

# WORKERS WORLD

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TEN CENTS

## Embattled SNCC Fights For Oppressed Black Atlanta

ATLANTA, Ga.—The Student Non-Violent Co-ordinating Committee, under increasing attacks by official and unofficial racism here, has taken the leadership in the mass efforts to get justice in the police shooting of Harold Prather on September 6.

They have established a defense committee for the many police victims in the subsequent demonstrations and they are bending every effort to acquaint the public with the true facts of the case.

During the uprising of Black People in the Summerhill area (of Atlanta) immediately after the shooting, SNCC speakers and activists were on the scene. This has led, of course, to charges of SNCC's "inciting the riots," etc. (The "liberal" Atlanta ruling class saw that SNCC members got cruel sentences for picketing against the Vietnam war last month.)

SNCC said in a September 8 statement that it "took note of a general downplay of the fact that the

anger of residents in the Summerhill-Mechanicsville area of south-east Atlanta stems not from SNCC agitation, but a deeply rooted hostility toward Atlanta police based on continued assaults against the Black People."

(Continued on Page 2)



Gestapo in Atlanta Sept. 6 — SNCC Photo by Rufus Hinton

## Strong Support for SNCC In N.Y. Demonstration

NEW YORK—September 13—About one hundred demonstrators organized by Youth Against War & Fascism converged on Times Square last Tuesday evening to protest the racist attack on the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and their leader Stokeley Carmichael.

For two hours, the youthful, spirited pickets chanted and waved their placards to the throngs of passersby on their way home from work. Their signs and their chants said: "Defend SNCC Against Racist Attack" - "Support the Black Struggle" - "Stop Racism Now" - and "U.S. Racism Kills Here and in Vietnam."

Police stationed at points surrounding the pickets moved some people away who were sympathetic to the issue. A few joined the line and one black spectator told the cops, "I'm not moving. This is beautiful."

Press, radio and television were all present, interviewing YAWF leaders, taking pictures, and recording the chants of the line. But not one word was carried of this support for SNCC's militant challenge to the racist ruling class.

The demonstration was concluded by Alex Chernowitz, organizer of the YAWF chapter at CCNY who called for solidarity with Stokeley Carmichael and the embattled SNCC.

## U.S. War Provocations Against China

SEPT. 19—Today, the U.S. Government admitted that U.S. warplanes "might" have twice intruded into China's airspace in the past month as the Chinese have charged. The facts were as follows:

"In the small hours of the morning on August 29," said Hsinhua, the Chinese news agency, "U.S. imperialist military planes flagrantly attacked small Chinese cargo ships sailing along a normal shipping route in the Gulf of Bac Bo. They sank one of them and damaged another, killing nine Chinese seamen and wounding

## U.S. Brass Now Threatens Viet With Nuclear Bombs; Target Is Asian Revolution

NEW YORK, Sept. 19—Today former President Eisenhower, allegedly speaking about his "memoirs" and as a "non-government" spokesman, issued a thinly veiled threat

that if the Vietnamese liberation struggle doesn't surrender to U.S. imperialism's "conventional" methods of mass slaughter, Wall Street is prepared to give the order for a "tactical" nuclear attack.

In a pre-taped T.V. interview broadcast in Washington and New York, this highly authoritative spokesman for a broad (if not the broadest) section of U.S. big business, stated that Washington should "use the proper kind of nuclear weapon" against the revolutionary Asian masses, who can muster "thousands of men to get their way by a little military excursion (!) like Korea."

The chief director of U.S. global aggression for eight years, and the former General of the Army, advocated with cold-blooded firmness the use of "tactical" nuclear weapons in "sticky situations" as the "only way to win" in Vietnam.

As if to emphasize that the U.S. monopolies, having committed every other genocidal crime, wouldn't blink twice at a gigantic nuclear escalation, Eisenhower callously added that he didn't "see any difference between gas warfare and this kind of (nuclear) warfare."

The founder of the policy of "massive retaliation" virtually repudiated the armistice which ended U.S. aggression in Korea and strongly hinted that although Washington had refrained from a nuclear attack in 1953, no such "restraint" could be expected now.

The U.S. billionaires are thus coolly announcing their readiness to escalate from napalm to nuclear warfare.

seven others."

On September 16 the Chinese Defense Ministry revealed that U.S. planes had attacked Chinese territory on September 9, wounding three peasants and four days earlier had dropped bombs on Chinese territory near Friendship Pass at the border of North Vietnam.

Coupled with UN Sec. Gen. Thant's solemn warning yesterday about the escalation of the war and his open implication of U.S. responsibility for the increase in international tensions, the Chinese border incidents

have to be viewed with the gravest alarm.

U.S. militarism has the bit in its teeth! Imperialism is hell-bent on expanding the war. It is not pouring ever more men into Vietnam in order to seek a peaceful solution, and it is not building super-naval and air bases throughout Southeast Asia merely to "pacify" the Vietnamese.

Obviously, the war actions against China are calculated to provoke similar actions by the Chinese—which could then be the excuse for a big U.S. attack.

## At the Times Square Demonstration in Support of Carmichael and other SNCC Prisoners



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**Achievement of People's China**

Seventeen years ago China couldn't make an aspirin. Today it has synthesized insulin.

Insulin is one of the most complicated of living substances and has baffled Western scientists for generations. It has now been artificially created in a country where disease and famine once ruled more effectively than mandarins and British gunboats.

Granted that capitalist-employed scientists have made many similarly dazzling discoveries (with almost unlimited subsidies and generations of scientific tradition behind them!), is this not a powerful proof of the superiority of the socialist system?

Without a cent's worth of help from the aging capitalist colossus in the U.S., China has made a whole series of such achievements, while India, which was roughly in the same economic state as China twenty

years ago, is still in the mire of the past, after billions of dollars in U.S. aid.

It is also worth recalling that Lyndon Johnson said on the occasion of China's first atom test that it was a tragedy that the Chinese masses had to deprive themselves of material and cultural things so their government could get a bomb (to defend itself against the likes of Johnson).

So far, Johnson has had no comment on the "plight" of the Spartan masses whose heroic labors produced the laboratories which made this discovery for the enrichment of mankind.

P.S.—Medical progress note in U.S.A.: Military scientists have now developed a strain of Pasteurellia (plague bacteria) which is resistant to most of the common anti-biotics, says New York Times of Sept. 20.

**Behind the "Get Powell" Campaign**

The ruling class would have us believe that the attacks against and the "exposures" of Rep. Adam Clayton Powell are all inspired by the Good Government Club and the Association of Progressive Civics Teachers.

But the truth is that the anti-Powell drive is in fact an anti-Black drive and the latest move to unseat him as chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee (by a Representative from Florida) bears the knife-prints of the Johnson Administration's wily hand.

Among other things, it is a signal

that even the tokenism of small concessions to the Black People may now be dumped in favor of more repressions. As the miniscule War on Poverty is replaced more and more by the terrible war in Vietnam, the chief exponents of the former (such as Powell) are slated to be removed, replaced or re-oriented in favor of the generals and the mass killers. The oppressed are to be checked at home while they are slaughtered abroad.

All else, including Powell's alleged personal character traits, is irrelevant.

**--And Another Familiar Scapegoat!**

Having called the many opponents of his Vietnam war policy such names as "Nervous Nellie" and even traitor (by implication), Johnson is now accusing them of the ultimate crime—of being Jews. At any rate, he implies all the Jewish people are opponents or potential opponents of the war. The next logical step would be to say, like the fascists do, that all progressive things, such as socialism, Black Freedom, etc., are "Jewish plots."

Two weeks ago, Johnson coolly told the Jewish intellectuals in the U.S. that continued U.S. aid to Israel would be conditioned on their support for the U.S. war in Vietnam!

True, after an outraged reaction from the Jewish community, Johnson said it was all a misunderstanding and his man Goldberg soft-soaped

many of the Jewish bourgeoisie into forgetting the matter.

(The Jewish big shots are always in a sweat to demonstrate against alleged anti-Semitism in the SOVIET UNION. But they haven't shown any signs of organizing the masses against anti-Semitism in WASHINGTON! Such an action would be worth a thousand conferences with Goldberg who, as Johnson's agent, is an enemy of every oppressed nationality, including the Jewish.)

But this "slip" of Johnson's, like the Powell incident, is really a symptom of bigger things and a sign that reactionary social forces are pressing hard to take over society from the top, just as, through Rockwell and the various fascist riff-raff, they are trying to take it over from the bottom.

**U.S. General: "Gas Is Good for You!"**

In a plea for more extensive use of poison gas by U.S. forces in Vietnam, a retired general said:

"The reactions to the first reports of their use was one of emotion and horror. Such misinformed opposition has no reason or logic. Certainly on humane grounds alone, there is no comparison between a gas that gags and a napalm bomb

that sears its victims alive."

(Brig. Gen. Jaquard H. Rothchild, USA Ret. in the April Science the Mechanics Magazine.)

The humane general penned several pages following this pearl of tenderness, to show that "tear gas," "vomiting gas" and "irritant gas" were practically harmless. He advocated no prohibition of napalm,

**-Embattled SNCC Fights For Oppressed Black Atlanta**

(Continued from Page 1)

Two SNCC members, Willie Ware and Bob Walton were among the first 19 arrested by the police the day of the shooting. (The cops seized 51 more later the same day.) Ware and Walton were operating a sound truck during the demonstration.

Stokely Carmichael, later arrested for "inciting to riot" and sent to jail for refusing to pay unconstitutionally high bail, spoke to the angry crowd, telling the people the truth about police brutality and racist oppression.

The demonstration and uprising were undoubtedly spontaneous and, although sparked by the callous shooting, grew out of the very depths of oppression and age-old police brutality in this "liberal" city.

But the uprising was also remarkable for its aggressiveness and consciousness, and it surprised a lot of politicians who thought they had it made with the black voters.

The people chanted, "Black Power" and "Police Brutality." And they turned over one police car and knocked the windows out of several others.

Mayor Ivan Allen, an alleged Southern "liberal" went to Summerhill to calm the crowd, but he was met with jeers, hoots and bottles.

Speaking of the 70 arrests on Sept. 6 and the additional 10 arrested who were continuing the protest on September 7, SNCC said:

"People were snatched from the streets indiscriminately, and in many cases homes were raided in Gestapo-like fashion and people carted away to jail."

(In one case the police fired tear gas pellets into a home. A 22-year-old mother and her five children were thus driven out, weeping, with the mother nearly hysterical, into the street.)

SNCC later issued a fact sheet about the shooting, explaining that 25-year-old Prather, father of four children, had been arrested on SUSPICION of stealing a car, but he had actually borrowed the car from a friend, as he had done many times before. "Because he was young and scared, he tried to run. The cop, instead of chasing after him, just pulled out his pistol, started firing at our brother and shot him."

Prather, wounded in his side, crawled to his mother's house, and when the ambulance came, he was lying on the porch in a pool of blood.

"A large crowd of friends, neighbors and young people got together in front of the Prather house because they were ANGRY," said SNCC.

Prather's mother told the cops: "You ain't going to hurt him no more. There used to be days in slavery times when they killed people like dogs, but this is another day. IF YOU LIVE AND HE LIVES, YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS."

**Peruvian Peasant Leader Faces Death**

NEW YORK, Sept. 16—A petition signed by almost 400 participants in the Second Socialist Scholars Conference, held in New York September 9-11, was today handed to the Peruvian Consulate-General. It called upon President Fernando Belaunde Terry to grant amnesty to the celebrated peasant leader Hugo Blanco and his twenty-eight co-defendants now on trial in Tacna, Peru. It is feared that the

judges will hand down a death sentence for Blanco, who has already been imprisoned for three and a half years.

The signatories were headed by the two main guest speakers of the conference, Isaac Deutscher, world-famous historian, and Professor Conor Cruise O'Brien, Albert Schweitzer Professor of Humanities, New York University.

**Protest Bombing of Worker Office**

BY WESTERN UNION

Sept. 4, 1966

Nicholas B. Katzenbach  
Attorney General of the U.S.  
Dept. of Justice, Wash., D.C.

We demand full investigation and summary prosecution of fascist scoundrels who bombed the publishing office of the Worker in New York this morning.

Your Department is notorious for its persecution of communists and other progressives and for helping

to create an atmosphere in which such outrages as this bombing can occur. It is therefore especially incumbent upon you to act energetically in this case if only to absolve yourself from complicity in the crime.

Many previous bombings of Black Freedom fighters as well as last spring's bombing of the San Francisco DuBois Club have gone unpunished. We demand an end to these outrages.

National Committee  
Workers World Party

**Puerto Rico: Old Revolution and New**

September 23rd has been designated as Tri-Continental Day of Solidarity with Puerto Rico's Struggle for National Independence by the Organization of Solidarity of the Peoples of Africa, Asia, and Latin America (OSPAAALA).

Throughout the world, OSPAAALA, which was organized at the recent Tri-Continental in Havana, Cuba, with its member organizations, will hold solidarity demonstrations for the commemoration of the historic "Grito de Lares" (Rebellion of Lares) of 1868.

however, even though it "sears its victims alive."

The general is also an enthusiast for crop destruction as another humane method of modern war.

The Rebellion of Lares was the first uprising for the national independence of Puerto Rico, and was the beginning of the 30-year struggle to oust Spanish colonial rule. The Republic of Lares was declared during the uprising and had its own flag, which Puerto Ricans still cherish today.

In New York, the Pro-Independence Movement of Puerto Rico (MPI) will hold a march and caravan of cars on the Lower East Side Saturday, September 24th to celebrate the occasion. The celebration will feature a public rally in a largely Puerto Rican community at the corner of Delancey and Norfolk Avenues at 3:00 P.M. MPI has announced the rally will have Puerto Rican, Dominican, Afro-American and North American speakers.

## Spy in the Sky; Military on the Moon

# Big Space Shot... At Whom?

Large headlines were given to the exploits of U.S. astronauts, one of whom rode his spacecraft like the cowboy riding The Bomb in "Dr. Strangelove," and a truly amazing sample of the spacecraft's photos was printed for newspaper readers. Schoolkids were taught to follow and explain the exciting features of these scientific achievements. "American science probing the frontiers of space travel for mankind," was the theme.

But the excitement and satisfaction of U.S. rulers was caused by less lofty thoughts. They were elated by the less publicized facts that this space technology was enabling them to spy on the Soviet Union and China with phenomenal success.

Richard Lyons, science editor of the New York Daily News, gloated on Sept. 11 that,

"The U.S. Air Force has launched a revolutionary spy-in-the-sky which can swoop over military bases in the Soviet Union, take pictures and return packages of film on command from ground controllers and may even operate a television system which can be monitored from the ground."

Lyons was not referring to the Gemini project, but to other satellites. However, the whole space program is under the control of the military and has military goals.

Cameras that can photograph fence posts from miles in the air enable U.S. military and political top brass to pin-point activities at Soviet bases. When photos are finished, signals from the ground cause the satellite to eject them and the

## Wall St. Goes To Opera and Gets Picketed

Lady Bird slipped into an alabaster-white chiffon gown and joined the Rockefellers, the Vanderbilts, and the rest of her husband's New York bosses. Secretary of War McNamara was there and so was his old boss, Henry Ford II with his new wife.

Practically all the top of the U.S. ruling class was there, the 60 families and their chief political agents.

The bosses' women competed for attention with the most original and expensive gowns that money could buy; their jewels hung in clusters; Mrs. C.V. Whitney had 1,900 diamonds in her tiara while Mrs. Joseph Lauder, the "cosmetics queen," said casually of her gold and diamond crown, "You know how it is, you have to wear something."

It was the opening of the new Metropolitan Opera.

In the courtyard beneath the bankers' leisure-time palaces of Rockefeller's Lincoln Center, the crowds of curious and envious came to stare at the great ones last Friday.

There, too, came groups of young people from Youth Against War & Fascism. They pulled out banners opposing the war and shouted, "Stop the War in Vietnam!"

A group of CNVA pickets were dispersed and four arrested near the courtyard.

Another picket line, formed across the street by people from various anti-war groups, was joined later by members of Youth Against War & Fascism who turned the demonstration into a militant, chanting picket line that attracted a crowd of people and carried the sound of opposition to the war to the palace gates.

films are then picked up by recovery planes.

Refinements now include the ability to shift the altitude and angle of the spy satellite as it transverses areas of the Soviet Union or China.

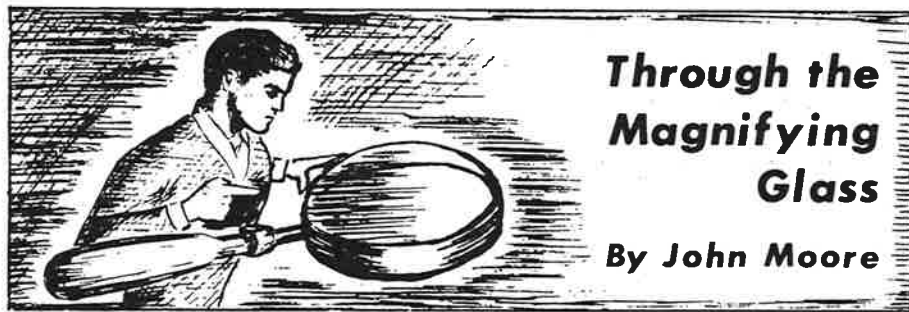
All this is openly admitted—and boasted—by the military. What then are we to conclude is the purpose of space platforms and the moon project?—To get a base from which to hurl missiles at Mars—or at some closer target?

## A Real Ally at Last!

The racist Rhodesian government defies the majority of the British Commonwealth and the entirety of progressive mankind by continuing its totalitarian oppression of the overwhelming mass of its population.

It does seem to love Washington, however. It has made plain that its heart beats as one with Johnson.

It has offered to send a detachment to fight in Vietnam!



## We Visit Kangaroo Trial for 3 Anti-War GI's

We are on our way to Fort Dix. A soldier is to be tried there. His name, James Johnson. His photos show him to be young, black, and clean cut, and he has said that he will not go to fight the people of Vietnam for the rulers of the U.S. He and two others, Mora and Samas, have made that statement together. One has been already sentenced to three years. The other will be tried after James Johnson.

Fort Dix is an hour and a half drive from New York. It is a warm and sunny day and we whiz along at 60. I think about the time I had been to Fort Dix before. Twenty years ago I was discharged there.

### Twenty Years Ago

Thousands upon thousands were coming back from overseas and filling up the wooden, war-time barracks. The feeding, housing, and paper work of the freeing of us civilian soldiers from the military cage was the main business of the day.

Everything was great—or so it seemed. The war was won. Everything was going to work out fine. There was going to be a great future.

The lousy, chicken-shit army's main job, we figured, was to put itself out of business for good. And as fast as possible.

But it didn't work that way. Now twenty years later it is all too clear how completely they had double crossed all of us who thought we were fighting against such things as conscription and militarism and aggressive war.

### The Military Cancer

The Fort Dix of today has no relationship to anything I remembered from those few hectic days I had spent there. It is now a place of new and permanent buildings. It is clearly a well-fed, expanding part of the military cancer.

Airplane engines boom and roar and young guys, who should be civilians working someplace, are eating lunch in the PX restaurant near the place of the trial. Others march by in a column with non-coms counting cadence. Officers, with their smug air of superiority, walk the well-

Petition to

# Bring the War Criminals To Trial!

The following is the text of a petition being circulated by the internationally famous Bertrand Russell War Crimes Commission, which is going to try Lyndon Johnson on charges of being a war criminal. It is suggested that readers print or mimeograph petitions with the statement and get signatures. Send petitions to:

Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation  
3 & 4 Shavers Place, Haymarket

London SW1, England

**We, the undersigned, support the International War Crimes Tribunal initiated by Bertrand Russell. We feel a solemn obligation to expose war crimes and to indict those who perpetrate them. We believe that U. S. actions in Vietnam must be examined exhaustively and the findings made known to world opinion.**

## Plague Rides on Wings of U.S. War

The "Black Death" (or Bubonic Plague) is raging in South Vietnam. It is carried by rats and has in-

creased with the escalation of the U.S. war against that country.

According to the N.Y. Times of Aug. 20, the Plague in Vietnam has spread to 22 of the 29 provinces in South Vietnam. The Plague has been increasing to epidemic form in the last two years.

In 1961 the Plague was found in only one province. From 1954 to 1962 Vietnam averaged about 40 cases of this disease a year. But the Pasteur Institute in Saigon reported 2,649 cases in the first half of this year and 4,500 cases in 1965 with 250 deaths, while the Health Ministry reported that there were 116 deaths so far this year.

The Rev. Do Van Quy, Chief of the Plague Laboratory says "The spread of the Plague is very, very serious."--- The problem will not be solved till the war ends."

Only one quarter of the South Vietnamese population of 16 million has been immunized with Plague vaccine. This vaccine is only manufactured by the Pasteur Institute, a South Vietnamese government agency.

Dr. Joe Stockard, Chief of U.S. Aid Missions of Preventative Medicine, says, "Now that the disease is so widespread it may be expected to continue for an indefinite period."

In spite of the fact that Plague has reached epidemic form, little is being done to stop its spread. It is carried by rats, which carry the rat flea that harbors the disease. Rat guards are not being used on the ships in the harbor in Saigon. The South Vietnamese government has only four health inspectors for the airport and the harbor—which means that practically nothing is being done.

It has been pointed out that Plague is virtually absent in the Mekong Delta region (territory of the National Liberation Front). Plague has spread to Quangtri province adjoining North Vietnam but it has not reached North Vietnam in epidemic numbers according to present information.

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he began. It is like hearing a gunman delivering a speech of calm and reasonable explanation as he viciously shoots down his victim.

The artificial routine drones on until we must return to New York.

The next day the verdict is announced: five years for two of the GIs who refused to be a part of this apparatus which can smile, talk peace, reason and democracy, while it scientifically plans and brutally carries out the killing in Vietnam.

kept sidewalks. Bombs and missiles are arranged as decorations on the grass lawns in front of brick barracks.

In a tiny building with its gray color of army sterility, the trial takes place.

### The GI and the Judge

Johnson, the defendant, looks very young and slender, only a few years from the playground. His face is dark, good-looking and very boyish. But he gives you a feeling of conviction and strength as he takes his seat quietly and turns to smile broadly at his father, mother and brother who sit on the front bench of the four benches assigned to spectators. We sit behind them.

In front of us to the left on a raised bench sits the officer who is to be the military judge—the so-called "senior law officer!" A forty year old, banty rooster erect man with a satisfied sense of his importance, he exudes an odor of condescending politeness. It is the arrogance of the white-shirt boss who comes down into the shop to look over the job.

"Gentlemen," he addresses his fellow officers who make up the court-martial who have filed in and seated themselves at a raised table, their faces expressionless, neat, well-clipped men of thirty and forty in pressed uniforms with medals and ribbons, "before we proceed I want to take a few moments to outline in general terms . . . basically you are a fact-finding committee . . . fair minded . . . avoid reaching any firm conclusions . . ." He cautions them sternly against unfair questioning of the defendant.

All look at the judge as intently as possible. There is to be a military show of "democracy" by the army brass. Democracy by the numbers!

### Goose-Step Democracy

When the civilian defense lawyer, Stanley Faulkner, challenges the legality of the war, his words are listened to with deliberate calm. But after the due grinding out of the court procedure the military judge quietly throws out all defense motions with the same smug politeness

## Anti-Labor, Anti-Black - or Anti-War Which Is the Real Fulbright?

By M. Seaman

Can anybody support white supremacy and slave wages at home and oppose extension of the U.S. war abroad in Vietnam? Apparently Senator Fulbright can.

On September 14 the Arkansas senator voted to strengthen white supremacy. He lined up with every right-wing and racist Senator to kill a cloture motion that would have stopped the filibuster opposition to the 1966 Civil Rights Bill.

On that same day he added to this record by voting against a \$1.60 minimum wage law (effective February 1968). This bill also would give minimum wage coverage to over eight million workers for the first time—one million of whom are now making less than \$1 an hour.

Yet this same Senator is an outspoken critic of Johnson's escalation of the Vietnam war. Only the other day he kept his hands at his side while a joint session of Congress applauded fifteen times during a 70-minute speech by President Marcos of the Philippines that called for further involvement by the U.S. in Vietnam and a warning that "U.S. must not let internal doubts lead it to soften its military stand in Vietnam."

This was a direct attack on Fulbright and the "doves" in Congress.

How can this darling of the liberals and bourgeois pacifists, who appears to them a lonely and courageous figure amidst the hawks,

be the same Fulbright who can cast his vote with the most racist and anti-labor forces in Congress? How can he support the Russells, the Eastlands, and the McClellans at home and oppose them abroad?

There are those who will say that he can't—that he has to be on one side or the other. They will call him a hypocrite, a liar and demagogue in his opposition to the hawks. Others will say that he has to be practical in regard to domestic matters and that he is honestly against Johnson's war policy.

The truth of the matter is that he can be for an extreme policy of racism and oppression at home and call for moderation against the colored masses in Asia not from the point of view of humanitarianism, but from the point of view of profits. He is a member of the imperialist establishment who is alarmed that the U.S. capitalists' present course in Vietnam will endanger their profit system in all Asia.

He differs with them only in the degree of military involvement and not in the exploitation for profit of the Asian masses.

He is like a member of the Board of Directors who fears the widening of a strike might lose more profits for the corporation in the long run. That is why he can vote for a \$58 billion war budget that fattens the profits of banker and boss and vote against a \$1.60 minimum wage law for the poor and oppressed.

## Senate Kills Civil Rights Bill

NEW YORK, Sept. 20—As we go to press, the final strangling of the Civil Rights Bill of 1966 has been announced. The failure of the U.S. Senate to get a two-thirds vote to cut off the racist filibuster demonstrates clearly the white supremacy that permeates and festers in the highest ruling class circles of the United States.

The death of this already emasculated so-called "civil rights" legislation comes at a time when racist authorities on the one hand and racist mobs on the other are wreaking violence, death and imprisonment on

a Black population that seeks redress of its grievances.

The bill provided for a bare minimum of these grievances, such as preventing discrimination in the selection of juries. The bill also gave some weak and watery guarantees on fair housing, having already been nearly cut to shreds on this point.

As Floyd McKissick, national director of CORE, observed, the death of the 1966 Civil Rights Bill is a reflection and measure of "the climate of racism prevailing in this country at this time."

It Was Staged by You Know Who!

## That S. Viet Election Farce

After most of the U.S. press had discounted the phony South Vietnam elections in advance, they made a right about face on September 12 and hailed the just completed farce as a "victory for democracy" and a "rebuff to the Viet Cong."

The U.S. papers were, however, unanimously silent on just what "democrats" were elected or just what kind of democracy could be implemented by the outrageously undemocratically rigged assembly which had just been "elected." Their cheers were solely for the number of people who had voted.

(They used to call it a "Ja" vote when Hitler conducted similar unanimous operations in the name of democracy!)

The figure first released was 71 per cent of the eligible voters—that is, those eligible in the one-third of South Vietnam not occupied by the liberation forces. This figure was upped to 81 per cent between newspaper editions.

And since Premier Ky, the principal rigger of the elections had "predicted" only a 60 per cent vote, the amended figure did look like a "victory"—for somebody, at least, if not for democracy.

Chet Huntley of NBC said on September 11, however—perhaps before U.S. State Department pressure became so absolute—that a turnout of about 50 per cent was probable.

The opposition Buddhist monk quoted by Dave Dellinger from Saigon in a National Guardian story last week, hit the nail still more squarely when he said just prior to the election:

"The vast majority of the people will not vote September 11, but the election boxes will be overflowing anyway."

Newsweek, in its issue of September 19 (prepared before the September 11 elections) quoted what the reader is apparently supposed to regard as a typical upper class opinion in South Vietnam:

"I've forgotten what the election is for," commented a candid citizen in the province of Vinh Long. "But I will vote. It is the responsibility of a citizen to vote." Then as he nodded into his midday siesta, he suddenly remembered the point of voting. "I will elect a representative to write a constitution," he declared triumphantly.

Unlike Newsweek, Time and other

## Absent Minded Newspaper Doesn't "Left" Page Know What the "Right" Page Sayeth?

By Ellen Pierce

You can't judge a book by its cover, goes the saying. And you can't judge a capitalist newspaper by its editorials either.

Take, for example, the "liberal" New York Post. Here is a paper which in its editorials now and then mildly rebukes the government for some of the genocidal activity being carried out in Vietnam. But look at the Post's feature stories on the war—which are read by far more people than the editorials—and you see a different picture.

Barry Cunningham—"Our Man in Vietnam" as the Post calls him—is doing a series on GI's in the war. He avoids the bloodthirsty, flag-waving, Sgt. Barry Saddler types, and sticks to local boys who are depicted as reluctant heroes. Occasionally, he throws in a pacifist-sounding phrase or two. He has one soldier say: "I'm getting paid for fighting and killing over here, when at home I'd be put in the electric chair for doing the same thing." Or he notes: "Osborne listens intently. He is a University of Texas graduate who is heartbroken by the war."

But taken as a whole, the series comes across as chauvinistic and pro-war as "Terry and the Pirates" or a column by right-winger Bob Considine of the Hearst brainwashers.

Here are some examples of the chauvinism towards the Vietnamese victims of the war:

Some GI's "see a decrepit Vietnamese woman squatting on her haunches. She is plucking a chicken with excrement under her fingernails."

"It is a very difficult place to be," says Jack Kanakaris, "if you're looking for class. This place has no class, this Vietnam."

Or a captain describes how the U.S. treats the Vietnamese in Operation County Fair. "We herd (!) all the villagers into a tent for food and medical treatment...While we're passing out Hershey bars and showing Donald Duck cartoons to the kids the ARVN (Army of the Republic of Vietnam) sweep through

with the Marines and look for the VC."

Or, "Premier Ky has started bicycle races in Saigon. It sounds to me like a plea for change. That kind of competition is what these (Vietnamese) kids need. I'm not even a sports fan, but I know that baseball would do more to help unify this country than we can imagine."

Editorially, the Post opposes Ky and declares that a few handouts will not win the hearts of the Vietnamese. Yet in its much heralded war series readers are led to think Ky might be just as sports-minded as "good guy" Americans and that candy, baseball and cartoons—the great offerings of American civilization—can buy off an entire people into giving up their liberation struggle.

The Post's man in Vietnam also describes the scared-but-brave, tough-but-tender GI's.

"I nearly cry 50 times a day when I think how proud I am of this company," says an officer.

Or how about, "He pulls up his shirttail, dumping out a school of maggots. His fingers move up and down his stomach, tapping roughened scars left when a Claymore mine exploded in front of him last January.

"When I was home," he says, "I had a hard head and a chip on my shoulder. The war has changed all that."

It sounds like something out of a John Wayne war movie. But it's hard to fight because it's so sentimental.

Instead of building up a sentiment to get these men out of Vietnam, however, the stories generate a pro-war feeling, a feeling of "let's send some more guys over there to clean up the whole mess!"

The effect of the war stories—Post editorials notwithstanding—is to make the reader go from sympathy with the generally decent GI's they tell about to support for the war itself.

and without worrying about the "Viet Cong"?

The answer of course is that the election was not a South Vietnamese project at all, but a U.S.-planned gimmick—like Point Four, the Peace Corps and population control—but with an extra twist.

No one understands this better than the Vietnamese themselves. Hsinhua, the Chinese news agency, quotes the Foreign Ministry of North Vietnam in its September 8 exposure of the elections as follows:

"By staging the farce of 'elections to the constituent assembly,' the United States is aiming at creating a 'legal' basis for continuing to intensify its war of aggression, consolidate the puppet army and administration and seize the initiative of operations on the South Vietnam battlefield.

"By this trick, the Johnson Administration also hopes to check the rising protests of the American people to insure victory (i.e. for the Johnson clique—ed.) in the elections which will take place in November in the U.S."

And that was the real meaning of the September 11 election. It was manufactured for export, pure and simple, especially export to the people of the U.S.A. from its U.S. producers in Vietnam.

It was meant to convince the U.S. masses that the Vietnamese people support the U.S. war against their brothers. And it was meant to convince the U.S. voters to back Johnson's November candidates in an election almost as meaningless as Saigon's.

WHO STAGED IT—AND WHY?

But why stage the election at all? In the land of a military dictatorship, where 20 per cent of the puppet army deserts each year and votes far more dramatically—and honestly—with its feet than Ky's stuffed ballot boxes do for stuffed-shirt friends of Ky, why bother? Why bother to elect a series of hand-picked candidates for puppets' puppets when they can be appointed by the chief puppet with so much less trouble and expense