

the Colombian Institute of Social Security (ICSS) has entered its 45th day and continues to expand despite the reimposition of the state of siege on Oct. 8. Under the direction of the Communist Party's CSTC trade union federation, classwide support for the strike has reached unprecedented levels. Ninety-five percent of all public and private health employees in Colombia held a 48-hour strike last week in support of the doctors while state employees nationally held one hour support assemblies throughout the 48-hours of protest. Press reports of doctors returning to work have been ridiculed by the working class as poor "black propaganda" attempts as the political consciousness of the entire population is visibly heightened through the growing strike ferment. Colombian Labor Committee organizers have been key in broadening the issues of the strike to focus on the need for a new world economic order, while Nueva Solidaridad articles are reprinted and used as leaflets by the doctors.

The Lopez Michelsen government, paralyzed by a rash of cabinet resignations and massive desertions from his Liberal Party has been left with the option of negotiating with the working class and thereby conceding defeat of the IMF austerity plans or risking open military confrontation with the working class. Colombia's Interior Minister Cornelio Reyes, a leading representative of Wall Street's fascist kernel within the Michelsen government, has pledged an all-out extermination

campaign against the mass-based Communist Party. However, in the face of the mass strike ferment, the chaotic collapse of regional government bureaucracies and a factionalized military, Reyes' position is highly insecure.

The Argentine "Model"

The drive for total chileanization of the continent holds the prospect of bloody civil war and protracted horror for the Latin American population. But a fascist victory is far from assured. In Argentina, Wall Street's recently proclaimed "model" on the continent, a fascist military regime fully committed to genocidal austerity and the wholesale destruction of the labor movement has been unable to impose Pinochet's death grip on that country even with the help of widespread death squad terror and a full-fledged Nazi revival. A two-week old strike of Argentina's 36,000 electrical workers has struck a potentially fatal blow to Wall Street's plans to dismantle Argentina's vast public sector and has put that country's fascist occupation government on notice that the working class will not surrender to Wall Street's genocidal looting plans without a battle.

It is widely recognized in the international press, in fact, that two years of death squad terror, military repression and economic Friedmanism have if anything swung tens of thousands of workers behind the Montonero national liberation movement.

Echeverria: New World Order Or Nuclear War

Oct. 16 (NSIPS) — Mexican President Luis Echeverria spoke Oct. 16 to the congress of the Mexican state of Nueva Leon, whose capital, Monterrey, is the home base of the Carter-Rockefeller clique of industrialists and bankers who are leading a fascist insurrection against Echeverria's government because of its fight for a new international economic order. The following are excerpts from Echeverria's speech, in which he again asserts the importance of the new world order, as embodied in his Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of Nations adopted by the United Nations last year.

The world lives in days of intense contrasts. The world of the industrially advanced countries, capitalist and socialist, is preparing for war. It is spending the surplus value of its workers and farmers on atomic bombs, to daily expand its arsenals with the product of their labor. With their known and yet unknown weapons, the great powers are carrying humanity down a dead-end road. They are doing this to a human race, most of which wants to fight for full development of the great potential of mankind, but to fight in peace and social harmony.

Mexico is a Third World country. It is alert to what happens in countries of Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

In opposition to the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of Nations are some great powers which might be developed economically but are underdeveloped politically. They are badly underdeveloped politically, because political development consists of living in the present, learning from the experiences of the past, and foreseeing the future. If what they want is war and the destruction of much of humanity, it's no surprise that they don't think much of the New World Economic Order which the Charter advocates.

Deficits in the balance of trade and payments; tied international credits which can only be used for purchases from the country giving the credits — at high interest rates; the imposition of technological and pedagogical modes incompatible with independent development and many other problems have been confronted by the Charter. It seeks for Third World countries to achieve independence within global interdependence, and to achieve forms of collaboration and international solidarity respectful of their sovereignty. Thus we

will win a world of competition which brings humanity down the road of peace, instead of each day coming closer to a war which would at once destroy the powerful and the weak, the developed and the underdeveloped alike.

This is the message of Mexico—a message approved by 120 countries — to fight for peace. And for this reason we have said: "The Charter or War!" It has been a long struggle, but our deepest feelings of human dignity have insisted that national limits be transcended to get to the source of many problems reflected inside the country which are of international origin. For this reason we have made a proposal that will help the world regain an equilibrium which it has lost. . . .

It is indispensable that the great majority of our party (Partido Revolucionario Institucional, the ruling party of Mexico — ed.) be mobilized. There is no room for indifference. We must point out the fascist tendencies in Mexico. The great industries of Mexico do not require in order to prosper a regime which throttles our liberties. A test of this is rapidly approaching. It is necessary that the system of Mexican freedoms be preserved and that those who hold economic power not be permitted to take from us political power. When political power is surrendered to minorities holding economic power, then the Mexican Revolution will be defeated. . . .

I call on all revolutionary and progressive forces to unite; to put forward their best men; to win through democratic means; and not to permit any local or international political pressures from you know who.

Prior to the congressional session, Echeverria made the following statements to FOMERREY, a Monterrey business promotion association:

The rich and the powerful don't get along with the government of the State of Nuevo Leon. Instead of collaborating out of a sense of foresight, they put obstacles in its path. There is no moral justification for the great concentration of capital, unless it is oriented towards solving the problems of other human beings. It is not enough to build efficient factories. It is necessary to channel the economic resources of the rich and the powerful, of the bankers and industrialists of Monterrey, to