

Preliminary indications are that some of these workers may be absorbed back into the industry--under harsh working conditions and poor wages--as it gears up for Rockefeller's economic restructuring and expanded military production. A U.S. Steel spokesman told IPS today that the 8 per cent-plus price rises announced by the concern yesterday were for structural steel--the kind of steel that would be used for the conversion of a substantial portion of U.S. industry to war production.

#### N.Y. BUREAUCRATS HELP EMPLOYERS PUT SICK TO WORK

Dec. 16 (IPS)--Under a program set up by area unions here, members whose doctors have recommended surgery are now required to undergo a "second screening" or face loss of hospitalization benefits. Union officials have boasted that in that way they have managed to cut down on surgical operations recommended by the original doctor by 28 per cent.

The "second screening" program is already compulsory for the members of Local 2 of the Storeworkers Union and is voluntary, "though strongly recommended," for other unions, including District Council 37 of AFSCME, the city's largest municipal union. According to the New York Times, New York City is thinking of adopting the program for its more than one million employees to cut its health insurance costs.

#### Nazi Model

The program is explicitly based on methods employed by the Nazis during the 1934-45 period to attempt to cut down on man hours lost due to sickness. Under Nazi law, workers were required to see "company doctors" if they felt sick. The doctors, under pressure from Labor Front kapos and the company "Fuehrers," told workers that they weren't sick and that they should stay on the job. With a general decline in nutritional and other living standards, the effect of workers "working sick" was to destroy the health of the German working class. Eventually, with epidemics of influenza spreading through the population, the Nazis were forced to make allowances for sick workers: they set up special work areas for those who were sick or "recovering," so that they would not affect the productivity of their comrades.

The butchers who run the program are aware of its implications. Dr. Eugene McCarthy, the doctor from the Cornell Medical School which designed the program, has publicly bemoaned the fact that there is "no systematic followup" on the cases whose requests for surgery were turned down. According to Dr. McCarthy, the doctors in charge don't have any real idea what happens to them.

The push to keep patients out of the hospital has been under way nationally for some time. Typical of these efforts is the program under way to deal with Massachusetts Medicaid "chiselers." Set up several years ago, this program involved a board of doctors who screened patients before they entered the hospitals, deciding how long the patient should remain there. A second meeting of the board was required if the patient, once admitted, needed to remain longer than his original recommended stay; doctors were subject to reprimands if they consistently recommended longer hospital stays for their patients than the board considered necessary. The savings from this program were also reported as "impressive."

#### CIA ACTIVATES RIGHT AGAINST LABOR PARTY ORGANIZERS

Dec. 16 (IPS)--After the recent wave of official harassment by local and Federal police agencies failed to deter U.S. Labor Party organizing, those agencies' coordinators in the Central Intelligence Agency this week have activated their controlled terrorists of the right wing. The activation of right-wing extremists--against the Labor Party and generally--comes simultaneously with an increased possibility of a "war footing" for the U.S. economy.

Starting with an attempted assault on Labor Party organizers in Union City, N.J. last week by Cuban refugee ("Gusano") anti-communist groups, right-wing harassment continued on Saturday as three members of the National Socialist White People's Party (the American Nazis) tried to attack Labor Party members in Chicago. The Nazis were dressed in full homosexual regalia: leather jackets, swastika armbands, and jackboots.

The Nazis, deeply infiltrated by the FBI for years, are more directly controlled through their relationship with the Fascist International, an international umbrella organization controlled by ex-SS Colonel Otto Skorzeny, an Allied Intelligence agent who helped turn over the former Nazi wartime intelligence network to the Anglo-Americans. The "Gusanos" have been notoriously controlled by the CIA since the CIA's abortive Bay of Pigs invasion.

In Syracuse, police arrested Labor Party organizers one minute into a distribution Saturday on the complaint of an undercover cop whose family is in the CIA-controlled Minutemen. In Seattle, police claiming to be a John Birch faction of the police department ranted and raved at an older black worker who organizes with the Labor Party about his being a "commie."

These attacks by the right-wing "nut groups" follow a major heightening of their exposed political posture. The National Socialist White People's Party who attacked Labor Party organizers in Chicago are running supposedly anti-Rockefeller candidates