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BLACK VOICE

THE UNITED BLACK WORKERS

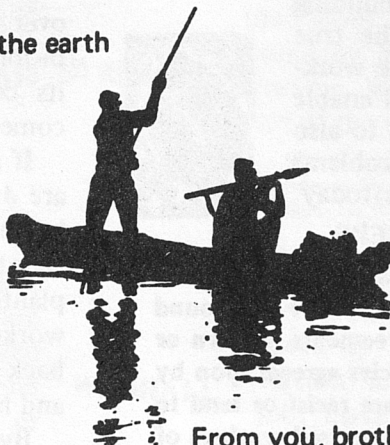
FROM THE

FORD MAHWAH PLANTATION

Brother from the west—
(How can we explain that you are our brother?)
the world does not end at the threshold of your house
nor at the stream which marks the border of your country
nor in the sea
in whose vastness you sometimes think
that you have discovered the meaning of the infinite.
Beyond your threshold, beyond the sea
the great struggle continues.
Men with warm eyes and hands hard as the earth
at night embrace their children
and depart before the dawn.
Many will not return.
What does it matter?
We are men tired of shackles. For us
freedom is worth more than life.



GARVEY,



GEORGE JACKSON.

From you, brother, we expect
and to you we offer
not the hand of charity

which misleads and humiliates
but the hand of comradeship

committed, conscious.
How can you refuse, brother from the west?

FRELIMO, 1973

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

THE BLACK VOICE

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.

There is also the responsibility of printing the true role of Black and Third World Workers in the building of this country, as well as the true feelings and attitudes of white workers during this time. This will enable us to read the true facts and to also understand the feelings and problems we are faced with as workers today.

UNITED BLACK WORKERS

We here by state that as oppressed workers here at the Mahwah Plantation (Ford Plant) we are not bound by any constitution, contracts, agreements, known or unknown, by-laws or company policies agreed upon by management and the U.A.W. that are racist or tend to deprive Black, Third World and all oppressed workers of their basic constitutional and moral rights. These rights being human dignity, health and safety, better working conditions, and equal job opportunities.

We further state it is our right as workers to demand that both labor and management make use of large portions of the monies gained from our labors to improve the living, educational and health conditions in our communities with no strings attached.

To obtain these rights the U.B.W. are committed to organize, agitate, expose, inform and use all means at our disposal, not settling for anything short of victory.

We further state that we are not bound to respect, obey or follow the leadership of any plant manager, supervisor, union official or any other underlings who negate any claim they might have for these rights when they place personal ambition self interest, profit and property rights over the human rights of workers.



EDITORIAL

CHANGE OVER AT MAHWAH

Well fellow workers its that time of the year again. Change Over.

Ford Motor Co. will once again begin its campaign of stepped up harrassments and penalties to workers as they strive to Balance Out the year. (ed note) (Balance Out is the term used by the companies at the end of a production year as they seek to close out or balance out their records).

This stepped up campaign by Ford motor company is really a disguised attempt at robbery. Stealing money from the workers paycheck by penalties and time off to pay for the mistakes management has made all year. Example, shortages and defected stock, Supervisor are rewarded with bonuses and gifts when management reaches its quota.

This is how the reward system operates in our capitalistic society. To reward the rich at the expense of the poor working class.

During Change Over Ford Motor Co. looks over its accomplishment of the past year. Its problem area, its financial status, and charts its course for the next year and years to come.

If a plantation in Atlanta needs help, plans are drawn up to give it assistance. This is done by sending in a new plant manager, a troubler shooter or shifting production from one plantation to another until the problem is worked out. Workers are laid off and brought back when Ford feels they are hungry enough and have calmed down.

By shifting production Ford continues to make money while the worker suffers.

Most workers look to change over in another light. Its a time for vacation and travel. A time to do the work around the apartment or house that we have been putting off all year. We are so happy to be away from the job for 2 or 3 weeks that the mere mention of work might get someone a fat lip.

Of course there are always a few workers who get other jobs during this time to meet their growing expenses, car notes, mortgages, high rents, children in school, etc.

The U.B.W. asks our fellow workers to do something different in 1974. Lets take a page out of management's book. Let us look back

(continued on next page)

FORD MAHWAH PLANTATION

RACISM AGAINST THIRD WORLD WOMEN

Although Ford Motor Company claims to be an equal opportunity employer and that they (Ford Motor Co.) adheres to the Civil Rights Act, we here at Mahwah know different.

Black and Third World men, who make up more than two-thirds of the 4700 Ford's assembly-line employees, have constantly struggled against the racist tactics practiced by Ford Motor Co. Black and Third World workers are the last hired, first fired; are assigned to the hardest and dirtiest jobs; are discriminated against as a worker and as a human being; and are also the victims of unjust penalties and firings.

As we began production of the new 1975 model, women workers are being hired to work on the line alongside the men. However, we see no change in the racist practices of Ford Motor Co. Black and Third World sisters have been assigned to the Body Shop where they work on the hardest and dirtiest jobs. White women, have been assigned jobs in lilly-white areas, like the cushion department.

Local 906 U.A.W.) refused to concern itself

over the past year at our accomplishments in the year of the so called energy crises. Look at your empty pockets, look at your tired face and body, look at your family and friends. Are you growing close together or further apart?

Mak up your mind in 1975 to work together with others for change that will better your working and living conditions. Unite with other workers at other plantations with similar problems. Struggle with our union leaders force them to do the job you elected them to do and join with those of us who are working to restructure the present union system to transform it into an effective one which is run and controlled by the workers.

Make an injury to one worker an injury to all workers. Join the fight to save one man or woman's job, and you are protecting your own job.

TOGETHER

THROUGH

STRUGGLE

WE SHALL

WIN!!!

with the racist practices of Ford Motor Co., and the problems Black and Third World workers were having as a result of their lack of concern. The organizing of the United Black Workers came about because of this double-barrelled racist tactic.

The U.B.W. commends the Brothers in the body shop who have spoken up in support of our sisters. Especially the Brothers who put pressure on one foreman and had a sister removed to an easier, less hazardous job.

We restate our support and solidarity with women workers here on the Mahwah Plantation, Black, Third World, and White. Call on U.B.W. for assistance at anytime. If we can't help, we will put you in contact with someone who can.

Men are a part of the women's struggle here at Mahwah, and we must support our women. Not to do so only helps Ford Motor Company and keeps workers divided at a time when we must come together and *fight back*.

White workers cannot stand idly by any longer. They must deal with the racism within themselves as well as that which Ford Motor Company inflicts on Black and Third World workers. We are *not* your enemy, we are a part of the working-class, just like you.

"To know the position of a people, it is only necessary to know the condition of their females."

—MARTIN R. DELANY, 1852

If you are tired of the penalties, layoffs, speed up, heat, health, safety conditions and Racism that exist year in and year out on the job, make up your mind to do something about it. If you don't a change will never come. Change over will once again be one sided in favor of the company. Remember change over is not a favor from the company. They need this time to re-tool their equipment, and bring in new automation that may take your job. While the company is planning against us we should be planning against him and come back to work with your body rested and your mind together prepared to balance out the unequal relationship between management and worker. This will be a long battle but the first blow can begin now.

WORKERS CAN YOU HANDLE IT???

Steel rank & file statement on CONSENT DECREE! THE ENA!

The agreement between the steel corporations and the United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO, negotiated with the active participation of the Department of Justice, reveals that the federal government is more concerned with protecting the treasuries of the corporations and the union than with protecting the integrity of the law.

Through this agreement, major steel corporations and the Steelworkers Union are attempting to buy immunity from further litigation under Title VII, the employment section of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The most significant aspect of the steel industry agreement is that the affected class of employees was excluded from the negotiations and therefore the settlement should be rejected by the courts. This practice violates basic principles of the American legal system.

The requirement that all workers' receiving back pay sign a waiver forfeiting the right to sue in the future is unconscionable and should be declared illegal. Furthermore, paragraph (c) of the agreement states that where a worker refuses to sign the waiver and is a plaintiff in a lawsuit, the Department of Justice will intervene in the litigation on behalf of the employer and Steelworkers Union.

If the steel industry settlement is accepted by the district court, then a pattern will be set for similar industry-wide agreements that will have the effect of nullifying Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The agreement is seriously deficient in many respects, and the back pay arrangement is totally inadequate. A Black steelworker with 20 years' seniority will receive between \$400 and \$500 instead of the several thousand that represent the difference between the wages he did receive and those which he would have received if there had not been discriminatory seniority provisions in collective bargaining agreements. Our system of law requires that the injured parties be made whole, but the steel industry agreement fails to do this.

In addition, the agreement fails to merge or restructure seniority lines of promotion that are based upon race, rather than job operations. It merely permits the Black worker to bid for jobs in the "white" seniority line when and if vacancies occur. The body of case law under Title VII requires more substantive relief.

The new steel contract is no damn good. It is a cheap, sell-out deal which was worked out behind closed doors. It does not solve the problems of the steel workers.

It is a Watergate deal, where the right to strike was stolen out from under the noses of the local union presidents, where the steel companies and the top union leaders saddled the membership with a six-year no-strike ENA, where the entire labor movement is handcuffed by the example of the second-largest union in the country becoming a company union.

What about wages? For the average steel worker the contract means only 5 percent more the first year and 3 percent in the second and third years, below Nixon's wage controls which will now be lifted anyway. The cost of living escalator will still let us fall behind inflation. Workers in Japan, England and Italy are winning wage hikes of up to 35 percent per year. For us, that would be \$6 an hour instead of a measly 66 cents. They made full use of the right to strike. Our contract is what the ENA bought. We are stuck with the no-strike deal right on through the next contract negotiations and into 1980.

Meanwhile, price increases of steel will cover the cost of this contract. Profit margins will continue to soar to record heights. The number of steelworkers in

the industry will be cut in half, but we will have no weapon to fight back. Those of us who work in coke plants and foundries face terrible health hazards. We risk cancer and lung disease. Instead of emergency remedies we get a company three-year study of the problem. This is a cover up. Since the majority of our brothers in these areas are Black, Chicano, Puerto Rican and Arab, it is a racist genocidal policy. The Contract avoids the question of a national settlement of the use of plant-wide seniority to end discrimination, as the company and union conspire with the Nixon administration to void the Fair-field decision by their consent decree.

We must fight back against this dirty deal. The new contract does nothing to deal with the unbearable speed-up and crew-cutting drive. It does not give us the right to refuse overtime or protect us from arbitrary scheduling.

20,000-Goal for October Action

BLACK WORKERS SUPPORT PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

We, the members of the Black Support Committee for Puerto Rican Solidarity Day call on our fellow Black workers to join with us in support of the Independence and Freedom of Puerto Rico.

HISTORY OF PUERTO RICO

In providing this brief history and analysis of Puerto Rico it is our intent to educate and inform Black Workers of the similar historic struggles being waged by both Black and Puerto Ricans against U.S. Imperialist domination.

Spain was the first European country to colonize Puerto Rico in 1493 after being "discovered" by Columbus on his second visit to the New World. Puerto Rico was soon conquered by Spaniard Ponce De Leon in 1509. The natives, the Carib Indians, waged constant struggle against these oppressors and were exterminated in 1513 and replaced on the plantations by African slaves

September 23, 1868 is an important date in Puerto Rican history; 700 peasants, slaves and small farmers took over the town of Lares and set up a provisional government El Grito de Lares (the shout of Lares) as the event is called, was the first major attempt at liberation in the Carribean. One of its first decrees was the abolition of slavery.

After much struggle, Spain granted Puerto Rico a fair degree of independence but was forced by the United States to "cede" the island to them in 1898 after the Spanish-American War.

The independence movement in Puerto Rico again began to grow slowly, hampered by laws passed by the U.S. government. These laws included; imposing total control over the island the Jones Act of 1917 which made all Puerto Rican citizens of U.S. (although they cannot vote), eligibility for the draft, the Gag Law of 1947 imprisonment for anyone talking about the independence issue. The struggle continue never-the-less, student riots, Ponce Massacre of 1937 (20 people killed, 260 wounded) rebellions in 1950 and 1952, attack of President Harry Truman in Wash-

ington, D.C. in 1952, and the revolutionary act in the House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. in 1954 carried out by four members of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Movement which included Lolita Lebron. All four are still in U.S. prisons serving time.

WHY PUERTO RICANS COME TO U.S.

The United States has constantly used Puerto Rico as a military base and a source of cheap labor. U.S. imperialist control 249,000 acres of the land and 13% of the best farm land, 44% of the total value of the land and is constantly expanding. The price of goods cost at least 25% more on the island than in the U.S. However the workers are paid 33% less than U.S. workers. The so called U.S. International labor unions such as United Auto Workers (U.A.W.) have not aided Puerto Rican workers, instead in many cases have helped the companies control the workers. In order to survive, Puerto Rican brothers and sisters are forced to migrate to the U.S. in the hope of obtaining better paying jobs and living conditions.

Once here, they are exploited as a cheap labor force. U.S. Corporate bosses use them to further divide the working-class using the old tactic of divide and conquer. Racism, another tool of the ruling class, is also here waiting for them. Communication (language) problems are also used to further exploit our brothers and sisters, creating additional hardships and even dissension between Blacks and Puerto Ricans on the jobs and in our communities. As a result, we end up seeing each as the enemy and the Corporate bosses get richer.

Solution: A free and independent Puerto Rico, where corporations can not run to for cheap labor and pay virtually no taxes. Once people will be able to reap the benefits of their own labors, use their own land and resources to provide jobs, decent housing, education, and other services to sustain itself as a nation. This will not only help Puerto Rico and the people but also Blacks and the Black Liberation Movement in this country, as well as inspire other struggles by oppressed peoples around the world fighting a common enemy—U.S. imperialism.

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HISTORIC CONFERENCE For Black Liberation Movement

"A.L.S.C. STRUGGLE A HEALTHY ONE"

THE STRUGGLE INSIDE A.L.S.C. AS IT RELATES TO BLACK WORKERS

Since 1619 the day 20 blacks were bought as slaves to this country to work the fields, Black workers have continued to wage struggle against their capturers and oppressors.

Down through the years there have been many supporters of and spokesmen and women for black workers struggles for human dignity, equal treatment, jobs and freedom. The list includes Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. Dubois, Sojourner Truth, A. Phillip Randolph, Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Many organizations also raised their voices in protest and action among them. The Colored National Labor Union organized in 1869, The Universal Negro Improvement Association founded by Marcus Garvey, The N.A.A.C.P. and the C.P.U.S.A. (Communist Party of United States of America) in its early years played important roles assisting blacks and workers struggles.

Although the above list is not complete it does show black workers struggles and involvement are deeply rooted. As in all struggles we have had our victories and defeats, but the struggle continues.

"IMPERIALISM COMMON ENEMY"

Today as workers struggles move forward and to a higher level than our forefathers and mothers two things become important factors (1) Who are our friends and our enemies. (2) The need to develop correct line of struggle and relate to and make alliances with serious progressive organizations and individuals waging struggle against a common enemy Imperialism.

The U.B.W. investigation into A.L.S.C. (African Liberation Support Committee) and the current ideological struggle presently being waged within its ranks is continuing. Much has been written and said over the past months both good and bad, politically and historically correct and incorrect depending on which side you are on.

We in the U.B.W. feel this struggle is a healthy one and vastly needed in today's black Liberation Movement and Community. Ninety percent of the brothers and sisters in our communities work or support the economy of this capitalist, imperialist country called United States of America as laborers or consumers. There is a need for direction, leadership, answers and alternative. We hope this struggle inside A.L.S.C. will produce and stimulate a drive for those who have been laying back to get involved. We hope workers will be sought out and listened to because their input is a necessity. We look to a end to the rhetoric and emotionalism, and on to a realistic, scientific analysis of not only the ruling class and imperialism but also each other and the organization we lead or belong to. In other words lets not speak with a forked tongue. The theory must be accompanied with practice.

Most black and oppressed workers are well aware they are being discriminated against and oppressed. Most black women are well aware of the triple exploitation they suffer. Most black students have been introduced to Malcolm X, Fanon, Mao, different forms of socialism and communism in their studies. The problems they all face is how to correctly apply all this to their daily everyday lives. We have met the enemy now how do we defeat him is their battle cry.

UNITE

Strikes & demonstrations by workers by workers does not mean all workers want to destroy capitalism; marches, rent strikes by community residents does not indicate the masses are ready for total revolution. These conditions do point out that the time is ripe for organizing.

Throughout the history of the U.B.W. we have always sought out allies and comrades in struggle. The League of Revolutionary Black Workers, S.N.C.C., Third World Womens Alliance (T.W.W.A.), Black Workers Congress and A.L.S.C.

continued next page

"A CONFERENCE CALL"

"A conference call: ALSC calls all movement activists, workers, students and community representatives - everyone involved in Black liberation - to come to a new kind of conference to put before the Black liberation movement alternative theoretical positions in a clear and completely developed form.... the Black liberation movement is in need of a coherent strategic program for change that will weld together the many separate forces into a mighty Black fist that can beat the paper tiger of imperialism and racism to death...."

From the conference call.....

The struggle inside A.L.S.C. first came to the attention of U.B.W. in the latter part of 1973. As a result, when a conference call was issued by A.L.S.C. for all movement activists, workers, students and community representation,—"everyone involved in Black liberation" to come to Washington D.C. May 23 and 24, 1974 we, although cautious, gladly accepted.

We will not try to print verbatim what was said by each speaker. Instead, we suggest you write to "African World" for copies of the speeches in their full context. African World, P.O. Box 20826, Greensboro, North Carolina 27420. The six main speeches representing the dominant anti-imperialist lines within the A.L.S.C. and the Black liberation movement across the Black nation of this country spoke in the morning and afternoon sessions.

The morning panel included: Muhammad Ahmed of the All African Peoples Party; Abdul Akalimat of Peoples College in NASHVILLE Tenn; Stokely Carmichael of the All African Peoples Revolutionary Party. The afternoon panelist were: Kwadwo Akpan of the Pan-African Congress; Owusu Sadaukai, founding member and first chairperson of A.L.S.C.; Imamu Baraka of the Congress of African People (C.A.P.).

All speakers seemed to agree on the need to defeat racism and imperialism. Their differences were distinct on the nature of the forces and the correct ways to destroy them.

"CLASS VS. RACE"

Two lines concerning class vs. race analysis emerged debated on which is the correct line is not only presently being waged within

A.L.S.C. but also within the Black Liberation Movement across this country.

The position held by U.B.W. and other Black and Third World workers organization that racism is an important tool used to control imperialism; that monopoly capitalism is the main enemy of Black people. If we are to liberate Blacks here in America, as well as Africa and else where, we must overthrow U.S. imperialism. The struggle between classes is the motive force in world history. When we truly want to organize Black people in America we must make a complete class analysis of the Black community, and that Black workers who make up ninety per cent of the Black community must be organized to take the lead in this struggle.

The second position offered was that race struggle is the motive force in history, racism is the main enemy of Black people, the economic exploitation of imperialism is an out-growth of racism, the fight against monopoly capitalism is secondary, the liberation and unification of Africa should be the primary thrust of our work, and analyzing the class structure of the Black community is divisive.

This position is an old one that dates back to the 1960's and was followed by most of the journalists and others like Ron Karanga, Les Cambell (Kasisi Jitu Weusi), Queen Mother Moore and others; Bros. Akpan and Carmichael presented the race analysis, though not too clearly. For those of us who have to work everyday on the hardest and dirtiest jobs are the last hired, first fired who see everyday the power workers have, and if properly organized, could effectively destroy monopoly capitalism at its root could not accept their arguments. It seem they were advocating escapism rather than liberation.

The fact that Ahmed, Akpan and Carmichael rejected Marxism-Leninism, yet used its scientific language was also confusing. It showed a lack of growth since the 1960's and a incorrect understanding of Scientific Socialism.

Akalimat and Sadauki who up until last year were shouting "We are an African People" clearly pointed out how their own intensive study of Marx, Lenin, Mao, Cabral and Toure' helped raised their own ideological development to a higher level.

PEOPLES PRISON AND ANTI-REPRESSION COALITION

Box 40
350 High St.
Newark, N.J. 07102

Charles Sutton was arrested on June 12th around 8:30 P.M. for a minor parole violation. Two days later on June 14th when he failed to appear in municipal court as scheduled, a close friend, Lynn, became concerned and looked deeper into the situation. Finally she was told by a homicide detective that Charlie had hung himself—committed suicide. Why?

She then went to the city mortician (Whigham's Funeral Parlor) where she was delayed. After a while she was allowed to see his body. Lumps and bruises on his head unfolded the truth. Charlie had been murdered! Lynn and others wondered—Why would Charlie who had done time before, kill himself? He had just the day before called and left a telephone message with Lynn to get his pants out of the cleaners for his court appearance.

The police wanted an open and shut case. A quick autopsy, a quick burial, no fuss or mention in the paper. But Lynn and other people close to Charlie knew something was wrong. They began to look further into his "murder".

First they went to reform organizations and city agencies. No help! Then they went to the internal relations of the police department. The "nice guy" detective in charge said they had little to gain. Be Cool! Don't start no mess.

Charles Sutton was dead and yet all of those so called concerned people, the special agencies wanted Lynn to be cool. To forget it.

But with the support of Charlie's relatives and friends Lynn was determined to bring out the truth. We, the Peoples' Prison and Anti-Repression Coalition are joining the fight.

We don't see Charles Sutton's murder as an isolated event. Throughout the country Blacks, Puerto Ricans and other Third World people are fighting back against oppression and exploitation. In Oakland people are demanding justice for Tyrone Guyton, a black boy murdered in the streets by police. In

Atlanta, Blacks are on the march against repression. In San Francisco people mobilized to stop the harassment of hundreds of Black men in the so-called Operation Zebra. In Newark repression is on the rise. Just last week, hundreds of office workers saw the police attempt to break up a demonstration by Vietnam Vets at the Veterans Administration building. Two days later many of the same people saw the elite tactical squad and other cops conduct a Vietnam type search and destroy mission. Over 150 cops showing off M-16 rifles used and Vietnam paraded around Broad and Central Avenues, for over an hour looking for two hold-up men who had long since disappeared. All the while they endangered the life of and intimidated many working people in that area.

We all know there is a long history of police violence in Newark. How many people do you know who have been beaten, killed or harassed by the police. We can't forget the men, women, and even children shot down in the streets in 1967.

The acquittal last week of Killer Cop Shea in the Glover case in New York is a clean example that we can't rely on the legal system as well as the run around given Lynn. We the PPARC believe we must rely on the masses of Black, Puerto Rican, and working people in Newark.

We are taking this issue to factories, offices, churches, schools, throughout the community. We are issuing a call for a meeting to build a mass movement for, we believe that Justice for Charles Sutton will only be won by building a broad coalition from all walks of life. Join Lynn and the PPARC in the fight for Charles Sutton.

We DEMAND:

INVESTIGATE THE MURDER!

PROSECUTE THE MURDERERS!

JUSTICE FOR CHARLES SUTTON!

END ALL POLICE REPRESSION!



Puerto Rico (continued from page 5)

ALL ONE STRUGGLE

Black workers must recognize and understand that our protracted struggle against racism, monopoly capitalism (imperialism) and oppression are interrelated with all struggles currently being waged against the 'paper tiger' of U.S. imperialism. The struggle of our Puerto Rican brothers and sisters must be seriously supported by Black workers today as our great grandparents (African slaves) did hundreds of years ago. It's the same fight, it's all one struggle.

We all should know by now how we were stolen from our homeland, (even though some still don't want to accept this fact), sweated in the fields as slaves picking cotton and creating the profit that built this country and started it on its way into capitalism and now imperialism. Of our migration from the slave plantations to the industrial plantations of the north. Inferior education, housing, and jobs; always being the last hired, first fired. We have been used as scabs (strike breakers) to destroy the union movement and when we joined with white workers and the victory was won, many of these same white workers turned around and betrayed us and many whites as well. Much of this we already know.

We the members of the Black Support Committee for the Puerto Rican Solidarity Day ask that you now put that knowledge into practice. Come out and support this event, October 27, 1974 at Madison Square Garden in New York City

"Imperialism knows no law beyond its own interest and it is natural despite the pretensions of its agents to justice and fair play, they always seek their own interest first" Kwame Nkrumah

Boss says:



You wouldn't need
a raise if you
didn't waste all
your money on
rent, clothes,
food, doctor bills,
taxes...

We, residents of the United States, declare our support for the independence of Puerto Rico... & demand a Bi-Centennial Without Colonies!

Rally

Madison Square Garden

October 27

All tickets \$3.

BLACK SUPPORT COMMITTEE FOR THE
PUERTO RICAN SOLIDARITY DAY

WHY BLACKS DIE YOUNG

[Torch] — A U.S. government report just released states that the life expectancy of "non-whites" in this country is ten years shorter than that of whites. What the report "Social Indicators 1973" didn't explain is the reasons for this. There are three major reasons:

1) High infant mortality, due to rotten medical care and poor nutrition for both pregnant women and their babies. Between 1955 and 1965, the proportion of all American families with inadequate diets rose from 15% to 21%, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Among blacks and Latins, the fraction is even higher.

2) Blacks work in the dirtiest industrial jobs, and they are therefore exposed to the highest concentrations of the industrial poisons which cause cancer, heart disease, and lung disease — the three major killers of Americans today.

3) Working-class people generally live in the most decayed urban areas, exposed to industrial pollutants. They suffer from inadequate heating, high concentrations of automobile pollution (lead, nitrogen oxides, and carbon monoxide), and all the other life-destroying stresses of crisis-ridden capitalism.

"Social Indicators 1973" also demonstrates what has happened to the ability of black workers to improve their lives over the past 20 years. Unemployment among young black men and women has soared sharply since 1954, according to the report.

Minorities Hit Hardest

Increasing evidence shows that black and minority people, forced by racism to have the lowest paying, dirtiest, and most dangerous jobs, are the part of the population most adversely affected by occupational diseases and unsafe conditions. A few examples follow:

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has released a study showing that coke oven workers in steel plants are far more likely to die of lung cancer than other steel workers. These jobs are the worst in the steel industry and are almost always given to black workers. Of workers whose jobs are on top of the coke batteries, 15 out of every 132 will die of lung cancer, the study reports.

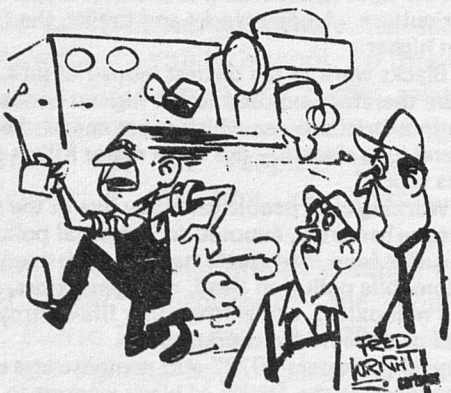
Workers in foundries and blast furnaces, where molten metal is handled at high temperatures and injuries are common, are mostly black. Women and men working in dry cleaning establishments are effected by the heat and solvent fumes.

In the most labor-intensive agricultural parts of the country — the South and the Southwest — pesticides kill more than 800 people a year. Black and Chicano adults and children cultivating fruit and vegetables are forced back into the fields while sprayed pesticides are still heavy in the air. The average life expectancy of a farm worker is 49 years.

Minority workers and their families are forced to live in the oldest sections of most large cities. These are generally the neighborhoods which industry pollutes the worst.

Accidents kill a much higher proportion of black workers than whites, and the situation is getting worse. In 1950, the rate of deaths due to accidents was 25 percent higher for blacks. By 1969, the black rate was 43 percent higher.

Cancer, on the increase as an industrial disease, is another example. In 1950 there was virtually no difference in the black and white rates. But by 1969, blacks were dying of cancer at a rate 25 percent higher than whites.



Fred Wright, Union Cartoons

"Olympic hope? No... he's working two machines at opposite ends of the shop."

WOMAN FIGHTS CHRYSLER

DETROIT, Mich. (LNS) - Augusta Giles, a black woman auto worker, has filed a \$1.5 million discrimination suit against Chrysler for firing her 13 months ago following a physical attack on her by a white worker.

According to Giles, Arthur Dwojakowski came at her on a 2,200 pound fork lift truck on a number of occasions. When she responded verbally, he called her a racist obscenity. She reached for a piece of metal to defend herself but in doing so she cut her hand and didn't hit him. A white foreman then fired her.

Following that Dwojakowski filed charges against Giles for felonious assault to do bodily harm. Police came to arrest her at her apartment at 1 in the morning.

She was tried February 13, a year after she was fired and was found guilty by an all-white jury. However, the judge, Howard R. Carroll, said that testimony showed the Dwojakowski had harassed her several times with the fork lift during the four months she worked there. Because of this, the judge sentenced her to five minutes probation.

In her suit Giles asked for the \$1.5 million in damages because:

**The firing was discriminatory because she had been accosted by white employees on several occasions, and had reported the incidents to Chrysler, which didn't do anything about them.

**Chrysler allowed and condoned the use of racial epithets.

**Chrysler refused to rehire Giles, award her back pay, or listen to her side of the incident, taking the side of the white employee.

Stella Wright Tenants Win

On July 17, the tenants of Stella Wright Homes won their four-year rent strike against the Newark Housing Authority.

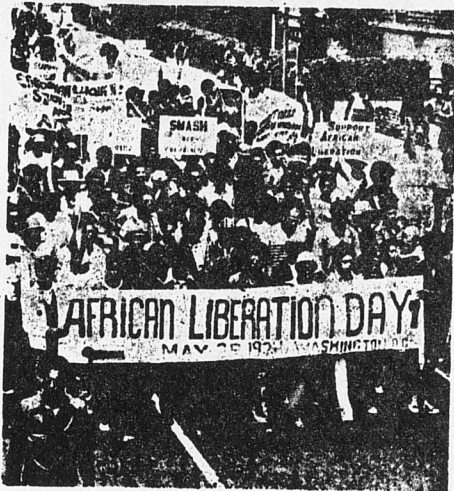
An agreement was reached in federal district court which calls for \$1.3 million in federal aid for rehabilitation of the seven 13-story buildings and provides for partial tenant management of the deteriorated complex.

In addition, Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson must recommend one tenant of a high-rise public-housing project to the City Council for appointment as a commissioner of the Newark Housing Authority.

Under the agreement, the city's Housing Authority must immediately resume maintenance and services and initiate the closing of the Stella Wright project.

Tenants have been required to pay back rent in installments, due from February 1, 1973. The \$100,000 paid by tenants to the Stella Wright Emergency Fund and held by the Newark Urban Coalition is to be turned over to the City's Housing Authority. The planned tenant Management Organization will retain \$10,000 of the fund for its use.

The tenants of Stella Wright Homes viewed this long-awaited settlement as a real victory. This example of the strength of an organized tenants' battle and the legal precedents that now have been set should provide a firm basis for people to take on the worst urban landlords, the cities.



Imamu Baraka's position was a surprise to many in the audience. We guess that was because most people tend to listen to what Br. Baraka says and not what he does or has done. Historically he has changed sides in mid stream and rode with the popular trend. Only time will tell if this is a tactical move for survival on his part or a serious commitment to join ranks with other anti-imperialist forces as we struggle for the liberation of Black people, and a Socialist revolution in the U.S. and around the world.

A.L.S.C. MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

The U.B.W. was greatly impressed with the conference. The class analysis position clearly and dramatically presented by

Akalimat, Sadaukai and Baraka seem to be the dominant view being pushed inside A.L.S.C.; and by today's Black revolutionaries as well.

There still remains much work to be done. Intense study, continued ideological struggle and the everyday practice and methods of work that is so necessary in carrying out any ideology.

The U.B.W. feels A.L.S.C. took a giant step in Washington D.C. An important step in the right direction to pull the Black Liberation Movement back in the right path.

"WE ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT OUR STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION DOES NOT ONLY SERVE OUR OWN PEOPLES; IT ALSO SERVE THE FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS AND PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLES OF AFRICA AND THE WORLD."

Amilcar Cabral

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