

Workers of all countries unite!

RED PATRIOT



May 1st
1983

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An Tírghráthóir Dearg

ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF IRELAND (MARXIST-LENINIST)

HAIL MAY DAY!

20p

ORGANISE FOR REVOLUTION!

Comrade workers !

The First of May is the day on which the workers of all countries celebrate the unity of our class throughout the world in the spirit of proletarian internationalism.

This is the centenary year of the death of Karl Marx. So May Day this year is a celebration of Marx's tremendous revolutionary contribution. Together with his great life-long friend and collaborator, Frederik Engels, Marx for the first time put the movement of the working class on a scientific and fully class conscious basis. Marx demonstrated the inevitability of the coming triumph of the working class over capitalism and the bourgeoisie. Marx showed how the inexorable laws of historical development had fitted the workers to carry through the historic destiny of their class -- the liberation of humanity as a whole from class exploitation, from national enmities, the scourge of war and from all other kinds of reaction (racism, the oppression of women and the prevalence of ignorance, superstition etc.). For the workers could only achieve their own emancipation by abolishing the exploitation of man by man itself, and thus with this the basis for all these other evils of thousands of years of the history of class society.

Lenin and the Bolsheviks applied the theory of Marxism and organised the first successful party of the working class, able to mobilise the workers and around the workers the masses of the oppressed in Russia in the great October Socialist Revolution of 1917. Stalin upheld and defended the great achievement of socialism in the Soviet Union for thirty years, during which

Contd. P.2 MAY DAY



MAY DAY IN PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

NO, TO IMPERIALIST WAR PREPARATIONS!

One of the most burning issues facing the people of the entire world is the intensification of the preparations for war of the two superpowers, U.S. imperialism and Soviet social imperialism. For it is a fact that the armaments race is increasing, and that the two superpowers are intensifying their efforts to deploy American Cruise and Pershing 2 nuclear missiles in Western Europe and the Soviet SS-20 nuclear missiles in Eastern Europe.

No trust whatsoever can be put on the superpowers themselves to "act responsibly" and to cease their warmongering activities. Experience has shown that even whilst they are claiming that they

wish to reduce nuclear weapons" are interested only in "peace" or in "preserving the military strategic balance"; and whilst each superpower accuses the other for its refusal to remove its nuclear missiles from the territories of Europe -- that all this talk is merely a smokescreen to try and cover over the increasing preparations for war. A brief look at the military budget of the United States bears this fact out. When Reagan came into office, he found a military budget of \$196.4 billion which Congress had approved on Carter's demand. This budget, which was the biggest by far since the Second World War, is nothing compared to what it has become

Contd. P. 9 WAR.

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the vicious anti-communist onslaught of fascism and nazism against the working class, people's democratic and national rights and socialism was repulsed and defeated.

May Day as the red letter day of proletarian internationalism is therefore, a day of celebration of the great scientific theory for the liberation of the working class: the theory of scientific socialism or communism, known as Marxism-Leninism. It is a day for celebration of the socialist system, embodied in Marx's phrase, the dictatorship of the proletariat, and exemplified today in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Comrade Workers!

Nothing can wipe out the spirit of proletarian internationalism, the theory of Marxism-Leninism or the superiority of the socialist system over capitalism, imperialism and the selfish rat-race, war-fraught and man-eating bourgeois society.

The bourgeoisie, who heaped filthy slanders on Marx when he was alive, are trying today in this the centenary year of his death, to kill the immortal memory of Marx with condescension -- Marx's "great ideals for humanity have not been and (never can be) realised", they say; Marx was "a mere idealist", whose "pretensions to found a science of society and history were doomed to failure in the face of the facts of human nature -- individualist and selfish motivation, competitiveness, racial and national prejudices, the underlying violence and predatory character of humanity".

They point to the Soviet Union today and sarcastically term it "the social experiment of idealists who failed, were forced themselves to adopt capitalism, become imperialists as well etc."

But none of these "facts" -- as the bourgeoisie allege -- have any validity. None of them disprove Marxism-Leninism, the socialist system, or the destiny of the working class, nor stain the pure sentiments of the workers for proletarian internationalism.

Comrade Workers!

Socialist Albania stands like a rock, as the bastion of the socialist system and the dictatorship of the proletariat today after some 39 years of contin-

uous successful development, in direct continuity from the socialist system of the Soviet Union of the days of Lenin and Stalin.

It is the traitors to communism, such as Tito, Khrushchev, and his successors, Mao Zedong and Teng Hsiao Ping etc., whose "brilliant" "new" theories of mixing capitalism with socialism and "economic competition with imperialism instead of the class struggle and revolution", have been proved bankrupt.

Yugoslavia, Russia and its colonial dependencies in eastern Europe, and China today are embroiled in the very same economic, social and political crises as the openly capitalist countries of the U.S. dominated bloc. They are up to their necks in foreign debts; their social life is degenerating with alcoholism, corruption and vandalism; they are taking recourse to the same measures of colonial wars (in Afghanistan and Africa) and fascist suppression (Poland and against the Albanian population in Kosovo in Yugoslavia) etc. etc. Their countries are subject to unemployment and all kinds of cuts in state welfare, price rises etc. -- all to make the working people pay for the crisis which the restoration of capitalism has brought with it and to put "guns before butter" in preparation for another imperialist world war.

In other words, the revisionist countries have turned out identical to the countries of western imperialism.

Socialist Albania, on which the revisionists heap their foulest slanders the same as the capitalists of the west, refutes the whole deception of the revisionists, that their path is "creative Marxism", that revolution was allright in Lenin's day, but not for today, the "dictatorship of the proletariat was only one phrase of Marx" etc.

Comrade Workers!

As well as socialist Albania, the working class of all countries has adhered to proletarian internationalism -- however great the demagogy and deception of opportunist and revisionist traitors to the workers in the leadership of the trade unions, or even in "Labour" and "socialist" governments in capitalist count-

ries or the so-called "communist governments" of the revisionist states.

New Marxist-Leninist parties have emerged from the struggle of the working class and the honest revolutionaries against the revisionist betrayal in countries throughout the world. The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) is one of these parties, replacing the old Communist Party of Ireland, which has turned completely revisionist today.

All these facts prove that, whatever the set-backs and betrayals suffered by the workers, the inherent revolutionary character of the working class repairs the damage, learns the lessons and throws up new organisation and leadership to carry forward the class struggle.

Comrade Workers!

Today the working class of all countries is faced with another grave crisis in the world imperialist system. The capitalist governments of all countries -- including the British imperialist's colonial regime in the north and the neo-colonial pro-imperialist southern regime -- are trying to make the working people bear the burden of the crisis in lower wages, higher prices, higher taxation, redundancies and lower living standards. They are all developing fascism to strip away the democratic rights which the people have won in the past, in order to disarm the working people and force them to pay for the crisis. They are inciting divisions to set worker against worker on racist and reactionary nationalist lines. They are fanning hysteria for war, for colonial wars of aggression as in the Malvinas and the north of Ireland, El Salvador, Afghanistan etc., and for another world war. For these

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Committee of the
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(Marxist-Leninist).

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are the only means which the bourgeoisie knows to solve their crisis.

Here in Ireland we are subject to double oppression - by the capitalist system (its crises and war preparations), but by a foreign imposed capitalist system which denies our nation all the inalienable democratic rights to which any nation is entitled as of right. After some 800 years of the most barbaric national subjugation and exploitation at the hands of the British ruling class, we Irish are still denied these elementary and fundamental national, democratic rights, and still suffer the most barbaric fascist-type occupation in the north.

It is bad enough for the workers of capitalist countries which are self-governing. They have to fight the deceptive and oppressive system of bourgeois "democracy" and sham "socialism" (in the capitalist west and eastern revisionist countries) -- i.e. against the real dictatorship of the bourgeois ruling class. But here in Ireland a foreign aggressor -- British imperialism - stands in the way of us workers settling accounts with the capitalist system and the exploiting bourgeoisie.

Just as it is the destiny of the working class throughout the world to unite the people and oppressed nations for the overthrow of world imperialism, in Ireland it is the destiny of the workers to unite and lead the entire Irish people in the just democratic struggle for national liberation. This is the only way to open up the path to socialism in Ireland.

Comrade Workers !

Let us restore the original revolutionary character of May Day by rededicating ourselves to the class struggle and the revolution. Let us make our contribution to the liberation of world humanity, in this the general stage of proletarian socialist revolution in the world, by overthrowing imperialism in Ireland, by overthrowing British imperialism.

MAKE THE RICH PAY FOR THE CRISIS !

UNITY AND FREEDOM TO THE IRISH PEOPLE !

WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE !

Lessons of Tax Campaign



Recently the PAYE/PRSI struggle to demand a reduction in the tax burden on workers in the south has re-emerged as a burning issue. On April 13th a half day strike and demonstrations were held in many cities and towns throughout the south, with over 20,000 marching in Dublin .

The Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist) has actively participated in this struggle since it first emerged as a major mass movement around 1978/79.

The struggle against the unjust tax burden in the south is a just struggle. The burden on workers in southern Ireland is one of the very highest in the capitalist countries, for one of the lowest returns in the form of state welfare and facilities.

The heaviness of this tax burden is due mainly to the immense foreign borrowing of successive governments from the banks and other loan facilities of the imperialists. This swallows up virtually a third of all government income in repayments. But also it is to finance a policy of massive subsidies to foreign imperialist, multi-national companies to encourage investment.

Thus the taxation issue touches on the very source of the problem - the capitalist system in Ireland as a system of foreign domination by imperialism.

The struggle against the tax burden, then, is part and parcel of the struggle against the imperialist crisis and the

struggle to overthrow foreign imperialist domination in Ireland as a whole.

The solution of the problem of taxation can only be found in the abolition of the very capitalist system itself. Under socialism, the workers of Albania created the situation where by some 10 years ago, income tax and every other kind of tax could be abolished.

But just as in Albania, which suffered the scourge of foreign occupation , so also with the Irish people, capitalism can only be abolished with the overthrow of foreign imperialist domination and its cornerstone - the annexation of the northern 6 counties by British imperialism.

THE OPPORTUNISTS MISLEAD THE WORKERS.

The opportunists - the labour aristocracy , which controls the trade unions in the interests of the capitalist state, and their various social-democratic and revisionist parties of class betrayal have seized on the sentiment of the mass of the workers against the tax burden. They have tried to twist this just struggle to their own purposes - to undermine the class struggle and divert it from its true direction, away from revolution to overthrow imperialism.

Firstly, the trade union chiefs and the various parties of the labour traitors have

tried to use the tax struggle as a substitute for the struggle against the employers for higher wages. Exploiting the actual facts -- that a huge proportion of any pay rise extorted out of the employers is automatically grabbed back in taxation -- the labour aristocracy and the opportunists have preached that the main quarrel of the workers is with the "government", not the employers. The problem is not low wages, these tricksters say, it is high taxation.

This is a great deception. Because the whole point is: that the government itself is nothing but the political executive of the employers! The system of high taxation in the Free State is simply one of the particular ways in which the capitalist class exploits the workers here.

The opportunists -- the social democrats and revisionists and the trade union leaders -- (usually one or the other in their politics) -- are deliberately serving the exploiting companies and the employers and defending and increasing their profits by turning the anger of the workers at "the government" and away from their immediate exploiters and the struggle for wages.

Furthermore, these opportunists and capitalist lackeys are trying to conceal the class character of the bourgeois state as the dictatorial instrument of the employing class.

This is the second point. The opportunists are deliberately trying to use the tax issue to foster the illusion of the "peaceful, parliamentary reform" of capitalism. At times, they concede that "this is a political struggle" (more so in the recent re-emergence of the struggle than in 1979, when they were trying to deny its political character and pretend this was only "economic struggle"). But "it is, not a struggle to overthrow the state, or even against the state as capitalist". It is merely the operation of "one of the social partners" (the organised trade union movement, as they call it) lobbying the government for its own interests in competition with "the other social partners" -- the employers, the self-employed, the farmers etc. etc.

The so-called "Workers' Party"

in particular have tried to claim this tax campaign as the product of their particular policy as a means to win favour from the workers to replace the highly exposed Irish Labour Party. But, regardless of the particular "credit" to this party, the main thing is, that the "Workers' Party" is trying to use the tax protests to breathe new life into the old illusions of parliamentary reformism and social emancipation by means of a parliamentary -- as opposed to revolutionary -- party.

The third point is that the opportunists are striving to use the tax struggle as a means to create hostility amongst workers against other sections of the working people, with whom the workers must unite in the struggle against imperialism. The opportunists are developing the demagogy that the burden on the workers is "due to evasion by the farmers, the self-employed and the professionals". At times, in order to avoid complete exposure as servants of capitalism, the opportunists have demanded heavier taxation of the banks, and more recently the jailing of tax evading employers. But this is all to avoid organising the workers around the principle of "MAKE THE RICH PAY FOR THE CRISIS!" -- as a revolutionary demand, not a demand to haggle over this or that minor concession. It is all to avoid castigating the capitalist system and especially foreign domination by imperialism and the bourgeoisie AS A CLASS, and is reducing the question to abuse by a few individuals or institutions. At the same time, it is to present an entire distortion to the workers -- that every category which the trade union leaders denounce as "tax evaders" are actually capitalists on the same level as the monopoly capitalists.

In their incitement of divisions against other sections of the working people, who are also oppressed in various ways by imperialism and are actually being driven off the land and out of business by the advance of foreign imperialist domination, the opportunists are again serving the policy of the bourgeoisie -- to isolate the working class from its class allies and prevent the emergence of the revolutionary alliance to overthrow imper-

ialism, which must be led by the working class.

THE OPPORTUNISTS SUBVERT THE TAX STRUGGLE.

The one day tax strike and mass demonstration of 1979 saw one of the biggest marches in one city in Europe since the Second World War -- between 250,000 and 350,000 in Dublin.

But that series of marches was deliberately organised in such a way as to demobilise the workers. The opportunists fostered the illusion that the establishment of a "commission of taxation" was a victory for the marchers. But this was the usual device of the bourgeoisie to put issues of public outrage on ice -- just as they did with the public enquiry into the Star Ballroom inferno tragedy. After the most infinitesimal tax reductions, subsequent tax rises have increased the burden of PAYE/PRSI income tax, as well as massively increased indirect taxation through VAT etc.

At the April 13th marches the workers were treated to the same deceptive rhetoric: "this is only the beginning of the campaign". But this means no more than their past "promises".

THE NEED OF WORKERS TO GET POLITICALLY ORGANISED.

At the April 13th march in Dublin, one of the trade union speakers reflected the sentiment of the demonstration of disillusion with the Irish Labour Party now in the coalition government with Fine Gael and wielding the axe and increasing the tax burden.

But this contribution was not a genuine reflection of the sentiment of the workers against the Labour Party's betrayal. It was an escalation of the rhetoric of deception by the opportunists and the labour aristocracy. At the same time, it reflected the competition of other factions in the trade union aristocracy against the "Workers' Party".

Firstly, the speaker said that "the trade unions should consider disaffiliating from the Labour Party", when the issue is simply to get on and disaffiliate. Secondly, the speaker urged the creation of a new "genuine political party of the working class, a mass party based on the organised trade union

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movement . but the point is that it is the basis of the present Labour Party on this "organised trade union movement" which is the cause of its betrayal.

For the trade union movement is "organised" by the labour aristocracy -- that strata which has been groomed and corrupted by soft jobs and social status by the bourgeoisie. Such "Labour" parties, based on such an "organised" trade union movement controlled by the labour aristocracy, can NEVER be anything other than another political tool of the capitalists and foreign imperialists. For it is with the Irish national sell-out bourgeoisie and foreign imperialism that the labour aristocracy have thrown in their lot, on whom they depend for their privileges and bourgeois life-style.

The promotion of a repeat of the Irish Labour Party can only be another deception for the workers, just as was the case with the late -unlamented-" Socialist Labour Party". It is to substitute another reformist party for the real revolutionary party - the party which alone is fit to politically organise the workers of Ireland as of any other country. Such a party must first of all be founded on Marxism-Leninism and the programme for revolution.

"Red Patriot" calls on workers to persist in the struggle against the unjust tax burden in the southern Free State : both against the various unjust forms of direct income tax AND indirect taxation. In this struggle the workers must get politically organised under the leadership of the only genuine party of the working class - the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist).

For this is the party which the workers need. They have no need for any other - certainly not for yet another party "based on the organised trade union movement ". Rather the Marxist-Leninist party must come to leadership of the workers in the trade unions, as the mass of the workers get organised to throw out the labour aristocrats and class traitors who presently defile the platforms as so-called trade union "leaders". The only real leaders of the workers are those who are pledged to fight capitalism and imperialism, not those who seek to perpetuate exploitation by reformism and deception as lackeys of the monopoly bourgeoisie.

TELECTRON

ANOTHER U.S. MULTINATIONAL THREATENS CLOSURE

On Monday, April 26th, the U.S. parent company of Telectron in Tallaght, County Dublin announced closure of the Tallaght plant with loss of some 500 jobs.

Telectron was set up in 1960 as an Irish company. It was hailed as a great "success" story" for the "new generation" of modern technology factories. In 1981 it was taken over by the giant U.S. multinational telecommunications company A.T. and T International.

Telectron was boosted by grants from the Industrial Development Authority, a system of financing monopoly capital directly out of the pockets of the working class tax payer in the south.

The U.S. multinational has

now announced that the original announcement of "immediate closure " was made without their knowledge or agreement, and are preparing to meet the IDA representatives for discussion about a "rescue plan". Such closure threats are stock-in-trade tactics by foreign monopoly capital to extort still higher grants from the people's taxes and enforce acceptance of redundancies, intensified work and lower wages from the remaining workers.

The threatened closure of Telectron exposes once again the criminal deception of the Irish bourgeoisie and their capitalist and social-democratic parties : that foreign investment is the key to a secure future of industrial development.

JACOB'S STRIKE

On Friday April 22nd, the 800 or so workers at the Jacobs biscuit factory in Tallaght Dublin, took strike action in support of their claim for a decent living wage. The strike ballot which took place was unanimous in its rejection of the company's insulting offer of a 4% wage rise after a 7 month pay freeze, with the agreement to last for 15 months. Two weeks later when the strike notice had expired, the company in last minute negotiations "increased" their offer to a 3 month pay freeze, followed by a 5% and 3% increase over 15 months, with many

other strings attached, including a ban on any further claims being served during that period, and with a more or less completely free hand to do whatever they wished in the realm of productivity, new machinery etc. The workers viewed this as totally unacceptable especially since Jacobs has been in a very good position for some 3 or four years now, with increasing profits, buying into other companies, etc. Also a major consideration was that inflation is currently running at 13% and that over the last two years, because wages have fallen behind the cost of living a 7% reduction in real wages has occurred in that period.

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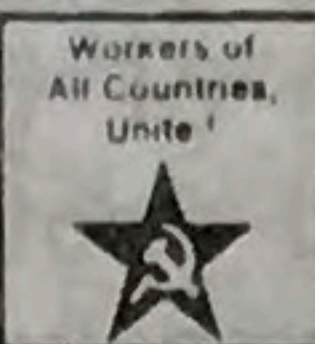
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Students persist in struggle against the cuts

In the lead up to the 25th Congress of the Union of Students in Ireland, there was much comment by the bourgeois media on the affairs of the student movement. This took the form of 'criticism' of USI for not being able to stop the cuts in education, as if the mouthpiece of the Irish bourgeoisie was interested in standing with the students and the rest of the people against the savage education cuts announced at the beginning of the year. Any patriot, democrat or worker knows that this is far from being the case.

In largescale demonstrations and strikes during this academic year, on December 2nd and February 1st-3rd, the students took up the battle to defeat the cuts in education for the first time. These protests and others were organised simultaneously north and south against British and Irish government policies in education. They were also the largest and most widespread events organised by USI for over ten years. It was no wonder, then, that the bourgeoisie as well as openly opposing the students' protests have used the various means at their disposal, such as the media and undemocratic elements in the student movement, to discredit the great efforts students are making to defeat these economic attacks.

Thus they pulled out all stops inside and outside the student movement to try and break it up, before, during and after the student congress. But as was shown by their demonstrations and other protests and by the major decisions of the 25th Congress, the students have stood their ground and are preparing a general 32-county student strike to wrest the initiative out of the hands of the governments, which have up until now been able to impose almost all cuts at will. Thus the April Congress of USI was a great victory for the Irish student body in consolidating its line that the rich should pay for the crisis and that the students should stand against the governments' policy of trying to increase the burden on the people. The students were not taken in by any nonsensical idea that there was an 'easy' path and are now setting in motion the necessary

preparations for an all out response to the anti-people policies of two states, one of them a foreign occupying power, British imperialism.

While in respect of the major attempt to divert the students down some side road failed, the Congress still failed to resolve the issue of taking a serious democratic stand on the most immediate crucial issue for the Irish people -- the issue of national unity and freedom from British imperialism. It is in the context of not being able to sort out this issue and allowing the major



issue of principle to be obscured by secondary and divisive red herrings floated by the British and Irish reactionary bourgeoisie, that the student movement is prone to losing its way and come under the influence of the pro-imperialist or vacillating elements in the student movement.

Once again this year, USI agreed to develop a discussion on what stand to take on this question. To this there can be only one answer -- all democratic people must actively uphold the right of the Irish people to self-determination and to take up the means of establishing this right in fact as well as in theory.

While the bourgeoisie through the media, the use of court injunctions and physical attacks and surveillance by the gardai and RUC, have tried to stem the student protests, there are others who are set in motion by them to achieve the same result inside. An alliance of careerists, revisionists and trotskyites, in a veritable barrage of attacks and so-called "analysis" attempted to

whip up an unprincipled mood of pessimism and defeatism amongst the students. This attack was launched inside USI by people who were at one time inveterate enemies of one another. But they have patched up their "differences", so that they could take control of the union and turn the student actions into a side-road of a series of local actions only -- a line of action completely inadequate to oppose the cuts of both governments.

This is an important issue for the students. The history of the struggle inside USI for a sound

leadership which would lead the students in the fight for their rights goes back to the beginning of USI. But the lesson of the recent period that came to an end in 1981, of misleadership by the supporters of the so-called Workers' Party, which simply used USI as a front to popularise their bankrupt parliamentary line, should not be lost. Because for the ten years or more of the Workers' Party, 'leadership' the elements who have now formed an alliance with them were their most ardent 'opponents'. This has turned out not to be the case at all. The opposition of various trotskyites and careerists to the Workers' Party was itself opportunism. They failed over a long period to present a serious programme to the students of how to unite in action, irrespective of any religious, social or political background, in defence of the democratic rights of the Irish students and people.

Now these same careerists and opportunists have come together in the service of the

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SPIRIT OF FREEDOM HOLDS SUCCESSFUL FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

On Tuesday 26th April, the "Spirit of Freedom" Committee hosted its first public meeting at a venue in Dublin. An audience of over 40 people warmly applauded the speakers and a lively informal discussion ensued at the close of the speeches.

The "Spirit of Freedom" spokesperson opened up the speeches with an account of the origin, the aims and activity of the committee. He explained how the committee had originated out of the production of a local newsheet in the H-Block/Armagh campaign. With the development of the phase of struggle after the end of the heroic hunger strike of 1981, led by Bobby Sands, "Spirit of Freedom" had been adopted as the newsheet of the Dublin Central, the committee which co-ordinated the work of all the local action groups in Dublin. It had made quite a contribution to the work in Dublin to educate the people in the objectives of the heroic martyrs of H-Block and mobilise masses of people to attend the commemoration marches for the dead heroes in 1982.

At the final, closing conference of the H-Block/Armagh campaign in autumn 1982, those involved with the production of "Spirit of Freedom" had called on everybody who saw the need to continue to organise on broad democratic principles on a long term basis, to rally round the "Spirit of Freedom" news sheet. This committee now



holding its first public meeting was the result.

But the "Spirit of Freedom" Committee, while maintaining a definite pre-occupation with the cause of the patriotic political prisoners in both parts of Ireland and in Britain, had not limited itself to this. Throughout the H-Block/Armagh campaign, those associated with the committee advocated a broad democratic platform for re-unification and genuine national independence i.e. for those objectives for which the prisoners themselves had been jailed. Now the "Spirit of Freedom" Committee adopted such a platform, based on the democratic principles of the inalienable right of all peoples and nations to independence. "Spirit of Freedom" recognised imperialism to be the oppressor of the peoples and nations of the world, with British imperialism as the national enemy of the Irish people. At

the same time, "Spirit of Freedom" opposed all illusions that the Irish people or any other people could find assistance in the struggle against their imperialist oppressor by reliance on some other. In particular, in the world situation where the two superpowers - the USA and the USSR - are actively preparing for war to solve their crisis, there was no salvation in alliance with one superpower against the other, in particular no defence for Irish interests in alliance with US imperialism, even where the incentive might be the offer of "reunification". "How could there be any salvation for the Irish people by alliance with the warmongering pact of NATO led by the close ally of our national oppressor", the speaker asked.

Finally the spokesperson for "Spirit of Freedom" explained how the committee worked to support all the individual democratic struggles, but with the perspective of consolidating mass support amongst the people out of the struggles on their broad and consistent democratic principles. Only this way could the individual struggles contribute to the general democratic and patriotic movement to liberate the country and our people. Only through national liberation could the fundamental democratic right of the Irish people to decide our own destiny be established, and the people freed to sort out all the problems in the country. Only by the Irish people having the inalienable right to take up the necessary means of struggle to achieve liberation, could our democratic, national rights

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bourgeoisie, together with the revisionists in the Workers' Party, to sow as much confusion as possible. For example, one group known as the League for Workers' Republic published a newspaper on the day of the April 13th Tax protest, calling for a general strike of the workers -- even though conditions are far from ready -- while at the same time they denounced USI for adopting a plan to organise a general student strike in the same paper! Yet USI as an organisation is in a position to discuss such a tactic and prepare for carrying it out in the near future.

Yet despite the external and internal attempts at disruption, the students decided to press on with the fight against the cuts and to resolve the issue of the national question. It is clear that in the battles with the government over the economic attacks and through the internal struggle to find the way forward, sometimes against elements amongst the students who launch the same type of attacks as the bourgeoisie, the students have kept their heads, convinced that **UNITY IN ACTION IN DEFENCE OF THEIR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS** is the only way forward.

really count as rights at all. British imperialism and the national traitors had no right to determine what methods of struggle the Irish people had a right to use. This was up to the people to decide and was determined in any case by the weapons used by the foreign aggressor to keep our country down.

There followed short speeches from the representatives of the Release Nicky Kelly Committee, the Embassy 20 Committee, Irish Civil Rights Association, Sinn Fein, and the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist). These speakers warmly congratulated "Spirit of Freedom" for organising such a meeting, explained the cases of Nicky Kelly and the Embassy 20, the views and work of ICRA, Sinn Fein and CPI(M-L).

The Sinn Fein spokesperson dwelt on the character of imperialist domination of Ireland as an all embracing phenomenon, not confined to the brutal colonial rule of British imperialism in the north, but also involving the whole character of oppression, collaboration, national sell-out, economic crisis and deprivation for the people in the south. Struggle has to be taken up against the whole imperialist domination and collaboration as well as against the military occupation of the north; and broad democratic organisations such as "Spirit of Freedom" could make a valuable contribution in addition to the patriotic political parties.

The spokesperson for CPI(M-L) denounced the brutal fascist-type aggression of British imperialism in the north, the collaboration of the Irish bourgeoisie north and south, and applauded the "Spirit of Freedom" for taking up this struggle as an urgent task. The "Spirit of Freedom" had been founded in the heroic H-Block struggle, the phrase coming from the writings of Bobby Sands; but this spirit of freedom was universal wherever people were oppressed by imperialism and gave resistance. "Spirit of Freedom" was making a unique contribution by the simple achievement of putting the democratic movement on a really democratic basis: by standing up for Irish freedom as the right of any and all nations to independence and in unity with the struggle of all oppressed nations

and the workers of all countries against all imperialism, and against their war preparations headed by the two superpowers, U.S. imperialism and Soviet social imperialism. The CPI(M-L) speaker finished by shouting the slogans: Long Live the "Spirit of Freedom" Death to British imperialism and its collaborators! Down with the war preparations, headed by the two superpowers! Down with world imperialism, fascism and reaction!

Workers of all countries and oppressed nations, unite! Unity and freedom to the Irish people!

The "Spirit of Freedom" speaker closed formal proceedings with a call for recruits and the launching of a special issue of "Spirit of Freedom" in support of the current campaign for the Release of Nicky Kelly, unjustly imprisoned in the "Free" State for his democratic politics and for no other reason, as he is innocent of any crime.

STOP THIS HARRASSMENT OF PATRIOTIC AND PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE!

In recent weeks, the collaborationist and pro-British imperialist regime in the "Free" State has continued its policy of harassment of democratic and patriotic activists.

A month ago some five activists of the Release Nicky Kelly Committee, including a supporter of CPI(M-L) were unjustly arrested for "obstructing" the public footpath at the GPO during their weekly Saturday picket. In reality the arrest was initiated by the government to stem the growing popular campaign against the unjust imprisonment of Nicky Kelly. On the following Monday the charges were dismissed in the face of a vigorous defence.

On Easter Sunday another supporter of CPI(M-L) was arrested and held for 18 hours by the gardai in Cork under the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act. But this was only a pretext to interrupt the distribut-

ion of the "Red Patriot" supplement hailing the heroic Easter Rising.

On 28th April some 9 people, including several supporters of Sinn Fein, were arrested and brought to court for charges of "belonging to an illegal organisation" - the IRA, on which they were later released on bail. But this was only a further chapter in the constant harassment of democratic and patriotic activists.

This small sample reflects only the general pattern of a whole system of collaboration of the southern Irish regime with British imperialism against the patriotic and progressive movement in Ireland. All democratic and patriotic people condemn this collaboration and demand the repeal of the anti-democratic legislation, and the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act.

British in Desperation Resort to Informers

Contrary to the propaganda of British imperialism - that their colonial rule has popular support in the north - the fascist colonial authorities have had to resort to the use of informers as sole evidence to convict the patriots. Even amongst those "loyalists" whom the British imperialists have incited over centuries, they can find no one to cooperate with their so-called "judicial" system, except a handful of informers.

At present some 300 patriots are due for trial in the no-jury Diplock Courts on the sole basis of the evidence of a few informers.

The lying blackmail of the British army intelligence

and RUC Special Branch, which is used to intimidate those who crack under their vicious physical and psychological torture is crumbling. The patriotic organisations are making ground all the time in winning back the loyalty of the families of the informers and even the informers themselves, by breaking down the myths and bogeys of the fascist authorities: that the patriots are ruthless, unprincipled and indiscriminating in revenge.

The tactics of the British in relying on informers must be seen for what it is: a further sign of their increasing isolation as a foreign aggressor with no rights in our country and no support from the Irish people.

VICTORY TO THE IRISH PEOPLE!

Contd. from P.1 - IMPERIALIST WAR

in the short time since Reagan took office. Last year the military budget of the U.S. attained the \$276 billion mark. And this year it is said to have increased still further to \$300 billion. The Soviet military budget is of a similarly colossal sum.

Furthermore the various discussions which have taken place concerning a "reduction" of nuclear arms is a complete fraud. Because the issue is not a question of more or less nuclear missiles on the territories of the European countries -- the central issue is that all such deployments are a violation of the sovereignty of these European countries and a threat to their freedom and independence and peace. Any such deployment leaves the door wide-open for the possibility of a nuclear holocaust. The fact of the matter is that these two military blocs of NATO and the Warsaw Pact are not following some defensive policy as they allege, but are pursuing the aggressive and predatory policy which is dictated by the imperialist system itself.

The facts are that the system of imperialism was founded on war -- through the colonial conquest of the countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America ; and this system can only survive like a vampire, on further constant warfare and through the preparation of wars. For imperialism is a system of world-wide capitalist exploitation, in which competing capitalist powers strive for world monopoly of the markets and sources of raw materials, ceaselessly striving to cut into each others' spheres of influence.

The system of imperialism inevitably gives rise to slumps in the world market through competition, giving rise to over-production. It is out of this life and death struggle of the giant monopolist competitors to survive the slump, by wiping out their competitors and seizing their markets and sources of raw materials, by re-dividing the world market and the colonial and neo-colonial empires ; it is out of this that wars arise inevitably, local wars, leading eventually to world war.



HUMAN CHAIN 14 MILES LONG AT GREENHAM COMMON

IRELAND.

Ireland, too does not remain outside these warmongering plans of the imperialists. The Irish people have suffered under centuries of oppression by British imperialism (one of the NATO partners) and know full well the bloodthirsty lengths which British imperialism will go to preserve colonies and spheres of influence. One of the major reasons why the British ruling class has fought viciously to maintain its foothold in Ireland, is precisely because of its strategic importance. Northern Ireland for instance, contains a U.S. base, plus 4 early warning stations -- and there are possible plans for the deployment of nuclear weaponry there too. Furthermore, only recently there have been efforts to float the idea for a trade-off of Irish unity for the participation of

Ireland in NATO. Whether this is a serious consideration of British imperialism and the Irish bourgeoisie at this time or not - doesn't detract from the fact that for the anti-imperialist movement in Ireland to be serious and built on sound principles , it not only must oppose British imperialism's direct colonial rule in the north but it must also oppose all imperialism -- NATO and the Warsaw Pact and must oppose the preparations for world war.

WORKING PEOPLE MUST GET ORGANISED.

At the same time as the super-powers are trying to convince the peoples of the world that they are only interested in "peace" -- they are also promoting , through their control of the media, an atmosphere of war hysteria and pessimism about



DEMONSTRATION HELD IN MARBURG, WEST GERMANY

the possibility of averting nuclear war, to try and paralyse the peoples will to fight. Only recently a BBC programme was shown about the possible effects of a nuclear attack on London. This programme, under the guise of exposing the lack of preparations of the British government to offer any kind of protection for the ordinary people in such an event -- contributed greatly to the prevailing hysteria about the horror of nuclear conflagration -- because it offered no way forward, no way to organise to prevent war. This propaganda is aimed to put people into a position whereby they are so horrified that they dare not even think of the consequences, let alone organise against it. The point is however -- why are the imperialists putting in so much effort to divert people down side alleys, whether it be through promoting pessimism or pacifism; promoting harmless measures such as the declaration of "nuclear free zones", without demanding the removal of all nuclear weaponry and NATO or Warsaw Pact military presence from the different countries; or promoting that imperialism is "peaceloving". The answer quite simply is that the superpowers are terrified of the people getting organised on a principled anti-war basis -- along the lines of complete opposition to all imperialism, for the destruction of the imperialist system itself. For this is the only way to avert war and the only way to guarantee a lasting world peace.

ANTI WAR MOVEMENT GROWS

Whilst the superpowers are intensifying their preparations for world war, the people of the world are not standing idly by. Only recently hundreds of thousands of people took part in demonstrations throughout Europe and America.

WEST GERMANY : - here more than 400,000 people participated in 11 major demonstrations on April 3rd, against the war preparations, with particular emphasis on the plans of the U.S. and NATO to deploy American Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles on West European territory by the end of the year. 2,600 people marched from Switzerland and 8,000 marched from France to take part in the protest meetings in Germany.

BRITAIN - On April 3rd, 3,000 people took part in a demonstration in Glasgow, Scotland, marching to the nuclear submarine base at Faslane. This was in condemnation of the continuing warmongering cause of the Thatcherite government and demanded an end to all plans to deploy American nuclear missiles in Britain. A further 120,000 people in Britain demonstrated over that weekend, with over 70,000 people attending the protest outside the military base at Greenham Common. This was the largest demonstration to date, organised in Britain.

HOLLAND - similar demonstrations were held in Holland, where the Pentagon plans to deploy U.S. Cruise missiles.

UNITED STATES. In America thousands of working people demon-

strated in front of the Pentagon in Washington D.C. demanding an end to the armaments race of the 2 superpowers and the warmongering policy of the Reagan administration. Other demonstrations during the April week-end took place in New York outside the military shipyard at Groton Connecticut, outside the big U.S. air base Vandenburg in California and many other cities.

CANADA - large demonstrations were held in Canada also, in particular to condemn the participation of the Canadian government in the preparations for war of the U.S., its agreement to allow the testing of American Cruise missiles on Canadian territory and to demand that U.S. imperialism be thrown out of Canada.



DEMONSTRATION IN EDMONTON CANADA

HUGE PROFITS FOR WORLD BANK

On March 2nd, the World Bank, reported that the profits for the current fiscal year, which ends in June are expected to amount to a record \$800 million. Its profits during the last 6 months of 1982 amounted to \$448 million, as compared to \$321 million during the same period in 1981. This represented a 40% increase.

The World Bank gives loans and credits to more than 144 countries of the world, mainly the developing countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America. These loans and credits always have strings attached and are the means by which the economic

and political policies of these countries are controlled ---such things as the imposition of wage controls, cutbacks in social expenditures, devaluation of currency etc.. The headquarters of the World bank are located in Washington and it is an instrument of the neo-colonial policy of world imperialism, U.S. imperialism in particular. These huge profits further highlight that the so-called system of "aid" to these countries, especially in a period of the world economic crisis, are nothing other than a means for the further enslavement and impoverishment of the people.

WORK FOR ALL

In Socialist Albania work and employment for all the able bodied population of the country are guaranteed by the constitution. While since 1950, the population in Albania has grown about two times, the number of employed forces in all branches of the economy and culture has increased about 2.4 times. Worth mentioning is the fact that the rate of employment has kept increasing from one five year plan to the next. So, while during the 1960-1970 period, about 20,000 more people have been employed annually, in the 1971-75 period, this figure amounted to 30,000 people, while for the years 1976 -1980 about 40,000 people.

Guaranteed work for all able bodied people, as stressed at the Eighth Congress of the Party of Labour, has great value if we bear in mind the fact that today in the bourgeois /revisionist countries there are hundreds of millions of unemployed or semi-employed people. The American press itself is forced to admit that this wound of the capitalist society has assumed galloping proportions. Today in the USA there are nearly 12 million unemployed. The same situation exists in other capitalist and revisionist countries, where unemployment is on the increase. In the Federal Republic of Germany the army of the unemployed has increased by nearly 700,000 people over the last 5 months. 10.4% of the able bodied population in that country is now unemployed. 3,224,715 unemployed were registered in Britain last month. The level of unemployment has gone up over the last 10

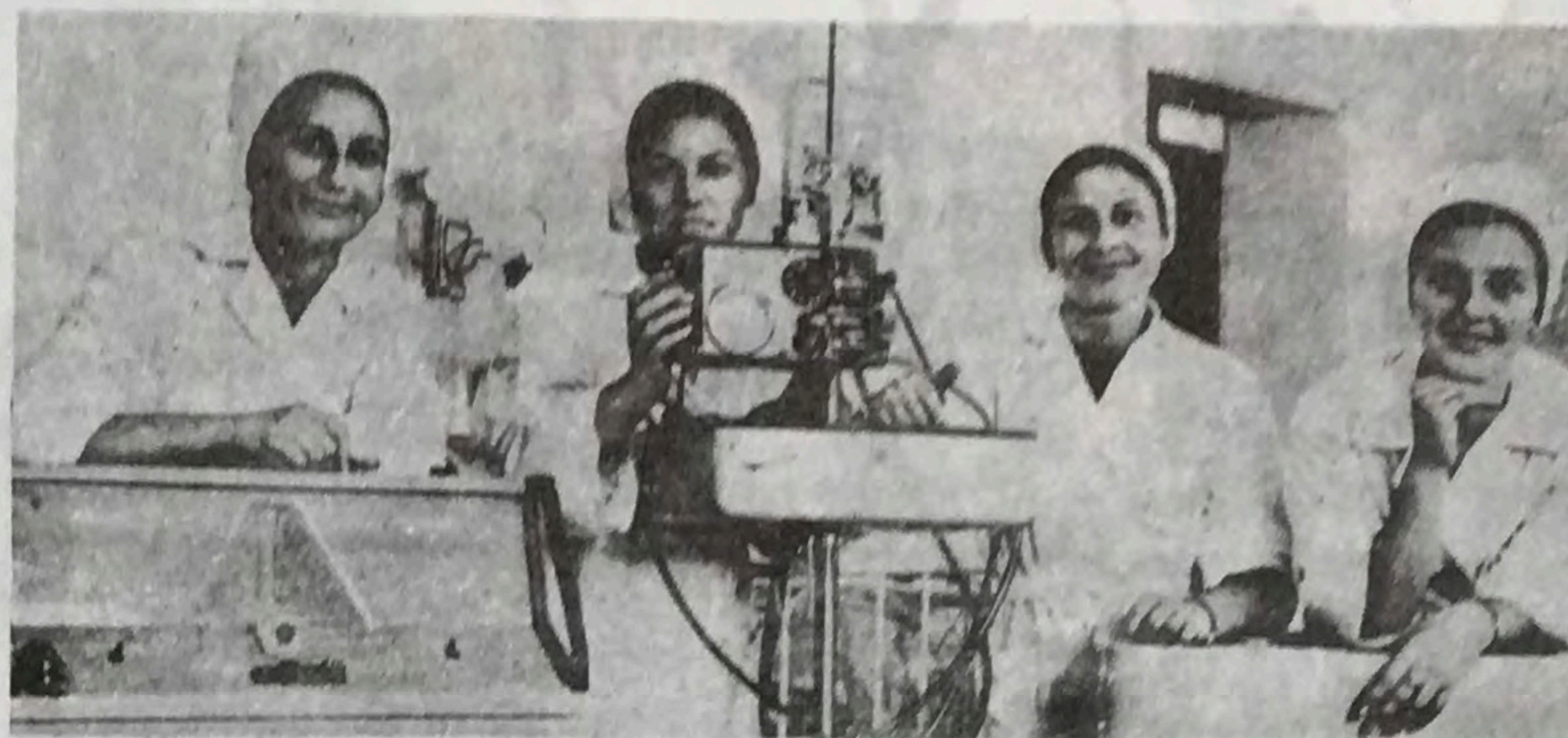
years in Yugoslavia too, where there are 860,000 unemployed, most of whom are youth, besides 700,000 others who have emigrated in search of jobs in the western capitalist countries.

Quite the opposite occurs in Socialist Albania. Over the years of this Five-year plan, 1981-85, 185,000 jobs will be created. Another 185,000 will be created during the coming five year plan, 1986-1990/ At the present time in Albania about 40,000 more people are employed every year in the city and countryside.

Emigration was a grave wound of the Albanian society in Zog's regime. Thousands of people left their homeland and sold their labour power. Today, each Albanian rural or urban family made up on the average of 4-5 members, has two - three people employed. In the countries of western Europe, about 15 million emigrants from various countries of the world experience numerous kinds of oppression in regard to political, economic or racial aspects.

(Albanian Telegraphic Agency News Bulletin, March 27-29 1983)

PRICES OF 137 KINDS OF MEDICINE REDUCED IN SOCIALIST ALBANIA



HEALTH WORKERS IN ALBANIA

In socialist Albania, drugs are among the cheapest commodities and their prices keep going down. Drugs and medicines for young children are issued free of charge. From the reduction in the prices of drugs in 1969, the people gained the equivalent of 7 million leks per year. From 1974 onwards, the prices of drugs have kept reducing constantly. Only recently, 137 drugs for diseases of the heart, nervous system, diabetes and rheumatism etc, were further reduced. Also drugs for the treatment of tuberculosis are now free of charge. These measures will save the people around 17 million leks per year in expenditure on drugs.

Furthermore the Albanian people have equal access to the health service, which is free of charge. Whether they be cooperativists, workers, cadres of the Party or top officials in the government, all are treated equally in the

same health centres, out patient clinics or rest houses. During the whole time any sick person is in hospital, whoever he may be, he pays nothing for the cost of the hospitalisation and receives a salary only slightly less than the one he would receive if he were at work.

All this is in stark contrast to the health schemes in the capitalist /revisionist countries where the health industry is just another industry for profit-making whether this be in the exorbitant prices charged for drugs or the different standards of treatment in the hospitals, depending on whether you are rich or poor.

All this is testimony to the superiority of the socialist system, based as it is on the constant, step by step improvement of the welfare of the people and not on the basis of making a handful of parasites rich, as in the capitalist countries.

PROGRESSIVE BOOKS & PERIODICALS.

P.O. Box 695 - Dublin

Literature of the Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist)

Classics of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin.

Magazines and books from the Peoples Socialist Republic of Albania.

Literature from the International Marxist-Leninist Communist Movement.

HANDS OFF NICARAGUA!

For the last few weeks, the Nicaraguan people have been fighting a U.S.-backed invasion of some 1-2,000 fascist troops of the former Somoza regime. Launching their attack from neighbouring Honduras, these troops have been trained in the United States and financed to the tune of over \$100 million. With the entire Nicaraguan people against them, these fascist mercenaries have failed to achieve any of their military and political objectives and are being driven into remote territories with at least 400 of their forces already wiped out.

With his vicious policy of support for fascist regimes in Latin America increasingly threadbare, Reagan has tried to wave the big stick of a national emergency by going before a rare special joint session of Congress. But his vaudeville jingoism was immediately met by massive demonstrations of the entire armed Nicaraguan people throughout their country, which were transmitted by television throughout the world.

Even allies in the NATO bloc in Europe express dissatisfaction with Reagan's hysterical panic at the situation in Central

America, and the mounting hostility of democratic public opinion in their own countries against U.S.-backed fascism in El Salvador and the invasion of Nicaragua. President Figueredo of Brazil, and lackey of U.S. imperialism in the biggest country in South America, even chose to come out publically with condemnation of U.S. policy in Central America just hours before Reagan's "dramatic" address to the joint session of Congress.

It was in July 1979, that the Nicaraguan patriots overthrew the savage fascist U.S. puppet regime of Somoza. The Nicaraguan people have stuck to their guns in defence of their revolution and their just democratic rights to national independence to decide their own destiny. Recently they showed in no uncertain terms their contempt for the message of the visiting pope Woytolla, which was a shameless call for restoration of the rotten old order and renunciation of the revolution. Right now the Nicaraguan people are answering the armed attack, which is orchestrated by U.S. imperialism as the second movement to the pope's ideological aggression in Latin America.

VICTORY TO THE HEROIC
NICARAGUAN PEOPLE !



Nicaraguan women members of the People's Militia

6th INTERNATIONAL ANTI-FASCIST AND ANTI-IMPERIALIST YOUTH CAMP

DENMARK JULY 17-30

The 6th anti-fascist and anti-imperialist youth camp will be held in Roskilde, Denmark from July 17-30th. This year the camp will be hosted by the Communist Youth League of Denmark, the youth organisation of the Communist Party of Denmark (Marxist-Leninist).

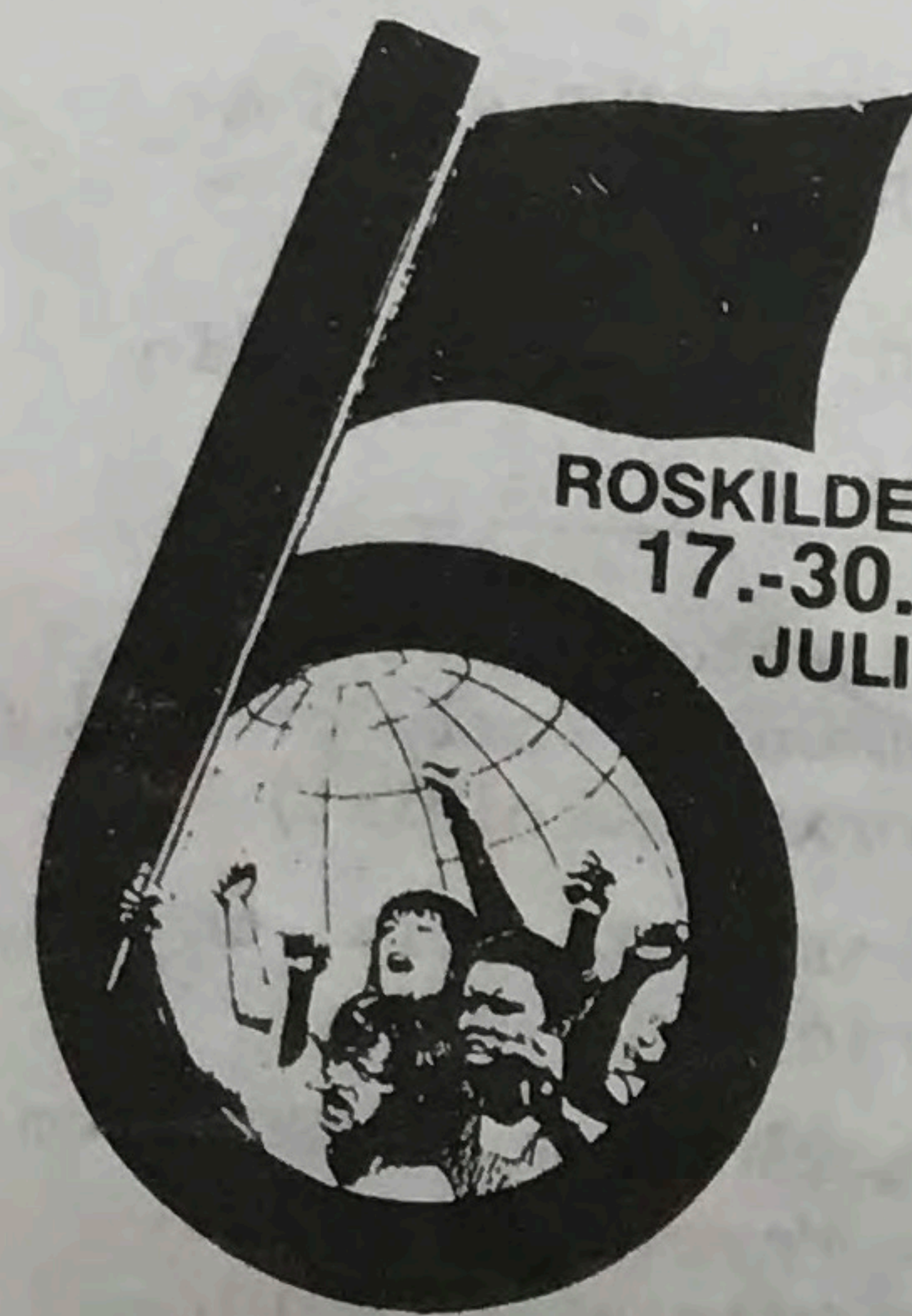
This youth camp, like its previous ones held in France, Portugal, Spain, Germany and Canada will be a great opportunity for militant exchanges between the youth of many different countries on their experience in fighting against racism, fascism and imperialism. It will be a further demonstration of proletarian internationalism with the binding together even more strongly the youth of the world in

their common struggle against the two superpowers - U.S. imperialism and Soviet social imperialism, against the preparations for war and against the economic crisis.

The camp will consist of a wide range of political discussions, rallies etc., sporting activities and a cultural programme as well as visits to show the life and struggle of the people of Denmark.

Any youth who agrees with the political call of the 6th anti-fascist and anti-imperialist youth camp, can participate.

Write to : Irish Delegation
Organising Committee for the



6th International Youth Camp,
c/o Progressive Books and
Periodicals, P.O. Box 695,
Dublin.

Title: Red Patriot, Vol. 6, No. 9

Organisation: Communist Party of Ireland (Marxist-Leninist)

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