

STARVATION STALKS AMERICA'S CITIES; ROOSEVELT FEEDS BILLIONS TO WAR FUNDS

Stalin's Invasion of Finland

Statement of Policy by the Political Committee
of the Socialist Workers Party

1. The invasion of Finland by the Red Army is an incident in the Second World War which is now only in its tentative and initial stages of development.

2. The character of the Second World War is that of an imperialist struggle for the redivision of the earth. Despite present alliances, or future changes in the alignment of the powers, the class antagonism between the imperialist states and the Soviet Union as a degenerated workers state retains its full force. From this must follow an inevitable attempt on the part of the imperialists of one camp or another or in a combination, to attack the Soviet Union in order to destroy the economic conquests of the October Revolution and open up the territory of the Soviet Union for capitalist exploitation.

3. Finland is not an independent small state fighting for its independence against an imperialist power. Bourgeois Finland is and always has been a vassal state of the imperialists and an outpost of imperialism on the Russian border.

4. In the present conflict the imperialist powers of the United States and Great Britain stand behind Finland and inspire its foreign policy in relation to the Soviet Union. The diplomatic and propagandistic intervention of the Roosevelt administration on the side of bourgeois Finland is not motivated by "humanitarian" considerations but by the class interests and the future military designs of the Wall Street masters of the government.

5. Stalinist policy in the conflict with Finland is characteristic of Stalinist policy as a whole: the protection of the interests and privileges of the bureaucracy in utter disregard of the sentiments and interests of the world proletariat. The means and methods it employs to gain military and strategic advantages repel the sympathy and support of the workers and oppressed peoples, and thus undermine the real defense of the Soviet Union to such an extent as to outweigh by far the immediate military and strategic advantages that may be gained by the conflict with Finland. From this point of view—that is, the real defense of the Soviet Union against the imperialists—the Fourth International has always condemned the foreign policy of Stalinism and condemns it in the present situation. The real defense of the conquests of the October Revolution requires, now more than ever, an unceasing struggle of the workers for the overthrow of the Stalinist bureaucracy by means of a political revolution.

6. Proceeding from the foregoing points, in accord with the program of the Fourth International, our basic attitude in the present military conflict between the Soviet Union and Finland is as follows:

(a) For the Fourth Internationalists in the United States: Revolutionary defeatism—the main enemy is in our own country! No support, direct or indirect, to the imperialist government of the United States or its Finnish satellite. Expose and denounce the policy of Washington as political and diplomatic preparation for war against the Soviet Union. For the unconditional defense of the Soviet Union. Expose and denounce the methods of Stalinism which compromise the Soviet Union and weaken its defense.

(b) For the Fourth Internationalists in Finland: revolutionary defeatism—the main enemy is in our own country! The first task of the Finnish workers remains an irreconcilable struggle for the overthrow of their own bourgeoisie. Not a man, not a gun, not a cent for the war of the Finnish bourgeois government against the Soviet Union. Work for the defeat of the Finnish bourgeois government in the war. Aim at the creation of an independent Soviet Finland free from the domination of the Stalinist bureaucracy. If that is not possible in the immediate situation because of the unfavorable relation of forces, political unpreparedness, and military weakness—as is almost certainly the case in the present circumstances—utilize the defeat of the bourgeois Finnish Army by the Red Army to arouse the masses to press forward for the complete expropriation of the Finnish capitalists and landlords immediately after the victory of the Red Army. Organize for the maximum independence of the workers from the Stalinist bureaucracy, and thus prepare its future overthrow. In the present military struggle a victory of the Red Army is a "lesser evil" than the victory of the army of

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FDR INCITES WAR AGAINST SOVIET UNION

Stalin's Crimes Are
Springboard for
War Deal Drive

Led by President Roosevelt in person, the chorus of war incitement against the Soviet Union has reached a new pitch of violence following Stalin's invasion of Finland.

"Poor little Finland" is being crammed down the throats of millions who face a winter of starvation.

"Poor little Finland" is being offered as a substitute for relief checks to millions of workers' families.

"Poor little Finland" is being drummed up as Cause No. 1 for dragging the workers of this country into the imperialist war for the re-division of the earth.

Stalin's invasion of Finland is the latest in his long record of crimes against the cause of the world workers' revolution. We condemn it, on our part, because it endangers the conquests of the Russian revolution, which Stalin usurped, and which we seek to defend against the united assault of world reaction and against Stalin.

Roosevelt, Hoover, and all the boss newspapers condemn the invasion of Finland precisely because it provides them with powerful weapons in their effort to destroy what remains in the Soviet Union of the workers' conquests.

We have been fighting the butcher Stalin for years but we do so in the interests of the workers' revolution. We tell the

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FBI Railroads 25 Workers to Prison; They Fought for Relief in Minnesota

Charge Was Conspiracy Against the Government

Hunger-Fighters Feel
Fist of the 'War
For Democracy'

Exclusive to Socialist Appeal

By CARL O'SHEA
MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 4

—If you won't starve in silence, you're guilty of conspiracy against the government—that was the verdict handed down last night against fourteen women and eleven men in Federal court, in the third trial of WPA and relief workers who in July participated in the nationwide WPA strike against the wage cuts and dismissals dictated by the Roosevelt-Woodrum Relief Law.

By instruction of U.S. Attorney General Frank Murphy, the strikers were indicted for "conspiracy" to violate the relief law which Roosevelt signed June 30. Murphy's representative here, U.S. District At-

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Behind the Lines

By GEORGE STERN

As in every other move he makes in defense of the power and privileges of his bureaucratic ruling clique, Stalin in his invasion of Finland deals another heavy blow to the cause of the international workers' revolution.

Throughout the capitalist world rulers whose own hands drip with the blood of helpless and subjugated peoples have clutched greedily at the new weapon Stalin has placed in their hands.

To workers caught in the vicious grip of capitalist crisis and war, the bosses hold up the horrible example of Stalin. Identifying him with Communism, with workers' power, they seek to destroy whatever remains of the hopes and aspirations that all mankind, in one degree or another, have associated with the October revolution in Russia.

They can use the fact of Stalin's murderous tyranny a thousand times more effectively than in all these years they have used lies to besmirch the shining cause of the world revolution.

They use Stalin's crimes to cloak their own. They use Stalin's grotesque deformation of the revolution in Russia to dull the edge of threatened revolutions in their own countries. They use Stalin's gross violation of the enlightened consciences of all men to further their own cause of war incitement against the workers of Russia.

This is Stalin's crime of all crimes. He translates the defense of the Soviet Union to mean the defense of his own power and pelf. To his nationalist, totalitarian mind a few miserable strategic advantages, a few bases, a few square miles of territory, outweigh the solidarity and support of the masses throughout a war-torn crisis-ridden world.

Unable to conceive, no less execute, a policy which would bring the united workers of Finland willingly and enthusiastically in to a firm world front of defense of the workers' cause against capitalism, he uses against them the same methods of blind terror, lies and open assault which he employed to usurp and hold power in Russia.

In doing so he repels the Finnish workers and the workers of the entire world, and makes them easy pickings and easy victims for the lying war propaganda and incitement of the bosses everywhere.

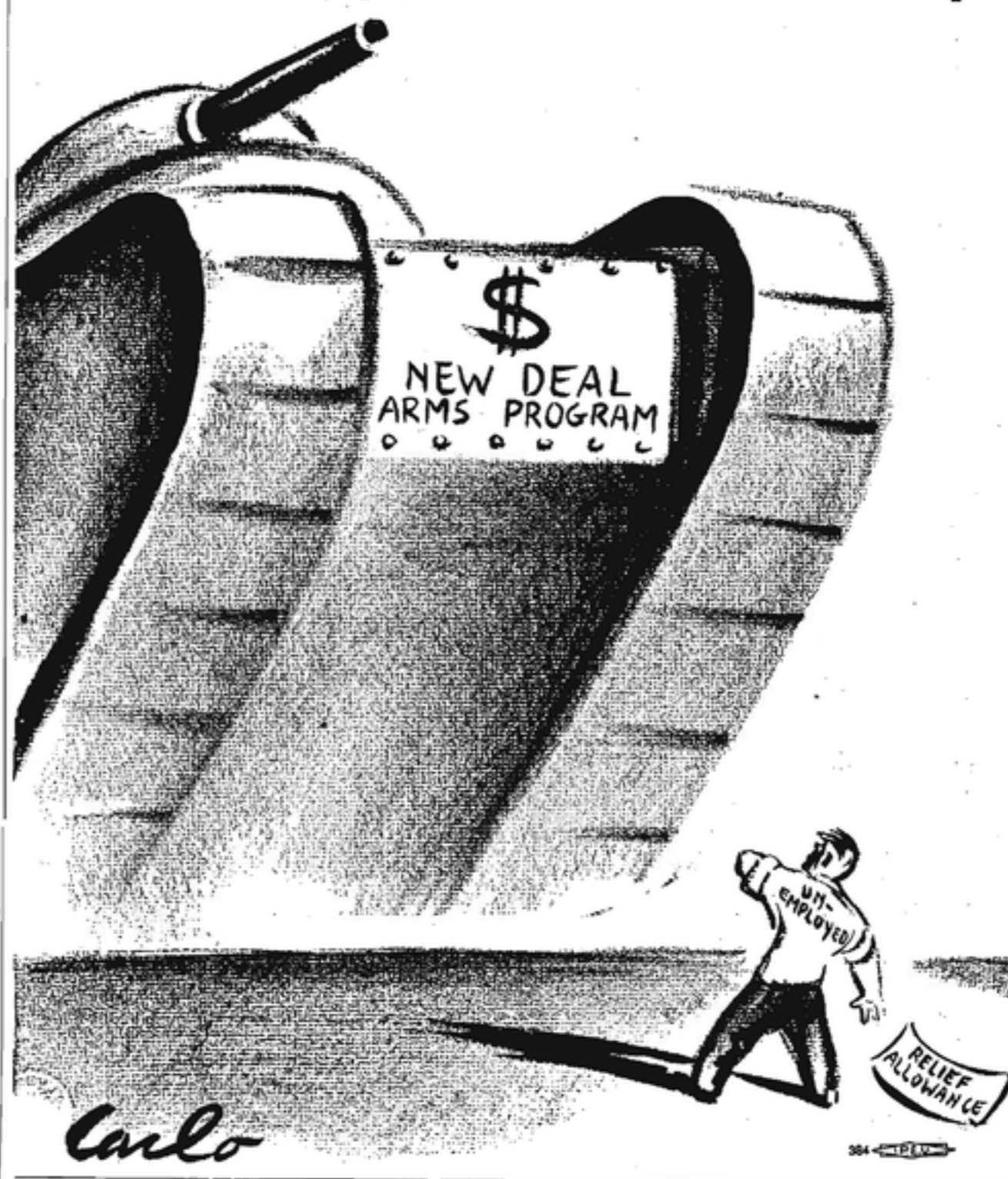
He throws the Finnish workers into the arms of the butcher Mannerheim and the Finnish capitalists who stroked to power two decades ago hip-deep in working class blood.

He hands to Roosevelt ready-forged and complete in every detail—down to the merciless bombing of women and children—the propaganda weapons Roosevelt needs to whip up anti-Soviet war incitement among the workers of this country.

But let's not fall for the crocodile tears over "poor little Finland" and for the accompanying notion that for the greater power and majesty of the starvation regime of Wall Street-Roosevelt-Daladier-Chamberlain & Co., we should let ourselves be dragged into a bloody war out of which can come only greater misery and privation for peoples everywhere.

The workers in Russia will put an end to the bloody regime of Stalin and we here have the job of putting an end to the boss power that offers us starvation and war as the only choice for the future. That's the road away from tyranny, away from wars, and toward the real liberation of all peoples everywhere.

"The Enemy Is in Our Own Country"



'War Boom' Brings Few Jobs; Less Relief

Social Workers Head
Says Relief Cuts
"Not Justified"

By TONY CHAPMAN

Cleveland's 16,000 needy families are without food. Toledo's unemployed have not been fed for the past six weeks.

Sixty percent of Chicago's relief budget has been slashed. Colorado's jobless live below subsistence levels.

The situation in the South is described as "desperate."

And while the unemployed starve and shiver, the Roosevelt Administration proposes to spend two and a quarter billion dollars this coming year—for the Army and Navy.

In the face of a rapid worsening in relief conditions throughout the nation, the conservative but alarmed American Association of Social Workers warned yesterday that the cuts in relief appropriations cannot be justified by the boom in industry.

"Improvements in industry have not substantially affected any decrease in the size of the national relief burden," declared Miss Dorothy Kahn, assistant Executive Secretary of the Association, interview at her offices in the Russel Sage Foundation, 130 East 22nd Street, New York City.

"On the basis of the heavy load of relief cases throughout the country," she stated, "neither the cuts in relief nor their complete elimination is justified."

The recent WPA cuts put through at the last regular session of Congress were also unjustified, Miss Kahn said in answer to the writer's question.

"The WPA cuts are not justified on the basis of 'disappearing need,'" she declared.

Asked to comment on the Roosevelt Administration's policy of engineering heavy cuts in WPA in marked contrast to its policy of substantial increases in the military budget, Miss Kahn stated, "We do not believe that money should be taken from our social program and diverted to other purposes. It weakens our national resources."

Questioned on the government's policy of dodging direct aid to the needy and shifting responsibility for relief onto the shoulders of municipal agencies, Miss Kahn declared, "If the Federal government discredits assistance it discredits the people who need it."

Commenting on relief conditions in the South, Miss Kahn stated, "They have been desperate right along. Except for limited WPA funds, the needy have received little assistance there."

"The WPA cuts have been unevenly distributed throughout the country," she pointed out. "Certainly business improvements did not justify the cuts."

Only a small number of cities account for the bulk of the present relief expenditures, she said.

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Cleveland Jobless Demand Food; City Council Passes the Buck

But Governor Refuses to Call Legislature
In Special Session to Vote Relief Funds;
Passes Buck Back to Cities

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

CLEVELAND, Dec. 5—Over 1,000 unemployed jammed the meeting of the City Council here last night to demand the restoration of relief to the 75,000 men, women and children struck by the relief crisis.

The demonstration was called jointly by the Federal Workers Union and the Association of Unemployed.

The Council passed a resolution calling upon the Mayor and the Department of Welfare to restore the relief cuts immediately. Mayor Burton stated to the Council, amid resounding boos from the assembled workers, that he would not initiate the bond issue from which funds would be secured for relief, as the Council motion requested. Such legislation must be initiated by the Mayor.

The Council members refused to introduce a motion to permit the representatives of the unemployed to address it. Fearful of exposure, they hastily made and passed an adjournment motion.

A mass meeting was held on the steps of the City Hall immediately following the adjournment. C. B. Cowan of the Association of Unemployed and Art Preis of the Federal Workers Union addressed the meeting, calling upon the workers to continue the fight and to reassemble at a special session of Council

which the Mayor has requested for Wednesday. They also urged action in the neighborhoods which would include picketing of the homes of the Council members. The workers cheered and applauded the fighting words of the speakers. A Stalinist member of the practically defunct Workers Alliance followed the two speakers for the organizations which had called the demonstration, to state lamely that his organization had not issued any call as "we were here merely as observers."

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 3—Almost 100,000 men, women and children face immediate starvation in this great industrial city. 12,000 cases on relief, including single men and women—and

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No Food For 41,000 Toledo Unemployed

Schools Close Down;
Boss Politicians
Vote No Funds

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

TOLEDO, Dec. 4—Since Sept. 15 this city has been steadily moving into the worst relief crisis in its history, worse even than in the Hooverville days.

On Sept. 15 the wholesale grocers refused to extend any further credit to the city. By October 15 the city stopped feeding the unemployed altogether. That includes not only the 41,000 persons on relief on Sept. 15, but the many others who sought relief since then.

During the last six weeks the only public relief that has been given at all has been given to those certified as ill, the very old and children.

One way to eat is to have the ravages of hunger make you ill enough to be admitted to a hospital. Then a few days of food, certification that you have recovered—and out again to starve.

The only energetic action taken by the authorities has been police action against picketing of relief stations.