

NEW SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL PRESS SERVICE

LABOR NEWSLETTER



N.Y. Police Anti-Austerity Action Can Cut Both Ways

New York, Oct. 9 (NSIPS) |— More than 2000 angry New York City police took their anti-austerity protests to the doorstep of Jimmy Carter's mid-Manhattan campaign headquarters two days ago. Carrying placards branding Carter as anti-labor, the off-duty police chanted the "Democratic Party works with Felix Rohatyn (the chairman of Big MAC). Why?!"

The two-week-old police protests, which stem from the city's failure to carry out terms of legally binding contracts with the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association granting the police a deferred pay raise and set work schedules, has a double-edged character.

The police job action |— the major first resistance to the banks' austerity regime by any major union in more than a year — could catalyze a pitched fight against the bankers' lawless rule over the city. A lead editorial in today's New York Times, demanding that Mayor Beame take a hardline with the "lawless cops" warns that if the police win their demands, the city's "peace" with its other unions will collapse and with it the banks' three year austerity plan. The multi-billion Federal loan program will be terminated "and the city will go bankrupt..."

But if the police can be isolated, if the focus of their actions can be kept to narrow "me-first" trade-union issues, kept from moving for debt moratorium, then they can and will be crushed and crushed brutally to "demonstrate" the futility of resistance.

A Billion More In Cuts?

Dr. Reynold Levy, the head of the new City Human Resources Planning Agency, said this week that he has plans drawn up to carry out an additional \$1 billion in budget cuts immediately. Levy has been given the responsibility for carrying out the drastic overhaul of the city government under the already enacted charter revision. The plan |— a "solution" to the confrontation between the city and segments of the population over cut-backs — calls for the decentralization of city government into 33 Vietnam-like strategic hamlet "pacification zones." Each would be locally controlled and provide what city services remain.

But, as the fascist planner Levy indicated, first the police must be brought into line |— by "force of arms" if necessary.

LEAA Network Activated

LEAA networks in and around the police are being fully mobilized to contain and demoralize the job action. LEAA-run police hit squads have been seeding the police |— community confrontations, going through ghetto and black hispanic working class sections of the Bronx and Queens randomly attacking people on the street. Such units incited riots in one section of Queens earlier in the week.

LEAA-linked provocateurs at an otherwise orderly demonstration at City Hall yesterday called for the police to disobey orders by PBA leaders to disband. More than 700 cops stampeded in a mad dash for "Wall Street." While the demonstrators conveniently never reached their objective, the Atlanticist-controlled press had a field day portraying the job action as "mob rule" and clearly "out of the hands of the PBA leadership." To isolate the PBA, the city suddenly came to a tentative

agreement with the Sergeants Benevolent Assn., putting them on the other side of the picket line.

While PBA leaders have told this newspaper that they are not considering a strike and will not be provoked into one, the banks are readying for that contingency. A spokesman for the Rockefeller controlled fascist think tank, the Hudson Institute, said two days ago: "We are prepared for a New York policy strike....It would be a military situation...we would need the U.S. army...but we are prepared." Spokesmen for the Defense Department indicated that they are monitoring the situation: "We are always ready (for an intervention).

But as political the content of the police's demonstration against the Carter office indicated, the situation has the potential to quickly break out of the banker-directed containment operation.

UMW Scores Tactical Victory Over IPS But Fails To Go All The Way

CLEVELAND, Oct. 9 (NSIPS) |— Republican Governor James Rhodes of Ohio has until Wednesday, Oct. 13 to get off the fence and veto HB 12, the hated Ohio Civil Conservation Corps Bill, which reached his desk this week amidst a flurry of Democratic Party-directed backroom arm-twisting. The Ohio constitution states that a bill placed before the Governor must become law after a seven-day period without executive action.

Faced with a continuous U.S. Labor Party-led mobilization against the bill — the most intense organized opposition to any legislation in Ohio's history, sources are now indicating the Governor may choose to save face by refusing to sign the bill and allowing it to become law by default. While unofficially expressing a "disinclination for the bill," the Governor has continued a public "neutral" posture shaped by "political" pressure emanating from Democratic Party and Carter campaign circles as well as renegades in his own Republican Party. Lt. Governor Celeste and State Rep. Wilkowski, the bill's original sponsor, lead the Democratic traitors, while Rep. Wingard (R-Stove) and State Senate majority leaders Mahoney head the Republican renegades. Republican U.S. Sen. Robert Taft refuses to take a stand on the bill. The Ohio Republicans' paralysis reflects the dilemma faced by similar layers who refuse to support a competent alternative "job bill" along the lines of the U.S. Labor Party's Emergency Employment Act.

As one Democratic Party official indicated, "What choice does Rhodes have? After all, the Governor (the Republicans |— ed.) has proposed no acceptable alternative to a Full Employment jobs program."

Democratic Party confidence in their effort to get the CCC bill enacted has been seriously challenged by the scope and intensity of the USLP mobilization against it. State Senator Wilkowski is now reportedly drafting a more diluted version of the bill anticipating a possible Rhodes veto. He will propose two cos-

metic amendments to the bill: "that the word 'Director' will be changed to 'chief' and that the camps' provision of the Bill be put in the charge of the Office of Natural Resources rather than the more military sounding Adjutant General.

The hundreds of USLP-mobilized worker calls and telegrams demanding that Rhodes use his veto is forcing a reversal of "official labor" support for the CCC bill. The Teamsters, who have vacillated from a position of support to opposition to neutrality, have now moved once again into opposition. Ohio Teamster Lobbyist Minnue has reportedly personally intervened with the Governor. Similarly, a prominent Building and Construction Trades head in Ohio has ordered his lobbyist to organize for a veto.

Teamster Exec. Fired As Carter-Levi Pressure IBT

William Presser, fifth international vice-president and head of the Central Council of Teamsters, was forced to resign his remaining International Executive Board positions in the Brotherhood of Teamsters at an Oct. 7 night session of the board in Los Angeles, the New York Times reported Oct. 9. An outspoken opponent of Jimmy Carter's slave-labor Humphrey-Hawkins legislation and Ohio CCC bill, Presser was stripped of his Central States Pension Fund trusteeship three weeks ago by IBT President Frank Fitzsimmons. The action was part of a series of Wall Street-dictated "clean-up" moves for which the Institute for Policy Studies countergang PROD and the New York Times are conducting the public relations pressure while Attorney General Edward Levi serves as the "enforcer."

The IBT Executive Board sought to smooth over the senior Presser's ouster by immediately electing his son, Jackie Presser, to the vice-presidential post. The Board has thus far refrained from also filling the Pension Fund trusteeship, in accord with the blackmail terms set in Levi's June meeting with Fitzsimmons. Sources report that under this agreement Teamster officials will be excluded from controlling positions in the Central States Fund.

Not satisfied with this coup, the Times gleefully charges that Bill Presser stands "a 50-50 chance of being indicted" under Levi's investigations of the Fund — PROD's stated objective of "putting all the Teamsters trustees in jail, including Fitzsimmons."

Continuing the union leadership's capitulation to such pressures a Teamsters legislative official acknowledged that the U.S. Labor Party's Lyndon LaRouche was removed from the Teamsters presidential preference poll now in the hands of all U.S. members of the IBT. Teamster officials had previously stated that LaRouche would be included. Another official admitted that the purge of LaRouche was ordered by IBT headquarters in Washington, but said, "it is not known which executive member made the decision."

It is no secret, however, that Executive member Ray Schoessling, the number two man at IBT headquarters, endorsed Jimmy Carter and the slave-labor platform of the Democratic Party at its New York Convention which was addressed by fascist Cesar Chavez. Since then, Schoessling has been widely reported to be behind the "new-image" clean-up campaign designed by the Carter-linked Institute for Policy Studies, and is reported to have a major role in turning over the \$1.6 billion Central States Fund to "professional management" of the Rockefeller banks for use in the Eurodollar swindle.

Bridges Names Agents Attacking ILWU

Harry Bridges, President of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU), blasted by name the gaggle of pseudo-left Institute for Policy Studies agents and right wing Social Democrat "old boys" who are leading a union-busting CIA-type "black operation" against unions. Writing in his "On the Beam" column in the Sept. 10 ILWU newspaper **The Dispatcher**, Bridges exposes the agent operation in which a group of lower seniority (B-men) ILWU members were duped into sponsoring a legal action charging the ILWU with discrimination and aimed at abolishing the union hiring hall and the granting of \$7 million in damages from the ILWU.

Bridges named, "a clique of dilettantes who are in truth, enemies of our union and all labor, as follows: Michael Harrington, Bayard Rustin...Daniel Bell...Herbert Hill...Paul Jacobs...Julius Jacobson...Seymour Lipset...and Nat Hentoff." Bridges writes that these agents were condemned in a 1969 ILWU Convention resolution as enemies of the ILWU and all labor, and reports that the ILWU has won a legal victory against these agents in a San Francisco court decision.

In a similar "fingering" move, the United Steelworkers of America (USWA) issued a leaflet exposing Ed James, Institute operative who heads United Mineworkers President Arnold Miller's staff, and USWA official Hoffman, both of whom are running the campaign of Institute operative Ed 'the Fed' Sadowski for USWA president, as being "operatives under the control of outside forces."

Lines Drawn On Ohio Slave Bill

CINCINNATI, Oct. 6 (NSIPS) — "Missed opportunity" is the phrase that best characterizes the developments of the 47th annual national conference of the United Mineworkers Union just concluded here. Forces grouped around UMW Vice President Mike Trbovich and UMW Executive Board member Lee Roy Patterson, a declared candidate for the President of the 450,000-member union, gained significant ground in the often tumultuous convention battle for control of the union against union president Arnold Miller and staff member Ed James — the chief mouthpieces of the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) network which has infiltrated the union and control it for Wall Street. But, the traditionalists around Trbovich and Patterson stopped short of using this leverage to identify and clean out for good the Institute agents.

The traditionalists managed several tactical victories including, most significantly, a constitutional amendment moving the elections for the unions top post forward by a full year. Further, Trbovich-Patterson forces succeeded in defeating the entire packet of resolutions put forward by the Institute forces designed to limit their power of veto over stooge Miller.

The failure of Trbovich's forces to put forward a clear programmatic alternative to Miller's intransigent commitment to the Democratic Party's disastrous policies of deindustrialization and slave labor provided the Miller crew a last opportunity to prevent the traditionalists from dominating the entire convention. Miller successfully engineered a last minute voice

vote on a key resolution designed to check Miller's power of appointment of staff members and organizers. Had the resolution been passed (it was defeated by a narrow margin) it would have reduced Miller to an impotent figurehead and virtually guaranteed the union's quick return to sound management.

The basis for the parliamentary victories rests on the remoralizing climate set for the convention by the U.S. Labor Party, who circulated copies of an exposé of the Institute for Policy Studies takeover of the Mineworkers, including the role played by labor lawyer Joe Rauh, to hundreds of enraged delegates.

The Convention

UMW Vice President Trbovich challenged the Miller-Naderite forces, Sept. 24, with a denunciation of Miller as "incompetent and backed by outside forces." Trbovich exposed Miller's staff as "Appalachia anti-poverty types" who "run the President like a puppet, a marionette to be manipulated by unseen hands." A small but vocal gaggle of Nader agents began disrupting and heckling, waving an IPS "Miners Report" until a fist fight broke out on the floor of the convention between the Naderites and the old-line miners. Miller was forced to take the microphone to plead for order.

Rumors circulated throughout the hall that the "people outside" at the U.S. Labor Party literature table were distributing the anti-Trbovich "Miners Report." As the extremely tense miners filed out after the session, ten Trbovich supporters attacked the literature table ripping and burning literature. The source of the rumor were Institute agents planted as staff assistants to Trbovich, as well as to most UMW leaders, following the institute's "Miners for Democracy" operation against the UMW. The miners quickly realized that the attack had been set

up "to get our ranks to fight each other."

Cincinnati TV station Channel 10 reported the convention rout of IPS-Nader agents as "just miners' infighting." Grasping at straws, the New York Times Sept. 25, simply lied that Trbovich had "suffered a setback."

Then on Sept. 26, the convention session opened with six reporters linked to the Institute and representing the Communist Party's *Daily World*, the Socialist Workers Party's *The Militant*, and the October League's *The Call*, being expelled from the hall. As Miller pleaded that the Institute-controlled credentials committee be employed for such matters, angry miners also expelled several IPS delegates to the ten-day convention.

As the convention neared its close, it became obvious that Miller and his IPS controllers had lost control of the union. Although Trbovich had fallen into the trap of labelling the Institute operatives with the misnomer of "communist and socialist outsiders," the Miller clique was unable to turn the wrath of miners away from them and toward a handful of "sacrificed" agents or the Labor Party. The often raucous group of 2000 delegates knew who the enemy was — most of them sat on the podium or lurked in the shadows of the union's staff.

But the Patterson-Trbovich forces failed to move decisively to take advantage of this opportunity. While candidate Patterson declared in an interview his intention to campaign on a commitment to progress and development, he and Trbovich avoided making a public stand for growth — which would have shattered pro-Carter Miller. What will determine the future of the mine workers is the degree to which the traditionalists are committed to the implementation of a "reopen the mines" program along the lines suggested by the USLP. As in the case of anti-IPS forces in the United Steelworkers Union, the Mineworkers are at a crossroads where mistakes of courage and perception could cost the war.