

Maoists join segregationists in Boston

By DAVE FRANKEL

While attempting to deny Black children the right to attend desegregated schools, the racists in Boston have done their best to cover up the real issue. They talk about "quality education for all in neighborhood schools," but they have mobilized their forces against busing because it is through busing that the schools are desegregated.

The only method yet discovered for desegregating schools when Blacks live in a separate ghetto is busing. The racist mobs have tried to stop the busing and confine Black children to ghetto schools by the use of violence. They have stoned buses, screamed ugly threats at the Black students, and have beaten individual Blacks, nearly lynching one man.

In this situation the Maoist Revolutionary Union (RU) has come out unequivocally on the side of the white bigots with the demand to "Stop the Boston Busing Plan." Not only does the RU take the same position as the racists, it even adopts the arguments of the more clever segregationists.

This comes out most clearly in an RU leaflet distributed in Boston. In it, RU says, "We can't write off all white resistance to the busing plan as just racist." While rejecting the crude racism of the Ku Klux Klan, the RU leaflet quotes approvingly a statement by a member of the racist Hyde Park Anti-Forced Busing Board, who said:

"After forced busing is over, this organization is going to stay together and we're going to march with Blacks for better education all over the city. . . . This is not a Black and white racial issue. It's an issue of education."

This statement talks about unity with Blacks—with just one little precondition: that the Black community first be defeated in the struggle over

busing. If that happens, these racists will then sing a different tune. Yet this crude maneuver is taken by the RU for good coin.

RU says that "the basis for unity between Black and white parents [is] their resistance to the busing plan. . . ." That is, the basis for unity is support to the position of the racists—dressed up in phony arguments about "better education for all."

At the same time as RU lauds the white resistance to busing as progressive, it condemns "anti-white sentiment [that] has grown in Black and Latin communities, expressing itself in the attitude 'We're gonna show those honkies we can go to their schools if we want to.'" Black people demand the most elementary democratic rights—and RU attacks them for it!

According to the RU, "The kind of integration brought about by the busing plan—forced integration based on national inequality—intensifies national hostilities rather than reduces them. . . ."

"Forced integration"—RU approaches the problem from the point of view of the white racists! RU tells Blacks to wait until whites are willing to accept desegregation. As far as they are concerned, it is not white racism but the Black struggle against racism that "intensifies national hostilities." This is a segregationist position, pure and simple.

In keeping with its attempt to curry favor with the white racists, the RU refuses to put the blame for violence squarely on the racist mobs, where it belongs. Instead they call for "uniting with the demand against TPF [Tactical Patrol Force] brutality in Southie." RU's notion of unity is to ask Blacks to sympathize with the white mobs when police try to stop them from attacking Black schoolchildren.

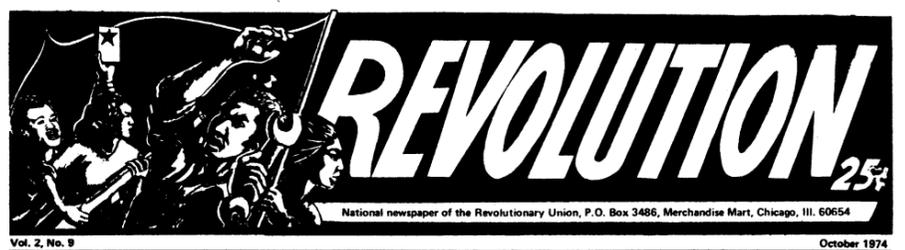
Behind RU's racist adaptation to the antibusing crusade is its view that the racist white workers in South Boston represent the working class. In order to sink roots in this stratum of white workers, the RU is perfectly willing to adapt to the backward prejudices of these workers and even to apologize for their racism. From this point of view, the struggle of Black people for their rights is "divisive."

In contrast to RU's support of whites who want to preserve their special privileges, revolutionaries in the Socialist Workers Party say that white racism is the source of divisions in the working class. The only way to bring about unity between Black and white workers is by opposing racism, not adapting to it.

The RU has a formal position recognizing that Blacks are an oppressed nationality. They say in the October issue of their newspaper, *Revolution*, that "it is essential for everyone to fight against the oppression and discrimination of Black people and other oppressed nationalities. . . ."

But such words aren't worth much when in an actual struggle between the white oppressors and the Black community RU adopts the position of the reactionary white nationalists. In practice the RU fears any independent struggle by Blacks. They fail to understand that the independent struggles of Black people—which are nationalist struggles—are part of the working-class struggle against capitalism. In Boston the struggle against the racist offensive is currently the central battle in the class struggle.

Unity of the working class can only be based on a common struggle against all forms of privilege and prejudice. To refuse to champion the demands of Blacks in the name of working-class unity is simply to ignore the needs of the most oppressed sections of the working class and to pander to the prejudices of its most backward layers. In the name of "working-class unity," the RU has wound up on the same side as the segregationists and capitalists.



People Must Unite To Smash Boston Busing Plan

How to unite the people to oppose the ruling class' attempts to divide them is the question posed by recent events in Boston around the issue of busing. When the Boston schools opened on Sept. 12, thousands of white parents and students began a . . .

—Black and white—against our common enemy—the ruling class and its local agents such as Kerrigan and Hicks and to fight for a better education, better school facilities, etc. for all the children. And within this general struggle, it is essential for everyone to fight against

use local funds) as a cover, federal funding of education has been cut back significantly, including programs for "educational enrichment," remedial math and reading, bi-lingual education, physical education, libraries, construction, etc.

Revolutionary Union has same position as segregationists in Boston school fight

Who's organizing the antibusing drive?

By WARREN HALL

BOSTON—The capitalist media have been portraying the leaders of the antibusing movement here as concerned parents who feel strongly about "neighborhood schools." According to these accounts, the movement to halt desegregation here isn't political at all.

But the fact is that the antibusing drive is a movement of political reaction, and its political content puts it on the far right.

This was shown clearly at a recent meeting of the central antibusing group, ROAR (Restore Our Alienated Rights).

ROAR meets in the city council chambers. They are able to do this because members of the city council are also members of ROAR, and they use their influence to provide this prestigious place for weekly gatherings.

Several hundred persons attended the meeting of Oct. 23, filling the chambers to standing room only. All those present were white, middle-aged, and as far as could be ascertained from appearances, the crowd was overwhelmingly Boston Irish Catholic, the majority ethnic group in the city proper.

The meeting was opened by a series of short speeches from Democratic Party politicians—holders of posts in the Boston city government or representatives from the state legislature—making the record in opposition to court-ordered integration.

The audience, however, was not made up of middle-of-the-road Dem-

ocrats. This gathering of antibusing organizers was clearly a meeting of the far right.

On the way into the meeting everyone received "VOTE FOR KAHIAN" bumper stickers. Leo Kahian is a member of the John Birch Society and a candidate for governor of Massachusetts on the American Party ticket. The American Party originated with the presidential campaign of Alabama Governor George Wallace.

Kahian was the featured speaker of the evening. He was greeted with enthusiastic applause and cheers when he was introduced. His campaign headquarters is located in South Boston, the scene of most of the racist white violence against Blacks in the current struggle to integrate the Boston city schools. Clearly, many in the

room knew his record and sympathized with his views.

Kahian has been campaigning around three issues. Here is a typical statement from the *South Boston Tribune* of Oct. 24:

"It is as simple as ABC—Abortion, Busing, and Capital Punishment. All three of my opponents, Democratic/Socialist Dukakis, Republican/Socialist Sargent, and Socialist/Socialist Gurewitz are in complete agreement.

"They are against the right of the innocent unborn to be allowed to live. They are against the right of parents to send their children to neighborhood schools and they are against Capital Punishment for those found guilty of murder and other heinous crimes."

Kahian's campaign office distributes a brochure entitled, "Forced Busing—



Racists clash with police. Antibusing crusade has been organized by extreme right.

Government Control of Our Children."

Next to a picture of mothers with their children it says, "The grief of these mothers is all too apparent as their children are bused for miles into high-crime areas and schools where out-numbered whites are regularly beaten, raped, and slashed by radicalized blacks being urged by revolutionary toughs to 'get whitey.'"

At the ROAR meeting Kahian delivered a speech denouncing the integration plan as part of a Communist plot to "take the children away from the parents like they do in Eastern Europe" and quoting at length from J. Edgar Hoover. He received a standing ovation at the end of his speech.

ROAR is nervous about its public image. Organizers of the meeting made the press sit outside the meeting hall and closed the doors at times. One person who attended the meeting reported that the audience was told, "Make sure you know the person sitting next to you. We don't want any leaks to the press. Make sure no one is taking notes. We'll tell you if you need to write anything down."

The speakers at the meeting were generally careful to avoid the crude racist language that is common among anti-integration forces on the street.

But one politician went too far for this crowd. He maintained that many Blacks are opposed to busing and an effort should be made to invite them to meetings. A threatening rumble of disapproval rose up from the crowd.