

THE

Week

**A news analysis for socialists 9d.**

# THE WEEK

A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS

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THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL REPORTS:

THE COVENTRY WALLPAPER STRIKE, page 2  
NALSIO CONFERENCE REPORT, page 3  
DISCUSSION ON WAR DANGER, page 5  
WHY CANON COLLINS RESIGNED, page 7  
BACKGROUND TO THE HOFFA AFFAIR, page 8  
ZANZIBAR KICKS OUT U.S. BASE, page 10  
TUC GETS A SHOCK AT BRIGHTON, page 11

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## CONTENTS PAGE

PAGE 11      Editorial  
PAGE 2      Trade union notes  
PAGE 3      Labour's youth movement  
PAGE 4      Industrial notes  
PAGE 5      Labour and CND  
PAGE 6      Anti-Apartheid notes  
PAGE 7      Political notes  
PAGE 8      The Hoffa affair  
PAGE 9      U.S. notes  
PAGE 10      Third world notes  
PAGE 11      Stop press items  
PAGE 12      Advertisers' announcements

## EDITORS' LETTER

Preparations are well in hand for <sup>the</sup> printed May Day issue. Our readers can help in several ways. First, we naturally bank on selling many more copies - so if readers would like to order extra to sell to their friends, etc. this will help. Secondly, we want to organise the selling on as many May Day demonstrations as possible. We rely upon our readers to write in and let us know if there is a demonstration in their town and also how best to organise the selling. In some cases we may be able to send someone to help with this assuming that this would be worthwhile. Lastly, donations to help to for this particular issue would be very welcome - several things come to mind: perhaps you may have a number of friends      you would like us to send sample copies to. If you could cover the cost of this it would be a very practical method of help.

WORKERS' CONTROL

A week end school is not normally a thing about which to editorialise. But it isn't necessary to excuse ourselves in this particular case.

The decision of Voice of the Unions, the popular trade union paper of the Labour left, to sponsor a study-group on workers' control, is far more important than is realised in many quarters. The demand for industrial democracy is one which has often been heard in the British Labour movement and equally often subdued in the very political successes which the movement has achieved. Banished as a topic for discussion in the late forties, it has been kept alive as a hope only in the narrow circles of socialist discussion groups, until the last few months.

An amazing revival is now taking place. It is as if the Labour movement, after many years in the wilderness, had suddenly recovered with its potential power the memory of its conscience. Already both the TUC and Labour Party Conference have tentatively accepted the need to re-open this question. Resolutions demanding workers' participation in decision making have recently been approved by both bodies... Since then, prominent union leaders, like Sid Hill of the Public Employees, have advocated the opening up of an extended discussion on the problems involved. The initiative taken by Voice of the Unions can make an invaluable contribution to this.

The abstract arguments for the extension of workers' control are simple, and well-established. It is absurd to regard political democracy as the summit of progress to freedom: if we can subordinate civic experts to popular control by elected town councillors, then there is no logical reason why the technicians in industry should not work happily under the long-range control of democratically chosen workers' representatives. If formal qualifications are at stake, then the trade union movement can boast already that it has trained administrators of high calibre, who are in no way inferior to the present board members, whose classical training and mouthfuls of silver cutlery do not seem to disqualify them, however little practical knowledge they may have.

But in any case, the argument can no longer remain academic, abstract. The plain fact is that the whole future of political democracy depends on the rapid growth of industrial democracy. The new patterns of 'planning' which are being evolved under neo-capitalism cannot and will not coexist with traditional collective bargaining procedures. But the political liberties of labour, such as they are, depend on the power of the unions. If the labour movement is not to be vapourised, it has to direct its energies to controlling the planners, to determining the priorities upon which they work, and to achieving power to do this with real effect. Such power cannot be realised if we cannot open the books of private industry to union scrutiny, and secure control not merely of the peripheral areas of industrial discipline, but of the central motors which drive the whole machine. "Control" over hiring, firing, and similar matters, important though they are, is a fiction if the books remain closed.

It is to be hoped that this question will receive urgent and widespread ventilation next week end.

THE COVENTRY WALLPAPER STRIKE

by Audrey Wise (Coventry USDAW secretary)

We have a dozen members on strike now, all of whom have since been sacked. One other, a manager of another shop, returned to work reluctantly after 2 days on strike, when he too was threatened with immediate sacking. There is no danger whatever of any of the other 12 giving in.

The shop is picketed all day, every day, from opening time to closing time, with leaflets being given out and posters carried. When extra forces are available the other two branches in the city centre are also picketed. This applies particularly to Saturdays, when our members bring their husbands, other USDAW members help, and some factory workers do a turn. Picketing has been maintained despite cold winds and pouring rain. Mr. Black's standing with his staff is so good that even former employees (who have left to seek better conditions) are coming on the picket line.

Mr. Black's shop is being run by Area Managers and higher managerial staff, plus two non-union blacklegs. The picketing is so effective that they have practically nothing to do, (perhaps 10% of normal trade.)

T.G.W.U. members have co-operated well on the question of deliveries, which have been seriously disrupted. The Coventry branch of NALGO has urged its 2,200 members not to trade at these shops. Tonight (6th April), the District Committee of the AEU is considering a recommendation from its sub-committee that all AEU members be asked to support the strikers. The District Secretary (AEU) is quoted in the local press as being confident that the recommendation will be passed, and that the matter will also be considered by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions in Coventry for joint action in addition. The Coventry District of the National Union of Metal Mechanics has circulated its members asking them to give us full support.

At the request of the public, Protest Sheets were started and the pickets accepted signatures from passers-by. These signatures have now reached over 5,000.

We have written to the three Coventry M.P.s

Wallpaper Manufacturers Ltd. has a virtual monopoly in the production of wallpaper (Crown, Sandersons, etc.) as well as producing paint, etc. It has subsidiaries in many foreign countries, including South Africa. In this country it has six divisions, one of which is the Retail Division. This owns 700 shops, which represent one-fifth of the retail outlets. The other four-fifths are almost completely dependent for their supplies on W.P.M. manufacturing divisions. The Monopolies Commission has stated that it would be against the public interest for WPM's retail outlets to continue to increase.

Our Coventry members are the first to be organised on the retail side. The Paper Workers' Union are in on the manufacturing side, and USDAW's Central Office are seeking help from that Union.

Declarations of solidarity would be very encouraging to our members, and can be sent to the firm, the press, and ourselves. The dispute has now entered its third week, having commenced on the 24th March.  
Ed. Note: Mrs Wise's address is 26, Gregory Avenue, Coventry.

LABOUR STUDENTS STILL LEFT WING

by Chris Arthur (NALSO chairman)

NALSO conference, held from April 6th-10th, maintained its left wing position. The highlight was a standing ovation given to a member of the Venezuelan FALN who explained his organisation's fight for national liberation. Conference drew the Labour Party's attention to its concern over various aspects of the repressive policies of Botancourt.

Conference passed a policy statement on disarmament which criticised the MLF, demanded withdrawal from NATO (only one vote against), and reaffirmed its support for CND. The closest vote in this section occurred on the clause advocating the replacement of British forces abroad by "peacekeeping" UN forces. This was however carried.

Delegates voted decisively for nationalisation of the major industrial concerns, land and transport and banks, without compensation. No less than 3 papers on workers control were presented, two of which were rejected as corporate-statist and paternalist. The successful one from Hull asked the Labour Party to set up a Committee to study how best to implement workers control and suggested some principles.

A working paper on the Young Socialists demanding more organisational freedom and a more tolerant attitude from the Labour Party was passed non con and in the light of the threat to the chairman of the YS, conference expressed itself against political expulsions.

Owing to peculiar difficulties students have, NALSO is to ask the Labour Party to set up machinery whereby students could join the L.P. at their place of study. Tony Greenwood brought fraternal greetings from the L.P. and assured conference that there was no danger that conscription would be reintroduced, and also that public schools would be integrated into the state system.

Conference welcomed the Newsome report but considered Robbins to be neocapitalist.

The right wing were very subdued throughout but this was mainly because the two largest right wing clubs have formed a separatist movement in the North West. A serious aspect of this is the support given to them by the L.P. Regional organiser. The EC is drawing Transport House's attention to this incorrect <sup>attitude</sup> to the official Labour youth organisation. The International Secretary reported that IUS has swung back to the right again, not only accepting the affiliation of the Botancourt youth organisation but considering them the spearhead of their appeal to Latin-American youth!!!

A message of solidarity was sent to the Bloomington students, conference condemned the iniquitous "Riviona" trial in South Africa, and elected one of <sup>the</sup> defendants (who may be executed), Nelson Mandela, as an Honourary Vice President. The Young Socialists and NALSO were recommended to co-operate in port towns in canvassing dockworkers with a view to starting a boycott of South African imports.

Concern was expressed at recent events in the courts undermining the position of the trade unions, and Martell's and Gunther's suggestions in this matter were respectively condemned. 65 delegates and some observers contributed £20 to the Labour Party election fund a concrete way backing to their indignation at Home's running away from the electorate.

SITE ELECTRICIANS STRIKE TO DEFEND T.U. RIGHTS by S. Nagendra

We have been on strike since last Tuesday (April 7th) on account of the dismissal by Rashleigh Phipps of 60 men on the BEA site. The strike has received tremendous support from the members in the firm. No one is working in London as far as we know. All major sites are closed down. The issue is the right to continue the practice of holding shop meetings in the normal working hours. This has been the custom for years and now the firm has had some agreement with the E.C. of the E.T.U. to stop this. The E.T.U. members in our firm were informed by the management that they have agreed on a joint statement with the E.C. of the E.T.U.

As far as the rank and file is concerned the E.T.U. has neither consulted us or informed us of this secret agreement. So you see our strike remains unofficial and the E.C. is supporting the management saying that its dismissal of 60 employees is justified. A statement by the Rashleigh Phipps Joint Strike Committee reads in part:

"..Today (7/4/64) a crowded meeting of Rashleigh Phipps workers from practically every building site where Rashleigh Phipps have a contract decided to stop work at once in support of their brothers (60) who have been discharged from the firm's employment at B.E.A. air terminal for the (heinous) crime of holding their monthly shop meeting on the site during working hours. This practice...has been an accepted part of the routine of employment by this and other electrical contractors for many years. In December of last year Mr. G.T. King representing the N.F.E.A. (the employers' association) and brother J.T. Byrne (General-Secretary E.T.U.) issued a statement as follows:

"At the meeting of the National Joint Industrial Council held on 14th December, 1963, it was jointly agreed that union meetings should not be held during normal working hours'

"It should be noted that the wording is not "must not" or "shall not" be held, but merely "should not" be held. The clear intention of this agreed statement, which incidently has never received the sanction of the membership of the E.T.U., was to leave open room for the continued practice of, what our national agreement refers to as "co-operation" between the two sides of the industry. This has meant that where labour relations have been good, there has been no dissension on the subject of site meetings during working hours. It is further to be noted that the E.T.U. executive have not themselves circulated any similar instructions to their shop stewards.

"Why then have Rashleigh Phipps chosen this moment to provoke a dispute with their workers on the B.E.A. site? The answer would appear to be, that in the light of the support given by Bro. J.T. Byrne to this document...they believed that they could separate our brothers on this site...from the bulk of their employees..this stoppage of work will not receive the support of the E.C. of the union. It is therefore imperative that members of the union...should recognise that if Rashleigh Phipps succeed in this attempt..each and every other section of the industry will in due course be the target of attack...."

The statement ends with an appeal to all trade unionists for support. The address of the Strike Committee is: R. Collins, 1, Redburn St., Chelsea, London S.W. 3.

Ed. Note: The following article is a comment on the Labour CND Committee's statement from Robert Gray of Aberdeen.

The initiative of the Labour CND Committee is to be welcomed. Its job will be to carry on sustained agitation and political education among the rank-and-file of the labour movement, demonstrating how the cold war, the danger of incineration and the widening gap between 'rich' and 'poor' nations interact, and aggravate each other.

Peter Price's criticism of the committee's statement sounds dangerously like the view that imperialism - even when nuclear armed - is a 'paper tiger', and that the 'people's bomb' will kill us more painlessly than the West's bomb. Comrade Price does, however, get at an important point. It is precisely the nuclear stalemate, and the two world alliances in which it finds expression, which is making the solution of our explosive problems of world poverty and inequality such a dangerous process. Of course Cuba's 'legitimate aspirations' are to be respected; they frighten the USA because of that country's cold war situation; equipping Cuba with nuclear missiles increases fear, tension and the danger of war, diminishes the hope that Cuba will be allowed to work out her own salvation in peace. Likewise with other countries likely to adopt 'Cuban' solutions. The positive response cannot but be one of neutralism and international co-operation through UNO.

Because of the cold war alliance-structure we live on our nerves, in a world in which every local conflict may be the beginning of the end: the Cyprus crisis, involving as it did a threat of NATO, and the Warsaw Pact interference is a good example. In this respect the immediate danger of war arises from localised upheavals which escalate, to drag in the nuclear super-powers. As for UNO, the activities of the new dominant Afro-Asian bloc are tending to transform it, into a positive instrument of international social justice. The immediate task remains the prevention of nuclear war. If we are to move towards a world socialist commonwealth, support for both tasks is essential; it can be fully provided only by breaking the military chains of the cold-war alliances, and the ideological one of the Stalinist and anti-Communist cold war dogmas. The very existence of CND has gone some way towards performing these essential tasks.

A NOTE ON THE DANGER TO PEACE

by Dave Windsor

Whilst generally in agreement with Peter Price's criticism of the Labour CND Committee's statement, I would like to develop, as a contribution to discussion, one point. It is virtually tautology to say that the danger to world peace comes from the cold war. What should concern us is: what gives rise to the cold war? To say that it flows from fear, suspicion or dogmatic approaches, is surely very naive. The world's leading statesmen with all their weaknesses are far more aware of the real motives of their adversaries than we are. If they are prepared to risk war they have very good reasons for doing so, that is, good from their point of view. Socialists should study very carefully the post-war events and see if they can detect a pattern which shapes the cold war. I have, and come to the conclusion that the main danger to peace comes from the determination of the U.S. to stop the advance of world social progress under the guise of 'combatting communism' - the latest example being its instigation of the coup in Brazil. The moment chosen for this coup was the eve of Goulart's proposed nationalisation of U.S. oil firms.

SOUTH AFRICA IN PERSPECTIVE

Readers will remember The Week quoting an article by Capt. Mark Hewitson, written by him for a journal called Perspective, in which he argued that the first to suffer from a successful boycott would be the non-white population who have the highest standard of living among coloured people on the African continent with advanced educational, health and housing schemes. He added: "Is it likely that they would be willing to commit economic suicide?"

Since then we have received from a South African correspondent the February 22nd issue of The New African. In a front page article we read the following:

"....South Africa has the highest African infant mortality rate in the continent.....There is only one doctor to 60,000 Africans in the St. Marks district, Transkei....There will be a shortage of 1,500 doctors by 1965. Only 13 of the 3,146 pharmacists serve the four million Reserve Africans.....African housing is not sub-economic, the vast bulk of tenants are constantly in arrears with rent, for which they can be, and in great numbers are, gaoled for weeks at a time. The houses are let without doors, ceilings or wooden floors, and tenants who put them in get no compensation even if they are compulsorily moved. The lavatories consist of a hole in the concrete floor....The teacher to pupil rate is 1 to 58, among the worst in Africa. Expenditure is R12 per child per year, compared to R144 per white child per year. (a rand is equal to 10 shillings). The percentage of African matriculation passes dropped from 47.3% in 1953 to 25.3% in 1961..."

We wonder what Capt. Hewitson has to say about this?

TORIES WALK OUT OVER GLASGOW BOWLS TEAM BOYCOTT from Alec Bagley

Fourteen Progressive (the label under which Tories operate in Glasgow) councillors in Glasgow walked out of a council meeting on April 2nd over a decision by the Lord Provost to refuse to give a civic reception to the South African bowls team. The row started when Councillor Stanley Scott Adamson asked Lord Provost Meldrum if he was aware of the concern caused to citizens by his decision, asking the Lord Provost to reconsider the decision. After he made it clear that he would not reverse his decision both the Labour and Tory leaders rose to ask supplementary questions. Then the Lord Provost insisted on calling the Labour leader, first 8 and then 6 of the misnamed Progressive councillors walked out. Then councillor Taylor, Labour leader, put his question which "applauded" the Lord Provost's decision.

CARDIFF NOT TO ENTERTAIN SOUTH AFRICAN BOWLS TEAM

On April 13th, Cardiff City Council joined the list of local authorities which have decided not to grant a civic reception to the South African bowls team. As a gesture of their opposition to the Apartheid regime they also decided not to pay the wages of Dewi Bebb, a member of Welsh Rugby team, whilst he is on tour of South Africa with that team. Labour members objected to both proposals on the ground that if passed they would imply support for Apartheid. Monmouthshire County Council has also refused to pay the salary of three teacher-members of the team.



WHY CANON COLLINS RESIGNED

Based on Caravan Workshop statement

Canon Collins' reasons for resigning from the Chairmanship of C.N.D. are outlined in paper presented by him to the National Council. Among the reasons give by are:

(1) That he feels that the Campaign must repudiate what he describes as 'non-Tolstoyan anarchism' before the movement is completely destroyed;

(2) that there must be a clearer definition of the role of civil disobedience and a more open and honest relationship with the Direct Action elements;

(3) and, finally, he feels there must be major changes in the organisational set-up which he feels are more likely to come about if he is no longer the Chairman.

WHY NOT FIDDLE P.A.Y.E. SAYS NEW SCIENTIST from Julian Atkinson

In a perhaps not-too-serious vein the New Scientist in a recent issue offered the following advice to Mr. Maudling:

"The National Institute of Economic and Social Research has recommended that the Chancellor should mop up something like £200 millions of the nation's spending money in extra taxation, but it is plain that Mr. Maudling cannot follow this without seeming to make a confession of failure. In an election year, he is bound to be reluctant to do this. In any case, there is no way in which he can act immediately. He has to wait until the Budget at the very least, by which time the disconcerting trends which the national institute has spotted may have become much more serious.

"So why not fiddle with PAYE? By giving the Chancellor authority to marginal adjustments in the rate of personal taxation, it would be possible to regulate the economy much more sensitively. In present circumstances it would be possible to require that the tax year should be advanced by one week in the coming month, so that an extra week's tax (amounting to roughly £100 million) would be collected in the month ahead. (this could be credited against next year's tax if need be. Another way of doing the same thing would be to make a small adjustment in personal tax code numbers, so that the total tax collected in the tax year now ending would be increased."

HOUSING DELAYED IN SCOTLAND BY SHORTAGE OF BRICKS from Tony Southall

Leaders of Scotland's building industry are worried about the shortage of bricks holding up their operations. On April 2nd, after a meeting of the Scottish National Building Trades Federation, Mr. J.D. Benzies, the federation's president, said that in February the industry was given an assurance that the brickmakers would be able to meet the forward demand. Now they were finding that even the largest manufacturers of bricks in Scotland were not prepared to accept new orders. Firms who could use up to 20,000 bricks a day were being offered 8,000 a week. In consequence bricks were being brought in from England at increased costs which could add £150 to the price of a house, and even this supply was by no means guaranteed. Mr. A. Krikwood, Scottish divisional organiser of the AUBTW said, the same day, that his union was also concerned about the situation. Bricklayers were being paid off and they were seeking to get overtime stopped on other jobs so that union members could find work.

Ed. Note: Most socialists in Britain insofar as they have considered the Hoffa trial have tended to accept <sup>the</sup> explanation that the aim of the operation is to merely 'clean up' U.S. trade unionism. It is therefore important to consider what one of the most authoritative voices of the radical left has to say on this matter.

The 7-year drive of the Kennedy brothers to 'get Hoffa' - a struggle that most of the nation's press has dutifully reflected as being between good and evil - recorded its first success March 12 when a federal judge in Chattanooga, sentenced the president of the nation's largest and fastest-growing union to eight years in prison. Hoffa called the verdict a "railroad job" and declared that "if this is justice in the U.S., I pity those who don't have the money to pay for an appeal." He is expected to retain his leadership of the 1.7 million teamsters during the 2 years his appeals will be before the courts.

Hoffa is admittedly no model for the new breed of union bureaucrat or radical trade union leader, but it is significant, as New York Times labour expert, Raskin, wrote in Atlantic Magazine (January, 1964) that: "in the face of the most sustained, most widespread public hostility ever concentrated on a single labour organisation," the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America is gaining between 50,000 and 100,000 members a year while AFL-CIO membership declines. Hoffa has a background of active unionism (he boasts he was once arrested 18 times in one day on the picket line). He says his mentor in union affairs was Farrell Dobbs, former Minneapolis Teamster leader who, together with the Dunne brothers, organised the over-the-road truck drivers in 1937. In 1940, Dobbs was offered a Teamster international vice-presidency, but turned it down to become national secretary of the Socialist Workers Party.

J.F. Kennedy, in his 1960 campaign, made a pledge to 'get Hoffa'. In that campaign, Hoffa and the Teamsters backed Johnson as the strongest anti-Kennedy figure. As Attorney General, R. Kennedy transformed the prosecution of Hoffa from a political issue into a major federal activity. He appointed W. Sheridan as head of the Justice Department's Hoffa unit. The unit today includes 15 full-time lawyers and investigators and at times of unusual activity outnumbers the Civil Rights division. In early October, 1962, E. Partin, an official of the Teamsters, was in gaol, and was also under indictment for embezzling \$1,000 in union funds. He contacted an agent of the Hoffa unit and offered him information, presumably in exchange for his freedom. On Oct. 18, 4 days before Hoffa's Nashville trial on charges of holding de facto control of a contracting firm whose employees are represented by the Teamsters, Partin arrived in Nashville. He became a paid informer. Hoffa was acquitted and Kennedy decided to charge him with influencing the jury.

Partin's testimony was that he heard Hoffa declare he would pay "up to \$20,000" to get at the jury. The defence attempted to discredit Partin by reference to his extremely unsavoury record, and a Justice Department spokesman admitted that \$900 was sent to Partin via his wife. Hoffa's attorneys also produced testimony that the Justice Department itself had tried to influence the Nashville jury. They also employed an electronics expert to detect wiretapping, etc. by government agents. More than 4 pages of the monitored conversation <sup>were</sup> reproduced in the Congressional Record. The FBI admitted that it had taken 732 photos of Hoffa and his attorneys before the trial. Such is the intensity of the vendetta against Hoffa. Despite all this, Hoffa managed, a <sup>few</sup> weeks prior to the trial, to sign the first nation-wide trucking contract.



### MISSISSIPPI MAYOR PREPARES FOR A TOUGH SUMMER

The mayor of Jackson, Mississippi, Allen Thompson, is preparing for a wave of civil rights demonstrations this summer. He has built his tough, riot-trained police force, which is backed by a reserve pool of deputies, state troops, civilians and neighbourhood citizen patrols. With 2.2 million dollars to spend, his department recently bought 200 shotguns, teargas and gasmasks. It has a motor fleet including troop lorries, searchlight and trailer trucks, and Thompson's Tank-- a 13,000 lb. armoured battlegon costing a dollar per lb.

The Student Nonviolent Co-ordinating Committee are already planning a massive summer campaign of organising their recruits in 'Freedom Schools' community centres and voter registration drives. Thompson, who says he has facilities to 'look after' 25,000, says "There will be no unlawful marching or peaceful picketing. They are not bluffing and we are not bluffing. We are going to be ready for them....they won't have a chance."

Note: On April 2nd the Mississippi State Legislature passed a Bill curbing civil rights activity in the state. Many people have already been arrested under this Bill.

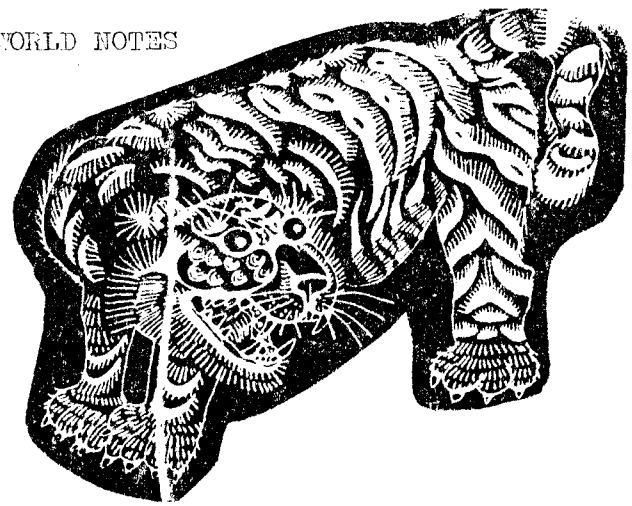
### SOME POINTS ABOUT MALCOLM X

We are reprinting below snippets from recent speeches made by Malcolm X since he left the muslim 'Nation of Islam' movement. We do this because we think it likely they have not been printed in the press, which mostly confines itself to details about the more extreme and bizarre points of his policy. He is still young and, although he is still a muslim, has time to develop -- we think these extracts show that he is doing so. Whilst the 'Black Muslims' are regarded as 'cranky nuisances' and potentially dangerous by the white racialists, Malcolm X's break with them, and his adoption of definite agitational policies (i.e. massive voter registration drives, etc.) likely to appeal to a wider audience than just muslims, plus his ability and reputation, constitutes more danger.

CLEVELAND, OHIO. On April 3rd, Malcolm X spoke at a public meeting on "The Negro Revolt--what comes next?". Malcolm X's answer was direct--"The Ballot or the Bullet". "1964 threatens to be the most explosive year America has ever witnessed," he said. "It is a political year...The 22million victims of American democracy are waking up, becoming politically mature." He appealed to the audience to set aside differences and unite for action on their common problems; political oppression, economic exploitation and social degradation at the hands of white men. "I am not anti-white. I am anti-exploitation, anti-oppression...you are not faced with a segregationist conspiracy; we are faced with a government conspiracy...to deprive you of your voting rights, your housing rights, job rights..."

NEW YORK April 6th.--- The white man has tricked us into thinking we want to be integrationists or separationists; but those aren't goals, but roads to the same goal of freedom, justice and equality.

# colonialism's Week



## ZANZIBAR KICKS OUT U.S. BASE

based on Zanews reports

On April 7th, President Karume told the U.S. Charge d'Affaires in Zanzibar that the U.S. Government must remove before the end of April the so-called satellite tracking stations it set up in Zanzibar under the 'project Mercury.' The same afternoon, vice-president Hanga announced at a press conference that his Government had rejected a request from the U.S. that it should be allowed to send a ship to remove the instruments of its tracking station. He said that a Zanzibar ship would take the instruments to the Kenyan port of Mombasa.

Next day, Richard Phillips, spokesman of the U.S. State Department announced that the U.S. would comply with the demand with "regrets." State Department officials admitted that the Zanzibar Government had a case and they acknowledged that the U.S. had no agreement with Zanzibar to keep the station.

The move is extremely popular in Zanzibar; all the mass organisations have expressed enthusiasm over it. Mass demonstrations supporting the government's decision included one of over 100,000 (or over one-third of the island's population).

## CONGO LIBERATION FIGHTERS CLAIM SUCCESSES

El Moudjahad, the journal of the Algerian FLN, recently published a statement by representatives of the Congolese liberation fighters. They said: "The presence of the revolution is making itself felt throughout the country," and that the liberation fighters "control a large part of the territory and have dealt severe blows on the Mobutu army which is being increasingly disabled." Among other successes, they added, two helicopters provided for the Mobutu troops by the U.N. force were shot down and four more damaged. Referring to the fate of Antoine Gizenga they said his life was still in danger. "For more than two months we have received no information from Bula-Mbemba island where he is imprisoned," they added. "After the foul murder of Lumumba the imperialists hoped that the people would abandon their struggle," they went on, "on the contrary, thousands upon thousands of Lumumbas have stood up...."

SHOCK FOR TUC AT BRIGHTON

from an Education correspondent

The normally placid waters of the WEA biennial conference turned to a storm last Saturday, when a demand by the Executive Committee - supported by several trade union officials, - for the remittance of a strongly worded amendment criticising the draft TUC proposals for rationalised education scheme - was passed by the narrowest of majorities - on a card vote, after a debate whose significance was apparent in the attitude of the TUC spokesmen. They protested too much!

The amendment demanded that local, lay-control, by rank and file trade unionists, over subjects and tutor choice, should replace the proposed all-out centralisation in the hands of the TUC education committee. Details of the draft appeared in The Week, no. 3) The mover, Tony Topham, and seconder, Mike Noble (WEA Tutor, NW Lancs.), and a stream of delegates to the rostrum made their case tell by reference to (1) the fundamental right of trade unionists to administer their own scheme, financed by their own contributions; (2) the dangers of central control of subjects, syllabuses, etc., which could turn education into indoctrination on behalf of TUC policies; (3) the failure to communicate the contents of the draft proposals to the rank and file of the movement generally, for open discussion.

D.D. Davies, (BISATKA) for the WEA Executive, Plant, (General Secretary of the IRSF and a member of the General Council of the TUC), Viner, (NUJ) and Corfield, (Education Officer of the TGWU) were loud and unyielding in denying the right of the Conference to criticise the "TUC" Congress, in fact, has not yet approved the draft! And the WEA spent a good deal of the week-end knocking hell out of the Ministry of Education for freezing grants to adult education! How sensitive can you get? Plant said quite simply that the amendment should be rejected because it implied a criticism of the TUC. Viner argued that democracy was a fine "sentiment", but the need was to mobilise the trade union "machine" in the country into an efficient agency of planning, and somehow centralised education was going to help this process. One listened in vain for a human reference in these speeches.

Jack Crawford, (Colliery Overmen) member of the General Council, giving fraternal greeting to Conference from the TUC the following morning, felt it necessary to devote the whole of his speech to a defence of the TUC draft scheme. He told delegates that he had been educated by the NCLC, but added that since "we" had ceased to believe in the class struggle, different kinds of education were now needed!

The issue is now open for trade unionists themselves to weigh the merits of the case, and if they concur with the amendment's democratic spirit, to press for the scheme's revision at union and TUC conferences this year. The matter is of crucial importance for the free and healthy functioning of trade union education in this country.

WALLPAPER GIRLS' STRIKE SHUTS SHOP: The strike of the girls at the Coventry Decorwall shop over the sacking at a minute's notice of their manager, has a major success. The company, Wallpaper Manufacturing, has shut its Brighter Homes shop outside the city to concentrate all its staff in the city centre shops. (See elsewhere in this issue and Week no. 15 for details)

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