

THE WORKER



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Workers defend

RIGHT TO ORGANISE

To strike down capitalism

Engineers Defy State

If workers in the past had abided by the kind of law Sir John Donaldson's £100,000 fine on the AUEW is intended to uphold, there would be no trade unions worth the name in Britain today.

If the Industrial Relations Act is imposed on the working class by the capitalist state, it will mean the end of trade unionism in Britain as established by many generations of working-class struggle.

Threat to our class

Con-Mech is a small engineering firm in Woking with only some 50 employees; but the collaboration there between management and the National Industrial Relations Court against workers is a threat to the entire working class.

When it was realised that the only way to do anything about inadequate safety regulations and bad conditions was to organise, 26 workers joined the AUEW and elected 2 stewards to represent them.

On the advice of the union district secretary, the stewards approached management to ask that discussions with the union on the question of recognition be opened.

Before they could even deliver this message, they were told that not only was recognition out of the question, but that they were sacked. An immediate mass meeting took a unanimous decision for strike action beginning on September 19.

The management took the case to the Industrial Relations Court which ordered that, pending consideration of the recognition claim by the Commission on Industrial Relations, industrial action must cease from October 1.

Instead, the union gave its approval to the strike and, in

line with the policy of having nothing to do with the Industrial Relations Court, refused to appear when summoned. Sir John Donaldson ordered the seizure of £100,000 worth of union assets and, incidentally, called on the company to take back into employment all their employees who were on strike. But when the AUEW district secretary sought to discuss the issues at a meeting arranged with management, the company dismissed another 20 workers!

New Combination Act

The provisions of the Industrial Relations Act on the question of union recognition amount in fact to a new Combination Act striking at the very roots of trade unionism.

The AUEW's boycott of the National Industrial Relations Court is the only line for those who are sincere in the defence of working class organisation and realise that you cannot use bourgeois law to defeat bourgeois law.

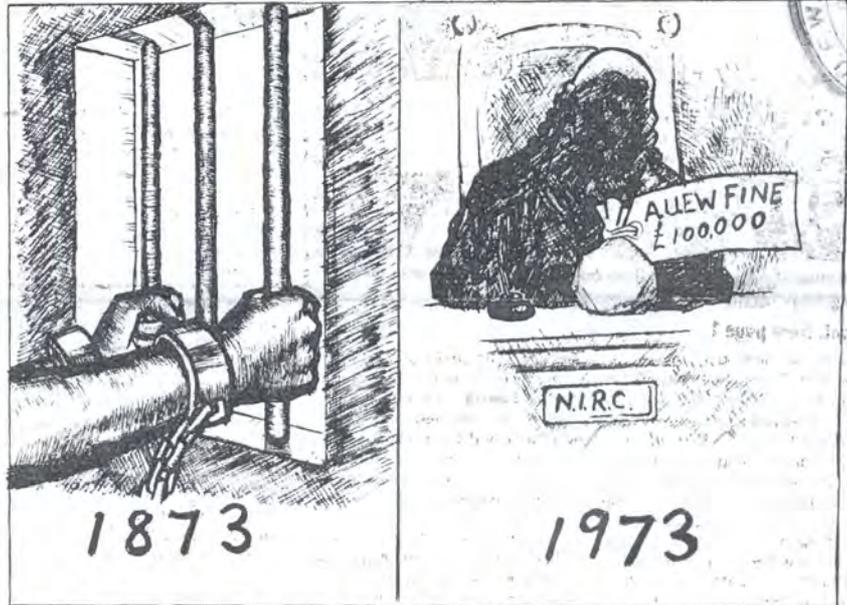
The arguments that unions ought to appear before the Court if they have a good case are the counsels of enemies within our class - as are suggestions that we can leave it to the capitalist Labour Party to save us from this capitalist law.

at 11 am in Hyde Park to be followed by a march.

Nov.5th: A rocket for the capitalist state

The one day strike of more than 250,000 London engineers on November 5th called by the No.8 Committee of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions is only the beginning of the counter-offensive by workers against Government attacks on the whole working class.

There will be a demonstration



STILL NOTHING TO LOSE BUT OUR CHAINS

As the AUEW put the matter in a statement on the Con-Mech affair issued on October 12: 'This is such a basic and fundamental challenge to trade union rights that the Executive Council had no alternative except to support the dispute... The company's action showed that the real purpose of the Industrial Relations Act was to so restrict or destroy trade unions that they are incapable of representing their members.'

The Court, in concluding that 'the union as a matter of deliberate policy had decided to defy

the court's authority', was quite right. It did represent 'the union's considered claim to be above and exempt from the law'. This claim is based on the democratically determined policy of the AUEW and fundamental trade union principles. These are the principles which, when the working class has conquered state power, will make outlaws of the capitalists.

The fine is paid in such a way that the union might get it remitted if it ends its defence of working-class principles. The Telegraph warns: 'If the Left were allowed to choose what

laws to obey, it would be the surest way to call into being a Right-wing extra-Parliamentary force that would clamour for "strong government" and "order".'

But neither bribes nor threats will deter engineers from their correct working class line. The £100,000 sequestered by the N.I.R.C. came from the union's political fund, money which can only be used for political purposes such as supporting the Labour Party. This may account for Wilson's attack on Heath in Parliament for the bad effects of the Industrial Relations Act!

Action By Engineers

And in fact other unions and other sections of the working class have already begun to rally behind the engineers -- transport and building workers, dockers, electricians, all showing their

support for the fight being waged against the Industrial Relations Act.

The following statement was issued by AUEW members of the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist):

Attack the attackers support for engineers

'For too long the struggle against the Industrial Relations Act has been based on defence -

a defence which has meant waiting for the employing class to attack. If we are not to be placed in a position of having less and less to defend, then we must change our tactic from one of defiance to one of attack.

We engineers are now in a position to give a positive and decisive lead at this critical stage in the struggle, to win back what has been stolen from us by the

cont. on page 2

EDITORIAL

Why the engineers?

Action By Engineers

For some time our Party has been pointing out the present necessity of guerrilla struggle for the working class. 'Fight where you are, using guerrilla tactics.'

Last year, when a derisory offer was made by the Engineering Employers Federation, engineering workers used just such tactics, making factories all over the country their bases for a guerrilla wage-and-conditions war. Individual employers were forced to settle far above the Federation's offer, some of them being expelled from their own 'boss's union' for capitulating.

Our Party has also insisted on the necessity of absolute opposition to anti-trade union, anti-working class legislation. This is a fight against the capitalist state operating on behalf of the capitalist class. It cannot be waged by talking with the Tory capitalist Government, nor can it be delegated to Her Majesty's Opposition, whatever promises Labour may make now.

In dealing with the fines imposed on their union in the Goad case, the engineers took on the State using the same guerrilla tactics they had used in pursuing their claim. The cost to the employers as a result of the Industrial Relations Court's action was so high that the Industrial Relations Act was temporarily put on the shelf. Sir John Donaldson has taken it down again and dusted it off in the hope that the AUEW is sufficiently isolated in its refusal even to recognise his Court, that the State might score a quick, bloodless victory over its principal opponent.

Some hope! The AUEW remains implacable in its opposition to the Industrial Relations Act and all its works. In this stance it has placed itself at the head of the working class in struggle. It needs and has earned the support of fellow workers all over the country. How did the engineers come to this understanding of how to fight the employer and how to fight the employer's state?

The technological advances of engineering were the very core of

the industrial revolution which made Britain the work shop of the world. Engineering workers were subject to all the conditions which make for a working-class consciousness - the intensity of exploitation of skilled labour at points of production, the socialisation of workers in large factories and industrial complexes, the immediate awareness of the growing contradiction between the forces and the relations of production - that is, the enormous productive capacity of skilled workers using new tools and methods and the restrictions on that productive capacity imposed in the interest of private profit by the class owning the factories and machines.

These conditions provided the climate in which Marxism was born - the science of working class revolution. It is not surprising that in the ranks of the engineers should be found one of Britain's most dedicated Marxist-Leninists, the founder and Chairman of the CPB(ML). In his political understanding of working-class struggle he has benefited from his close association in action with fellow workers in the AUEW; and there is no doubt that the union, and through the union the working class generally, has benefited from the Marxist-Leninist understanding of one of its leading members.

Marxist-Leninists are not some special, detached section of the working class. They are an inseparable and integral part of it. The Marxist-Leninist Party is simply the working class in its most politically conscious awareness of its revolutionary mission.

No more do the engineers stand in any sense apart from their fellow workers. Their leadership role at this stage of the struggle unites them even more closely with other sections of the working class.

We workers have a long way to go and a hard revolutionary war to fight in our struggle for final emancipation; but let us take heart from the stage we have already reached, in knowing where we are going, and in recognising those who are most dedicated in helping us get there.

IRELAND

Torture

Allegations of torture made by Belfast men are now being investigated by the European Commission on Human Rights in Strasbourg. It has been reported that Britain is now on a blacklist, along with Portugal and others, referred to the United Nations for what is called a "consistent pattern" of gross violation of human rights. Seven

men being considered by the Commission all allege that systematic torture was used by the army and police when they were arrested in April 1972. Three of the men claim that they were tortured into signing statements confessing to a series of bombings. They were then charged and spent various periods in hospital. In June the charges were dropped and they were allowed to go free. Since then they have been re-arrested, interrogated and had their homes searched many times. In March this year two detectives and a soldier were charged with causing grievous bodily harm to the

three men and found not guilty. Now most of the seven are imprisoned without trial, some by the Emergency Powers Act, what in legal jargon is called an "interim custody order".

It doesn't seem likely that the men will have much hope of testifying in Strasbourg, they probably stand more chance of being the victims of what the bourgeois press call sectarian murders.

But the fact is the whole parasitic capitalist system is a systematic violation of human rights, of which the troops' atrocities are only the most blatant example.

now - turn the screw - let the anger of the Engineers be heard and felt in every factory, workshop and site throughout Britain. From our lead others will draw courage. Join with us in struggle to smash the Act - to keep our Trade Unions free from State Control."

Judge Donaldson openly admitted the political threat the engineers action makes to the capitalist system when he called it a "threat to Parliamentary democracy itself."

RESOLUTIONS

"That this meeting of London North Covenors and Shop Stewards in response to the Executive Council's Statement and the decision of

the No. 8 Confederation District Committee, of Oct. 23rd call upon our members to stop work on Monday, 5th November as a first step to defend the Union against fines imposed by the National Industrial Relations Court."

"AUEW members at Woolwich Ferry pledge their support for any action taken by the District Committee on the £100,000 fine on our Union, even if it means strike action."

"This London (North) District Committee pledges full support to any action taken by E.C. in defence of the Union's Funds, and urge the Executive Council to stand firm in line with National Committee policy against this latest attack

and to call the membership to immediate action."

"We the Brighton Branch of the E. E. P. T. U. condemn the latest attempt by the Government to request £100,000 of workers' money from the funds of the AI in the Con-Mech dispute and fully condemn this as a criminal act."

We fully support the correct policy of the AUEW of non-cooperation with Industrial Relations Act and of all the bodies set up by it. In this stand we recognise the leading role of the AUEW in fighting this blatantly class legislation. They should not be left to fight isolation for this is an issue that must involve the whole class."



Meeting of workers from all trades who demonstrated with the engineers outside the Industrial Relations Court.

cont. from page 1

employing class, our right to organise, to make our own Rules, to shape and control our Union's democracy and keep secure our members' funds.

We must boldly and without reservation appeal to our Brothers and Sisters in every Union to come to our aid, for we engineers are not struggling for our Union alone, but for every worker in Britain. In making our appeals we would do well to remember that the finest teacher is example -- we cannot ask others to do -- without first doing it ourselves.

In this struggle many attempts will be made to mislead -- we must not allow ourselves to be lead

up any blind alleys of allowing the fight against the Act to be channelled into one of a return of a Labour Government in the 'hope' that they will throw out the Act, for is it not a fact that this attack stems directly from previous policies of the last Labour Government?

Let us carry the fight to the Class Enemy. The methods used to secure the release of the Dockers must once again be used to free the Trade Union Movement from the threats, intimidation and fines meted out by the Industrial Relations Court.

BE NOT AFRAID - we are many - they are few. Organise

THE INDUSTRIAL FRONT

Chrysler

As the inquiry - the inevitable compromise marking the final chapter of an ill-considered strike gets under way, the Coventry electricians continued their strike. Their action, in support of an ill-considered demand for differentials, was having little effect on production. A far greater blow to production was the manpower shortage caused by workers leaving Chrysler for better-paid jobs elsewhere. A sign that the real need at Chrysler is not the present divisive claim of the electricians, which is only a token conflict with the freeze, but a united campaign to win more money for all Chrysler workers by breaking through the freeze, Phase II or III.

When the lights went out

GEC traffic signal engineers in London were striking for a £10 increase, rejecting a Phase II offer of £1.83 a week.

Kodak

Kodak colour processing at Hemel Hempstead was totally halted by the dispute over pay and union recognition. At present Kodak only recognises 'house' unions.

Straight from the horse's mouth

According to the general secretary of the Federation of Registered Trade Unions, the number of registered trade unions could be reduced to the level of making the Industrial Relations Act a 'farce' in the not too distant future. One more reason for the £100,000 fine?

Sausage stoppage

Workers at a sausage factory, owned by FMC held a short protest strike when they heard of their chairman's awarding himself a £16,000 pay rise. The chairman, Sir John Stratton, said he felt it was his duty to defend the principle of rewards for productivity.

Post Office

65,000 Post Office white-collar workers were staging selective action, concentrated in computer centres, in support of their demand for the same concessions won by 400,000 Civil Service workers under the 'anomaly' sections of the Phase III policy. Post Office workers will win better treatment, not by remembering that the Post Office was formerly part of the Civil Service, but remembering that the civil servants only won what they did as a result of taking industrial action for the first time in their history.

The NUM executive rejected a Coal Board offer which went to the limits of the increase allowed under Phase III. On top of a basic 7 per cent increase and another 1 per cent in improved holiday payments, those working the 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. shift (only some 15,000 of the 260,000 are permanently on nights) would get £6.80 a week extra for working 'unsocial hours'. A productivity deal was also being offered. Yet the only specific

response from the NUM has been to demand that the afternoon-evening 2 p.m. - 10 p.m. shift should also be classed as 'unsocial'.

Engineers' claim

The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions is awaiting a reply from the employers to the claim on behalf of over two million workers. The claim is for a basic rate of £35 for a 35-hour week, compared to the present £25 for 40 hours. There are also demands for equal pay for women and improved holidays. The claim, based on total rejection of Phase III, also influences claims by 50,000 shipyard workers and by engineering workers in local authorities, transport and many other sectors.

Windscale walkout

The entire workforce at the Windscale nuclear plant walked out in support of 14 men suspended after taking action over their £1 a day demand for dan-

ger money following a radiation leakage a month ago.

Heathrow

The American-owned cargo handling company, General Aviation Services, forced out of Heathrow, despite the use of police and police dogs, has brought a new weapon out of its kennel, the Industrial Relations Court. Workers, worried by the threat of redundancies, stopped GAS from replacing existing cargo handling arrangements. In a phrase bound to appeal to the anti-union NIRC the GAS counsel said 'You will have to decide who has the authority to decide who is to operate at Heathrow - the British Airports Authority or the TGU. The answer is obvious - but J. Donaldson probably will not see it. Judge Donaldson, the BAA and the board of GAS can all about Heathrow flapping their arms, but without workers, r body and nothing will leave the ground.'

FROM THE WORKERS TO THE WORKERS

Interview with James Flockhart, Chairman of the Glasgow area committee of the Fire Brigades Union.

For the first time Glasgow firemen are in dispute with their employers and the Government. On October 1st 660 firemen began a work-to-rule, adding a ban on overtime on October 3rd and switchboard cover on October 8th in pursuit of a £5 a week rise. On October 7th Mr Flockhart, the Glasgow firemen's leader, told us about the dispute.

WHY FIREMEN ACTED: LOW WAGES

"We get a miserable wage. After the October 1st settlement of £1 plus 4% and five years' qualifying service a fireman receives £26.76 for a basic 40 hour week, after 15 years £28.20. There is virtually compulsory overtime, with no extra for shift or weekend working. "TINDER BOX CITY"

"Our job is dangerous, especially as Glasgow is a tinder-box city. There is a high rate of calls, deaths and injuries, e.g. in 1960 14 firemen and 5 salvage men were killed and from 1969 to 1972 10 firemen died. Injuries are quite frequent and of all types, with particularly horrible burns cases. Injured firemen have to resign as there are no alternative light duties, and do not receive compensation from the Fire Service - the Union does have a voluntary scheme. 200 VACANCIES

Glasgow is short of 200 firemen and each year many leave. So, in order to provide adequate cover against fire we work a lot of overtime, including rest days, and family life is severely disrupted. FORCED TO ACT

This is the first time in living memory we've taken action. We have never banned overtime or worked to rule before. We were reluctant to take these steps as we knew people might suffer - but there comes a time when you can't go on being exploited. We've been forced into this. We can't go on risking our lives for a miserable wage.

THE GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN

After the corporation refused our wage demand in September and hid behind legalities, we decided to work-to-rule from October 1st. Some of the men were for going out the door then but the majority decided to hold on. Anyway, if you're starting a war, you don't start with H-bombs. On October 2nd we were offered £2 on the condition that it was later absorbed into any later national increase and with Government permission. In reply, we banned overtime the next day. These actions reduced fire-fighting capacity to two-thirds, and brought another meeting with the corporation which ended in stalemate as they said they would like to pay but the law did not allow them to.

This made the men really angry as the corporation was using the law to suit themselves. Then the firemen's reps. took a unanimous decision not to work on switchboards from October 8th. The Fire Master retaliated with strike-breaking measures by trying to install direct links with H.Q. but these could only be partially successful. During the dispute we have not lost basic wages whilst affecting the employers, and morale has been maintained, with the threat of an all-out strike being considered. FRIGHTENED EMPLOYERS

We know the employers are refusing to pay because they are afraid of other workers' claims coming in and of the Government - a firemen's victory would be a chink in the armour of their pay policy. At present we have the support of the Glasgow people and have received messages of support from other Fire Brigades Union branches and local trades unionists. We are determined to go on."

Putting the domino theory into practice

While the war in the Middle East has been daily news for weeks, the rest of Asia has not stood still. In Cambodia, tens of thousands of people from Kompong Cham and Kandal Provinces have joined the National United Front of Cambodia after rough treatment from Lon Nol's troops. They had also been subjected to shortages of rice, land, medicine and water. In addition, many had been press-ganged into the puppet army against their will. Meanwhile in the period August 10 to September 24, despite heavy floods which made fighting difficult, liberation forces sank or badly damaged 84 military and supply vessels trying to reach Phnom Penh and Kompong Cham. At the same time as massive US military aid to Israel was decided on, the US government allocated millions for supplying 'advisors' and war materials to its puppet regime, a regime totally isolated from the Cambodian people.

In neighbouring Thailand, another puppet government has faced the wrath of its people, inspired by the struggles in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Thailand has a long history of exploitation and oppression by imperialist powers. Thailand signed an unequal treaty with Britain in 1855 which the

latter used to milk Thailand of its natural resources of tobacco, rubber, timber, tin ore and wolfram. This was challenged by France, but Britain warned her off finally in 1896 a decision France had to accept because it was the weaker imperialist power. In 1941, Japanese Imperialism invaded Thailand, but, defeated in 1945, gave way to US imperialism which has 'advised' Thailand ever since. 'Puppet' is the appropriate word. Thai troops fought in Korea under the wing of the USA and joined the South East Asia Treaty Organisation in 1954. More recently, it had troops fighting the Vietnamese, but suffered heavy casualties and withdrew. In addition, until a few months ago, Thailand was used as a major base for US aircraft bombing Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. It has today the second largest concentration of US military manpower outside the US.

The quandy Thailand's government finds itself in is of its own making. Earlier in the year there were mass demonstrations against the large US presence in the country. This has culminated in even bigger demonstrations calling for a return to democracy and self-determination in Thailand. The demonstrators in Bangkok,

The Winter of Our Discontent

It has been said that the day after the Phase III plans were announced, 90 per cent of Britain's shop stewards were burrowing into the clauses and sub-clauses to find out how much money they could extract for their members. The most natural thing in the world, especially for British workers with their long tradition of ingenuity applied to screwing every possible penny out of the employer. But very dangerous at the same time. However skillful you may be at cards, you can't win against a marked deck.

What does Phase III allow? Unless you work 'unsocial hours' the rules allow 7 per cent or £2.25, plus 1 per cent for 'flexibility', and possibly half as much again as a 'productivity increase' - but only after three months of the scheme, with the Pay Board being satisfied that the productivity deal is making the employer twice as much money as he would have to pay out. So 8 per cent increases are allowed, possibly 12 per cent at the cost of redundancies or intensified exploitation. Five years ago, the prospect of a 12 per cent rise might have seemed a tempting carrot. But today, what does that increase, only 8 per cent after tax, mean in the face of the flood of price increases

from the capitalists? With the laughable 'price freeze' already responsible for Britain's fastest-ever inflation, Phase III means a real pay cut. If we play according to the Phase III rules we can expect nothing else.

In Phase II the issues were clearer. To get a decent increase you had to break the freeze. With employers forced to bend or break the freeze on the quiet, Phase II was in increasing danger. So now we have Phase III, more 'flexible'. But if it is 'softer' it is the dangerous softness of a quicksand. If we get sucked in our living standards will be pulled down and down, with the 'one pay deal a year' rule and the 'threshold agreement' rule making sure we never stand a chance of keeping our heads above the water.

We cannot fight the employers, we cannot fight capitalism, with one hand tied behind our back. Unless we fight their laws we must accept the employers' basic law - that our living standards must be kept as low as possible. This winter, with major pay claims from the miners, the engineers, from council workers, from many others, we face a crucial opportunity to smash the pay freeze. If correctly fought, concentrating the maximum effort

against the employers' weakest points, while not allowing our weak sections to go down to demoralising defeats, this battle could destroy Phase III before it has time to spawn an even worse Phase IV. Then we will have something else to celebrate on our New Year's Day Bank Holiday. And remember, that concession was not won through Heath's generosity or the negotiating ability of the TUC at the Downing Street talks (nothing of any use to the working class could come from the talks) but because in the past millions of workers decided not to work on that day. When production stops, then the employers start to listen. This winter, let the message be loud and clear - NO TO PHASE III.

Phase Three Cutbacks

Under Phase Three, expenditure on public building is cut by £100 million. £70 million of this is cut from educational building. These are official figures: real figures are higher since immediately the cut-back was announced all projected school building was frozen, and projects at the time (the beginning of the school year) were worth about £73 million.

MIDDLE EAST WAR

A threat to the superpowers

The real significance of Egypt's and Syria's initiative in repelling Israeli aggression is that for the first time since the nationalisation of the Suez Canal, the Arab countries have acted independently from the super powers. For Egypt this goes back to July last year when so called Soviet experts and advisors were expelled. This is the reason for the frantic activities by the Soviet Union to undermine this newly found independence.

The United States and the Soviet Union have as far back as 1967 reached agreement for a settlement in the area which they have so far failed to impose on the Palestinian and Arab peoples. Having lost the initiative, the two super powers are anxious to turn the present situation to their advantage and against the interest of the people of the Middle East. What they couldn't achieve with their 'no peace, no war' creation, their enormous aid to Israel in terms of US weapons and Soviet Jewish immigration, with their 'peace plans', Roger's proposals, etc., they are now trying to impose through a US/Soviet sponsored ceasefire. This is the purpose of Kosygin's visit to Cairo followed speedily by a

visit to Moscow of the US Secretary of State, Kissinger.

Kosygin's visit to Cairo was an attempt to revive previous American plans for security in Middle East guaranteed by the two super powers. It is like leaving a bunch of gangsters guarding a vault.

Imperialism has assigned Israel the very important task of sustaining and strengthening imperialist domination in the Middle East. To do this Israel

through terror, aggression and military superiority must try to create an atmosphere of despair and complete incapacity on the part of the Palestinian and Arab peoples. Thus the myth of Israeli invincibility created and sustained by the imperialist powers. This myth having first been broken by the armed struggle of the Palestinian Fedayeen, today lies shattered at the hands of Egyptian and Syrian armed forces.

CPB(M-L) expresses solidarity

In response to a telegram sent to the Party by the Executive Bureau of the National Union of Syrian Students we publish the following resolution passed by the Central Committee of the CPB (M-L) at its meeting on October 14th.

"This meeting of the CC of the CPB(M-L) sends its warmest revolutionary wishes to the Arab people fighting to liberate their lands from Israeli fascist aggressors. We wish them all success and stand in full solidarity with them.

"There is only one way to fight Zionist imperialism, supp-

orted and maintained by US imperialism. It is not through dependence on a super-power. It is not through deals between US and Soviet imperialism. It is not through United Nations negotiations. The only way is through a protracted people's war in which people, guided by correct politics, can defeat a stronger military power, so brilliantly illustrated by the Vietnamese.

"We look forward to your victory and to the establishment of the democratic state of Palestine in which Arab and Jewish workers will control their destiny."

the capital, were fired on by troops. Hundreds were killed or wounded, but the people fought back. Government buildings were attacked and police stations set alight. This continued for two more days until the Prime Minister and his Deputy, both Field Marshals, were compelled to flee the country. With the USA involved in backing another puppet, Israel, in West Asia, the last thing it wants is further unrest in South East Asia. These are early days yet, but the situation looks ominous for imperialism. In the quiet before the storm, you can almost hear a domino falling.



Fighters of a regional unit of the People's National Liberation Armed Forces of Cambodia on the march.

OCTOBER 1917

REVOLUTION DEFENDED



Photo: Bolshevik supporters defend the Moscow City Soviet.

56 years ago this month the first workers' state was triumphantly born under the slogan, "All Power to the Soviets" - the workers, peasants' and soldiers' councils. Won by the united proletariat and peasantry of Russia, led by the first Marxist-Leninist Party in the world, it proclaimed its victory with the statement:

REVOLUTION WON

TO THE CITIZENS OF RUSSIA

The Provisional Government has been overthrown. State power has passed into the hands of the organ of the Petrograd Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies, the Military Revolutionary Committee, which leads the Petrograd proletariat and garrison. The cause for which the people have fought: the immediate proposal of a democratic peace, the abolition of landlords' rights to the land, workers' control over production, the creation of a Soviet Government - this cause is assured.

Long live the Revolution of workers, soldiers and peasants.

The Military-Revolutionary Committee of the Petrograd Soviet of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies.



From "THE OATH OF THE DEFENDERS OF STALINGRAD", November 6th 1942.

"In sending you this letter from the trenches, we swear to you, dear Joseph Vissarionovich, that to the last drop of blood, to the last breath, to the last heartbeat, we shall defend Stalingrad... Under your leadership our fathers won the Battle of Tsaritsayn. Under your leadership we shall win the great battle of Stalingrad."

This message to Stalin from the fighters of Stalingrad was sent at a critical stage of the battle that proved the turning point of World War II. A fortnight later the Soviet Red Army launched the counter-offensive which by February 3rd, 1943, had destroyed the flower of the German army and saved the world from the Nazis.

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A visit to Albania



Enver Hoxha and Reg Birch exchanging fraternal greetings.

Comrade Enver Hoxha, First Secretary of the Party of Labour of Albania honoured the Communist Party of Britain (ML) by inviting its Chairman Reg Birch to Albania for talks.

Comrade Enver Hoxha spoke frankly of the plans and successes of the Albanian people led by the Party of Labour and of the tasks still to be accomplished. He also spoke warmly and with detailed knowledge of the struggles of the British working class. His sympathetic understanding of the difficulties of Marxist Leninists living under capitalism will give fresh courage to all militant workers.

Reg Birch in his short visit was able to meet many old friends, to see the achievements in technology and the ever rising standard of living of the people. He visited a new mill making the finest steel from crude ore. When complete it will employ 10,000 workers, men and women. It was explained that Albanian agriculture, of a very high standard already, will be further modernised to release more workers for industry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETINGS TO BE HELD AT THE BELLMAN BOOKSHOP
& 7.30 pm.

FRI OCT 26 History of the Engineers

FRI NOV 2 October Revolution

FRI NOV 9 People's War in Zimbabwe

MEETINGS TO BE HELD AT THE BRIGHTON WORKERS
BOOKSHOP at 8 pm

FRI OCT 26 Education in Brighton

FRI NOV 2 "Don't Vote: Organise to Smash Capitalism"

MEETINGS TO BE HELD AT THE OCTOBER BOOKSHOP
7.30 pm

FRI NOV 2 The Corporate State

FRI NOV 16 Education & the Working Class

CELEBRATE ALBANIA'S NATIONAL DAY

SPEAKER: REG BIRCH
(Chairman of the Communist Party of Britain (ML)
Reporting on recent talks held with Enver Hoxha
(First Secretary of the Central Committee of the
Party of Labour of Albania)

FRI NOV 23 HOLBORN ASSEMBLY ROOMS,
St. John's Mews, HOLBORN
ALBANIA SOCIETY

He visited Saranda, a beautiful semi-tropical seaside resort where the Albanian people have shown that a town can have many more people, visitors as well as residents, without destroying the environment. He also visited the new railway being built by University students to a standard that

Brunel would have approved. A pleasant visit was made to a citrus farm created from virgin land, where cadres from all trades and professions are proving that communists understand the dignity of labour. Reg Birch said that there was only one thing wrong with his visit -- it was too short!