

# Trouble Brewing in Indochina

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

THE STATE DEPARTMENT, in its efforts to grab control of all possible countries and to stir up war tension wherever it can, is increasingly turning its attention to Indochina, which has been off the front pages since peace was established there in spite of the war maneuverings of John Foster Dulles. The game now is to invalidate the Geneva truce by creating in Indochina such a situation of turmoil and hatred as to make impossible, through a regular election, the unification of that country, as provided for under the armistice terms.



Various American correspondents, returning from Indochina within recent weeks, have told us how "bad" the present situation is in the southern part of that country. That is to say, it is very bad for Wall Street imperialism, and, therefore, by the same token, very good for the democratic Indochinese people. The puppet regime there, long the tool of French imperialism, is now falling apart at the seams after its defeat at the hands of the national liberation forces. The generals are at each other's throats, and the politicians are in an equally ill-smelling mess.

"When thieves fall out honest men get their due," and the prospect is, the correspondents tell

us, that the "reds" (read, the democratic masses of the people) will win the national election provided for in the armistice, with Ho Chi Minh very probably standing at the head of the united country.

SUCH A DEMOCRATIC outcome is, of course, utterly intolerable to Wall Street, so the State Department is as busy as a one-armed paperhanger trying to balk the democratic will of the Vietnamese people. Dulles' men, headed by General Collins, have moved in and taken charge. Collins is slapping down local generals and politicians as he sees fit, in order to get a crew in charge of things that will do precisely as he orders. With oodles of financial "aid" in his jeans, he is dominating the country's economy and the policies of the so-called government. The general aim is to create such a situation as to make impossible the holding of national elections, which the truce specifies must take place within two years of the time the cease-fire went into effect. What they are driving at is to keep the North and South divided and at daggers' point against each other.

One of the slicker points of this imperialist plotting and maneuverings is that the State Department is striving to shove French imperialism out of the Indochina picture as its own forces move in. To this end, various American correspondents have expatiated upon how unpopular the French are in the

country, and that if they do not move out (and leave the Washington in full charge) the situation will surely be lost and the Communist devils will take over. The joke in this situation is the implication that the French imperialists could possibly be more unpopular than the Wall Street imperialists, who, notoriously, are the most hated elements in the whole world.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, especially the labor movement, should take a hand in the disgraceful game now being played by the Eisenhower Administration in Indochina. They should insist that all American reactionary meddlers, whether military or civilian, should be withdrawn at once from Indochina, and the Vietnamese people be allowed to settle their own political problems democratically. This would go far towards stabilizing and pacifying the dangerous situation in Asia.

Americans, coming back from abroad, express great amazement and alarm at the sharp anti-American spirit they find all over the capitalist world, not the least in Great Britain, France and the lands of our other "allies." If one wants to know how this anti-American feeling has been generated, how American democratic traditions are being dragged in the mud, let him but look at the disgraceful and dangerous maneuverings now being carried on in Indochina by the State Department.