

# The Week

A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS  
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**FREE  
SPEECH  
and  
SOCIALISM**

# WORKERS VERSUS THE GOVERNMENT

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THE WEEK MOVES TO LONDON

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This is the last issue of THE WEEK which will be produced in Nottingham. The move to London, planned for some months, is now taking place.

For the time being, only the production and editorial sides of THE WEEK have made the move and the business aspects, subscriptions, changes of addresses, will remain in Nottingham for a few further weeks.

As from today, therefore, please forward all articles, letters, editorial comments, books and materials for review, etc. to the London address on the cover.

The Business Address remains for the time being at 54 Park Road, Lenton, Nottingham, until this change, too, is advised in a few weeks time.

No communications should be sent to 74 Mansfield Road, Nottingham as these premises are no longer occupied by THE WEEK.

RICHARD MARSH BACKS STEEL MERGER

If there was ever any doubt about the Government's basic approach to steel nationalisation, Richard Marsh's enthusiastic support for the giant steel merger has dispelled it. The Government is to go to the extent of modifying the Steel Nationalisation Bill to facilitate the merger. It welcomes the proposal as part of the process of reorganising and rationalising the industry. This rationalisation, coming at a time when there is already gross under-capacity working, can only lead to further sackings and other attacks on steelworkers' conditions. It is designed purely and simply to protect the interests of the big businessmen who run the industry. Labour MPs should do more than "ask questions"; they should support the movement for workers' control in the steel industry and seek to raise shop floor opposition and action. Steelworkers are keen on their industry being nationalised and the response to the workers' control campaign was wide and deep in the industry. There is no excuse, particularly for the MPs in steel constituencies, many of whom won seats on the basis of the Government's promise to nationalise, for not fighting.

JORDAN: A NEW AMERICAN INTERVENTION?

As we go to press there are persistent reports that the US Government is to intervene in the Jordan crisis by supplying the latest arms to King Hussein.  
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Thus they will remain true to their declared policy of acting as world policemen against any movement of the people against oppression. We must make it as difficult as possible for Mr. Wilson to carry out his usual practice of underwriting such actions.

### FREEDOM AND SOCIALISM

Protests are not enough ! We referred in our issue last week to the disgraceful and cowardly beating up of Ernie Tate outside a meeting organised by the Socialist Labour League. Ernie's case has been taken up by Peace News, Socialist Leader, and even the international paper The Militant. It is also the subject of a letter from a reader on page 3 of this issue.

That the assault should have provoked so swift and widespread a protest is encouraging to all who value the good name of Socialism. The labour movement in this country operates under many labels, but we know of no label, be it Socialism, Trotskyism, Marxism, or what you will, that has anything in common with such behaviour. No individual, no organisation, which may be found to be responsible for this sort of violence and physical intimidation, is worthy of any label other than that of Thuggery.

THE WEPK, and we are sure, all its readers, will actively support and protect the right of all comrades, whatever their views, to sell literature without hindrance. We have no intention, ourselves, of being intimidated and we shall speak up, and stand up, for equal rights for others on the left.

### SUPPORT FOR VIETNAM SOLIDARITY

The success of the Scottish conference for solidarity and peace in Vietnam (reported in this issue) proves clearly that nothing is lost by taking a firm principled stand on Vietnam. We venture to say that the number of delegates, width of support and the enthusiasm of the meeting was due to this firmness. Those who oppose solidarity in the name of "broadness" and non-sectarianism should ponder on this. Their views, while sincerely held, are not borne out in practice. This makes it all the more the pity that attempts to have serious discussion on the tactics of the struggle against the war in Vietnam have not been successful. We hope that 1967 will see such a discussion. Only those who are not sure of the strength of their arguments will avoid this.

### WORKERS PLAN MASS DEMONSTRATION AGAINST GOVERNMENT POLICIES

Attention is drawn to the interesting suggestion on page 4, of a May Day demonstration against the Government's economic policies. The idea, put forward by Shop Stewards from the Sheel Chemicals construction site at Carrington, Cheshire, is that a mass walk-out on a nationwide basis should take place on Monday, May 1st.

## A LETTER FROM A READER

On Thursday, November 17th, Ernest Tate, the Manager of Pioneer Book Service, is reported to have been brutally assaulted outside Caxton Hall, where the SLL was holding a public meeting on the 10th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution. From eye witnesses I understand that he was thrown to the ground by a group of young men. His glasses were broken and he was systematically kicked as he lay on the ground, mainly in the stomach and groin. He had been selling two pieces of literature: Healy Reconstructs the Fourth International and International Socialist Review. After receiving treatment at hospital he was allowed home. The incident follows several others in which, as I am personally aware, sellers have been threatened with physical violence. It must be seen in the light of the recent statement by the Political Committee of the SLL in the Newsletter which stated: "... We shall not hesitate to deal appropriately with the handful of United Secretariat agents who hawk it" (Healy Reconstructs ...) around the fake-left in England ..."

I would make the following points:

1. The SLL should repudiate this action and discipline any persons connected with them who may be found to have taken part in the incident.
2. The left must ensure that there is no repetition of this incident. Sellers of literature must be defended.
3. Some people may conclude that it is not without relevance that the SLL has followed a sectarian path for many years and that it has, in particular, displayed a virulent attitude towards other tendencies on the left.

If anyone challenges the facts of the incident, they should be the subject of independent enquiry.

..... Geoff Coggan.

### Advertisement    TWO PUBLICATIONS OF IMMEDIATE INTEREST

Healy Reconstructs the Fourth International: Contains a selection of correspondence between Healy and people who attended his recent, ill-fated "international" conference. The letters and documents speak for themselves. 3/- p.p. from Pioneer Book Service, 8, Toynbee Street, London, E.1

How the SLL Defends the Vietnam Revolution: a special issue of World Politics which contains the complete text of the correspondence between Healy and the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, including those parts the Newsletter chose to delete in its account. Available 1/3 p.p. from Pioneer Book Service.

SUPPORT FOR DECEMBER 3 CONFERENCE GROWS from a London reader.

Support is growing for the National Conference against the Wage Freeze, Unemployment and in Defence of our Trade Unions, which is being held this Saturday, December 3, at the Beaver Hall, London E.C.1. Shop stewards and other trade unionists up and down the country have been elected as delegates from trade union branches, shop steward committees and trades councils. In several towns committees have been formed to organise coaches and other transport to take delegates to the Conference.

Among the latest delegates to be appointed are:

Shop Stewards from Short Bros. and Harland of Belfast; Decca (New Malden); Vauxhalls (Luton); Chesterfield Tube Works; Manchester Dry Docks; Shell Chemicals (Manchester); A.E.I. (London); Smith Industries (Cheltenham); L.C.S. Building Department (Rainham); Dunlop (Liverpool); Millspoor's (Sheffield) and George Mann's (Leeds).

Branch delegates from Birmingham 5/20 TGWU; London 1/690 TGWU; Penge TGWU; Acton TGWU; Leeds University branch of the ASCW; three Sheffield AEU branches; Coedely NUM; Miles Platting NUR.

Factory delegates from Craven Bros. (Stockport); Oilwell Engineering (Stockport); Heywood Bros. (Stockport); Firth Brown Tools (Sheffield); Ambrose Shardlow's (Sheffield); Davy United (Sheffield); English Steel Corporation (Sheffield); Courtaulds (Coventry); Humber (Coventry); Austin (Darlston); Woden (Darlston).

Delegates from the Irish region of DATA; Dalston Bus Depot; Highbury teachers' group; North West London plumbers' group; Manchester District Committee of the Boilermakers' union; the Scottish district of ASSET; Letchworth Foundry workers' union; Wembley foundry workers' union; Bournemouth printers' group; Liverpool printers' group; Coventry Trade Union Committee; the Scottish area executive of the NUM; Stockport Trades Council; Altrincham Trades Council.

These delegates are in addition to the very many elected weeks ago. There will be a particularly strong representation from the North West; 100 are expected to come from Lancashire and Cheshire alone.

A number of leading trade unionists will be in attendance, among them Mr. Alex Kitson, general secretary of the Scottish Commercial Motormen's Union; Mrs. Christine Page, executive member of USDAW; Mr. Bill Jones, Vice-Chairman of the TGWU; Mr. Mike Cooley, executive member of DATA; Mr. Stan Pemberton, executive member of the TGWU; and Mr. Alec Roberts, also an executive member of the TGWU.

A great number of propositions will be discussed concerning future action. Among the most interesting is one from the Shop Stewards committee of Shell Chemical construction site at Carrington, Cheshire, suggesting a nationwide demonstration against the Government's economic policy next May Day. The stewards have in mind a mass walkout from jobs on Monday, May 1. It is not too late to apply for delegates credentials. The application should be made to Conference Secretary, 1 Teynton Terrace, London, N.17.

57 MAGNIFICENT MEN

from an industrial correspondent

The following letter sent out by the 7/208 branch of the TGWU is of great interest to the whole labour movement:

"Since 28th March, 1966, we have been conducting an official dispute that has been endorsed by our General Executive Council for the right of Trade Union recognition. The enclosed material explains why we are in dispute. We feel that it is in the interest of the whole Trade Union movement that we continue this struggle to enable our Union to take our case to Court to win the right of recognition.

"To do this we need financial support. As a Trade Unionist you will appreciate the hardships that our men are facing. This dispute has now been carried on for 33 weeks but our members are still determined to win the right to form a Trade Union within the factory with full rights to negotiate wages and conditions. We will be grateful if you would bring the enclosed correspondence before your members to consider granting us a donation or taking a collection from the membership to help us win this struggle.

"All monies should be sent to: Ian Armstrong, 5, Loch Road, Chapelhall, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

"THE FACTS OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN SQUARE GRIP REINFORCEMENT CO. LTD. AND THE TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION.

"On Thursday, 26th November, 1965, in response to a request from workers employed by Square Grip Reinforcement Co. Ltd., 65 workers joined the Union. Within the following two weeks a further 20 workers enrolled and this established 90% organisation. The Union informed the Company and requested a meeting with the Management for the establishment of Trade Union Recognition but this was completely refused.

"On 6th January, 1966, 21 of the Union members were sacked whilst overtime was being worked and the Company issued instructions to all their workers to seek alternative employment or cease to be members of their Trade Union. This dispute was reported to the Conciliation Officer of the Ministry of Labour on Friday, 14th January, 1966.

"Despite meetings held with the Ministry of Labour on Wednesday, 9th February and Wednesday, 2nd March, 1966, the Company continued to refuse Trade Union Recognition. Due to the absolute loyalty of the membership, however, Plenary Powers were granted by the General Executive Council of the Union to call an Official Strike. The Company, being successful at law on Friday, 6th May, 1966, in obtaining an Interim Interdict (Preventing the Union carrying out its normal function), placed the Union in the position of having to go to Court in defence of the "57 Magnificent Men".

"The Official Strike against the Square Grip Reinforcement Co. Ltd. is being conducted within the terms of the Interim Interdict."

I am sure that all readers of The Week will do what they can to make the facts about this case as widely known as possible.

The following "open letter" was distributed to delegates attending a Labour Party Regional Conference in Sheffield on November 19th:-

We have drafted this appeal from the Hillsborough Constituency Labour Party to you because we recognise time will not permit us to state it orally in the meeting. Conferences are being convened to deal with organisational problems and to correct weaknesses in the electoral machinery of the Labour Party. This is necessary, but in our view it is not a first priority. Efficient organisation is important, but it can never be a substitute for the enthusiastic zeal of the rank and file membership.

The Party membership is losing its zeal; its loyalty is being strained and its leadership is becoming more and more arrogant. Whilst this state of affairs continues, no amount of professional organisation will keep Labour in power. Lest we be charged with special pleading, let us quote from the September issue of the "Socialist Commentary" -

"There is no point in mincing words; the sterling crisis of July and its unpleasant aftermath have been a shattering experience for Labour supporters. However brave a face the Government may put on it, the ugly fact remains - it won power on the claim that it could control the economy, that it would break with the stop-go absurdities of the Tory era. It is precisely in this that it has failed."

Mr. Wilson's arrogant claims that he will continue to govern will have a hollow ring until he can demonstrate he can control the high priests of finance; profiteers in land and property; monopolist industrial interests, as well as his loyal wage earning supporters in the Trade Unions and Constituency Labour Parties.

When Mr. Wilson can convince himself that it is in the "national interest" to put the social and cultural needs of hospital house doctors and nurses; the technicians and designers in industry; the artisans and manual workers; the harassed housewives; the school children; teachers and general social services before the claims of Tory minded bankers; Boards of Directors; Admirals and Generals; so-called military experts; and the whole traditional trappings of an outworn outdated imperialist past, encrusted in the Capitalist State machinery - then he can rely on even an outdated "penny-farthing" electoral machine to keep him in power. Until he does so, he will be compelled to compete with Tory politicians for nominal control of a State machine designed to serve the interests of the dominant class in our society.

For our part, we stand loyally by the principles for which the Labour Party was created and outlined in the basic constitution of our Party as summarised in clause four. We shall continue, with or without the help of a Labour Government we helped to put in office, to give practical effect to the policy and programme as agreed from time to time by the National Conferences of our Party in conformity with its constitutional aims and objects.

On behalf of the Hillsborough C.L.P. Management  
Committee, L. Youle (Chairman)  
F. Tufnell (Secretary)

## EAST PAKISTAN - A COLONY

The following leaflet was distributed by East Pakistani Progressives on the occasion of the visit of Ayub Khan to this country:

The President of Pakistan, Field Marshal Ayub Khan, has arrived on a state visit to Britain. A crowd of people, organised and financed heavily by the Pakistan High Commission in London dutifully 'received' him at the airport. The President broke his schedule and waved to them but he was not smiling. In spite of the cheerful programme before him the President looked pale and gloomy. The spectre of discontent at home haunted him.

The country he left behind is seething, boiling and bubbling with indignation and discontent. The chain reaction against the Ayub regime has set off. In fact it is a reaction against the system concealed beneath the slimy letters of the Constitution Ayub forced down the throat of millions. The Ayub Constitution is a strange hybrid of the French, the British and the American Constitutions. It retains the Parliament without the parliamentary sovereignty, the American Presidential system without the congressional checks and balances, the pontifical authority of De Gaulle without any provision for referendum on vital issues. There are even inroads by which the Army can sneak into the back corridors of power. The Defence Minister has to be a person who either holds or held the post of at least a Brigadier. The very fact that the country's new capital is being moved to a place only a few miles away from Pakistan's military headquarters is a pointer to the Army's determination to canopy the civil administration for ever.

The most grotesque feature of the Ayub regime, however, is the continued exploitation of East Pakistan. East Pakistan, with its jute, tea and hides and skins, provides most of Pakistan's foreign exchange. Factories and settlements, however, spring up on the barren deserts of West Pakistan. Poor East Pakistan is not only a happy hunting ground for raw materials but also a market for commodities produced in West Pakistan. The classical role of colonisation is complete.

In short, East Pakistan earns money and West Pakistan spends it, to cite an example: the major portion of Pakistan's budget is spent on defence. The bulk of defence expenditure, in its turn, is being constantly percolated into West Pakistan. In September fighting last year, West Pakistan was strong enough with eight divisions to combat Indian aggression. East Pakistan, which accounts for the majority of the population was left in the lurch with an ill-equipped division only.

The development of Pakistan depends on the development of its agriculture. The greatest bottlenecks in this respect are, in the West; water-logging and salinity, and in the East; cyclone and floods. In 1960 the Ayub regime signed a treaty with India for allocations of huge resources for the development of the Indus basin. In East Pakistan, Krugg's Mission's recommendations on flood, draught and irrigation were at first ignored, then finally consigned to the scrap heap .....

After the summer pause, the situation in Italy is again stirring. The big topics under discussion in the workers parties are Vietnam and the unification of the Social Democrats. Vietnam is becoming an increasingly hot subject and the Communist leaders find it more and more difficult to convince the rank and file that the Soviet policy of playing dead is correct. In any local of the PCI (Italian Communist Party) where the issue comes up on the agenda, left and right-wingers clash. The editorial that appeared in Sartre's magazine 'Les Temps Modernes', calling on the Soviet leaders to initiate a "counterescalation" to deter Washington in Vietnam, has aroused great interest among militants in spite of the attempts of 'L'Unita', the PCI organ, to criticize it under the signature of its associate editor. Closely connected with Vietnam are the events in China. So far, the PCI has been unable to come up with a satisfactory analysis of what is going on. Many Communist militants wonder about the significance of the events and criticize their party for confining information to sources in the bourgeois press. The pro-Mao tendency in the PCI, at least the one not tied to pro-Mao groups outside the party, is growing more and more critical of the Mao government, particularly in regard to their rejecting an anti-imperialist front to aid Vietnam.

During August, a minor incident affected 'Mondo Nuovo', the official weekly of the PSIUP (the leftist socialist party that split from Nenni's party). While General Secretary Vecchietti was on holiday in the USSR, a member of the editorial staff published a rather pro-Chinese article on the front page. The paper likewise published some Chinese documents ignored by the Communist press and other interesting documents ignored by 'L'Unita' such as the editorial in 'Les Temps Modernes'. As soon as Vecchietti got back he hastened to issue an extremely pro-Moscow statement, to assure the Soviet leaders that the pro-Chinese article was but an incident. However, he was unable to move against the author of the article, since he had to take into account the unusually favourable response which that particular issue of 'Mondo Nuovo' had evoked among its readers.

But the warmest topic is the Social-Democratic unification. In the PSI (Nenni's party) and the PSDI (the party founded by Saragat, the incumbent president of Italy, out of a split from Nenni's party), the delivery is taking place with no birth pains. A relatively small group of PSI left-wingers have refused to go along. But the top left-wing leaders, including Lombardi and Scanti, have stated that they will join the new party, while reserving the right to issue public statements against the leadership when the situation warrants such action. It is reported that Lombardi got in touch with the PCI to find out whether they would let him publish his own magazine as a tendency organ if he should join. The Communist leaders, despite all their talk about a united party of the Italian workers, would not agree to endanger their bureaucratic grip by granting such tendency rights. In the present situation in the party it might set off a chain reaction of similar demands. Thus Lombardi and his followers were left with the alternative of joining the Social Democratic party where they can at least maintain their label while disappearing from view in the quicksand. The document sealing the unification- once it is approved by a very formal congress set up by the two parties- is one of the thinnest to ever appear in Italy in many years. The capitulation of the PSI is complete... But if the unification is causing no great embarrassment to the PSI and PSDI, it is likely to become a bone of contention among the Communists. The PCI leadership is formally criticizing the operation; at the same time it is preparing to open a dialogue with the new united party instead of fighting it politically.

Outside the great hall of the Mutualite in Paris this Monday, thousands of young people were milling around every entrance. The hall was full, jammed with at least 6,000 people, standing in every corridor, craning their necks over the stairways. Once you were in, it was impossible to move, and quite impossible to get out through the seething thousands who were straining to get in. Altogether, perhaps 10,000, perhaps 15,000 had mustered.

The occasion was not a visit from the Beatles. It was altogether more serious: a rally "Six Hours for Vietnam" \*, organised under the honorary presidency of Bertrand Russell, at which, alongside other eminent spokesmen of the independent left in France, appeared a whole galaxy of international figures, centred around a group of members of the War Crimes Tribunal. The meeting was chaired by Laurent Schwartz, himself a member of the Tribunal, and amongst his colleagues speaking were Jean-Paul Sartre, Vladimir Dedijer, Dave Dellinger, Courtland Cox (representing SNCC and Stokely Carmichael), and Ralph Schoenman who brought a personal message from Bertrand Russell. Other speakers included the Nobel prizewinner, Prof. Kastler, the secretary of the Moroccan UNFP, M. Abderamane Youssefi, Paul Verges, and our own Lawrence Daly, secretary of the Scottish Miners' Union.

The meeting was big in every sense of the word. After a plenary session which included a film in which Fidel Castro spoke in defence of the Vietnamese Revolution, and which lasted in all for some three hours, the rally broke up into a number of seminars, some of which contained well over 1,000 people, to discuss various aspects of aid to the Vietnamese peoples' struggle. (Among the participants in these seminars, besides those already named, were Andre Gorz, Jean Baby, Jean-Marie Vincent, John Baker from the Australian Trade Union movement, P. Vidal-Naquet, Claude Cadart, and spokesmen for the Provo movement in Holland, Francisco Juliao of Brazil, and from Algeria, Germany, Martinique, Italy, and of course, Vietnam itself.) But with all its vast size and marathon organisation, the thing that was most inspiring about the rally was its enormous enthusiasm. Time and again the youthful audience cheered militant speakers to the echo. Sartre, who went out of his way to appeal on behalf of the Peruvian Revolutionary, Hugo Blanco, who is in imminent danger of being judicially murdered in prison, was given a standing ovation. So was the spokesman of the Vietnamese NLF, and so was Dave Dellinger, who appealed for aid to the American people: not of money ("We've got too much of that already", he said) but of solidarity in the struggle for peace. Courtland Cox, who has been working in the field for SNCC, in the heart of the most bitterly racist areas of the Southern States, said that the oppression of the black people at home in the USA, and of the Vietnamese people abroad, were part of the same one struggle. "You won't get us to fight the people of Vietnam, not if hell freezes over", he said - "We are brothers." Lawrence Daly also received deafening applause when he put the case for solidarity with the Vietnamese people, and described the struggle in Britain.

Not every speech was received so warmly. M. Kastler's call for a UN neutral force of peacekeepers was received with mounting unease, turning into boos and catcalls. The Algerian spokesman was strongly heckled, with loud cries of "Liberez Ben Bella" and "Liberez Harbi", and protests "What about torture?" These turned into loud chanting at the end of his speech. But on the other  
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a most moving demonstration of solidarity took place when M. Youssefi, the Moroccan speaker and a colleague of murdered Beba Bella, took the rostrum.

The remarkable thing about the whole meeting is the way in which it was assembled entirely by the independent socialist forces, the PSU and the numerous left groupings of Paris. In spite of every appeal, the French Communist Party stayed aloof, and l'Humanite even went so far as to report a rightist attack upon the organisers' office, which took place the night before the Rally, without mentioning a word about the very demonstration which had aroused this antipathy on the Right. But this remote attitude will not be tenable for very much longer, if the response to this Rally is anything to go by.

\* Footnote: "In six hours, 600 tons of bombs fell on Vietnamese hutments", read the advertisement for the meeting. Max Ernst contributed a specially executed painting for the poster.

U.S. SCIENTISTS PROTEST AGAINST CHEMICAL WARFARE from a US reader

Twenty-two American scientists, seven of them Nobel prize winners, have asked President Johnson that the armed services stop using chemical weapons against crops and people in Vietnam. They have initiated a petition to the President, citing the dangers of chemical and biological weapons, and warns that any breach in the restraints in using them - such as is represented by the employment of anticrop sprays and tear gas in Vietnam - can only encourage the use of other and even more devastating weapons. Their petition is now being circulated to members of the Federation of American Scientists for their signature.

The initial signers issued a statement pointing out that "chemical and biological weapons could be far more dangerous as instruments of mass extermination than anything except nuclear weapons." They observe that in World War II the nation held to a policy of never initiating chemical or biological warfare, and state that "the large scale use of anticrop and 'nonlethal' antipersonal chemical weapons in Vietnam ... sets a dangerous precedent." The petition asks for a White House study of national policy on such weapons and their control, and end to their use in Vietnam and a statement that this nation will not be the first to use them.

The 22 scientists are Felix Bloch of Stanford University, Konrad Bloch of Harvard University, James Crow of Wisconsin, William Doering of Yale, Paul Doto of Harvard, Freeman Dyson of the Institute of Advanced Study, John Edsall of Harvard, Bernard Feld of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Irwin Gunsalus of Illinois University, Robert Livingstone of the School of Medicine, San Diego, Matthew Meselson of Harvard, Severo Ochoa of the New York University School of Medicine, Ray Owen of the California Institute of Technology, Keith Porter of Harvard, Charles Price of the University of Pennsylvania, Eugene Rabinovitch of Illinois, E.L. Tatum of Rockefeller University, George Wald of Harvard, and Paul Dudley White, Boston cardiologist.

EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL VIETNAM SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE IN  
SCOTLAND.

The Vietnam Solidarity Conference, sponsored by the Scottish Vietnam Solidarity Campaign and the Edinburgh Council for Peace in Vietnam, was a great success. Held on Saturday, November 26th, in Leith Town Hall, it was attended by over 110 delegates and some observers (see appendix for details).

The Conference was opened by Willy Boyle of the Scottish D.A.T.A. Council, who took the chair. He was a last minute replacement for William Lamb, Scottish Miners' Union (Group 2) President, who was engaged in sorting out a strike. Ralph Schoenman of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation was the first speaker; he described the terrible nature of the war in Vietnam, illustrating his remarks with details of personal interviews he had with victims of bombing in the north. He explained the purposes, scope and aims of the International War Crimes Tribunal. In the discussion that followed many points were made about the type of campaign that should be fought in Scotland and the political base of such a campaign. Pat Jordan, secretary of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, answered some of the points about the VSC's role and relationship with other bodies fighting against the war in Vietnam.

The Second session opened with a fraternal greeting from Setsure Tsurishima, who spoke of the campaign in Japan against the war in Vietnam. There was warm applause when it was mentioned that Japanese trade unionists were collecting funds for the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam and that over 4 million had participated in stoppages of work in protest against the war. This campaign is sponsored by the Japanese Socialist Party and SOHYO, the Japanese TUC. He was followed by Malcolm Caldwell, Vice Chairman of CND and lecturer on South East Asia at the School of Oriental and African Studies. He gave a highly informed talk on the attitude of people in the west towards imperialism, and the economic reasons for the behaviour of American imperialism. In the following discussion many points were made about the nature of U.S. imperialism and its role in the world today.

The final discussion was on future campaigning and the role of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign. It was opened by Lawrence Daly, General Secretary of the Scottish Area of the National Union of Mineworkers. He explained in detail why he as a trade unionist opposed the war in Vietnam. Mr. Daly went on to explain that he supported both the British Council for Peace in Vietnam and the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign and explained why. During this discussion

EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL VIETNAM SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE  
IN SCOTLAND (Continued).

a resolution was carried as follows:-

The Conference recognises that the war in Vietnam is a war of aggression and supports those who are resisting that aggression. Only the withdrawal of American forces, weapons and bases will create the conditions which will serve justice and the principle of self-determination. We recognise also that the Vietnamese people alone have the right to determine the conditions for ending the war. The negotiations proposed by the U.S.A. and its Allies are fraudulent.

We call for

1. The immediate withdrawal of U.S. Forces.
2. The cessation of bombing of Vietnam.
3. The dissociation of the British Government from the U.S. policy of aggression.
4. The implementation of the Geneva Agreement.

Conference therefore pledges its support for the N.L.F. and the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in their stand against the U.S.A.

After some discussion it was agreed that a co-ordinating committee consisting of 2 members each from the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign branches in Scotland should be formed. The branches themselves would elect these members. The co-ordinating committee would arrange joint work and prepare future conferences. A resolution was carried pledging enthusiastic support for the International War Crimes Tribunal. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the speakers and organisers from William Lamb, who had got through his union business by then.

Appendix: Among the organisations sending delegates to the Scottish Vietnam Solidarity Conference were:

Aberdeen YCND, Aberdeen ASSET, Clydebank TC, Corstorphine Ward LP, Cowdenbeath NUM, Dunfermline LLP, Dunfermline VSC, Edinburgh ASLEF, Edinburgh CND, Edinburgh CP, Edinburgh CPV, Edinburgh Quakers, Edinburgh SOGAT, Edinburgh TGWU, Edinburgh UPW, Edinburgh VSC, Glasgow TGWU, Glasgow VSC, IRVINE DATA, Kinneal NUM, Lanark YS, Liberton CP, Lingerwood NUM, Lochead NUM, Napier Tech.Coll. Soc. Soc., Paisley TC, Peffermill Bridge SCWS, Peebles YS, Perth TC, Renfrew TC, Rosyth Co-op Guild, S.C.E.B.T.A., Tranent YS, West Lothian TC, Workers Party of Scotland.