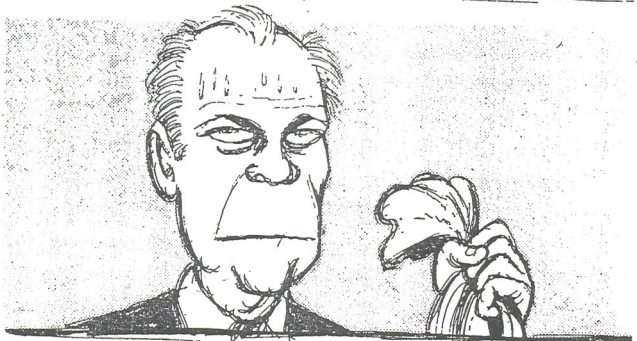
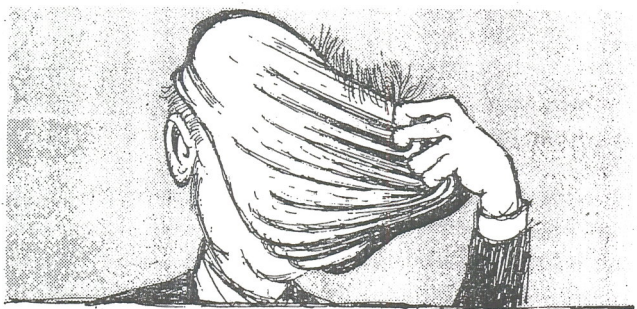
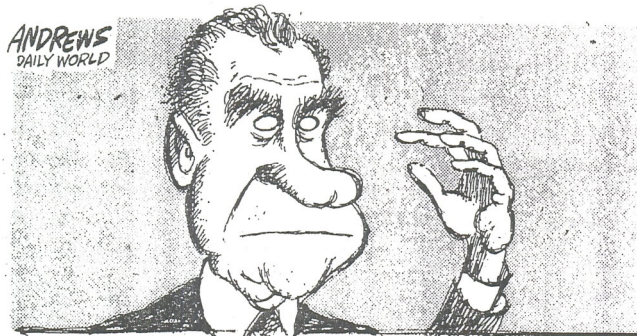


Postmarked New York, Nov. 22, 1974

The Coverup Continues—

Kick Big Business Out of the Drivers Seat!

A Statement by the Communist Party



The departure of Richard M. Nixon from public office is an historic victory. It is a victory not only because that President was the most corrupt, base, squalid, deceitful man in high office in our country's history. It is also a victory because it shows that people's intervention into the political process can help determine events.

It was the people's disgust and the people's actions that ultimately drove the crook out of office. It was not Barry Goldwater or Peter Rodino, not Hugh Scott or Mike Mansfield. Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford would have us believe that the resignation of Nixon came because of Congressional pressure alone. The coverup continues. We are being told that we the people have no say. We are told that it does not matter that four of five citizens had no confidence in Nixon, that a similar overwhelming majority distrusts the Congress.

There is a continuation of not only a coverup of what the Nixon-Agnew-Mitchell-Ehrlichman-Haldeman gang did, but more specifically it is a coverup of the basic, corrupt system fed and served by big business. There is a coverup of the serious threat and dangers to the democratic institutions coming from the financial-industrial-military complex. That coverup gives license to and feeds ultra-Right pro-fascist forces. Such a plot was the essence of the Watergate conspiracy.

We are told that the Nixon resignation was a sad day, a tragic event in our history. Nonsense! It was a joyous occasion. The biggest thief, cheat and-liar in

our political history had been driven from office. This is cause for celebration, not despair.

With Gerald Ford in the White House, we have a President who was not elected, who was in fact hand-picked to succeed Richard Nixon by Richard Nixon himself. And Ford will now pick his own successor without a voice from any of us. Gerald Ford tells us our "nightmare is over." But Gerald Ford is a political creature of the same nightmare.

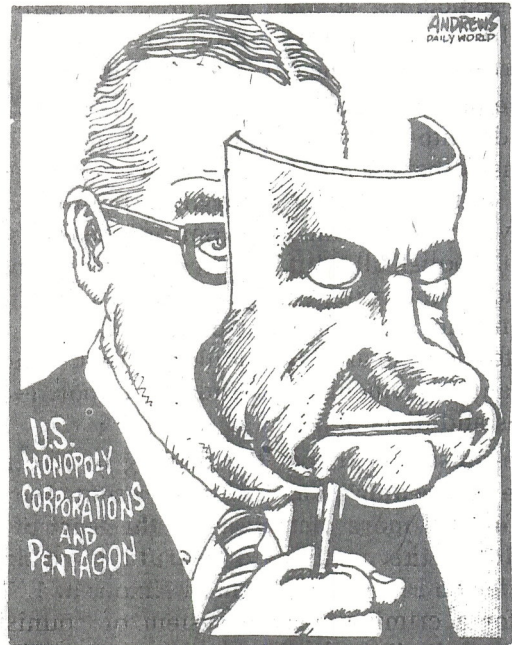
This is obviously a further deterioration of the electoral process and democracy. It must be remembered that Nixon and Agnew had the Rand Corporation make a study which contemplated the suspension or postponement of the 1972 elections. The study showed that they couldn't get away with it. Nixon set up an inner-junta form of government which violated the democratic rights of the people. He continued the destruction of democracy by usurping the powers of Congress and elected officials. Ford surrounds himself with ultra-Right reactionary advisers. That calls for a greater mobilization of the people in the defense of democracy and the rights of the people.

We have been sold a used Ford by a discarded Richard Nixon. The new President was chosen by an unindicted co-conspirator to replace his previous choice, Agnew, an admitted felon. And the people have not had a chance to vote on the matter. This is what the Republicans and the Democrats, and the corporations for whom they speak, mean when they cry with joy that "the system works." It sure does work—for them—but not for the people.

Ford is such a carbon copy of his predecessor that he has refused to repudiate Nixon and the Watergate conspiracy.

Ford will continue Nixon's assault on the living standards and rights of the working people. That is why he was chosen. He will guarantee, as Nixon did, that our pay checks will count for less and less while the monopolies double their profits each quarter. For Ford to speak about fighting inflation while demanding no cuts in the \$100 billion war budget is sheer fakery and demagoguery. The rise in the wholesale cost of food in the past three months to an annual rate of 44% is disastrous to the health and living standards of the people. That figure becomes even higher at the marketplace. Ford calls for cutting all welfare and social services. He has a plan to raid the social security system and turn the aged over to the insurance companies controlled by monopoly capital. He would give Medicare and health to private profiteers.

During his 25 years in Congress, Ford never once voted for constructive legislation on behalf of working men and women. He, like Nixon, is the perfect spokesman for the monopolies and against the interests of labor. Dancing to the tune of monopoly capital, George Meany, the whirling and willing class collaborationist jumps from the wreckage of



THE ORIGINAL COVER-UP

the Nixon Administration into the anti-labor Ford carriage.

Ford represents the same class as Nixon. This is the class of monopoly capitalism that uses our labor and our lives for their private profits. Ford will pursue the same policies as Nixon, the class policies of monopoly capital.

Ford is pictured as the "Great White Knight," a fitting image for a life-long racist. For 25 years he was a leading opponent of all civil rights legislation in Congress. When he spoke last July in his first appearance before a Black organization, the best he could say for himself was that he "had never stood in front of a schoolhouse door to stop children from entering." What Gerald Ford failed to say was that he blocked the bus from getting that close to the school. His racism is of a piece with Nixon's southern strategy. This is why his flak men speak so joyfully about a peaceful transition between administrations.

Ford, like Nixon, will support policies of detente because the class they represent has been forced by history to recognize that they have lost the cold war. Thus, he promises to continue the policies of detente and improved relations with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. Public opinion polls demonstrate that 75% of the people want detente.

Ford also maintains his strong ties to the Schlesinger-Pentagon-industrial complex and many of the forces who would revert to cold war and sabotage detente. They now plan to escalate the military budget to \$150 billion per year.

The high stakes of the people in detente therefore require an ever greater independent role of the people in the struggle for detente, including breaking the discriminatory barriers in the way of trade with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. This calls for a sharp warning against those so-called lib-

eral Democrats, as well as ultra-Right forces who would scrap detente under the conspiratorial coverup of the crimes of U.S. imperialism.

The people should demand that the United States take detente initiatives and end U.S. aggressive acts against other countries. The United States should pull out all military personnel and materiel—advisors and bombers—from Southeast Asia and Chile. Abolish all military bases outside our borders, including returning Guantanamo to Cuba. Grant independence and the right of self-determination to Puerto Rico and all U.S. colonies by 1976—and make that announcement now. End all support to fascist juntas and dictators!

We must repeat that the driving of Nixon from office is a people's victory. It represents the potential for still more victories, not the least of which would be the removal of Gerald Ford and the policies he represents. Richard Nixon, in 1973, called for a criminal justice system of "punishment without pity." As leader of the forces against amnesty for the thousands of draft resisters living in exile or languishing in prisons, Richard Nixon himself is now a subject of amnesty considerations. Of course he should be prosecuted. But the pleading on his behalf is part of the same coverup that says, "the nightmare is over" and "the system works." The nightmare of racism, the nightmare of growing unemployment, poverty, slums, sickness and old age—the crisis of everyday living is not over for the majority of our people. There is a coverup of the crimes of monopoly and the two parties that speak in its name.

It is a coverup for ruling class justice. It is a coverup for a system that allows the Spiro Agnews and Richard Kleindienst to walk the streets as respected representatives of the corporate community seeking new millions of dollars in corrupt business deals while it keeps hundreds of thousands of poor people in jail for long years, many guilty of no crime and all victims of deprivation, racism and exploitation.

With the exit of Nixon and the entrance of Ford, the spokesmen of big business have announced through the mass media that there is going to be a

"honeymoon" between the Republican and Democratic politicians. This is but a continuation of the coverup because the two parties have long been wed to one another. There are of course decent, courageous and honorable people in both parties. But the parties themselves are the instruments of monopoly capital. One party is always held in ready reserve to replace the other when the system finds itself in crisis. One party is always the carrot to the other's stick. But both are parties of racism, of economic exploitation, of imperialist aggression abroad, of exploiting the working and poor peoples of our country in the interests of monopoly. Watergate is the culmination of the corruption of the two-party system. Gerald Ford was chosen not to end that corruption but to cover it up so that it might continue.

WHERE DO WE AS A PEOPLE GO FROM HERE?

The 1972 elections were clearly a fraud. Gerald Ford, himself never elected by the people, is a continuation of that fraud. The election fraud can be undone only by an immediate, unprecedented, mid-term presidential election. Without such an election we have a corporate-appointed, non-elected President and Vice President.

The cold war lie of "national security" has been exposed once again. That lie which has been used to cover up genocidal wars abroad and the slow death of democracy at home must now be eliminated once and for all. Let the people know the facts—all the facts. Publish all the Watergate tapes and then padlock the Pentagon, the F.B.I. and C.I.A. Close down all police state agencies and committees which would destroy democracy. Open up the files and books of the monopoly and multinational corporations, the military-industrial complex, and the other monstrous institutions that rule and threaten to ruin our lives.

Watergate, national security, law and order—all represent the politics of both the Republican and Democratic parties. Those are the policies of the monopolies. We need a new politics, a people's politics, free of the two monopoly parties.


The exit of Nixon must be a new beginning. It is a moment for a people's crisis alert.

This is a moment when the people must take a deeper look at who runs our government, our economy and our lives. What is the source of the corruption, the endless crises?

Only a militant people's democratic movement can safeguard the democratic rights and institutions of our country. Only a united people's movement can destroy the grip the big corporations have on our country.

Only a fighting people's movement can guarantee that the United States will move toward detente. Only a people's movement can fight to cancel the monstrous \$100 billion war budget, the cesspool of corruption, payoffs, political double-dealings, extor-

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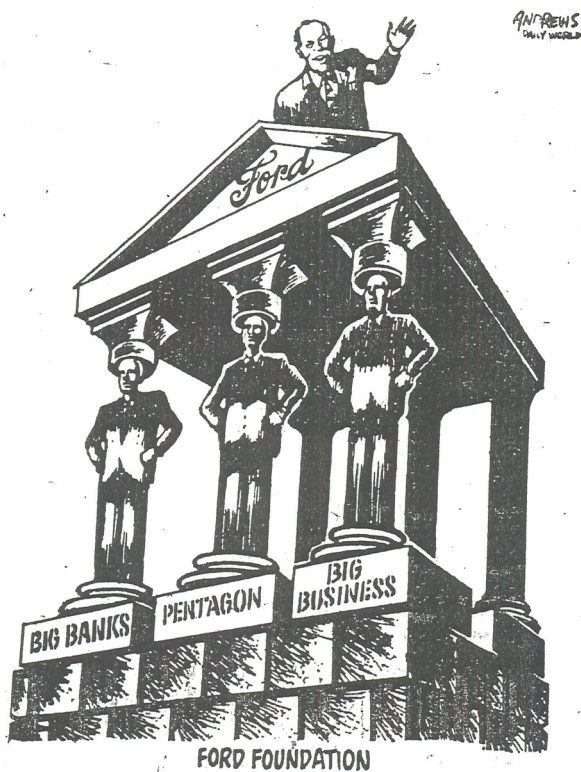
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tion and the main stimulant of the runaway inflation.

Only a people's movement can end the disastrous course of inflation. Only a people's movement can end the rise of racism.

As long as the monopoly corporations are the masters of our land there will always be the danger of reactionary, anti-democratic conspiracies. There will always be the ugly pressures of racism, escalating prices and taxes and economic crises.

This can be a new beginning if it results in a new

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Henry Winston, National Chairman Gus Hall, General Secretary

For more information on the only fighting working-class Marxist-Leninist political party which conducts a consistent struggle against inflation and for jobs, security and higher living standards, against racism, repression and imperialism, and for peace, democracy and socialism, write to the above address, or your local area:

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unity, a unity of all democratic forces, a unity of all working class forces, a unity of the racially oppressed, a unity of peace forces, and a unity of the young generation.

This is a time for scrapping the rule of the two parties of the power-crazed, profit-hungry monopoly corporations. This is the time to act on the lessons from the Watergate crisis—a time to act on the lessons of the destructive course pursued by the ruling parties of our country during the whole cold war period at the expense of the people.

This is the time for a new people's electoral democratic movement—a political party to establish the rule of the people through the democratic process, and move on a new course of freedom, democracy, security and peace.

This is the time for all democratic forces to meet, to confer, to establish a new people's coalition.

This is no time to wait for somebody else to take the initiative. Act now—take the concrete step to set up a new people's coalition, to set up a committee in your backyard or in your front room, your shop, your union, your election district, your church, fraternal or mass organization—in your community, city, county and state. Two hundred years ago the grass roots Committees of Correspondence became the base for the struggle against tyranny and oppression. Today's labor movement and the widespread mass organizations can and must establish such Committees to help meet the needs of the people.

Only a network of grass roots formations, covering every phase of life can destroy the power base of the Watergate conspiracies.

Only such a movement can end the misrule of the monopoly corporations and establish the instruments for the democratic rule of the people.