In the Memorial Day massacre of 1937, the Chicago Police Department shot and killed ten unarmed demonstrators in Chicago, on May 30, 1937. The incident took place during the Little Steel strike in the United States. The incident arose after U.S. Steel signed a union contract but smaller steel manufacturers (called 'Little Steel'), including Republic Steel, refused to do so. In protest, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (SWOC) of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) called a strike. The Little Steel Strike has been ignored by historians, it is perhaps because it does not fit the standard narrative of American labor history.

The Last Great Strike: Little Steel, the CIO, and the Struggle for Labor Rights in New Deal America, by Ahmed White, University of California Press, 2016. ISBN: 978-0520285613. In the midst of the Great Depression, 80,000 steelworkers went out on strike in a swath of industrial America stretching from Chicago to central Pennsylvania, defying some of the world’s most viciously antunion corporations in a bitter fight for recognition of their right to organize in the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (SWOC), one of the divisions of the new. Chicago Police attack unarmed striking steel workers, wives and children in The "Memorial Day Massacre", Chicago, May 30, 1937. Though Chicago Mayor Kelly had authorized the picketing, 264 Chicago police shot and killed 10 people, shot 30 more, and injured 60 with batons. [1167x622] (i.imgur.com). submitted 5 years ago by michaelconfoy.

We’re to believe that the government “monopoly of force” is an independent entity that might just as well have thrown their weight to the other side, attacking the corporate bosses in support of the striking workers, permalink. embed. Review of Blood on Steel: Chicago Steelworkers and the Strike of 1937. History: Reviews of New Books 44.2 (March 2016): 41. Awards, Grants, and Fellowships. Chicago Fellow, Digital Chicago: Unearthing History and Culture (Mellon Foundation grant), Lake Forest College, Spring 2017 Fall 2017. Building Trees and Building Men: Black Chicagoans and the Civilian Conservation Corps, American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, April 2013.