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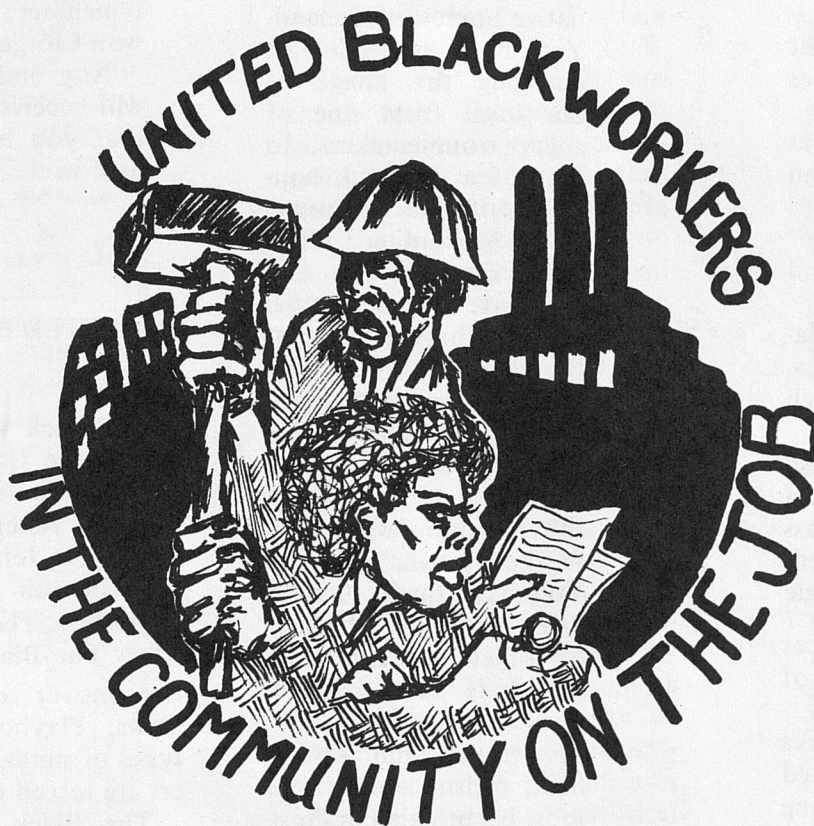
THE BLACK VOICE

PRINTED BY

THE UNITED BLACK WORKERS

FROM THE

FORD MAHWAH PLANTATION



If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. . . . Power concedes nothing without demand. It never did and it never will. Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blow, or with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.

Frederick Douglass, 1857

FAMILY NIGHT

The United Black Workers ended their social events for 1972 on December 29th with "Family Night At The Theatre." On this evening, workers from the Mahwah Plantation, their families, friends, and supporters of the UBW came together to view the award winning Broadway Musical "Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope." From the response we have received, all had an enjoyable time.

The Central Staff of the United Black Workers would like to thank all those who had a hand in making this night a success. Family Night allows workers, their families and friends, the opportunity not only to enjoy a pleasant outing together, but also gives us;

1. The chance to meet and greet each other away from the pressures of the plant.

2. Meet new friends.

3. Exchange ideas and share experiences.

4. Eventually build a relationship based on awareness, respect, and trust for each other.

If we can put all these together, the UBW sees the development of a united class of workers. Aware, organized, and strong enough to struggle collectively against all forces that represent the enemy of the working class.

Again, the UBW thanks those of you who supported us, and have been supporting and working with us along. We are starting now preparing for future Family Outings. We need your continued support.

Yours in continued struggle,

Central Staff
UNITED BLACK WORKERS

Joseph Reilly, President
Local 906 U.A.W.

Mahwah Plantation
Mahwah, New Jersey

Message to the President:

The United Black Workers would like to congratulate you at this time, for many of the great accomplishments you have made while you are still in office. For example:

1. You have helped the economy of this country by you and the executive board taking many trips in the name of "union business."

2. You have shown that you have no favoritism by visiting cities all over this country, as well as your native homeland, Ireland.

3. You have succeeded in changing the image of our local from one of angry troublemakers, to that of a peaceful, non-violent friend to everyone; including Ford Motor Co.

4. You have gained national status by having dinner at the exclusive Motel-On-The-Mountain with fighter and champion of workers' rights, Leonard Woodcock, President of the United Automobile Workers.

5. You have made it possible for the membership to forget its many problems here on the Plantation, such as: line speed-up, health and safety, heat, racism, and loss of jobs, by bringing in President Leonard Woodcock to shake their hands and tell them about George McGovern.

6. You have kept your hands clean, away from the dirt and problems of racism our Black, Latin,

and Haitian workers are having daily.

With such an impressive record behind you, and yet another year to go in office, we eagerly await the future.

You have kept your campaign pledge to "give the union back to the people." It is not your fault that we didn't understand you were only talking about your own people. We are the ones at fault, not you.

In closing, the United Black Workers wish you and yours continued health, prosperity, and financial gain.

We promise to assist you in any way we can to make your remaining months as president of Local 906 one you will long remember, and we surely won't forget.

Any and all assistance you will receive, you can be sure that you have earned it, and deserve it.

Peace and Love,

Central Staff
UNITED BLACK WORKERS

The Black Voice is the information arm of the United Black Workers, an organization of workers at the Ford Mahwah Assembly Plantation, Mahwah, New Jersey. Thanks to the efforts of our members, friends and supporters, The United Black Workers offers The Black Voice as an alternative answer to the New York Daily News, Playboy Magazine or other types of similar reading material workers are forced to read.

The Black Voice was started in 1970. Its purpose, to help educate, expose, inform and even agitate our fellow workers out of a feeling of complacency and frustration. Its further purpose is to assist in dealing realistically with the many problems facing workers on the job, in the community, country and around the world.

BEYOND RHETORIC United Black Workers

All Black people are, or should be, aware that the american system will never ACCEPT us as equals, will never leave us alone to control our own lives and destiny. This system will not LET us do any of these things; but we know that it has been planned this way. (Check out The Choice—Sam Yette and/or Congressional Pamphlet*). The system NEEDS us to be forever dependent upon it for everything; food, clothing, housing, education, and employment.

Being aware of the conditions under which we live, the UNITED BLACK WORKERS are asking peoples of color "How Long?" Not one of us can use the excuse today of being unaware. We cannot say that our eyes don't see what is happening—there are no excuses, except to say that we are content to continue to live this way, and allow our children and their children to be a part of this "the blacks can have whatever the whites no longer want" system. It is one thing for Black and Spanish speaking adults to pay higher prices for inferior products, to be discriminated (without a doubt) against on the job, or to have no job at all because you are Black or Spanish speaking, to receive little or no medical treatment, housing not fit for humans. We know all these conditions exist—but when our CHILDREN and YOUNG ADULTS cannot even go to school each day, and cannot depend on us to be there to guarantee them safety, we have no one to blame but ourselves.

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THIRD WORLD COMMUNICATIONS

359 East 62nd Street
New York, New York 10021
November 24, 1972

Muhammed Ali
Cherry Hill
New Jersey

Dear Muhammed Ali,

"President Balaguer of the Dominican Republic will receive Cassius Clay in his Presidential office." These are the first words of an article in the Dominican newspaper *El Nacional* of November 18, 1972. The article continues, "Among the scheduled acts of Muhammed Ali (to the Dominican Republic) is a visit to the President of the Republic."

These brief statements are unbelievable. The people who have followed your courageous stand against military tyranny will refuse to believe that this is possible unless you confess ignorance of the actual situation in the Dominican Republic and the man, Dr. Balaguer—the man whom you are about to embrace with your prestige. In case this is so, I would like to volunteer some historical background of this soft-spoken criminal.

Dr. Balaguer was a puppet under R. Trujillo, who governed the country for 31 ferocious years. Trujillo was executed in 1961, leaving as our inheritance the death of 22,000 Haitians and uncounted thousands of Dominicans, after 31 years of political assassination, torture, and murder. He also left us with the frail Balaguer, who was the intellectual leader and creator of the many torture devices that existed at that time. There exist photographs of Dr. Balaguer actually personally supervising acts of Torture.

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Ali, Trujillo used sport as a circus ploy to divert attention from the realities of the conditions in the Dominican Republic. He encouraged and patronized sport at the local level, but in your own case, Balaguer is using the respect of freedom loving people and your sacrifice for human dignity to cover his own crimes during the "Trujillo era," and to counteract the international opinion against his massacre of more than 2,000 revolutionaries in his last six years as President of the Dominican Republic, committed by his paid murderers protected under his final creation—*La Banda*.

HOW BALAGUER BECAME PRESIDENT

After Trujillo had been assassinated in 1961, his family and proteges, including Dr. Balaguer, were forced to flee the country to avoid the people's fury. Military and civilian juntas succeeded each other. Free elections took place in 1962, and the elected president took office in 1963, only to be overthrown four months later at the instigation of the US government, because the constitutional government that took office introduced some needed reform that was against US business interests, and that crime is unforgivable, even by the liberal Kennedy, who was President of the US at that time.

The Dominican military which overthrew our constitutional President formed a triumvirate that brought the country back to the corrupted days of Trujillo, with the exception that these men were not Trujillo, and that the President who had governed the country for seven months

CON'T PAGE 6

CEDING HAITI TO THE TEXANS?! HAITIAN GOVERNMENT MAKES DEAL WITH U.S. BUSINESSMEN

by Greg Chamberlain

American Report
LIBERATION News Service

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (LNS)—The clause is a strange one to find in a business contract, but its message is clear enough: "No concession or agreement shall be granted to or made with a communist Government or with a firm controlled by one and no subversive activity shall be permitted on the island."

The island is the lush, mountainous, romantic Ile de la Tortue, six miles off the north coast of Haiti from which English, French and Dutch pirates—the original buccaneers—once attacked Spanish treasure ships as they passed through the Caribbean on their way back to enrich seventeenth century Europe.

The contract, signed a few months ago, is between the Duvalier family dictatorship and a group of Texans to whom the the Duvaliers have virtually ceded the island for 99 years. Tortue, whose only inhabitants at present are 5,000 desperately poor peasants, will become a bustling tourist and gambling center, complete with gaudily garbed Americans unloading their excess wealth.

The anticommunist clause, which bluntly states the interests of both parties, is a sign of the quietly frantic struggle the U.S. government is now waging in Haiti to keep the republic from slipping into political chaos in the wake of Papa Doc's death and thereby shattering what is left of the Pax Americana in the Caribbean.

Haiti is only 46 miles from Cuba, and Clinton Knox, the black U.S. ambassador in Port-au-Prince, is trying hard, after the example of his colleague Ellsworth Bunker in Saigon, to persuade the Haitian ruling clique to cool its increasingly dangerous internal quarrels in exchange for a promise of resumed U.S. aid. Chaos, and subsequently some form of U.S. military intervention, possibly to head off a leftist threat as in the neighboring Dominican Republic in 1965, would be decidedly unwelcome to President Nixon with only 14 months to go before he stands for reelection.

Haiti is—though in a less blatant way—just as obscene an example of a U.S. client state as South Vietnam. And the irony is that as it begins to drag itself into the twentieth century economically, the U.S. grip only tightens. More than a hundred light manufacturing firms, almost all American, have set up plants in Haiti in the past three years to take advantage of the plentiful and cheap (less than one dollar a day) labor to turn out finished or semifinished goods for re-export. But they do not reinvest their profits in Haiti and rarely train Haitians for management.

The entire primary export economy, except for coffee (grown mostly by individual peasants and shipped by local German exporters), is in American hands. Sugar, bauxite, and sisal are produced by old-established and mostly unenterprising U.S. firms that have taken advantage of political instability to extract highly lucrative—and unfair—terms from past Haitian governments.

The ruling elite, now as always, have provided little else but corrupt and incompetent government, and Haiti, once the richest colony in the world, has long been reduced to the rank of beggar state. There is a ritual plea for money or aid in almost every speech by a government official within earshot of any politician from abroad.

The closeness of the United States and the constant need for aid helped to develop the whole mentality of submission to a foreign white society among Haitians. A Haitian with any ambition aspires from his earliest years to leave for the United States; last year some 10,000 left their country to live here. The allure of a society and culture that seduces because of its excitement, and limitless materialism seems irresistible. The colorful peasant markets of Port-au-Prince are piled high with irrelevant American-made semiluxury items—toothpaste, portfolio cases, cosmetics; U.S. banknotes and coins circulate freely alongside the local currency, the gourde.

Those who acquire an education and technical training abroad generally stay there, leaving their country drained of skilled labor and administrators. There are more Haitians practicing medicine in Montreal alone than the whole of Haiti.

The successors to Papa Doc are unlikely to try to change this overall state of pathetic dependence and cultural erosion. The slightly greater efficiency of the Government now that Papa Doc is gone only means a greater inflow of foreign industries and a resumption, expected shortly, of military and large-scale economic aid. Both will strengthen the U.S. stranglehold.

LABOR NEWS

By KEN LAWRENCE
(Staff Correspondent)

ATLANTA, Ga.—A wave of wildcat strikes has gripped Atlanta since mid-summer. Every one has been led by black workers, and more than 6,000 people, including community supporters, have been involved.

Employees have struck in large factories, food processing plants, department stores, hospitals and nursing homes, chain grocery stores, and small shops. The shortest strike was won in less than 24 hours; and the longest big strike was a bitter, violent one that lasted more than six weeks.

The first of the big strikes, the one that sparked several others, was at Sears Roebuck. It began on July 17 when workers walked out of the Sears store in Chamblee.

The issue that set off the strike was discrimination, but the strikers' demands also included improvements in the conditions of all employees, black and white. Two white workers joined the first walkout; a minority of whites were on picket lines throughout the battle.

At first the Sears management tried to ignore the walkout, but when customers, more than 60 per cent black, stayed away in droves, and the possibility of a nationwide boycott was raised, Sears agreed to 39 of 42 demands in a Black Manifesto.

Charges were dropped against 13 persons arrested during the strike, and Sears agreed to give workers \$2,000,000 in back pay for the 11 days they were idle.

In the wake of this unprecedented victory, black workers began to lead strikes all over Atlanta. In almost every case, smaller numbers of whites joined the walkouts. Support also came from black organizations, students, socialists, and communists.

Strikes broke out in the shipping department at Pepsi-Cola Company and the maintenance department at L.L. Ridgeway, manufacturers of reproduction paper and drafting supplies. Workers at Kraft Foods were out one day and won all their demands.

A strike at the large Nabisco bakery began when a foreman fired a black worker, Fred White, for "insubordination" for going to the toilet without permission. The union in the plant, Bakery and Confectionery Workers' Local 42 (AFL-CIO), defended the foreman's action. In an earlier incident, the plant's only black electrician, Joe Ponder, had been fired.

The Nabisco plant employs about 1,000 workers; around 250 are black. Some people had begun a rank-and-file caucus earlier, and that little bit of organization snowballed after Fred White was fired.

"A central thing is that people feel totally unrepresented by the union. The union represents a small number of older white workers. It services them real well. But when it comes down to fighting discrimination, or working conditions that affect younger workers, the union's just nowhere to be found."

Black Workers Lead Wave Of Wildcat Strikes in Atlanta

And all this time, the strike wave continued to spread. Winn-Dixie stores were picketed by employees protesting the preferential treatment of whites. Employees of the Martin Luther King Sr. Nursing Home established Poor Peoples Union Local 1 to represent themselves. Conva-Care, Inc., which owns the King home and many others in Georgia, would not negotiate, so 56 of 82 employees struck.

Hospital workers walk out

Black workers struck at Atlanta Hospital when the administrator fired Sarah Radford, a dietary worker, who has worked there five years. The hospital had sent her to school to train as a food-service supervisor. But every time the job was open, someone else got it.

One day the head nurse's purse was stolen. All black employees were required to take a lie detector test, but no whites had to. Mrs. Radford says, "When they said I had to take it a second time because it didn't work, I told them if I had to take it again, all the whites would have to take it."

The hospital administrator said she was "disruptive" and fired her. Eleven workers walked out. Three have returned because of financial pressures, and five found other jobs. The other three remain on strike.

The biggest and bitterest strike erupted at Mead Packaging Corporation, the largest manufacturer of cardboard boxes in the world. Of Mead's 1,200 employees,

800 are black. The plant has one black foreman and no black supervisors.

Gary Washington, who has worked at Mead three years, and was elected treasurer of the Mead Caucus of Rank and File Workers, described how it happened: "There's always a spark. A girl named Myra Brown got sick on the job. Her foreman wouldn't let her go home, so she fell out. They took her to a hospital.

"They brought her back, saying she was all right. She told them again that she didn't feel well. Going down the steps, she fell out again. That sparked people to walk out.

Striking groups help each other

Throughout all the strikes, support has come from SCLC, Metro Atlanta Summit Leadership Conference, October League, Socialist Workers Party, *the Great Speckled Bird*, Timbuktu Bookstore, United Youth Adult Conference, black student organizations and the Young Socialist Alliance.

Even more impressive has been the degree of solidarity each group of workers has shown for others on strike. Mead workers helped organize a huge picket line during Nabisco negotiations. Workers striking a small downtown shoe store helped at Nabisco.

In return, Nabisco workers demonstrated at Mead, and collected money from fellow workers to help Mead strikers. Sears workers showed up on the march to Mead.

Nan Grogan summed up developments: "While the backbone of all these strikes is the black workers, and the thing that sparks the whole confrontation is this question of discrimination against black workers, each one of these strikes has raised issues about the general conditions in the plants, thereby laying the basis for unity."

Lettuce Means Poverty



No section of this country should be left unorganized. No individual person should be without membership in some organization. . . . We must organize as never before, for organization decides everything.

MUHAMMED ALI con't

by popular vote was not corrupted and had imprinted his nationalistic mark on every sector of Dominican life.

On April 24, 1965—one year and seven months after the constitutional government of Companero Juan Bosch was overthrown by a coup, the military and the people who were tired of so much corruption and mass assassination took to the streets, to fight with machine guns in their hands for the restoration of the constitutional government that they had elected in 1962.

To avoid the restoration to power of the constitutionalist government, the United States of America militarily intervened four days after the revolution began and the revolutionary forces had practically dominated the forces of obscurantism.

The United States combat troops grew from a few hundred in the first few days of the intervention to 42,000

by the time we were forced to negotiate.

Yes, Ali, we negotiated with the invaders, because we understood that by reason of geographical proximity we could not expect help from any friendly nations, unlike Vietnam we are within the geographical sphere of domination of the US. The Dominican Republic with four and a half million inhabitants could not fight the mighty power of the United States. That power was made apparent to us in a constant bombardment by ground air and marine forces against our own constitutional forces until we were on the verge of suffocation.

From that negotiation came an election supervised by an international force. Running on one side was Juan Bosch, who represented the constitutionalist position, and on the other was Dr. Balaguer, who was brought back into the country by the United States in a US military plane.

It is pointless to say who was to win this election, for since the US had sent in 42,000 troops to the Dominican Republic, to avoid Bosch's coming to power. It is impossible to imagine that Bosch could have won a free election in this atmosphere. But we would sooner have Balaguer than to have had foreign troops ransacking our stores and raping our women.

What is not understandable is why you, who took such a dignified stand regarding the Vietnamese War should embrace a regime that is comparable in its corruption to the government of the South Vietnam.

WHAT DR BALAGUER HAS DONE AFTER ASSUMING POWER

The *Wall Street Journal* of September 7, 1971, in an article entitled "Terror in the Carribean" by Kent MacDougal, says, "In the Dominican Republic, political murders rise, and so does poverty. The terrorism, corruption and misery that marked Rafael Trujillo's 31-year dictatorship of the Dominican Republic are even more widespread today under constitutionally elected Joaquin Balaguer."

Also, an article entitled "Santo Domingo: The Politics of Terror" by Norman Gall in the *New York Review* of July 22, 1972 says, "President Johnson's military intervention in the Dominican Republic

in 1965 was as momentous as it was cruel and politically mistaken. A major element of US presence in Santo Domingo since the fall of Trujillo has been the intimate relationship of US advisors with the Dominican military and police. After the intervention of 1965 these advisory missions expanded enormously. In 1967 and 1968 the Dominican Republic, with a population of only four million, had the largest AID Public Safety (sic) or police assistance programs of any country outside Vietnam. The second and third largest programs were respectively in Brazil (with 90 million people) and Guatemala—the two other Latin American nations where major outbreaks of right-wing terror by PARAMILITARY DEATH SQUADS have occurred in recent years." What is a paramilitary death squad? In the Dominican Republic their name is "The Anti-Communist and Anti-Terrorist Front of Reformist Youth" or *La Banda*.

La Banda was a group of young ex-members of revolutionary parties who were blackmailed into joining the secret police and turning in their friends at pain of death on some street corner or jail for life.

If you insist on going ahead with your trip and all of the official reception plans for you, please ask to be taken to "La Victoria," and insist on talking alone with Julio de Pena Valdes, Alexis Alvares Torres, Rafael Taveras, Agustin Moises Blanco, Edgar Erickson Pichardo, Jose Bujosa Mueces, Jose Rafael Perez Modesto, Francisco Nathaniel Grullon, David Onelio Espailat, Rhadames

CON'T PG. 11

LEONARD WOODCOCK VISITS LOCAL 906



MAHWAH SHOP COMMITTEE poses with Leonard Woodcock. In foreground; left to right: Quinton Roe, Dave Gardner, Pres. Woodcock, Bernard Jackson, Joe Reilly, Tom Lawrenson, Frank Golon. Back row; left to right: Roland Allen, Bill Alloway, Sam Adderley, Morris Coles, Herman Moore, John Scott, Bud Lande, Larry McConnell, Tiny Washington, Joe O'Hara.

SMILING FACES

Smiling Faces sometimes
pretend to be your friend.
Smiling Faces, show no traces
Of the evil that lurks within.

Smiling Faces, Smiling Faces
Sometimes they don't tell the truth.
Smiling Faces, Smiling Faces
Tell lies; and I've got proof.

Let me tell you;
The truth is in your eyes
Cause the eyes don't lie .
Remember:
A smile is just a frown

Turned upside
down . . . My friend

I am telling you
Beware of the handshake
That hides a snake
Beware of the pat on the back
It just might hold you back



The old form of trade unionism no longer meets
the demands of the working class...It is now posi-
tively reactionary, and is maintained not in the
interests of the workers who support it but in the
interests of the capitalist class who exploit the
workers.

Eugene Debs, 1905



Your enemy won't do you no harm
Cause you will know where
he's coming from
Don't let the handshake
and the smile fool you
Take my advice
I am only trying to school you.

The impossible task
Is to figure out
Which of the Smiles is a mask
(Think about it)

Smiling Faces, Smiling Faces
Tell lies, and
I've got proof.

Yet according to M.L. Long, a high Philco official, that is only the beginning. Given a long-term U.S. economic commitment to Southeast Asia, Long looks forward to getting some \$1.7 billion in business throughout the area in 1971.

Philco-Ford has been a major corporate supplier for the electronic battlefield in Vietnam, producing sensing and communication systems.

To provide such equipment, Philco-Ford drew on its long experience in producing military telecommunications systems. It has built:

- *three aircraft warning and control systems for Iran;

- *an "Integrated Joint Communications System" linking Okinawa, Taiwan, and the Philippines;

- *a nationwide telecommunications network for the U.S. Air Force in South Korea;

- *a global "secure voice network" for the Pentagon.

At the close of 1968, Philco-Ford completed installation of a \$100 million integrated wideband communications system (IWCS) in Thailand.

It has been called "without exaggeration the AT&T of Southeast Asia" by Dr. George R. Thompson, a top Pentagon official and historian of the U.S. Army Strategic Communications Command.

This Thai network is linked with a similar network in South Vietnam which in turn feeds into other satellite and submarine cable networks.

Designed especially to meet Thai military communications demands, its major use to date has been to perform various classified services for the American military.

It has been hailed by Philco-Ford officials for its role in calling air-strikes in the Khe-Sanh seige and "for helping clear the muddy picture created by the TET offensive."

It is fully functioning as part of the Pentagon's world-wide defense communications system (DCS) and, according to most recent reports, is being run by 300 military men, specially trained at the U.S. Army Signal Center and School, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, together with a "handful" of Philco-Ford technicians.

The economic as well as military importance of this system was described by a Ford executive in an interview appearing in Electronic News. Henry E. Hockeimer, vice-president and general manager of Philco-Ford's Communications & Electronics Division, explained that Ford's experience in Thailand is prompting Philco-Ford:

"to evaluate future telecommunications business prospects in the military market in expectation of fundamental changes in geopolitics and America's strategic policies."

In the light of increasing resistance from overseas youth movements and a progressively worsening balance of payments, Hockeimer believes there are clear political and financial reasons for reducing U.S. overseas troop concentrations. Electronic News continues:

"This won't mean a return to isolation. The evolution," he (Hockeimer) said, "of new, super systems of massive transport—such as the C-5 giant jets which can move troops en masse to trouble spots in a matter of hours—will enable us to meet our commitments. A new generation of fast maritime ships will enable us to quickly supply troops so moved.

"For those of us in military telecommunications, this development means that the traditional lines between strategic and tactical equipment will blur," Hockeimer observed.

"We can foresee the time when the need for fixed, strategic trunking networks, which tie our bases together, will diminish. And in their place we will develop transportable telecommunications equipment that may be taken anywhere, anytime and set up immediately for high capacity communications via satellites, back to the States."

Hockeimer declined to set a timetable for these developments but conceded that "we have taken them into account for future business planning."

The Better Idea People at Ford are engaged in a worldwide auto strategy. As a multinational corporation, the company is eagerly and profitably acting as a "stabilizing economic force" in the Third World. And when the Third World resists, Ford supplies the Pentagon with the means of stabilizing the Third World's markets by force.

"Great issues are not decided in the courts, but by the people. The court of final resort is the people and that court will be heard in time."

Eugene V. Debs

HAITI con't,

The Caribbean is still a U.S. pond, in spite of the occasional Soviet submarine off the Cuban coast. Indeed, one of the wildest stories current in Port-au-Prince is that oil has been discovered off Haiti but that its existence is being kept secret for fear that Haiti may

begin to arouse the interest of the communist bloc. Another story is that the Canadian-American operators of the copper mine in northwestern Haiti are spiriting away millions of dollars worth of gold a year from the mine without paying any tax to the government.

Wild and apocryphal these tales may be, but they illustrate the general feeling among Haitians that their country is defenseless against foreign exploiters. And as foreign ownership and plunder expands, a nationalist resentment, mainly anti-American, grows.

Although there is relatively little organized expression of it so far and virtually no communist or other leftist activity inside Haiti itself, there are plenty of politicians, and a few army officers, who have such sympathies or are simply strongly anti-American. "The Americans have never understood us," a senior government minister told me with some bitterness.

The new Texan buccaneers are helping it all along, too. When 200 Haitians working on the Tortue development struck recently for more pay, they were all summarily dismissed. The firm's vice-president remarked, "One dollar a day is already too much for a Haitian worker."

The Struggle For January 15th Goes On . . .

The question of what to do on January 15th, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, surprisingly comes up every year here on the Mahwah Plantation. The United Black Workers would like to give their position on this issue at this time. We hope to clear the air for those who are awake; and for those who are still asleep after Malcolm X, Dr. King, George Jackson, Attica, etc., as well as our daily struggles here at Mahwah, we can only keep struggling to awaken them.

It is the peoples' right to decide who they will honor and how he or she will honor them. This means that you don't have to wait for Congress to pass a law, or

officials of labor and management to put it in contract form whenever it is convenient for them.

The sooner we the people speak with our actions as one, the sooner we shall achieve our objective, whatever they may be. In this case, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, January 15th.

No struggle is easy. Struggles are long, hard, and costly. But struggle is necessary against those who would deny you your basic rights

Workers, we started struggling for the right to honor Dr. King's memory on January 15th, 1969, and we must not give in to the threats of continued punishment (D.L. O.), or tactics to pacify us, such as: reduced hours of work for some workers. If anything, we must apply more pressure to obtain our objective.

Our children have been granted the day off from most schools. Most cities and states have proclaimed January 15th as a day of observance in Dr. King's honor. You see workers, we have our work cut out for us. Many of our fellow workers around the country have won the battle of January 15th, and we on the Mahwah Plantation will soon be victorious.

You will notice, we have not used the term, holiday. The UBW's position being the term "Holiday" is usually a festive occasion. Black and other oppressed people are in a struggle of survival in this corrupt capitalistic society, and we do not have the time to be celebrating—we must learn from others like Dr. King and redouble our efforts.

Holidays today have been co-opted and are now commercialized. Christmas, Easter, etc. We cannot let this happen to the work and memory of Dr. King. The U.B.W. are fighting for the right to honor a man who gave his life for us. We are fighting for a *day*, and that is our right.

The Struggle For January 15th is not confined to Mahwah. Because of this, the U.B.W. have written the following letter to our friends and supporters in the struggle, asking their support in our efforts.

The U.B.W. hopes that our position on January 15th is clear, and that you will join with us and your fellow workers around the country to take time out on this day for a Man, a Brother, and a Warrior, who gave his life so that we might live a little better.

Central Staff,
UNITED BLACK WORKERS

BEYOND RHETORIC *con't*

Don't sit in front of the television saying "look at those crazy white folks." Those white people are out there with their children—fighting every step of the way. WHERE ARE YOU??? It doesn't matter that your child is not one of those Black children—all Black and Spanish speaking children belong to all of us. We are responsible, not only for those born to us, but all CHILDREN of color. This is only happening because we are allowing it "to happen." Acts of brutality against people of color by "so-called" civilized, religious americans is nothing new.

The first slaves were brought to this country in 1516 at Jamestown. Our ancestors were Kings and Queens, skilled craftsmen, sailors, scholars, warriors, farmers; a proud people with a history and culture that went back to the beginning of man and time. It is because of this heritage and culture that the white man, down through the centuries, has tried to destroy us as a people, and replace his cul-

ture, values, morality, and religion above our own.

1. How long are we going to close our eyes to the truth of what is happening daily all around us?

2. How long are we going to watch history repeat itself at the expense of our own people before we show that we have had enough?

3. How many demonstrations do we have to stage for any and everything while our own needs are being ignored?

These questions should not have to be asked.

We demonstrate for and against housing, busing, jobs, the war, brutality, etc., which means nothing if we don't defend and protect our women, children, elderly, churches, and communities. We should admit to ourselves that Malcolm X, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Rebellion of Watts, Newark, Detroit, Washington, and most recently, the deaths of our revolutionary Brothers at ATTICA and SAN QUENTIN California, have all been so that we, the survivors, will not allow our children to be victims of a horrible situation such as the ones staged in Brooklyn and Queens.

Go back and have your hair processed, take off the dashiki and African dress. Our minds are not together yet. We are only bullshitting ourselves and lying to our children. We are leading ourselves and our children deeper into a living hell.

America told us in Little Rock, Alabama, Mississippi, and now New York, that it will not LET us into its communities, schools, or jobs as an equal. While our children are being attacked mentally and physically, in and out of the classrooms, we continue to go back and forth about our business and come home to watch the 6 o'clock news as if Brooklyn and Queens were in another world, and as if we are not involved because those are not "our children" or our future. While our youth are being beaten, cursed at, spat on, and most recently, murdered (Southern University), most of you are so wrapped up in your own problems that you are totally unprepared to deal with what you see happening.

Brother Mark Essex was prepared and did his job.

Brother Essex committed a revolutionary act in New Orleans. There is no time to mourn this brother. This heroic revolutionary's message to us is a simple one: "Dare to Struggle, Dare to Fight, Dare to Win Whatever the Odds."

Others are meeting and planning strategy and tactics against us; most of you are copping out, laid up in beds, flying high on something or another, making babies that will come into a corrupt world which you have helped to maintain.

We should be organizing our neighborhoods, schools, and jobs to be dealing with real issues, and the protection of each other. Instead we allow other so-called leaders and groups with their inflated egos and drives for money and power to involve us in one scheme after another.

Most recently, the controversial Tower of Kawaida in Newark, N.J. The faces may change, the situation remains the same. A few greedy people grabbing for it all, at the expense of the masses. There is nothing wrong with wanting to build homes for people if that is what Kawaida Towers is all about. The United Black Workers find it hard to believe that Kawaida Towers is designed to help those families and senior citizens who really need decent homes but can't afford the high rents that a project such as this would charge. U.B.W. finds it hard to believe that those involved in this project are sincere in their efforts to help Black and Latin people. Since the beginning of Kawaida Towers, the Black community has been the last to know what is going on.

History will say great things about the native american and their struggle to survive against

CON'T PG. 11

MUHAMMED ALI con't

Abreu y Abreu, and so many hundred more that live in jail cells expecting to die there if a revolutionary movement does not free them.

Muhammed, your appearing in a picture with Dr. Balaguer will be viewed in the Dominican Republic as another American who, for money, contributed to the enslavement of the people. So did Franklin Delano Roosevelt Jr., who never physically killed a Dominican, but with his pen and influence in the US Senate contributed to keeping Trujillo in power and prolonging our suffering. So did Charles Sommers and many more "distinguished" American personalities.

WE WILL SETTLE FOR A MINIMUM

If you go ahead with you trip, go and fight your exhibition. I am certain that the people will like to see you, so would we here, but don't visit that man who has converted himself into the butcher of the Dominican Republic. This may be difficult for you to avoid doing because of the way the news of your visit to the Dominican Republic appeared in the Dominican Press; it seems to be part of your contract.

Respectfully yours,

Osorio Potter

"...if you are going

to be free, you are going to have to do something about it yourselves, because it is not the nature of a slave master to free slaves."

RHETORIC con't

tremendous odds. What will history say about us? Who will write it? Will we, as a people, have a future if we continue to ignore the past and the present? Most of all, what must be done?

Time is running out, not only for the white man, but the Black man as well. The choice is ours as to whether we survive as free men and women, collectively working and sharing together, or go down as modern day slaves.

There will be many more acts of brutality against Black men, women and children. There will be other rip-off programs and projects funded into the Black community, headed by Blacks and controlled by whites, for the purpose of dividing us as a us as a peoples, and to cover over the real issues that we should be dealing with.

Will we fight back together, or continue to look the other way, mouthing more rhetoric, more phrases each day, doing our own thing? Black people, we must go "Beyond Rhetoric" if we are to move forward. There will be no Shaft or Super Fly to lead us into battle. As the Brother said, The Revolution Will Not Be Televised.

We must now accept the challenge to use any and all means necessary and available to achieve what must be done. Anything less than a total commitment by us as a people, joining together with other dedicated and concerned peoples, will continue to delay the liberation of all oppressed peoples, and the betrayal of our children who are our future.

The United Black Workers ask you to come out of the darkness of Rhetoric into the light of Reality. Talk will not bring about change, only direct action and struggle by us all.

Central Staff
UNITED BLACK WORKERS

Note: *Urban America Goals and Problems

"I admit that there are good white men, but they bear no proportion to the bad; the bad must be the strongest, for they rule. They do what they please. They enslave those who are not of their color, although created by the same Great Spirit who created us. They would make slaves of us if they could, but as they cannot do it, they kill us! There is no faith to be placed in their words. They are not like the Indians who are only enemies while at war and are friends in peace. They will say to an Indian "my friend! my brother!" They will take him by the hand, and at the same moment destroy him. And so you, addressing himself to the Christian Indians, will also be treated by them before long. Remember! that this day I have warned you to beware of such friends as these. I know the long knives; they are not to be trusted."

-Those were the words of Pachgantschilhilas, head warrior of all the Delawares in the 1700's. Eleven months after this warning was given, 96 of the Indians to whom it was addressed were murdered at the place where it was delivered by the white men to whom Pachgantschilhilas was referring.



"I'M EXPERIMENTING WITH A NEW PRODUCTION METHOD"

The struggle workers here on the Mahwah Plantation are going through is the same one being waged in factories, schools, communities, and countries around the world. The United Black Workers will print on these pages the position of these other groups, so that you can see the similarity of our fight.

PEOPLE'S RECORD

WHO WE ARE

Many people have a lot of questions about the newspaper: what it is, how it's financed, who works on it, etc. We don't try to keep it a secret at all; in fact, we want everyone to know all about the newspaper, and, if possible, get involved in some way. We need people's criticisms and suggestions to make the People's Record what it should be - a newspaper by and for working people.

The People's Record is put out by people who live and work in Springfield. We are men and women of different ages and races. We work in Springfield's factories, hospitals, and offices. Some of us are unemployed, some are on welfare. Some of us are students.

We've come together to write a newspaper which prints the truth about the situation in the United States and around the world. Most people know by now that the big newspapers - all the way from the New York Times to the Springfield Sun - don't always print the truth. They are controlled by huge corporations which want their readers to see things their way - not the way things usually happen. Also, these newspapers get most of their news from two big news agencies - United Press International (UPI) and the Associated Press (AP) - which are big businesses themselves. They are run by the men at the top of the news industry - who make sure that the main viewpoint expressed meets

the standards of Big Business and the government.

We think the American people have been lied to and tricked long enough. There are too many things that the U.S. government does that are not in the interests of the people - but are in the interests of wealthy corporation bosses and bankers. Things like the Vietnam war, which everyone knows is a "rich man's war", a war of profit. Or Nixon's wage freeze, which does not come near attacking the real causes of inflation, but puts the burden of inflation on the backs of working people, and gives the corporation bosses an excuse to deny us the wages we deserve.

It's about time we find out the facts about these things. We need a newspaper that can be our own, a voice for working people. We need to know the truth about our own history and current struggles. We need to know our own strength. And we need to find out ways to fight against any attacks made upon us, from the wage freeze to the escalation of the war.

This is what we think the paper should do. We ask anyone who agrees with us to help out. Tell us about what is going on in your shop or your community. Write us a letter telling what you think about an article we wrote or something you are involved in.

CALL: 323-8083

OR WRITE

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