

# **DETROIT REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT RECORDS**

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MCLL REVOLUTIONARY  
CHANGE

## WORLD IN REVOLUTION

We have focused tonight on only a few of the struggles for revolutionary change which are occurring around the world. There are many more. The media does not talk about them, except on the occasions when there is a dramatic victory or defeat for imperialism. We are seldom conscious of the day-to-day movements of people everywhere which produce the events the media chooses to report.

South Korea: Opposition is rising in response to the dictatorship of President Pak Jung Hi. In an attempt to preserve his undemocratic powers, Pak has declared martial law in his country as of Oct 17. At all South Korean universities, helmeted soldiers, including special forces troops, are deployed at the gates to keep students out. All universities were ordered closed. Reunification talks continue with the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea.

Turkey: Since martial law was declared in most of Turkey in April 1971, the Turkish military regime has attempted to destroy left opposition, with U.S. backing. The government has banned any society founded on the basis of class, disbanded all existing student organizations, taken over direct control of the state radio and closed leftist periodicals. The repression continues, and with it, opposition grows.

Antigua: Antigua is a "British Associated State." There has been a step up in harassment and repression in Antigua. Hundreds of peasants have had their cane unreaped, the sugar factory has been throwing hundreds out of work. Nearly 1000 workers in all sectors of the economy have been laid off for political reasons. Unemployment has risen to over 50%. Peasants have been arrested for picketing the Premier's office, aged workers seeking compensation for layoffs were beaten by hired agents of government. In this mounting repressive wave, the Afro-Caribbean Movement has been the center of attack. In spite of the increased repression, workers, farmers, students and civil servants continue to protest in the streets.

Uruguay: The long struggle between the National Liberation Movement (Tupamaros) and the fascist government of President Juan Bordaberry has brought a political crisis and brutal repression out in the open. Bordaberry and his military are being attacked not only by the Tupamaros guerrillas, but also by liberal leaders and a growing number of working people. The state realizes that its battle is not just against "subversives" but is for self-preservation. The economy is faltering, inflation has become a way of life. In view of this critical picture, all the forces of the left agree that fascism is the immediate enemy and that unity must be obtained to defeat it.

Colombia: The National Liberation Army (ELN) after almost eight years of guerrilla struggle, is still the main concern of the military command in Colombia. The army has strong peasant backing which makes it possible for the guerrilla forces to attack and then disappear into the population.

Bolivia: The fascist government in this country responded to workers protests over a 66% devaluation of the peso with violent police and army repression. The dictatorship of Col. Hugo Banzer is a year old, and this was the first mass mobilization against it. The military occupied nine cities and tanks guarded government buildings and private stores. Following a 24-hour strike of major

industry and banks, the government declared a 3-month "state of seige" and authorized police to "round up" nearly 100 union and political party leaders. Workers organized resistance to keep the army out of their neighborhoods. Protests and strikes in banks, factories, trucking, construction, mines and commerce forced the government to start negotiations and release political prisoners. Banzers servility to U.S.-dominated foreign interests in drastically devaluing the national currency was one more indication of the tight control of the U.S. over Bolivia's economic policy. Mass resistance to this continues.

Namibia: (Southwest Africa) The Southwest Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) has advanced considerably in its military activity over the past year. The South African government, which rules Namibia, sealed off the country to all outsiders after the rebellion and strikes of black Namibian workers last year. The guerrillas have killed around 200 South African and Portugese soldiers since October of 1971 and now control some areas of the bush of northern Namibia. The guerrillas are beginning the rudiments of a medical service and a mobile school system for the people.

South Africa: This country's racist government has doubled its military forces in the last two years. The figures show how seriously the South African government takes the current upsurge of political activities in South Africa and the threat on its northern borders by Namibia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Guinea-Bissau: Liberation forces in the Portugese colony are setting up a government to administer the country, now 80% free from Portugese control. Amilcar Cabral, Secretary of PAIGC (African Party for the Liberation of Guinea and the Verde Islands) said that attacks by PAIGC forces against cities have increased, with the party now working on creating the necessary conditions for taking towns without too many losses, human or material. Reconstruction and production in the liberated zones have gone well, but real developments in the country will have to wait for complete liberation.

These are only a few of the movements occurring in the world. We have looked at the revolutions in Angola and Mozambique, in Viet Nam, in China. The battle continues also in Chad, Zimbabwe, Greece, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Mexico, Lebanon, Quebec, and others.

And it continues here. Increased government control over every aspect of our lives, wiretapping, political arrests, censorship of the press, police build-ups, a President who is afraid to face the people, Congressmen who lock their offices rather than face their constituencies, economic crisis, and the bombing of Hanoi, are all signs that the government is increasingly threatened by its people, and increasing losing ground in the worldwide struggle for liberation. Our own conditions are likely to become more difficult before they get better. It is a question of contending forces, of who will have the power to control our lives. Those who presently prifit from the labor of the vast majority of the people all over the world, will not give up their priviledges gracefully. They never have. But there are a great many of us, and only a few of them. In many places they are more organized to protect their interests than we are, and command more in the way of material resources. We have the resource of millions of human beings, and we are learning to organize our strength.

(Thanks to Denise Stevenson for compiling the data for this)