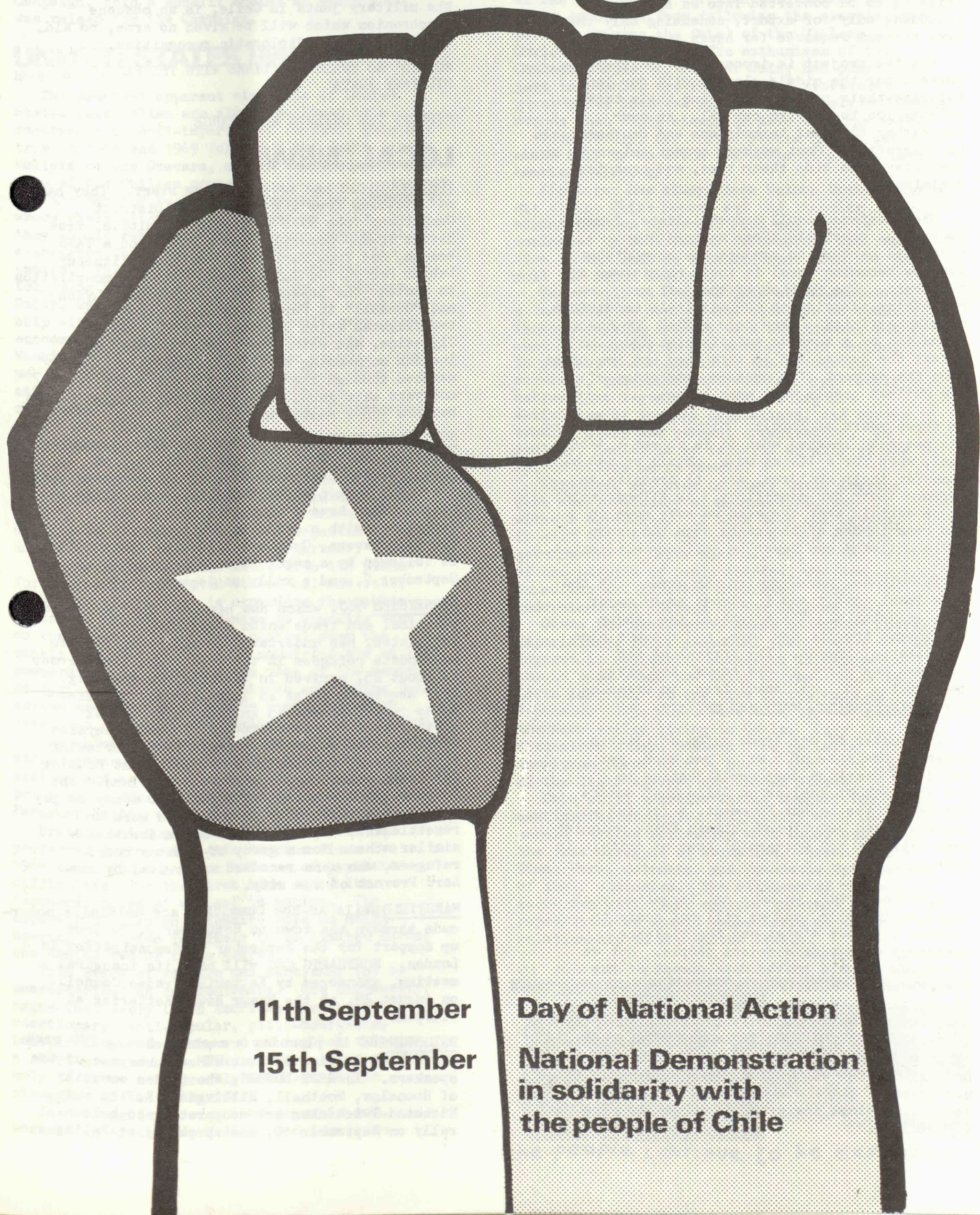


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NEW CHILE CHILE LUCHA Nº 8 SEPT 74 10p

chile fights



11th September

15th September

Day of National Action

**National Demonstration
in solidarity with
the people of Chile**

EDITORIAL

Almost one year has passed since the military coup in Chile. The repression is as strong as ever, but more discreet. The principal weapons which the junta employs are now those of low wages, unemployment and starvation. These are weapons which strike harder and with more certainty than bullets. They are also cheaper. The junta would use them in any case, even if it had no need of repression. For its only hope of survive is to turn Chile into a virtual slave-economy with hyper-low wages to titillate the avarice of the foreign investor. Chile is to be converted into an enclave, producing only for export, consuming only the bare minimum required for human survival.

But the project is impossible; Neither the workers nor the middle classes will for long tolerate their pauperisation and their total subjugation to foreign capital. An ever increasing flood of technicians and professionals is emigrating. Most workers cannot emigrate, so they stay, and bide their time, and organise resistance.

Shop-keepers, small industrialists, lorry-owners, -- precisely those sectors who conspired hardest to produce the coup d'etat, are now becoming vocal in their criticisms of the junta. The parties of the left are re-organising, adapting to the difficult conditions of clandestinity. They have called for the formation of a massive anti-fascist front to defeat the junta; and in this they can now count upon the support of a greater proportion of the Chilean people than ever before.

In three years of Popular Unity, Chilean workers and peasants learned what it is to eat a decent meal, work for a living wage, obtain an education for their children, and to organise to improve their own conditions. As Allende said: 'I am certain that the seed we have sown in the consciences of thousands upon thousands of noble Chileans can never be entirely eradicated.'

In Britain, our Campaign has grown. We now have local committees in almost every major town in Britain. The advent of the Labour Government brought new hope, and brought also new disappointments. The arrival of the refugees has given us new tasks, and given new impetus to local committees, to organise for their housing, work and welfare.

The number of our trade union affiliates grows at the rate of 5 or 10 per week, yet still the Campaign does scant justice to the strength of feeling on Chile that exists throughout the Labour Movement, a feeling which impressed and astonished Chilean trade unionist Rene Plaza in his successful tour of Britain in June.

After one year, we have not forgotten what happened in Chile, and we will not cease to condemn the coup d'etat and the violence unleashed upon a defenceless people. But we must look forward to the development of the resistance in Chile, and to the overthrow of the junta. We must pledge ourselves to continue our work, not only until the junta is destroyed, but until Chile is safe from every trick and cunning of imperialist subversion. And beyond, but with Chile, we must see the struggles of the whole continent of Latin America, against the crushing weight of imperialism.

In every place of work on September 11, and in Trafalgar Square on September 15, we must show to the world that the British people understands not only the brutality of fascism in Chile, but the danger to itself which every fascist outburst represents, wherever it may manifest itself.

And we must show the Labour Government that the Labour Movement in Britain will not be content with token measures; that Imperialism is a fundamental enemy, and that its servant, the military junta in Chile, is an obscene anachronism which will be given no arms, no aid, no trade, and no diplomatic recognition.

NO AID NO TRADE NO LINKS WITH THE FASCIST MILITARY JUNTA

SUPPORT THE CHILEAN RESISTANCE

LOCAL NEWS

PORTSMOUTH CSC has made a flying start. They have affiliations from the local AUEW District Committee, from NUPE Portsmouth Hospitals, from Havant Trades Council, from a SOGAT and a TASS branch, and from Portsmouth South Constituency Labour Party. On July 27 they held a demonstration to protest the presence of the frigates "Lynch" and "Condell" in Portsmouth docks (the same two frigates which were built at Yarrow on Clydeside, and which the Labour Government insists on sending to Chile). Some 130 people marched through the streets of the town to the dockyard main gate. There were two trades council banners and a number of trade union ones.

SOUTH LONDON CSC is also busy gathering trade union affiliations. The first was obtained from Covent Garden Branch of NUR, and it is hoped that the T&GWU Busmen at Brixton will soon follow suite. They have a very full agenda for September, with a social on September 6, at the Swan Tavern, Oval, at 7.30 p.m. This will be followed by a march through Brixton on September 7, and a rally on September 11.

MERSEYSIDE CSC, which now has more than one hundred political and trade union organisations affiliated, has undertaken an ambitious plan to accommodate refugees in the area. The first group of about 25, arrived in Liverpool in mid-July. They are being given an intensive and professionally taught course in English, and general orientation. Various members of the Merseyside Committee are meanwhile engaged in interviewing the refugees, finding jobs and permanent housing for them, and attending to their problems. The Corporation has now given sufficient money to pay a full-time worker for 6 months, to work on resettlement. EDINBURGH CSC has undertaken a similar scheme for a group of about a dozen refugees, who were received on arrival by the Lord Provost of the city.

MANSFIELD Chile Ad-Hoc Committee are holding a motorcade through the town on September 7, to drum up support for the September 15 demonstration in London. NORTHANTS CSC will hold its inaugural meeting, sponsored by Kettering Trades Council, on August 29, at the Manor House, Kettering at 7.30 p.m.

BRIGHTON CSC is planning a meeting during TUC week, where Jack Collins of Kent NUM will be one of the speakers. In WEST LONDON, the trades councils of Hounslow, Southall, Hillingdon, Ealing and Richmond-Twickenham are cooperating to hold a rally on September 10, most probably at Ealing

Town Hall, and as well as securing a large contingent for the September 15 demonstration, they hope to form a West London Chile Solidarity Campaign.

Almost every Chile Solidarity Committee in the country is having meetings, street collections and rallies in September. In Scotland, the focus will be upon September 14, when supporters of the Chilean people will come together for a march in Glasgow. Representatives from the march will leave later to go to London to join the National Demonstration on the following day.

Young Mapam, which is affiliated to the Campaign, held a benefit social at which £100 was raised for the Campaign.

UNITED STATES IMPERIALISM 1973-1974

The greatest apparent victories of United States Imperialism are always followed by a resurgence of anti-imperialist forces. This was true in 1968 and 1969 following the death in Bolivia of Che Guevara, and is true today in the case of the Chilean coup.

This may not be readily apparent to comrades whose whole attention is focused on Chile, but they should remember that from the standpoint of Washington Chile is only a small part of the empire. The strategy of the United States, following the successful overthrow of Popular Unity, was to establish a new kind of relationship with Latin America, which would make some economic concessions but would guarantee Washington's hegemony for another decade. Cuba was to remain isolated, and countries which attempted to nationalize United States companies without payment of proper compensation were to be punished.

This strategy has largely failed. Cuba is now winning new friends in Latin America every month. Venezuela and Colombia are the latest countries to recognise the necessity for bringing Havana back into full participation in hemispheric affairs, and last year Cuba was Argentina's most important Latin America trading partner.

Venezuela is to press ahead with its plans for expropriating United States oil and steel interests; Peru, too, is expanding the public sector of its economy; Panama is standing fast on the question of winning control over the canal; the Central American countries are at last cooperating to throw off the yoke of the banana countries; and Caribbean states are taking joint action against the aluminium companies which have been pillaging the region for the past 20 years.

The sharp increase in oil prices has, as a whole, worked in favour of the more progressive states, and against the more reactionary. The principal sufferers include Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Uruguay.

Brazil, which has been the United States preferred partner in Latin America since the 1964 coup, faces serious balance of payments difficulties for the first time since its 'economic miracle' was set in motion. Its capacity to play an offensive role in neighbouring countries is likely to be limited during the coming two or three years.

This state of affairs can certainly not be characterised as revolutionary. One can easily argue that every Latin American government is reactionary, anti-popular, petit-bourgeois, bonapartist, reformist, and so on; but this is a sterile argument, a luxury which is available only to those not directly involved in the struggles of Latin America.

The struggles of organised peasants and workers in Argentina, Mexico, and Peru, are

undoubtedly of tremendous significance. These frequently lead to confrontations with the governments of these countries, and to repression by the police or the armed forces. At the same time, the repression is not as ruthless, nor as all encompassing as it is in Brazil or Chile. Open struggle is possible, and this is worth something. These governments do stand up to the United States in international organisations, and have made possible the re-entry of Cuba into intra-regional activity.

To a large extent, Chile's fate was instrumental in creating the new resistance to the United States in Latin America. The brutality of the coup deters civilian politicians in other countries from following the example (and perhaps sharing the fate) of the Chilean Christian Democrats. The enthusiasm of the Chilean people for Popular Unity has played its part in pushing the Peruvian and Venezuelan governments into taking more resolutely nationalist stands than might otherwise have been the case.

Undoubtedly, the United States is not going to stand idly by to watch the collapse of its Latin American strategy.

Kissinger has always been Nelson Rockefeller's man at the White House, and the incoming administration of Gerald Ford may well be dominated by Rockefeller interests. The restoration of the eastern establishment does not bode well for Latin America.

There will be renewed talk of accommodation, and a deal will be done on the question of Cuba. Washington will attempt on a continental scale what it achieved in one country with Mexico. In Mexico, the rhetoric of the revolution survives, passionate nationalism, apparently nationalist legislation restricting the activities of foreign capitalists, and strong working class and peasant organisation. In reality, Mexico is as faithful an ally of the United States as is Brazil.

Kissinger may seek to leave Latin America with the vocabulary of nationalism, but without substance. If this does not happen, it will not be to the credit of the various governments of Latin America, but to the credit of the peoples of Latin America, who are engaged in active and militant struggle. They understand the lessons of the Chilean coup.

Given the continental sweep of United States imperialism, it is essential that those of us engaged in solidarity movements in Europe should understand the unity of resistance in Latin America. At the time of the coup in September 1973, there were some 13,000 Latin American exiles living in Chile. They feel themselves - like Guevara - to be Latin Americans first of all, now in the front line of the fight against the United States.

Cuba still provides strong support for this continental struggle. Solidarity with Chile should involve solidarity with Cuba, and with the just struggle of Argentina, Panama, Costa Rica, Peru, Colombia, and Venezuela for control of their economies. The citizens of those countries will fight against internal repression; we should concentrate on their relationship to the United States.

el pueblo sigue siendo explotado



the people continue to be exploited



THE CHILEAN "MIRACLE"

"I want to go down to posterity as a just and patriotic man", declared Pinochet to a journalist. Although it may still be too early to make historical judgements, one has to admit that the methods used by the recently self-declared 'supreme head of the nation' are quite peculiar if that is what he is after. As far as justice is concerned, the parodies of trials that are taking place in the military courts have reached such grotesque extremes that not even the fascist Chilean generals have been prepared to accept their outcome. (Recently a sentence against people in Temuco has been 'cancelled' and the trial will have to be repeated in the near future. More than 15,000 people have now been incarcerated in prisons and concentration camps. The majority of them do not know what they will be accused of.)

As for 'patriotism' Pinochet's interpretation seems equally broad. One of the first measures taken by the junta was to pass a constitutional amendment adopted unanimously by both houses of the congress in 1971, establishing that the excessive profits made by Kennecott and Anaconda in the last 15 years in the Chilean copper mines, had to be discounted from the compensation to be paid when these mines were nationalised. After the excessive profits had been discounted,

the North-American multi-national companies still owed compensation to Chile. Not only is Pinochet proposing to pay compensation, he has estimated the mines' installations, machinery and equipment at a much higher value than their real value: between 300 and 600 million US dollars will be paid.

Pinochet can also add to his record the denationalisation of more than 40 firms, apart from 107 enterprises he put up for auction a few weeks ago, and the drastic lowering of the import taxes (arancelarias) allowing thus the free importation of foreign products "to reinforce the heat of free competition with the Chilean producers". Moreover, the junta's propagandists never tire of invoking the notorious "Foreign Investors" statute (proclaimed in June this year) which they themselves describe as "offering far more attractive conditions than the rest of Latin America and the Third World in general". This is a total contradiction of the agreements signed by Chile in the Andean Pact.*

*The Andean Pact, signed by Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Colombia and Chile agreed to certain limitations governing foreign investment, in specific areas of their economies, to ensure a degree of industrial development.

The internal coherence of this policy only operates if we follow the example of the junta and its economic advisors, and throw overboard all "dogmatic prejudices" relating to independence and national sovereignty. The junta has not simply broken with previous attempts - to overcome the dependence on foreign capital; in fact they are deliberately encouraging the development of dependency, fooling themselves with the idea that they can repeat the "Brazilian miracle" in Chile.

Thus their policy has consisted in securing massive profits for the big bourgeois and foreign capital through its wage and price policy. The idea is that these accumulated extraordinary profits are channelled towards the development of further less traditional export activities, thus constituting an export sector which is broader and more varied, so promoting growth and giving a more secure basis to the structure of the economy. But the junta itself appears to recognise the fragility of such a policy and is attempting, above all, to seek new sources of foreign capital.

It is a matter that these seize for themselves the big companies which determine national development; no matter that the centre of decisions concerning what will happen to the future of Chile has been transferred to the headquarters of ITT, Dow Chemicals and General Motors. The upstart Generals have already decided that what is good for the multi-nationals is good for Chile. In other words, according to the logic of the brilliant Generals, not only is there no-one to shut the door of the hen-coop to keep out the fox but, quite the contrary, the fox is being persuaded that he should come in and look after the chickens himself. He will know what is best for them. Unfortunately for the junta they do not offer the kind of political stability offered by their Brazilian model, nor can Chile compare with Brazil's abundance and variety of raw materials, or the size of her internal market.

Recently Pinochet took part in a round-the-table conference in Santiago for international business which was made up of 169 North American, European, Japanese and Canadian large enterprises and there declared that Chile looked favourably on free enterprises. The executives replied with proverbial pragmatism, that what interested them was the speedy reinstatement of the statue of investors and they gave special attention to debating the anti-inflationary policy of the junta. This cannot have been very agreeable to Pinochet - not only were they less than half convinced of his merits as "defender of the Free World" - but they also wished to re-examine the thorny ground of his failures. "Investors only understand you when you speak to them of profits" he said to journalists later.

The fact is that, after a great fanfare to begin with, in which he promised - among other things - to keep inflation down to a maximum of 100% for this year, the fact that it has gone over 145% in just the first six months has not exactly contributed to a strengthening of confidence in his management of promises. The new goal, according to the junta is to contain inflation to a new maximum of 200% but even now experts consider this to be unrealistic, and there are few who think it will be as low as 400% for this year.

As for the rest, the anti-inflation policy of the junta has not only failed to achieve

its objective, it has also managed to produce new problems, some of which are very serious indeed. According to estimates made by S.O.F.O.F.A. (the Chilean C.B.I.) unemployment will rise to 17% (500,000 unemployed). It was at 3% when the coup occurred, prices have risen sky high ("to meet international levels") while wages have stayed Chilean, with the buying power (of those fortunate enough to still have work) now down to a third (of the pre-junta figure?). In the midst of this tremendous contraction of the internal market, the junta

has introduced heavy credit restrictions and has claimed that it has to stimulate the Chilean producers to compete with their counterparts. There is no need to wait to see what the consequences will be. Not finding anybody to whom they can sell their products, many small and medium sized businesses have gone under, thus adding to the numbers of unemployed while also acting to contract further the local market.

But these criteria are not those of junta member Admiral Toribio Merino: "No country dies of unemployment," he told a journalist, "but a country can die of inflation".

As a result the junta has already outlined a second stage in its anti-inflation policy. It consists of the reduction of public expenditure through a series of measures, the most important of which is the dismissal of 20% of government employees, 100,000 people.

Instructions to various government departments require that the process of dismissals must be completed before December 1975, and not less than 10% of this objective must be reached this year.

In practice this process of the reduction of public services is obviously "compensated" for "by an increase of military, police and paramilitary (Death Squad) personnel necessary for the support of a political economy which can only be maintained through repression and terror.

To cap it all, parallel to this process of the impoverishment of a vast sector of the population, which the junta characterises as a patriotic sacrifice - the process of corruption among the senior officers of the armed forces goes on unabated, making the forced sacrifices of the people even less tolerable. Not satisfied with the seizure of cars and apartments "confiscated" from the leaders and supporters of the last regime who have been assassinated, arrested or forced to flee they have begun to turn their attention to activities of greater breadth:

By way of example, a few weeks ago - despite attempts by the U.S. State Department to hide the fact - the Washington Post and other newspapers announced the discovery of cocaine valued at more than £15,000,000 smuggled into the U.S. (in the diplomatic bag and in Chilean airforce planes). Six members of the Chilean military and diplomatic mission in Washington had to be replaced.

In sum, after less than one year the Chilean military junta has travelled far along the road of political isolation, both internal and external, of economic failure and of moral deterioration. How much further can it still go?

boycotts

The clearest case for blacking has obviously been the case for stopping work on arms or the delivery of arms to Chile, and most of the actions in Britain have centred round this issue, around the Hawker Hunters, the frigates and the sub-marines which Britain had contracted to supply to Chile.

One of the earliest actions was the blacking of work on the boilers of two frigates being re-fitted at Newcastle. Workers at Weir Pumps of Glasgow decided to stop work on these two or three weeks after the coup. They are still on display outside the factory.

This was followed in January by two more refusals to work on warships. At Rosyth T. and G. members refused to load arms and ammunition and provisions onto one of the two new frigates being supplied to the junta. At Portsmouth two weeks earlier the district committee of AUEW blacked all work on a visiting warship (invited by the RN) The comment of the district secretary: "we should have sunk it like we sunk the Nazi ships in the war."

A more controversial case was the actual work of building the two frigates at Yarrow's in Clydeside. The yard has a tradition of boycotts in support of other working-class movements (they blacked 6 warships for South Africa in 1964) and the men in the yard had no illusions about the "harmlessness" of warships in internal repression, being well aware of the way ships were used both in Korea and in Vietnam.

They also knew that two British-built ships are now being used as floating torture chambers in Chile.

Discussion about blacking began after September 11th, but when the resolution to black was finally put to a mass meeting in December it came at a moment of internal dissension in the yard, and in the conflict it was voted out. When in May there came the official AUEW executive resolution and instructions to black all work on arms for Chile, the engineers promptly stopped work, but by then very little was left to be done on the remaining frigate and it was able to leave to be completed at the naval dockyards at Portsmouth. One of them has already gone to Chile, via the shipyards of Spain.

Besides the frigates, two submarines are also being built for the Chilean navy, at Greenock in Scotland. Here the AUEW resolution was put to a mass meeting in May, but it was overwhelmingly rejected. The argument that to refuse this work was to endanger jobs was particularly effectively

used in this case, as intimidation, where a majority of the population in Greenock are employed in the yards.

But at Bradford, at an English Electric factory, AUEW workers have blacked work on spares for the motors and on components needed for the submarines.

In Chile the junta has used Hawker Hunters to particularly vicious effect. Knowing this the engineers at the Rolls Royce factory in East Kilbride where the engines are serviced, declared a ban on all engines for Chile. Their ban became official union policy in May with the executive resolution, and, after long and heated debate, the government was finally forced to accept the decision.

Workers at the factory had been puzzled that the junta was pressing so hard for re-conditioned engines, having just received 8 new planes. The explanation came in June when we learned (via the bulletin Agencia Resistencia) that the engines of 5 of the new planes had been sabotaged, and that 200 members of the Airforce had been imprisoned for it. This was the most dramatic example of directly effective boycott action.

Only two of the blackings have been unconnected with the arms trade. One was the action of British Leyland workers who have blacked all car engines for Chile (besides the original gift of 4 cars the management had proposed to hand over last October as a gesture of friendship to the junta.)

The other was the action of the Liverpool dockers, who blacked all goods for Chile in the first weeks after the coup. They were supported by ASTMS port workers at the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, who took this action at direct risk of their jobs. Liverpool dockworkers were blacked by those in Hull but no clear commitment not to handle the blacked cargoes came from London or Southampton, and the boycott was finally called off. These are the direct actions taken by the unions in support of the workers and people of Chile.

Working class solidarity has been expressed in straight-forward terms of support for fellow-workers, suffering the repressions of a fascist ruling-class. But the class solidarity of international capitalism hides itself under the guise of technicalities. The Confederation of British Industry warned that "interference" with the arms trade with countries like Chile, Greece and South Africa could affect ordinary trade. But this is not how they reacted to the Conservative government's

block on the sales of arms spares to Israel last October, when arms were used as a bargaining counter to placate the Arabs. The protection of commercial interests is important, but it is more important to support the regimes which ensure the continuation of the whole system.

Under the Conservative government Britain's policy was one of open support for the junta and full justification for the coup. Under the Labour government the Chilean issue became a clear reference point, a conflict between those sectors most linked with the working class, and on the other side the moderates who tend to be won by the arguments of business interests. The result was at least a partial victory for the working class of this country since they were able to force a compromise on the arms policy which would have given continued support to the junta.

The issue was not, as it was presented in the press, a matter of a few Leftists pushing through measures in support of defeated government in an obscure country 5000 miles away, of no special interest to people in this country. It was a fundamental struggle, for large sectors of our society, to try to ensure that in its foreign policy as in its domestic policy, the government should carry out in office the policy it had proposed in opposition: a policy of stopping all arms trade, and all support to the fascist regime in Chile.

The British working class won an important point in the alteration of Britain's policy on Chile, a victory as significant in its own way as the victory of the Italians in refusing to allow their government to recognise the junta. And it demonstrated that if the level of political debate has been on a lower level than in other countries, the response to the struggle in Chile has been immediate and effective.

CHILEAN TUC LEADER VISITS BRITAIN

Brother RENE PLAZA's visit here was directed above all to the working class of Britain. Throughout his stay contact with thousands of workers brought to the surface the tremendous solidarity of numerous unions, rank and file workers and officials alike. They have offered the best proof of all of fraternity and support for the people of Chile: boycott action.

In no other country of Europe, according to Plaza, has worker solidarity taken on such a concrete and direct form. Risking their jobs, workers challenged management before they would be used against their Chilean class brothers. The commitment of the union movement to the anti-fascist resistance in Chile was demonstrated in numerous promises of future action, such as the marking of the anniversary of the Coup, September 11th, with a collection at work, or the sending of a delegation by the NUM to investigate the fate of the coal miners.

But perhaps the most important point lies in the deep understanding and identity among

British and Chilean workers in the fight against fascism in the place where both encounter it; in the actions of the multinationals like ITT. These do not hesitate to put military juntas into power; their objective is to attack the working class wherever it is alive. Making use of the repressive apparatus of the State - the armed forces, they destroy the organizations and rights which the workers have secured after long decades of mobilisation and combat.



The general secretary of the Scottish TUC, the President of The Scottish NUM, and Rene Plaza of the CUT. Behind, Alec Kitson of the T&G, and honorary treasurer of the Campaign

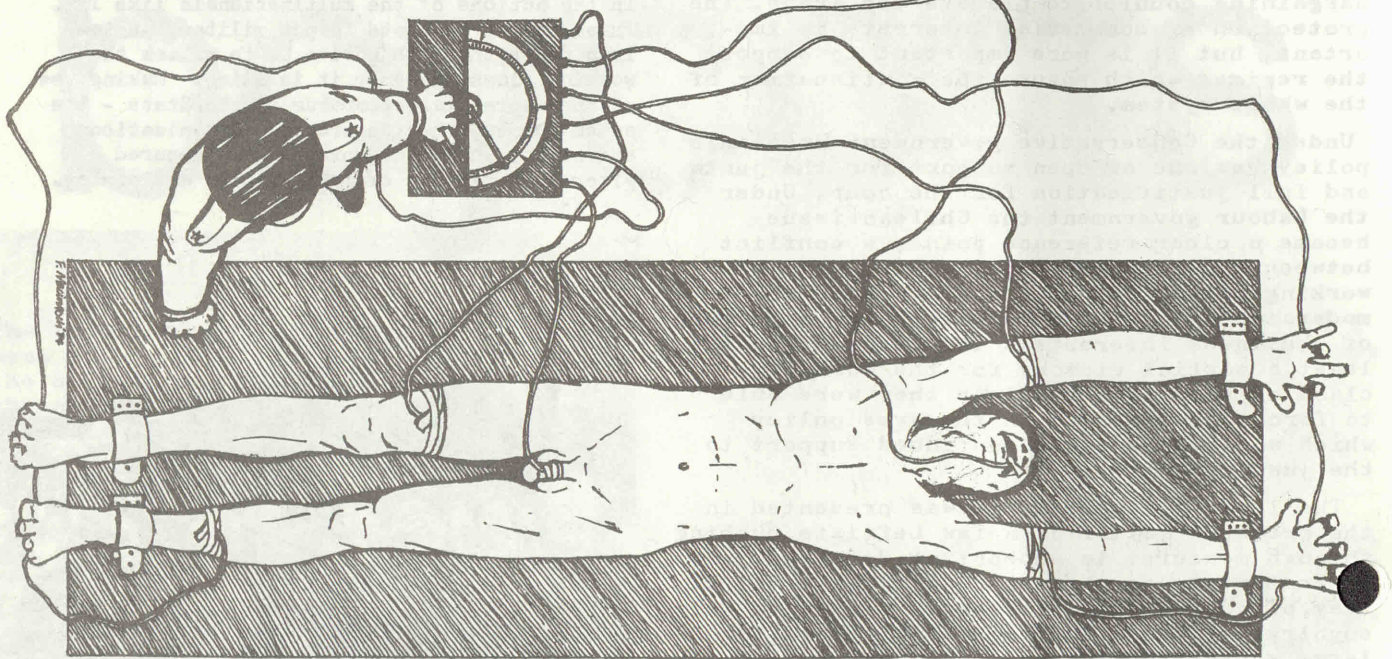
In every conversation the British workers expressed their conviction that they too confront the activities of imperialism and of the multinationals. Different circumstances make their present methods here in Britain different from those employed in Chile. But workers had no doubts that, given a situation in Britain like that in Chile under Popular Unity, precisely the same tactics would be used against them.

Before leaving Rene Plaza said: "Our struggle will be long and difficult, it will be a fight with all our brothers in Latin America. We will have to rout cruel and powerful enemies, but it is a great encouragement to know that we can count on the solid support of the workers and people of Great Britain. The people of Chile know it, and it is in the name of all who fight against the fascist dictatorship, in the name of the TUC of Chile, from all the workers, that I want to thank the British trade union movement and its leaders: Hugh Scanlon and the AUEW, Jack Jones and the T + GWU, the Labour Party and its General Secretary, Ron Hayward, the Cabinet Minister, Judith Hart, the CP and those friends of IMG and IS.

I want to thank as well in a very special way the CSC and its Secretary, Mike Gatehouse, and Chile Lucha, for their excellent organisation and effective work."

Rene Plaza is a member of the National Executive Committee of the now outlawed Chilean CUT. Besides being an important union leader, Brother Plaza is on the political commission of the MAPU party (United Popular Action Movement).

IN THE HANDS OF THE CHILEAN GESTAPO



This account of the routine procedures in the concentration camp at Tejas Verdes was given to Chile Fights by HERNAN VALDES. He is 37 years, a writer, author of various novels, and editor of CEREN (booklets of the national reality, issued by the Catholic University of Chile.)

They came to my house to search and took me to the nearest police station with blindfolds over my eyes. In a very short period of time I lost the sense of space. Soon I found myself in a cell, full of urine. There I was tied to a chair where I stayed, unable to move, for 48 hours, without food and constantly receiving blows to my body. Later I was taken out for my first interrogation, in which they simply beat me without asking me any questions. From there they returned me to the cell where there were now other people.

Hours later we were all taken out and submitted to a mock execution. Afterwards we were taken in refrigerated trucks into which they piled us like sacks, one on top of the other. The journey lasted about three hours. When we stopped we were herded into a wooden shack where we stayed, without food, for about 24 hours. For the first time the blindfolds were removed. Like this began a process that lasted 20 days, in which we were forced to lie face down on the floor, without moving; our only activity was each day at 6 in the morning when we were taken out for 3 minutes to wash and relieve ourselves. Throughout this period they fired machine gun bursts at the walls of the shack to keep us in a state of constant fear.

One day it was my turn. I was taken to the regiment of Tejas Verdes, some miles from the concentration camp about 80 miles from Santiago. The reception was extremely violent. A sack was put over my head and tied at my waist. They beat me with rifle butts and forced me down into a cellar full of water. It was extremely cold. I could hear screams of people being tortured. For a couple of hours I was there, completely frozen, when suddenly I heard an incredible scream and felt a blow on my shoulders that threw me violently against a door that crashed open. I was in a warmer

room with other people. I began to be kicked. They shouted at me, as they kicked me, what I was doing there, why had I entered without knocking?, why was I so ill-mannered? They fixed electrodes to my toes. The interrogation began with trivial questions, if I was married, and if I wasn't who did I live with, what was my sex life, they shouted for details, at every answer they gave me a terrible shock of electricity which threw me to the floor. They kicked me to my feet and then again another question, another shock. This lasted approx. 2 hours. I lost all consciousness of myself. At each question I had to answer immediately to avoid the electric shocks, but inevitably they came. Whatever I answered they gave me a shock, each time stronger. Until, suddenly they began to ask me political questions. As the answers that I gave didn't convince them, they sat me in a chair and told me that the chair was over a deep hole and that if I fell off the chair I would kill myself with the fall. I had to make a superhuman effort not to fall as the shocks which followed each question would force me from the chair.

As they were still unsatisfied with my answers they tied me stretched out on a bed and attached electrodes to my tongue and penis. This was the most terrible. My head burst with each shock that I received and the contractions tore at my arms and legs tied to the bed posts.

Finally the interrogation ended and they took me to a place to recuperate. The atmosphere was very depressing, but there was great solidarity between the prisoners. I realised that my interrogation had been a soft one. Some comrades were nearly dead, without skin, some had lost an eye. I had only one interrogation. There were some workers from the industry MADECO who had been interrogated 15 times.

Amongst the prisoners that had been interrogated were peasants, students, Christian Democrat leaders and rank and file militants of the Popular Unity. One day they took me out and put me again in a refrigerated truck. After three hours journey they opened the door, they kicked me. I was set free in a Santiago street. This was just one of the routine interrogations of the DINA. The Chilean Gestapo.

LEADER OF THE MIR CALLS TO UNITY

On July 5, Edgardo Enriquez Espinoza, member of the MIR, arrived unexpectedly in Paris. Enriquez, one of the leaders of the resistance movement in Chile, had been in Chile ever since the coup d'etat, working clandestinely. He was sent by the political commission of his party to represent it abroad and at the Pan-European Conference of Solidarity with Chile. His brother, Miguel, General Secretary of the MIR, remains in Chile, and Edgardo will return to his country as soon as his tasks are completed.

Speaking of the resistance movement, he said:

"My party has sent me on this overseas mission not to bring a message of woe, privation or despair, but a message of struggle, optimism and of hope.

"Based on the objective development of the class struggle in Chile, and not on any subjective view, the MIR can confirm to the workers of the world that the resistance of the Chilean people is gaining ground day by day; the working class and the people are reorganising for the struggle and are already initiating small, but organised acts of resistance."

Enriquez emphasized that the MIR does not renounce its programme, its belief that 'only proletarian revolution can assume the irreversible victory of the working class and the people, over the bourgeois state, the high bourgeoisie and the imperialists!.. This is our programme as we have always proclaimed it in Chile, both before and after the coup. We have never tried to hide it, and today, more than ever before, we have no reason for doing so.'

He emphasized: 'We, for our part, stick firmly to our programme, but, at the same time, we believe that it would be a serious mistake, if not a criminal omission, to put discussion of such matters before the crucial, urgent need to unite all the forces of the Chilean left in the anti-fascist struggle.'

"We wish to make it clear that we feel that to subordinate the process of unification of the left to the programme, tactics or analysis of one particular party or sub-group of parties, would be a great error. The MIR has not fallen into this error, as is demonstrated by our draft scheme for unity of February 17, 1974."

He concludes: 'We are sure that the Chilean left will not betray the immense hopes placed in it by the workers and people of Chile. The workers and the revolutionary movements of the world, and the parties and governments of the Socialist block.'

"The MIR will, as in the past, do its utmost to further constitution of the political front of the resistance, in the knowledge that this is our duty to the working class and people of Chile".

Enriquez sent a special greeting to the British people, and spoke of the immense value of the acts of solidarity about which even in Chile it had been possible to know, through



A land take-over

the junta press. He referred in particular to the resolution of the AUEW, to the boycotts of the Merseyside dockers, the Rolls Royce workers and the workers at Weir Pumps, and he mentioned also the resolutions of NUM and other unions. 'These actions', he said, 'not only contribute to the isolation of the junta, but also give fresh courage to the people of Chile in their resistance struggle.'

"We greet the people of Britain, its progressive and revolutionary sectors, and especially its valiant working class."

NEWS-CHILE

Opposition to the junta continues to mount: new social sectors have joined the call from the left for an anti-fascist front. Now Bernardo Leighton a top leader of the Christian Democrats has made an appeal for the uniting of all democratic forces to fight against the reactionary and fascist military junta. And a bitter polemic has developed between Patricio Aylwin, President of the Christian Democrat party and Defence Minister Oscar Bonilla. Aylwin accuses the junta of persecuting the Christian Democrats because they cancelled one of the Christian Democrats radio programmes in which Jaime Castillo, the chief ideologist of their party was to have spoken. He calls this

"a pure and simple act of force, without any recourse to law - of any variety - or any right of appeal. The decision to which we refer goes against a fundamental human right..... When the government asks for the co-operation of all Chileans it cannot expect this to mean simple acquiescence in everything it says or does. One cooperates, but expresses constructively one's own points of view, to prevent and correct possible mistakes. Measures such as the one we have mentioned means to

exclude from the national dialogue a numerous and (representative) sector of the nation's community. The results are clearly incompatible with the aim of unity proclaimed by the junta".

To this Bonilla answered by reminding him that the country was in a state of siege and internal war, making it clear that the government has full rights to take all the measures it feels necessary to safeguard national security. He ends his letter by saying:

"Don't presume to write again in terms other than those fitting an administrative authority of a party in recess, addressing the government of the nation".

To this Aylwin replied with a second letter in which he said that his personal dignity and that of the Christian Democrats had been offended and that the authority should respect others if it wanted respect....

"Basically your note means the immediate rejection of any opinion not conforming with your own, and means to deny us the right to represent to the government itself our points of view. It's painful for Chile because history proves that no stable and just order can be built on the basis of a unilateral imposition of the will of those who govern."

To this the General Secretary of the Government Pedro Ewing gave a brief answer declaring the discussion closed.

NAZI

Despite the recent letter in the "The Guardian" from the Ambassador denying the story, Le Monde has continued to insist that the notorious Nazi-war criminal Walter Rauff, (whose extradition for trial for the murder of 90,000 Jews was demanded by the FDR) is now collaborating with DINA (the National Intelligence Service). He is a valued adviser on techniques of interrogation and mass repression.

EXODUS

"The last turns off the light and closes the door". A reference to the exodus of professionals, the details of which were published through the University Rectors Council. There they state that for example of 12 maths researchers seven have left. The same situation can be found in nearly all the science departments. In the physics depts. of the University of Chile out of 12, only one is left.

This situation has been caused by the decision to cut off state grants to the universities. Previously under the Popular Unity Government they received 3% of the national budget. Now they will have to be financed entirely by students fees and by offering research services to private enterprise. This means effectively a dramatic reduction in the number of students, making university education possible for only a tiny elite. And it means a conditioning of university research to the very specific requirements of private enterprise unrelated to national needs.

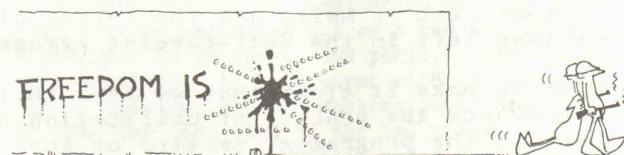
PRESS GANG

Why are there four men in the junta?"

"Well, Pinochet can read, Leigh can write, and Mendoza and Merino are there to guard the brains of the country."

The brains and its body now feel entitled to act as the spokesman for press freedom in Peru. The under-secretary of foreign relations Claudio Collados expressed the fear that press there could become "pure instruments of state policies".

In Chile however the press has already become an instrument of the state to the most strict and arbitrary censorship (directed by self confessed CIA agent Federico Willoughby and USIS (U.S. Information Service) employee Adolfo Yankelevich). Besides which, 36 publications have been banned, several journalists, like Augusto Olivares have been shot, and many are in prison.



CAZ

IRONY

"What do the irresponsible do...? govern" This is one of the jokes in Chile, it refers to a campaign launched by the military junta in the mass media with the slogan "The Irresponsible Waste". This is a cruel irony at a moment when the Chilean people are suffering the effects of near starvation. Jokes like: "I opened the refrigerator yesterday and all I found was an echo" or "Today we took out the rubbish in a bean can".... express very vividly the grim experience of large sectors of the population.

CULTURAL NOTES

Isabel Parra, who will be touring Britain in September. She will be with Inti Illimani in London and Liverpool, and giving other concerts in the British Isles.



INTI ILLIMANI TOUR

LONDON 15th September on the platform at the National Demonstration
16th September Queen Elizabeth Hall, 7.45 p.m., tickets from QEH from 16th August.

LEEDS 17th September (Trades Hall)
BIRMINGHAM 18th September (Digbeth Hall)
OXFORD 19th September
LIVERPOOL 20th September

RECORDS

The following records will be available from late August from:
ETV, 247a Upper Street, London N1 1RU

Inti Illimani	- Viva Chile
Quilapayun	- "Les Flutes Chiliennes" "Cueca de la libertad" "Basta", "Cantata Santa Maria de Iquique", "Por Vietnam"
Victor Jara	- "Chile de Victor Jara"

Cost: approx. £2.50 + 40p. postage

BOOKS

In production are two books; "Women in Chile" and an illustrated anthology of poetry, written both before and after the Coup, by poets of all nationalities. Information and contributions should be sent to Pat Stocker at the Chile Solidarity Campaign office.

A pamphlet of documents produced during Popular Unity, and analyses and accounts since then, is being produced by Big Flame. It will be available from most Left bookshops from early September.

FILMS

"Companero Victor Jara of Chile" - Eastmancolor, 55mins.

The film shows scenes of Victor Jara's background, his peasant beginnings, through to his career as Theatre Director, to his popular success as a Folksinger. Victor Jara's wife, the former English dancer, Joan Turner, describes how, as a firm supporter of President Allende and the Popular Unity Government, Victor Jara was detained, imprisoned, tortured, and killed by the Military Junta. Music and lyrics by Victor Jara, translated and read by Adrian Mitchell.

September 11th, 10.30 p.m., National Film Theatre.
Tickets 50p. (limited number) 75p. and £1.20p. available from:
ETV, 247a Upper Street, London N1 1RU,
Tel: 01-226 2298

"Chilean September" - Colour. 40 minutes. Made in October 1973 by Theo Robichet, Bruno Muel and Valerie Mayoux, who were among the first group of journalists allowed into Chile after the coup. The film includes accounts of the savage repression that immediately followed the coup, including personal experiences and scenes from the National Stadium. It also documents the public demonstrations that took place at the funeral of the poet, Pablo Neruda. There are also interviews with workers and students, who discuss the implications of the coup, and the changes brought about during the three years of Popular Unity government. Music is by Victor Jara.

£500 is needed urgently to cover the cost of the preparation of the English version. If you can make a donation or suggest other sources of finance, please contact the Cultural Committee (Chilean September) at the Chile Solidarity Campaign office.

Other films available: "When the people awake" "Campamento" "Vencerunos" "El tigre salto" - pre coup details from The Other Cinema, 12-14 Little Newport Street, London, W.C.1

A group called "Artists for Democracy" including British artists and some Chilean artists resident in London, are organising an exhibition at the Royal College of Art. Anyone interested in contributing or helping should contact the cultural convenor, at the Chile Solidarity Campaign office.

SUBSCRIPTION*SUBSCRIPTION*SUBSCRIPTION*

Readers in Britain and Ireland:

Chile Fights	(10 issues)	£1.00
Chile Monitor	(10 issues)	£1.00
Chile Fights & Chile Monitor	(10 issues)	£1.80

Abroad:

-due to postage costs we have had to introduce special overseas rates:

	Europe	Rest of World
Chile Fights	£1.80	£2.20
Chile Monitor	£1.80	£2.20
Chile Fights & Chile Monitor	£3.00	£3.80
(10 issues in each case)		

Wed. 11th Sept. Day of National Action Anniversary of the coup

**Organize a meeting at your place of work
Make a collection**

Every penny for Chile helps fight fascism

Sun. 15th Sept. National Demonstration

Assemble: Speakers' Corner Hyde Park at 1.00p.m.

March: to Trafalgar Square

Prominent Labour Movement and Trade Union speakers:

Chairman: ALEC KITSON, Executive Officer, T&GWU

RON HOWARD, General Secretary, the Labour Party

JACK JONES, General Secretary, T&GWU, Chairman, International Committee, TUC

JOHN GOLLAN, General Secretary, the Communist Party

TARIQ ALI, International Marxist Group

For the Chilean People:

SENORA HORTENSIA BUSSI DE ALLENDE, widow of President Allende

Personal appearance by the Chilean Musicians

INTI-ILLIMANI & ISABEL PARRA

Bring your trade union and party banners

Bring a Chilean flag

Bring a placard

'NO AID-NO TRADE-NO LINK WITH THE FASCIST JUNTA'

'SUPPORT THE CHILEAN RESISTANCE'

'END THE STATE OF INTERNAL WAR'

'RELEASE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS'

'RESTORE TRADE UNION RIGHTS'

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