Shockwaves

Report from the L.A. Rebellion

Part 2
Voices on the Edge

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100s Massacred in Thailand:
Bangkok Streets of Fire

Statement by CSRP:
Condemn the Cowardly Attacks on the Revolutionary Prisoners of Peru!
NO MORE RACIST PIG BRUTALITY!
NO TIME! WE DID NO CRIME!
IT'S RIGHT TO REBEL!
REVOLUTION IS THE HOPE OF THE HOPELESS!
WHO WILL BURY THIS SYSTEM?
GET DOWN WITH THE RCP!
The country of Thailand, in southeast Asia, is being rocked by huge anti-government protests in the capital city of Bangkok. The government responded by ordering the troops to fire their automatic weapons into crowds of demonstrators, and streams of blood flowed in the streets. By the end of last week, there were reports that as many as 1,000 protesters had been killed and many hundreds wounded. Witnesses said that troops were hauling bodies away in trucks to hide the real number of people killed. The Thai government is backed by the Western powers, especially the U.S. and Japan. The reactionary regime is now in extreme crisis.

There had been several weeks of protests in Bangkok against the head of the government, Prime Minister Suchinda Kraprayoon. Suchinda was a leader of a coup that put military generals into power last year. Earlier this year, Suchinda was appointed by a coalition of military-backed parties to become prime minister. The immediate demand of the protests has been for Suchinda to step down and be replaced by an elected prime minister.

On Sunday, May 17 the government troops charged on several thousand protesters who were marching to the prime minister's office. The soldiers tried to dispers the people with water cannons. The protesters answered back with rocks, pieces of metal, and Molotov cocktails. The troops viciously clubbed protesters and fired their weapons. TV footage showed armed troops surrounding groups of protesters and forcing them to crawl on their hands and knees. Some witnesses saw undercover cops firing into crowds. But there were also many police and soldiers who simply turned and ran at the sight of the surging demonstrators.

The running pigs left behind their vehicles and shot guns. Some protesters set off firecrackers to confuse and frighten the government forces. By early Monday morning many police cars and fire trucks were on fire, and the skies over Bangkok filled with columns of black smoke. The government declared emergency rule and warned people to stay indoors or be shot on sight. But the protests continued in the face of troops who cold-bloodedly fired their M-16s at unarmed demonstrators. According to news reports on Tuesday, troops burned the offices of the government radio station, set fire to government offices. Chant of "No more Suchinda! No more army!" could be heard everywhere. Bands of protesters on motorcycles cruised the city smashing windows and ripping the doors off police stations. The offices of the government radio station, the state lottery, state public relations and tax offices were razed. A military fuel truck was overturned and set on fire to the cheers of protesters. There were reports of anti-government protests in a number of provincial cities around Thailand.

Protests Draw In Many Different People

University students have been the most active elements in these protests, as in the anti-govemment upheaval of the past in Thailand. But the recent protests have also drawn in many different sections of the people in Bangkok. One news account said that the demonstrators appeared to be "a broad cross sections of urban Thais, with the middle class a bit overrepresented. There were high school students enjoying a day off from school and competing in small fashions, gray-haired businessmen with attach cases, and shopkeepers and manual laborers, both men and women." A 26-year-old worker told reporters, "We will never work until Suchinda steps down. It's up to us, as workers, to stop him. And finally, in the end, we will step down." The news reports so far have not revealed whether antigovernment activity has spread to the countryside, where the majority of Thailand's 54 million people live.

There has been little discussion of what the demands of the protests are, beyond the resignation of the prime minister and some constitutional reforms. But it is clear that bourgeois politics and ideology are leading the protest movement now. A former general and governor of Bangkok, Chumphon Sriningsh, was emerged as the leading figure in the opposition to the prime minister. Chumphon seems to have a strong base among urban middle class people, but both he and Suchinda represent different sections of the Thai ruling class who are fighting over the spoils of power.

On Wednesday, May 20 Suchinda and Chumphon met together with the king of Thailand. The king historically has played an important role in the ruling class politics of Thailand at key junctures. For example, during the widespread student uprisings in 1976, the king stepped in to give legitimacy to the right-wing military dictatorship. This was a time when Suchinda was being routed out of Southeast Asia by liberation movements in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. At the Wednesday meeting, the king told Suchinda and Chumphon to "prevent fighting in our own house." Afterwards, the king is said to have promised to make some compromises and release protesters from detention. And Chumphon called on people to stop the protests.

The Powers Have Blood on Their Hands

Thailand is "independent" in name, but it is dominated by imperialist powers. Japan has huge economic interests there—factories owned by Toyota and other Japanese companies surround Bangkok. The U.S. has long-standing ties with the Thai rulers. During the Vietnam War, Thailand served as an important base for U.S. military operations. Many top government officials, generals, businessmen and others in the Thai elite have been educated and trained in the U.S.

The extent of U.S. influence over the Thai government can be seen by the fact that the Bush administration basically vowed the man who was premier before Suchinda. The U.S. accused the man of connections to international drug trafficking and denied him a visa. This led to his fall and the appointment of Suchinda as prime minister. It is shared hypocrisy for the U.S. imperialists to throw moral accusations about drug trafficking in Southeast Asia. There is much evidence of the CIA's long involvement in drugs in this part of the world.

At the time that the Thai government soldiers were firing on the demonstrators last Saturday, a U.S. armed forces exercise was under way in the middle of Cobra Gold '92—a major military exercise with the Thai armed forces. And protesters in the street picked up empty cartridges from M-16s supplied to the Thai armed forces. A U.S. news report said Suchinda's resignation announced on Friday was needed "to give legitimacy to the right-wing military dictatorship. This was a time when Suchinda was being routed out of Southeast Asia by liberation movements in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. At the Wednesday meeting, the king told Suchinda and Chumphon to "prevent fighting in our own house." Afterwards, the king is said to have promised to make some compromises and release protesters from detention. And Chumphon called on people to stop the protests.

Maoist Revolution Needed

As we go to press, it appears that large-scale clashes have stopped for now in the streets of Bangkok. On Sunday, May 24 Suchinda announced that he would resign as prime minister. But there is clearly smoldering anger at the military's brutal crackdown on the protests. On Thursday, the day after the king's meeting with Suchinda and Chumphon, a television carrying a general was attacked by people who broke the door and smashed the windshield. A group of youths rocked an army jeep that stopped at a red light, and other youths painted anti-army slogans on walls. A CNN news report said Suchinda's resignation announcement did not produce "total satisfaction" among the youth protesters.

The crisis in Thailand is another crack in the "new world order" declared by the U.S. powers. The Thai people are rising up against a reactionary government backed by the imperialists. They do not need a replacement of the military regime with another government that may have a more "democratic" face but is still an oppressor of the people and is still tied to the powers. Revolution is the only road to real liberation for the Thai people. What is needed is a Maoist people's war—a revolutionary war of the masses to overthrow the reactionary order and kick out the imperialist dominators.
"Defend the Best Sons and Daughters of the People!"

The revolutionary Fujimori government of Peru had thrown more than 500 prisoners of war behind the walls of the maximum-security prison at Canto Grande and left them to die of disease or starvation. Many of the prisoners were peasant guerrillas from the mountainous provinces. The government, desperate to defeat the Maoist people's war led by the Communist Party of Peru (known as the Sendero Luminoso or Shining Path in the press), targeted the prisoners as a means of intimidating revolutionary men and women, who together burned down two buildings where they were kept apart from the rest of the prisoners in "a war of reprisal and combat." They lived collectively and continued to contribute to the revolution through productive work, political study, and cultural activities. Stung by the resistance of the prisoners—and suffering serious defeats at the hands of the revolutionary armed forces led by the Communist Party of Peru—the Fujimori regime and the reactionary media worked together to spread lies—they claimed the revolutionary prisoners were "heavily armed" and refused to allow anyone into their cells. At the same time, government forces attempted several armed assaults against the prisoners but were repulsed. The following statement by the relatives of the prisoners in Peru was issued a few weeks before the recent disarming assault on the prison. (See last week's PWR for a statement from the prisoners before the massacre.) The translation is by the JW.

Statement by Relatives of Revolutionary Prisoners in Peru

"Defend the Lives of Revolutionary Prisoners in Peru! No to Genocide!" Denounce and Smash the Plan of Genocide Underway Against the Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War!

The relatives of the political prisoners, prisoners of war and disappeared in Peru salute the CNP and the JPC and we denounce before national and international public opinion (in particular, the Acarretamiento de genocidio which is the reactionary government of the genocidal sector of the country). Fujimori and the reactionaries launch a new offensive to wage against our relatives. Fujimori is following the same exterminationism and imperialism as he is acting in collusion with the reactionary and revisionist parties (Fujimori, APRA, AP, PPC, IU, IS, MAS, etc.)—and the Church who are all calling for genocide against the prisoners of war.

Genocide is not just a massacre, but a whole system following an ideological-political logic to the point of horrendous political and economic exploitation, hunger and misery. The government and the reactionaries are launching evil "economic measures" in the form of repression, imprisonment and desperation at not being able to contain the just rebellion of our sons and daughters, brothers and sisters. Many husbands and women who find themselves in the situation of being prisoners of war in the various prisons of the country.

The government are planning not only to keep them alive, but to force them to be in addition to the laziest and others that have been committed in the countryside (in Uchucampay, Aymara, Cayma), in the cities, the barracks and the shantytowns (Collique, Barrios Altos, etc.). There was also the massacre committed in Lurigancho Prison on October 4, 1985, where more than 30 prisoners of war were murdered and burned. And there was the more recent attempt at genocide in Lima on June 19, 1986 in the Shining Trenches of Combat at El Frente, Lurigancho and El Callao, where more than 300 prisoners of war were killed. They denied all the constitutional rights of the prisoners, especially the right to life that they so clamorously claim to defend. And they also denied us the right to bury our dead. That's how these "defenders of human rights" behave.

Today these murderous blood-soaked byrones are again trying to bathe in the blood of the best sons and daughters of the people by repeated attempts at genocide. For example, they attempted a genocide on August 15, 1991. This attempt was denounced and resisted by the prisoners of war. And on December 17 of the same year, the prisoners again resisted and smashed this genocidal plan. This year, on March 17, about 300 miserable troops of the genocidal armed forces invaded to make a "reconnaissance" and to set their plan in motion. It is for this reason that they have been occupying Juan Pablo II shantytown in Canto Grande since February. The troops have even seized the communal center from the residents, who have publicly denounced this heinous atrocity committed by the genocidal armed forces. The residents know that where the troops go, bloodbaths follow. In recent days the troops have been creating a racket by firing at all hours of the day, so that the masses are not able to rest. They have even cut off the day's electricity. This is only making the people retaliate against the genocidal forces even more.

We know very well that the presence of the troops in this shantytown is the next attack. They are preparing for genocide and serving as support to the genocidal armed forces that have been stationed at the Canto Grande Prison since October of last year. We also denounce how the prisoners are always beaten and threatened every time they have to attend court hearings. They also transport the women prisoners of war in the same vehicles as the men. To this is added the constant shutting off of lights, water, food, work materials, and so on.

And most shocking is what the genocidal setbacks—the slick, miserable and cynical Fujimori—said in an interview with the newspaper Domingo del Comercio published on February 23: "There will be a big massacre, but it will be by the weapons of the terrorists." But what everyone can see is that today, they are again creating conditions for another genocide in cellblocks 1-A (women) and 4-B (men) of the Miguel Castro Castro Prison in Canto Grande where a total of some 500 prisoners of war are held. As part of their plan, they are utilizing the media... They are behaving like dirty spies, distributing lists of the prisoners who have been rescued from these dungeons and those who are about to win their release by exercising the rights established by the constitution and the penal codes... The media all report a string of lies, leaks and slander. They claim that the prisoners are "on strike," "have weapons," "dig tunnels," "don't work," "allow no one to enter," etc.

What is clear is that in the prison, the prisoners of war produce to provide for themselves. They have a garden and raise small animals. They weave fabrics, do small production, and so forth. Every day the Republican Guards enter to make a count as do the employees of the PFEP (National Institute of Prisons), representatives of the International Red Cross and others. Those who do not enter—and will never enter—are the genocidal Armed Forces. We know they are carrying out their duty to barbarously resist this new and bigger genocide underway.

As for us, the relatives of the prisoners, we face constant harassment and humiliation, searches, mistreatment and repression. They are also making a list of our membership. Since March 6 they have begun to photocopy our voting cards. In some cases even cutting up our IDs, in order to prevent us from voting. They are preparing for genocide and the soldiers will never enter—-are the genocidal Armed Forces who are heavily armed and ready to invade. But our relatives have heroically confronted the Armed Forces. They know that they are carrying out their duty to courageously resist this new and bigger genocide underway.

And therefore they are also trying to deny the right of defense to the prisoners of war and waging a vile campaign against the defense lawyers, including persecution and detention of some of them.

All this shows clearly and undeniably that there is a PLAN FOR MORE GENOCIDE against the political prisoners and the prisoners of war and against all the prisoners in the prison, as part of the genocide against the people.

We relaives demand that we will tirelessly continue exposing and fighting against this genocidal plan, following the example of the prisoners of war who have not and will never get down on their knees.

We call on our combative people to join hands in defense of the prisoners of war. The prisoners are the price the people have had to pay for their struggles. They are among the best sons and daughters of the people, our flesh and blood. We shall fulfill all responsibility for the blood flowing in the prisoners in the slick, miserable, miscarable and genocidal Fujimori, on the genocidal Armed Forces and Police, on the Minister of Justice, the Minister of the Interior and the commander of Miguel Castro Castro Prison.

DEFEND THE LIVES OF THE POLITICAL PRISONERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR!

NO GENOCIDE! EXPLOSE AND SMASH THE PLAN OF GENOCIDE AGAINST THE POLITICAL PRISONERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR!

GENOCIDAL ARMED FORCES OUT OF THE PRISONS!

DEFEND THE STRUGGLE OF THE POLITICAL PRISONERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR!

COMMITTEE OF RELATIVES OF PRISONERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR DISAPPEARED IN PERU

Committee of Relatives of Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War and Disappeared in Peru

Lima, March 1992

Guerrilla fighters led by the Communist Party of Peru.
May 31, 1992—Revolutionary Worker—Page 5


Statement by Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru

Condemn the Cowardly Attacks on the Revolutionary Prisoners of Peru!

The following is a statement from the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru on the massacre of revolutionary prisoners by the Peruvian government troops on May 6-9. The CSRP is circulating this statement for signatures. The Peruvian regime, their Yankee imperialist masters and the media are carrying out a shameful conspiracy of silence about the massacre. They do not want the world to know about the cowardly crime they committed against the revolutionary women and men held at Canto Grande prison. And they want to cover up the truth about the heroic resistance put up by the prisoners in the face of heavily armed reactionary troops. This conspiracy of silence must be broken! All people of conscience must speak out loudly against the massacre. Word about the inspiring fight waged by the prisoners must go out far and wide.

The Peruvian government launched a vicious assault on the revolutionary prisoners held in Canto Grande prison outside of Lima. The military used heavy explosives, automatic weapons, tear gas and nerve gas against prisoners who resisted, armed only with homemade weapons like darts, slingshots, rocks and kitchen implements. Estimates are that about 100 prisoners have been killed and that another 60-80 are still not accounted for. This cowardly assault is a replay of the infamous June 1986 massacre in which the Peruvian government murdered 300 revolutionary prisoners in cold blood. (The fierce resistance of the prisoners in 1986 is commemorated today as the "Day of Heroism.") One of the first acts of Peru's President Fujimori after the recent military coup was to send convoys of troops to Canto Grande prison. Since the coup the government has dismantled the judiciary, instituted mandatory life imprisonment for "terrorist offenses"; arrested the leaders of the Association of Democratic Lawyers, the lawyers for the prisoners; arrested the staff and confiscated the printing equipment of El Diario newspaper in Lima, the only paper which supports the prisoners and their cause. The prisoners, many of them peasant guerrilla fighters from the mountains and jungles, have been targeted as a symbol of the Maoist revolution (led by the Communist Party of Peru, called "Senderos Luminosos" in the press). The government is hoping that this cowardly murder will deal a blow to the morale of the revolutionaries and oppressed of Peru.

Among the prisoners reported killed in the attack on Canto Grande were some of the most outspoken supporters of the revolution: Janet Talavera, co-editor of El Diario newspaper, who had been imprisoned for the crime of publishing a newspaper in support of the revolution; and three prominent members of the Association of Democratic Lawyers.

The U.S. government is the main big-power backer of the Peruvian government. The U.S. has for years worked covertly and overtly to oppose the revolution, sending Green Berets and military aid and "advisers." We in the U.S. will not sit by in silence while murderous crimes are committed against the political prisoners in Peru. We will do all we can to break through the wall of lies and silence; we denounce the attacks on the prisoners.

The CSRP is calling on people to take this statement out broadly for signatures. Signed statements should be mailed to: CSRP, PO Box 1246, Berkeley, CA 94701.

COMING SOON!

NEW VIDEO RELEASE!

Shantytowns and Prisons in Peru: The Revolution Advances

Produced by the Committee to Support the Revolution in Peru

Part one of this video is footage of heroic street fighting by shantytown dwellers in Lima who, led by the Communist Party of Peru, waged a determined battle against government attempts to evict them.

The second part of the video has scenes from inside Canto Grande Prison, the target of the May 1992 prison massacre carried out by Fujimori's military government. This remarkable footage shows how the revolutionary prisoners transformed their sections of the prison into bastions of resistance, it shows the prisoners in daily activities: political study, producing their own clothing, preparing their food, growing herbal medicine and resisting all attempts to force them to submit to prison authorities.

Spanish narration with English subtitles

Send $10 plus $3 for mailing costs to:
CSRP • PO Box 1246 • Berkeley, CA 94701

Summer 1991—People defend Raucana against police attack with Molotovs and rocks.
The L.A. rebellion slammed the U.S. rulers hard, it shook this country to its roots. The voices and actions of the oppressed people in L.A. inspired their sisters and brothers in the ghettos and barrios throughout the U.S. and the rest of the world. And in some great uprising of the people, the reactionaries are hitting back hard. The powers in L.A. have launched a full-scale assault against the people.

The main aspect of this attack is the outrageous military repression the L.A. pigs are carrying out inside the rebellious communities. The pigs are doing house-to-house searches and raids, arresting masses of people, breaking up gatherings and continuing to enforce their own curfews in oppressed neighborhoods. But in addition to the brute terror of the cops, the system's campaign of repression has other parts. These include the appointment of a special commission, the selection of Willie Williams as the city's first Black police chief, and Proposition F, a so-called "police reform" measure on the June 2 ballot.

The commission is headed by William Webster, the ex-head of the FBI and the CIA, with the assistance of Hubert Williams, ex-police chief of Newark, NJ, and an advocate of "community policing." In the past, such commissions have pretended to study the "causes of the rebellion"—that is, the conditions of the masses that are a product of this oppressive, class society and for which they can do nothing. Now the Webster Commission isn't even pretending. This is a cops' commission. Its investigations is focusing on why the police didn't just come down on and blow away the masses right at the start of the rebellion, instead of the ups and downs that the LAPD within ruling class ranks. Webster has also already talked about "personnel shortages," and it certainly is going to recommend more cops. One thing that's already clear about this commission is that the powers are not just talking about how the pigs should react to future rebellions, but about unleashing their killer pigs now to try to crush the people back down.

And the rulers are deadly serious about tightening up their ranks to ensure that nothing interferes with this assault on the masses. Even the mainstream media, which has fully cooperated with the police in turning over photos and videos of the masses to enable prosecution, will be investigated by the Webster Commission to see if any of its "cover-up" coverage might have had the unintended effect of spreading the flames of rebellion.

It's no accident that the number two man on the Webster Commission is a well-known advocate of "community policing." That is a major component of the powers' stepped-up repression of the masses. Indeed, Willie Williams was chosen as the new police chief, not just because he's Black, but because he's a well-known advocate of "community policing." This means more cops to walk the beat and spy on the people, with the cops trying to know everything and everyone in the oppressed communities. And it means enlisting a section of the people to be snitches—helping to identify the rebellious youth in the neighborhood—and vigilantes patrolling the street and working with the cops.

This is the powers' "community policing" plan and called for Daryl Gates to cast himself out. To carry this out, they proposed some changes in the city government structure. The basic point was to control and regulate the flaming among the oppressed masses by putting the full force of the state on the rebellion.

Nonetheless, Williams is working over the neighborhood—and vigilantes patrolling the street and working with the cops. The powers announced the appointment of Willie Williams to head the new "community policing" plan and called for Daryl Gates to throw in with the "community policing" plan and called for Daryl Gates to cast himself out. To carry this out, they proposed some changes in the city government structure. The basic point was to control and regulate the flaming among the masses by putting the full force of the state on the rebellion.

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The L.A. rebellion slammed the U.S. and the rest of the world. And in some great uprising of the people, the reactionaries are hitting back hard. The powers in L.A. have launched a full-scale assault against the people.

This is a class society. The big capitalists who rule over this system are afraid of what they exploit and oppress. That's why the powers—their rulers first line of defense—are supporting it and putting it forward as some big "reform" of the police department. In fact, what they are supporting and encouraging is an effort to put the stamp of approval on more repression of the masses.

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RCYB women with a vengeance. S'lx people were dragged across the ground. At 9:00 p.m., the police allowed anyone to visit her. This sister has been threatened and subjected to interrogations for insisting that the Revolutionary Leader Sasha, and inciting to riot. Even though these charges are all misunderstandings, which normally means that bail is set at $225, the authorities are holding the three revolutionary sisters on a total of $44,500 bail!

The three women have been separated from each other. One is being transferred to a jail in Lancaster, a desert community in Northeast L.A. County. Another is being kept in isolation because she refused to give detailed personal information on a jail form. This sister has been threatened and subjected to interrogations for insisting that she is a political prisoner, and has been threatened with being placed in a psychiatric ward. She had all “privileges” taken away and the authorities have not allowed anyone to visit her.

The sisters were busted on May 15 in front of their house in the Pico-Union area of Los Angeles. At 9:00 p.m., the police came in force. The pigs were block where some RCYBers live, supposedly in response to a call that some immigrants were drinking beer outside. The pigs forced people to their knees for being out on the streets, and then jumped the RCYBers for standing with the people. One sister was hog-tied and dragged across the ground. Six people were originally arrested, but the authorities decided to let three men go and hit the RCYB women with a vengeance.

This is the third recent attack on the RCYB and supporters of the RCP, beginning with the arrests of six revolutionary leaders in May. Those arrested included Hayden Fisher, a long-time revolutionary activist who is well-known for having raised the red flag over the Alamo in Texas in 1980 with Damian Garcia. (Comrade Garcia was murdered a month later by police in East L.A. housing project.) In the May 1 arrest, Hayden Fisher was beaten and brutalized by the LAPD and then charged with the typically fabricated lie—aiding with a deadly weapon on a pig—they run out when they brutalize the people. He was originally held on $10,000 bail and is still in jail, being held for the ransom of $2,500.

A week later on May 9, five revolutionary leaders—including the RCYB women now in jail—were arrested in front of Libros Revolucion. They had been passing out leaflets and calling on people to come to a program at the bookstore featuring Carl Dix, National spokesperson for the Revolutionary Communist Party. The arrest of the revolutionaries and the subsequent surrounding of the store by dozens of pigs in riot gear did not succeed in preventing the program from taking place. At that time, the RCYB sisters were released without bail.

But with this latest arrest, the courts have revoked that release and, for two of the women, including Sasha, re-set bail of $8,500 for the earlier arrest (plus $8,500 for the most recent) in order to keep these sisters in jail and off the streets. The third RCYB sister was hit with $1,000 bail for the Pico-Union bust, but this was also jack- pared up—at $10,000—by a pig judge at a hearing that was called to supposedly reduce this outrageous bail.

On May 20, a press conference was held in front of the Criminal Courts building (which also houses the office of District Attorney) in downtown Los Angeles to demand that the revolutionary leaders be freed and the ransom demands be dropped. Half a dozen RCYB members and supporters armed with a banner reading "Hands Off Our Revolutionary Leaders" faced off against over two dozen pigs in riot gear in front of the court, with many more obviously held up inside the building. The pigs, in the freak-out style they said so necessary those days, told one reporter that they were there to prevent people from "ruining the building." The press conference was covered in the Spanish language newspaper La Opinion in an article which noted that the RCYB statement was consistent with what is being said by a number of pro-immigrant activist groups about police repression and brutality directed against immigrants in the Pico-Union area.

Despite the talk in the bourgeois press about "cleaning up" and "rebuilding" L.A., the streets of the oppressed communities are overrun with uniformed thugs breaking out over the continuing anger of the masses and increasing hatred of their oppression. In Watts, the rest of South Central, and other neighborhoods where oppressed people live, pigs travel in packs desperately trying to prevent the masses of people from looking up with their own feet. When the enemy attacks the revolutionary leaders like this, it is not only a sign that the enemy is up against a people that the oppressed people are increasingly being drawn to the banner of revolution. It also helps make clear to the people that they need to come to support and join their vanguard.

This is what needs to happen in a big way right now. Funds and legal help are urgently needed to free these revolutionary leaders. The Revolutionary Communist Party in Los Angeles is launching a General Strike. Info about "Hands Off Our Revolutionary Leaders" and information about what people's organizations must say out on the LAPD and prison officials' brutality towards women revolutionary leaders. And bail money is urgently needed so these sisters can be freed from jail while the whole of the L.A. police and its activities during the rebellion.

One of the white pigs who tried to beat Rodney King to death has written a book about his life as a pig. The book, by Stacey Koon, who supervised the beating, and which has not yet been published, describes his experiences brutalizing Black and Latino prisoners—experiences he sums up in a children's book, "Mandingo," a racist term from slavery days. And he calls George Holliday, the man who videotaped the beating (and who is white) "George of the Jungle," He that these are really the two Black men that he shot, saying, in response to another pig's question about whether the man was dying, "No way! You or I could be at the movies in a couple of minutes, but not a Negro. They're too dumb to go into that line of work."

The Rodney King beating was not the first beating by Koon to be captured on RCYB is an activist who is well-known for having run out when they brutalize the people. He was originally held on $10,000 bail and is still in jail, being held for the ransom of $2,500.

At the same time, amid the whole brutal martial law atmosphere in L.A., the authorities are putting special emphasis on desperately trying to prevent the masses of people from looking up with their own feet. The pigs have been rampaging through the streets of the oppressed communities, grabbing people off the street or out of their homes, and brutalizing them in ways that they can catch individuals away from their family and friends. Those who decide not to charge with a "crime" are turned over to the Immigration Service, and hundreds of people have been deported in this manner.

Leaves messages for the RCYB at (213) 488-1303, 312 S. 8th St., Los Angeles, CA 90014; (213) 488-1304, 312 W. 8th St., Los Angeles, CA 90014.

• Leave messages for the RCYB at (213) 840-2234.

• Protest to the judge who set bail—Linda P. Eliff (213) 844-6084, Los Angeles Municipal Court, 529 Bauchet St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

• Contact the defense team thru Libros Revolucion, (213) 485-5470 to the City Attorney's office at (213) 974-7401 and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's office at (213) 974-7401.

• Contact the defense team thru Libros Revolucion, (213) 485-5470.

• Send bail to Libros Revolucion, 312 W. 8th St., Los Angeles, CA 90014. (Make checks out to Libros Revolucion and put a note explaining the money is for the bail of the three women)

• Contact the defense team thru Libros Revolucion, (213) 488-1303.

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• Leave messages for the RCYB at (213) 840-2234.

• Protest to the judge who set bail—Linda P. Eliff (213) 844-6084, Los Angeles Municipal Court, 529 Bauchet St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

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The first time wasn't shit. That was just a little piece of cake. You just wait if this shit goes down with the four brothers from the cake, nah man, then it's gonna be the whole damn catering business that we take down. We got the whole motherfucking catering business going.

The neighborhoods in South Central are hot. The people are rightfully angry and the situation stays tense. This is especially true in Watts, and even more so in the projects. We were in one of them, talking to two brothers—one Crip and one Blood. The brother was blowing down taking care of his pigeons. He keeps them in a cage improvised out of wood scraps and milk crates. It was a trip—each of these young brothers had been stabbed, shot, beaten and thrown in jail. A month earlier they would have been trying to kill each other but now we were all standing together talking about the rebellion, the power of the oppressed and the road to revolution. The only tension came from the constant pig surveillance—they were riding four deep and dogpissing up, and whenever they passed by it was real slow and real careful.

The brother from the Crips continued. He wanted to talk on the true and what it meant to be a gangbanger and what it means now that the truce is in effect. "Look, we got together and we gonna stop this shit. We came together by ourselves. No motherfucker did for us, we, the Crips and the Bloods did for self. The Crips came with the Bloods and we said ‘Look, why are we killing each other?’ And nobody had the fucking answer. Know what I’m saying? I don’t have no answer. I’m just a Crip cuz I wanna be a Crip. He a Blood cuz he wanna be a Blood. Now this is just stupid that we killing each other. We ain’t got no answer for why we killing each other. We together as one now and didn’t nobody think we could do this shit. We been kickin it together for two and a half week and ain’t nobody tripped on nobody, ain’t nobody had no fight with nobody and ain’t been no gang violence.

The gang truce has been big news in L.A. There have been hundreds of unity meetings and parties over the last few weeks and each one has been attacked and broken up by the pigs, geared up for a war and guns drawn. This whole scene has been an out-front exposure of the LAPD and the powers that run them. For years they have been complaining about “gang violence” and then using it to carry out wholesale attacks on Black and Latino youth. The brother from the Bloods jumped in here. He had some definite thoughts on the truce. “Let me tell you how it is. We gotta watch the police. The police are tricky, know what I’m saying? Let me tell you how this shit is kicking. They don’t want to see us together. They’ll try to kick it back off—some kind of way. They send a bastard over here, some kind of ass motherfucker, know what I’m saying? Then this agent, he gonna shoot one of us and say some Crip set it up. Maybe they’ll try to kick it back off some kind of way over there did it, they say the Crips done it. Or they might kill a Crip and say some Blood set it up. That cause floods up in people’s brains!”

The rebellion brought on some major changes in these gangs. It’s not only a question of making peace with each other. For the first time some of these youth and other gangsters are feeling challenged to look beyond their own hood and to take up the struggle against all oppression. It’s a real mixed bag of ideas, but the struggle is live and the idea of revolution and how to do it is one major topic of debate. The brother from the Crips put out his ideas. “Now I think we need some real change and in a way I think the gangs can do it in a way we are a revolutionary organisation. We are something that is dominant over all—we are Black. Black Power is dominant over all. I don’t want peace for the Black man. Now we can have war, if they want war we can have war. If we together as Crips and Bloods or Bloods and Crips then we dominate the police department. But we ain’t got no power to do this. Now the police might come in here and kill a Blood and say ‘What’s up Crips?’ like it was one of us that did it. Or they might come in and kill us and say ‘What’s up Blood?’ And what we gonna do. We got no choice, we got to believe it. Instead of us acting like Black people and coming over here and saying ‘Man, which one of you homies done that and that’—instead of that the homies gonna come over here and trip. And they these Bloods over here gonna come back on us and cause trouble. That’s their obligation! That’s what they supposed to do. We obligated to hold down our hood and they obligated to hold down their hood. But now we are one and we obligated to hold down each other’s hood. We obligated to hold down each other period. Now what I’m saying? Not as a gang, not as a set—but as Black people.

The Blood was trying to bring in one of his pigeons—a dark red one that he was working on with other colors. He had listened to the brother from the Crips and wanted to speak his piece before he left. “You know the whole thing was when Lataisha got killed (young Black woman killed by a Korean storeowner), then people was like we gonna wait and see what happens with Rodney. Then when we found out that Rodney didn’t get no justice, then we felt we had to serve justice for ourselves. We had to make some noise to show we don’t accept what shit is going on. We out here getting fucked over by this police every day and we can’t just keep taking it. Man it’s rough for us. We don’t get no breaks. We already got it kinda hard over here in the hood and we don’t need no police coming in and trying to ride all us. The way, we kill each other and then we got the LAPD coming up and killing us too. They the biggest damn gang in L.A. We in the projects—know what I’m saying?—everybody in the

*Michaél Slate is a special correspondent for the Revolutionary Worker and the author of the “War Stories” series based on two trips to South Africa to cover the rebellion there in the 1980s.*
projects is like one big family and now it was just time for all of us to come together. We know what time it is.

REAL EDUCATION

When you drive south through L.A. you eventually end up in Watts. If you continue to drive south you come to Compton. People all over the world know about the city of Compton today because it’s the home of N.W.A. and the song that became an anthem of the L.A. Rebellion, “Fucking the Police.” It’s a small town just hanging off the edge of Los Angeles. It’s row after row after row of one-story, bungalow ghetto housing. It looks a lot like the black townships in South Africa. It’s hardcore prefabrication. Years ago Black people coming from L.A. had to stop at Compton by limits. The first thing they saw was a “whites only” stronghold. Today most of the people living in Compton are Black with a small and growing Latino population. The people in Compton were part of the L.A. Rebellion and the scene there is still very tense. Hundreds of heavy

“IT was just time for all of us to come together. We all know what time it is.”

Ly armed police broke up a gang unity party just about a week ago. Then, a few days later a Compton pig was given a mistrial after he was charged with assault on a Black man. The boy was Samson brothers last year. The Compton police and the LAPD were both put on tactical alert—the last step before calling the RW Emergency Reporters Travel Fund

“Right on the edge”

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Shockwaves

Continued from page 9

No Time, We Did NO Crime.

We're not going to let this go no more. We're going to fight to the death, even if we have to die. We're not going to let them get away with what they've done.

In last week's RW (#657) the "Shockwaves: Report from the L.A. Rebellion" article incorrectly spelled "Eight-Trays." The correct spelling is "Eight-Trays."
Fighting Our Way From South Africa to L.A.

Part 2

All over the world—from Peru to Palestine, from South Africa to Los Angeles—when the people rise up to fight the powers, they come up with all kinds of creative ways to do it. These stories, taken from the RW series "War Stories: Return to South Africa" are a good example of the revolutionary energy and creativity of the youth:

The People's Court

Soweto-by-the-Sea was one of the areas in the country where the old authority had been pretty thoroughly intimidated and the new "People's Authority" that was born in the rebellions really began to take root. Literally every aspect of life in the squatter camp was affected by this—from culture to politics to home-life. The People's Courts were very strong in Soweto, and so I asked the comrade if he could tell me a little bit about them and arrange for me to meet some of the people involved in them.

The young comrade smiled shyly as he said, "You have been talking to one of the people all day, I be the leader of the People's Court for my section of Soweto. I have been elected by my comrades and the people in the community. We are elected because of our contribution to the struggle. The Street Committees and the People's Courts are only to make the struggle go ahead. We said that the white man must have no say in our communities. We must organize ourselves and take care of our own communities. For the Courts, we do many things from small to big. There is only one condition—that we must help the struggle. There was a time when we saw that the big double-decker shebeen (bar) was having a very bad effect on the people. It was open the whole of the day, from morning to next morning. Some of the people were drinking too much and they would fight or they would be picked up and by being drunk they might spill some things to the police. So we told the shebeen owner that he must only operate during certain hours and then we made certain that he obeyed us.

"One very bad thing that happens is husbands beating wives. We will not allow this. If we have a woman come to us to say that her husband or some other man is beating her, we act fast. We punish the man in different ways and sometimes we say the women and other women must punish the man. This is our justice."

"We Must Have a Total Change"

"I do my revolutionary work in Lamonville and I started there before I finished school. I first got involved during the days of the Aasimali projects where people were striking because they had no money and they were not paying the rents. From there I met some other revolutionaries and I became involved in the philosophy of the Black Consciousness. We fought but we also developed political education classes where we tried to develop the ideology of Black Consciousness by talking of the problems we were facing and trying to solve them. From there we also began to discuss the ideology of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism. Because of that I started to get in touch with the Revolutionary Worker and wrote to other revolutionaries and began to get books and literature that I could not get here. I got and studied Mao, Lenin, Stalin and others, especially books by Bob Avakian. From there I still did my revolutionary work in the township, but I also began to study and write with others about the problems facing our revolutionary struggle.

"When we fought in the township it was at first mainly against the SADF (the army) and the police. We would fight them with rocks and bottles and then we would try to create zones in the townships—I don't know if you would call them liberated zones—but they were places in the townships where the soldiers could not come because we would keep them out. We would set up roadblocks by bringing trees onto the roads and setting up the burning tires and when the soldiers tried to remove these things we would throw our rocks and bottles and what not, so that it would be impossible for them to come to our area. We did have Street Committees for some time but we started having People's Courts only when the fighting among the people started. We, the comrades, were called on to intervene in this fighting—first gang fighting and then the so-called inter-tribal violence. We had to intervene to expose to people what really causes this violence. We also intervened to bring up discipline among the people, but mainly we wanted to bring up who is the enemy, that the enemy is the system."

"We were thinking that our fight was to destroy the whole system and come with something new. We wanted the smashing of the state as such and from there we will bring something that is new and different. In Mandela and de Klerk's new South Africa, will the economics of imperialism still run the country? Will the townships still be the places for the masses of our people to be held? Will the land that is now owned by the whites be taken and given to our people? I don't think Mandela and de Klerk's new South Africa will change any of this. When we discuss these things in our township, then we see that these negotiations are not what we need and that these negotiators must get out of the struggle. We must have a total change and that can only come with the total smashing of the state power.

From RW No. 629, November 3, 1991

From RW No. 640, March 30, 1992
When the L.A. rebellion jumped off, many people in New York City, especially youth, looked for ways to protest the verdict and act in support of the rebellion in L.A. In New Rochelle police were driven from a housing project by rock-throwing youth and store windows smashed. "Trouble" erupted in Jamaica, Queens among Black youth. Hundreds of students walked out of high schools, passed up classes, and challenged the police for control of the streets. A thousand people from all different nationalities demonstrated in Times Square. And when the police attacked people marching toward Greenwich Village, they were pelted with rocks, bottles and garbage.

But the powers were moving too. Mayor Dinkins and police chief Lee Brown put the police on lock-down. A few cops were sent out to employ contain-divide-beatup-rapid-arrest tactics at demonstrations. At the same time, the powers mobilized all kinds of so-called "community leaders" to act as political spokespersons for the Los Angeles police chief in New York. Dinkins organized 300 people from various community programs to try and suppress any protest. On Friday the city took extraordinary measures to lock down the city, closing down corporations, factories in the middle of the day and forcing a panic-stricken exodus from the city to the suburbs.

The result of all this was a standoff. The people took to the streets in many parts of the city and tried to take things higher. But the police were able to keep things from escalating. And so far, they have maintained their position.

Now Dinkins has been all over the media congratulating the youth of New York for showing how "responsible" they are. "Increase the Peace" is Dinkins' rallying cry. Schools and social agencies have been unleashed to promote this crap too, and to employ contain-divide-beatup-rapid-arrest tactics at demonstrations. At the same time, the powers mobilized all kinds of so-called "community leaders" to act as political spokespersons for the Los Angeles police chief in New York. Dinkins organized 300 people from various community programs to try and suppress any protest. On Friday the city took extraordinary measures to lock down the city, closing down corporations, factories in the middle of the day and forcing a panic-stricken exodus from the city to the suburbs.

The youth and others urgently need some straight talk on what's really going on here. The truth is this call to "be responsible" means is increase the police. And that means you behave yourself and act responsibly. It's a lie that youth have a stake in this setup. The truth is this call to "be responsible" is their way of keeping things as they are. The truth is this call to "be responsible" is their way of keeping things as they are.

The real deal is that there has been a powerful struggle against the oppression of Black people in New York for over a decade. There have been many different tactics at demonstrations. At the same time, the powers mobilized all kinds of so-called "community leaders" to act as political spokespersons for the Los Angeles police chief in New York. Dinkins organized 300 people from various community programs to try and suppress any protest. On Friday the city took extraordinary measures to lock down the city, closing down corporations, factories in the middle of the day and forcing a panic-stricken exodus from the city to the suburbs.

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When Dinkins says, "Increase the Peace," what he really means is increase the police.
the hope of the hopeless. The system can be overthrown. Revolution is the real enemy, today and for the future. There must be no going back to oppression and the enemy, against national oppression. The proletariat should lead all classes against the oppression of Black people and other forms of oppression. In this way the proletariat can bring out the best in forces from movements of different nationalities and a high proportion of oppressed nationalities—Black, Latino, Asian, Native American, and immigrant workers—in its ranks. This lays a strong basis to weld together the movement for proletarian revolution with the struggle against national oppression.

In the face of counterattacks, the proletariat has no interest, none, in cooperating in any way with the program of Dollars and the big capitalists he represents. The only thing that can speak to the interests of the proletariat is the all-way revolution.

The proletariat cherishes heroic battles such as the L.A. rebellion and is proud of our people's fight. Such rebellions help to develop the fighting spirit of the masses, break down the fear of the enemy, bring the hatred of the people for the system into concrete expression, and give life to the desire of masses of people for a better way. In this way, such rebellions can contribute to bringing closer the day when the people can actually launch a real revolution against the bosses and their system of exploitation. The proletariat and its party oppose at all times even going door to door introducing themselves—are all part of trying to put a new face on the same old brutality. In New York Brown is emphasizing pigs working on a neighborhood level and signing specific pigs to be the "community policing" model he's been instituting. Brown cut his teeth on that model in Houston a few years ago where he did things like set up community pig storefronts where "neighborhood" pigs would be stationed. This, along with beat cops and pigs living in the neighborhoods they oppress, sometimes even going door to door introducing themselves—all are part of trying to put a new face on the same old brutality.

In the street's and its party oppose attempts to suppress the people's anger and channel it into harmless dead ends. As the PW said, "In the face of counterattacks, the people—in Los Angeles and around the country—have in ways to regroup, support the rebellion, oppose the clampdown, strengthen the people's unity and take on the powers."

In the spirit of Carl Dix's statement above, the proletariat should lead all class forces that can be united to support the rebellion, oppose the clampdown and take things higher. There are huge sections of the Black middle class furious with the Rodney King verdict. Many of them have been bolaed and oppressed by the present clampdown and can be won to be allies of the proletariat as it wages a unifying and uncompromising struggle against the system. In this way the proletariat can bring out the best in forces from movements of different classes against the oppression of Black people and other forms of oppression. In this way it can really forge a strong united front against the system. If this line leads the struggle, we can unite with all who can be united against the real enemy and deal them some powerful blows, our class, the proletariat, and its program have to lead the way.

UNITE AND TAKE IT HIGHER

The proletariat is the class of exploited people, with no property at all and nothing to sell but their ability to work. The proletariat includes people of all nationalities and has a high proportion of oppressed nationalities—Black, Latino, Asian, Native American, and immigrant workers—in its ranks. This lays a strong basis to weld together the movement for proletarian revolution with the struggle against national oppression.

After the Rodney King verdict there were significant outbreaks of rage among the people in New York City. But the powers immediately went into high gear to put a lid on the people's anger. It's important to know your enemy. So here's a look at how the powers in New York reacted and some of the ways the police moved against the people.

NYPD Police Commissioner Lee Brown had just gotten off a plane from South Africa when the Rodney King verdict was announced. It's unclear exactly what his visit was for. But no doubt he shared more pig experiences with the oppressors of that country like he did on a previous trip when he spoke to the South African police. Brown immediately called together the top police brass. He told Nasheley he did this "to prevent anything from happening and to be prepared for anything that would happen." An order went out to the commanders of the 75 police precincts to establish contact with community leaders. Potential "trouble spots"—such as Crown Heights —were put under special police watch and "community leaders" were put into the streets. Borough task forces, which are the forces trained to deal with demonstrations and riots, were put on alert. Where anger erupted in the streets, the police moved in immediately and with force. Arrests were made quickly. Demonstrations were met with police tactics of divide, contain and isolate protesters, scores were arrested.

Rumors of riots, or impending ones, swept New York. Stores and businesses closed. Major firms shut down midway, sending office workers off to Penn Station and Port Authority in a frenzy to get out of the city. The police encouraged all this. Shutting down major commercial areas, especially in Manhattan, gave the police more mobility and limited the number of people on the streets. The pigs like this just like curfews, because they can then justify pouncing on anyone in the streets.

At the same time, city administrators got on the phone to social service agencies all over the city. These agencies were called up to act as police. These service agencies were given instructions to get into the streets and squelch any disturbances. A special rumor control hotline was set up. The 911 lines were jammed with people calling to check on rumors. But the main reason for this hotline was that it gave the powers a way to control the situation by controlling what information people were getting.

Brown told the press that the NYPD had studied the findings of the Christopher Commission which investigated the LAPD after the Rodney King beating. He said the NYPD had already adopted much of its recommendations, and that the NYPD's guidelines on the use of force are a model to the rest of the country. What he's talking about here is the "community policing" model he's been instituting. Brown cut his teeth on that model in Houston a few years ago where he did things like set up community pig storefronts where "neighborhood" pigs would be stationed. This, along with beat cops and pigs living in the neighborhoods they oppress, sometimes even going door to door introducing themselves—are all part of trying to put a new face on the same old brutality.

In New York Brown is emphasizing pigs working on a neighborhood level and signing specific pigs to be the "community policing" model he's been instituting. This means not only having police that can more easily develop street snitches and such, but also who can learn who the "responsible leaders" are and who the potential "troublemakers" are. This is in part all being to do, as Brown said, "prevent anything from happening and to be prepared for anything that would happen."

The rulers are trying to put a nice face on their armed thugs with that "community policing" program. But it's a fascist policing program for the '90s based on drawing sections of the people into suppressing the oppressed and those who stand with them. And it must be exposed and opposed.
Black Students vs. KKK at Olivet College

Intense debate on Olivet College Campus.

Olivet College has been rocked by racist incidents at the hands of the Ku Klux Klan and other racist white groups. The University, located in a rural area between Lansing and Battle Creek in south central Michigan, was founded by abolitionists before the Civil War, and has always claimed to have a "liberal, enlightened attitude" toward Black students. Yet only 57 of the 704 students are Black—amounting to 8 percent in a state which is over 13 percent Black. And not a single full-time faculty or staff member is Black.

Students say that a climate of racism had been building during the school year. Then, on April 1, a vicious false rumor was spread that a white female student had been mugged and gang-raped by four Black men. Early the next morning, fires were set in a dormitory hall where several Black students live. That evening, a white woman in the dorm telephoned a fraternity, claiming she was being harassed by her boyfriend and that two Black students outside her door were calling her "nigger." The White woman later said that she was trying to get a "judicial hearing" at the college, which she did not have. The White student was later mugged and gang-raped by four Black racists.

The next day, the college handed down a wave of racist attacks against Black students in Michigan and Indiana, especially at small college campuses with few minority students. Hate mail, fascist pamphlets, flyers with racist slurs, and physical attacks have been seen not only at Olivet but at the University of Detroit Mercy, Oakland University in western Michigan, and Valparaiso University in northern Indiana. Many Black students are determined to take these attacks head on and in late April, Black Students from five Michigan colleges and universities, including the Michigan Afro-American Student Coalition in order to combat "racism, injustice and manipulation."
Las Vegas: Cops Still on the Run

Almost three weeks later, the Las Vegas pigs are still on the run. The Las Vegas police reported clashes with crowds on 16 of 18 nights immediately following April 30. Shots have been fired at pigs from rooftops and open windows. The police have re- sisted to дизавувая some streets in armored personnel carriers borrowed from an army bomb test site operated by the Energy Department. The chief of police said that many more pigs would have been hit without the APVs that are some of the incidents reported in the press.

May 11: After police shot a 18-year-old resident of Gerson Park housing project, there was a shooting confrontation where several squad cars were hit.

May 12: More than 50 gunshot victims a police armored personnel carrier as the pigs were trying to dispense a crowd along Martin Luther King Boulevard.

May 13: An angry crowd of 1,000 people confronted three police armored personnel carriers. The police vehicles were hit with about 50 rocks, bottles, and ammunition. Forty people were arrested.

Overall, more than 200 people reportedly have been arrested in Las Vegas, with police on charges such as arson. The pigs on the street are under orders to break up any gathering of 10 people.

The authorities and the media claim that what is happening in Las Vegas has nothing to do with outrage at the King verdict and the oppression of Black people. They say it is just "gangs taking advantage of the situation."

The Las Vegas Times newspaper read, "Mob Violence Continues in Las Vegas."

It is ridiculous for the pigs to start giant math problems and tell the people in Las Vegas that "mob violence" is—in of all places—Las Vegas. This is a city that was built by the mob and its front men. Now the pigs, gamblers, casinos, hotels and prostitution rings are run by the mob. The pigs are the symbol of the dirty, rotten reality of the capitalist system.

Theaysia of the powers and their enforcers in Blue is that they have been able to keep the real revolutionaries Black people in Las Vegas. The pigs used to strut and push people around. Now they have been finally armed behind armored personnel carriers.

Revolutionary Maoists Disrupt Gorby

On Tuesday, May 19, Malcolm's birthday, 500 people came to a march called by the December 12th Movement and other progressive and revolutionary Black and Latino organizations. The crowd was mostly Black people with a mix of other nationalities. Red, black and green flags, Malcolm X T-shirts and signs with quotes from Malcolm X were carried or carried by many of the demonstrators. There were also two red flags with the letter "RCP."

Marchers formed up near Grand Central Station at the beginning of rush hour and blocked traffic in one of the busiest areas of the city. Organizers split the demonstration into three groups which marched throughout the day. One of the groups stopped at St. Patrick's Cathedral, home base of the well-known revolutionary Cardinal O'Conor. Newspaper accounts say that marchers were able to get past a police line and into the church.

The three groups met back at the streets in front of the UN, where the police launched a vicious attack. The racist police beating of Rodney King was replayed again and again as the pigs chased, shaved and beat up people. At least one Black man had his head bashed open by police clubs. An AWJ spectator described the scene: "I saw sisters and brothers being pinned inside the police lines, trying to get out. The police were surrounding the whole area and they blocked them in. They were telling people to move over to the sidewalk. A white pig turned to the crowd and said, 'You all fucking stopped something. You're going to give me something?'

I saw about five policemen jump this Black guy, throw him to the ground and knock him against a wall and street, and he was bleeding from the back. Everybody was crucified. 'You're high,' "get your hands off of us."

People were chanting, 'How many more Rodney Kims;' and 'Philippa Passas, you gonna beat up and kill?' In the paddy waggon one of the people arrested said, 'Tell the pigs to say to each other, 'Remember them niggers two weeks ago? These were the same niggers that we dealt with two weeks ago in Holland.'"

More than 65 people were arrested. In what appeared to be an attempt at preventive detention to stop the demonstration, the police arrested leading members of the December 12th Coalition and other organizers of the march for which they were identified by scrawls around their faces. The legal observer, including Jill Eligh, a Black woman member of the Neighborhood Defense Committee in Harlem, said that the people were hurt, two serious enough to go to the hospital. The charges they face include "parading without a permit, obstructing arrest, assault on a police officer, and obstructing vehicular traffic.

The police attack did not intimidate the protesters. Although the UN police tried to prevent it, petitions condemning U.S. crimes against oppressed people in the U.S. and worldwide were delivered inside the UN. After the arrests, about 400 people were able to regroup and hold a militant march through the midtown streets and blocked rush hour traffic. People chanted, "I'm just as angry in L.A., no peace in New York, New York,""What's coming up? War Who's going down? "We're Malcolm X, we live like him, die like him, struggle, dare to win."

"Remember L.A., Shut It Down" and "We Love Our Streets!" People marched three miles to where people were being held and refused to go home until everyone was released from jail.

A large section of people at the march shouted "Black Power," wanted to take the struggle higher. A Black student from CUNY told the RW he felt the May 11th Rodney King verdict was unjust, that the real reason for what the pigs are doing is to keep the Black people down and go on doing their job. When the RW editorial support- ing the L.A. rebellion went out among the crowd. An older Puerto Rican man from the Bronx confront the RCP flag through most of the last part of the march. He said the reason for the flag is "for revolution and it needs to be here."

Cold Truth, Libertating Truth: How This System Has Always Oppressed Black People. And How All Oppression Can Finally Be Ended

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