

CLASS STRUGGLE

POLITICAL PAPER OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF BRITAIN

Vol. 3 No. 2 from January 26th to February 9th 1979

fortnightly 7p

WORKERS' STRIKE STRUGGLE CORNERS CALLAGHAN



The type of strong picket line the TUC misleaders want to control and restrict

While Callaghan continues his bluff, bluster and bullying to intimidate the working class into submitting to the Government's wages decrees, the revolt against four years of wage restraint is spreading and sharpening. The lorry drivers dispute has proved to be the most hard-hitting and well-organised in this current upsurge in the workers' strike struggle. Strong picket lines have blocked transport to and from wharves and transport depots. All ports are hit and the ports of Southampton, Felixstowe, Ipswich and Harwich ground to a halt from the beginning of the strike. There are approximately 20,000 lorry drivers on strike from the National Freight Corporation alone. The total number of workers involved in the struggle has been estimated to be 100,000. The latest capitalist propaganda has made a desperate attempt to prove that lorry drivers are out on strike against their wishes as usual. This should be treated with the contempt it deserves. The clearest indication of the militancy and determination of the lorry drivers was shown by the 300 drivers in Newcastle-on-Tyne who demonstrated outside their local TGWU headquarters demanding that the strike be made official, and Warrington drivers who occupied their local union headquarters. They said that they could not trust the local officials to lead the strike successfully.

DRIVERS CLAIM DISTORTED

The bourgeois (capitalist) press, more than ever, avoid reporting the real basis of workers wage claims. They seek only to create a picture of the working class as greedy and grasping. Figures of £100 for tanker and haulage drivers were bandied about. In the tanker drivers strike, a great hue and cry was made about the workers rejecting 15%. Hardly a mention was made of the fact that this "princely" 15% could only be earned by working twenty hours overtime.

The haulage drivers are struggling for an

increase which is justifiably not based on overtime. They are demanding an increase of the basic pay to £65 and a reduction of hours to a 35-hour week. In taking this clear-cut stand, the road haulage drivers are on the road to winning a real victory.

THATCHER AND CALLAGHAN IN PUNCH AND JUDY SHOW!

The workers' strike struggle (which despite Callaghan's threats and protests has completely buried the 5%) has sharpened contradictions in the capitalist class and its parties. The CBI is demanding legislation against strikes. Vigilante groups of strike breakers have been offered in the service of the bosses by the so-called National Association for Freedom. In Aberdeen a picket was killed by a juggernaut which didn't stop for pickets. Thatcher who has spent the last year wooing the working class with support for "free collective bargaining" has trotted out a number of demands for repressive legislation against strikes. Rather than fearing Thatcher's attacking posture, Callaghan welcomes it, yes, welcomes it, and compliments her performance in Parliament. Callaghan is now using the threat of a Tory Government to intimidate trade unionists and gain acceptance for measures which will be used to undermine and break strikes. While Thatcher was demanding a "State of Emergency", Callaghan got the TUC misleaders to accept treacherous codes of conduct for picketing. Apart from opposing so-called "secondary picketing", the code bars workers from picketing in solidarity and restricts their numbers. Callaghan knows that such agreement does far more to isolate striking workers and weaken the struggle than bringing in the troops. He is ready to attempt to break the strike with troops if

Cont'd on p3

KAMPUCHEA p6&p7

"ACTIVE EUTHASIA" GETS GREEN LIGHT

A decision by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) not to prosecute a doctor guilty of trying to speed up the death of a patient with terminal cancer, gives the green light to doctors and hospitals to practice "active euthanasia". The DPP in failing to prosecute justified this on the grounds that they do not have a policy on euthanasia because "there is no such offence". The doctor in question Dr. Colin Brewer, a psychiatrist, declared to news reporters: "Doctors who wish to give their patients the benefit of active euthanasia may now do so". He first disclosed his attempt to kill a patient with what he "hoped would be lethal dose of drugs" in an article published in October 1977. The dose did not work which led him to say, "Our present methods of killing patients are clumsy, inefficient and badly organised." Brewer's nonchalant attitude to euthanasia and his cynical attempt to describe it as a "benefit" for terminally ill patients is a serious matter which shows how much the hippocratic oath, which pledges doctors to the preservation of human life, has been undermined. No doubt, in defending "active euthanasia" Dr. Brewer believes he is saving such patients from the pain and misery of terminal illness. But, in fact, he is propagating the "easy solutions" which are increasingly becoming part of a declining and inadequate Health Service.

WORKING CLASS SUFFERS

It is not the rich who are expected to welcome the "benefits" of active euthanasia. They can afford to pay for the most skilled doctors and surgeons who will make every effort to prolong life in exchange for a fee. The same approach is not made the starting point for the mass of working class people facing serious as well as terminal illness. Take the giant strides in kidney transplant surgery. Apart from the medical suitability of a patient for a particular kidney transplant, the doctor also decides on the "usefulness" of the patient to the community before going ahead with the operation. In bourgeois society this will definitely mean discrimination against working class people, and not just old people. The "usefulness" of a factory worker, road sweeper or unemployed worker is valued less than bankers, insurance brokers and civil servants by capitalism.

In the case of terminal illnesses, it breaks the hearts of relatives and loved ones to see someone suffer the agonies of cancer. The feelings of helplessness in this situation lead people to go along

with euthanasia. But this feeling of helplessness results from the general fall in health care through the government cuts and general acceptance that terminal illnesses cannot be prevented or cured. In the 1930's it was Tuberculosis which was the dread of the working class. Now it is more or less wiped out in Britain. Medical and scientific progress will certainly wipe cancer out in the future. But only the right attitude to the preservation of human life now will speed up the development of medical knowledge. Ideas of euthanasia hold back the development of this knowledge. It is rife in capitalist society which is a rotten and decaying system which at times of high unemployment regards the lives of working class people as "cheap". This makes it all the more important to struggle against such defeatist ideas as euthanasia.

DEFEND AND EXTEND HEALTH CARE FOR THE WORKING CLASS!

SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS IMPORTANT

In August, last year, Janet Parker, a laboratory worker, died of smallpox in East Birmingham Hospital. The details of the inadequate measures taken to prevent such an accident occurring have been exposed in the bosses' press. Similarly the inadequate supervision of the laboratory in Birmingham Medical School, where smallpox research was carried out. The Dangerous Pathogens Advisory Group and World Health Organisation both found the laboratory precautions inadequate, but neither notified the Department of Health and Social Security, so the work continued.

JENKINS JUMPS IN

Clive Jenkins of ASTMS (Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staff) has raised a great hue and cry about "disregard for public safety" and implied that all research establishments are suspect.

In one way he is right. The capitalists care less for research into disease than they do for research that will create greater profits for them, e.g. the silicon chip. So laboratories like the one in Birmingham are under-financed and their facilities are inadequate. Jenkins rantings, however, blame the scientists and doctors, not the bosses for the smallpox outbreak. The researchers and authorities were negligent, but they live in the real world of underfinancing of health-care that the bosses create, which inevitably means the work can't be done properly and safely.

WORKING CLASS NEEDS SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS

Research into health problems matters a great deal to the working class. Smallpox was endemic throughout the world (it could be caught in any country). Through scientific and medical progress and hard work on the part of the medical authorities it has been eliminated from all countries. Janet Parker was the first case in the world for ten months. Jenkins is right to be concerned about neglect of safety requirements. But he is wrong to demand "substantial numbers of TUC representatives on all key committees such as the Dangerous Pathogens Advisory Group (DPAG). Rather than seeking to control and restrict scientific progress, Jenkins should be exposing the underfinancing of research projects or the misuse of latest discoveries. Although now, science serves the bosses and their concern is for maximum profit, under socialism, technology will make our lives easier and fuller. ■



Bethnal Green: a 15 month fight against rundown of NHS care for the working class.

he has to in the bosses' interests. But he wants to hold on to the opportunist misleadership of the TUC, such as Murray, Moss and Co. which has served the capitalist class well since Labour took office in 1974.

REVISIONISTS SEEK TO DIVERT MASS STRUGGLE

One group of workers after the other has struck against the 5%. Fords, BOC, bakery workers, tanker drivers and road haulage drivers to name a few. Railway workers are organizing selective one day stoppages and the particularly low-paid public service workers are struggling for a £60 minimum. Callaghan and the class he serves are up against the wall. In this situation it is in the interests of the working class to reject the Labour and Tory Parties as two wings of a single bird of prey - capitalism. Clearly, the working class has got nothing to lose from the fall of a Labour Government which through lies and treachery has attempted to conceal its basic policy of enriching the capitalist billionaires and impoverishing the working class.

But in this situation, when the workers' class struggle is winning success, the treacherous "Communist" Party of Great Britain (CPGB), have thrown Callaghan another life-line. To divert attention from using militant strike action and uniting this struggle against the Government, they have called on their members to step up their efforts for a lobby of Parliament on February 14th with the slogan of "Cut the dole queues". This will not be a demonstration against unemployment. It will be yet another jaunt to Parliament aimed at renewing faith in the Labour Party. Were the working class called on to lobby Heath during the miners' strike? Certainly not! So why lobby a party in power which is doing everything like the Tories only with more success, to shift the burden of the crisis on to the backs of the working class. This is nothing but treachery to the concrete struggle which is going on.

STOP PAYING LABOUR TO ATTACK WORKERS

The revisionist "C"PGB mislead workers with the rubbish that Callaghan's policies are "mistaken" and can be changed by the "Labour Movement". This is nonsense, the Cabinet is not even answerable to its own party. The revisionist say, "The tragedy is that by clinging to the 5%, Mr. Callaghan is playing Mrs. Thatcher's game." Not only is he playing the same game, he is doing a better job for the bosses than Thatcher can.

Workers can have no loyalty to a party which systematically attacks our interests. The tragedy is that they are being paid through the political levy in the unions to do it. This cannot be tolerated by class conscious workers who must struggle to end trade union backing for Labour by organising mass contracting out of the political levy and demanding **STOP PAYING LABOUR TO ATTACK WORKERS**.

NEW ERA BOOKS

"WITHOUT REVOLUTIONARY THEORY THERE CAN BE NO REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT" (Lenin)

NEW ERA BOOKS stocks the works, of MARX, ENGELS, LENIN, STALIN and MAO TSETUNG, MARXIST-LENINIST publications and progressive literature from around the world.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

REVOLUTION 4 issues £1.65 (inland), £2.25 (abroad)

CLASS STRUGGLE 13 issues £1.95 (inland), £2.70 (abroad)

26 issues £3.90 (inland), £5.40 (abroad)

NEW ERA BOOKS, 203 Seven Sisters Road, London N4.

Telephone 01-272-5294. Nearest Tube - Finsbury Park

Opening hours - 10am - 6pm, Monday to Saturday.

Late night opening, Thursday till 7.30pm.

A WORKER'S NOTEBOOK

■ 1948 - Business as usual for bourgeois politicians?

If you ask your friends what they think the British bosses were up to in international affairs in 1948, they'll probably say "much the same as usual". And of course they'll be right. As Cabinet and Foreign Office papers which have just been published reveal. Britain's political bosses were up to their usual practice of imperialism and war-mongering. In April 1948, the leader of the opposition, Winston Churchill was urging the British and US Governments to start the third world war. He wanted to launch a nuclear attack on the Soviet Union, at that time the world's leading socialist state. He thought that was a good time to do it because the Soviet Union, which had suffered devastating losses fighting Nazi Germany, partly as a result of Churchill's role in the deliberate delay in opening up a Second Front in Europe, had not yet developed nuclear weapons.

This sort of attitude is really much the same as that of so-called "left-wing" members of the Labour Party today, like Joan Maynard and Frank Allaun, who object to Britain selling the Harrier to China, the leading socialist state in the world today. Both are an attack on socialism, the first openly, the second disguised by the tatty frock of "detente".

■ FIGHTBACK WINS CONCESSIONS. We have in the past reported on the 15 month struggle of Bethnal Green Hospital workers to prevent the closure of the casualty department, minor injuries unit and out-patients department of their hospital. Their efforts have now brought results, with the Health Authority making modifications to its plans which goes some way to fulfilling the workers' demands. Occupation of parts of the hospital to prevent the disputed conversion work is now to cease. It will of course be necessary to keep a careful watch on what is going on in case the Authority goes back on its word.

■ Another example of successful struggle is that of a widow, Evelyn Gordon, who held four council officials prisoner in her damp, wood louse-infested flat in Harold Hill, Essex to show them how bad conditions were. The council has now agreed to re-house her.

However, this sort of action is no solution for the thousands of other people throughout Britain who are homeless or in substandard accommodation. Councils all over the country are deliberately keeping perfectly good houses empty. They were originally bought for conversion to council homes but now the authorities want to re-sell them to private buyers. The people who need them can't of course raise the £13-15,000 loan, so they go homeless while houses stand empty.

Locking up a few council officials for a couple of hours won't solve this problem. We need a strong Communist Party to lead the working class if we are ever to get decent living conditions for everyone.

■ The secretary of *Pensioner's Voice*, an OAP's organisation with branches throughout Britain, said recently that 70,000 old people died last winter because they were too cold. There is no reason to expect that this situation will get any better this side of socialism.

■ THE BAKERY STRIKE COST RANKS HOVIS McDUGAL would you believe, £5 million. Alas, the profits for the year ending September 1978 were only £31 million, compared to £36 million for the previous year. And what of the bakery workers? Well, the hardship they suffer in a struggle for a decent living wage is nothing to the Ranks Hovis bosses. For actually producing the goods many bakery workers earn £41 55 basic and £3.85 supplement before tax.

NORTHERN IRELAND—"PEACE PEOPLE" OPPOSE ARMY MURD

The so-called Northern Ireland "Peace Movement" which sprang up in 1976 and became the darling of the British Government and capitalist press for its implicit and open backing for the British occupation troops in Northern Ireland, has been forced to expose growing army terror there. The "Peace People" leaders Mairead Corrigan and Betty Williams wallowed in flattery and accepted the Nobel Peace Prize amidst general acclaim from the bosses of British imperialism in 1976. At the same time they demanded the people of Northern Ireland accept "peace at any price" and refused to take part in a peace demonstration organised by Republicans to expose the cold-blooded murder of a 12 year old girl by the British army. Now that the clamour of praise has gone, the harsh reality of British rule in Northern Ireland remains. It may be the feeling of having been manipulated which has brought the "Peace People" to the realisation of the need to expose British army terror.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT ADOPTS ASSASSINATION POLICY

In a front-page leading article of "Peace by Peace", the "Peace People's" journal, the authorities are attacked for using "specialists" who are "shooting unarmed, innocent 16 year olds! Unarmed suspects!" They go on to say, "The short word for such specialism is murder." This pointed exposure from past supporters of British occupation troops will certainly open the eyes of more people to the fact that the troops are not in Northern Ireland as 'peace makers' or "to prevent sectarian violence". They are there to prop up the rule of Westminster and the Unionist establishment in Northern Ireland. The kind of events which have led even the "Peace

People" to accuse the "authorities" of murder are the death of Jack McCarten who was shot as he left the Andersonstown Social Club, which he managed. His family believe it was a carefully planned army assassination. Police investigations were short and sharp. Forensic science experts failed to carry out thorough investigations and it was left to a Catholic priest to dig fragments of the bullet which killed McCarter out of a club house wall. The inquest was delayed for 18 months at which an open verdict was recorded. The McCarten case coroner complained that he had been unable to obtain evidence from soldiers involved because they had been posted overseas and the army refused to bring them back for the inquest. Such is the arrogance of the army top brass.

TROOPS OUT NOW

Constant propaganda from the British capitalist press against the IRA's terror bombing seeks to justify the greater terror of British troops on the streets of Belfast. The feelings of the majority of working class people in Britain who want the withdrawal of the troops is ignored and every string is pulled to censure and prevent news of army atrocities getting published. The British Government claims that the troops are there to defend the protestant majority and if they leave there will be a "bloodbath". But since when have the British Government of capitalist politicians given a damn about the demands of the majority of people of Britain, never mind the protestant majority in Northern Ireland? These are phoney arguments which are aimed at maintaining British rule in Northern Ireland. British imperialism is not opposed to the sectarian

ASIAN FORD WORKER WINS VICTORY

The case of assault brought by police against Ford worker Mr. Mohammed Ahmed, who suffered severe head injuries after being attacked by fascist thugs at his home in Manor Park, Newham, London, was thrown out at a one day hearing. Mr. Ahmed was charged with assaulting a boy who he caught red-handed after he had smashed a window in his house. This was not the first incident. Mr. Ahmed and his family had suffered constant harassment and bricks thrown through his windows. The police refused to do anything and advised him to make a citizens arrest, which he did in the case of the boy. The boy's parents then attacked the house armed with a knife and Doberman Pincer dog. Two days later the police charged Mr. Ahmed with assault. Further, after Mr. Ahmed was hospitalised with 28 stitches in his head, the police dragged their feet in making an arrest even though they had the information necessary. It was another case of the victim of racist violence being made the "guilty party" by the police.

VERDICT A VICTORY FOR SELF-DEFENCE

The case was heard on January 8th at West Ham Magistrates court. Outside the court a picket organised by the Newham Defence Committee called for support for Mr. Ahmed and carried placards stating "Self defence is no offence". Inside the court the Newham Defence Committee filled the public benches.

The Newham Defence Committee told reporters that this case is "a test for the right of the black community to defend themselves" against fascist violence. It is certainly a victory for the slogan "self-defence is no offence". But, showing how much national minorities and the working class generally

cannot trust in the law and bourgeois courts, Chairman of the bench Alfred Dickinson said in dismissing the case: "Although we feel the police did the right thing in bringing this case, we feel there is reasonable doubt." This is an attempt to deny that Mr. Ahmed was a victim of state racism in having this ludicrous charge of assault brought against him.

FREE THE VIRK BROTHERS

Mr. Ahmed's victory will certainly spur on the struggle to free the Virk brothers who were given prison sentences of up to 7 years for daring to resist fascist thugs. There are many other cases of black people imprisoned on trumped up charges by the police like that of George Lindo imprisoned for

ASIAN BOY DETAINED

On the BBC radio programme *Today*, it was reported that an Asian boy has been subjected to inhuman treatment by British police, using powers under the 1971 Immigration Act.

Abdul Azad, aged 17, was arrested three months ago. Police had been called to his home because his mother had been battered to death, by murderers still unknown. The police took Abdul into custody under suspicion of being an "illegal immigrant".

He has been held in Risley remand centre, in Lancashire, ever since. Risley, known to locals as "grisly Risley", is notorious for its brutality, especially since the recent case of a juvenile suspect being hanged by his cell-mates.

The police claim Abdul Azad made a statement after his arrest admitting to be posing under a false name. A community relations worker has found



division between Protestant and Catholic. In fact it is through propping up Unionist privilege and discriminating against Catholics and republicans that British imperialism keeps the people of Northern Ireland divided and therefore maintains its control of the 6 counties.

It is against the interests of the working class of Britain and Ireland to support the occupation of Northern Ireland. No nation that oppresses another nation can itself be free. Voice the majority view of the people of Britain.

TROOPS OUT NOW!

RY

two years in Armley jail, Leeds, on a charge of robbery which he could not have committed.

Although a small contingent of the AUEW attended Mr Ahmed's trial, racist violence and state racism is not taken up as a serious question affecting the unity of the working class as a whole by trade unions. Exposing such examples of oppression of black people and struggling against the immigration laws which helps legitimise this oppression are necessary for fighting racism and discrimination in the trade unions. In our struggle to turn the unions into fighting class organisations it is essential to fight racism particularly state racism. ■

FOR THREE MONTHS

out that the statement, which Abdul has since retracted, was made after he had been kept without food and subjected to physical and verbal abuse. He was not cautioned before being questioned. And the interview was conducted through an Urdu-speaking interpreter, although Abdul's own language is Bengali.

Racist laws like the 1971 Act and their operation by racist authorities allow such cruelty as assaulting and incarcerating a boy just after his mother's death. There is no provision for bail under the Act. All the victims can do is apply to a court for *habeus corpus*. But the police only need to say that they have grounds to suspect that he is an "illegal immigrant" and the court must dismiss the application. ■

LETTER FROM A PLESSEY WORKER

Dear Editor,

I am a production line worker at a Plessey factory.

On our site, the EETPU holds negotiating rights for the cleaning staff, and until recently all cleaners were in that union. But some cleaners that have just started have been recruited by a TGWU official from another site behind the backs of the EETPU, and against the wishes of the TGWU on our site.

This time-serving bureaucrat came to our site at 4.30 on a Friday afternoon when only the cleaners were there (the factory closed at 3.45) and signed the new workers up. He had no right to be on our site, and he did not consult the TGWU representatives on the site.

These two unions have good relations on our site - the shopfloor is EETPU and the stores are TGWU - because both agree to release members to the other union if they move into that area. Both unions recognise it is much better for all workers in any group to be in the same union. This makes it much easier for them to organise well and act in a more unified and solid way. Our TGWU workers support the EETPU in this present dispute.

The EETPU were forced to decide to black the TGWU cleaners. In retaliation, this bureaucrat has threatened to get all "his" members at the other site to black us. This means no delivery of supplies, no taking completed work out, etc. So we have an "inter-union dispute" - but what does that really mean.

It is not a dispute between the majority of the members of either union. It is a dispute between those who want to work together to fight the bosses and a jumped up little empire-builder who probably hasn't spared a thought for the workers' struggle in years.

Differences between unions are bound to happen from time to time. That is why we need agreed procedures between them. This strengthens our unity against our enemy. But men like this are only interested in building up membership and furthering their own careers. Men like this are an embarrassment to the workers' movement. They split workers up and get them to fight each other. This sort of thing happens again and again in all unions, and it will go on until we - the union membership - put a stop to it.

Class Struggle welcomes letters from workers. Please send all letters, suggestions and criticisms to the Editor, *Class Struggle*, c/o New Era Books, Seven Sisters Rd. London, N4.

REVOLUTION

THEORETICAL JOURNAL OF THE
REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF BRITAIN

Building the revolutionary Communist Party to lead the revolution is the central task for all genuine Marxist-Leninists in Britain today. "Revolution", the theoretical journal of the RCLB has been founded to be a sharp weapon in the struggle to build that Party.

REVOLUTION Vol 3, No 4 includes:

Progress in Party building
Britain and the struggle against superpower hegemonism and war
Combine legal and illegal work
Refute the Right Opportunist line in the
Marxist-Leninist movement.

plus other articles of the Marxist-Leninist movement in Britain

Price 30p (plus 7p postage) from New Era Books. (Also back issues)

SOVIET-VIETNAM AGGRESSION

The Soviet-Vietnamese aggression against Kampuchea has met with widespread opposition throughout the world.

During the war of resistance against US imperialism by Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam, revolutionary Communists militantly supported their struggle. The genuine socialist countries like the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and China gave massive support. Solidarity organisations were set up with the active participation of revolutionary Communists in many countries around the world. At the UN third world countries stood side-by-side with Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos. How things have changed!

Today Vietnam is an aggressor - attacking a small independent socialist country on behalf of the world's other superpower. Inevitably they find themselves no longer the beneficiaries of a support campaign, but a target of international condemnation at every level.

China and the DPRK have vigorously opposed the invasion and supported the armed resistance of the

Kampuchean people. In Norway, the "Committee to Support Vietnam", set up during the war of resistance to US imperialism has been dissolved by its members in disgust. Similarly in Sweden, most of the directors of the "Vietnam, Laos Association" have proposed its dissolution, and many members have resigned. In Japan farmers who had been carrying out a massive campaign to send rice to Vietnam, have abandoned it.

Demonstrations, reminiscent of the old anti-US rallies, are taking place everywhere. In Paris over a 1,000 workers, students, and immigrant Kampucheans responded to a call by the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of France, the Revolutionary Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of France, and the Committee of Patriots from Kampuchea in France, and marched in protest through the streets. In Sweden, 1,300 demonstrated in Sergels Square in Stockholm while simultaneously demonstrations were held in six other cities. The Danish Communist Workers Party led a demonstration to the Soviet Embassy in Copenhagen. On January 12th, a torchlight procession

SOVIET-VIETNAM INVASION FORCES BOGGED DOWN

On December 25th, the Vietnamese authorities unleashed its long-expected full scale invasion of Democratic Kampuchea (Cambodia). Few people were caught unawares. The "friendship pact" between the Soviet Union and Vietnam in October; the establishment of a puppet front organisation of Kampuchean traitors (KNUFNS) in the pay of the Soviet Union and Vietnam, in November; the massive arms airlift by the Soviet social imperialists to Vietnam in the second half of 1978; and the militarist speeches of the Vietnamese leaders were clear indicators that the invasion was coming. In the last issue of *Class Struggle* (Vol.3 No.1) we have already exposed what lies behind the invasion. It is part of the Soviet social imperialists' world-wide expansionist offensive, and part of the Vietnamese authorities' aims of dominating Indo-China.

Now the invasion forces occupy virtually all of Kampuchea's main cities and a puppet government has been installed in the capital, Phnom Penh. Its puppet status was shown, yet again, when the announcements of its existence was made on Vietnam's

ernment of Democratic Kampuchea, and the Communist Party of Kampuchea (CPK), have been expecting and preparing for an invasion for months. Kampuchea is a small country, and the Soviet-supplied and directed Vietnamese military machine is massive. For at least five months, the Kampuchean people have been stockpiling food and arms throughout the countryside. They knew that they would not be able to meet the Vietnamese tank, artillery and motorised divisions head on; especially with the added weight of MiG 19s and MiG 21s piloted by Russians giving air cover to the invasion. The Kampuchean Revolutionary Army (KRA) was under orders not to commit itself to full-scale battles against overwhelmingly superior forces. When the invasion came, the KRA forces dissolved. Now they are fighting a vigorous guerrilla war, backed by the overwhelming

SIHANOUK CALLS ON U.N.

At a recent meeting the Security Council of the United Nations (UN) debated the issue of the aggression against Kampuchea.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk spoke as the senior representative of Kampuchea. "As the whole world knows, my country is the victim of a large-scale act of flagrant aggression on the part of Vietnam," he said. He spoke of the past promises by Vietnam, at the time when both the Vietnamese and Kampuchean people were fighting their common enemy of US imperialism, when the Vietnamese leaders promised to support the independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of 'fraternal' Kampuchea. But, he added, as soon as they had both defeated US imperialism, Vietnam decided, cold bloodedly, to embark on an "operation" aimed at annexing Kampuchea.

Laying bare the guilt of the Soviet Union, he pointed out that Vietnam is armed to the teeth by one of the two most formidable military powers in the world today, and went on to remind everyone that when the Kampuchean people were fighting US imperialism, the Soviet Union sided with Lon Nol, the puppet of the USA!

He angrily denounced the lie that the government has been overthrown by an internal rising. "This war is purely a war of aggression... by Vietnam against little Kampuchea".



Radio Hanoi, but it was not announced by KNUFNS' own radio station till several hours later. (Incidentally the puppet radio station operated from Vietnam, and on a frequency vacated by another Vietnamese radio station!)

INVADERS WILL DROWN IN A SEA OF PEOPLE'S WAR

The invasion looked easy. 100,000 Vietnamese and Russian troops have occupied the main cities, but overall the situation is quite different. The Gov-

DENOUNCED THROUGHOUT WORLD

- 1,400 strong - marched past the Soviet and Vietnamese embassies in Oslo, Norway, where angry protesters hurled flaming brands at the Soviet Embassy. Soviet and Vietnamese institutions in Oslo have been daubed with slogans. In Rome another thousand attended a rally called by the Italy/Kampuchea Friendship Association, whilst in Florence a simultaneous rally took place. In the Netherlands, Dutch people demonstrated outside the parliament - the Hague. On January 16th, the Revolutionary Communist Movement of Greece, led a demonstration of 700. India and Bangladesh saw several marches and protests in Calcutta, Delhi and Dacca. There were demonstrations in Tokyo, Japan, and at the Vietnamese embassy in Canada. Protest marches against the Soviet social imperialists and the Vietnamese authorities were held in Belgium, Austria and Portugal.

Rumania, Yugoslavia, Pakistan and virtually every third world government have denounced the invasion. The Danish government has suspended aid worth 100 million Danish Kroner to Vietnam saying

majority of the Kampuchean people.

The Vietnamese columns are suddenly attacked from behind. Having advanced into the west of Kampuchea, there are new risings again in the east!

The people of Kampuchea, led by the CPK and the KRA, are used to this sort of warfare. They drove out the superior forces of US imperialism through such a people's war. This time they are even stronger. They have prepared long for it, and are well equipped. Such wars can go on for a long time, but the longer it goes on, the more the aggressor gets drained. In invading Kampuchea, the Soviet social imperialists and the Vietnamese authorities have put their heads in a noose; they can be sure that the Kampuchean people will pull the other end of the rope with determination and enthusiasm.

TO CONDEMN INVASION



Sihanouk addressing the Security Council

When the non-aligned countries present proposed a resolution calling for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Kampuchea only the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia voted against it. The other 13 countries voted for it, but it was defeated because the Soviet Union used its veto power to block the resolution!

"Our Government, our army, our people are fighting and will fight to the death against the Vietnamese expansionists and colonialist invaders. We shall never surrender" he said, and concluded by calling on the Security Council to condemn the invasion, saying that they should call on people not to recognise the new puppet "Government"- that they should demand the withdrawal of all occupying forces- and that all UN agencies and all Governments should halt aid to Vietnam and its puppets.

"We will not accept a country attempting to change the political status of another country through military intervention." For their own reasons many European imperialist governments and the US superpower have also condemned the invasion (just as the Soviet social imperialists have supported liberation movements for their own reasons in the past). The Soviet social imperialists and the Vietnamese authorities are having their masks of "peace", "detente" and "socialism" torn off their true imperialist and expansionist faces in every corner of the globe.

DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF KAMPUCHEA

*TOTAL SUPPORT FOR THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE!
DOWN WITH SOVIET-VIETNAMESE AGGRESSION!*

Saturday, February 3rd

2.00pm: Picket of Vietnamese Embassy
12-14 Victoria Rd, W8.
There will be a message from Kampuchea.

3.00pm: March to Soviet Embassy

7.30pm: PUBLIC MEETING,
Co-op Hall, 129 Seven Sisters Rd., N7.
Tube: Finsbury Park.

Speakers from Association of Indian Communists (Marxist-Leninist), Bangladesh Workers' Association, Communist Workers' Movement and RCLB.

Organised by RCLB, AIC(ML) and CWM

CHINA WARNS VIETNAM

For many months now Chinese publications have daily reported incidents on the Chinese border with Vietnam. They range from the occupation of parts of Chinese territory, to the establishment of military installations by the Vietnamese Authorities inside China, to assaults on Chinese border posts, to Vietnamese patrols murdering and beating up Chinese peasants working in their communes, to full blown commando raids on Chinese villages.

On December 24th, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs yet again handed an official note to the Vietnamese Embassy in Beijing (Peking). After giving details of each incident of encroachment, the note goes on:

"The Vietnamese authorities' frequent dispatches of armed personnel to encroach upon Chinese territory, wantonly shooting at Chinese personnel and killing or wounding Chinese border inhabitants and border guards, have aroused the strongest indignation among the Chinese people. The Chinese government hereby once again lodges a strong protest with the Vietnamese government. The Chinese government reiterates that the Vietnamese authorities must take seriously China's repeated protests and warnings and should not turn a deaf ear to them. They must stop all encroachments upon China's sovereignty and territorial integrity and all armed provocations and all criminal acts of killing or wounding of Chinese civilians. Otherwise, the Vietnamese authorities must bear all responsibilities arising therefrom."

The following day, the Chinese paper, the *People's Daily*, warned the Vietnamese Authorities in its editorial not to see previous attempts by China to handle the matter by peaceful negotiations, rather than retaliation, as a sign of weakness.

Cont'd on p8.

ZANLA GUERRILLAS HIT SMITH REGIME

During the three month period from September to November Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (ZANLA) guerrillas, who are led by the ZANU part of the Patriotic Front alliance hit the Rhodesian racist regime in many areas. According to a ZANU war communique they carried out 41 major ambushes, 31 major surprise attacks and 35 sabotage operations, which included the bombardment of Umtali, the country's fourth largest city on two occasions. 15 war planes, including three Mirage jets and two Canberra bombers were shot down and 38 military vehicles destroyed. The guerrillas also blew up three major bridges including the Tokwe river bridge on the main Fort Victoria-Beitbridge road, and 12 railway sabotage operations including the destruction of Rhodesia's main railway lifeline to South Africa in five places. In December ZANLA forces blew up the regime's main fuel centre in the heart of the capital, Salisbury.

In a desperate attempt to keep "Rhodesia" under imperialist control, the racist government has increased the age of conscription for whites up to 60! At the same time it is attempting to force more black Zimbabweans to join the army. In Bulawayo, Rhodesia's second city 1,544 were sent draft papers, but only 300 turned up. Others are reported to have left the city to join the guerrilla forces.

On the same day 1,500 whites were conscripted in Saisbury. An army spokesman said that 400 failed to turn up and had probably fled the country. Even the



white population knows who is going to win the war.

It is because victory for the national liberation forces is so certain that Britain and America have sent delegations to "find a peaceful solution" in an attempt to protect their imperialist interests.

The bloody history of imperialism shows that they do not really care about "peace". They are not really against war. They are only against wars they are losing. They want to end the war only in order to prevent the true liberation of Zimbabwe.

Li Xiannian (Li Hsien-nien), a Chinese Vice-Premier, has recently toured front-line states, expressing China's solidarity with the people's struggle in southern Africa. On his arrival in Mozambique, he was met by comrade Robert Mugabe, President of ZANU, as well as Mozambican leaders. ■

SPELLING OF CHINESE NAMES STANDARDISED

Starting from January 1st, this year, China has standardised the spelling of Chinese names of people and places.

The Chinese written language is based on a character system not on the roman 26 letter alphabet that we use. In the past, when Chinese names have been used in articles, there has been no world-wide accepted system on how to translate them into the

roman alphabet. In Britain, the *Wade Giles* system has been used. But in other countries other systems have been used. Chinese publications sold in Britain have, until now, used the *Wade-Giles* system. Within China, itself, progress is being made in developing a written language using the roman alphabet. Obviously, there has to be an official standardised system adopted world-wide. This is part of China's great modernisation programme.

The new standardised spelling is much more accurately based on how the Chinese names actually sound.

Class Struggle must support the development of a standardised system, as part of its support for the great drive to modernise China. Also working people must show respect for other countries by respecting names they use themselves (for example we talk of Kampuchea, not Cambodia; Zimbabwe, not Rhodesia, and Iran, not Persia). This is a small but necessary part of opposing imperialist domination of other countries. Finally as Chinese publications sold in Britain will be using the new spelling, it will cause a lot more confusion in the long run if we don't. So we are using the standardised spelling from this issue on.

The new system isn't difficult and readers will soon get used to the new spelling. In *Class Struggle* we will continue to put the old *Wade-Giles* spelling in brackets after the standard spelling for some time.

Some of the more important standardised spelling of names of people and places are given here.

Mao Zedong (Mao Tsetung)	Wang Dongxing
Zhou Enlai (Chou En-lai)	(Wang Tung-hsing)
Zhu De (Chu Teh)	Beijing (Peking)
Hua Guofeng (Hua Kuo-feng)	Shanghai (Shanghai)
Ye Jianying (Yeh Chien-Ying)	Tianjin (Tientsin)
Deng Xiaoping (Teng Hsiao-ping)	Dazhai (Tachai)
Li Xiannian (Li Hsien-nien)	Daqing (Tachang)
Chen Yun (Chen Yun)	Xizang (Tibet) ■

CHINA WARNS VIETNAM

Cont'd from p7

Pointing out that the Vietnamese authorities are emboldened and feeling strong by Moscow's support, and there is no doubt that is the Soviet social imperialists (socialist in words - imperialist in deeds) who are the real behind-the-scenes manipulators, the article warns the Vietnamese authorities not to "seek a foot, after gaining an inch" and adds,

"the Vietnamese authorities have gone far enough in pursuing their anti-China course. There is a limit to the Chinese people's forbearance and restraint. China has never bullied and will never bully any other country; neither will it allow itself to be bullied by others. It will not attack unless it is attacked. But if it is attacked it will certainly counter-attack."

The paper stresses that China means what it says. "We state this here and now. Don't complain later that we've not given you clear warning in advance."

There is no sign of the Vietnamese authorities taking this warning to heart. Their daily provocations continue. They will have no one to blame but themselves, if they get the reward they deserve. ■

The English language magazine *BEIJING (PEKING) REVIEW*, produced in China, carried the full text of the People's Daily article and official note to Vietnam, on Vietnam's aggression, in its December 29th issue.

One year subscription - £3.30 from New Era Books.