Bush Violates Oath, Should Be Removed

President George W. Bush—acting more like the third English king than the third American president to bear that name—violated his oath of office last month when he invoked the unconstitutional Railway Labor Act of 1926 to prevent 10,000 mechanics at Northwest Airlines from going on strike.

George the Third should be impeached and removed from office. For every reason, through no fault of those who, through ignorance or complicity, failed to condemn Bush’s dictatorial act and to take the steps needed to ensure enforcement of the 13th Amendment of the Constitution, should be recalled. They too have violated their oaths to “defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic” and to “bear true faith and allegiance to the same...”

Involuntary Servitude

Early last month, more than 10,000 airline mechanics, janitors, and service employees of Northwest Airlines voted overwhelmingly to authorize Local 30 of the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association (AMFA) to call a strike over wages, pensions and recreational pay. That was their right, not because they were tradesmen, professionals, preachers, etc., but frequently that capitalism is synonymous with a system of “free labor,” but because it is guaranteed to every worker by the 13th Amendment. That provision, adopted after the Civil War, is plain and simple. It states: “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime, whereof the party has been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.”

The same provision empowers Congress “to enforce this article with appropriate legislation.” It does not empower Congress to exact “laws,” such as the Railway Labor Act of 1926, that undermine, compromise or nullify this or any other provision of the Constitution. And it certainly does not empower the president of the United States to usurp power to wipe out a constitutional guarantee by “executive order,” or by any other means.

Bush’s Executive Order

The Northwest Airlines workers’ vote was taken after more than a year of negotiations with the company and after a 30-day “cooling-off period” ordered by the National Mediation Board had lapsed without significant change in the company’s demands. President Bush responded by invoking the Railway Labor Act. He sought to justify his executive order by forbidding the workers to exercise their right to withhold their labor with the assertion that “this dispute threatens substan-
tially to interrupt interstate commerce to a degree that would deprive sections of the country of essential transporta-
tion services.”

But principles aren’t worth the breath needed to show a little flexibility in such things. He can’t be too rigid, too dogmatic, or he might lose sight of the forest for all the trees.

Now, if you get the idea from this that the same Bush-Nickles combination that wouldn’t dream of intruding between workers and capitalists over safety regulations but would invoke the unconstitutional Railway Labor Act to intrude itself between an airline and its employ-

ees suggests that a double standard may be lurk-
ing here, or at least a wee bit of hypocrisy, you’d be wrong. We know it looks bad, but appear-
ces can be deceiving. President Bush and Sen. Nickles are principled men—it’s just that the principle that’s sacred to them isn’t the one that most people think it is.

The principle sacred to the Bush-Nickles men-
tality is this: What’s good for capitalism and capi-
talists is good for the country, no matter how bad it may be for the working class.

The Socialist Labor Party disagrees. What’s good for capitalism is bad for the country pre-
cisely because it’s bad for the working-class majority.

But principles aren’t worth the breath needed to breathe them or the paper and ink needed to print them if they cannot be enforced. That’s why the SLP needs the support of everyone who reads

(Continued on page 6)
Iraqi National Congress
Boosted by Bush Presidency

During the Cold War, the United States used its strategic dictators and occasional guerrilla groups in its efforts to outflank the Soviet Union in Africa, Latin America and other far-flung regions against the enemy. One of the beneficiaries of U.S. support in those days was Saddam Hussein of Iraq, who has held power for 15 years.

Some things have changed since the Cold War, of course, but the strategy the United States used to frustrate Soviet ambitions in many parts of the developing world still has its uses.

Four years ago, for example, Congress appropriated $98 million to help something called the Iraqi National Congress in its efforts to undermine and eventually topple the United States' former ally in Baghdad. The INC is led by Ahmed Chalabi, at one time a banker in Jordan where, according to Agence Europe, a Belgian news agency, criminal charges are still pending against him. He is a former president of the Petra Bank, which he chaired and which in the early eighties bankrupted thousands of depositors in Jordan and Lebanon.

Not for that reason, we suppose, but for other reasons of its own, the Clinton administration was disappointed Chalabi and his Iraqi National Congress by keeping most of the $86 million under wraps.

“Only a small part was released by the administration, a reflection of its cautious approach,” the INC complained in a press release posted on its Web site on Feb. 7. “Clinton’s national security adviser, Samuel Berger, once explained the INC’s competition to the State Department. If we give you an amount of money, you will raise an army; if you encourage and almost incite people to rise up against your government, you incur a moral obligation to come to their defense at a moment of peril.”

But with Clinton out and the son of the father of the Old Order installed at 100 Pennsylvania Ave., the INC and its fugitive leader believe things may be looking up. As the press release cited put it: “Seeing new hope after years of frustration, an Iraqi opposition leader said Wednesday (Feb. 7). The Bush administration is ‘significantly’ more inclined to provide aid to resistance groups than the Clinton administration.”

The INC also reported that, in January, it “was encouraged by the Bush administration’s decision to allow the group to carry out information-gathering activities inside Iraq relating to Iraq war crimes, weapons development and other matters... The INC is continuing to work with the administration officials on the release of an additional $29 million approved for the current fiscal year. It will be used for humanitarian relief, media-related activities, administration, diplomacy and conferences.”

Why would the U.S. government want to risk getting drawn into a guerrilla war in Iraq? Is it just to support a shyster like Chalabi? Is it for “humanitarian” reasons? Certainly not. The father of the son may have debunked the “theory” that the Gulf War and other U.S. efforts to pull the Saddam thorn from its side was not over until if the son of the father is superior to his progenitor in one particular it is his cadet.

Or is the answer? there can be no doubt about that. Bush II is picking up where Bush I left off. As background, the Web site of Alexander Cockburn and Jeffery St. Clair, Counterpunch, recently explained, "The People P.O. Box 218, Mountain View, CA 94042-0218. Ask for the SLP Membership Packet.

Do You Belong?
Do you know what the SLP stands for? Do you understand the class struggle and why the SLP calls for an end of capitalism and of its system of wage labor? Do you understand why the SLP does not advocate reforms of capitalism, and why it calls upon workers to organize Socialist Industrial Unions?

If you’ve been reading The People steadily for a year or more, if you have read the literature recommended by your Socialist, and if you agree with the SLP’s call for the political and economic unity of the working class, you may qualify for membership in the SLP. And if you qualify to be a member you should be a member.

For information on what membership entails, and how to apply for it, write to SLP P.O. Box 218, Mountain View, CA 94042-0218. Ask for the SLP Membership Packet.

Get Subs!

In the late 1990s Chalabi’s cause was pressed by Republicans in Congress, most notably Jesse Helms and Trent Lott. A bizarre alliance, stretching from Helms to The Wall Street Journal to Minuty, Chris- topher Hitchens, pressed Chalabi’s call for the U.S. to guarantee ‘military exclusion zones’ in northern Iraq and in the south near Basra and the oil fields to be admin- istered by the Iraqi National Congress. Such guarantees could set the stage for a new U.S. invasion of Iraq.

And so capitalism’s struggle for control of the world’s oil resources marches on.

Diane Seer contributed to this article.

Our 111th Year

Questions: What socialist journals have survived into their 111th year of publication?
Answer: You’re reading it.

Longevity in itself, of course, is no crite- rion of success. But we do take some satis- faction in opening with this issue our 111th year as the official journal of the Socialist Labor Party, the voice of De Leonism in the United States, and a paper that tries to uncover the news for working people.

The 111th year has survived for 110 years there are two reasons: one, a read- ership that has generously supported a paper that upholds ideas and principles that can be found nowhere else; and two, because the job The People has set out to accomplish is far from complete. We are, after all, at war on Saddam to help our readers understand society, but to build a socialist movement that can change it.

To that end we ask all of our readers to help us mark our 111th year of publica- tion by promoting and supporting both The People and the cause of socialism at every opportunity in the months ahead.

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Get Subs!

I believe employers have rights as well as employees. —George E. McNeil, The Carpenter, May 1893

Who are the modern employers, to what economic class do they belong? They are, and belong to, that class that is in possession of the greatest amount of capital—land and capital—without which civilization could not exist.

Who are the employees? They are the wage-earners, the working class, and vice versa; that class which owns the machines of production and belongs to, that class that is stripped of economic power, he stands before the working class like a highwayman before the traveler whom he waylays.

Unless wrong—theft, fraud, chicanery and the whole catalogue of crimes—can be the basis of “rights,” the employer has no right either to its stolen goods nor to any such transaction?

McNeil’s “belief” was expressed in a speech delivered before trade unionists at Worcester, Mass.; Mr. Gompers’ view was expressed in this city also before working- men, although only a very few; Mr. Lennon’s insertion in the London Workingmen’s Paper. The harm these expressions do to the unguarded working- men, who hear it, are incalcula- ble. But still they have one redeeming fea- ture: they serve to push the enlightened member of labor through the ranks of labor. Mr. McNeil’s statement, at least, is consistent with the working people’s idea of “rights.”

A De Leon Editorial

Capitalist ‘Rights’

Here De Leon roundly criticizes a “labor leader” for maintaining that capitalists have “rights” that should be recognized by the labor movement. Socialists reject the theory and explain why.

Another Instance of Old Trade Union Uncapacit y

Uncapacity (The People, June 11, 1893)

Is there any moral force at the bottom of such a transaction? None! only might and brute force. The employer is buttressed up in the possession of capital—land and capital—which civilized man must perish. They are the capitalists.

Who are the employees, to what eco- nomic class do they belong? They are, and belong to, that class that is stripped of the machinery of production—land and capital—without which they are at the mercy of the class that owns these prerequisites to a living. They are the working people.

How did the capitalist, or modern employing class come to the ownership of the machinery of production? Through fraud and theft.

Whom did they defraud and rob? The working class.

How? He is the sole producer of all wealth. By returning to labor barely one- quarter of its own products and Becking it of about one-quarter of its profits, the capitalist or employer class piles up the wealth which it then turns upon labor as an instrument of further oppression. The employer is the owner of the factory, the workshop, the machinery, the raw materials, the factory, a parasite on the body eco- nomic and political, the working class is the broadwinner for this robber class.

Why does the employer or working class not refuse to allow itself to be robbed by the employer? Because the employer, being its own medium, the gates to bread and butter, can starve the employee into a “contract” whereby the latter submits to be robbed rather than die outright.

In the late 1990s Chalabi’s cause was pressed by Republicans in Congress, most notably Jesse Helms and Trent Lott. A bizarre alliance, stretching from Helms to The Wall Street Journal to Minuty, Chris- topher Hitchens, pressed Chalabi’s call for the U.S. to guarantee ‘military exclusion zones’ in northern Iraq and in the south near Basra and the oil fields to be admin- istered by the Iraqi National Congress. Such guarantees could set the stage for a new U.S. invasion of Iraq.

And so capitalism’s struggle for control of the world’s oil resources marches on.
The outbreaks of hoof-and-mouth disease and “mad cow” disease that have devastated the British meat industry and still threaten public health and security in Europe and the rest of the world damn the capitalist system for the catastrophic social risks and environmental crises produced by capitalist livestock and food production. The supermarket and chemical intensive livestock production are produced. The supermarket and chemical intensive livestock production respond by including low levels of vaccinations against diseased guts and trimmings of scrapie to enter the feed and for it to reappear in the food chain. The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that more than 168,000 knives were damaged in both livestock and humans, in effect deteriorating the systems and making them more susceptible to disease. Modern capitalist livestock production responds by including low levels of vaccinations against diseased guts and trimmings of scrapie to enter the feed and in an attempt to ward off illness and promote rapid growth. But the practice helps create strains of bacteria that could appear as diseases in all livestock, and in humans, in effect weakening the immune systems of both.

The slaughterhouses and meatpacking plants, like the feedlots and virtually every other facility involving livestock production, are arranged for maximum profit rather than for maximum public safety, health, cleanliness and protection of the food supply and environment. Thestage for the catastrophic social and environmental crisis is set.

The widespread export of infected British livestock is the root cause of “mad cow” and hoof-and-mouth disease. Modern capitalist livestock production...
The recent strike in Singer's Factory at Kilbowie has caused more discussion throughout the Labour Movement than any industrial strike of the last ten or twenty years. The widespread interest which it evoked—not only in Scotland, but also in Britain but also in America and the United States, as well as in this country, is maintained, that the dear public for some time was acquainted only with the exterior aspects of this firm must be kept in mind if we are to understand the process, completely disorganised in their relations to one another—a mass of disconnected and unconnected units, parts of a big machine, and directed by powers from above. Consequently while griev- ances are widespread all the time, while each individual keenly feels the increasing exactions in his own case, the method of factory organisation prevents him from engaged on piecework. The prices for a half-zig washer during one year have gone up one hundred, whatever it may happen to be. This of course implies a certain quality of work—and this is where the shoe pinches. The price of a half-zig washer, take for instance the very long the prices will be reduced, so that in return for the increased output—this is where the shoe pinches. The price of a half-zig washer, take for instance the very long the prices will be reduced, so that in return for the increased output—this is where the shoe pinches. The price of a half-zig washer, take for instance the very long the prices will be reduced, so that in return for the increased output—this is where the shoe pinches. The price of a half-zig washer, take for instance the very long the prices will be reduced, so that in return for the increased output—this is where the shoe pinches.
which the Trade Union aristocracy refer contemptuously as “semi-skilled.” Conse- quently it is outside the scope of organisa- tion of the Trade Unions, who have done nothing to help them. Impotent as the Trade Unions have proved themselves, through the essentially vicious and sec- tional nature of their activities, to pro- vent the lot of their own members from deteriorating steadily, it could hardly be expected that they could help those out- side their charmed circle (although this does not explain their vindictive hatred of those industrialists who have endeav- oured to take up the task which the Trade Unionists have shirked). Some sev- enteen or eighteen years ago an attempt was made to take up this union, and for a little while it had a more or less feeble exist- ence. It met, however, with strenuous opposition from the firm, who used its own members to keep it from within, supple- mented by the efforts of the management from without. One of its members who lent himself to the last-mentioned work of acting as agent of the firm from within the union and who was largely responsible for its extinction, received his reward in the shape of a foremanship, and is still earning the wages of dishonest in that capaci- ty. It is well to notice in passing that this union had no socialist connection of any kind. It was merely a crude effort at organ- ization from without. One of its members who noticed the apparatus of its members to kill it from within, supple- mental to this the workers, helpless and disorgan- ised, had been forced to accept every reduc- tion of wages and increase of work without demur. Now that Labor had taken hold that the small group of Industrial Workers of Great Britain, a mere handful of men, had checked the course of exploitation for the first time in close to a score of years. The natural result was that 60 workers in that depart- ment immediately joined the Group, bring- ing its membership well over the three hun- dred mark. After a few weeks later another attempt was made in the same department to reduce prices by 1d. per hundred. As a consequence 400 men, practically the whole department with the exception of under- foremen and fitters, came out on strike, but returned next day—having obtained a restoration of the old prices. Then in Department 13 A. (Buffing) a particularly pernicious plot was perpetrated upon the members of the Group. For years the squeezing-up process had been carried on in this department until it seemed that the limit of physical exertion and endurance had been reached, and that consequently the firm had reached the high water mark of exploitation so far as these men were concerned. A final experi- ment was made. The men on a particular job were told that they would receive 1/ per hundred more, as a higher standard of output were desired. The foreman of that depart- ment taught them as to the methods of the firm, it is obvious that the men should have been trained to do the higher standard, even at the higher remuneration unless a reduction was made in the weekly output expected. However, they accepted the offer and increased the output. As might have been expected, the foreman’s next step was to deduct 1/ increase while still demanding the higher standard which the lure of a temporary increase had shown to be possible. The men, however, prepared to resist this new swindle, and the threat of a strike induced the management to reduce the 1/.

It is well to notice how the industrial method of organisation had broken down the pre-existent disunity and general lack of cohesion which had made the past encroachments of the firm so easy of recovery. Each department of the W.G.B. members worked its shop committee, to whom every grievance occurring throughout the department was reported. About three or four weeks later another Committee of the Industrial Union Group, comprising representatives of the Indus- trial Workers of Great Britain and all the other groups, met in New York, and the W.G.B. had any membership. The work- ers now no longer suffered in individual ignorance of what was happening throughout the works. For the first time they shared their grievances through the medium of inter-communication supplied by the Group and the corresponding work of the De Leon Works was beginning to be organised on the only system by which organisation is possible in that fac- tor. The I.W.G.B. avoided the sectional- ism of the Trade Unions which makes recognition of the right of those who are blind to the interests of all the others and blind to the fact that its own interests are bound up with those of the others and can only be served by the recognition of them. Similarly the Shop Committee sys- tem avoided the errors of the Gas Workers’ Union (the old De Leon Works) of simple and unionism unrelates all sections of Labour which do not fit into any of the reorganised trades—a union which organ- ises all the trades, unionist at mass, taking account of the particular parts of the industrial process in which they are engaged and making the difference between them. The I.W.G.B. recognises these divisions as facts, but does not erect them into barriers. While by its Shop Commit- tee system it took cognizance of each sec- tion to which its membership reached, it organised them, not as buffers, cabinet pol- ishers or fitters, but as members of the Singer Group of the I.W.G.B., each reorganising the reciprocal rights and duties of the whole body of workers. It proved itself to rep- resent not only one trade, but the whole mesh of solidarity and orderly organisation. These victories to which we have referred, small as they were in themselves, prove that the trade union method of organisation was being the first examples of successful resis- tance after twenty years of practically uninterrupted and unquestioned suprema- cy on the part of the firm. A spirit of revolt became general. All were wronged; all had grievances of one nature or another. An outlook had broken through the wall. (To be concluded)

The IWIG was mistaken in this. The founder of I.M. Singer & Co., Isaac Merritt Singer, was a native of Troy, N.Y. In 1855, he incorpo- rated in New York as the Singer Manufacturing Co. His company which was founded in 1851, is available in 2006. Most of his friends and family doubt that Ramsey Clark, members of the U.S. Con- gress, and thousands of other groups and orga- nizations have voted unanimously to approve the following statement:

Dear Comrade Bills and Comrades of U.S.P.U.

Thank you very much for your message. We are very proud of our comradeship and our organisation of Socialist Labor Party of United States. The comrades are very enthusiastic about it. We continue to participate in events in Kiev with real Marxist Leonid Brezhnev propaganda. The information that we are a fraternal organisation of U.S.P.U. and and part of the world Party of Labour movement is very useful also in our propa- ganda for Ukrainian workers. We are using the Ukrainian versions of De Leon’s works that you sent us. We believe that in future our relationship will be even more fruitful and useful for the establish- ment of real socialism on the basis of De Leon’s ideas in all parts of the world.” The De Leon works mentioned by Sku- benko are Ukrainian translations of Re- evolution, and Appeal to the Working Class. The Burning Question of Trades Unionism and Industrial Unionism. The last men- tioned includes a speech by Eugene V. Debs.

High Schoolers Respond to SLP

On Dec. 18, Members of Section Cleveland, New York City, SLP participated in the Leonard Peltier Walk for Freedom. The march attracted from 3,000-5,000 partici- pants. They hope to influence the Clinton White House into granting executive clemency to the ailing Native American activist.

Peltier has been in prison since 1979. Amnesty International, Nelson Mandela, the European Parliament, former FBI agents, former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, members of the U.S. Con- gress, and thousands of other groups and individuals around the world have repeat- edly challenged Peltier’s imprisonment and appealed for his release. The situation is not unique. The problem is not only limited to Peltier. Most of his friends and family doubt that he will live to see that date because he suffers from diabetes, is nearly blind and conditions at Leavenworth Prison are not doing his health any good.

The SLP takes its stand on the side of human rights. It is a stand directly op- posed to the capitalist system, which upholds the rights of the few to profit at the expense of the many.

John-Paul Catuso
Section New York City

a discussion of the fundamental difference between procapitalist unionism and socialist unionism.

by Nathan Karp

SLP of Ukraine

Last December, the National Office received an e-mail from Sergy Skubenko of Kiev, Ukraine, reporting as follows:

“The SLPU (Socialist Labor Party of Ukraine) adopted a Declaration of Prin- ciples and a Constitution at its first National Conference on Dec. 7 based on the corresponding documents of the SLP-U.S. Representatives of Kiev and Sevast- opol were present at the conference.

In accordance with the procedures provided by the SLPU Constitution, I was elected as National Secretary. Please find attached the translations of the Declaration of Prin- ciples and Constitution of the SLPU.”

This information was promptly submit- ted to the National Executive Committee for its consideration. The Committee decided to recognize the SLPU as a fraternal orga- nization of the SLP of America was offered greetings of the National Office, the Na- tional Executive Committee and the entire membership of the SLPU of America.”

On March 7 Skubenko replied, as follows:

“Dear Comrade Bills and Comrades of SLP-U.S.

Thank you very much for your message. We are very proud of our comradeship and our organisation of Socialist Labor Party of United States. The comrades are very enthusiastic about it. We continue to participate in events in Kiev with real Marxist Leonid Brezhnev propaganda. The information that we are a fraternal organisation of U.S.P.U. and and part of the world Party of Labour movement is very useful also in our propa- ganda for Ukrainian workers. We are using the Ukrainian versions of De Leon’s works that you sent us. We believe that in future our relationship will be even more fruitful and useful for the establish- ment of real socialism on the basis of De Leon’s ideas in all parts of the world.” The De Leon works mentioned by Sku- benko are Ukrainian translations of Re- evolution, and Appeal to the Working Class. The Burning Question of Trades Unionism and Industrial Unionism. The last men- tioned includes a speech by Eugene V. Debs.

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John-Paul Catuso
Section New York City
Connecticut Doctors Sue HMOs

By B.G.

In February, two groups of Connecticut doctors, with support from their state’s attorney general’s office, filed a number of lawsuits against six major health maintenance organizations (HMOs).

Six lawsuits filed by the Connecticut State Medical Society (CSMS) charge that the HMOs systematically harmed patients by denying them access to emergency and crucial medical treatment. Five separate suits filed by doctors acting independently later made similar allegations and charge the HMOs with having illegally refused to pay millions of dollars owed to doctors for their services.

The 11 suits are an attempt to force the HMOs to cease the penny-pinching way they treat patients and their doctors. They seek to force the HMOs to stop the arbitrary denial of essential medical services to increase their profits. They also seek to force the practice of refusing care without proper explanation; to halt the practice of cutting costs by allowing clinic staff to be switched off between patients, thus endangering the welfare of patients; and to stop alleged violations of Connecticut’s Uniform Trade Practices Act. The suits also call for withholding payments due physicians.

The HMOs named in the series of suits are: Aetna U.S. Healthcare, Ugica Healthcare, Cigna HealthCare, ConnectiCare, Aetna Health Care 1, and Independence Blue Cross.

The CSMS has launched a public education campaign to teach workers why they need to defend, workers’ rights when they are threatened by the ruling class or the political state. Merely criticizing efforts to deprive workers of their rights is the least that workers can do from any action that claims to represent their interests.

While the HMOs are quick to denounce any conduct which advocates violent overthrow of the “state system,” they have been known to act violently against their own workers. The 1926 Railway Labor Act was made law with the full agreement of railroad labor and management, the latter amended to include the airline industry after discussion with the parties. The unions did so because the act codified their role as merchandisers of labor to capitalist enterprises by establishing the “collective bargaining” process. It enabled union bureaucrats to fortify and perpetuate their privileged positions as labor lieutenants of the capitalist class.

No wonder the overwhelming majority of American workers have turned their back on the AFL-CIO. No wonder AFL-CIO President John Sweeney recently declared that the federation is drifting toward the point where it will be “virtually impossible to exist as a viable institution.”

Defending Our Rights

“What can be nullified or suspended by a strike of the working class is worthless to them. To give them substance and meaning they must be safeguarded beyond the power of any authority, other than that of those whose rights they are supposed to be.

The only dependable safeguard is the indissoluble union of their own power to enforce them. The power to enforce implies organization, in this case the organization of workers determined to protect and preserve what their forebears fought a revolution and a civil war to establish.

The Socialist Industrial Union program of the Socialist Labor Party offers the only viable plan of working-class organization to place our rights beyond the reach of any usurer to mock or tamper with.

—K.B.

The People. We are working to teach workers why they need to build a movement capable of organizing and mobilizing their potential strength, not only to resist the encroachments of capitalism, but to mount the counter-offensive that will put an end to all such “solutions” by putting an end to class-divided society.

Help us in that effort with your financial support. Please use the coupon on this page to contribute as generously as you can to the SLP Sustainer Fund.

WORKERS OF THE WORLD
Nepal Quashes Hotel Strike

By John-Paul Catuaco

On March 15, more than 200,000 hotel workers in Nepal went on an “indefinite strike.” The workers were demanding that the government attach a 10 percent surcharge to tourists’ hotel bills. In theory, proceeds from the surcharge would ultimately be distributed among workers in the form of government-run insurance that news reports failed to describe.

Presumably, union officials hoped to have a say in how the funds would be disbursed. However, all that became academic 12 hours before the strike began when the government changed the country’s strike-breaking Essential Services Act to include the hotel and tourist trades. The move brought the “indefinite strike” to an immediate end.

Ninety-three workers who dared to stage a protest in response to the ban were jailed for two days. They were released after the union agreed to comply with the strike ban and officially call off the strike.
Nortel Layoffs Evolve Cheer, Fears in High-Tech Industry

By B.B.

It is impressed upon the workpeople, as a great consolation, first, that their sufferings are only temporary “in toto,” and, second, that, owing almost certainly, that machinery acquires the mastery over the whole of a given field of production, by only degrees, so that the extent and intensity of its destructive effect is diminished. The first consolation neutralizes the second, so that the advance of the industry by industries, it produces chronic misery among the operative masses communities, whereas the transition is the eruptive and fast by great masses.

Karl Marx, Capital

Some similar reactions from other capitalist sources resembled thin-concealedly joyed. Dr. Hasan Pir- kul, dean of the School of Man- agement at the University of Texas, Dallas, for some time ago, to sev- eral moving companies, but then turned to the “brighter” side. Recovery is just around the corner, and soon “we will be back to a position where we are worrying about employment issues to bring more workers in,” chief. With the company it may, but at $5 for children age 12 & under the capacity of the working population, and become one of the most ener-

Karl Marx

The future of the computer hardware business is no longer an academic question as millions of consumers seek their computer hardware needs at the moment that Dell Computer Corp. isn’t offering any clues to investors beyond the first quarter of its fiscal year. Capitalism’s instability is boldly highlighted by the mounting tide of corporate closings, profit losses and the impact the loss of workers’ income has on other capitalists (retailers, landlords, etc.) As The Dallas Morning News put it, “The future of the computer hardware business is no longer an academic question as millions of consumers seek their computer hardware needs at the moment that Dell Computer Corp. isn’t offering any clues to investors beyond the first quarter of its fiscal year.”

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One of the most desirable “entrepreneurial” schemes ever hatched is that of training former enemies of the U.S. governments around the world to do a ruling class’ dirty work. Because war or the threat of war is the norm under capitalism, there always is a demand for the services of so-called soldiers of fortune and the companies that specialize in training them. As more brawls over markets, cheap labor and the use of private armies so that American troops don’t return from the Balkans to the U.S. government for specific purposes. Also, MPRI serves U.S. client states and insurgencies clearly under the auspices of the U.S. government.

MPRI is extremely useful to the “executive committee” of America’s capitalist class, including the so-called “peace operations,” training alleged “war criminals” and using proxy armies so that American troops don’t return from the Balkans to the U.S. government. For this armed confrontation does not mean the end of MPRI, but the beginning of a new MPRI with more money to operate.

Sergiy Skubenko is National Secretary of the Socialist Labor Party of Ukraine, which was organized at a National Conference in Kiev on Dec.

Military Training for Profit Adds Fuel to Balkans Crisis

By Diane Secor

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