

# "Take the Money and Run!"

On Oct. 29, the Marxist-Leninist Organizing Committee (MLOC) held a party building forum in Wash., D.C. that resulted in the total ideological and political rout of this little sect of petty bourgeois academics. The D.C. forum, part of a recent tour, was designed to be a report by MLOC on super-power war preparations and on party building. When the spokesman for MLOC laid out the agenda for the evening, it quickly became clear that they were not going to allow any time to struggle over line differences, just as in their forum a week before in Atlanta, where they tried to squash line struggle by limiting comments from the audience to 3 minutes per "question;" their plan was for the audience to listen to a lengthy 3 hour presentation and poetry reading by MLOC followed by about 15 minutes for "questions." The audience immediately took up the demand to have principled ideological and political struggle. Though other communist organizations were in the audience, it was the WVO, the Bolshevik Organizing Collective/Communist Workers Committee,

and many independent Marxist-Leninists who demanded that MLOC answer for its line and proposed to have at least an hour to struggle over line. But rather than allow the necessary struggle to push the communist and working class movements forward, MLOC tried to silence the audience, resorting to all types of bourgeois maneuvers: "we paid for this hall," "you can either hear our whole presentation or leave, there's no other choice," and even "people should line up in a straight line in the back to get your money back." As MLOC's opposition to principled struggle increased with all the features of a grade-school teacher unable to con-

trol an unruly class, the outrage of the audience grew and the call for struggle was taken up by the vast majority of the audience. MLOC's spokesman even abandoned the stage three times, took down its flashy poster display, and quietly sneaked out as the attention of the audience changed its focus towards the October League, representatives of the main danger of right opportunism. The OL, who had taken no stand on MLOC's maneuvers, was called on repeatedly to answer for its mutations on party building, but were unable to respond. Finally, one OL cadre got up and recited a laundry list of statements: "... we have a newspaper, a theoretical journal, a position on the national question..." without responding to a single question. At that point, it became clear that MLOC had arranged to close the hall. MLOC had, in fact, deserted its own forum, taken the money, and fled!!

But MLOC's line emerged clearly in spite of itself. Their attitude of no struggle, their thorough philistinism, exposed itself; its refusal to be open and above board, to put forth its view, to practice Marxism and not revisionism, revealed that it has never taken up the outlook and stand of the working class. The forum revealed MLOC's total lack of principle and its petty bourgeois stand. The forum revealed MLOC as only a more blatant form of OL's character -- the same slipping and sliding, fear of struggle, the same careerist schemes on party building. MLOC's departure from their own forum clearly exposed its small proprietor outlook on the communist movement: "Take the money and run!!"