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Feudalism Can't Stay

World Labor Roundup

By Allied Labor News

BRITAIN

LONDON—The British Trades Union Congress, which approved government wage-freeze policies at its last general conference, modified its previous backing of Sir Stafford Cripps' policies by stating officially, after the event, that it could not pass on the necessity for deflation. Devaluation of the pound has already raised British wages 33 per cent. The statement was made under pressure of 50,000 engineers and metal workers, 500,000 railwaymen and a million other workers who have noticed that they will defy government orders again next year. All commentators agreed that the TUC leadership now faces the choice of paying attention to rank-and-file demands or being tossed out of office.

FRANCE

PARIS—The majority French press reaction to the British move for currency devaluation, which forced France into similar action, was that it was a petty trick. The rightist Figaro registered "deep surprise." The Socialist Le Populaire, generally a loyal defender of the British Labor party, said that "from bitter experience the thing is to be looked on as just one of FDR's radical ideas.

Government Stainback encourages the employers in the hopeless hope that their ironclad power over their workers' fate will either come through with the wages the longshoremen need, or they will sit down with an arbitrator and present their case as reasonable men would have done long ago.

The mills of progress will grind away, and all the tilting of the Big Five, even with Stainback's buffeting and puffing, will be as nothing. 

Jobless Pay

In a strong dissenting statement Chief Justice Phil S. Gibson pointed out:"The record in this case clearly shows that the employees locked out their employers, and it is impossible for me to understand how it can be said that the latter left their work voluntarily, within the meaning of the unemployment insurance act.''

In British-Owned Fiji Wages Are 72c Daily

FIJI (ANL)—Daily wage rates in the islands run from 72 cents for common laborers to $1.80 for the highest skilled. 

The employers of Hawaii, who own Hawaii, have long ignored the wishes and opinions of their workers and the public. It may be harder for them to explain to the citizens of Hawaii why and how they are ignoring the suggestions of these impartial government officials, and at such cost to those citizens. 

These bosses are desperately clinging to the hope that Hawaii will remain outside the bounds of United States labor policy. They don't want anyone to help them decide if a little of the money in their pockets should be transferred to the pockets of workers in the interests of justice and in view of the fact that the workers feel it is their right to earn a decent living. Perhaps a decent living is to be looked on as just one of FDR's radical ideas.

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The mills of progress will grind away, and all the tilting of the Big Five, even with Stainback's buffeting and puffing, will be as nothing. Feudalism can't stay in a free America becoming dirt cheap for anyone who has dollars.

SOVIET UNION

MOSCOW—An official Soviet radio review of the British pound devaluation said in part September 19: "The action is proof of a sudden increase in the economic crisis sweeping the whole capitalist world. U.S. monopolies have dictated their will to Britain. Britain's right-wing labor leaders have completely accepted this."

The last British Trades Union Congress (approved the devaluation of the pound immediately after the January 1948 level. The workers of Britain are demanding a reduction in tremendous armament expenses and the establishment of never to be broken, not this year or the next or next anyway. Regardless of the cost to the people of Hawaii Stainback openly aids the bosses in their strikebreaking and in their desperate attempt to preserve the feudal system.

The bosses and Stainback won't break the strike of the Hawaiian longshoremen. They can spend all the money they want to on the process, witness the dough poured into the One, but in the end the strike will be settled justly and that means that the employers will either come through with the wages the longshoremen need, or they will sit down with an arbitrator and present their case as reasonable men would have done long ago.

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WFTU Pleads For Rebuilding Working Trade Unions this week circular—more than seventy million workers have withdrawn from the WFTU, the United States, Great Britain and their unions in each industry affected. The leadership of the WFTU Trade Department, and that the CIO and TUC reaffirm their allegiance to the rebuilding of real international scope.

CIO and TUC were scored for failing to send representatives to the Second World Trade Union Congress in Milan where the "most important questions affecting the defense of all workers of all countries, peace, liberty and democracy" were discussed.

False information designed to justify splitting activity has been given out in members by leaders of the withdrawing unions, said the WFTU circular.

The splitters cooked up slander regarding the Trade Departments of both the CIO and TUC attitude on economic assistance from one country to another and on the Marshall Plan.

The fact is, said the WFTU, that the doors of the Trade Departments are open wide to all trade union organizations and there are and can there be no insoluble differences between labor organizations if they really aim at defending the vital interests of workers.

The WFTU members are all for assistance, not any attempt to place them under the influence of international trusts and cartels.

The WFTU had been falsely accused of opposing reconstruction of national economies destroyed by war.

Another false accusation was that the WFTU had refused to discuss the Marshall Plan. "By means of an ultimatum," said the WFTU circular, United States and British members demanded that the Marshall Plan be endorsed. "But when they realized that they would not succeed in imposing their point of view on the majority, they refused to discuss this question with us."

MARSAILIAN MISERY

The reason they could not succeed was that many WFTU members in all parts of the world have opposed the domination of the WFTU by the relatively small traffic from the United States. By excluding the United States, the charge the WFTU policy was for the benefit of countries which are being worked and exploited, this policy is to turn the United States and its territories into a dumping ground, which is one of the most important products.

The WFTU leaders have decided on a new policy of opposing the dictatorship of the working people, a new policy of opposing the domination of the WFTU by the comparatively small traffic from the United States.

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**The Battle for Your Mind**

By Sidney Roger

Sometimes the press and radio is used to "plant" an idea in your mind. The seed of an idea is smuggled in and fertilized with more "news." The planted idea is then repeated in the same way in a daily or a weekly column, story, or radio report, until it takes root.

**The First Thing We Notice Is That No Source Was Named.**

A common technique is to assign words like "union sources." That can mean anything. It can mean a "source" on the inside, or perhaps on the outside. In any case, something has been whispered, something has been suggested.

**There's Something Mighty Fishy About These Stories.**

What's the truth behind these stories? The public often has no idea. Reporters may be planting these stories on the instructions of a "source." The public may not know that these stories are planted.

**The Next Day the "Plant" Flew Out.**

The next day, the story appears, just as if it were new. The public may be deceived, and the story may be true. But the public may be misled, and the story may be false.

**Facts Are Told From an Unnamed Labor Source.**

Any labor union source may tell anything he chooses. The public has no way of knowing whether the story is true or false. The public may be misled, and the story may be false.

**The Truth Is That the "Plant" Is Being Used to Control Labor Unions.**

The "plant" is being used to control labor unions. The public has no way of knowing what is true and what is false. The public may be misled, and the story may be false.

**The Conclusion Is That the Public Should Be Cautious When Listening to Radio and TV News Reports.**

The public should be cautious when listening to radio and TV news reports. The public should be aware that the "plant" is being used to control labor unions. The public should be aware of the dangers of listening to radio and TV news reports.

**The Battle for Your Mind**

Planted Stories Have a Purpose, and Somebody Gets Hurt—For a Reason
THE DEVALUATION BALONEY
Workers Pay As British Rich Get Windfalls and U.S. Speculators Hit Bonanzas

By LINCOLN FAIRLEY
ILWU Research Director

You are a British work-er. You read their newspaper. You think the pound is worth 10 cents in American money. A pound now will exchange for only $2.80 instead of $4.03, a drop of 36% per cent. What does this mean to you? What's the purpose of this deal? Who gains by it?

The announced purpose of devaluation is to increase British exports to the United States and to other countries which pay in dollars. Britain needs more dollars in order to be able to continue purchasing wheat, cotton and other necessary goods. The crisis in the British dollar situation arose because even the slight drop in the pound will arrive in the form of higher prices, and this is a vicious spiral for Britain's economic recovery. The explanation is simple.

Anything which comes into Britain will cost more in dollars. Britain and other dollar area will jump in price by close to 44 per cent! An example will show why. Take the case of wheat which is selling at $2.51 in American currency are sold for $2,100 in pounds, which is 251 pounds. Now, with the pound at $2.80, the same shipment of wheat costs 768 pounds. The increase in cost, 257 pounds, is a jump of 44 per cent. INCREASED COSTS

Moreover, unlike the case of wheat, the British can expect. American sellers aren't likely to cut their prices and prices of British goods are likely to absorb any of the increased costs.

So everyone in Britain who buys U.S. goods will pay some portion of these increased prices. British workers will be affected indirectly. Indeed, the higher British prices, the more they will buy many essentials which are imported or made into raw materials. The bread made of U.S. wheat and their electrical equipment are examples. Enough of their purchases are from the U.S. so that living costs will always be driven up at least 15 to 20 per cent.

Inadequacy, too, the British worker will get soaked with higher prices. The rise in prices of imported items will tend to pull up the prices of other goods and the result will be a general in-flation of prices. This, in turn, will make exporting more diffi-cult again and there will be pres-sure for further devaluation in the future. Devaluation is no solution to Britain's problems. Wages won't go up to com pensate for the rise in prices, not if the British government has its way. Sir Stafford Cripps has already announced that a tight lid will be kept on wages. What's more, the British government does not plan to increase subsi-dies so as to cushion the price rise.

It remains to be seen whether the British workers will fight back against one of the sharpest real wage cuts in history. Many of them are beginning to realize that all this enforced "austerity" is the result of devaluation. These workers recognize that if overseas military expenditures, which are now 759 million pounds a year, will be cut down, and if normal trade with eastern Europe, which is now largely stopped by the Marshall Plan, were resumed, drastic cuts in their living standards would not be necessary.

What about workers in this country? Do they benefit by devaluation? If not, who does? The U.S. forced devaluation on the British government so there must be something in it for somebody in this country.

INCREASED EXPORTS

As already indicated, the pur-pose is to increase British exports to the U.S. It is part of the plan, too, that tariffs in this country be reduced so that British goods can compete more readily.

To the extent that devaluation is successful, it will put American workers out of jobs. If the British can sell more Austins and other cars here, Detroit can't sell so many.

Likewise, the sharp jump in the price of American goods, Britain will reduce our sales over there. This, too, will add to unemployment in the U.S. But there are longer run ef-fects which will be even rougher on U.S. workers and cause more unemployment. It works this way. Big business men in this country have a lot of excess money to invest. They have accu-mulated an unprecedented amount of money because of overseas profits during and since the war. They are looking around for good safe investments that will bring a bigger return than they can get here.

CHEAPER INVESTMENT

Suppose you have a million dol-lars to invest. Here's a British plant that you've had your eye on, or maybe it's in South Africa or India. Before devaluation, your million dollars would be enough to buy the plant. Now you can buy it for $700,000.

Now, by devaluation, the same million dollars is worth more than 350,000 pounds. So you buy the plant.

Devaluation has put British in-dustry into the American in-vestors' holiday basement. But there's more to it than this. The wages which the American pays in these foreign plants are likewise bargain wages. So, for a given expenditure of American money, the American owner gets a bigger profit.

FEWER JOBS IN U. S.

How does this affect workers in the U.S.? Suppose United Sewing Machine Company buys a plant in India and makes sew-ing machines which are sold in India. Obviously, workers in this country have lost an export mar-ket. The result is fewer jobs making sewing machines. And it will be competing directly with low paid Indian employees of Singer.

The same is true if the Singer plant in this country is bought by the U.S. Unemployment and lowered wages are the inevitable outcome.

Take a step closer home. What are the effects of devaluation on the maritime industry? The an-swer should be obvious. Mari-time unemployment won't be cured by devaluation. On the con-trary it is likely to become still worse. The Marshall plan closes off Eastern Europe and China so that our dear presence there is a mere ir-ritation. And now, the result of devaluation is to shrug off our exports to Britain, western Europe and the British Empire.

LOWERS 'WAGE PREMIUM'

In the third year of the Mar-shall plan, which was supposed to bring Britain to Europe, every country the plan affects is finding that wage cuts in the U.S. bring its workers the pay. Under the same plan, which was supposed to bring "cooperation," the Marshallized nations are to sugarcoat their wage cut to the American pay by wage cuts for workers.

The Soviet currency reform last year, which doubled real wages instead of cutting them. Both production and wages and are up in eastern European countries. The United Nations has recently said that the deficit was a "neutral" posture, the following figure. The introduction in Marshall plan countries as compared with 1937: Britain, 100; France, 105; Germany, 95; Belgium, 33 per cent. Without the Marshall plan wages after repairing vast war damage, the Soviet Union reached 171 per cent of pre-war levels. Britain, and Poland, 141 per cent. This proves that the profits which workers get are neither "the only way" nor the best for Europe.

Devaluation means lower wages and growing unem-ployment. If Britain has a trade war with Europe, it means the spread of U.S. capital abroad to take ad-vantage of lower wages, and a sub-plant British capital. It represents, as one American put it, from a real solution to her econo-mic difficulties, a solution which lies in the direction of de-veloping a natural trade with the U.S. In this direction lies non-productive military expendi-tures.

Costly
- The bathing suit worn by Rome Paige is part of the latest display of gems and pearls worth $35 million. The occasion for such a fabulous display was the Jewel-ers Exposition at New York's Waldorf-Astoria.

- "Why it's that air line pilot she's been so crazy about!"
Local 21 Dedicates New Hall By Members

By KATHLEEN CRONIN

LONGVIEW, Wash.—A good deal of the time that an address was involved when ILWU Local 21 moved its records from West Reise to offices in Longview.

The new headquarters is in a building owned and operated by the 215 members of Local 21.

No one really believed it could be true, said Dewey Van Brunt and "surveyor" Jimmy Josephson, the Longview dockers put up a couple of shovel out to 617 - 14th Avenue and started in last March. Work was done in 90 by 118.8 foot concrete building, a 50 by 118.8 foot concrete building.

At one point, the City Council even tried to declare the under-taking illegal.

PROUD OF BUILDING

But today the Longview dockers have a union hall which Mayor Ed Cloney declares would be a credit to "Commerce Avenue itself" and one which local building contractor Archie Carroll has labeled a "structure any contractor anywhere could take pride in.

And, except for the heating plant installation and the plastering, all the work was done by members of Local 21, amounting to 100 per cent ILWU, including lumbering and wiring.

As one Longview told this reporter: "You'll find every skill in the world in a longshoreman. I go down there every day to see what they'll think of next." The Longview Stevedoring Company got interested and hound the dockers a table saw. Other tools came from ILWU home workshops.

PASSED TESTS

Although only the front office of the building is air-conditioned, the hall is kitted out with basement office space and has all the amenities of a home office, and is the central hall.

Featured are a central hall in which 500 men can "shy" at the same time; a 28 by 32 foot meeting room for the ladies auxiliary; the main hall; a double stall, a central hall, an executive board room; and a sofa kitchen which the members, headed by auxiliary president Belle Blair, already have planned. Included are electric ranges, 3-compartment sink, refrigerator, etc. The building has a tile floor.

Over the front entry will be a women. Many of them are on the ILWU in- signia by artist and ILWU member Earl Benton, whose work adorns many famous buildings throughout the world, including Grace Cathedral in San Francisco.

Next to their insignia, the longshoremen are the proudest of the suspension rod with trusses over their central hall. None of this trying to look through a post when Chairman Jimmy Josephson is putting a motion, for them, "Professionals" said dockers couldn't cut and install trusses, but they had them in place in two hours time—an all-time record in Longview.

Typical of the enormous saving the dockers effected by doing the work themselves is the single set of window frames, on which the local spent only $520 for the 40 by 14 feet 21 frames needed, whereas a millwork supply house had quoted a price of $20 price, a minimum outlay for the frames was only $400 against Timbermen's estimate of $1000.

When completed, the Albert Anderson Memorial Building (in honor of a leader of the local who died recently) is estimated, be between $50,000 and $60,000, foreman Van Brunt says he has disposed for all time the Bosses' old argument about "preferred gangs."

ILWU members serving on the building committee are George Ashore, Roy Loring, Iver Hazen, and Hans Ogren. Jimmy Bar- talon receives credit as head plumber; "Arkle" Lyon as head electrician; Ed Flankey, top carpenter; Tim Coldiron painter, in detail.

The Albert Anderson Memorial Hall, one of Longview's most beautiful and modern buildings, is a joint effort. Back of its clean lines and sturdy walls are the 215 members of Local 21 and it was the "union that made them strong."

Pedro Auxiliary Plans Dance

SAN PEDRO—A "hard-time" square dance has been set for October 15 by ILWU Auxiliary 8, here, with prizes going to the "best-worst-dressed" couple. The dance will begin at 8 p.m. at the Robal Inn Ballroom, 136 W. Santa Cruz. Admission is $1.

Another auxiliary activity is set for October 8—a rummage sale.

Streamlined Hiring Hall—Pictures above show work in progress shots of the new Local 21 hall, in Longview, Washington. Top shows ILWU President Harry Bridges in front of the building with Matt Meehan, ILWU international representative on the Columbia River, June 2, 1949, near the start of work on the hall.

Below, shows the hall as it looked a couple of weeks before it was formally dedicated. Mode of pumice block, the hall is air-conditioned throughout. A memorial to Albert Anderson, the structure is both utilitarian and beautiful and a credit to the 215 members whose labor and cash donations made the building a reality.

Committee Gives Up On Taft-Hartley Repeat

WASHINGTON — Chairman John Lesinski (D., Mich.) of the House labor committee September 22 brushed aside chances for further action on a Taft-Hartley repeat bill in the Estat Congress. Unless there is a change in the attitude of the House, Lesinski said, "we don't intend to try to report another labor bill."

One-fifth of the 16 union members in the U. S. are women.

Australian Seamen Join World Maritime Federation

SINDEY, Australia—Stopwork meetings of the Seamen's Union of Australia held August 30 in all Australian ports decided to affiliate the National Union to the Maritime Federation of the World, the new maritime organization set up in Marseilles, France, in July.

The Australian seamen also voted to contribute their proportionate share of the expenses of the MFW.

Elliot V. Elliott, federal secretary of the Australian Seamen's Union, wrote ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt September 1 that he had discussed the founding and plans for the new organization with the general secretary of the Australian Waterside Workers Federation, Healy, and was informed that the Waterside Workers will also affiliate with MFW.

ILWU President Harry Bridges was elected president of the MFW which was established by representatives from maritime unions from all major maritime nations of the world.

Drug Talks

Negotiations have started between the Dispatch and AFL-Teamsters in Los Angeles on union demands for a 15c rate per hour wage raise, but Owl-Rexall refused to negotiate.

Though AFL-Teamsters failed in a raid attempt at Owl-Rexall, the company claims it is maintaining the ILWU still represents the workers, as it has done for the last 15 years.

LEAFLET BARRAGE

Fifty thousand leaflets to customers of the drug firm charged the company wants to "return wages to the pre-union levels" of $65 to $90 a month, and "fire all the dockers who would sign for the 40 frames needed, whereas a millwork supply house had quoted a price of $20 price, a minimum outlay for the frames was only $400 against Timbermen's estimate of $1000. When completed, the Albert Anderson Memorial Building (in honor of a leader of the local who died recently) is estimated, be between $50,000 and $60,000, foreman Van Brunt says he has disposed for all time the Bosses' old argument about "preferred gangs."

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**New Alaska Local**

During the recent visit of vice-president Germaine Buckle to Alaska International Longshoremen's Association Local 38-167 officials took the initiative to agree that they felt the best interests of their members would be served by joining the ILWU.

These former ILA longshoremen recognized that the ILWU services its members regardless of location, has made better gains than any other union, represents almost all longshoremen on the Pacific Coast and is a thoroughly democratic organization.

The application to the ILWU for a charter was signed by all of the duly elected officials of the local.

The ILWU's membership is practically eliminated but still able to cover the entire Coeur d'Alene mining district. Major issues are health and welfare plan and pensions. Scabs sued Armour & Company to cover the entire Coeur d'Alene mining district. Major issues are health and welfare plan and pensions.

**Low Man Out**

After considerable discussion of the low-man-out system by Local 16 at its September 14 meeting, the members approved trying the system for the smaller categories of the plug board. The vote indicated that the majority of members want to give the system a fair trial.

**Recommends the Committee that any of the employers claim that a "trade dispute" exists. Each individual claim for justification and the employers whether the claim was dispatched to Pier 5A in San Francisco or not.

**Appeals and hearings are held, but the suiteme has been and are likely always to be rulings against the union members' claims.**

**Shipscale Gain**

Local 2 wound up its negotiations with the Shiplacing Contractors Association in San Francisco last Thursday with a new health plan and vacation clauses.

**Qualitying for the hours plan were reduced from 130 to 87 hours per month and the employers agreed to pay 2 cents instead of 2 cents for every hour worked into the plan's fund.**

**New vacation schedule is four days after 800 hours in a year, 6 days after 900 and 10 after 1,300.**

The old schedule was 2 days after 1,300 hours.
New Civil Rights Group Fights Seattle Deportations

SEATTLE, Wash. — A provi
dional Trade Union Committee on trade union leaders arrested on charges growing out of their union activity. Getting, ILWU re
gional director in Seattle, was picked as chairman of the new group.

Civil Rights and Protection of the Immediate objective is to guarantee justice from the Department of Immigration Service “is playing direction of the committee in few years.” In the face of this contribut

The four FTA members were handed an Immigration Board and held for deporta
tion actions. They are, (Continued from page 1) who because of long-time discrimi
nating a law against their becoming American citizens have been unable even to apply for citizenship.

A statement also pointed out that the union had been under investigation as the Alaska salmon industry over the last few years. “In the face of this un

(Continued from page 1) thing as a tragic accident. In other words for all strike

ble version of the story was given here by Tacoma where her owners ap
pear to have been shrewdly shrewd. The only candidate for business agent. Bo
dred. As UE Head

Fitzgerald Re-Elected As UE Head

Cleveland — By a 340-2 margin, the Ohio Portland, Coos Bay, Astoria, and

Elections In Local Set For October

San Francisco ILWU Local 6 elections are set for October with the next meeting of the locals.Slugger Paton running for business agent “A”, Tony Koolosky and Elihu Scott for business agent “B”, Joe Da Mag
gio, Dick Maben, Sam Barres and “Swede” Johnson for business agent “C”. Ace de Losada and Bill Heide for business agent “D”.

Bill Moore is unopposed as dis

DUARTE UNOPPOSED

Charles “Chili” Duarte is the only candidate for business agent “A” in Oakland. Ed Newman, Dick Bell and Bill Heide are running for business agent “B” and Bob Moore, John Maxey and Bill Heide are running for business agent “C”.

Stevens has no opposition for the dispatcher’s office in Oak

in Petaluma Ira Vail is unop

Stockton members will elect Al Fitzgerald as business agent and Tom Sheppard or G. C. Ford as dispatcher.

CROCKETT CONTESTS

August Hemenes is unopposed as shop stewards agent, Dom

In San Jose William McDonald is the only candidate for the post and Johnaleo Flores, Blackie Sanborn and Lucio Fernandez for assistant business agent and dis

patcher. Harold Wartinghah is unopposed as chairman.

also to be elected from all the seats of the board members, trustees and sergeants at arms.

Seamen’s Union Calls For Expanding China’s Trade

An appeal should be held its inaugu

September 30, 1949

The last issue of The Dis

Answer to Who Said it?

Abraham Lincoln

Hawaii Filing Five Again Turn Down Arbitration

In the present instance they Immigra

Billings said that “the major

An ILWU chartered plane fo4

Rome burns, if I may use the expres
tion, because we are engaged in

This court now sits in equity.

I cannot conceive nor believe that

every other means at their com

The leaders were jailed on de

UNIONS Joining in the launch

They delegate members to serve as

Calling for contributions from

In Petaluma Ira Vail is unop

An ILWU chartered plane fo4

WHY AN INJUNCTION

"They have not been one sug

"I remember when we had our wa

"If I should hand down an in

At the conclusion of the hearing in

President Albert J. Fitzgerald received 2,353 votes against 1,500 for his opponent, Frederick M. Kelley of Lynn, Mass. Secretary-Treasurer Julius Enapak piled up 2,301 over 1,520 for Michael J. Fitzpatrick, Pittsburgh, and Director of Organization James J. Matie defeated John Dillon of Long Island City, N.Y. 2,340 to 1,519.

NO SURPRISE

The administration victory came as no surprise since the Fitzgerald forces held firm control of the convention despite bitter opposition from the group led by CIO Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey, acting as a delegate from a Philadelphia local.

The balloting followed passage of a resolution authorizing the UE executive board to withhold other caps from the CIO “for such time as it deems necessary for the protection of the employees” unless the national body meets six specific conditions. They in
cluded demands that the CIO move charters of unions which" have moved to close them, and the removal of national CIO representatives who have taken part in such actions.

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