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dangerous working conditions. The student movement has militantly voiced its opposition to the Shah's regime and the U.S. imperialists he represents.

In addition to these often spontaneous actions staged by the masses, two revolutionary organizations, known as the Mojahdeen and the Fedayee, have taken up armed struggle against the regime. These conscious political forces are seeking to free Iran from imperialist domination and bring about a society that would meet the needs of Iranian people. The Mojahdeen states that it is important to "...support the struggles of the workers and all exploited Iranians..." and to politicize their daily struggles and revolutionize them..."

The Shah's attempts to quell opposition to his regime have led him to extreme lengths in suppressing the basic rights of the people. The Iranian secret police, known as SAVAK, are trained by the CIA and the Israeli secret

police and regularly use torture in interrogating political prisoners, the number of which is 100,000 (London Times). However, instead of crushing the will of the people, this repression fans sparks into flames; they continue to oppose the regime in order to liberate their country.

In Oman, the Peoples' Front for the Liberation of Oman is waging the struggle for the liberation of that country from foreign domination and feudal rule, personified by Sultan Qabus. It is made up of peasants, fishermen, intellectuals and ex-soldiers (those who have left the Sultan's armed forces). The goal is a government which represents all oppressed people in Oman: one which would allow the people to exercise basic human and political rights, reassert national control over the country's natural resources and build a balanced economy from which the people would benefit.

However, these aspirations are in conflict with those of the multinational corporations, the U.S. government and the puppet re-

gime in Oman. By 1973, 90 per cent of Dhofar province was liberated by the PFLO. Since Sultan Qabus was not strong enough to quell the revolutionary movement, he was forced to rely on the Shah's armed forces, which invaded Oman in 1973. After three years of intense fighting, the Shah's army inflicted heavy casualties on the PFLO. This caused a shift in the military strategy of the latter, but did not extinguish the movement. More and more people are joining the PFLO since they learn from their daily experience that the only way to escape from the exploitation they face is to take up arms against it.

Since U.S. corporate interests are suffering increasingly sharper attacks in the Gulf area, the U.S. government, which protects those interests, has been forced to come up with new strategies to maintain its hegemony. To this end, the Gulf has been made into an American military sea. The Shah's invasion of Oman is a clear example of the Nixon Doctrine,

which states that it is necessary to arm and train local rulers to protect U.S. interests rather than outrightly using American troops to do so. As in Iran, the secret police in the Gulf states are trained by the CIA and the number of political prisoners grows daily.

The total absence of democracy and denial of basic human rights by the puppet regimes are supported by the U.S. government in deeds if not in words. The widespread influence of the CIA and the arms build-up which are being used against the peoples of the area are clear evidence of this. This kind of repression is necessary in order to continue "developing" the Gulf economy to be an appendage to the international monopoly capitalist system.

The multinational corporations which profit from the exploitation of the peoples of the Gulf also profit at the expense of American people. The 1974 "energy crisis" was a fabricated one which enriched only the oil sheiks and the energy monopolies, which used it as an excuse to raise prices. Even

though OPEC is used by the U.S. media to propagate the image that the peoples of the Gulf are benefiting at the expense of Americans, the decisions of this organization are largely determined by the more powerful of its members (Iran and Saudi Arabia), who are actually vieing with each other for favor with the U.S. and in no way represent the people.

The revolutionary struggles carried out by the peoples of the Gulf are on the side of historical progress by fighting against local reaction and imperialist domination, which stand in the way of a more just society. The attempts to repress these movements have not and will not work; they only serve to show the people that they have a life and death stake in continuing and expanding the struggle for the liberation of their countries. We call on American people to support the PFLO and other revolutionary movements in the Gulf area.

Submitted by the Gulf Solidarity Committee

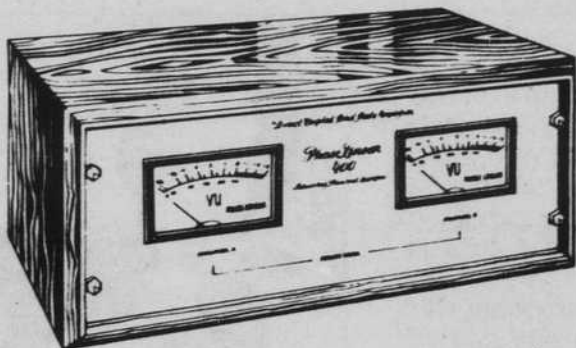
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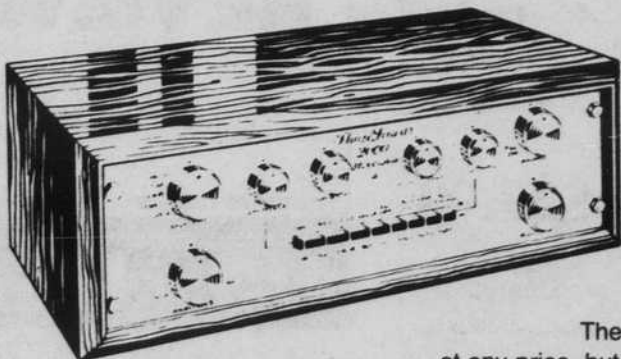
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