

4-30-1978

Resist Newsletter, April 1978

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Recommended Citation

Resist, "Resist Newsletter, April 1978" (1978). *Resist Newsletters*. 83.
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RESIST

April, 1978 — 324 Somerville Ave., Somerville, MA 02143 #122

a call to resist illegitimate authority

MURDER IS NOT A POLITICAL WEAPON

Herbert Marcuse

In taking a position towards terrorism in West Germany, the Left must first ask itself two questions: Do terrorist actions contribute to the weakening of capitalism? Are these actions justified in view of the demands of revolutionary morality? To both questions I must answer in the negative.

The physical liquidation of single individuals, even the most prominent, does not undermine the normal functioning of the capitalist system itself. On the contrary, it strengthens its repressive potential without (and this is the decisive point) either engendering opposition to repression or raising political consciousness.

Obviously the victims of terrorist actions represent the system — but they only *represent* it. That is to say, they are replaceable and exchangeable. The reservoir for recruiting their replacements is practically unlimited. In view of the overwhelming disproportion between the concentrated power of the state machine and the weakness of terrorist groups isolated from the masses, the attempt to create uncertainty and anxiety among leaders of the ruling class is hardly a revolutionary accomplishment. Given the prevalent conditions in the Federal Republic (the situation of preventive counter-revolution), it is destructive for the Left at this time to provoke the power of the state.

There may exist situations in which the elimination of people who sponsor a policy of repression does really change the system — at least in its political manifestations — and liberalize forms of oppression. (For example the successful assassination of Carrero Blanco in Spain, or the killing of Hitler might have had such an impact.) But in both of these cases the system was already in a phase of disintegration, a condition which certainly does not exist in West Germany today.

Marxist socialism, however, is not only guided by the laws of revolutionary pragmatism. It also adheres to the laws of revolutionary morality. Its goal, the liberated individual, must appear in the means to achieve this goal. Revolutionary morality demands — as long as it

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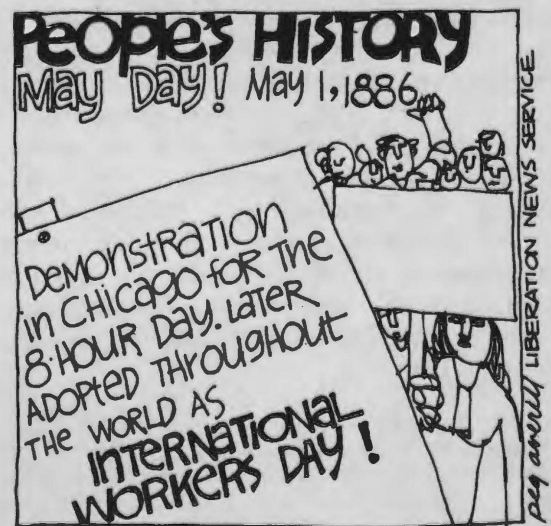
REPORT FROM WEST VIRGINIA

Frank Brodhead

On Wednesday, March 15, your editor shut down the Resist office and headed for a five-day visit to the West Virginia coalfields. After conducting one of the longest national strikes of this century, 70% of the miners had rejected a contract approved by their union leaders, ignored a Taft-Hartley injunction to return to work, and were now being presented with a new contract, only slightly better than the one they had rejected.

My goal in visiting West Virginia was to understand why the miners were holding firm against the combined power of the government, the coal owners, and — to be frank — their own union leadership. One gained little insight from the national media on this question, for their general hostility to the labor movement was now mixed with patronizing analyses of the backward and provincial rural miner, not yet integrated into modern business unionism, and stubbornly unwilling to trade small wage increases for the collective gains — an advanced health and pension plan, and a tradition of direct action in the struggle for control of working conditions — which they had won in earlier decades.

(continued on page 4)



Murder is Not A Political Weapon

remains a possibility — open struggle, not conspiracy and sneak attacks. An open struggle is class struggle. In West Germany — and not only there — the radical opposition to capitalism today is for the most part isolated from the working class. The student movement, the “declassed” radicals from the bourgeoisie and women are all searching for their own forms of struggle. The frustration emanating from their political isolation is hardly bearable. It results in terrorist actions against individual people, actions which come from isolated individuals and small isolated groups.

By personalizing the struggle, the terrorists must be held accountable and judged for their actions. Those representatives of capital whom the terrorists have chosen as their victims are themselves responsible for capitalism — just as Hitler and Himmler were responsible for the concentration camps. This means that the victims of terror are not innocent — but their guilt can only be expiated through the abolition of capitalism itself.

Can the current terrorist activity in West Germany be considered a legitimate continuation of the student movement which must now use different political tactics in the face of intensified repression? I must answer in the negative to this question as well. Terror is primarily a break with the movement of the 1960s. The extra-parliamentary opposition was, despite all reservations due to its class basis, a mass movement on an international scale and a movement with an international strategy. It signified a turning point in the development of class struggles in late capitalism, that is, it proclaimed the need of struggling for “concrete utopia.” It redefined socialism as qualitatively different from and surpassing all traditional conceptions of socialism — as a concrete utopia that has now become a real possibility. The movement did not turn away from open confrontation, but the great majority of its members rejected conspiratorial terrorism. Today’s terrorism is not the heritage of the German New Left. Instead it remains bound to the old society it wishes to overturn. It works with weapons which will undermine fulfillment of its goals. At the same time, it splits the Left just at the moment when it is necessary to unify all oppositional forces.

Precisely because the Left rejects this terror, it is not necessary to join in the bourgeois denunciation campaign of the radical opposition. The Left expresses its autonomous judgment in the name of the struggle for socialism. In this spirit it says — “No, we don’t want this terrorism.” The terrorists compromise this struggle, a struggle which nevertheless is their own as well. Their methods are not those of liberation — nor are they even those of survival in a society which is mobilized to repress the Left.

This article originally appeared in the German weekly Die Zeit, September 23, 1977. It was translated by Jeffrey Herf and printed in the Fall, 1977 issue of New German Critique (German Department, Box 413, University of Wisconsin — Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI 53201; \$6 per year.)

Nuclear Resistance Movement Spring Action Calendar

April 29

Rocky Flats Action
Rocky Flats Action Group
1428 Lafayette St.
Denver, CO 80218

April 30-May 1

Barnwell Action
Palmetto Alliance
18 Bluff Rd.
Columbia, SC 29201

May 3

Sun Day
Sun Day
Suite 1100
1028 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20036

May 22

Bangor-Trident Action
The May 22 Coalition
1305 Northeast 45th St. #210
Seattle, WA 98105

May 26

Convocation for Human Survival
MFS Religious Task Force
CALC
198 Broadway
New York, NY 10038

May 27

United Nations Action
c/o N. Y. Mobilization For Survival
135 W. 4th St.
New York, NY 10012

June 24

Seabrook Action
Clamshell Alliance
62 Congress St.
Portsmouth, NH 03881

Reprinted from *Seven Days*.

More information about the situation in West Germany can be obtained from the New York Committee for Civil Liberties in West Germany, PO Box 483, Village Station, New York, NY 10014; and the “Campaign Against the Model West Germany,” c/o ESG, Querenburger Hohe 287, 4630 Bochum 1, West Germany. The New York Committee publishes a newsletter (\$3/year); the “Campaign” has published four reports in English about the wave of repression in West Germany, including an excellent one on the Stammheim prison murders.

CHILE SUPPORT WORK

Jack Spence

Five years after the bloody military overthrow of the Allende government, an active, multifaceted network of Chile support organizations thrives in the U.S. Anti-imperialist support work in the U.S. has often bloomed during a peak period of emergency in a particular country's struggles and then faded. Chile support work departs from this trend, having survived the first two years of emergency fund raising, demonstrations and educational forums. The tenacity of the Chilean Resistance, an analysis of the lasting importance and strength of the popular mobilizations Chile experienced during the Allende years to the rest of Latin America and Europe, and a realization that leftists had to learn how to organize for long term struggles all contributed to this persistence.

A variety of Chile groups lend different resources to Chile. The National Chile Solidarity Office (156 5th Avenue, New York City 10010) is an information clearing house; it tries to influence Congressional opinion on Chile issues, and emphasizes human rights issues. Toward the end of 1975 a group of nine local Chile groups, which had been doing the bulk of the grassroots organizing on Chile, decided to form a national network called Non Intervention in Chile (NICH). In addition to providing information on human rights issues it saw its tasks as educating people not just about the U.S. role in Chile, but about Chile's processes during the Allende years and about issues of socialism. It has also sought to raise funds, both in support of NICH and to be funneled to Chile, and has actively campaigned in behalf of political prisoners. The headquarters of NICH are in Berkeley, and it has chapters in Atlanta, Boston, Buffalo, Lansing, New York, Washington, San Francisco and Seattle. Information about all of its activities, and its publication *Chile Newsletter*, can be obtained from NICH, Box 800, Berkeley, CA 94701. Still other committees focus on Chile through general work on Latin America and coordinate their activities with NICH in Houston, Albuquerque, Austin, Baltimore, Denver, Los Angeles and Madison. Several groups have more specialized Chile activities. OPHRICH (New York and San Francisco) concentrates exclusively on political prisoner work and has published a complete packet of information on prisoners (339 Lafayette St., New York City 10012). Christians Concerned for Chile publishes *LUCHA*, and is particularly engaged in support work of refugees (Suite 603, 120 Lasalle West, South Bend, IN 46616).

In the past two years the U.S. has admitted a small number of refugees (400-600 families). They come directly from prison camps and have no government



funds to help them. Prior to this other self-exiled Chileans settled in the U.S. In fact, some one million Chileans (about 10% of the population) now live outside Chile, but given restricted U.S. immigration, only a few are in the U.S. In a number of cities committees of refugees have formed. Given the disruption in their lives, this is a remarkable testimony to the resiliency of the Chilean left. These committees have helped support new arrivals and have conducted important educational forums. In Boston, for example, the Chile Refugee Committee has sponsored speakers, three sold-out showings of *The Battle of Chile*, and has put on three *penas*, or political folksong festivals, among the first activities in Boston with strong participation from both white and hispanic communities.

Resist readers can lend their support. Active membership in one of the local groups would be the best form of support. The NICH network can always use funds, and can funnel contributions to other Chile groups or provide proper addresses. For those who cannot afford the time to join an organization, NICH and OPHRICH are sponsoring Adopt a Prisoner support work in which individuals can participate on their own time. It involves writing letters to officials in Chile and the U.S. on behalf of one of the 2500 "disappeared" political prisoners. You will receive all available information on your prisoner, date and place of arrest, statements of eye-witnesses, legal action taken, etc. NICH provides letter models, and addresses, and asks for a minimum of two letters a month. This program has achieved some successes, and requires small, but patient and consistent amounts of work.

Report from West Virginia

Thanks to the patience and hospitality of many people — strike supporters, miners, community activists, health and legal workers, local union presidents, and opponents and defenders of the new contract, I quickly became aware that there was much more to understand about this strike than I was going to find out in five days, and that knowledgeable people are reluctant to generalize in the face of an enormous variety of work situations, safety conditions, kinds of coal, types of companies and traditions of struggle.

Nevertheless, there are a few observations which I would like to share whose importance goes beyond the current contract dispute, and which will be factors in the struggles which are certain to arise in the near future.



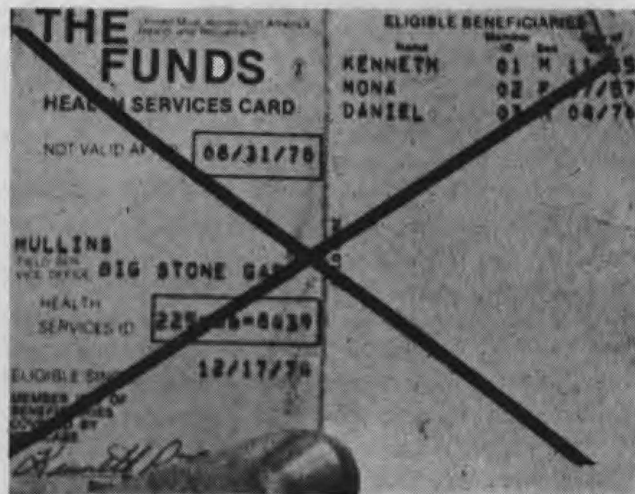
THE CONTRACT

People with whom I spoke in West Virginia uniformly denounced the new contract. And it is clear that the vote to accept it was not based on the contract's merits, but the belief that the miners could get nothing better at this time, and under this union leadership.

Wages: Wages were never much of an issue. The wage package, deemed by the national media to be so generous, would just about be eaten up by inflation and rising taxes over the life of the contract. Arnold Miller's distance from the rank and file is indicated in part by his concentration on this issue, while ignoring the dozens of other issues which the miners had insisted at their convention be part of this year's bargaining.

Health: For this small wage increase the miners were expected to sacrifice their Health and Benefit Fund, won during the great struggle of 1946. If there was any single issue which determined the miners' stance toward the new contract, it was the coal operators' insistence that health plans now be run through commercial carriers, and that miners pay large deductibles before being eligible for free health care.

For the miners, this meant more than a burdensome expense. It meant the destruction of the coal field clinics, and the end of the concept of preventive health care. For an industry which has such a notoriously high accident, sickness, and death rate, the loss of the health fund was an enormous step backwards. Health consciousness is extremely high among miners. As in perhaps no other industry, miners realize that wage gains can't compen-



sate for everything; and it is no accident that the movement which propelled Arnold Miller and the union reformers to power only a few years ago was organized around the disabling health hazards of mining, particularly Black Lung.

It is ironic, and tragic, that at a time when opinion in this country is tending towards supporting some kind of national health insurance, and when we are realizing every day the enormous social costs borne by a society which lacks systematic efforts at the *prevention* rather than the *cure* of disease, that the miners pioneering efforts in this area should be destroyed.

Pensions: A few years ago the average age of miners was 49, the oldest of any industry. Today it is 31, perhaps the youngest. Nevertheless, a high proportion of young miners have parents or relatives living on a miners' pension. While recent retirees receive a barely adequate pension, older retirees receive less than \$250 per month. The operators refused widespread rank-and-file demands that pensions be equalized upward, and instead gave an increase to the poorer pensioners which will not match the expected increase in the cost of living.

The importance of the pension issue to young miners testifies to the depth of the family, community and class solidarity which miners have. Many young workers told me that they would vote against the contract on this issue alone. The loss of this issue — characteristic of the way our society treats old people — does not mean that it will be forgotten. In fact, while I was in one city in West Virginia, a rally of 300 pensioners and widows vowed to close down the mines themselves if the pension issue was not resolved.

The "Right to Strike": This, in my opinion, was the most important issue of the strike, and will be the major issue over the life of the current contract. Most strikes in American industry occur at the end of a union contract. Some unions, such as the steelworkers, have accepted "no-strike" clauses in their contract. The trend of the American labor movement's leadership is to recognize that "no-strike" contracts reflect *their* interests as well as that of business. Only if they can guarantee the "delivery" of so much labor power at such and such a price can they be treated with the respect they desire by

the multinational corporations.

The miners are a dramatic exception to this pattern. They have always struck at a higher rate than any other industry. And during the last decade, as employment (and profits) in the industry rose quickly under the umbrella of rising costs for alternative fuels, local and regional strikes have been widespread. Faced with a growing market for coal, the operators attempted to write "no strike" language into the contract which would have given them power to fine, discipline, and fire strike leaders.

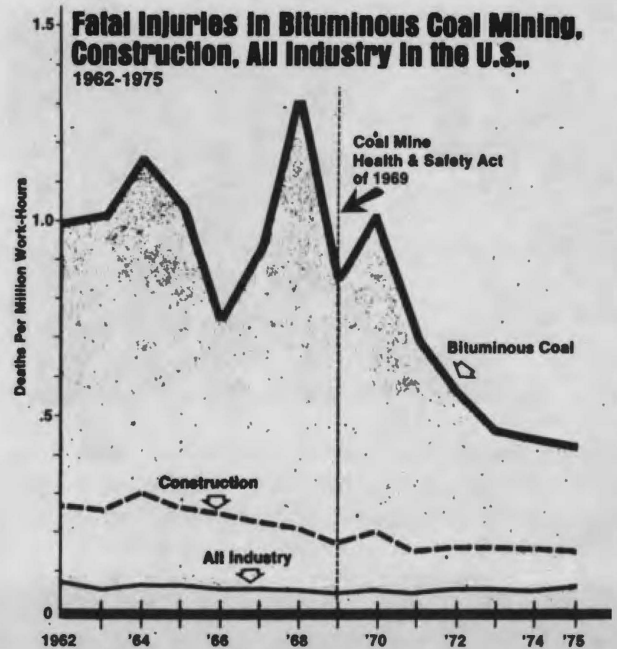
Why are strikes so frequent in the coal industry? One important reason is that mining conditions vary so greatly, and thus it is very difficult for any national agreement to include language which unambiguously defined the rights of both operators and miners. A second reason has to do with danger. Mine safety committees have traditionally taken the responsibility for closing work areas or mines when they determined conditions to be unsafe. The life-and-death consequences of hazardous working conditions do not allow miners to give the companies a few extra days to repair unsafe areas! Finally, the most recent wave of wildcat strikes has been due to the coal operators' intransigence in using the arbitration procedures established under the last contract. Miners throughout West Virginia complained to me that the coal operators had treated grievances as a judicial issue, appealing awards favoring the miners to higher and higher stages. As in some other industries, the grievance procedure completely broke down, forcing miners to settle disputes with their foremen or the company by taking action on the spot, and closing down the mine if necessary.

The company desperately wanted contract language that would give them the power to prevent direct action; and the union leadership was willing to concede this power. The elimination of this language in the final contract was the most significant result of the miners' long struggle.

There remains, however, a fly in the ointment. This is known locally as "ARB 108." Like most of the issues of any significance in the strike, this one too escaped the attention of the national media. Arbitration Review Board decision number 108 was handed down last fall, shortly before the strike began. The Review Board, the highest stage of the arbitration process, essentially ruled that picketing or any other action which resulted in a strike during the life of the contract was illegal; and that it was within the company's right to single out and fire any or all of the miners taking part. ARB 108 is a milestone in the history of the repression of free speech and it will apply to wildcat strikes during the life of the new contract. This is certain to increase the stakes involved in any local struggle, while giving the coal operators a freer hand in attacking miners traditions and safety conditions in the name of productivity.

STRIKE SUPPORT

One of the purposes of my trip was to visit with strike supporters and to get a sense of formal and informal



rank and file organization.

My first stop was in Morgantown, West Virginia. This is the home of the Miners Support Committee of Northern West Virginia. The Committee is a coalition of several organizations, primarily the Mountain Community Union and the Miners Right to Strike Committee. The Mountain Community Union has its roots in the movements of the 1960s. Today it is an active coalition of organizations serving the poor and working class communities of northern West Virginia. It has itself established several active committees, particularly a labor committee and a community focus committee, and publishes a useful, lively newspaper, the *Mountain Community News*.

The Miners Right to Strike Committee is perhaps the most controversial rank-and-file miners group in the state. Begun during a wave of wildcat strikes in 1974 and 1975, its leadership includes members of the Revolutionary Communist Party. Though the Committee itself is not very large, its influence stems from the importance of the "right to strike" issue in both the miners' traditions and their daily experience of struggle. Though the RCP members of the Committee have been open about their political affiliation, the Committee has suffered from red-baiting, particularly from the union leadership. The "right to strike" as an issue, however, has not been successfully labeled as a "communist" issue.

The Miners Support Committee is thus a coalition of a community group and a small but significant rank and file group. It was active during the strike on several fronts, but perhaps the most important was in publicizing the actual terms of the proposed contracts, through demonstrations and particularly newspaper ads. This latter has been particularly effective, as have the "we support the miners" petitions which they published in the local press. The importance of these kinds of

(continued on page 6)



activities lies in the process of contract ratification. Union officials are constitutionally required to support the contract during the ratification process, which itself includes a series of explanations whereby district officials “explain” it to local presidents, who in turn “explain” it to their members. A copy of the contract that I saw was over 100 pages long. The ability of the Support Committee to obtain a copy of the contract, and to summarize and publicize its provisions quickly, played an important role in giving the rank and file more time than the union leadership intended to discuss and weigh the contract.

A similar function was played by the Miners Support Committee of Southern West Virginia. Unlike its counterpart in the north, the southern committee is not a coalition, though it does include some members of the Miners Right to Strike Committee. Like the northern committee, the southern committee printed ads explaining the contract terms in clear language, and comparing the provisions of the proposed contracts to the 1976 UMWA convention demands and the 1974 contract provisions. They, like the northern committee, also published “we support the miners” petitions in the local press, which were important in helping to overcome the atmosphere of “the miners against the country” that the government and the media attempted to generate.

Clearly the most striking aspect of the work of the southern Committee was the Miners’ Free Clinic. Initiated in early January, after the strike had been going a month, the clinic provided free medical care to all — miners and non-miners alike — who were affected by the strike. By the middle of March, the clinic had served over 1000 patients, and had involved more than 80 people in staffing, doing clerical and housekeeping work, raising funds, etc. Operating out of donated space in a local “for profit” clinic, the Free Clinic became a remarkable bridge between the political and service aspects of doing strike support work. Many patients, primarily miners, expressed the sentiment that they received better care (literally) than they did in the UMW clinics; and doctors and other volunteer medical personnel have been effected by their experiences in serving the miners. For it was obvious to all — patients, medical people, and strike supporters alike — that the quality of medical care available for the entire coalfields area depended on the ability of the miners to win their struggle.

THE FUTURE

Many people with whom I talked felt that the future of the union itself was in danger. Not because of union “anarchy” caused by “too much union democracy,” as some observed; but because their failure to get a good contract would make it difficult to organize non-union mines. As David Greene points out elsewhere in this newsletter, the rapid expansion of mining, particularly in the West, threatens to undermine the union. Wages are generally high at non-union mines. And now union health and pension benefits are not very attractive to unorganized workers. Coal operators, of course, would like to remain non-union where possible; but they are willing to sign with other unions if this is the only way that the UMWA can be kept out.

Why will this mean the end of the union? At the moment, only about half the coal mined in the U.S. is union coal. Only a severe winter, freezing several inland waterways, prevented the movement of sufficient non-union coal to essentially break the strike. By 1980, when the UMWA begins to negotiate its next contract, an even higher percentage of coal mined will be non-union coal. As more and more coal is owned by the giant coal companies — in reality energy companies — they will be increasingly invulnerable to attack on their profits. And they will now have a freer hand, under the protecting umbrella of ARB 108, to raise productivity even higher, and go into the next contract bargaining round with even greater stockpiles of coal.

In short, if the rank and file of the UMWA cannot regain some of the power it was forced to give away in this contract — and if they cannot organize the unorganized miners — they may no longer have the power to force the energy companies to even bargain with them, no matter how long they strike.

This of course is the key. “If the rank and file . . .” And for this reason, I don’t think we should be too pessimistic. Seldom in recent history has a union rank and file shown greater initiative, the capacity to develop local leadership, and a greater solidarity in struggle than did the miners in the great 1977-78 miners strike. Though they were not able to defeat the combined efforts of the energy companies and their own union leadership, they fought them to a standstill.



THE THREAT OF WESTERN COAL

David Greene

By 1985, 55% of all coal produced in the U.S. will come from the Western strip mines. Each year Western coal production is increasing while Eastern production is decreasing slowly or remaining stagnant. In the three largest coal producing states in the West, coal production increased an average of 26% between 1975 and 1976, while the three largest coal producing states in the East (West Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania) averaged no increase. The amount of strippable, low-sulphur Western coal is incredible. If the energy industry only used Western strip coal to supply coal needs in this country, it could take care of present *national* coal needs for nearly 50 years.

What's so good about western coal? Money. More money for the wealthy class of people who own and profit from the fuel industry. Western coal is mainly strip-mine coal in seams that are as much as *250 feet thick*. Many Western coal seams are *50-60 feet* in thickness compared to an average of 4-5 feet here in the East. A miner working on a Western strip operation *mines 10 times as much coal in one day as does a deep miner in Appalachia*.

The corporations know they can make bigger profits by busting our unions, in this case by weakening and trying to bust the UMWA. This is a deliberate and systematic effort to break the United Mine Workers of America. Most Western coal is non-UMWA and *less and less of the coal mined in this country is mined by UMWA members*. In 1951, it was nearly 82% mined by UMWA members. In 1970, it had dropped to 75%, and in 1977 *less than 52% of all coal produced is mined by UMWA members*.

A top priority of the fuel industry is to break the back of the UMWA. The United Mine Workers of America has a long militant history of fighting the coal operators and corporate owners to win a better life for America's coal miners and other workers. In the 1930s, when masses of American industrial workers were demanding unions and organization to fight miserable conditions and exploitation, the UMWA put up the money and skilled organizers to help build democratic industrial unions in steel and auto plants, and to help build the C.I.O. Now, the life and strength of the UMWA are threatened by industry's move West. Though the UMWA has made efforts to organize the West, the battle is not being won. The less coal which is being mined by UMWA members, the weaker is the position of the union at the bargaining table and during strikes and other industrial actions.

"RIGHT-TO-WORK" LAWS AND WESTERN COAL

In the strategy of every major industry in this country, there is a move going on, from heavily unionized states to the so-called "right-to-work" (should be called "right-to-work-for-less") states. This run-away shop movement threatens our jobs and our rights to have unions. "Right-to-work" states, mostly in the South, the West, and the Southwest, have laws (allowed for by the anti-labor Taft-Hartley Act, Section 14[b]) which prohibit union shops. By not allowing union security agreements, these "right-to-work-for-less" laws let companies fight unions and worker solidarity by prohibiting the guarantees that every worker will be a union member.

In states with "right-to-work-for-less" laws, in workplaces where there are unions, the workers are easily split up; half the workers are in the union and half are out. In this situation, employers have nearly total power over workers, union and non-union alike. Workers in states with "right-to-work-for-less" laws receive lower wages, little job protection or security, and poorer benefits. In these states, legal protections for workers are much weaker. They have the poorest unemployment, workman's compensation and minimum wage laws in the whole country. They also rank lowest in overtime pay laws, fair employment practice laws, equal pay laws and child labor laws. As a result of these "right-to-work-for-less" laws, the standard of living of all workers is lower. As long as employers are allowed to use one group of workers against another, as they do in moving to "right-to-work-for-less" states, the standard of living of all workers will be lowered.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

1. We need to join together to fight to get rid of "right-to-work" ("right-to-work-for-less") laws. This will mean the repeal of Section 14[b] of the Taft-Hartley Act, which allows for states to pass "right-to-work-for-less" laws.

2. The West must be organized.

3. We demand that the federal government operate on a People Before Profits basis. We demand a rational, humane development of Western coal with the guarantee of protecting our jobs, our hospital cards and our pensions.

4. As a longer range target, we raise the demand for the nationalization of the energy industry.

This article is excerpted from a pamphlet *The Threat of Western Coal*, which can be obtained from: David Greene, Box 13, Racine, W.V. 25165.

Our printer, the New England Free Press, is looking for an experienced printshop worker, preferably a woman, to join their collective. Anyone interested should write to the New England Free Press, 60 Union Square, Somerville, MA 02143, or call (617) 628-2450.

If you wish to continue receiving the newsletter, don't forget to renew your subscription!

GRANTS

MINERS SUPPORT COMMITTEE (PO Box 3182, East Beckley Station, Beckley, West Virginia, 25801).

As described elsewhere in this newsletter, the Miners Support Committee was formed shortly before the recent miners strike to gain support for the strikers in southern West Virginia. To do this they organized and published support petitions, held rallies, and placed newspaper ads highlighting the inadequacies of the successive contract proposals from the coal owners. Perhaps their most dramatic accomplishment was the establishment of a Miners Free Clinic, involving more than 80 people, and serving over 1000 patients who had been affected by the strike and the companies' withdrawal of the miners' health cards. At last report they were still in debt for their work, and need your contributions.

THE WORKING COMMITTEE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA (PO Box 252, Santa Monica, CA 90406)

The Working Committee is made up of members of African liberation organizations, black and white African students in the U.S., and American activists in the Los Angeles and San Diego areas. Resist's grant is to help defray the expenses of a conference sponsored by the Working Committee on the situation in Southern Africa. The conference was held in Los Angeles in early February, and included representatives of ZAPU, ZANU, ANC, and SWAPO.

THE ABORTION ACTION COALITION (P.O. Box 2727, Boston, MA 02208).

The attack against abortion rights is widespread. Part of this attack by conservative and "Right to Life" forces has been to raise fundamental issues of "morality," "life" and women's roles generally. Pro-abortion and other progressive forces have been slow to meet this challenge head-on, tending to rely on the courts for important, but narrow, legal gains. Resist's grant to the Abortion Action Coalition is to aid their publication of a pamphlet in English and Spanish which addresses some of these fundamental issues from a "pro-choice" point of view.

NON-INTERVENTION IN CHILE (NICH) (PO Box 800, Berkeley, CA 96701).

NICH's work, part of a national network of Chile support work, is described elsewhere in this newsletter. Resist's grant is to aid the publication of their *Chile Newsletter*, a useful monthly with news of developments in Chile and opportunities to participate in support work.

THE BLACK LIBERATION PRESS (Box 955, Harlem, NY 10027).

The Black Liberation Press is one of the most important sources of materials which address black intellectuals and activists on questions of race, class, and imperialism. An earlier Resist grant aided the publication of Bill Sales' pamphlet, "Southern Africa/Black America: Same Struggle — Same Fight." Our current grant will support the publication of two essays on Africa and European Imperialism by W.E.B. DuBois, under the title *DuBois: On the Importance of Africa in World History*.

FIGHT BACK GI PROJECT (Ingrimstr. 28, 6900 Heidelberg, West Germany).

Fight Back is based in a garrison town, NATO's headquarters in Germany. For several years they have worked to raise political and other issues of interest to GIs, and a previous Resist grant went to support their informative newsletter. Our grant this time is to aid their petition and information campaign against the "neutron bomb," which is supposed to kill people while minimizing damage against property. The Carter administration has sold this bomb to Congress for its potential usefulness in European combat; and Fight Back GI's campaign against it is part of a broad opposition movement against the bomb which is now sweeping Western Europe.

THE SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY NEWS (Box 443, Somerville, MA 02144).

Somerville, a white working-class inner suburb of Boston, is now our home. For about a year community residents and area activists have been well-served by this lively community newspaper, which is open and readable, while still being combative and opinionated. Resist's grant is for general support.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEDIA SERVICES, INC. (307 Marine St., Santa Monica, CA 90405).

In order to get their message through the advertising and direct mail blitz of the giant corporations, progressive organizations have learned that our ability to communicate requires that we go beyond the amateurishness that characterized the stage of mimeoed leaflets and primitive layout. Neighborhood Media Services is an innovative attempt to aid community organizations to demystify the media, and to become trained in the skills of public relations, while adapting these skills to the needs of democratic and open organizations. Resist's grant is for general support.

