
SMASH THE BOSSES' ARMED FORCES

CHALLENGE

The Revolutionary Newspaper

PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY PROGRAM
FOR SMASHING THE BOSSES' ARMED
FORCES FROM WITHIN

A FIGHTING PROGRAM FOR GIs

**DEFEAT RACISM AND ANTI-COMMUNISM -- BUILD
GI-WORKER ALLIANCE -- SMASH THE BOSSES' USE OF
THE ARMY AGAINST WORKERS AT HOME AND ABROAD**

1. Get out of Vietnam and all of southeast Asia, now!
2. No use of troops in the ghettos—abolish "Riot" training.
3. No use of troops against workers' strikes.
4. No use of troops on campus.
5. Smash the Stockades—Free the Prisoners.
6. Absolutely no Bad Discharges.
7. Abolish OCS—No scabs from our ranks.
8. Abolish cop recruiting.
9. No recruiting for re-upping—No Lifers from our ranks.
10. Fight for guaranteed jobs for GIs and wives upon discharge—Jobs for all GI wives now—Absolutely no unemployment.
11. Support base workers fighting for higher pay, better job conditions, and against "layoffs."
12. Develop support of all workers on strike—especially upcoming Auto showdown.
13. Smash Basic Training—Fight their intimidation and expose their male supremacist and racist propaganda.
14. Fight all harassment & punishments.
15. Support fight of all disabled & hospitalized vets for better conditions, and guaranteed jobs with equal pay.
16. Fight for shorter hours, more leaves—the less work we do in their armies the better!



gi's say, "get the hell out of Southeast Asia -- NOW!"

FIGHT RACISM - FOLLOW THE MILITANT LEADERSHIP OF

BLACK WORKERS AND GIs - NEED BLACK-WHITE UNITY TO WIN

GIS ARE FIGHTING BACK

The growing militancy of workers bosses are drafting in the service is shaking bosses up. One colonel complained about desertions among south Vietnamese troops: "It's damn embarrassing when our own troops begin doing the same thing."

The majority of servicemen are opposed to bosses' war in S.E. Asia and to bosses' war on workers at home. The Army reports each day 500 soldiers go AWOL (182,000 per year). Last year 57,000 GIs deserted, with 23,000 still at large—recently this rate has nearly doubled. The Army now admits one out of five go AWOL some time in the first five months in service [a rate of 300,000 per year].

AWOL and desertion rates are higher for GIs who get orders for Vietnam. Of 9,000 GIs who are supposed to report to Oakland Army Base every month to be shipped to Nam, 400 never show up. Thousands more go AWOL, and another 1500 apply for some kind of congressional action or discharge (figs. from N.Y. Times). In Vietnam GIs desert at the rate of 300 a month (N.Y. Post). There is a whole section of Cholon, Saigon's sister city, where AWOLs and deserters live, protected by the Vietnamese.

Army brass is having a pretty rough time getting workers to report for induction. In Oakland, Cal., a largely black working-class area, half the guys ordered to report never showed up. Of those who did, 11% refused to go.

AWOLs and desertions don't really stop the brass from using their armies as they please. What they lose through desertions they make up on the next draft call. **WHAT REALLY HURTS ARE REBELLIONS INSIDE THE ARMY.** Every military stockade in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Okinawa, Korea, Vietnam and Germany has had at least one major rebellion. The Fort Ord stockade averages one rebellion every three months. Rebels burned down Vietnam's LBJ (Long Binh Jail) and DaNang brig and shot their main officers. The population of the stockades rose from 5,000 in 1966 to nearly 20,000 in 1969.

Mutinies by front-line troops have multiplied tremendously. Most of the successful mutinies are never reported because the troops shoot the officers who normally report them. It's gotten so bad the brass have set up ballistics labs to see whether officers and NCOs are being shot by VC or GIs. In the 1st Air Cav, seven 1st Sgts. in a row were eliminated. Combat GIs have also conducted raids on officers' clubs.

Recently there were mutinies over the invasion of Cambodia. The GIs said: "We don't even belong in Vietnam: why should we go to Cambodia?" It's also reported that a hundred GIs in the 1st Air Cav. are refusing to go into the field.

ers—and cops whose job is to protect the property of all parasites.

Women workers have been particularly militant in electrical, telephone and government workers strikes.

Workers overseas are waging struggles against the same corporations workers in this country are fighting. GE workers in Puerto Rico, Ford workers in Canada and England, women working for Motorola in Korea and tin miners in Bolivia are all allies of U.S. workers. Workers and peasants in Vietnam and all of S.E. Asia are fighting to smash the power of U.S. bosses—and of local landlords, businessmen and politicians who are kept in power by support of the U.S. Army.

PROGRESSIVE LABOR SAYS:

SMASH THE BOSSES' DICTATORSHIP

The Progressive Labor Party (PLP) opposes this bosses' system. We don't believe bosses have any "right" to make profit off our labors. We believe that since the working class produces everything of value, the working class should reap the full value of what we produce. We can only do that if we eliminate bosses, profits and a boss-run system and government.

What we have now is a dictatorship of bosses. They own and control the factories; they run the government and make it do the bidding of their class interests by using courts, cops, the army, jails, etc. against workers' class interests; they put on the wage freezes; they send workers and workers' sons to kill and be killed in wars against other workers; they create the racism which extracts super-profits for them; they try to put the burdens of economic crisis—which the system creates—onto our backs. **The only way to change this is through a revolution where the working class seizes state power and runs the government and factories under a workers' dictatorship, for the benefit of all exploited people.**

We are dedicated to making such changes through a revolution led by the working class and its vanguard communist party. This can only be done if workers' struggles are guided by revolutionary ideas so that we can transform the treadmill of our day-to-day experiences to go **BEYOND** the framework of this bosses' system to a workers' system—socialism. Communists see the class struggle not merely as economic—for better wages and conditions—but as a political one: to take political power away from the bosses altogether so they can't use it to keep us on that treadmill. Only a revolutionary communist party basing itself on the ideas of Marxism-Leninism—the most powerful revolutionary force in history—can turn the unending class struggle into a struggle for "all the marbles."

their armies. The Army needs lots of manpower to keep down U.S. workers at the same time it defends the bosses from workers overseas. **THE BIG BOSSES WON'T AND CAN'T DO THE FIGHTING THEMSELVES. INSTEAD THEY DRAFT AND ENLIST YOUNG WORKERS—SO WORKING-CLASS GIS END UP FIGHTING OTHER WORKERS WHILE BOSSES SIT HOME AND COUNT LOOT.**

Over 3.4 million troops are now on active duty (1,500,000 Army, 900,000 Navy, 752,000 Air Force, 285,000 Marines). Also there are 1,100,000 reservists and 1,400,000 civilian employees of the Defense Dept., mostly working on military bases. This apparatus directed against workers is paid for by workers' taxes.

Without a military apparatus bosses would not be able to keep workers down. Our aim should be to weaken this bosses' loot! To do this we feel it is necessary to fight from WITHIN. Bosses use their armies in five main ways:

- 1) To put down rebellions of foreign workers, as in Vietnam, Cambodia, etc.
- 2) To break militant strikes.
- 3) To put down rebellions of black and Latin workers in the ghettos.
- 4) To suppress the anti-war movement on college campuses.
- 5) To get a better position in their rivalry with bosses of other countries.

VIETNAM IS A BOSSES' WAR

The Vietnam war boils down to one thing: **profits.** It's the old imperialist story once again: the flag follows the dollar. Wages are \$1.40 a day in Saigon (legal maximum), \$32 a month for women in Motorola's South Korean plants, and worse in many places. GIs see U.S. textile plants around Saigon, Standard Oil rigs off the coast, the Chase Manhattan Bank branch in downtown Saigon and the GE, Singer, International Harvester and other plants in Vietnam. Politicians talk about "preserving freedom and democracy" in S.E. Asia or "securing a just peace," they mean more dollars for giant corporations and banks which run the U.S. empire.

Vietnamese are fighting back with the most powerful weapon working people have: **People's War.** The essence of people's war is **class struggle**, a massive long-term mobilization of workers and peasants against foreign and local bosses. Bosses rely on money and superior firepower. People rely on unity and years of experience against their enemies.

The bosses say "defend our country" but they really mean "defend our profits." "Loyalty" to this nation—or any nation—means loyalty to the bosses who run the nation.

The government claims the Vietnamese government

The most militant stateside rebellion took place at Fort Hood. Black GIs held mass demonstrations on post "refusing" any "riot duty" against their working class brothers in Chicago.

Unless militancy is given a clear perspective showing us the way to victory, it will all lead to little or nothing. We in Progressive Labor Party—a communist, working class party—believe GIs can win if they understand the system we live under is a bosses' system. The Armed Forces is a bosses' tool to maintain the profit system.

WE LIVE UNDER THE RULE OF BOSSES

The Progressive Labor Party believes the solution to the problems of this country's 77 million workers and their families is the elimination of the capitalist system, and its replacement by socialism; a society in which the working class will own the wealth and control the government. A small number of big corporation bosses and managers own and control the land, factories, utilities and transportation. (2% of the nation's families own 90% of all the shares of stock in U.S. corporations.)

Bosses try to keep wages low, speed up work and increase prices and rents—this is to keep profits maximum. Conditions of workers are getting worse. 6% per year price increases, and rising taxes, mean average workers' wages buy less in 1970 than in 1965. Unemployment has hit 8 million workers, and layoffs are spreading. Taxes are taking 1/3 of wages. But bosses are providing worse public services—overcrowded schools, dilapidated mass transit, inadequate medical care, and a tremendous shortage of housing.

Because of boss-inspired racism, black worker annual per-capita income is \$22 billion less than that of whites—a source of superprofit for the bosses. Black workers have twice as much unemployment, sub-standard housing, higher infant mortality rates and longer hours at lower-paying jobs.

WORKERS ARE FIGHTING BACK!

150,000 GE workers rejected the government's pleas to go back to work in the interest of the "war effort" and fought the company for 14 weeks. 700,000 postal workers defied the bosses' courts, their sell-out union leadership, and Army in their fight against the biggest boss of all—the U.S. Government.

MAN-HOURS THE BOSSES LOSE IN STRIKES EACH YEAR MORE THAN DOUBLED BETWEEN 1966 AND 1969.

Black workers give militant leadership in many of these strikes. In ghettos, black workers have rebelled against landlords, merchants, loan sharks, drug push-

THE MILITARY IS A BOSSES' TOOL AGAINST WORKERS

Bosses hope divisions among workers, like racism, will be enough to keep them on top; when workers and students unite and fight, the bosses have a trump card—

asked for our aid against foreign invaders. But the Saigon government is a puppet regime, the whole thing set up and paid for by the U.S. government and CIA. If the U.S. government is defending the freedom of South Vietnamese against outside invaders why won't they just give peasants arms to fight the "invaders"?



WE MUST FIGHT RACISM

Black workers in the U.S., and workers and peasants in Africa, Asia and Latin America are super-exploited through low wages and lousy living conditions—they produce billions in super-profits for the bosses. Then when these workers rebel against this, the bosses' armies are sent to smash them!

This racist exploitation, maintained by the bosses' military is matched by racist treatment within the army. First of all, unlivable and rotten conditions, and especially unemployment, forces black men to enlist or re-enlist just to live! Then, once they are in, they are forced into the worst jobs—like infantry. For example, although nearly 12% of the population is black, and they comprise only 9% of the armed forces, 17% of those in Vietnam are black (data from Army Times). They usually make up 30% of the front-line troops, and suffer the highest rate of casualties.

On top of this, the harshest and longest punishments in the military are given to black and Latin workers. They make up 30% of the stockades, which are overflowing. The "bad discharges" the bosses hand out in greater and greater quantities especially hit this group; unemployment is almost a sure thing for black and Latin youth

getting out of the service!

To all of this the bosses push the BIG LIE—Our Armed Forces are "EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS":

To defeat the bosses and their anti-working class system we have to smash their racism. To do this we should win white workers to follow the militant leadership of the black and Latin workers in the service. We could do this by organizing fights against racist harassment and punishments. Support of rebellions in the stockades, usually led by black working class, should also be organized. Our aim should be to spread the rebellion to the whole fort. We must militantly fight against being used to suppress ghetto rebellions, and oppose "riot control" classes and training!

Calls for rallies, demonstrations, and major confrontations against the brass would be an excellent way of defeating the bosses' racism and of building working-class unity. We should begin organizing around these issues—Now. All workers, no matter what their color or nationality, have to unite in an all-out struggle and forcibly kick the bosses out and establish our workers' dictatorship over these exploiters.

The second big lie is racism. Bosses say "Vietnamese are 'gooks' and 'dinks'. This idea is helped along by liberals who cry only about American boys dying in Vietnam. TV and news magazines show the poverty of Vietnamese peasants and workers and claim it's the result of "backwardness". They say, "The Vietnamese fighters don't have any popular support." On the other hand they say: "Don't trust 'em, you never can tell who is working for the VC." Obviously, Vietnamese fighters do have support among the people.

GIs must reject all these racist lies and support Vietnamese working people against our common enemy—U.S. Bosses. This is proletarian internationalism.

If people's war develops all the way—the result is socialism: After years of fighting against class enemies, why should working people go back to being exploited and oppressed. They understand they can win and get rid of bosses and landlords once and for all? Socialism in Vietnam would mean a decent life for Vietnamese workers and their families. When bosses say "Stop Communism from spreading!" that's because they fear workers all around the world will follow the Vietnamese example.

Unfortunately, people's war in Vietnam has leaders who don't want to go all the way to socialism. The Vietnamese leaders have stopped relying on the initiative of workers and peasants. They are relying on negotiations, on making a deal with U.S. imperialism. These misleaders are selling out Vietnamese working people by turning a magnificent people's war into a stalling war-to-influence-negotiation. But there's *nothing to negotiate*. The U.S. should get out now. U.S. bosses are trying to win at negotiations what they couldn't on the battlefield—namely 1) keep U.S. business control of Vietnam, 2) keep a military presence in Southeast Asia, to defend profits and surround socialist China.

The Soviet Union is one of the major forces behind this sell-out. We think that the S.U. is a revisionist state: the Russian leaders call themselves communist, but are front men for the new Russian bosses. Russian workers suffer from low wages, unemployment, speed-up, and other capitalist miseries. Workers' power which came to Russia with the Revolution in 1917 has been completely turned around. The Russians have consistently opposed revolutionary working class movements around the world and have given aid to openly fascist regimes (like Indonesia).

The Vietnamese leaders are also revisionists. They have never put forward the need for socialism and workers' rule. Their sell-out strategy has drastically changed the war. Today there is less emphasis on guerrilla activity, more on conventional confrontations and weapons' superiority. The Russians see the opportunity for getting their profit-hungry hands into Asia, and the possibility of an alliance with the U.S. against workers' rule in China.

BRASS PUSH ANTI-WOMAN IDEAS

Wives and girl-friends of GIs have just as much reason to hate the Army as the GIs themselves. They too are threatened by the bosses' war in Vietnam. The measly allotments the Army pays forces many onto welfare. GI wives who work are forced to put in long hours either in base towns or on the base for wages which are among the lowest in the country. Day-care facilities for children are almost non-existent. The PX system (the second largest retail operation in the world) is financed from workers' taxes and earns huge profits for its military bosses, profits which are in turn used to finance the Vietnam war.

The Army knows that GI wives can play a militant role in fighting the Army, so it does its best to turn GIs against women and prevent them from involving women in their struggles. It does this by pushing male supremacy—the idea that women are inferior and are to be treated as nothing but playthings, toys for men's pleasure, and they can't be trusted or relied on. They tell us in basic training: "If the Army wanted you to have a wife, it would have issued one." In a class at Ft. Dix about putting down "civil disturbances," some GIs were asking questions about how the Army is used against working people—from Vietnam to Detroit to the postal strike. The NCO tried to get everybody to shut up by saying: "The sooner you stop asking questions the sooner we can leave—and you can go get drunk and get a woman; that's all we really want anyway, right?"

The brass push marching songs like "Jody" which tells us that we can't trust our girls (and our best friends) back home. They want GIs to think that "human nature" is rotten and that nothing can be changed. In fact, it's the

bosses and their system that's rotten and most working people, men and women, can be won to fighting against oppression.

When guys go into the Army, their wives receive a letter from the brass telling them not to write about any problems at home and that it's their job to keep the men from going AWOL. In other words, BE A COP FOR THE ARMY.

The bosses hope GIs will take these male supremacy ideas with them when they leave the Army. Then the bosses will be able to get away with making huge profits by paying women workers lower wages and not have to worry about facing a united struggle by men and women workers.

But GIs and their wives are rejecting these rotten ideas and fighting side-by-side against the Army. One wife who wouldn't buy the Army's line waited outside the Fort Dix stockade in her car while her husband climbed the fence. They escaped under gunfire. The militancy of the wives visiting the stockade has the guards really uptight. Wives helped put out and distribute EM-16 at Fort Knox, a newspaper which fought racist harassment.

GIs should expose and fight male-supremacy ideas and how the Army uses them to split us up. The best way to do this is to fight the ways wives are exploited:

- 1) support strikes by women workers on or near the base for higher wages, better working conditions.
- 2) fight for adequate day-care facilities, provided free-of-charge by the Army.
- 3) other demands as needed!

GI wives can and will be a key ally in GI struggle.

NO TROOPS ON CAMPUS

More students are rebelling against the bosses' schools and the anti-worker lies. They are waging fights against ROTC which trains officers for Vietnam, and against the corporations who recruit students. Students see they must ally with workers to end the war, and get rid of bosses. To halt this growing worker-student alliance, bosses use their army to attack and murder students, as at North Carolina A&T, Ohio State, Kent State and others.

GIs should organize to oppose the use of troops against students and support any action taken to resist these orders.

NO TROOPS FOR BOSSES' RIVALRY

Bosses of capitalist countries compete to control as



nationalism divides workers

Nationalism ruined the Vietnamese movement. Nationalism says that the strongest ties should be those binding all the people in one nation, workers and bosses alike! As a result workers and peasants don't see the need to fight their own home-grown bosses. Then these "revolutionary" nationalists (read: revisionist, with anti-worker outlook) bring back bosses and foreign capital, in this case Soviet and U.S. And working people are screwed as bad as ever.

The nationalism of the Vietnamese leads to a bad attitude toward GIs. The NLF and the North Vietnamese have never approached GIs with the idea of internationalism—to stop fighting and turn the guns on their own bosses because GIs are workers, too. This is what Lenin and the Communists did with the allied troops fighting for the bosses' attempt to smash the workers' state in Russia after the Revolution of 1917. The Communists appealed to allied troops as class brothers and it worked. Whole divisions of imperialist troops refused to fight and the intervention failed. When the Vietnamese do try to reach GIs they push pacifism ("Don't fight—all war is bad") or nationalism. ("People of color shouldn't fight one another"—what's a white GI to think about this?).

Many GIs also know from first-hand experience that the Vietnamese do resort to terrorism. Terrorism is employed by leaders who won't rely on the organized mass revolutionary violence of working people. The Vietnamese leaders must use terrorism because they can't win the people to support their nationalist cause. Terrorism is designed to affect "public opinion" in the imperialist countries ("Wat is so terrible—let's just get out.") and to get a better deal at the negotiating table. GIs should see terrorism as an outgrowth of the revisionist-nationalist policies of Vietnamese mis-leaders, and not let the brass use it to justify the lie that the Vietnamese workers are "savages."

Nationalism is a loser for all workers. Communists who are really sincere about fighting for workers' power must expose it at all times. Vietnamese communists never did this. Workers need internationalism: workers of all nations against all bosses. None of this "they're good guys because they're my countrymen" crap. GIs should support the struggle of the Vietnamese working people against U.S. bosses. The defeat of these bosses is in their own interests as well.

GET OUT OF VIETNAM -- NOW



ARMY VERSUS WORKERS: DETROIT, 1967

NO GI SCABS

Bosses have always used their army to scab and break strikes. In the recent postal strike the regular Army and National Guard were brought in to intimidate workers. Many GIs consciously messed things up inside the post offices (such as tearing up draft notices). Teamsters on strike in Ohio fought pitched battles with the same Guard used at Kent State College. Three workers in Cleveland were shot by the N.G. while trying to stop scab trucks.

OPPOSE THE USE OF TROOPS AGAINST OUR WORKING-CLASS BROTHERS AND SISTERS ON STRIKE.

NO TROOPS IN THE GHETTOS

Over 3,000 rebellions by black workers have taken place in the U.S. in the last few years. These are rebellions against high rents for rat-infested housing, high prices for rotting food, garbage pile-ups, robbers' charges for loans and store credit, and all the ways the bosses make super-profits off of black workers and their families. Rebellions are against cops who constantly harass, intimidate and murder black workers to try to make them afraid to fight bosses.

Bosses' newspapers like to stir up racism by saying rebellions are aimless violence by mobs of "rootless black youth." A government-sponsored study found a majority of those arrested during Detroit rebellion of 1968 were employed workers, many of them in auto. A large percentage of "looters" were white workers, which shows rebellions are primarily class struggles, not "race" wars.

Bosses' desperately need to stop rebellions from spreading to more and more workers. The Army and National Guard are sent in!

GIs should organize against this. Hundreds of black GIs at Fort Hood held on-post demonstrations against being used for "riot duty" in Chicago during the 1968 "Democratic" convention. FIGHT RACISM and demand that no troops be used against ghetto rebellions!

much of the world's workers, raw materials and markets. This competition leads to war. Bosses of rival countries draft workers to fight to decide whether they're going to be slaving for their own bosses or for bosses of a different nationality.

Pressures are building that could cause another war. Capitalist Russia is challenging the U.S. in Europe and the Middle East. Economic rivalry between Japanese and U.S. bosses is causing talk about the possibility of war.

What should workers do when this kind of war breaks out? The answer was provided by Lenin and the Russian communists in 1917. They called for fraternization between the soldiers at the front. Russian and German soldiers avoided combat. They organized political meetings. That was good; but as long as the bosses were still in power there would be other wars.

Turn the imperialist war into a class war, put an end to the bosses' rule. Under the leadership of the communist party (Bolsheviks) the workers overthrew Russian bosses, and set up the first workers' state.

U.S. workers should begin to agitate and organize around this issue. If the bosses try to drag us into another war we'll be ready to turn that war against them, and put an end to their rule.

DESTROY THE STOCKADES

The 5,000 inmates in military stockades in 1966 have grown to nearly 20,000 today. 85% are in for being AWOL;

brass push drugs like candy

The brass push drugs on GIs who are fighting back. They know that GIs who are stoned all the time aren't going to want to organize and fight the Army. In Nam, where GIs are the most rebellious, marijuana is cheap and easy to get and the Army makes sure it stays that way. In stockades and SPD barracks, the guards and lifers push heroin. Their purpose is to kill off the most militant GIs.

GIs who hate the Army must learn that drugs are one of the most important weapons the brass have. Not only does it keep us "calm and contented," but CID and G-2 agents love to bust militants by finding or planting drugs. When we use drugs we're only setting ourselves up. **ELIMINATE DRUGS FROM OUR RANKS. SMASH THE PUSHERS**

the rest for such charges as assaulting officers, inciting riots, refusal to obey orders, etc.

Stockades take their toll among black GIs, who are most oppressed, and most militant. Black men make up 12% of the population but 30% of the stockades. They get the longest and harshest sentences. The brass build racist ideas by constantly harping about "criminals" in stockades.

Almost every military stockade (44) has had at least one major rebellion in the last year. The inmates of LBJ stockade and the Da Nang brig in Vietnam burned their jails to the ground, and killed their main officers. Ft. Dix has tried to hush up the mass escape of 17 GIs in May. At Fort Ord they average one major rebellion every three months.

Bosses now have at least twice as many GIs under conviction than the stockades can hold (they're already holding twice their capacity). SPDs (Special Processing Detachments) were formed to hold this overflow. At Fort Dix SPD has a population almost equal to that of the stockade itself (800). Drugs, especially the killer HEROIN, are pushed on GIs to keep them from fighting back. The development of SPDs on all forts should be exposed.

The fight of GIs in stockades involves their wives and families. The army tries to get the wives to act against the GIs by sending letters to the wives telling them not to write about their problems, not to worry their husbands about little things—like the low pay that the stockade wife and kids get, which forces them to go onto Welfare just to live. Often it is the GI wives who take the lead to free husbands and brothers. One GI wife waited outside the Ft. Dix stockade in her car while her husband climbed the fence. They escaped under gunfire.

We should begin struggles now in support of stockade inmates and their families around such demands as:

1. Free all stockade prisoners
2. No harassment or beatings
3. Longer visiting hours
4. All visitors should be allowed, no matter how many come.
5. Other demands, as needed

NO BAD DISCHARGES

Less-than-honorable discharges serve as 'blacklists' against militant GIs. Their main aim is to keep GIs from taking their fighting spirit into the bosses' key industries after discharge. These discharges especially affect black workers. Unemployment—which is at present 30% to 50% of all black youth—is a sure thing for a black worker who is discharged with a "less than honorable."

tary as inducement to get them to 'volunteer.' A special 150 day early-out program has been initiated for Washington, D.C., where the bosses have been overwhelmed by the masses of workers and students converging there to protest. Of the few GIs that do take these early outs, many quit as soon as they get their discharge papers (Army Times). But some are still tempted and become traitors to their class. Workers in service should unite now to abolish all cop recruitment from our ranks.

ABOLISH OCS

There has to be someone to make sure bosses' orders and dirty work get done. A "chosen few" are given the chance to go to Officers Candidate School, where they are taught how to manage GIs. Most commissioned officers are college graduates, although a strictly limited number

of high school graduates have been allowed—provided they pass the rigorous 6 month brain-washing and training of OCS. Huge numbers of students around the country have forcibly thrown ROTC recruiters off campus and closed down schools. *The Army is more dependent on OCS. FIGHT TO ABOLISH OCS—NOW!*

SUPPORT STRUGGLES OF BASE WORKERS

Civilians who work on military bases are among the lowest paid in the country. These workers—PX, cafeteria, hospital, laundry, clerical, etc.—are usually women, and very often black and Latin. This makes up a force of nearly 1 million workers and is important to winning real victories over bosses, in or out of the military.

The main weapons the bosses use are RACISM AND WOMEN'S INEQUALITY (Male supremacy).

What applies for military workers in our country doubly and triply affects those who are employed by the Defense Department overseas. This includes a total of 317,000 foreign nationals directly employed, plus tens of thousands more that are hired out of unit funds that are sucked out of the GIs thru forced 'donations.' Usual wages are a dollar a day.

Recently the U.S. Army was used to break the strike of workers in Germany who were getting a dollar an hour after 22 years. Also, GIs were used to forcibly break the picket lines of Okinawan base workers who were protesting layoffs and lousy conditions.

We must ally directly with these workers at home and overseas in their fight against their rotten conditions. Especially we must understand that their layoffs mean our speedup.

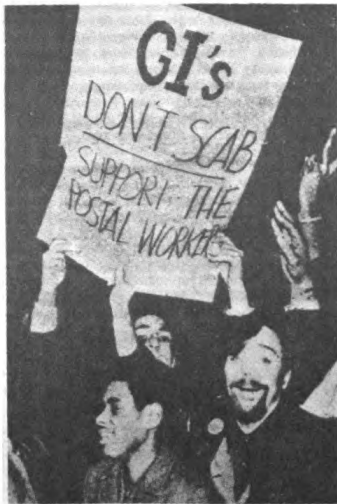
SMASH BASIC TRAINING, WEAPON AGAINST GIs

1. Harassment and intimidation

GIs, especially in basic training, receive a tremendous amount of harassment from the brass and NCOs. The idea is to teach GIs one lesson, 'YOU CAN'T FIGHT THE ARMY.' The bosses hope that the trainees who are intimidated during basic will stay that way throughout their stay in the military.

The brass like article 15 punishment because if a militant GI accepts one he can't organize his fellow GIs in a mass defense—the way he can for a court-martial.

A good example of fighting racist harassment is the black and white GIs and GI wives, two of them members of PLP, who got together at Ft. Knox. They exposed, in their newspaper EM-16, how the Army was trying to court-martial two militant black GIs on trumped-up



WORKERS APPEAL FOR ALLIANCE WITH GIs

with the rising militancy of GIs the brass's use of bad discharges rose to nearly 20,000 last year. Let's take this bosses' weapon away. Fight for **ABSOLUTELY NO BAD DISCHARGES—ONLY HONORABLES—NOW.**

FIGHT UNEMPLOYMENT—GIs ARE HARDEST HIT

Unemployment is inevitable under capitalism. Bosses need maximum profits to keep control. So they mechanize workers out of jobs and build a huge scab force to drive wages down. The bosses have forced over 8 million U.S. workers into unemployment today.

Unemployment is one of the worst racist aspects of the system. 50% of black youth seeking work are jobless.

GIs, who are already unemployed when they leave the Army, are hardest hit. They're ineligible for unemployment insurance that laid-off workers can get. While all GIs have it hard, black GIs find there are absolutely no decent jobs when they get out.

To make GIs think the army really cares about them it has set up a program called 'Project Transition' which gives GIs job training courses for JOBS THAT DON'T EXIST. We should demand GUARANTEED JOBS FOR ALL SERVICEMEN UPON DISCHARGE.

Bosses take advantage of rotten conditions—low pay and especially unemployment—to tempt working-class GIs to enlist and re-enlist. Recruiters and re-Up NCOs are the first to emphasize to GIs that things ain't so hot on the outside.

This is, especially, true for black workers, more of them are forced to re-enlist.

The Army has raised the amount of bribes and bonuses from a few million in 1966 to \$116 million in 1969. GIs are offered up to \$10,000 in a lump sum to Re-Up, but re-enlistment rate still dropped by half from 1967 to 1968.

Despite the drop, some GIs are still tempted. We must organize to OPPOSE RE-UPPING UNTIL *NOBODY* IS DOING IT; and expose how the boss-created unemployment is something they use to encourage enlistments and re-enlistments.

GI wives are also hard-hit. Most GI wives are unemployed, and the Army uses the high rate of turnover (as we come and go) to drive down the wages of those that do have jobs. As a result many are forced on welfare. These women should take the lead in demanding GUARANTEED JOBS WITH LIVING WAGES FOR ALL GI WIVES. GIs in the service must confront the brass now around that demand, and also fight for GUARANTEED JOBS AFTER DISCHARGE FOR ALL GIs AND GI WIVES.

END COP RECRUITMENT

The bosses have launched a desperate nationwide drive to recruit thousands of workers to become cops. In the military they offer GIs 90 day 'early outs'—relying on their tremendous hatred of the bosses' wars and the mili-

WHERE TO BEGIN

Most GIs will agree most of the above things are good to fight on, but will answer: "What can I do about it?" The answer to this is: nothing, by yourself—but everything, if we ally with our fellow GIs and fellow workers.

To get GIs together we first have to discuss these ideas with them, and win them to see the need to openly fight the military in a pro-worker, anti-imperialist way. We in Progressive Labor Party feel a good way to begin doing this would be to start a service-wide petition around the following four demands:

1. GET OUT OF VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, AND ALL OF S.E. ASIA
2. NO USE OF TROOPS IN GHETTOS
3. NO USE OF TROOPS AS SCABS OR TO SUPPRESS WORKERS' STRIKES
4. NO USE OF TROOPS AGAINST STUDENT REVOLTS

It should be made clear that the purpose of this petition is not to "appeal" to this or that official, officer, or whatever. It is a tool to win GIs to see the need to openly fight the bosses' armies.

Contacts made through use of the petition can be mobilized into various GI groups to take concrete action around this program. Whenever the army or National Guard is sent against workers on strike, ghetto rebellions, rebellions overseas, or campus rebellions, we should fight this by passing out leaflets calling for GI rallies and actions in support.

We should not wait for these rebellions to take place, but begin agitation in support of them now. Mobilizing masses of GIs to go to strikers picket lines could be one way of developing a GI-worker alliance. We should start building now for the upcoming battle between Auto bosses and workers. Auto workers in the service should be contacted and their leadership developed.

Military revolts are becoming more common every day, especially among black GIs in the stockades and in Vietnam. We should build support for these militants with the aim of spreading their militancy to the masses of GIs. Building confrontations with the brass in support of the troops in Vietnam who refused to go into Cambodia would be one of many excellent ways of doing this.

GIs in their fight will develop the forms these confrontations and support actions will take, whether it is demonstrations, sit-ins, or actually taking the guns and turning them on the brass as front-line GIs are doing to their officers in Vietnam and Cambodia.

If we consciously rely on our own resources, rely on the people, not the politicians, and if we dare to struggle, workers and GIs can unite to FIGHT AND WIN.

charges. Because of this exposure, over 25 GIs showed up at the court-martial and scared the brass into dropping the charges.

We should organize to fight harassment from the first day of basic training and show the brass we won't take it lying down.

2. Brass push competition among GIs.

The Army divides GIs from each other in basic by making passes and duties depend on performance. The "best" platoon gets weekend pass and the "worst" gets confined to barracks, etc. A whole company can be punished if one guy "messes up" or "doesn't do enough work." The brass try to single out one or several militant guys and get the other GIs to blame them for what bosses are doing to them.

All GIs should remember the military is a bosses' tool for screwing workers and the less work we do for it the better.

3. Bosses propaganda fills basic.

Basic training is the period of a GI's life when he Army makes a tremendous effort to push all the rotten ideas that can help prop up the bosses' capitalist system: racism, male supremacy, anti-communism. They give lectures, show movies, and sing songs in which this crap is put across. But every time GIs have stood up in classes and attacked these rotten ideas and asked pointed questions that the brass can't (won't) answer, they've been supported with tremendous applause by hundreds of GIs present. Let's expose the military's lies and build good pro-working class ideas which help us fight and win.

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