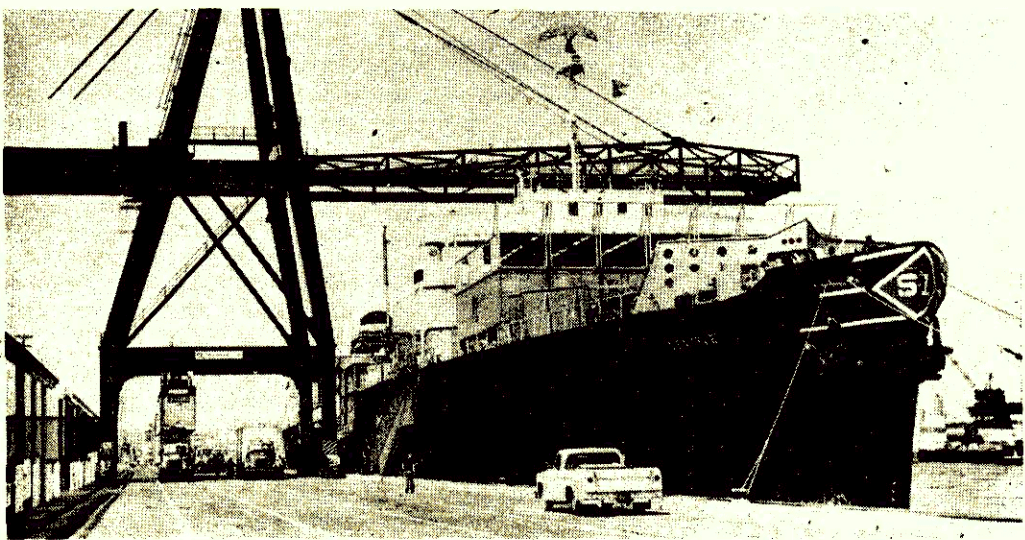


## Tilbury containers

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Its retention is the second slap in the face in a week for the port employers in general and the Overseas Containers Limited-Associated Container Transportation consortium in particular.

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## 5,000 schools apply to strike N.U.T. chooses 300 for Monday

FOUR-AND-A-HALF thousand teachers will close more than 300 schools for two weeks from next Monday, it was announced yesterday.

Against a background of growing support for more protracted and determined action, National Union of Teachers general secretary-designate Mr Edward Britton admitted that in many of the 5,000 schools that had applied to be called out there would be 'considerable disappointment'. He said that a reserve list of other schools had been prepared in case it proved necessary to repeat the action. Most schools in the North-East will be hit today when teachers throughout the region strike.

**Students' support**  
The strike-involving members of the NUT and the National Association of Schoolmasters in Northumberland, Gateshead, Blyth, Birtley, Selling, Walsend, Ferryhill, Blyth, Durham and Newcastle—affects more than 300 schools and colleges.

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GREATER London Council announced yesterday a proposed £22 million scheme for the redevelopment of the now-closed St. Katherine Docks—a 25-acre site on the north bank of the Thames near Tower Bridge.

Once again Mr Horace Cutler's Tory council reveal their anti-working class zeal for all to see.

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It also comes as no surprise that while the scheme includes a Taylor Woodrow group proposal for a hotel, to be London's largest with 776 rooms, housing is to be provided for only 650 families.

Subject to government approval, the scheme could be started in 1971 and finished in 1978.

The scheduled closure of other sections of London docks is rumoured to be connected with the rising value of the wharf sites for property developments similar to the GLC proposal.

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Support for it has also come from students at the Newcastle University Department of Education and other training colleges in the area.

A mass rally is to take place this afternoon.

Support for more militant action was demonstrated at a Gateshead NUT meeting recently when a proposal from the floor for an all-out national stoppage was greeted by a huge burst of cheering.

The motion was then ruled out of order by the chair.

### Boycott

At Heathfield school in Gateshead, the sixth form has passed a resolution pledging full support for the teachers and calling for a boycott of all unscheduled lessons.

From next Monday, NUT members will strike for a fortnight in some 15 different areas.

Some 500 of its members will strike in a total of 77 schools, the NAS announced yesterday.

Although both unions have warned other teachers not to do the work of those on strike, joint agreement has been reached for members of one union to remain on duty in schools where those of the other are on strike.

Two things become clearer every day. Teachers are more and more determined to force the desirous offer of a £50 pay increase back down the throats of the government and the Burnham Committee.

They are rightly cynical about Mr Edward Short's statement that the teachers deserve more money and will be paid 'when the country can afford it'.

The union leaders are scared stiff by this mood. Your decisions will make them not only 'disappointed', Mr Britton.

They will throw more and more teachers into the struggle for all-out, immediate and national action!

## UDI suggested

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● PAGE 4 COL. 1 →

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Congressman Lionel Van Deerlin has called for an Army investigation into allegations that a South Vietnamese village in the Mekong Delta was used 'for target practice' in June.

And a report from the US base at Chu Lai has confirmed that these atrocities continue.

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The leader of the platoon admitted: 'Within a matter of a week at the end of October we destroyed 13 villages.'

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'According to information ● PAGE 4 COL. 5 →

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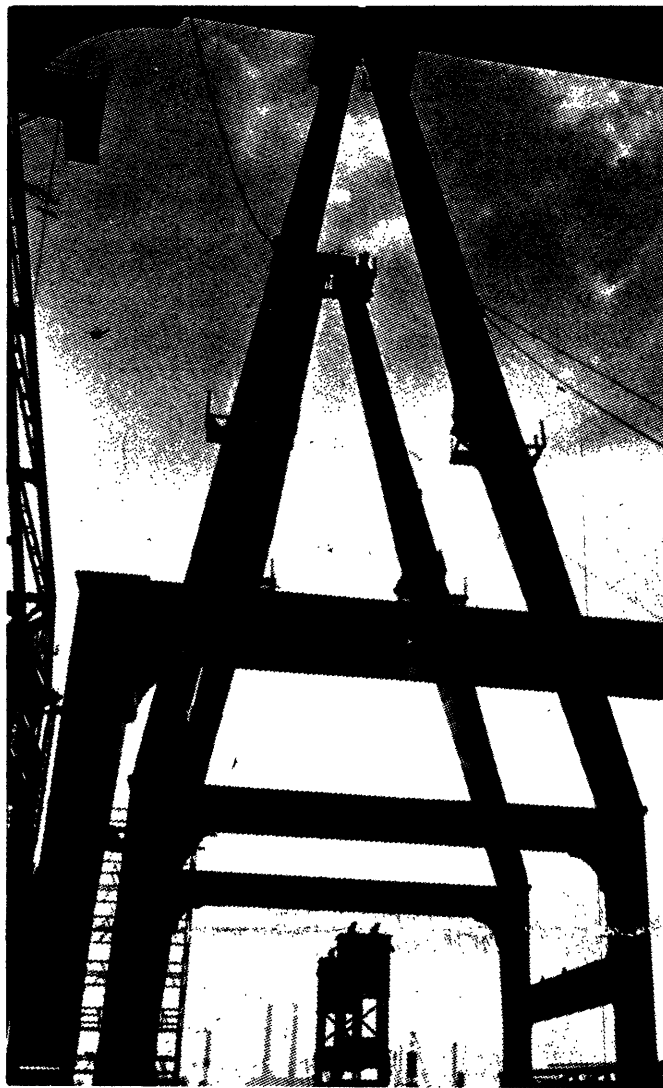
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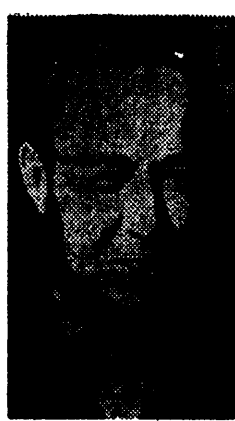
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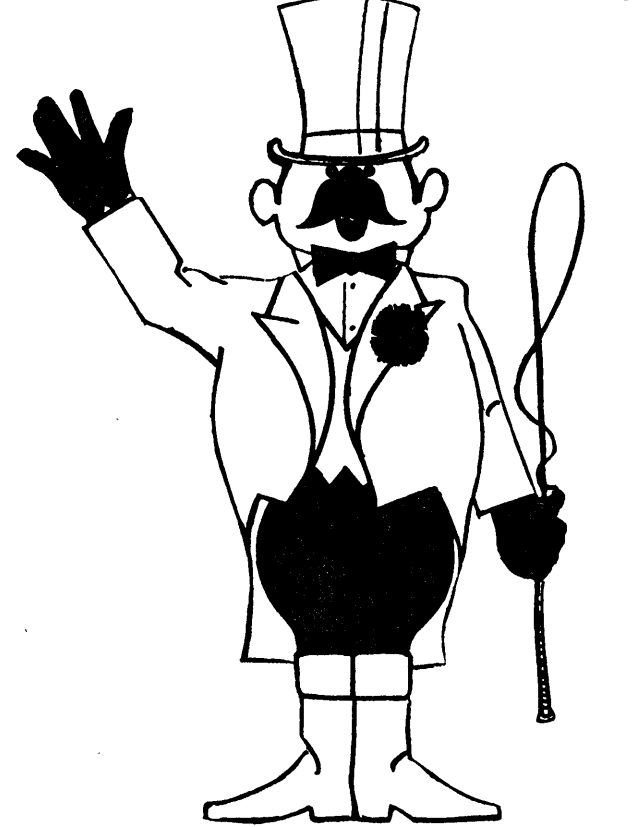
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## A LETTER FROM MICHAEL NOLAN

THE REPORT in the Workers Press (November 13) by Charles Parkins of 'Brutal Zionist Repression' in Palestine contained a great deal of horrifying and important information about the colonialist regime that exists there.

We know only too well that such are the methods of colonialist and imperialist regimes from Ireland to Aden to Vietnam.

However, it is important to say something of the other side of the story: of the developing struggle which is responsible for such repression.

The Arab Revolution, which is of crucial importance for the struggle against imperialism throughout the world, is at this time particularly centred round the fight of the Palestinian people against Zionist colonialism.

Al Fatah and the other guerrilla organizations were explicitly established because of the failure of the Arab regimes, both reactionary and 'progressive', to wage a successful struggle against Zionism.

They have served to make the Palestinian people rely more on their own efforts, and have also heightened the class contradictions throughout the Middle East, including Israel itself.

The growing success of the guerrilla movement since the 1967 war and its ability to launch ever larger and more frequent attacks is the background of repression described in the Workers Press article.

At the same time the existence of disciplined and dedicated groups of armed fighters provides an alternative source of political power in the Arab countries.

This is why the reactionary Arab regimes, especially in Jordan, have constantly tried to suppress the guerrilla groups.

On November 4, 1968, at the Wahdad refugee camp in the Amman, efforts were made to provoke a fight in order to do this.

The guerrillas were protected by the poor refugees themselves, and many of those killed successfully defending the guerrillas from King Hussein's forces were from the refugee camp, including unarmed teenagers.

Recent events in the Lebanon represented a further effort to suppress the liberation fighters by the corrupt oligarchy that rules there, completely committed to imperialism and utterly incapable of doing anything to aid the Palestinian people.

The setbacks suffered by Fatah during these events and the unsatisfactory agreement patched up by Arafat and the Lebanese authorities in Cairo were very important events for the Palestinian Revolution.

The political line of Al Fatah of complete neutrality towards the Arab regimes, was put to the test and found wanting.

During the demonstrations to support the freedom of movement of the guerrillas, refugees, students and the Lebanese urban masses fought the government and even occupied whole towns.

The line of political neutrality held back this struggle and in the end left the position of the guerrillas little more secure than it was before.

This has shown clearly that not only is the Lebanese bourgeoisie hostile to the liberation movement, but also that it will be necessary to defeat that class in order to wage a successful struggle against Zionism.

Already the forces of reaction have been strengthened by this setback for the guerrilla movement.

The report in the Workers Press of November 15 that Hussein intends to execute members of one of the guerrilla groups, the small one led by Deblan, is significant in this respect.

It is important to note, however, that this group was responsible for the provocation of last November and may well have been set up by Hussein himself.

The reactionary forces are not strong enough to persecute the genuine guerrilla groups, but Hussein obviously hopes that this will be a step in that direction.

The lessons of these events are clear.

The struggle against Zionism cannot be separated from that against imperialism as a whole, and particularly against its friends and agents in the Arab world.

Nor can the class contradictions of the Arab world be insulated from the struggle against Zionism.

Though sections of the Arab bourgeoisie are prepared to support the liberation struggle at this stage, the policies they are currently providing through their dominance of Fatah shows that this class is not capable of leading the struggle successfully.

# Recent events in the Arab



Arafat accompanied by a bodyguard after recent talks with the Lebanese army.

# revolution

## A REPLY BY CHARLES PARKINS

This is why it is misleading of the Workers Press to assert, as it did in the issue of November 14, that Nasser's envoy 'will doubtless insist in Moscow that no deal will be made with US imperialism at the expense of the Arab people'.

Nasser is behaving with all the classic indecisiveness of the petty bourgeoisie in the present situation.

He oscillates between support for the November 1967 UN resolution, which is a complete sell-out for the Palestinian people, and a militant anti-Zionist stance.

Nasserism is not a reliable ally of the Palestinian Revolution and is no more capable than any of the other petty-bourgeois regimes or movements of bringing the revolution to success.

Whatever the opinions of most Arabs on this question, it is important for Marxists to point it out now.

Recent developments indicate that the mobilization of the Arab masses in the areas contiguous to Palestine is an inevitable product of the struggle against Zionism, as well as a necessary condition for its success.

The Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, established last February, is already engaged in political work with this fact in mind.

The liberation movement will have to retain a clear idea of who are its enemies and who are its friends in the many problems it will have to face in the coming months.

● Long live the Palestinian Revolution!

● Nationalize the oil monopolies!

● For a Socialist United States of the Middle East!



Despite its great show of support, including the presence of military advisors in Egypt, the Soviet bureaucracy, as part of its accommodation to imperialism, has been bringing pressure to bear on Nasser and other Arab leaders to back down.

# Soviet secret diplomacy - the main issue

before—we could say 50 years before, when the Balfour Declaration was issued.

The guerrillas are not just fighting to push back the latest Zionist conquests.

They want to overthrow the whole Zionist structure and set up a democratic Palestinian state.

Of course, as Michael Nolan says, the Arab governments, including Nasser's, have shown that they would be prepared to sell out the Palestinian masses.

In 'The Newsletter' and Workers Press we have always warned against reliance on Bonapartist regimes in the struggle against imperialism. That is why we attacked the leaders of the Egyptian Communist Party for liquidating their party into support for Nasser.

Last May, we dealt in 'The Newsletter' with the restrictive measures being taken by various Arab regimes against the guerrilla movements and we pointed out that not only feudal Saudi Arabia, but also the bourgeois nationalist regime in Iraq, were imposing these measures.

We have seen how the Iraqi government sided with the Lebanese government in the recent crisis, making it easier for Nasser to fix a deal. (See Workers Press, November 20.)

☆

However, we should not forget that there is an underlying conflict between the struggle of peoples such as Egypt, even led by Nasser, and imperialist domination, with its ally Israel.

Because there is this conflict, and because, as a Bonapartist, Nasser must attempt to maintain some prestige among the masses, he has to take some kind of stand on the Palestine struggle.

The Soviet bureaucracy on the other hand, as part of its accommodation to imperialism, has been bringing pressure to bear on Nasser and other Arab leaders to back down.

The Zionists themselves acknowledge (except perhaps when raising funds in the USA) that the Kremlin has been a 'moderating' influence.

The main issue to which the Workers Press item of November 14 was drawing attention was this counter-revolutionary role of Soviet secret diplomacy.

That was the main issue. It is the issue which Michael Nolan completely evades in his letter.

The other main fault in this letter is one which is unfortunately typical of much that passes for political analysis among 'left-wing intellectuals' at present, and this is the idealism with which Nolan approaches the development of the guerrilla movement.

He writes that: '... the existence of disciplined and dedicated groups of armed fighters provides an alternative source of political power...'

Of course the ruling class generally insists on having a monopoly of the use of armed force and resents the existence of groups which it does not control.

But to say that groups of armed fighters, by their exist-

ence, constitute an alternative source of political power is nonsense.

Michael Nolan both exaggerates the present importance of the guerrilla movement and misses its real significance.

Political power does not come 'from the barrel of a gun', whatever it says in Mao's Little Red Book—it only expresses itself through a gun.

Political power comes from the class, and a movement can only constitute an alternative source of power when it has mobilized behind it, with clear aims, the support of the class or classes it represents.

The real significance of the Palestinian liberation movement is the extent to which the guerrillas have taken the initiative away from the ruling classes in the Arab states and opened the way for a new popular liberation movement based on the workers and peasants.

However, the main guerrilla movement, Al Fatah, itself led by middle-class nationalists with the same ideological mixture as Nasser, etc., is not even



Nasser: Bonapartist.

different enough from the existing Arab nationalist leaders to be a political alternative.

Nolan writes that: '... the mobilization of the Arab masses in the areas contiguous to Palestine is an inevitable product of the struggle against Zionism'.

No, there is nothing inevitable about it. It is a necessary task, but that means it has to be consciously fought for.

The guerrilla movements have turned to the Palestinian masses for support and aroused popular backing in the other Arab countries and they do mark a new departure in Arab politics; but to go further, to the revolutionary mobilization of the workers and peasants in the Arab countries, to create an alternative power, would mean going much further than the existing stage of leadership of the Palestinian movements. It would mean creating revolutionary, Marxist parties in the Arab region.

Whatever the present leadership of the Arab guerrillas, Marxists must give principled support to the Palestinian people in their liberation struggle; but to idealize the existing stage of the movement, to pretend that it is more than it actually is, does not serve the struggle in any way, and can only encourage illusions and confusion both in the Middle East and here.

THE CLASS struggle in Africa is as much a part of the world class struggle as Africa is a part of the world capitalist system.

Africa is not one whole, but is divided up into classes of workers and capitalists who are constantly at war with each other.

This class war means that, one way or the other, people all over the world 'take sides' over Africa. They are either on the side of the 99 per cent who toil for sub-wages or on the side of those who own and rule Africa for the sake of super-profits.

Britain is very deeply and very widely involved in the vast conflict between the super-exploited and their super-exploiters in Africa.



Colour oppression in South Africa aims to place workers in a position where they cannot defend themselves against super-exploitation. Above: All-white police deal brutally with South African freedom-fighters.

It is one of the aims of this column to follow this struggle in a topical way in the interest of a greater understanding and fuller participation of the British working class in the basic struggles in Africa.

Many of the comments in the big daily papers about apartheid and other 'African' phenomena show, in many ways, the close connection between, for example, Britain and Africa.

Thus the famous heart-transplant man, Dr Barnard, of Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town, twice criticised certain limited aspects of apartheid in early November.

And on November 9, speaking in New Zealand, the international dollar-millionaire golfer, Gary Player, winner of the British 'Open', called for the right of Papua New Guinea, the South African 'Indian'

# CLASS STRUGGLES IN AFRICA

By N. Makanda

THIS IS THE FIRST OF A WEEKLY COLUMN DEALING WITH THE IMPORTANT ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION DEVELOPING IN AFRICA TODAY.

player, to take part in South African golf 'Opens'.

Following upon the exclusion of South Africa from the Olympics, as a result of the work of the anti-apartheid non-racial sports committee, anti-apartheid demonstrations have taken place right in England, at Twickenham, Leicester and Swansea, against the Springbok rugby tour of Britain.

On the other side, the British Rugby Union, backed by the police, keeps the apartheid tour going and the MCC invitation to the South African 'all-white' cricket team in 1970 still stands.

Even on the level of sport, it is clear that criticism does not stop the steam-roller of apartheid.

This is apart from the fact that the rugby boycott, for example, is impotent as long as there is no subsequent boycott of the British unions and teams which play with the Springboks.

And this illustrates a more general truth: that the boycott of South Africa is as impotent as that of Southern Rhodesia, and is also what Lenin called a 'deception of the people', as long as it is not, at the same time, a boycott or other form of struggle against Britain.

For one of the things that the daily news from Africa tells us is that without Britain South African apartheid could not last one night.

One of the most important questions for British labour is: where does the steam-roller of apartheid get its apparently unstoppable momentum and its immense power from?

Does this weight and power come only from the economically weak 'Boers' (literally farmers, although in South Africa they do not farm, but live in the towns while the Africans work their farms)?

Does it come from the 'Afrikaners' led by the government of Vorster or the new 'opposition' Reconstructed Nationalist Party of Hertzog? Or have Britain, the United States and western Europe something to do with the colossus which crushes all life in South Africa?

For it was not a mere mining accident but a monstrous machine of super-exploitation which crushed 60 Africans to death at one of the world's richest gold mines, at Buffelsfontein, near Klerksdorp, in the Transvaal, South Africa, on November 7.

Nor was it an accident that the names of the two

MICHAEL NOLAN, quite rightly, stresses the importance of the development of the Palestinian liberation movement and its significance for the Arab Revolution.

Since he has followed Workers Press and its forerunner, 'The Newsletter', for some time, he will know that we have frequently devoted attention in our press to the Palestinian guerrillas and have stressed their significance for both the Palestinian people's own struggle and the Arab Revolution in general.

Our record on the Palestinian struggle and the Arab Revolution has been principled and consistent, which is more than some other 'left' publications can claim.

We are not with the trendy-lefties, the dedicated followers of political fashion, who have rushed to get in on the Palestine question because it was latest 'in' thing in the universities.

We took sides with the Arab masses from the start; and we were drawing attention to the development of popular guerrilla struggle before the war of June 1967.

That is important, because the Palestine problem did not begin in 1967, but a long time

miners receive no compensation, nor do the relatives of those killed in the coal, gold and other mines there.

For all this and much more is the consequence of the special way in which the African workers in South Africa are exploited by a system which is not only one of super-exploitation but also of super-oppression.

In South Africa, as in the rest of the continent, oppression and exploitation are as inseparable as emancipation and liberation.

The aim of oppression, such as colour bars, police persecution, 'treason trials' (another one is about to open in Pretoria), is to put the workers in a position where they cannot defend themselves against super-exploitation.

Colour oppression is thus a means, a method, of exploitation of the workers.

Apartheid, (the Afrikaans-language word for colour discrimination), was long ago designed, mainly by British



Cecil Rhodes: Used apartheid to create a cheap and docile labour force.

imperialists who ruled over South Africa, like Cecil John Rhodes, in order to create a permanent force of docile, policed, defenceless, rightless, cheap labour.

This was not done out of any particular hate, but for the sake of the investments and profits of the big mining and other companies in South Africa.

You would not know it, but if you happen to read the stocks and shares columns in the financial pages of the big papers of England, you are reading the balance sheets of apartheid.

For a very large number of companies quoted on the London Exchange are super-exploiting African workers in South Africa (and Rhodesia and many parts of Africa) and the way they do it is by means of apartheid.

Most of these companies are British. And this alone makes apartheid of direct concern to the British economy and hence to everyone in Britain.

## Importance

Much will have to be said about the importance of South Africa to the British economy and also to the Anglo-American-West European North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Much will have to be said about what the toilers of South Africa, and of Africa (of which South Africa is by far the most important part economically, and, ultimately, politically) are doing about their exploitation and oppression.

The 'outside world' hears only indirectly and incidentally, when a Dr Barnard or a Gary Player criticize, not the causes and reasons for apartheid, but only its worst or most absurd consequences.



# The world role of American imperialism



## PART ONE

**CAPITALISM'S** ability to survive as a world system into the second half of the 20th century has depended and still depends upon the productive power and military strength of the United States.

After 1945, for the second time in history, the United States had to come to the rescue of European capitalism, enabling it to survive the strains of post-war reconstruction and bolstering the forces of counter-revolution.

The ruling classes of the European states paid a heavy but inescapable price for American assistance.

Under the cloak of decolonization the way was open for the penetration of American capital into all the former preserves of European imperialism.

Through the monetary and trading policies which were imposed under American influence to 'restore' the world economy, Europe itself was thrown open on much freer terms than ever before for the operation of the giant US corporations.

The establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization formally established American political and military hegemony in Europe.

American capital and military power made possible the restoration of the German Federal Republic as the main bastion of capitalism in Europe.

Germany thus became the frontier post of the imperialist world system, where it met the antagonistic social relations in the workers' states of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

### Rescue

In the same way, the discredited ruling classes of France and Italy—to whose rescue the Communist Parties also came at the critical juncture in 1944-1946—were provided with the means to secure a new lease of life.

The case of Britain was different only in form from that of continental western Europe. The so-called 'special relationship' of the Anglo-American countries concealed a long-standing rivalry for world dominance.

The Second World War struck a blow at British imperialism from which it could never recover, at the same time as it completed the rise to world predominance of the United States.

In the circumstances of the post-war world, with the after-effects of Nazism still uppermost and the threat from the East supposedly imminent, the German rulers accepted client status almost with relief.

Satellization met with more resistance from British governments under the spurious assumption that they were somehow 'partners' of Washington.

Growing economic difficulties and the relentless drive of the US corporations have made it difficult to conserve this illusion.

In France a succession of weak governments meekly accepted dependence on the USA.

Then, with the accession to power of de Gaulle, an attempt was made to strike out on an independent course.

It required intolerable burdens on the economy, was

never really practicable and was opposed by important sections of the French bourgeoisie. The events of May-June 1968 showed its futility. Nevertheless, European capitalism has its own interests to defend and necessarily, where it can, it fights back against American economic penetration.

It does so, however, on increasingly difficult terms. Modern technology and the ever-growing scale of production require immense resources for research and development, for launching new products and for opening new plants incorporating the latest techniques.

The big US corporations, operating on a world scale, have been steadily invading the preserves of European capitalism, absorbing many old-established firms as they do so and increasingly able to tap European sources of finance as well.

### 'On rations'

American imperialism has thus, since the last war, put European capitalism 'on rations' in a particularly tantalizing way.

Firstly, from a position of military strength it declares that without its nuclear striking force western Europe would be open to invasion from the East.

Secondly, it stands as a world defence against revolution, both in Europe and in the dependencies of world capitalism threatened by national revolutionary movements.

Thirdly, it holds the purse strings to bale out those countries which run into economic difficulties, exacting, as it does so, its own pound of flesh.

For European capital this creates a thoroughly undesirable situation, but one from which there can be no escape.

It cannot make an independent deal with the Soviet Union: de Gaulle tried and failed because the Kremlin bureaucracy itself wants to do business with the American principals and not with a branch office.

It is as much interested as Washington and Wall Street in opposing revolution whether in Vietnam or in Latin America so it can have no alternative but to support, however 'critically', US action against national liberation movements.

It no longer has any independent basis from which it can hope to solve its

monetary and financial crisis or fight back successfully against the invasion of its preserves by the big American monopolies.

This is just as true from the standpoint of such organizations as the European Economic Community or the European Free Trade Association as it is from that of single countries.

American imperialism has become the arbiter of the fate of European capitalism which, behind a facade of prosperity, descends ever deeper into parasitism and decay and is brought nearer to social revolution.

American involvement with Europe now extends back over four decades.

At its outset it was brilliantly analysed by Trotsky:

'Europe will be permitted to rise again, but only within well-defined limits, that restricted sectors of the world market will be reserved for her. American capital now dominates; it commands the diplomats; it is likewise preparing to give orders to the European banks and trusts, to the entire European bourgeoisie,' he wrote soon after the First World War.

**BY TOM KEMP**

The process has now far advanced; the last sentence must go into the past tense, the first must be underlined.

With variations in detail and forms, allowing for numerous special circumstances and unforeseeable contingencies, Trotsky's expectations have been remarkably confirmed.

The stabilization and expansion of European capitalism which was made possible on the basis of an outflow of dollars from the United States after 1945 also required, of course, the co-operation of the social democracy and Stalinism.

The first had long before placed its hopes for 'democracy' in the support of the US imperialists.

The ideologists of right-wing 'socialism' have everywhere be-

come apologists for the State Department.

But Stalin had also concluded that American capitalism could stabilize itself for a long time to come. His successors, who preach 'peaceful co-existence', whatever saving phrases they may find to cover up their retreat from Marxist-Leninism, are of the same opinion.

The political history of European Stalinism, apparently anti-American, has been that of smoothing over the contradictions of European capitalism and thus easing the way for American imperialism to re-organize its part of the globe.

Needless to say, European capitalism is caught up in a web of contradictions which are aggravated by growing competition with, and dependence on, the United States.

At the same time, all the processes at work in the world economy since the rise to world power of American imperialism have thrust the United States into ever-deeper involvement with the capitalist world market.

If American imperialism operates politically and militarily in a way which recognizes no frontiers except those of the so-called 'free world', if it arrogates to itself a general right of intervention to suppress popular movement and even to remove governments it dislikes, if it literally has to support the whole decrepit capitalist world system on its shoulders, this is not a matter of choice but of objective necessity.

### Super-power

The United States performs the role which British imperialism assumed in the 19th century in the era of its world preponderance. But it does so more completely, in a much magnified form, as a world super-power commanding unprecedented economic and military resources.

It does so, not in the era of small capitalist firms and the steam engine, not with the diplomacy of the gunboat, but on the basis of the extreme development of monopoly capitalism become ripe and over-ripe and armed from head to foot with means of destruction which are terrifying in their proportions.

The involvement of US capitalism with the world can be established with incontrovertible statistics.

The high levels of productivity attained by US industry and the standard of living enjoyed by the population at large rest upon supplies of indispensable raw materials and sources of energy obtained on favourable terms from the entire world.

The means employed to acquire and ensure supplies of these materials add chapters to the history of imperialism which are as lurid and disgraceful as any.

It is, however, as an exporter of capital and through the world-wide operations of the giant corporations that American imperialism ensures its economic stranglehold, penetrating increasingly into the home domain of the old-established capitalist countries and ensuring the dependence and continued underdevelopment of Latin America, Asia and Africa.

American imperialism possesses few colonies or dependent territories in the strict sense, yet it operates on a world scale, as an empire without frontiers drawn together by golden threads which find their centre in Wall Street, its military headquarters in the Pentagon and its political front men in the administration.

### Complex

No one can seriously doubt where, in this complex of institutions, real power lies and who have the last word: the banks and giant businesses which dominate American economic life, shape its political programme and determine its outward thrust which has established American hegemony over the whole capitalist world system.

This gigantic world process has, it must be again insisted, been a matter of necessity, not of choice for the rulers of America.

Contrary to what some liberals maintain, there was no alternative path of peaceful, non-imperialist development possible for American capitalism.

Isolationism was never a practical possibility and never, in fact, determined American policy at any time in this century.

The 'anti-monopoly' coalition, to include the peace-loving sections of American capitalism, patented by the US Communist Party, was at all times a fraud where it was not a delusion.

Continued tomorrow

ON SALE in Britain next year will be a new kind of battery, storing nearly twice the amount of energy of the best primary cell on the market today, and ten times as much as an ordinary torch battery, yet costing no more than three times as much.

In its wake, it is hoped that there will follow a wide variety of 'cordless' electronic apparatus—from TV sets and tape recorders to military radios—whose power demands are too heavy to be conveniently met by present-day batteries.

This important technological development is only one of many that have emerged recently in the quest for more efficient—and profitable—energy sources.

Efficiency means more wattage per cubic foot and per pound weight, negligible pollution and a big, lucrative market for the successful.

In particular, out of the total US government spending of £65 million on fuel cells last year, £55 million went to Pratt and Whitney, who produced the fuel cell for the Apollo spacecraft.

### Big difference

However, there is, of course, a big difference between the development of the Apollo power plant or similar units for military use and the development of fuel cells for motor vehicles.

No expense was spared to make sure that an American was the first man on the moon and therefore there was no need for the various private contractors to keep down costs.

On the other hand, 130 years after the principle of the fuel cell was first established, the decisive breakthrough to a commercially viable unit has not yet been made.

The batteries with which we are most familiar are of two types.

A torch battery is an example of a primary cell, that is one in which the voltage is produced by the battery consuming itself in a chemical reaction, once the circuit is closed.

Rechargeable units—secondary cells—are of the type used in cars to power the electrical system.

These batteries have only found limited use as main

# Space age batteries

**BY MARTIN ZARROP**

our science correspondent

power units in motor vehicles, such as milk floats, as they are bulky, heavy, give relatively low speeds and mileages and require long periods for recharging.

A fuel cell is a battery that instead of consuming itself or requiring recharging, continuously consumes a feed of fuel.

In 1839, W. R. Grove carried out experiments in which electricity was generated by supplying hydrogen and oxygen to two separate electrodes immersed in sulphuric acid. This early device incorporated the essential features of the Apollo hydrogen-oxygen fuel cells.

The field attracted many research workers who attempted various combinations of materials, other than hydrogen and oxygen, in their quest for the best system. The work of Bacon at Cambridge, begun in 1932, culminated in 1959 with the demonstration of a five kilowatt hydrogen-oxygen fuel battery and gave a new impetus to fuel cell research.

Bacon saw that when substantial power outputs were required over prolonged periods, the hydrogen-oxygen fuel battery coupled with high pressure gas storage cylinders would be extremely light and compact compared to conventional batteries.

These factors were decisive in their use for the Apollo spacecraft which incorporate a two kilowatt fuel battery in the command modules and a one kilowatt battery in the lunar modules.

These operate at a temperature of 200 degrees Centigrade and water produced in the process can be used for drinking purposes by the astronauts.

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Car engines are rarely more than 30 per cent efficient, while theoretically the fuel cell should attain 60-70 per cent.

In practice a fuel cell turns out to be a complex machine—at least as complex as the motor car engine—with three-quarters of its cost tied up in ancillary electronic controls and much less efficient than 60 per cent at present.

The field attracted many research workers who attempted various combinations of materials, other than hydrogen and oxygen, in their quest for the best system. The work of Bacon at Cambridge, begun in 1932, culminated in 1959 with the demonstration of a five kilowatt hydrogen-oxygen fuel battery and gave a new impetus to fuel cell research.

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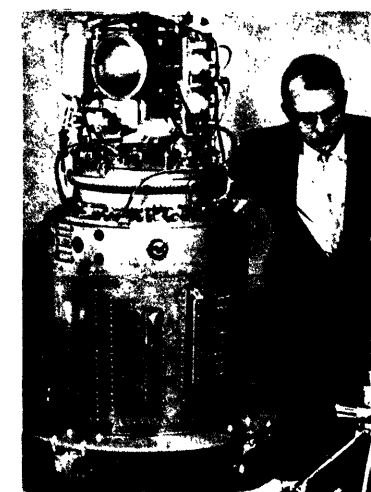
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The 2 kW fuel cell power plant designed to supply electrical power and drinking water for the Apollo Command and Service Module.

# Happy landing —Quatermass?

VITAL information has come into our hands concerning the latest American moon landing.

It is rumoured that the three astronauts will be placed under strict quarantine on their return, as it is thought that they have been taken over by alien beings.

The symptoms were becoming clear as our Intrepid explorers approached to within 12,000 feet of the lunar surface.

Alien A: Hey! There it is! Son of a gun! Right down the middle of the road! I can't believe it! Amazing! Fantastic! . . . That's so fantastic I can't believe it! . . . Isn't that great? Right where it's supposed to be!

Alien B: Watch for the dust! Forty feet, coming down at two. Looking good.

A: Got plenty of gas, Pete. Looking good.

B: Contact light! Drop probe! The spacecraft lands.

A: Okay, we're in hot shape, Houston! Real good shape! Man, oh, man, Houston! I think we're in a place a lot dustier than Neil's.

B: Holy crow, it's beautiful out here!

An analysis of this astounding interchange indicates that the creatures are equipped with a kind of proboscis, fine light and dust troublesome and maintain a high body temperature through some sort of gas process.

Their archaic method of addressing men and the reference to the 'holy crow' obviously indicates a primitive religious influence.

Alien A speaks again: 'Well I was on gauges and that was the only way I could see where I was going. I saw that blue contact light and I shut that baby down and we didn't hit for six feet.' Obviously the creatures move about on six legs and were disturbed by light while carrying out some form of fiendish breeding experiment.

Earthlings beware!

We are about to be taken over!

SCOTTISH: 4.20 p.m. Scotland Early. 4.30 Crossroads. 4.55 The New Adventures of Superman. 6.00 Scotland Now. 6.35 High Living. 7.05 Feature Film: 'Street Lady In Town' starring Greer Garson. Dana Andrews, Cameron Mitchell. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Joker's Wild. 11.30 Late News Extra. 11.47 God In Good Season/The Last Day.

TYNE TEES: 4.13 p.m. North East Newsroom. 4.17 Sara and Hoppy. 4.25 Mr Piper. 4.53 North East Newsroom. 4.55 Ivanhoe. 6.00 Today At Six. 6.30 Peyton Place. 7.00 The Saint. 8.00 Marcus Welby MD. 11.00 Joker's Wild. 11.30 Late News Extra. 11.47 God In Good Season/The Last Day.

YORKSHIRE: 4.00 p.m. Houseparty. 4.30 Arthur. 4.55 Forest Rangers. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.30 Castle Haven. 6.55 'No Sleep Till Dawn' starring Natalie Wood, Karl Malden, Marsha Hunt and Erem Zimbalist Jr. 11.00 The Contenders. 12 midnight Late Weather.

WESTWARD: 4.08 p.m. Westward News Headlines. 4.10 Peyton Place. 4.38 The Gus Honeybun Show. 4.50 The Flaxton Boys. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.20 Pet Subject. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 As Channel. 8.30 As Channel. 11.00 Seaway. 11.50 Faith For Life. 11.56 Weather.

HARELICK: 4.26 p.m. Castle Haven. 4.55 Tinker and Taylor. 6.01 Report. 6.20 Batman. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Midweek Movie: 'Hell Bent For Glory' starring Tab Hunter and Etchika Choureaux. 8.30 Curry and Chips. 10.30 A Quiet Place. 11.05 Hadleigh. 12 midnight Weather.

As above except: 4.26 Intertube. 4.29-4.55 Crossroads. 5.20-5.50 Tins A Lei. 6.01 Y Dydd. 6.24 The Most and Mrs Muir. 6.51-7.00 Report.

ANGLIA: 4.05 p.m. Castle Haven. 4.30 Anglia Newsroom. 4.55 Sean the Leprechaun. 4.50 The Flaxton Boys. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Star Action Movie: 'Battleground' starring Van Johnson and John Hodiak. 11.00 Survival. 11.30 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 4.00 p.m. News Headlines. 4.02 Survival. 4.15 Peyton Place. 4.40 Faulstich. 4.55 The Forest Rangers. 6.00 ATV Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Star Action Movie: 'The Seventh Dawn' starring William Holden. Susannah York. Capucine

GRAMPIAN: 4.00 p.m. The New Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. 4.55 Ivanhoe. 6.00 Grampian News. 6.10 The Double Life Of Henry Phye. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Popeye. 7.10 Adventure. 9.00 McCue's Music. 11.00 Parkin's Patch.

ALL independent channels as London ITV except at the following times: CHANNEL 4: 4.45 p.m. Puffin's Birthday Greetings. 4.50 The Flaxton Boys. 6.00 Channel News and Weather. 6.10 Police File. 6



# Standard-Triumph report A blow at the stewards

By our industrial reporter

**THE REPORT of the government court of inquiry into the Standard-Triumph dispute may open the way for a witch-hunt against the Standard workers and against the stewards who led the 11-week strike.**

## Dockers

● FROM PAGE ONE

tainerization are of vital importance.

Where does the T&GWU, and in particular Mr Henry Battle (Tilbury representative on the union's No. 1 docks' group committee), really stand on these questions?

The terms on which its officials negotiated for Devlin's second stage would have opened the door for a major onslaught against all the dockers' past gains.

If these were rejected by the dockers themselves, it was no thanks to the T&GWU.

What is more, top officials of the union must have known that Battle—one of their leading lay representatives—and the Tilbury stewards were moving towards the idea of a 'UDI'.

## Big trouble

Such a decision would presumably have meant a break from the union's No. 1 committee.

It would certainly have provoked big trouble amongst other sections of London's portworkers.

Did the union fight this move?

If it did, this was certainly kept very quiet indeed. No such struggle has come out into the open.

Dockers must increase their vigilance on these vital questions.

It is not only their wages and conditions, but their jobs themselves which are at stake:

● Unity of all ports against the Devlin scheme!

● For an immediate and substantial increase in pay without 'strings'!

● No redundancies!

● No collaboration with new methods of working without full nationalization of the docks under the full control of those who work in them and without compensation to the old owners!

## ABERDEEN

# Shipyard workers defend steward

By a Workers Press correspondent

SHIPYARD WORKERS at Aberdeen yesterday continued their strike against the sacking of a shop steward and an apprentice into its second week.

The dispute—which involves 400 men—started when the management of John Lewis and Son claimed that the two workers were surplus to requirements.

Shipyard workers claim that the steward, John McConnachie (AEF), was sacked because of his militant defence of their interests.

All workers at Lewis's and engineers at Hall and Russell's shipyard are now on strike.

## Intervention

There have been moves to encourage the intervention of Donald Dewar MP—a Wilson supporter—on behalf of the sacked workers. But the struggle will only really be won by the mobilization of all shipyard workers in the area.

1,150 workers at the Standard-Triumph Wood-end factory in Liverpool struck on August 27.

They demanded to receive average earnings when laid off due to disputes outside their own factory and that they should be given a bonus rise of £4 14s. 3d. a week without strings.

The court, headed by Sheffield University professor John Wood, hits out at the alleged failure of the stewards to go through procedure:

'The claim having been lodged, we cannot condone the subsequent ignoring of procedure as laid down in the various agreements to which both sides are parties.'

## Hits out

The report then proceeds to hit out at 'lack of communication' between stewards and union officials.

The strike decision was 'too precipitate', the court says, and stewards should have discussed the position first with union officials.

In line with the employers' plans to introduce legally binding procedures, the court calls for management to 'look to their methods of keeping themselves informed of feelings on the shop floor, through the use of joint consultative machinery and other appropriate means.'

The court also calls for a review of domestic negotiating procedures and the strengthening of company-union relations to permit disputes to be settled locally.

## Correct

This report, of course, makes it clear that AEF executive member Arthur Harsey was correct when he refused to reportedly against the advice of the AEF—to take part in the court of inquiry.

But his quoted remarks about the report on Tuesday, when he said the court was 'a waste of time and money at the taxpayers' expense, could create confusion.

The Woods inquiry was not a waste of time as far as the employers and the Labour government were concerned. It will be used to strengthen the Tory arguments in favour of legislation to make unions liable to damages if they do not 'control' their members.

To say that the inquiry was a 'waste of time' is to ignore the employers' drive towards disciplining shop stewards and strikers through the union officials.

## Opposed

During the strike, the Communist Party opposed official backing on the grounds that the stewards would 'lose control'.

The reason for the Communist Party's position was simply that to bring the AEF leadership into the strike would have exposed the position of its leadership.

## Tories back Wilson

● FROM PAGE ONE

We received in America last week, the High Command in Saigon is now extending the idea of computer selection to individuals—as well as to suspected areas. This year, our informants say, the programme aims to "eliminate" 33,000 individual Vietnamese civilians who are determined by the computer—to be Vietnam sympathisers. The programme, "Project Phoenix", is said to be up to schedule. (Our emphasis.)

Not Mr Brown, the mass-accres in US policy—and the US policy-makers are NOT weeping about it either.

The atrocities are scientifically determined and executed by an impersonal machine controlled by the military/big-business apparatus in Washington.

That is why Tu Cong is not an exception, but the invariable rule in South Vietnam today.

Already eye-witnesses have reported dozens of such outrages, some of them far worse and more dastardly than Tu Cong.

## EXTERMINATE

Unable to defeat the NLF militarily the US imperialists have determined to exterminate them.

The intensity of their efforts is the best measure of their failure.

All those who stand by US imperialism will perish with it—Brown, Stewart and Wilson included.

Already, despite the shameful silence of the 'Tribune' group of MPs, Hugh Jenkins, MP for Putney, has been forced to protest at Brown's statement.

In a letter to Houghton, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, Jenkins states:

'George Brown is entitled to say what he likes and believe any evil he chooses, but he is not entitled to remain deputy leader of our Party while he does it. I hope the Party will agree to ask George Brown to take the view that it would be in



Jenkins: Protest against Brown.

the interests of the party if he were to cease to be deputy leader.'

We endorse this sentiment gladly but we would go further and demand that Stewart and Wilson should be replaced.

We call on workers, trade unionists and members of the Communist Party to rally against Wilson and Brown on January 11.

Don't weep—fight the right wing and throw them out! Bombard your trade union branches, Congress House and Transport House with resolutions for immediate action against Wilson's visit to Washington at the end of January.

## B.R.S. 'strings' rejected

TALKS aimed at settling the unofficial strike of 5,000 British Road Services drivers, leaders and sorters ended in deadlock yesterday when the management side simply repeated its productivity bonus offer.

For the second time, this was rejected by union leaders on the grounds that the new agreement through a new increase in their basic rate of pay.

## ITALIAN CP EXPULSIONS

Rome, Wednesday: The Italian Communist Party yesterday decided to expel three well-known members of the Central Committee for challenging the leadership's policies.

The three are members of a group of Party left-wingers who challenged the leadership's bid to enter the Italian government through a new coalition with the socialists. They demanded a return to a militant revolutionary line.

# British Titan workers fight new deal

THE 500 STRIKERS at British Titan chemical works, Billingham, are determined to win their seven-week strike against the management's productivity deal.

The strike, which is backed by the Transport and General Workers' Union, began when the workers turned down an incentive bonus scheme

By a Workers Press correspondent

which had been introduced on a month's trial.

The scheme is a seven-day shift cycle, which has two early shifts, two late shifts and two night shifts, giving a wage of £15 15s. after deductions.

Eight jobs were eliminated when the scheme was introduced, but were filled by non-union labour when the month's trial came to an end.

T&GWU pickets have been stopping lorries coming in, but vehicles are now turning up at the factory with firms' names painted over on their sides.

## Still working

Though the T&GWU members are on strike, members of other unions—the AEF, ETU and Boiler-makers' Society are still working in the factory alongside the scab labour.

Members of all these unions are in dispute in other factories in different parts of the country against productivity deals: the AEF at Port Talbot; the ETU at Rolls Royce, Glasgow; and the Boiler-makers at Grange-mouth.

The leaders of all these unions have no objection in principle to productivity deals and cannot be relied on to fight them.

The British Titan strike shows very clearly the need to unite workers in different unions against these deals.

Unity on these questions can only be achieved by fighting for full understanding of what these deals mean. That is the fight of the All Trades Unions Alliance.

# A revolutionary future for miners

THE outstanding lesson of the recent miners' strike over surface hours is that, without a revolutionary leadership, no amount of militancy can bring complete victory in a struggle which involves the government and the state.

FROM JACK GALE

wages will first of all have to be held down . . . and then reduced.

Our answer is that the balance of payments of British capitalism is not our concern. We do not demand the use of coal rather than other fuels in order to help the British capitalists out of their mess.

## NATIONALIZE

We demand the nationalization of the oil companies and the big steel and aluminium monopolies and a socialist fuel policy under workers' control.

The word 'nationalization' is nowhere mentioned in this pamphlet nor is there any reference to the massive interest payments which cripple the mines every year.

Yet there is no future for miners as long as the mining industry is dominated by the profit requirements of the big monopolists.

In the past, the 'left' tendency of Mr Coates has had a great deal to say about nationalization and workers' control.

To fight for these things today, however, involves a struggle against the Labour government, against the TUC and the right wing which tries to discipline the working class on behalf of the government, and against the 'left' trade union leaders.

(This last becomes particularly embarrassing when the gentlemen concerned are so willing to take part in 'Workers' Control' Conferences!)

Yet without this, 'workers' control' is transformed from a revolutionary demand for power into an administrative, bureaucratic manoeuvre.

## NO REFERENCE

It is not surprising, therefore, that the pamphlet makes no reference to the role of the Labour government, says nothing about the Communist Party and makes no criticism whatsoever of the strike leadership.

The main proposal in the pamphlet is the old worn-out rubbish of a national fuel policy.

'The Labour government was elected, and Lawrence Daly was elected, it says, 'on the demand of the miners for a Fuel Policy.'

This is nonsense. The miners voted Labour out of class feeling.

Labour was seen as the party of full employment.

And Daly was elected because he threatened to lead strike action against pit closures.

Since it was elected, the Labour government has closed over 600 pits.

It is therefore nothing but reactionary to suggest that the miners' future lies in appeals to the same Labour government to come up with a new policy.

The government's policy is determined by the bankers and serves the monopolists.

The working class is being put to the wall to serve these interests.

This is the first political lesson that has to be driven home in the pits: the Labour leaders have betrayed and must be removed.

## COVERED

The purpose of revisionism is to keep the working class behind the old leaders.

But this has to be covered by sophisticated phrases. Thus, what we get here is not just any old fuel policy—but a 'social cost-benefit study'.

The mistake of the Labour government, it seems, is that 'pits are being closed and miners made redundant without any such study to justify their actions'. (My emphasis, J.G.)

But what if the government came up with a study that did justify these actions? Would we have to accept them then?

Some 'experts' in the pamphlet claims, believe that such a study would come down in favour of coal 'because of balance of payments and other social considerations'.

In other words, the Labour leaders can be convinced by sweet reason that the coal industry is still necessary for capitalism!

This is reactionary rubbish from start to finish.

The Labour government acts under the instructions of the international bankers who have already made their own 'social studies', thank you very much.

## AUSTRALIAN SEAMEN STRIKE

A NATIONAL merchant seamen's strike hit Australian ports yesterday.

Nine vessels are tied up unable to sail for lack of pilots, while eight other ships, including two British liners carrying 2,400 passengers, are sailing in circles off Sydney unable to land.

Maritime officials say that with rain and haze in the Sydney area, more ships will continue to pile up outside the port.

But the reason, according to the authors of this pamphlet, 'lies in the incompetence and lack of militancy of the national executive'.

This is dangerously and consciously misleading.

Since nationalization and until last year, the general secretary of the NUM was a Communist Party member.

The Communist Party held leading positions in the NUM in Scotland, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, South Wales and Kent.

At no time did this Party mobilize its members for a fight on wages and closures.

This was not simply lack of militancy, nor was it because they were particularly incompetent, but because the political line of the Communist Party—a parliamentary, peaceful road to socialism and peaceful co-existence between the workers' states and capitalism—prevented any struggle against the Labour government and the trade union bureaucracy.

## STRIKE-BREAK

The Communist Party hailed Vic Feather's intervention in the recent strike as a 'break-through' and acted as a strike-breaking force.

It is impossible to write any pamphlet on the mines that is of the slightest assistance to miners that does not explain and analyse the counter-revolutionary role of the Communist Party.

But this might also make Workers' Control' Conferences difficult to organize!

So, the political revisionism of the Ken Coates variety prevents those men who are influenced by it from drawing any of the political lessons of the last 20 years in the mining industry.

That is why they wind up in the camp of class collaboration and reformism.

The solution for mining is bound up with the building of alternative revolutionary leadership—which is what the authors of the pamphlet are opposed to.

# Power strike blacks out France

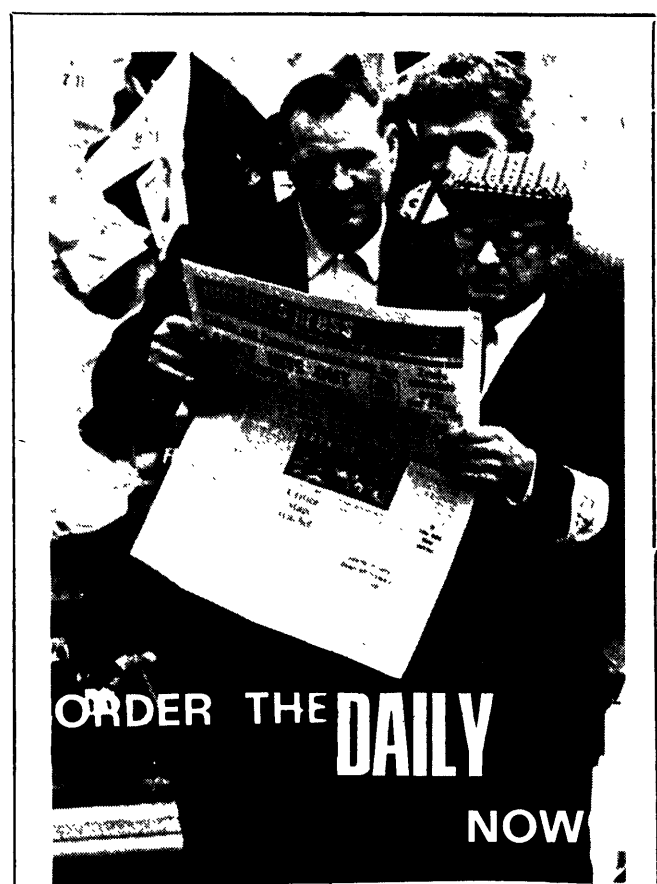
YESTERDAY'S strike of French power workers blacked out most of the country, including large areas of Paris.

A spokesman for the electricity board said the grid supply dropped 20 per cent overnight, while industrialists expected it to fall by up to 65 per cent.

In Paris, Wednesday morning rush-hour traffic ground to a halt when traffic lights failed during a power cut.

Eleven of the city's underground lines were not running, while services were reduced on the remainder.

The 48-hour strike—the second in two weeks—has been called in support of wage demands by France's electricity and gas workers.



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## GREET WORKERS PRESS



at public meetings  
See the film of the first issue being prepared and printed and the film 'Young Socialists, 1969'

**NEWCASTLE**  
Sunday, November 30, 7.30 p.m.  
County Hotel, Neville Street

**LEEDS**  
Wednesday, December 3, 8 p.m.  
The 'Old Bar'  
Student's Union, Leeds University

CLIFF SLAUGHTER (Central Committee member, Socialist Labour League)  
JOHN NOLAN (Young Socialists)

**CANTERBURY**  
Monday, December 8, 8 p.m.  
The Cornwallis Building  
University of Canterbury

**LIVERPOOL**  
Sunday, December 14, 7.30 p.m.  
Shaftesbury Hotel, Mount Pleasant

Speakers at Newcastle, Liverpool and Canterbury will be:  
MIKE BANDA (Editor of Workers' Press)  
SHEILA TORRANCE (National Secretary of the Young Socialists)

# Teachers' leaders begin arbitration soft-pedal

A FRONT-PAGE article in November 21's 'The Teacher', journal of the National Union of Teachers, reported that 50,000 teachers have already been involved in 'the great series of half-day and one-day strikes that have taken place all over the country'.

Thousands of schools have lined up to take part in the fortnight's strike at the beginning of December.

These actions are unprecedented in the history of the union.

But as the Workers Press pointed out on Saturday, the

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By our education correspondent

NUT executive has already begun to soft-pedal.

This is clear from the same issue of 'The Teacher' which reports that Mr Edward Britton, general secretary-designate, answering criticisms that the union was striking while negotiations were still in progress, replied that teachers had no choice because 'once deadlock has been reached in the Burnham negotiations the matter would be certain to go to arbitration'.

## Loaded

He pointed out that the arbitration panel is loaded in favour of the government and employers and continued:

'In the circumstances it is excessively naive to think that an arbitration decision would not reflect the management point of view, and once the arbitration decision is made known, it is embodied in the law.'

If teachers therefore want to demonstrate the depth of their feeling on the salaries issue the obvious time is before the breakdown has

occurred. After the breakdown the machine goes inexorably on and the time when the local authority and government thinking can most easily be affected has been lost.

Teachers must beware of such statements and what lies behind them.

In February this year the executive recommended acceptance of a salary offer which amounted to a wage cut, because the prices and incomes policy could not be defeated.

## Proved untrue

Since then the successful struggles of many sections of workers has proved this to be untrue.

Is the twin bogey of the arbitration panel to be raised now to hold back the teachers as it was in 1967?

The arbitration panel is not invulnerable as some would suggest.

But to defeat it means to take on the Labour government. Only a national strike of all teachers will defeat the employers, the panel and the government and achieve the full demand.