows that the path of revolution is the only one we have to rise out of our misery and our under-development. My revolutionary position is built on a long class struggle in which my class has always been beneath the boot of the ruling-class bourgeoisie. But in this moment of confrontation-

our revolution. I ask journalists, progressive intellectuals, revolutionary priests, students, workers and peasants, that they denounce -- by all means open to them -- the role of imperialism's spearhead. Being played today by Brazil. I ask the oppressed Brazilian mothers that they be alert, that they support their sons and daughters in entering the ranks of revolution. I ask my people, and the peoples of Latin America, that they be alert and united against the Brazilian dictatorship and against imperialism.

Our struggle has just begun, many of our comrades, many of our sons and daughters, will fall assassinated or in combat. A lot of good young blood will be spilled for our independence, but this long uncompromising struggle will lead us to our emancipation, through the people taking power.

If my son is shot, he won't be the first martyr of our revolution. And if we have to give our own blood for our independence and freedom, we are ready with optimism and faith in our people's future.



of land which would unite Brazil with other countries in South America. All this is directed towards a strategic placement of Brazil's sub-imperialist aggressive army. The so-called "golden highway" will serve one main function: that of a military thoroughway. It is also an economic project. Enormous mining resources will be exploited with imperialist American capital. And so imperialism, bordering almost all the other South American countries, will be magnificently linked with Peru. Brazil is a kind of strategic tentacle in the southern part of our continent.

cease fire . . .

They are trying to make this look attractive by offering more money and security. Third world women have suffered tremendously as a result of this war in Vietnam, and now against our brothers, husbands, fathers, and sons are being placed in jeopardy. Women have an important role to play at this time. It can either be a reactionary role or it can be a revolutionary role. If women become frustrated with their sons or husbands when they can't find a job or bring in any money, many will begin pressuring them into joining up and getting some security in life. This would be a counter-revolutionary thing to do.

throws out its tentacles at the service of imperialism against our Latin American brothers and sisters. I want to alert world revolutionaries and especially those in Latin America. I want to tell them that the Brazilian struggle will be a long one. Because we aren't only fighting for our people's freedom in Brazil but for other people's right to independence. I want to alert them about this gender role that the Brazilian dictatorship has taken on.

I don't want solidarity for me or for my son facing the death penalty; I ask solidarity for our cause, for

We would in effect be saying, "As long as I am comfortable, I don't care that my man or my sons is being used to oppress others."

On the other hand, women can discourage men from entering the Volunteer Army by pointing out its repressive function and trying to find other solutions to the economic crisis which is deepening for third world people. We can no longer afford to wait until a problem is full blown before we begin to analyze its true meaning. The Volunteer Army was created to help the oppressors and not to alleviate the evils of the draft.



A Brazilian mother greets you and appreciates the publication of this letter, a Brazilian mother who is just one of millions who have suffered misery, exploitation and the death of her children, but who is not about to ask clemency for her son. A Brazilian mother who will continue the struggle to VICTORY!

Miriam Makeba Becomes Cuban Citizen

Havana (AWA) - On the initiative of Fidel Castro, Miriam Makeba was made a citizen of Cuba. The event marked the climax of Ms. Makeba's tour before enthusiastic audiences on the island during the month of September.

Conferring citizenship on Ms. Makeba, Cuban Minister of Foreign Relations, Raul Roa, told her, "Your voice is a universal voice, filled with the suffering of Africa, Asia and Latin America. It expresses the aspirations of all struggling peoples."

Accepting the presentation, Miriam replied, "In the name of all African people. I thank the Cuban people and their leaders. I hope we will always be working together to obtain our objectives against the forces of reaction, imperialism, colonialism and neocolonialism in each and every one of their forms."

*On this land
where each blade of grass is human hair
each foot of soil is human flesh
where it rains blood
halls bones
life must flower*
Ngu Vinh Long

Napalm burns — Vietnamese children.



Our Government Destroys

Our People Must Rebuild

Since the war began over a decade ago, the U.S. air force has dropped over 6,200,000 tons of bombs on Indochina—more than three times the amount of bombs it exploded in World War II. Within the last 9 months alone, the U.S. has dropped bombs equivalent to the destruction of 20 hydrogen bombs.

As the war continues, many sections of the American people as well as the bulk of humanity have come out in opposition to these crimes.

The World Federation of Democratic Youth, representing over 200 million youth around the world, has initiated a campaign for the construction of a modern pediatric (children's) hospital in Hanoi. The hospital is named after Nguyen Van Troi, the heroic Vietnamese electrical worker, liberation fighter, and martyr who was shot down in the streets of Saigon in 1964.

As Americans, we feel we owe the Vietnamese and Indochinese people a great deal in material support for the untold murder and destruction that has been inflicted upon them in our name.

The Bombs: Genocide

To highlight what the treacherous nature of the bombs is, we'll cite here a few points which were documented in the film "U.S. Techniques of Genocide." Most of these anti-personnel bombs are created and designed by Honeywell, Inc. (the makers of Pentax, Asahi cameras). There are Fragmentation, Flechette, and the Steel Pellet bombs. All the bombs operate on the same basic principle. Within the large outer shell of a bomb, there are 300 guava, orange, pineapple, or circular bomblets, which in turn hold 300 or more pellets of different shapes and sizes, depending upon the type of bomblet. Depending

(plant killers) on women and newborn children. More than 1400 people have died in the last weeks of December and the beginning weeks of January in the city of Hanoi alone.

Why Medical Aid ?

New hospitals, medical supplies, drugs - tetracycline, and penicillin antibiotics, modern equipment takes on a political significance when we think of the devastation wrought by the U.S. The aid is of material significance, and demonstrates to the Vietnamese people that more and more American people realize that the people of Indochina are not our enemies. Such aid is a

A Hospital for Vietnamese Children

NOT WISCONSIN. It is a fragmentation or steel pellet bomb, the pellets are circular and burrow themselves deep inside the body, usually ending up in such visceral organs as liver, pancreas and heart. The pellets are now plastic, which makes them virtually undetectable by X-Ray.

tangle, personal expression of solidarity with people who have been fighting for 2,000 years for national independence and freedom from foreign domination.



Why Third World People Should Contribute

The third category of weapons which are highly treacherous in terms of their impact upon people is the use of incendiary bombs (fire bombs). Best known are the Napalm group. (Essentially, it is because of these types of bombs that the hospital is necessary.)

Napalm bombs are referred to as the portabiscrambliturns (pieces where bodies are burned), and the bomb comes in several types. There is napalm, napalm and white phosphorus, magnesium, and napalm pyrogel. These various kinds of incendiary bombs reach from 900 degrees to 5000 degrees centigrade. The substance of the bomb flares up when crushed in attempts to dislodge particles which have fallen on the body. When the fragments hit, they can penetrate most material shelters, melting glass, metal, etc. No material is resistant. It also gives off carbon monoxide, so that if victims might have some chance of escape serious burns, they die anyway from oxygen suffocation. One of the most commonly used napalm bombs is NP800, which burns at 1300 degrees centigrade. It sticks to the skin so that there is no way to dislodge it, and it causes deep burns. Most children who survive need skin grafts and prolonged treatment over entire areas that were touched by particles from this bomb. The only other time bombs of this kind were used in such a serious manner were on the Japanese in the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Since the resumption of the bombings more schools have been destroyed, as well as over 600 clinics, over 900 churches, and many, many hospitals and medical centers. The most recent bombing after the Christmas holidays destroyed the 950 bed Bach Mai Hospital. It was one of the largest hospitals in North Vietnam, and served as a research facility in trying to combat the genocidal effects of chemical defoliants

Children are the first victims of the war. They are the victims of massive B-52 bombings which destroy their kindergartens, nurseries, hospitals, and schools. They are wounded and mutilated by napalm bombs and poisoned by chemical defoliants used by the U.S. government. These chemicals are now causing newborn children to suffer from mental and physical genetic mutations. Life expectancy in Vietnam is approximately 35 years. Infant mortality is about 255 per 1,000 births. Half of the children born die before reaching the age of five.

Those who survive face a vast array of U.S. anti-personnel bombs. These bombs are not designed for military targets, but solely for the purpose of destroying people. When exploded, thousands of tiny pellets tear through human flesh and internal organs causing untold pain and internal damage. Vietnamese medical teams painstakingly try to remove as many pellets as possible. Knowing this, the U.S. government now uses hard plastic pellets, which cannot be detected with X-Ray machines.



RACISM ON THE RISE



Some of our people still believe that racism in this country is weakening, that we blacks, Puerto Ricans, Asians, native Americans and all other world people are "getting ahead" and that things aren't as bad as they used to be. Just the last few months of 1972 had enough racist incidents to prove to anyone who cares to really listen, that racism in this country is far from dead, and that Nixon's re-election promises us an even more racist 1973.

What is racism? Is it only the white person's dislike for non-white features, for our "features," h, etc.? Is it the white fear that "they" might want to marry, "our" child? Is it the landlord or real estateor telling us he has no place for us to live? Is it a ten year old leaving home from school rather than having to sit next to a black or Puerto Rican child?

These are certainly symptoms of racism, but it is much deeper and more dangerous. It is the systematic, planned, and controlled exclusion of certain people from participation in all of the good life that a society has to offer, e.g. good education, good homes, good jobs, and respect.

It is a person, on the basis of one feature - color - racism is the forced participation in and dependence on all the degrading aspects of that society, e.g. unjust wars, addiction, prostitution, relief, etc. that bring disrespect and self-hate.

This exclusion is done mainly on the basis of race, although of course, the "Man" invents many theories to rationalize this criminal exploitation of a group on the basis of skin pigmentation. The latest and most famous of which is a California professor Jensen's theory that black people are genetically inferior to non-blacks. Others say that they are not against Puerto

power of the world is overwhelmingly in WASP hands and in the hands of their friends. This small elite and powerful group is like a special club. The club dues are very high, but strangely enough, they are collected from Non-members, from the millions of workers in the world. Club members are not workers and they are very rich because they only share the dues and privileges with other non-workers whom they let in as junior club members according to very special criteria.

The most important of these are: (1) Color-White, (2) Ethnic Background-Anglo-Saxon, (3) Religion-Protestant, (4) Sex-Male, (5) Economic Status-Super Rich. After all, you need some reasons to keep the club small and what more effective way is there to keep over 3/5 of the world out than by refusing them admittance on the grounds of color first? This is not to say that many white people are not excluded from and exploited by this ruling class club, but racism is used to keep them fighting against other non-club members when they should realize that they too can never get

FER, not fire, two inept principals (one of whom is Puerto Rican) earned him the title of racist and an investigation?

What about Flushing, where the white community reacted so heatedly to the proposed lower income project planned that it is now scheduled to be much smaller, and mainly for the elderly?

What about the naval carrier Kitty Hawk, where racial tensions finally broke out into riots between Black and white sailors, BUT only Black sailors have been indicted?

And who can forget the latest murder of Black students at Southern University? These are not isolated incidents: Racism is rampant in education, housing, the armed services and everywhere; in the biggest cities and smallest towns; North and South; East and West. We must put all of this against the backdrop of new cabinet appointments like Brennan, (who is closely linked to the construction workers' attack on peace demonstrators and the exclusion of our people from construction unions) as Secretary of Labor; a Supreme Court packed with reactionaries; the prevalent court practice of preventive detention that gives judges the right to put people in jail because they "might" commit a crime; and the no-knock law that allows police to break into our homes at whim.

In some ways the growing repression in this country is a tribute to the efforts of many people who will no longer accept racism as a way of life and who recognize that the destructive economic principle that must be replaced if

Of course, the great majority of poor people just happen to be non-white. Furthermore, how do they explain the fact that a very middle class black like Arthur Ashe, a champion tennis player, is not allowed on certain courts and that many of our rich "bongle" movie stars cannot buy a house anywhere they want to?

Certainly, your class, that is whether you belong to the lower or middle or upper class income bracket, has a lot to do with what color you are, it has a lot to do with racism. But how did it all start? Where did these ideas come from? Why, despite all the hard work of millions of third world people and even sincere efforts by some non-black people, does racism still continue on and on, and even increase in strength?

This world of over 3 billion people is more than 3/5 non-white, yet the leadership of the world, the economic, military and political



have governments, armies, schools, rockets, police and even gangsters who work for them to keep the club rules the same and to keep the dues rolling in.

That's why racism does not fade away, or get better. Governments like the U.S. pass laws to support racism, our schools teach it, the U.S. armies defend it with rockets and impose it on other countries, the police arrest those citizens who fight against it, and gangsters kill off (thru vices-narcotics and alcohol) the potential rebels. What Angela Davis says is true: "Every Black person, every Puerto Rican, every Chicano, every Native and Asian American who is in prison is probably the victim of racism in one way or another."

Racism is so much a part of our daily lives in this country, like the polluted air we breathe, that we are used to it, and caloused to any new versions of it. Some even believe it doesn't exist, even in the face of the latest racist outrages at the end of 1972: What about Canasie where angry parents throughout a district preferred to close schools down and keep their children away from education rather than allow 31 Black and Puerto Rican children from a low income housing project to be bussed into one school? Did you know that one busload of our children going to another school was stopped by white workers who threw oil on our children, broke the windows with crowbars, and called them "savage pygmies"? Several children were hospitalized.

What about Kawaida Towers in Newark, New Jersey, a 16 story, 210 unit apartment building planned for low and moderate income families by an African social movement led by Imamu Baraka, where a vigilante KKK type assemblyman, Anthony Imperiale, and 500 of his supporters broke the law and halted construction?

What about NYC's Lower East Side School District 1 where the new Puerto Rican Superintendent's (Luis Fuentes) attempts to TRANS-

exploitation is so splintered into warring factions that our own disunity actually helps to perpetuate the unjust balance of power that the club of the ruling class represents.

The difficult task that lies ahead is to struggle for unity, for greater cooperative effort against common enemies and for common causes that would in itself serve as an example of the kind of true brother and sisterhood that we believe we can achieve under socialism. What greater common cause than racism?

A truly happy new year, 1973, will be one in which a united people repudiate every new racist incident with increasing strength.

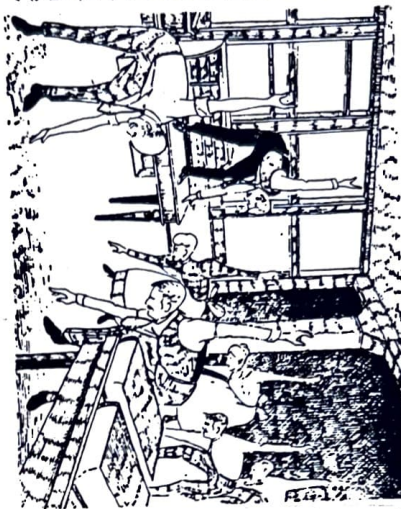


PURINA RALSTON: YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD CAPITALIST

Most Americans, until recently, thought of our country as the land of Norman Rockwell apple pie where corporations developed the natural resources of backward countries to meet the needs of a well-fed, freckled American population. But over the last ten years there has been a change in the thinking of millions of Americans. Unforeseen events cropped up and different culprits were blamed: the C.I.A., racist politicians, the Secretary of Defense, and a few corporations and like Dow and Honeywell (napalm and anti-personnel bombs), Gulf and Polaroid (promoting racism by investing in southern Africa), the United Fruit Company (controlling the Banana Republics of Central America), Ma Bell, The Bank of America, ITT and a few others. Each of these companies did its particular evil thing to contribute to the anger and frustration we were all increasingly feeling.

But many felt the problems could be corrected and thought that the majority of corporations were truly public-spirited. Didn't the Rockefeller's set up the Rockefeller Foundation to give away money? Can't you now buy an anti-pollution device from Ford for only \$200? And aren't companies like Squibb, Colgate, and Ralston Purina providing needed goods and services to grateful shoppees? If you look closely at one of these companies, like Ralston Purina, you get an idea of how these "progressive" representatives of American business operate.

The generation of Americans who grew up in the 1930s know Ralston Purina as the



In the 1920's, William Danforth had his office employees exercise at their coffee break.

Ry-Krisp, and instant dinners, the company owns Chicken of the Sea Tuna (otherwise called Stokely-Van Camps, the largest U.S. producer of canned tuna), 704 Jack-in-the-Box fast service (i.e., plastic) restaurants on the West Coast, Checkerboard Farms and Honeyuckle brand poultry, the Key Stone Ski Resort near Denver, Colorado and a variety of other projects.

Today 200 companies produce two-thirds of all the goods manufactured in the

Around the same time a man named Dr. Ralston, a guru of the 19th century health food craze, had established health clubs throughout America with over 800,000 members who wanted "To Establish a New Race" through good health. Danforth arranged to have Dr. Ralston recommend Purina as the finest whole wheat cereal in exchange for part of the profits and the incorporation of Ralston's name into the product.

Over the years the company's "health food" division has prospered. Last year, however, an investigation of the U.S. cereal industry proved that Ralston Purina contains almost no nutritional value. After the study came out most of the cereals which were attacked were upgraded in quality—but not the Ralston Purina cereals: Rice Chex and Wheat Chex remain in the bottom ten percent of a list of 40 cereals. Using hundreds of thousands of tons of America's golden wheat to produce cereals which supply none of the minimum daily requirements of anything is a dubious project. But to sell millions of dollars of these products each year under the label of "health food" is not quite in line with the image of American capitalism in which we were taught to believe.

was advertised as "more honest, more mature than all the other cereal makers. Rice Chex and Wheat Chex contained no gimmicks, no foolishness. They were just pure, healthy all-American cereals." Ralston Purina promoted an image of itself as the friendly local grocer who served people's needs and thereby eked out a meager profit. The company presented itself as a benevolent business which gave away thousands of dollars to promote religious beliefs and education through the Danforth Foundation—named for and controlled by the family which founded the company. The company workers were described as one big happy checkerboard-shirt-wearing family. Ralston Purina was presented as the image of American capitalism we were taught to believe in.

When the company was founded in 1894 (with money from William Danforth's father, who was a merchant in Charleston, Missouri, and president of the local bank), in many ways the firm operated out of a sincere (though patronizing) concern for its workers and customers. William Danforth, the founder, was a YMCA-religious man who was genuinely interested in health and tried to develop a more nutritious breakfast cereal and animal feed. For many years he refused to allow the employees to smoke at work, required all office personnel to exercise collectively at 10:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M., and took a concern in the well-being of "his" employees.

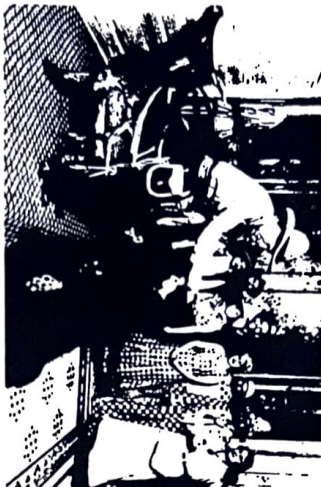
Danforth did not function in the brutal style of the Robber Barons—Rockefeller, Morgan, Carnegie, Harriman, Vanderbilt and a few others—who mercilessly wheeled and dealt in wealth and lives in the 1890s at the time Ralston Purina was founded. (The term "Robber Barons" comes from anti-monopoly pamphlets distributed by enraged farmers from Kansas in 1890.) Danforth started out a generous, ambitious and relatively wealthy man who wanted to bring a better horsefeed to small farmers in Missouri.

Ralston Purina has become the 71st largest corporation in the United States, with annual sales of \$1.6 billion. In addition to the cereals, dog foods, cat foods, animal feeds,

200 companies. In the process of becoming one of the giant firms which dominate the U.S. economy, Ralston Purina was forced to put aside the needs of the workers and sacrifice many of its standards and principles to insure steady growth and expanding profits. The history of the company's breakfast cereal operation provides a good example of how American capitalism is forced to operate.

"Purina Will Make Your Horse Laugh"

In Missouri, around the turn of the century, William Danforth began a small horse feed business about the time a new health food fad was spreading across the country. Danforth decided to cash in on people's interest in health, and introduced wheat germ into whole wheat cereals—or, more correctly, he took the idea from a Kansas miller. Until that time the wheat germ was removed from all whole wheat cereals because people believed it would turn rancid. A Kansas City miller discovered a way to prevent rancidity and Danforth used his idea. He began to produce Purina Whole Wheat Cereal for the health freaks of the 1890s.



William Danforth crowns the wife of one of his western salesmen for promoting the interests of Ralston Purina.

1972 the four largest U.S. producers of cereals—Kellogg's, General Mills, General Foods and Quaker Oats—were accused by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) of illegally monopolizing the breakfast cereal market, forcing consumers to pay "artificially inflated" prices for cereal. The FTC named Ralston Purina as having "participated" in some of the illegal acts and practices, but did not indict them, for a simple reason. The four largest cereal companies together produce 90% of all the ready-to-eat cereal made in the U.S. The FTC feels that if Nabisco and Ralston (numbers 5 and 6 respectively) were bigger, then the big four would not monopolize the cereal industry. By the U.S. government's definition, if four companies control 90% of the U.S. market, there is a monopoly (they use the word oligopoly), but if six firms control 90% of the market, there is "free trade." These six firms now control 98% of the U.S. cereal market.

Since about \$650 million worth of breakfast cereal is sold annually in the United States and each box sells for roughly 50 cents, then 1,300,000,000 boxes are sold each year. If these companies, through their monopoly, illegally raise their price five cents a box, they steal \$65 million from the consumers. (Alan S. Ward, director of the United States Bureau of Competition, said that the price for cereal in a competitive market would be twenty to twenty-five percent below the present levels, or about ten to twelve cents less for a fifty-cent box of cereal.) None of these companies has been fined. None of the executives has been thrown in jail, but they have stolen at least \$65 million.

The cereal industry is not unique: monopolies over production exist in many areas of the U.S. economy. The leading four companies in each of the following fields control over 70% of the entire U.S. production in their respective fields: chewing gum, cigarettes, cigars, steam engines, batteries, locomotives, matches, metal cans, electro-metallurgical products, chocolate products, motor vehicles and explosives.

(NACLA)

REFORM IS NOT ENOUGH

It's horrifying to read material and statistics on the genocidal action against the Puerto Rican men and women committed by the United States with respect to birth control. The most common method used in Puerto Rico and in the U.S. was sterilization.

A survey by "Family Life Project" in 1950 showed that between 4 and 5 thousand sterilizations occurred each year. This meant that one of every 5 deliveries was followed by sterilization—the terms voluntarily or involuntarily are meaningless for the majority of Puerto Ricans (in the U.S. and in P.R.) because this capitalist system makes them feel so guilty for having too many children and for being poor that the woman does not think that she is being forced to take such a step.

In Puerto Rico, birth control pills are distributed without a doctor's prescription. Puerto Rican women are used as guinea pigs.

The Family Planning Association operates clinics throughout the island; they distribute contraceptive pills free and have sterilized some 100,000 men and women.

By 1954, 16 percent of all the women of child bearing age were sterilized, and by 1965 the sterilization of Puerto Rican women had jumped to 34 percent.

The following statistics were published in the pamphlet "The Political Economy of Population Control in Latin America":

PERCENTAGE OF ALL MOTHERS AGED 20 TO 49 IN 1965 BY PRESENT AGE

Present Age	Total No. of mothers	Percentage sterilized
20-24	150	18.7

RUM-MAGE SALE

Feb. 17-18
1-6:30 p.m.

Wash. Sq. Church
(4th St. b/w 2nd Ave. & Wash. Sq.)
Wash. Sq. Church

A FUND RAISING EFFORT
of the
VENCEREMOS BRIGADE

Free abortion on demand is a right that every woman should have. But we have to be clear on this demand because we don't just want to be utilized by this imperialistic system in giving us a reform (as it happened when the right to vote was accepted by the capitalist ruling class) that is to say that free abortion on demand should only be understood as a step in the struggle.

However, despite the partial victory in some states where women who have the money were "given" the right to purchase abortion this law does not benefit working class men and women who simply cannot afford expensive abortions. Poor women must chance the butchery of Lincoln or Bellevue Hospitals in New York for an abortion while women with money can get better and safer attention at a better or private hospital.

We must be very clear that keeping the present abortion law (reform), does not signal a workers state; we do not control our factories, our communities, nor our future.

As communists, we will never accept less than free abortion on demand; and, in order to achieve free abortion on demand it will necessitate a free medical service for every one. (In other words, a socialist system of medicine is needed to achieve these demands.) Women will not be liberated through an abortion law. For example: a woman who is working in the Garment Center will not stop being exploited and oppressed because an abortion law has been passed.

In all socialist revolutions, for example: in the Soviet Union, Cuba, China, and North Vietnam women have been led to large gains and have played a more important role than what we will ever play under a capitalist system. In Cuba, all abortion laws that oppressed women were abolished. An unmarried woman can go to any hospital in Cuba, no questions asked and no bills to pay.

In the Soviet Union about 70 percent of doctors are women.

percentage of the construction workers, steel workers, members of militias and of the army are women.

In the end, we cannot separate one demand from the other or one freedom struggle from another. We cannot isolate issues from over-all economic and political realities.

In other words only the united struggle of men and women for the destruction of capitalism can lead to the real liberation of women and of men as well.

Evelyn Bayo
Reprint from Claridad

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Capitalists use Malthusian logic to say that poverty that infests the overwhelming majority of people in the world is due to overpopulation and not because of the bad distribution of resources and capitalism's anarchistic method of production (based on profit) with its corresponding heavy unemployment.

HELP
Send people to: *you*

***CUBA!**
(*the liberated territory of)

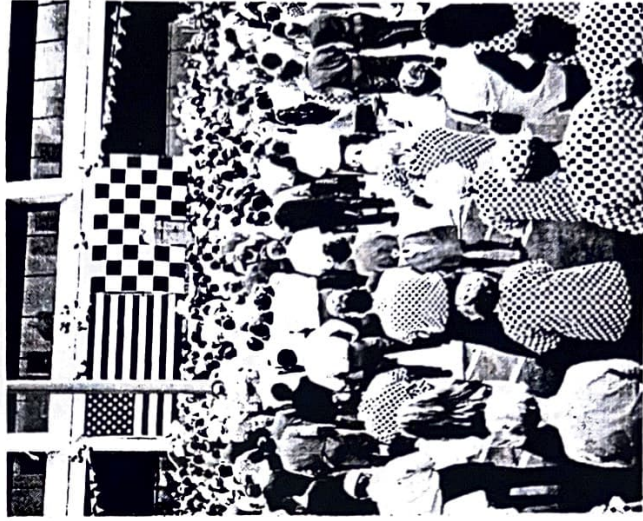
SO THEY CAN PARTICIPATE IN BUILDING

SOCIALIST CUBA...

and friendship between our peoples...to

END THE BLOCKADE!

EN SOLIDARIDAD CON CUBA CONTRA IMPERIALISMO... VENCEREMOS!



The checkerboard-shirt-wearing family at Ralston Purina.

EDITORIAL

The Third World Women's Alliance deeply mourns the death of a great African leader, a dedicated fighter for the rights of the oppressed and one of the greatest architects of a successful liberation struggle now taking place on the continent of Africa.

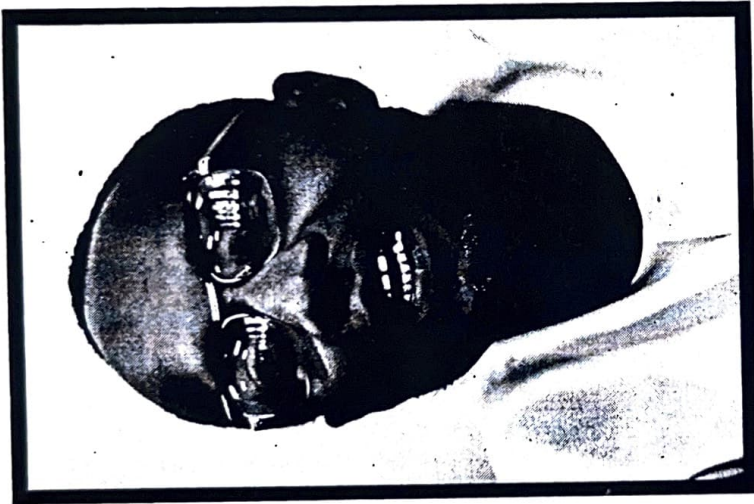
Amilcar Cabral, Secretary General of the PAIGC (African Independence Party of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde) was a great man and a great revolutionary. Several members of our organization had the great honor to meet and speak with Mr. Cabral when he visited this country in October. At a special convocation held at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, an Honorary Doctorate of Laws was conferred upon Mr. Cabral. After listening to the praises and honors being reaped upon him, he stepped to the microphone amidst thunderous applause to accept the awards.

In his matchless manner, he responded to all that had been said in his honor by stating, "Each honor for me is received on behalf of my people. It is not possible for a man alone to do the job we are doing. Liberation is the job of all the people. What we are doing has been possible because our people understand why we must struggle and our cadres have been able to fall back on them."

HERO DISTORTION

The distortion of history is such, in this country, that the mass media and the ruling class make heroes out of tyrants and negate the lives of true heroes. The death of two American Presidents has caused more than the usual amount of propaganda to be pumped into the minds of the public. We must begin to re-educate ourselves and choose our own

heroes.



Portugal is an underdeveloped country which could not carry on the African wars without the economic and military aid it receives from the United States through NATO. Portugal and its ally have tried all possible means including bombings, napalm, herbicides and mass invasions to stop the progress of the revolution, but they have failed. Three-fourths of Guinea-Bissau has already been liberated and the PAIGC has established their administrative apparatus in these areas. Even while they continue the armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism, they have established schools, health centers, and initiated agrarian reform in the liberated territories. Recent national elections took place in the liberated areas and an independent state was soon to be declared.

AN ACT OF DESPERATION

The brutal assassination of Mr. Cabral by Portuguese agents which took place in front of his home in Conakry, Guinea on January 21st was the result of the growing exasperation of the Portuguese fascists at their inability to stop the advances of the liberation struggles going on not only in Guinea but also in Mozambique and Angola. It was an act of desperation which can have no important effect on the final outcome of these struggles for national liberation.

If the Portuguese and their friends think that the struggle will be defeated merely by executing the leaders of that struggle, it shows

that they have not learned their history lessons. The assassination of Eduardo Mondlane in 1969 by Portuguese agents did not stop the advances of FRELIMO in their struggle to liberate Mozambique, and likewise, the death of Cabral, will not deter the revolutionary forces of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde from their just cause.

As Amilcar Cabral himself stated while he was in this country, one man does not make a revolution. When an entire people unite to defeat an aggressive invasion of their lands, no power on earth is strong enough to defeat the will and determination of the people. Tens of thousands of revolutionaries will arise to take the place of Amilcar Cabral. The ideas that he espoused cannot be contained by an assassin's bullet.

The Third World Women's Alliance condemns and repudiates the Portuguese agents and their U.S. allies who have committed this cowardly act. The Portuguese government is a savage remnant of days gone by and people all over the world who love justice and peace are raising their voices, taking up arms, and saying, "This great humanity has cried ENOUGH!"

We reaffirm our support and solidarity with the PAIGC and the other liberation movements that are fighting to eliminate all forms of exploitation on the African continent and vow to avenge the death of our comrade, Amilcar Cabral, by re-dedicating ourselves to the struggle against racism and imperialism here at home.

CABRAL A DEAR FRIEND

Amilcar Cabral, on the other hand dedicated his life to the preservation of life, to the creation of a society where men and women can reclaim their lives and build a nation free from the horrors of racism and exploitation.

The important role that women play in the activities and programs of the PAIGC and the concern that is shown in the liberated areas for the emancipation of women and the fight against ignorance and illiteracy owes much to the revolutionary leadership exerted by Amilcar Cabral. As women who are engaged in a world-wide struggle against racism and imperialism and against outmoded ideas concerning women, we mourn today, not only the loss of a great revolutionary, but a dear friend.