

Unite against the budget cuts!

For a general strike of all working people!

Working people throughout Michigan are against Engler's budget cuts.

They know his cuts in property taxes benefit the rich. They know his cuts in social services — unemployment compensation checks, welfare, healthcare, libraries, museums, parks, etc. — hurt working people and poor people.

They know that Engler's plans will widen the gap that already exists between the rich, privileged classes and the working and poor classes.

What working people have not yet realized is that *working people have the power to stop these cuts.*

Working people can organize a general strike.

All workers and students in all workplaces and schools can stop work, set up picket lines, gather together, and *demand* that Engler stop his tax cuts for the rich, and social service cuts for the working and the poor.

They can begin to build a workers party and a workers government that will take over the giant monopolies and develop the planned economy so that it satisfies the needs of the people, rather than the insatiable appetites of rich and greedy parasites.

Working people *can* do these things. Indeed,

they *will* do these things. Sooner or later, they will be driven by the conditions in which they find themselves to take these steps.

But why wait? Why continue to suffer?

Why not fight for a general strike against the budget cuts now?

Why not begin to fight for a workers party, a workers government, and public ownership of the giant monopoly banks and corporations now?

This is what *Truth* is fighting for. Join us. ■

U.S. occupation of Kuwait and Iraq hurts workers!

U.S. officials said that the U.S.'s war would be over quickly and that all U.S. troops would be coming home quickly.

But this is not happening.

U.S. forces are occupying Kuwait and Iraq; they are continuing to engage in violent attacks on people in the area.

In fact, the U.S.'s so-called "peace plan" calls for:

"1. Creating a permanent force backed by U.S. military presence to protect gulf oil fields; 2. Establishing a framework for economic reform and cooperation that will spread Arab oil wealth more equitably; 3. Ensuring a slowdown in the influx of weapons to the region ..." (*Detroit Free Press*, March 11, 1991, page 1.)

This so-called "peace plan" hurts workers.

1. Workers are being forced to pay for the war and for occupying Kuwait and Iraq. Since the U.S. announced its "victory" in the Middle East, *more* workers have been laid-off, there has been *more* speed-up, and *more* cuts in social programs have been announced.

2. Workers and their children are still the ones that have to serve, suffer and die in the

armed forces. While U.S. officials claim that U.S. casualties were light, that is little compensation for the family and friends of those who have died or been injured, not to mention the over 100,000 Iraqis that have died, and those that will die in the coming weeks and months from hunger, sickness, and epidemics, caused by the U.S.'s bombs.

3. Worst of all, U.S. workers are being forced to act as oppressors vis-a-vis workers and oppressed peoples in Kuwait, Iraq and throughout the Middle East. The U.S. claimed that it was fighting to free Kuwait; it has established the worst sort of military dictatorship in Kuwait, in collaboration with the "Emir" and his royal family. They are now rounding up, torturing, and murdering all the workers and poor in Kuwait, especially Palestinians and Yemenis, who failed to support the U.S. and its semi-feudal allies. The U.S. claimed that it wanted to rid the world of Hussein and his dictatorship; it wants to replace him and his dictatorship with forces that will totally serve the heads of U.S. banks and enterprises.

Workers of all races and nationalities need to unite against the heads of the giant U.S. financial, industrial, and agricultural monopolies who want the oil in the Middle East so that they can enrich themselves at the



expense of the masses of people.

No more blood for oil!

Bring all U.S. troops home now!

Cut all U.S. aid to the rich oppressors in the Middle East (the Kuwaiti ruling family, the State of Israel, etc.)! ■

SUPPORT THIS STRUGGLE — SUBSCRIBE TO TRUTH!

Soviet workers fight Gorbachev

The struggles of oppressed peoples and workers inside the Soviet Union and throughout Eastern Europe continue.

- 100,000 miners of Russia and the Ukraine are on strike demanding the resignation of the head bureaucrat, Gorbachev, and higher wages

- The largest demonstrations since the 1917 revolution took place in Russia on March 10 as millions of people in 23 major cities including Moscow, where 500,000 marched, demanded the resignation of Gorbachev.

- On March 17 Gorbachev called for a referendum on preserving the "union" of the Soviet Union. It was boycotted by 6 of the republics and two of the largest, Russia and the Ukraine, added their own demands.

- Demonstrations and strikes in Albania have forced the government to relax emigration rules and thousands emigrated to Italy this past week.

- In Yugoslavia, 5 days of protests in Serbia, the main republic, demanding the resignation of the government, included battles with police and ended in the death of one student and the arrest of 120 dissidents. More demonstrations, in spite of the use of troops and tanks, resulted in the freeing of these prisoners and the resignation of some government officials. Demonstrations and battles with government troops took place in Croatia and Slovenia, two other republics. The demonstrators all call for the resignation of the government.

- Poland has been wracked by strikes of farmers, miners, teachers, transportation workers and factory workers for higher wages in recent weeks.

In response to this continued movement of the oppressed masses and workers against the privileged and dictatorial bureaucracy, the bureaucrats are calling out troops to shoot demonstrators, police to beat them up, tanks to terrorize them.

The bureaucrats are trying to bring *capitalism* into the Soviet Union and the other Eastern European countries as quickly as possible. By introducing capitalism, that is, selling state property to greedy Western

Capitalism and socialism

The heads of the giant financial, industrial, agricultural and commercial monopolies in the U.S. enjoy the capitalist and imperialist economic system in the U.S. Their tiny class owns all the resources in society and uses them to enrich themselves at the expense of the masses of people. Working people own little or nothing but their own labor power; they have to sell their labor power to the owners in order to survive.

Naturally, the owners of the giant monopolies in the U.S. want working people to think that there is no alternative to capitalism and imperialism. They say that socialism is a society with a privileged, dictatorial bureaucracy, like the USSR has been.

This is a lie.

Workers and oppressed peoples in the USSR have only taken the first steps toward socialism, by building a workers party, overthrowing a feudal monarchy, establishing a workers government, taking over banks and basic industries, and beginning to develop a planned economy. Now they are struggling to rid themselves of the privileged dictatorial bureaucracy that arose — under the pressure of and with the support of U.S. imperialism — and that has been undermining their struggle. Sooner or later they will succeed in building a fully socialist society — with no rich and no poor, no top and no bottom, no privileged dictatorial bureaucrats, no poverty, no oppression, no want, and no suffering of any kind. So will working people of all races and nationalities in the U.S. and throughout the world. ■

bankers and corporations of the United States, France and Britain, the bureaucrats

are trying to hold onto their privileges. — Jack Marlowe ■

Victory over Iraq means more racism at home

The victory in Iraq has been no victory for Black people in the United States.

Three racist actions by the courts and police show what the victory means for Black people:

- The last of the racists who murdered Yusuf Hawkins, a young Black man killed in the Bensonhurst section of New York City in 1989, was acquitted of murder and manslaughter charges and convicted on 8 lesser charges. Only one of the 8 defendants was ever convicted of murder.

- Rodney King, a Black man, was beaten by Los Angeles police, and his beating was

video-taped by a bystander. He was unarmed and helpless when he was severely beaten.

- Mark Klein, a white teenager, admitted in court that he attacked Chuck Gibson, a young Black Detroit, who died later of the blows inflicted. Klein was acquitted of all charges. Two others will be tried separately later.

It is up to the working class to put a stop to these attacks. First, by punishing these racists by any means necessary. Second, by fighting for full equality for people of all races and nationalities. — Jack Marlowe ■

Briefly . . .

Support GI resistance! Solidarity with Tahan K. Jones and Ellenora Johnson! Socialist Action, a Trotskyist group, reports that U.S. armed forces on the West coast are taking a hard line against Black GIs who refused to serve in the U.S.'s dishonest and murderous war for oil. For further information, and to support these GIs, call 415-626-8053 (Jones) and 415-465-2241 (Johnson).

The **International Workers League** (a tendency of the Fourth International with substantial roots among working people in Latin America) and the **International League for the Reconstruction of the Fourth International** (our international tendency of the Fourth International with supporters from the U.S., the Antilles, Spain, France, and Poland) each issued statements condemning the U.S. occupation of Kuwait and Iraq and calling for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. forces and all imperialist forces.

Spark, a Trotskyist group, held an annual dinner in Detroit. Approximately 100 attended, including workers of white, Black, and Arab origin. Speakers condemned the U.S.'s war for oil and for domination of the peoples of the Middle East; they said the U.S.'s victory is no victory for workers. They urged workers to work with and help build a revolutionary organization to put an end to this system and build one that serves the workers.

The **Trotskyist Committee of Detroit**, sold 33 copies of *Truth* No. 255 at the Ford Rouge plant, Wayne County Community College, and at the Spark dinner. We also published a statement on the lessons of the struggle against the U.S.'s war for oil and we began distributing flyers urging workers to campaign for a workers candidate for Detroit City Council, Cleve Andrew Pulley, of the Socialist Workers Party.

Marxist study group. Tuesdays, 6 p.m. Call 584-6556 for exact location.

Truth meetings. Thursdays, 6 p.m. Call 584-6556 for exact location.


March 18th is the 120th anniversary of the Paris Commune, the first workers government. Speaking of the Paris Commune, Frederick Engels, the great revolutionary and friend to Karl Marx, said: "From the very outset the Commune was compelled to recognize that the working class, once come to power, could not go on managing with the old state machine; that in order not to lose again its only just conquered supremacy, this working class must, on the one hand, do away with all the old repressive machinery previously used against itself, and, on the other, safeguard itself against its own deputies and officials, by declaring them all, without exception, subject to recall at any moment ..." ("Introduction," *The Civil War in France*, 1891.)

Campaign for a workers candidate for Detroit City Council!

Special Election — April 23!
Cleve Andrew Pulley — Workers Candidate!

**Autoworker
UAW member
Civil rights activist
Veteran
Socialist Workers Party member**

For further information, call 584-6556.



Marxists say . . .

"Competition becomes transformed into monopoly. The result is immense progress in the socialization of production ... Concentration has reached the point at which it is possible to make an approximate estimate of all sources of raw materials ... Not only are such estimates made, but these sources are captured by gigantic monopolist associations. An approximate estimate of the capacity of markets is also made, and the associations 'divide' them up amongst themselves by agreement. Skilled labor is monopolized, the best engineers are engaged; the means of transport are captured ... Capitalism in its imperialist stage leads directly to the most comprehensive socialization of production; it, so to speak, drags the capitalists, against their will and consciousness, into some sort of a new social order, a transitional one from complete free competition to complete socialization. Production becomes social, but appropriation remains private. The social means of production remain the private property of a few. The general framework of formally recognized free competition remains, and the yoke of a few monopolists on the rest of the population becomes a hundred times heavier, more burdensome and intolerable ..."

(Lenin, *Imperialism: the Highest Stage of Capitalism*, January-June, 1916. ■)

TRUTH

A bulletin published by the Trotskyist Committee of Detroit.

The Trotskyist Committee of Detroit is named after Leon Trotsky, a leader of the first successful workers socialist revolution and a founder of the Fourth International, the world party of the socialist revolution. The Trotskyist Com-

mittee of Detroit is associated with one of the international tendencies of the Fourth International, the International League for the Reconstruction of the Fourth International.

Editor: Margaret Gutshall

Address: Box 441283, Detroit, Michigan 48244-1283

Phone: 313-584-6556

Subscribe to Truth!

Regular subscriptions: Ten issues for \$3.00; Twenty issues for \$6.00.

Supporting subscriptions; institutions: Ten issues for \$6.00; Twenty issues for \$12.00.

Name _____

Address _____

(Send with check or money order payable to M. Gutshall, to Truth, Box 441283, Detroit, MI 48244-1283.)