

Contains articles from the international Trotskyist press and statements and resolutions issued by the International Executive Committee and United Secretariat of the Fourth International.

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DEMONSTRATION AT MAYAKOVSKY'S MONUMENT

The new ruling group of the Soviet bureaucracy must face, as did Krushchev, a radical opposition among the intellectuals who are bringing forward very advanced antibureaucratic demands, the political trend of which is at bottom quite clear. A notable demonstration was staged by this opposition last March on the anniversary of the death of Mayakovsky.

In 1961 and 1962, it will be recalled, thousands of youth in Moscow gathered around the monument to the poet to listen to the recitation of poems branded as "sub versive", that is antibureaucratic. Some of the most representative figures involved in the gatherings were arrested and the demonstrations were banned by the political police.

This year several hundred youth gathered again. Most of them belonged to an unofficial (and semi-clandestine) group known as SMOG - Samee Molodoe Obschestvo Geniev - a society of young engineers.

They began by reading poems dedicated to the memory of Mayakovsky, who is considered by all to have been an enemy of the bureaucrats who were the true cause of his death. At a certain point one of the youths read a list of demands, addressed to the Writers Union, calling for the expulsion of certain members, those most compromised with Stalinism, who today head the most conservative circles in this organisation - in particular Kotchetov, Gribatchov and Sofronov. The demand was also made (and this was certainly the most interesting one) for the right to organise a literary tendency of the left like the LEF of Mayakovsky in the twenties.

This was given long applause, and it was decided to present the demands to the local of the Writers Union. When they went along the wide sidewalk of the Sadovoe Kiltzo in the direction of the local, their ranks grew considerably. At the same time plainclothesmen of the political police mixed with the crowd.

Near the Writers Union they ran into numerous squads of police, including a general of the militia, a rare occurrence. When they stopped to read the list of demands once more before going into the local a number of plainclothesmen seized the youth with the document and shoved him into a police car. A short scuffle occurred in which two more were arrested.

It is hardly necessary to stress the political significance of the demand for a tendency right. It is quite clear that the right to form

a literary tendency in a situation like the one now existing in the Soviet Union would inevitably be immediately transformed into a demand for the right to form a political tendency. This, together with the fact itself of the demonstration, which was not officially organised, explains the repression organised by the bureaucrats - who understand well that such things can expand rapidly and bring into question their privileges, their power, and even their existence. They followed Krushchev's way of reacting to such situations.

Among other things, the courage of the groups of vanguard youth should be noted. They know well what the consequences of such actions can be. That is why, even in relation to 1961-62, the demands and the forms of struggle are more advanced. Before, action was limited to the reading of poems - the criticism of the bureaucracy was contained in the poems and was not made explicit in a document.

Passive opposition to the bureaucracy, which is widespread among the youth, often takes the form of a rejection of politics. This is what the bureaucrats call "cynicism", and they are waging a fierce and desperate struggle against this "cynicism". But some of the means used to combat this have proved dangerous - particularly in the case of discussions on cynicism.

During May, the club of the physics students of Moscow University organised a discussion on the subject of "Cynicism and the Soviet Ideal". During the discussion a young painter of the Novosti Agency took the floor to declare that the source of cynicism was primarily the politics of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union with all its zig-zags, carried out in the dark without the least participation of the Soviet people. "And there is worse cynicism" he said, "that of protesting against putting a time limitation on the crimes of the Nazis while those responsible for the Stalinist crimes are not only free but enjoying very high state pensions."

The young painter, warmly applauded by the audience, was soon arrested by the political police. He was later freed, it appears through the intervention of the central committee of the party. But a few days later in a canteen, a dozen people surrounded him and engaged in a fight with him. When the militia arrived, they claimed they had been provoked and displayed as "proof" a long knife they claimed to have taken away from the painter. He was thus condemned, not for a political crime, but for fighting and carrying an illegal weapon. As Krushchev has said - there are no political prisoners in the USSR.

(WORLD OUTLOOK)

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BOUMEDIENNE'S GOVERNMENT

By Pierre Frank

In the month or so since the coup d'etat that deposed Ben Bella, the new regime has, in one form or another, been granted recognition by the various powers - the big ones like the United States, the USSR and China, and the medium and small ones. The act of violence has thus been ratified on an international scale.

Within the country, the demonstrations which broke out immediately after Boumedienne seized power have come to an end. The "National Council of the Revolution", the membership of which was not announced until after two weeks, turned out to consist almost wholly of military figures for whom Boumedienne had just set an example they are bound to ponder over. A week later the composition of the government was announced. This, along with declarations made by spokesmen of the new regime, has given rise to some speculation.

It has been noted quite generally that the new regime has not turned the tiller sharply to the right, that it has expressed its intention to pursue Algeria's Socialist "option", that it has come out for maintaining self-management etc. The pro-Islamic declarations are said to be no surprise. Finally the composition of the new government, in which Rabah Bitat made his reappearance, has been declared of interest. Particularly, the elimination of a Mohameddi Said has been stressed, and above all, one of the more dramatic modifications, the replacement of Boudissa, who had a reputation of being reactionary and dishonest, by Zerdani as Minister of Labour. Zerdani has the reputation of being a man of the left who was one of Mohamed Harbi's collaborators when the latter was editor of 'Revolution Africaine'.

Did the coup d'etat then signify only a shift in personnel and not in political orientation?

Upon the announcement of the coup d'etat, the United Secretariat of the Fourth International held that the operation of June 19 did not signify the immediate liquidation of the conquests of the revolution and the establishment ipso facto of a neo-colonialist regime (See World Outlook, June 25). It could even be expected, the Fourth International held, that while seeking to consolidate a regime to the right of Ben Bella's, Boumedienne might undertake certain radical measures, for example in the direction of agrarian reform.

Up to now this is the tendency that appears to be in the forefront. At the same time, the United Secretariat of the Fourth International stressed that an operation like the one carried out by Boumedienne has a logic that does not necessarily coincide with his possible intentions. This question has been quite correctly explained by Fidel Castro. Castro said that he would judge

Boumedienne by his acts, but, he added, a pronunciamiento cannot advance a revolution.

This is the root of the question. It could be objected that Ben Bella himself came to power in July 1962 under "non-democratic" conditions. But the assertion is false. First of all the GPRA (Gouvernement Provisoire de la Republique Algerienne) was an assemblage whose relations with the Algerian masses was questionable, and it was on the spirit, the enthusiasm of the masses that the Tlemcen team was brought to power. Following that, in the course of the successive elimination from the government of Khider, Ferhat Abbas etc., the support of the masses was concretely shown through street demonstrations. This time there was the typical pronunciamiento, and the new power showed that it did not dare appeal to the masses, that it was very careful not to call on them to demonstrate in the streets.

Boumedienne's bonapartist game, which is not much different from Ben Bella's, is not decisive. In politics it is not only the what that counts. The who and the how can have very considerable consequences. For quite a time Ben Bella addressed the masses above all, and the Algerian revolution made progress. Then he turned particularly to combinations at the top, and thus he opened the way to a coup d'etat. Despite recognition from the big powers, Boumedienne's regime is unstable - it rests on an armed force that cannot help but feel the tensions existing within the country. He does not have the capital of sympathy, of personal authority enjoyed by Ben Bella. In proceeding to a coup d'etat, he created a new situation in which the first conclusion is that the Algerian revolution is weaker than before. The masses have been disoriented, and the partisans of the coup d'etat encouraged.

A disquieting new element is the position taken by figures like Zerdani who are considered to be in the left. If it were the act of an individual it would have little importance. But, unfortunately, leftist figures in Algeria have had a tendency for more than a year to line up with combinations at the top in hope of advancing their ideas, rather than trying to organise themselves and to organise the vanguard of tested, militant and clear-sighted middle cadres to be found in the ranks of the Algerian revolution. The only 'positive' result which the June 19 coup d'etat could have would be to stimulate the organisation of such a vanguard in the light of the lessons of three years of independence. But if an important part of the left continues to use its talents in combinations at the top, this will prove disastrous for the future of the revolution. No revolution has ever advanced by such means. A revolution can advance only by the broad participation of the masses in political life. Corridor deals are incomprehensible to the masses, wearying and demobilising them.

The policy of the new regime is not the sole determinant. Social forces have been released. Some of them operate only in the dark. But the revolutionary forces advance only through organising a political vanguard.

Pages from the history of the Fourth International...

M A R T I N   W I D E L I N

By George Breitman

When my mind turns to Germans and World War II, I think not only of Adolf Hitler, but also of Martin Widelin, German revolutionist and internationalist.

Widelin was still alive when I reached France as an army draftee in 1944. I never met him because he was murdered by Gestapo agents the month after I arrived, on July 22.

Although I learned about him only after his death, everything I heard convinced me he was one of the more remarkable figures of the revolutionary movement of our time.

Martin Widelin was born in Berlin, around 1913 - about a year before the First World War. He joined the revolutionary movement at the age of 15, and served as a youth organiser in Berlin until he was 20. Then the Nazis came to power and wiped out all working class and radical movements. For the next five years young Widelin remained in Germany, trying behind the cover of sports organisations to build an underground movement against Hitlerism.

In November 1938, with the Gestapo on his tail, he had to flee his native country. He got away to Belgium, where he joined the Belgian section of the Fourth International, which had recently been founded under the leadership of Leon Trotsky.

The War began and Belgium was soon occupied by German armies. Widelin joined in the task of reconstructing, first the Belgian, then other European sections of the Fourth International. Elected to the Belgian party's central committee in June 1941, he was put in charge of the party's propaganda among German occupation troops.

One of his first successful actions was the publication of a manifesto denouncing the Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union - and its distribution among German soldiers in France and Belgium. Thereafter, in co-operation with other members of the Fourth International, Widelin, under the pseudonym "Paul", began to build revolutionary cells inside the German armed forces and to knit them together into a network that extended back into Austria and Germany itself.

The Gestapo considered this activity so alarming that it sent a special commission to Paris to wipe it out. In a single German unit more than 30 soldiers were executed as "Trotskyists" after a stool pigeon had wormed his way into their midst.

Hatred of Nazism was widespread in Europe., and struggle against it grew in various ways as the war proceeded. But the activities of Widelin's group were unique - they were conducted in the spirit of internationalism, not of narrow anti-Germanism. Widelin and his comrades did not unite with and subordinate themselves to agents of Allied imperialism, as most resistance groups did. They did not content themselves with knifing German soldiers in the ribs at night.

Their aim was higher and harder - to undermine the German forces from within, and in the process to organise German soldiers to that they would unite with the masses of the occupied countries on a revolutionary basis against their common oppressors. They believed that fraternisation was the only method through which the struggle against Hitler could have a successful revolutionary outcome. It is not surprising that the German authorities put a higher price on Widelin's head than on many Allied generals.

In February, 1944, Widelin helped organise the European conference of the Fourth International, bringing its forces together for the first time since they had been dispersed or destroyed at the start of the war. He was elected to the European executive committee of the International. Under its direction he began his outstanding accomplishment - the publication of an illegal German paper dedicated to spreading the spirit of internationalism, fraternisation and anti-capitalism among the German soldiers.

The paper was named 'Arbeiter und Soldat' (Worker and Soldier). Printed underground in France, copies reached even distant German garrisons in Italy. Despite numerous raids, the Gestapo was never able to discover the press on which 'Arbeiter und Soldat' was printed.

But on July 13, 1944, "Paul" and a comrade, Marguerite Baget, were captured by agents of the French Gestapo - SPAC (the anti-Communist Police Bureau). They were tortured horribly for eight days and then, on July 21, turned over to the German Gestapo. Marguerite Baget was sent to the concentration camp at Ravensbruck. Widelin was murdered by the German Gestapo on the next day.

(MILITANT)

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HUGO BLANCO'S ROLE IN THE PERUVIAN PEASANT MOVEMENT

(The following letter, concerning Hugo Blanco, was sent by Pierre Frank to James Aronson, editor of the New York weekly, NATIONAL GUARDIAN.)

In Cedric Belfrage's otherwise excellent article on the outbreak of guerilla warfare in Peru (NATIONAL GUARDIAN, July 31), there are two references to the Trotskyist peasant leader Hugo Blanco, which seem to be based on misinformation and which we are sure you will want to correct.

"In 1959", the article states, "Hugo Blanco, an intellectual inspired by Trotsky and Fidel Castro, learned Quechua and began organising resistance in the Convencion Valley near Cuzco, but gave himself up to the police in 1963".

Further on, the conduct of Luis de la Fuente Uceda, one of the three guerilla leaders currently in the resistance movement, is stated to be in "contrast to the mystery in which predecessor Blanco clothed his actions..."

Hugo Blanco was an agricultural student in Buenos Aires when, inspired by the Cuban Revolution, he decided to return home to Peru to participate in the peasant struggles. Practical experience led him to conclude that while much could be learned from the Cuban example, it could not be mechanically duplicated in Peru. Adjusting his tactics to the inclinations of the peasants themselves, among whom he was very popular, he took the lead in organising unions. These defended the daily interests of the peasants themselves - much like the Peasant League organised by Francisco Juliao in Brazil - and engaged, where conditions were favourable, in "recuperating" land from big landholders. This led to armed conflicts in which Blanco was pictured in the Press as a "guerilla" leader although he actually headed a federation of some 10,000 members whose struggles were mainly on the economic front.

The Peruvian government mounted a repressive operation like the one now directed against Luis de la Fuente, Guillermo Lobaton and Gonzalo Fernandez Gasco. Hugo Blanco was captured on May 30, 1963, when, desperately ill, he was brought by his followers down out of the mountains in search of clandestine medical treatment. Blanco did not give himself up any more than Castro did after the affair at the Moncada barracks. At the time, the press reported that Blanco was charged with "responsibility" for the death of "five rural policemen" killed during skirmishes with the land-hungry rural peasants.

As for the "mystery" in which "Blanco clothed his actions..." Che Guevara had this to say in an interview given in Algiers,

July 23, 1963, published in the August 3 issue of El Moudjahid: "Hugo Blanco is the head of one of the guerilla movements in Peru. He struggled strongly but the repression was strong. I don't know what his tactics of struggle were, but his fall does not signify the end of the movement. It is only a man that has fallen but the movement continues. One time, when we were preparing to make our landing from the Granma, and when there was great risk that all of us would be killed, Fidel said: "What is more important than us is the example we set". Its the same thing. Hugo Blanco set an example, a good example, and he struggled as much as he could. But he suffered a defeat, the popular forces suffered a defeat. Its only a passing stage. Afterward will come another stage".

Guevara's tribute was not without more immediate reason than reference to the general example set by Blanco. At the end of October, 1962, during the Caribbean crisis, Hugo Blanco, as a demonstration of solidarity with the Cuban revolution, led a march of 5,000 peasants from villages in the Andes into Cuzco. They occupied the city for several hours before withdrawing. The action received due publicity in Peru at the time.

Readers of the National Guardian will undoubtedly be interested in the way Peruvians look at Hugo Blanco. Last year Hugo Neira, who is on the staff of the Lima daily Expreso, published a book of reportage (Cuzco: Tierra y Muerte) on the peasant movement that swept the Cuzco area from December 1963 to March 1964. This began, Neira states, when "the city of Quillabamba was taken by the unions carrying out an order to go on strike issued in Cuzco by the Federation in order to win the release of imprisoned union leaders, among them, Hugo Blanco".

Neira travelled throughout the region, making a first-hand investigation of this novel turn in Peru's peasant movement. (The movement was put down by a massive "operation" of the government's armed forces in which hundreds of arrests were made, including the entire leadership of the peasant federation.) Among other things, Neira indicates the imprisoned Hugo Blanco's role:

"Fought by the right, his image distorted by prestige due to erroneous reports about him being a guerilla fighter, injured by the silence, if not the sabotage, of the traditional, bureaucratic groups of Communism, extolled by the FIR (Frente de Izquierda Revolucionario), feared and hated by the unorganised yanacunas and hacendados, admired by the union ranks, Hugo Blanco looms over the whole South."

"This is the straight truth, without falsification, of what this man, who is a prisoner today in Arequipa, means today to the peasant masses... 'We owe him everything' say the peasants. In fact every change in Convencion and elsewhere in the country, was accelerated due to the danger they saw in the peasants having no



hope other than hope in the revolutionary unionism of Hugo Blanco.

"Devotion to Blanco is total - they don't dare bring him to trial. I am referring to the unionised peasants. 'He is our chief' they say ... and in every peasant's home there is an empty bed. It is the one that was waiting hopefully for the leader when he was going around the region organising or when he was passing during the night, under the stars, fleeing from the police".

At the moment, the MIR (Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionario), as Mr Belfrage reports, is leading a guerilla struggle, which the government is trying to suppress, as in previous operations, with napalm and bombs. The guerilla fighters undoubtedly enjoy wide sympathy in Peru, although the tactical wisdom of the initiative taken by the MIR and the attitude of the sectors on this is not yet clear. Neira had the following to say in his book concerning the leadership of the peasants movement:

"For the moment no party as yet holds a monopoly on this network of realities. The leaders come from various groups. It seems that those with the most weight are from the FIR, the MIR, Trotskyist people. But there are also peasant leaders of great capacity linked to the PCP (Peruvian Communist Party) ..."

All these groups, as well as the unions, student organisations and broad intellectual circles are at present the target of a massive nation-wide witch hunt mounted by the Belaunde government in conjunction with its effort to stamp out the guerilla movement. Fresh fears have been expressed for Hugo Blanco's life in view of the announcement by the Peruvian Minister of the Interior July 4 (as reported in the Paris Le Monde July 5) that the operation of the armed forces was aimed at "eliminating subversive exterminism once and for all" and that instructions had been given to the army "to give no quarter and not to capture any heroes."

It would seem that the Peruvian authorities regret not having summarily dispatched Blanco, and have decided not to repeat the "error". That they might take advantage of the current anti-guerilla operation is obvious.

A word should also be said for Blanco's sister, LUCHI, who, according to a February 11, 1964, Prensa Latina dispatch from Lima, was arrested with hundreds of others when 8,000 peasants engaged in land seizures at Sicuana, during which 17 were killed by government forces. Of those arrested, 18, including Luchi, "were sent to the grim Sepa prison in the Loreto Department of the Amazon Jungle", Prensa Latina reported. No further word has been received as to her fate or that of the seventeen others.

## INDIAN TROTSKYISTS FORM PARTY

A three-day conference of Trotskyists from different states, which concluded in Bombay, August 9, decided to form a new political party to be known as the Socialist Workers Party, with the immediate objective of bringing about a regroupment of the Marxist-Leninist forces to achieve a speedy socialist transformation of Indian society.

The conference, which was chaired by Shri Somendra Kumar, a trade union leader of Bihar, elected a nine-member organising committee, with Shri Murlidhar Parija of Bombay as secretary, to organise units in different states and to convene a regular conference of the new party. A constitution was adopted.

The Trotskyists, who had merged with the Revolutionary Communist Party of India (RCPI) in 1960, severed connections with that organisation in 1963 due to serious differences over the attitude of the Congress government, particularly since the Sino-Indian border conflict.

The conference was of the view that it is necessary for the Trotskyists, who have been vindicated in their struggle against Stalinism on a world scale, to project themselves as a distinct communist tendency in Indian left politics in view of the crisis in the official Communist movement internationally and the gross distortions of Trotskyist positions disseminated by the Communist parties.

A 23-page policy statement adopted by the conference attributed the present deepening crisis in the Indian economy (acute food shortage, inflationary trend etc.) 18 years after independence and despite three five-year plans, as due to the basic policies of the Congress government, which seeks to build capitalism in the country under the disguise of a "socialist pattern" in a period of the decay of world capitalism.

The new party believes that only a socialist transformation of society on the basis of a programme of nationalisation of the key industries, credit institutions, import and export trade - i.e. social ownership of the means of production under a workers and peasants government - can free the productive forces in the industrial and agricultural sphere from the present fetters and bring about a resolution of the crisis.

The party therefore calls for the creation of a united front of the left to fight for the dislodging of the ruling capitalist class from the seats of power and establishing a workers and peasants government based on elected panchayats (councils) of workers and peasants.

The party maintains that the Congress government, despite its policy of non-alignment, is basically aligned to the imperialist camp. The party calls for a negotiated settlement of India's border and other disputes with neighbouring countries, including China, Pakistan, Ceylon, Nepal and Burma.

A resolution adopted by the conference states that the people of Kashmir should have the right to self-determination. On Goa the conference favoured a referendum, letting the Goa people freely decide whether they would like to merge with the neighbouring state of Maharashtra or remain as an independent state within the Indian Union.

The party called for the settlement of all interstate border disputes within the Indian Union on the basis of the democratically determined will of the people concerned. It criticised the traditional left parties for chavinism on these matters.

The declaration of the new party explains the differences it has with the traditional left parties, including the Praja Socialists, the Samyukta Socialists, the two rival Communist Parties, the RCPI etc. The split in the CP is considered to be a projection of the Sino-Soviet conflict but it is recognised to have its main roots in Indian politics and to be of far-reaching consequence for the Indian left movement as a whole.

Internationally, the party is pledged to support the struggles of the workers in the advanced capitalist countries for socialism and solidarises with the liberation struggle of the colonial and semi-colonial people against colonialism and neo-colonialism. It also supports the people in the workers' states in their struggle against the bureaucracy and for socialist democracy. It is committed to a policy of unconditional defence of the workers' states, including the USSR, China, North Vietnam, Yugoslavia and Cuba in the event of imperialist aggression.

On Vietnam, the party calls for united action by the Indian and international working class movement in support of the heroic liberation war of the Vietnamese people. It scored the Shastri government for its servile attitude towards US imperialism on Vietnam and other questions. It stands for India's immediate withdrawal from the Commonwealth.

The new party has fraternal relations with the Fourth International founded by Leon Trotsky. Its headquarters are to be in Bombay.

MARTYRED GREEK STUDENT WAS  
A TROTSKYIST

By George Sinos

(IN THE REPORT BELOW FROM ATHENS, IT IS MENTIONED THAT SOTIRIOS PETROULAS WAS EXPELLED FROM THE E.D.A. FOR "TROTSKYISM" JUST TWO MONTHS BEFORE HE WAS KILLED BY THE POLICE.

SOTIRIOS PETROULAS WAS THE STUDENT WHOSE FUNERAL WAS HELD IN ATHENS ON JULY 23. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS SAID THAT "MORE THAN 150,000 DEMONSTRATORS" SURGED THROUGH THE STREETS IN THE MAMMOTH DEMONSTRATION. OTHER SOURCES PUT THE FIGURE AT TWICE THAT NUMBER. A LEADER OF THE GREEK SECTION OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL WRITES "THE YOUNG COMRADE SOTIRIOS PETROULAS, KILLED BY THE POLICE, WAS A SYMPATHISER BELONGING TO A GROUP OF YOUNG STUDENTS EXPELLED FROM THE E.D.A. FOR TROTSKYISM AND WITH WHOM WE ARE COLLABORATING")

The most outstanding feature of the current political crisis in Greece has been the spontaneous action of the masses. For the first time in 20 years, the traditional left-wing leadership of the EDA (United Democratic Left) and Greek Communist Party does not have full control over the masses.

The principal reasons for this are: (1) A young generation is entering the political scene free from the sins and burdens of Stalinism. (2) The broad masses lost faith in the EDA and CP leadership. (3) Many militants, formerly with these movements, left them, leading to a series of splits in the EDA. (4) The leadership of the EDA is dominated by veteran bureaucrats concerned mainly about their posts and salaries. (5) These officials adapt themselves completely to Papandreu's bourgeois policies. (6) There are a number of militant tendencies active in the mass movement, including the powerful youth movement of the Centre Union, and farther to the left, the Trotskyists and pro-Chinese Communists.

This situation has opened favourable opportunities for the revolutionary Marxists. Tens of thousands of militants, especially the youth, have taken up the slogans advanced by the revolutionary Marxists. This has led to a good deal of fright among the bureaucratic leaders.

On July 17 at the huge mass meeting in the Panathinaikos stadium, where 80,000 people turned out, the slogan in favour of a referendum, a slogan directed against the monarchy, was launched by the revolutionary Marxists. The bureaucrats tried to oppose this but failed to gain support. They then tried to dissolve the huge meeting, "prohibiting" a demonstration from being held. The masses paid no attention. The mammoth demonstration adopted the slogan favouring a referendum. Two days later a crowd of about 1,000,000 turned out to hear Papandreu. Demonstrating and picketing went on for hours. The EDA leaders tried unsuccessfully to halt all this.

On July 21 when the students turned out, clashes occurred with the police. It was in this demonstration that our young comrade Sotirios Petroulas was killed.

The EDA leadership found itself in an embarrassing position. Only two months before this it had expelled Sotirios and a group of youth from the EDA on the grounds that they were "Trotskyists".

The EDA bureaucrats had no choice but to participate at the funeral ceremony at which 300,000 people turned out.

The slogans continued to escalate. Besides the slogan for a referendum, spread at the funeral, the slogan was launched for fraternisation with the soldiers. The cry "King - here is your victim!" was heard. For the first time since 1945 the strains of the workers' mourning song were heard.

On the eve of the July 27 general strike, Nefelondis, a leader of the EDA, an old Stalinist who is a deputy, made a deal with the Police Chief to peacefully end the strike meeting. But after the demonstration ended, thousands of workers and students staged a huge demonstration and marched through the main thoroughfares of Athens to Parliament, shouting slogans, mainly for a referendum.

All the older leaders and deputies of the EDA were in the streets trying to bring things to an end. But in vain.

Next day Avgi, the daily organ of the EDA, denounced "Trotskyists" as being behind the "provocations" and shouting for a "red revolution". Throughout the crisis the reactionary bourgeois press had been saying similar things, denouncing "Trotskyism" and the "Trotskyists" for their role.

The Stalinists continued their attacks against the "Trotskyists" until the reactionary press came out with praise for the EDA leaders and their papers "because they have at least understood that the Trotskyist Communists are provoking riots and disturbances as we long ago predicted".

The EDA publications stopped their open attack on "Trotskyism" and turned instead to "educational" discussion to alert the ranks to the role of "Trotskyism" in the crisis.

The struggle continues - but a compromise at the expense of the masses is being cooked up. There is a real possibility that it can be put across because of the lack of a mass revolutionary party.

But in the present struggles a new generation of militants has appeared, who have begun to fight, though in a confused way, for big objectives. This generation, free from the contaminating influence of Stalinism, is becoming acquainted with the truths of Trotskyism.

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Editorial announcement

With the next issue, the October one, the format and contents of this magazine will change. World Politics will cease being in the main a survey of the world Trotskyist press but increase the amount of theoretical and analytical material. We shall, however, continue to bring news of the activity of the Fourth International, and its sections, which is not available in any other British journal.

To establish a large journal and one with more original material presupposes a big increase in circulation. We would ask all readers to re-subscribe as soon as their subscription runs out and help us to gain new subscribers. World Politics can fill a gap in the literature of the British movement if it is developed. We can only do that with the aid of our readers.