

THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY/PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Hits high food prices

Consumers Congress sets May 5 nat'l protest

By LARRY SEIGLE

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 11 — More than 200 determined meat boycott leaders and consumer activists meeting here today set Saturday, May 5, as the day for nationwide demonstrations and other activities protesting high food prices.

The leaders of the recent massive meat boycott voted for the May 5 actions to provide a focus for activity to continue the momentum generated by the meat boycott. "May 5 should be a day of marching and protests throughout the country," said one woman from Ulster County, N.Y. "When May 5 comes we'll hit Nixon like an atom bomb!" declared a California boycott leader.

The meeting was held in the hearing room used by the House Foreign Affairs Committee in the Rayburn Office Building. It drew boycott activists from more than 30 cities. In addition to representatives of ad-hoc groups formed around the meat boycott and members of more established consumer groups, participants included unionists, antiwar leaders, and activists in recent anti-cutback actions. The big majority of the participants were women.

A busload of people was organized by District 37 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees in New York City. Victor Gotbaum, president of District Council 37, spoke briefly, hailing the actions against higher prices and stressing

the stake of all American working people in this struggle.

The group voted to establish itself as the National Consumers Congress. After much debate, a proposal to set another week of meat boycott was voted down, and the meeting decided to urge a meat boycott on Tuesdays and Thursdays instead.

"The meat boycott last week was a spontaneous and dramatic demonstration of opposition by tens of millions of American people to high food prices," reads the resolution calling for a national day of protest on May 5. "It showed that people are angry and willing to take action against sky-

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New York protest against high food prices, April 7

Militant/Cindy Jaquith

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NEW THREAT TO PANCHO CRUZ: Pancho Cruz, the imprisoned Puerto Rican activist, has had his name "voluntarily submitted" to the Rx program at the Adirondack Correctional Evaluation and Treatment Center at Dannemora prison in N. Y.

Little is known of the exact nature of the program. But it is believed that experiments in "behavior modification," including drug therapy and even lobotomies, are used to stifle outspoken political prisoners.

The warden at Great Meadows prison, where Cruz is now held, told Cruz's lawyer why his name was submitted: "Cruz and the others protest everything, therefore, there must be something wrong with him." The warden added that Cruz "has a hang-up on Puerto Rican culture," and the Rx program picks people with "hang-ups."

Cruz was sentenced to seven years in prison in December 1971 for possession of a white, powdery substance, three empty packs of cigarettes, and watches, which the prosecution claimed was a bomb. Although it was never proved that the powdery substance was explosive, Cruz was nevertheless railroaded to prison.

N.Y. GREEKS PROTEST ANNIVERSARY OF ARMY COUP: On April 21, 1967, a group of army colonels staged a coup in Greece. The coup, which was partially



Pablo Picasso, the most influential artist of the twentieth century, died April 8 at his home in Mougins, France, at the age of 91. Above is part of his famous "Guernica," which he painted during the Spanish Civil War to protest the terror bombing of that town by Nazi bombers supporting Franco.

engineered by the U.S. government, brought the Papadopoulos regime to power. This year Demokratia and the United Hellenic Front, along with their supporters, will mark the occasion with a demonstration protesting the military dictatorship.

Thousands of Greeks have been tortured and imprisoned by the regime, which denies its citizens the most fundamental human rights. Resistance to the regime has increased, as indicated by the recent wave of student strikes.

On April 21 Demokratia and the United Hellenic Front are planning a noon demonstration at the Greek Consulate, 69 E. 79th St. At 8 p.m. that evening there will be a rally at New York University Law School, located at Washington Square South (W. 4th St. and MacDougal St.).

For more information contact Demokratia, 346 W. 20th St. New York, N.Y. 10011 or United Hellenic Front 360 W. 36 St., New York, N.Y. 10018.

BLACK MILITANT FRAMED IN CINCINNATI: Mike Gillum of the Cincinnati Young Socialist Alliance informed us of the frame-up of James Hardy, founder of Solving Black Problems Now (SBPN).

Hardy was sentenced April 9 by an all-white jury to serve from one to 15 years for burglary and possession of burglary tools.

SBPN is a Black community organization that had recently focused its attention on drug trafficking in the community. It had compiled evidence revealing various judges', cops', and businessmen's complicity in drug traffic. As a result, several leaders of SBPN have had their lives threatened. Some, including Hardy, were the targets of gunfire. One activist had his car fire-bombed.

Hardy's trial was a classic frame-up, complete with contradictory testimony from arresting officers and other witnesses, and an attempt to rig the jury. At one point,

Hardy was even barred from attending the trial.

The judge, apparently delighted by the jury's guilty verdict, remarked, "I hope the jury has enjoyed its jury duty."

VICTORY FOR FLORIDA FARMWORKERS: Militant correspondent Karen Pewitt in Tallahassee writes, "Under the pressure of the United Farm Workers Union and its supporters, House Bill 74, the 'Right to Work Law' was defeated March 20 in a House committee."

This bill would have kept crew contractors, hired by the growers, responsible for hiring the work force in the fields. A union hiring hall would have become illegal. Without a union hiring hall, the crew contractors could then hire unorganized workers at low wages and continue the conditions of superexploitation that prevail.

The plight of Florida farm workers has come to national attention recently with the discovery of two "slave labor" camps.

Armed guards surrounded the camps and prevented the migrants from leaving. At one of these camps the migrants were paid in wine, and their pitifully low wages forced them to buy food on credit from the crew bosses.

VICTORY FOR CANARSIE RACISTS: Canarsie racists received a shot in the arm when the New York central school board ruled March 30 to phase out Black students from the Tilden housing project from Canarsie schools.

The board caved in to pressure from white parents of Canarsie students who had kept their children from school during a month-long boycott. The board had originally ordered the Black students to attend Canarsie schools under a school desegregation plan.

The white parents protested that the presence of the 32 Black students "tipped the racial balance" in the schools.

The central board's decision stipulates that no more students from Tilden will be admitted to Canarsie schools beginning in September. Under the plan, Tilden youngsters already in Canarsie elementary schools will, upon graduation, be assigned to a Canarsie junior high school. But when they complete ninth grade, there will be no more Tilden students in Canarsie schools.

Parents of the Black students plan to pursue legal action.

INDIAN LEADER TOURS PORTLAND: Vernon Bellecourt, National Director of the American Indian Movement (AIM), toured the Portland area April 5-6. His tour was organized by the Portland American Indian Movement and the Young Socialist Alliance. He spoke before audiences totaling at least 600 people, and reached tens of thousands more through the media. More than \$500 was raised for the defense of the Indians at Wounded Knee.

Bellecourt identified the massive support from across the nation as vital in staying the hand of the government from bloody action at Wounded Knee.

TEACHERS STRIKE FOCUSES ON PRICES: More than 200 teachers in Hillsboro, Ore., a few miles from Portland, ended a 12-day strike March 31. The strike was the first by public school teachers in Oregon history.

Called by the local chapter of the National Education Association, the strike raised a question facing all work-

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ing people: the dramatic rise in the cost of living, especially food prices. Don Lacy, a negotiator for the teachers, pointed out that "not even with fringe benefits figured in does the wage-scale increase meet the rise in the cost of living." The school board had insisted on extending the contract through the 1974-75 school year, but agreed to the union's demand for a one-year contract after a public meeting of more than 1,000 supported the teachers' demands.

Meanwhile, one store in the Portland area that sells horse meat has been opening its doors to block-long lines of shoppers trying to cut their food costs.

— BAXTER SMITH

...antiwar movement, anti-cutback forces, and unions urged to join May 5 protests

Continued from page 1
rocketing prices.

"In order to carry forward the momentum that has been created and to provide a focus for our activity, we propose that a National Day of Protests Against High Food Prices be set. The exact form of protests and demonstrations would be up to local initiative, while national pressure and attention would be focused against the government's failure to do anything about high food prices."

Ethel Rosen, a boycott leader from Chicago, said, "There was a lady in history who sparked a revolution by saying 'Let 'em eat cake.' There is a current lady who sparked this revolution by saying 'Let 'em eat beans and kidneys.'" She was referring to Nixon's consumer adviser, Virginia Knauer.

The meeting was hosted by Representative Benjamin Rosenthal (D-N.Y.) and cochaired by Betty Furness, New York City commissioner of consumer affairs, and by June Donovan, a leader of FIT (Fight Inflation Together) in Los Angeles.

Rosenthal hoped to get the group to back an amendment he was sponsoring to the Economic Stabilization Act, which would roll back prices to their Jan. 10 level. This proposal, however, was rejected after many women argued that such a rollback would still leave prices way too high. Several speakers charged that this mea-



Militant/Arthur Hughes

Consumer activists vote to call May 5 protests at meeting in Washington, D.C.

sure was totally inadequate. "This is just tokenism and pacification," angrily declared one woman from New York, a member of Women United for Action.

Some speakers argued against any further independent activity and urged reliance on congressional action. This was not the majority sentiment, however.

"We must do this ourselves," declared Florence Rice, of the Harlem Consumer Council. "We can't count on the government because the people in government got there because of how much money they have." She reported plans for an April 18 demonstration in front of the White House against high food prices.

"We as leaders of the meat boycott are the only ones who can enforce price ceilings," declared Ethel Rosen. "Under Phase 1 and 2," she said, "the ceilings became the floors." She said stores were already violating Nixon's meat-price ceilings.

Alberta Slavin from HELP (Housewives Elect Lower Prices) in St. Louis pointed out that "prices have never gone up faster than under these controls. The controls have never been enforced," she said. "We haven't had a lot of luck with Congress, we have to continue to take things into our own hands," she concluded.

"We should go out and leaflet everywhere for May 5," said one conference participant. "We had our boycott leaflets out in front of supermarkets, in the neighborhoods, in the factories and offices. And we got an enthusiastic response. Let's do the same thing with our May 5 protests."

Speakers urged supporters of the May 5 Day of Protest to reach out to all boycott supporters, trade unions, consumer groups, women's organizations, students, and the organizations fighting Nixon's cutbacks in child care, education, and other social programs to get them involved

in the plans for the May 5 protest activities.

Claudio Tavarez, an activist in the Coalition for Education in New York City's school District 1, told this reporter he thought budget cutbacks and community struggles against them are related to the fight against high prices. "High prices and budget cutbacks hurt Blacks and Puerto Ricans especially hard. I'm planning to do what I can to help involve people in the Lower East Side in the May 5 actions."

Jenness, Pulley hail May 5 call

The following statement was issued April 11 by Linda Jenness, the Socialist Workers Party 1972 presidential candidate, and Andrew Pulley, national secretary of the Young Socialist Alliance.

We greet with enthusiasm the decision by the National Consumers Congress to hold nationwide protest activities May 5.

The current runaway inflation is driving home the fact that capitalism in the United States, the richest and most powerful country in the world, is incapable of providing a satisfactory standard of living for the majority of the American people. The massive resistance and independent struggles against high prices should have the enthusiastic support and participation of all socialists.

The struggle against high prices can only be successful if consumer activists continue to engage in determined and militant actions that can involve millions of people.

We won't get anywhere by relying on legislation in Congress to solve our problems. This is a lesson we have learned as participants in the union movement, the civil rights struggle, the antiwar movement, and the fight to abolish anti-abortion laws.

The May 5 protest actions can be a significant and inspiring step forward in the fight against inflation. Students, antiwar activists, anti-cutback forces, trade unionists, and all other supporters of the anti-inflation fight should begin immediately to help organize the May 5 activities. The three weeks between now and May 5 should be the time for organizing and building the anti-inflation movement.

NPAC, SMC leaders support call for May 5 Day of Protest

Abe Bloom, national coordinator of the National Peace Action Coalition, attended the consumers' meeting in Washington, D.C., April 11 and urged all NPAC supporters to join in supporting the May 5 protest activities.

"The antiwar movement should link arms with the anti-inflation and anti-cutback activists and join in organizing the May 5 actions," he said in a statement released by NPAC.

"B-52s continue to rain death and destruction on Cambodia, and Nixon threatens to resume the terror bombing over Vietnam. The war and continued war spending are behind rising prices. The American people are not willing to have the cost of Nixon's criminal intervention in Southeast Asia passed on to them through even higher prices.

"The same American people who have been demonstrating against these outrageous prices are going to refuse to accept continuing U.S. military intervention or financial and arms support for U.S.-backed regimes in Southeast Asia.

"We intend to tie Nixon's hands in every way possible to force him to get the U.S. out of Southeast Asia."

Chuck Petrin, national coordinator of the Student Mobilization Committee, also attended the meeting. He appealed to all student antiwar activists to support and actively build the May 5 protest activities.

Partial victory in L.A. Free Press case

By HARRY RING

LOS ANGELES—A partial gain for civil liberties and freedom of the press was won when the California Supreme Court reversed the "receiving stolen property" conviction of *Los Angeles Free Press* editor Art Kunkin and reporter Gerald Applebaum. The victory in the case was limited by the carefully narrow scope of the court's ruling.

In 1969 the *Free Press*, an underground weekly, published a list of California undercover narcotics agents under a banner headline "Know Your Local Narc." It was accompanied by an editorial attack on the reactionary methods used in entrapping drug users.

The *Free Press* had been provided a copy of the listing of underground agents by a former mail clerk in the California Department of Justice. The

listing, contained in an unclassified booklet, circulated freely within the department.

In 1970, Kunkin and Applebaum were convicted of "receiving stolen property"—a copy of the listing. They were fined a total of \$1,500 and given two years' probation. The mail clerk pleaded guilty to theft in exchange for a suspended sentence.

In addition to the criminal prosecution, Kunkin was subjected to an unprecedented civil suit by the agents named. The case was settled out of court, but it nearly sank the paper financially.

In its April 2 decision, the state Supreme Court chose to duck the key legal and constitutional issues involved. The conviction was reversed on the basis that no evidence had been introduced proving that Kunkin

and Applebaum knew the list of names was "stolen" when they used it for publication.

For the purpose of analysis, the court said, it would "assume" that the list of names could be legally defined as property and had been "received" within the meaning of the statutes covering stolen property.

The court's ruling did not touch on the issue of the press freedom guaranteed by the First Amendment. Nor did it attempt to explain how information could be assumed to be "property" with a tangible value.

This issue has particular relevance in terms of the Pentagon papers trial. Defendants Daniel Ellsberg and Anthony Russo are charged with theft of government property. The "theft" consists of copying information by xeroxing a report on the Vietnam war

compiled for the Pentagon by the Rand Corporation.

The commercial media paid scant attention to the *Free Press* prosecution until its own ox was gored. After several reporters for major dailies were jailed for refusing to divulge news sources, the *New York Times* recalled the case, referring to it as the "Little Pentagon Papers Trial."

A change of attitude is also evident in the *Los Angeles Times*. One of its reporters, William Farr, recently spent several months in jail for "contempt of court" and may still be sent back. The *Los Angeles Times* took little note of the original *Free Press* felony convictions but prominently featured the present state Supreme Court reversal.

Maybe there's a faint glimmering that opponents of press freedoms are not content to stop with the "little" papers.

A program to fight inflation

The following statement was made April 10 by Linda Jenness, the 1972 presidential candidate of the Socialist Workers Party.

The politicians of the Democratic and the Republican parties have promised time and time again to take action to fight inflation. But they have failed to solve the problem. These capitalist policymakers are incapable of stopping the soaring cost of living because inflation is an essential feature of modern capitalist economies. So long as the government spends billions for warfare, inflation will continue.

Government deficit spending, primarily to finance arms expenditures, is a major source of inflation. So long as the bankers and the corporations run this country, prices will continue to rise, because by inflating prices while holding wages down, the capitalists boost their profits.

Working people can't count on the government to act to stop inflation. Price controls administered by the capitalist government, or by the corporations themselves under "voluntary" guidelines, are a fraud. The profiteers can't be expected to enforce controls on themselves. This was the lesson of Phase 1 and 2, when prices continued to go up while wages were held down.

But the millions of people who joined and supported the meat boycott demonstrated that consumers are ready to move on their own to defend their standard of living. The boycotters organized themselves and displayed determination and the willingness to engage in independent action.

Many shoppers are now discussing further protests. The Socialist Workers Party wholeheartedly supports continuing action against inflation. We believe that the following measures are necessary to protect our standard of living against soaring prices:

- Halt war spending, the prime source of inflation.
- End wage controls. Workers desperately need wage boosts to catch up with runaway prices. Working people aren't responsible for inflation, and there is no reason why they should have to pay for it.
- Workers need cost-of-living clauses in union contracts, so that wages automatically rise when prices go up. The union movement should fight for these cost-of-living escalators in the coming round of contract negotiations in basic industries, including electrical, rubber, trucking, and auto.
- Withdraw the labor representatives from Nixon's "Labor-Management Advisory Committee." Union officials sitting on this government board are doing a disservice to the union movement. This committee is only window dressing designed to give government decrees the appearance of impartiality. It lends credence to Nixon's claim that the government will control prices—when its sole aim is to hold down wages.
- Instead of relying on government agents, organize genuine price-watch committees of unionists, consumers' groups, and the ad-hoc boycott committees. These committees should have the power to set and enforce price ceilings.
- Tax the rich instead of the poor.
- The unemployed suffer the most from rising prices. Shorten the workweek with no reduction in pay to spread the available work to all who want a job. For preferential hiring of Blacks and other oppressed nationalities, and women, to help overcome years of discrimination in hiring.
- Defend the right to strike for all workers, including government employees.
- Labor needs its own political party to fight for these demands in the political field against the parties of the capitalists. A labor party, based on the unions, would be a powerful weapon in the fight to protect the standard of living of all working people.

More price increases on the way

Meat boycott shows distrust of Nixon's 'price ceiling'

By CINDY JAQUITH

APRIL 10—At the height of the meat boycott last week, consumers saw their fear of continued price rises confirmed in the March wholesale price jump of 2.2 percent. At this pace, wholesale prices will rise 26.4 percent in the next year, producing further drastic increases in consumer prices.

Anger over this pattern of rising prices was the motive force behind last week's meat boycott. Millions of consumers refused to buy meat April 1-7, despite Nixon's last minute imposition of a "ceiling" on meat prices. Meat sales dropped off

The Labor Department announced April 5 that wholesale prices jumped in March by 2.2 percent, or an annual adjusted rate of 26.4 percent. According to the April 6 Wall Street Journal, if prices continue to go up at March's rate for the next year, raw farm products will have risen 72.2 percent; other farm products, 56.4 percent; consumer-finished goods, 26.4 percent; and industrial commodities, 14.4 percent.

as much as 80 percent in some areas and fell 30 or 40 percent in most cities as shoppers displayed their distrust of Nixon's new plan.

"Though the boycott was almost totally spontaneous and unstructured," the April 8 New York Times noted, "it swiftly achieved a mass support that dwarfed the biggest of the protest demonstrations against the Vietnam War." The April 9 New York Post pointed out the independent aspect of the action, explaining that it occurred "without benefit of any highly-financed lobby or slickly-concocted sloganeering."

Neither the Democrats, the Republicans, nor the trade-union officialdom was responsible for organizing the boycott. Most of the leadership for the protests came from ad hoc local consumer groups led primarily by women.

While acknowledging the unexpected breadth and spontaneous character of the boycott, the capitalist newspapers tried to downplay its effect. The New York Times, for example, called the protest "apolitical" and "noncontroversial" in an effort to belittle its significance. The Times and most other major newspapers termed the action ineffective because only a few, temporary price reductions occurred.

For most boycotters, however, the protest was a political one. The decision of millions to join the boycott revealed a massive lack of confidence in the government's ability or desire to control prices. A Harris poll conducted from March 15

to March 21 showed the same thing—only 12 percent of the population approves of the way Nixon is "keeping down the cost of living."

In an effort to reverse this sentiment against Nixon and the food profiteers, an April 4 Wall Street Journal editorial urged boycotters "to face the fact that individual eating habits are largely responsible for high prices." The Journal's solution: "only if Americans are willing to eat less beef is the price likely to decline. Otherwise, once the boycott ends and things return to normal, prices will climb again."

But boycotters have made it clear that they aren't willing to accept the blame for inflation. Some consumer groups have decided to continue boycotting meat several days a week. Other groups are meeting to discuss strategy for more protests against high prices. Demonstrations, picket lines, and motorcades took place in a number of cities April 7 as the official boycott drew to a close.

Many boycott organizers were inspired by the united response their call to action created. As one Long Island shopper told the New York Times, "Now we realize we have a lot of clout. We housewives can make our voices heard not only on this situation but others too."

The significance of the fight against high prices is underscored by the upcoming labor contract negotiations that involve some five million workers



Drawing by Modell



Militant/Cindy Jaquith

Several hundred joined march against high prices in New York, April 7.

in the rubber, auto, electrical, and other industries. These workers need big pay increases just to keep pace with inflation. Editorials in many major newspapers have warned, as did the Washington Post, that "it would be foolish to think that union contracts could be held down to the 5.5 per cent annual wage increase that is Mr. Nixon's target."

But in an effort to do just that, the Nixon administration is on a campaign to convince the public that higher wages will cause higher prices.

In response to this campaign, Patrick Gorman, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, wrote Nixon April 8, demanding that he fire Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz. Gorman accused Butz of "seeking scapegoats" and "attempting to set farmer against consumer, consumer against labor, and labor against farmer."

"For food in general, Gorman said, total middleman costs have amounted to only 12 cents of each \$2 in recent price increases," reported the New York Daily News. "He said wage increases represented 'only a small fraction' of the middleman cost."

As consumers are already aware from their shopping receipts, real wages are declining. The Christian Science Monitor reported Feb. 23, before the big wholesale price jump in March, that "prices, combined with higher social-security taxes, now outstrip wage gains. . . ."

In the meantime, however, big business is raking in profits. Jennifer Cross reports in the April 2 Nation that "such medium-large companies as Iowa Beef, American Beef Packers and Arizona-Colorado . . . at least doubled their net profits in 1972." (Emphasis in original.)

The Democrats and Republicans have come up with no solution to the erosion of the standard of living of working people. The Senate has al-



United Auto Workers members, demonstrating against high food prices, face contract negotiations this year.

ready voted to extend the Economic Stabilization Act, which allows Nixon to impose wage and price controls. The House is debating a similar measure, with an amendment to roll back prices to their Jan. 10, 1973, level. But the experience of Nixon's New Economic Policy shows that this capitalist government has no intention of enforcing price controls. These so-called controls are merely window dressing for Nixon's very real controls on wages.

The Meany's, Abels, and other trade-union misleaders have offered workers no plan to protect their wages. An example of what could be done, however, is taking place in Australia. On March 30, 3,500 dockworkers in Sydney went on strike for half a day to protest high prices, according to an Associated Press report. The dock workers plan further strikes, and Australian women are organizing a nationwide meat boycott.

More baloney from Butz

Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz comes up with a new argument every day to pin the blame for high prices anywhere but where it belongs.

One of his arguments is that "small" farmers just have no choice but to raise their prices. But according to an article by James Ridgeway in the March 29 *Village Voice*, as much as "88 percent of all fruits and vegetables are produced on 10 percent of the farms." So much for the "small farmers" argument.

Ridgeway also reports that the Federal Trade Commission has done a study of the "monopoly margin" in 100 industries. "Because of monopoly practices, consumers were over-charged \$483 million by meat packers, \$256 million by milk producers, \$191 million by bread makers, \$143 million for canned fruits and vegetables. . . ." Apparently in deference to these "small food producers," the FTC decided not to publish the study.

Another of Butz's favorite arguments is on the "supply and demand" theme. People are just buying too much meat these days, he says. But as Ridgeway points out, "If there is, in fact, a shortage of beef, it shouldn't come as a surprise to agriculturists. It has been a basic tenet of government policy under both Democrats and Republicans to shorten the supply of meat in order to keep up the price." With this goal in mind, Ridgeway explains, Congress passed import quotas on beef in the mid-1960s.

But after all, Butz complains, Americans spend less on food than consumers anywhere else in the world. Why should U.S. shoppers gripe about the less than 16 percent of their income that goes for food? What Butz doesn't say is that the percentage spent on food goes up as the income level goes down.

According to Ridgeway, "a family with an income of \$6,241 after taxes spends \$1,905 or 30 percent of its net income on food. A family that makes \$12,626 after taxes spends \$3,092 on food, or 24.4 per cent. Clearly as food prices rise the poor will be the hardest hit."

'Stop the War on the Poor'

Actions protest federal cutbacks

By BAXTER SMITH

APRIL 10—Scores of protest actions were held last week in response to President Nixon's proposal to cut billions of dollars from vital social-service programs.

The budget cuts are aimed at such programs as the Job Corps, Model Cities, and the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). In addition, the Head Start preschool children's program, day-care centers for the children of working mothers, and senior citizens' programs will also lose government funding.

Many of the demonstrations were held April 4 to commemorate the anniversary of Martin Luther King's assassination.

Three organizations—the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the National Welfare Rights Organization, and Operation PUSH—initiated the call for demonstrations as part of a "spring offensive" against the cutbacks. Local groups in various cities also supported the actions.

Militant reporter Terry Quilico reports that more than 3,000 people participated in a Chicago march and rally April 4 despite a constant rain. The noontime march passed through Chicago's Loop, where many shoppers joined the demonstration.

There were contingents from the Black and Raza communities, which are most affected by the cutbacks, as well as labor and antiwar contingents. Members of the United Auto Workers and the Amalgamated Meat Cutters carried signs linking the government cutbacks to inflation and high food prices.

At the rally at the federal building, Thomas Todd of Operation PUSH spoke on the government's war against the poor. He asserted that the best way to combat the government's moves is through a united front of working and poor people.

Nezzi Willis, head of the NWRO in Chicago, spoke on the same theme and dramatically outlined the plight of the poor.

Polly Connelly, a coordinator of the Chicago Peace Action Coalition, said, "We have been told that the war is over; and if it is, then why are we still paying for it? We are here today saying that we refuse to roll back our standard of living while corporate profits increase."

Angel Moreno, 7th district congressional candidate and head of the Illinois Raza Unida Party, spoke, along with a representative of the American Indian Movement.

Five hundred protestors demonstrated in downtown Portland April 4, reports *Militant* correspondent John Studer. The rally was sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee for People's Programs, a coalition of Black community groups, and representatives from OEO and other programs affected by the cutbacks.

Speakers at the rally included representatives from the Coalition for Child Care, Oregon Black Caucus, Valley Migrant League, Young Socialist Alliance, League of Women Voters, NAACP, and others. Three state legislators also spoke.

Sue Welsh of the Young Socialist Alliance was interrupted several times by applause as she emphasized the need for mass actions in response to the cutbacks.

A wide range of groups sponsored a demonstration against the cutbacks in Seattle on April 5. They included the Kinatchit Indian Service; Puyallup Indian tribe; several Black student unions; the Young Socialist Alliance; Freedom Socialist Party; Immaculate Church; and groups from the University of Washington, including the Hawaiian Club, Asian Coalition, Radical Women, U of W Young Democrats, and the U of W Ethnic Cultural Center.

The march of 500, which was dominated by chants of "Stop the War on the Poor" and "People First," culminated in a noon rally at the federal courthouse.

The first speaker, Reverend Murray from the First AME Church, was interrupted by cheers when he pointed out that with "the 1974 budget attack on the poor and disadvantaged, Nixon has split his britches and the naked truth is revealed."

Craig Honts, Socialist Workers party candidate for mayor of Seattle, also spoke. Honts pointed out that the government is cutting social services to Seattle by \$77-million while doling out \$861.4-million to the Boeing Corporation for military contracts.

A demonstration of 300 was held in Washington, D.C., April 7. The march and rally were sponsored by the Coalition for Survival, which is made up of organizations that face Nixon's ax. Speakers included D.C. nonvoting delegate Walter Fauntroy; ailing civil rights and antiwar activist Julius Hobson, who spoke from a wheelchair; and Phil Kete, of OEO.

A demonstration of close to 2,000 in Atlanta on April 4 held a noon march from Dr. King's grave. Speakers at a rally included Reverend Ralph Abernathy of SCLC, Reverend Jesse Jackson of PUSH, and others.



April 4 demonstration against cutbacks in Atlanta drew nearly 2,000.

Gov't wants to 'redefine' poverty

The Nixon administration is toying with a new way to eliminate poverty—taking the word out of the dictionary.

"Poverty is a value-laden, highly politicized word and that's not the kind of word we like," says one government "source," according to the April 6 *New York Times*. "We would like a less value-laden concept like income distribution or mean or median or some other word devoid of emotional complications."

The Office of Management and Budget, which is directing this redefinition effort, apparently wants to do more than just get poor people to think of themselves in less "emotional" terms. The office also thinks the poverty level ought to be lowered, says the *Times*, "because . . . income statistics do not include nonmoney income received in the form of food stamps, medical care and other Government subsidies."

The implication that the 25.6 million people in this country who do fall below the poverty level are living it up on food stamps is especially absurd coming at a time of the sharpest food-price in-

creases in 20 years.

The current government-defined poverty level is \$4,137 annual income for a nonfarm family of four—less than \$80 a week. This figure is ridiculously low, not high! Yet the government hopes that if it redefines poverty, "it could also eliminate some Federal aid programs," the *Times* reports.

By this logic, Nixon could kill two birds with one stone. He could lift thousands of families out of the poverty bracket because they receive federal aid, and then take back their aid because they are supposedly no longer poor.

White House speechwriters have already had some experience coming up with "less value-laden" words in connection with the Vietnam war. That's when they created "pacification," "protective reaction," and "winding down," to mask the U.S. government's aggression against the Vietnamese people.

These euphemisms failed to blunt antiwar sentiment in the U.S. And it's unlikely that Blacks, Chicanos, and other poor people are going to feel any "richer" after Nixon's new word games.

Israeli terrorism

The Israeli terror raid carried out in Beirut, Lebanon, April 10 was another attempt by the Zionist regime to smash the movement of the Arab and Palestinian peoples for liberation. The Israeli commandos murdered 30 Lebanese and Palestinians, including three Palestinian leaders, Yussef Najjar, Kamal Nasser, and Kamal Adwan.

As always, the Zionist regime has tried to justify its murderous act by attempting to turn the criminals into the victims and the victims into the criminals. Israeli authorities have claimed that the raid was a reprisal for attacks in Cyprus against the Israeli ambassador and an El Al airliner. They attributed these attacks to Palestinian guerrillas.

This is a lie. The April 11 *Christian Science Monitor* reported that at least one of the Israelis had stationed himself near the site of the Beirut attacks *three days before the Cyprus actions*.

The editorial in the April 11 *New York Times*, one of the major mouthpieces of U.S. imperialism, echoes the Israeli deception. The *Times* describes the assassinations as "a stunningly effective blow in the 'war against terror'" and as actions of "daring and brilliance."

The real concern of the Zionists and imperialists is not the terrorist strategy used by some of the Palestinian resistance groups. This strategy has proved to be an obstacle to the Palestinian struggle.

Their fear is the development of a mass movement of the Palestinians, Lebanese, and other peoples of the Middle East against their imperialist and capitalist oppressors. The Palestinian resistance movement has represented a step toward such a struggle for liberation. Thus the Israelis have carried out repeated bombings, shellings, commando raids, and invasions against the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon—leaving hundreds dead and destroying schools, hospitals, and whole villages.

It is the Zionist regime of Israel that has carried out a policy of mass terrorism and organized violence against the entire Palestinian people, who were deprived of their homeland and denied their right to self-determination by the state of Israel. All defenders of human rights must voice the sharpest condemnation of the Israeli regime's murderous attacks against the Palestinian and Arab people, and must oppose continued U.S. aid and support to the Israeli terrorists.

Youth & machinists

On April 10 Nixon's labor flunky Peter Brennan presented the administration's new minimum wage bill to a House committee. It would raise the minimum from \$1.60 to \$2.30 an hour over the next three years, but would exclude workers 18 and under from the increase.

Even according to government standards, \$2.30 an hour would only allow a family to exist on a poverty level today—much less three years from now. Moreover, why should young people be paid less for doing the same work as older workers?

Brennan tries to argue that this is for their own good—it would help lessen teenage unemployment! Brennan also opposed extending the minimum wage to domestic employees or agricultural workers, who are among the lowest-paid workers.

Excluding young people from an increased minimum wage will do nothing to solve the problem of joblessness among youth. It will only legalize the superexploitation of young workers while helping maintain a pool of cheaper labor that exerts a downward pressure on all workers' wages.

In another move, Nixon's Cost of Living Council vetoed a wage increase that had been won by some 600 workers of the International Association of Machinists. This was the first time under Phase 3 that the council has overruled a negotiated wage increase, but it should be a warning to all unionists.

The machinists had won a wage hike of 8.9 percent over the next year. This was ruled "inflationary" by the Cost of Living Council even though the cost of living is now going up at nearly a 10 percent annual rate of increase (according to Bureau of Labor Statistics figures for February). Thus even with the 8.9 percent raise, the machinists would suffer a cut, not an increase, in their real wages.

The only way working people can protect themselves from inflation is by opposing any government wage controls whatsoever and fighting for escalator clauses in every contract. This would guarantee an automatic wage increase to match rising prices.

Letters

Wounded Knee

We, the Student Senate of Walnut Hills High School, support the struggle of the Oglala Sioux at Wounded Knee, S.D. Native Americans are entitled to self-determination. The United States has consistently controlled the destiny of the Indians and others; now is the time for this to come to an end. We uphold all the demands of the Oglala Sioux concerning their own destiny.

Doug Huffman

President

*Walnut Hills Student Senate
Cincinnati, Ohio*

Prison censorship

I would like to let you know that progress has been made after you and your staff got on the case to aid me. I received two back issues of *The Militant* from the media review committee here and have been receiving the new issues on schedule. I want you to add one more feather to the nest of *The Militant* for your courageous battle for freedom of the press for us prisoners.

A prisoner

New York

'Out of the Closets'

Thank you for your generally favorable review (*Militant*, March 23) of *Out of the Closets: Voices of Gay Liberation* (Douglas Books), a new anthology coedited by Karla Jay and myself. Readers of *The Militant* will find it impossible to obtain this book in their local bookstores at the present time due to distribution fouls beyond the control of the authors.

By special arrangement, however, the book is now available (\$3.95 paper) from two sources: Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookstore, 291 Mercer St., New York, N.Y. 10003; and the Gay Liberation Book Service, Box 40397, San Francisco, Calif. 94140. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to either address for a free price list of all publications.

Allen Young

Westwood, Mass.

Small farmers

As a member of a farming family I would like to comment on the food situation. The government farm-subsidy programs have been aimed at the agribusinessmen. The small farmers have been driven from their land by low prices and rising costs. Even today, with the supposedly high prices, cattle are still selling for about the same they did 20 years ago. Wheat is actually cheaper. The land has been concentrated in fewer and fewer hands, much to the pleasure of the bankers, who have us in a choke-hold.

Please send me a bundle of 20 of the April 13 and 20 issues. I enjoy selling *The Militant* and feel happy to do a small part in bringing the socialist revolution closer.

M.M.

Park River, N.D.

Reply to a reply

In reply to Steve Manty's letter in the April 6 issue, I restate my horror at killing (except in self-defense), no matter who does it. To be against the taking of life is not a matter of "abstract morality or immorality." Mr. Manty seemingly agrees with me

when he talks of "the bloody wake of the Sinai airliner massacre," but evidently would condone the Khar-toum killings if they had not been a political faux pas. What kind of double standard is this?

One last word. I agree that revolution must be made by the people themselves, but any Marxist revolutionist should know that revolution need not always be bloody.

Gloria Bamberger

New York, N.Y.

April Coalition

Perhaps readers who have been following your coverage of Berkeley's April Coalition will be interested in the comments of the Bay Area's largest newspaper. The April 1 *San Francisco Sunday Examiner & Chronicle* remarks that "a new type of two-party system" has sprung up: "the Radicals and the Non-Radicals. Both parties consist mainly of Democrats. . . . The Non-Radicals are some liberal McGovern Democrats and everyone to their right. . . . The Radicals, or April Coalition, are very liberal McGovern Democrats and everyone to their left."

Nor does the *Examiner* see much difference in what the "two parties" will do: "Besides using the same campaign strategy, the Radicals and Non-Radicals are campaigning on platforms which appear strikingly similar. . . . In fact, the campaign is not being waged on issues, but on painting the other side in the bleakest colors possible."

However, the *Examiner* sees change on the horizon: "the April Coalition has evolved into a less radical group than it was two years ago. Some of its members object to the radical label, preferring to be called progressives or progressive liberals."

It is worth noting that the *Examiner* makes no mention whatsoever of the slate the Socialist Workers Party is running in the same election. Some of the beans at least they chose to leave unspilled.

Robin Hunter

San Francisco, Calif.

Solitary confinement

When one arrives at the newest U.S. government prison at Marion, Ill., he gets the impression he is entering a concentration camp with a high barbed-wire top fence and rolls of concertina wire with razor-blade-like edges, and the usual watchtowers manned by robot-type sharpshooters.

Once inside, the programming begins. You are placed in solitary confinement for a few days and called before the Adjustment Committee and interrogated about why you were sent here. Usually you are intimidated with the threat of being placed in solitary for four or five years if you get out of their line.

Twenty percent of the total population is in solitary confinement and has been for months. These prisoners are kept in a small enclosure twenty-three and a half hours a day. The camp furnishes very little, if any, reading material—practically nothing. You just sit there.

It is a proven fact that long periods of isolation tend to destroy the mind and body. To cope with the growing wave of so-called militant letter writers, writ writers, and the ever-growing Church of the New Song, the Bureau of Prisons reacted with this long-term control method, hoping to break down the will to resist in these men.

In every federal camp the isolation units are full of Ministers of the Church of the New Song. These men are going through the same type of brutal and dehumanizing treatment the Muslim prisoners were forced to go through.

I urge all brothers and sisters, whether you are in prison or not, to write to Norman Carlson, Director, Bureau of Prisons, Washington, D. C. 20530, and urge them to have this mind-destroying practice of long-term solitary confinement stopped at once.

A prisoner
Marion, Ill.

Hogwash

Okay, I've been waiting for you to go too far. Your article on Zionist smear tactics in the April 13 issue is total hogwash. First of all, "Zionist" is an outmoded term; Zionism is dead.

I agree that the Jews have no right to persecute others, and I don't approve of the Jewish Defense League. But then again I don't see you getting all-up-and-to-arms about the Panthers. That's because they're poor oppressed Blacks, while the Jews are mostly middle- and upper-class whites who aren't into all your Marxist dogma. (Next you'll be telling us ole Karl was a Black Muslim!)

There's plenty of room in the Middle East for our Arab friends; we even left them their oil fields. The Jews and Arabs could learn to live together peacefully if you jive-mouths would stop fanning the flames.

M. M.
Staten Island, N. Y.

Medical Aid for Indochina

Between April 1972 and October 1972, 56 hospitals and clinics were destroyed by United States bombs. Among the major hospitals subject to U. S. air raids were two central health centers, the Bach Mai hospital and the Vietnam-USSR Friendship hospital.

Many hospitals of large provinces and cities also came under attack, including the Quynh Lap Leprosary. When the leprosarium was hit May 13, it was the seventh time it had sustained a direct assault. In addition, town and district hospitals, regional anti-TB and ophthalmological hospitals, pharmacies, and seats of provincial health services were hit.

Medical Aid for Indochina is helping to replace medical facilities damaged by U. S. aircraft and assisting in other medical needs related to the war. For over a year Medical Aid has been forwarding medical supplies and equipment at the request of the Red Cross societies of North Vietnam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, the United Front in Cambodia, and the Pathet Lao in Laos. You can help by sending a donation.

Medical Aid for Indochina
140 6th St.
Cambridge, Mass. 02142

The letters column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of general interest to our readers. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Please indicate if your name may be used or if you prefer that your initials be used instead.



National Picket Line

Frank Lovell

Henry Ford II & the work ethic

Henry Ford II, chairman of the Ford Motor Company, "earned" a total of \$874,567 in 1972. This makes him last year's winner in the Corporate Compensation Competition (CCC). His income amounts to \$420.46 an hour, on a regular 40-hour week at straight time. He probably puts in some overtime, which at time-and-a-half would tend to bring his regular rate of pay down to about \$400 an hour.

He scored a 27 percent increase over his 1971 income mark of \$689,000.

The field is crowded and many other corporate executives are close on Ford's heels.

Harold Geneen, president of the International Telephone & Telegraph Corporation, was the 1971 leader. He "earned" \$812,494 that year. He raised his mark to \$813,311 in 1972, not enough to keep Ford and others from overtaking him.

All the announcements of these high incomes refer to them as "earnings," which accounts for the use of that term here. It is improper to call them by another name because CCC operates under the general *work ethic* rule of capitalist society. This rule says all must earn their income, which then serves as a measure of their worth. This is the good-life formula, which guarantees "just rewards" for hard work. It also differentiates between kinds and quality of work as well as the intensity.

There is no doubt that these most successful fellows are dedicated workers.

Ford was named recently as one of a select group of top executives in the auto industry who conspired to raise the wholesale price of cars to auto rental agencies. According to what is known, Ford worked hard in collusion with the highest executives of the giant General Motors Corporation to put the squeeze on Chrysler and keep the general level of wholesale auto prices high.

This job was not assigned to underlings, as sometimes happens when major operations of a dubious moral and legal nature are undertaken. In this case, Ford himself turned from his many other duties to participate in the price-fixing negotiations.

This is understandable. Next to sincere intentions, hard work, and productive results, the other essential part of the work ethic concept is *just rewards*. Sometimes, as laid down in Christian theology, this is interpreted as that which comes later. But this inter-

pretation is not meant to exclude the most deserving from a foretaste of their rewards. The record shows Ford is now the leader among those most deserving. It is understood that he has not yet received everything he deserves.

Company officials and others (including Nixon, who is a great work ethic exponent and practitioner) have complained that the union contract is not in strict conformity with the work ethic concept this nation was founded on. Accordingly, employers—especially those in the auto industry—disregard the union contract in order to allow assembly-line employees to work harder, put in more hours, and produce more.

For some reason the workers do not appreciate this and do not enjoy their work as much as Ford does. This is attributed to the fact that they perform a different kind of work. One reason they cannot get the same satisfaction is the dirty, noisy, dangerous, unhealthy factory conditions. Another is that the work ethic rules do not apply fully to them. That part about "just rewards" is missing, except for what is promised in another world.

The assembly-line worker gets \$4.82 an hour, and that is not much these days. It comes to around \$10,000 a year at 40 hours a week. And there are not enough overtime hours left to come near what Ford got in 1971 before he became the top "earner." Anyone on the line works harder and produces more than Ford, but a line worker would need 80 years without missing a day to earn what Ford does in one year.

In 1972 Ford got a 27 percent increase, but the assembly-line worker got only about 6 percent. An additional cost-of-living allowance is specified under the United Auto Workers contract, but not enough to keep up with rising prices.

When the UAW contract expires in September the check the auto worker gets from the Ford Motor Company that week will buy less than the check he got one year before. Instead of getting greater rewards for harder work and more production, the assembly-line worker gets less. The work ethic pays off for Ford, but not for workers in Ford factories. Under this system they are not considered worth much, as long as they keep working. They get attention and a few rewards only when they stop working.

iLa Raza en Acción!

Miguel Pendas



Solidarity key to union organizing

As *The Militant* reported last week, the United Farm Workers Union has now joined the movement against legislation aimed at workers without documents ("illegal aliens").

With the exception of the UFW, the Chicano movement had been just about unanimous in its opposition to legislation like the Dixon Arnett law in California and the Rodino-Kennedy bill, still pending in the U. S. Congress. These laws would grease the wheels of the deportation machinery of the government.

Sympathy in the barrios for undocumented workers runs very high. Nearly all of us have a relative or a friend here without papers.

With the added presence of the Farm Workers, the Chicano movement can now move in a united way to defeat these racist laws.

The UFW had been on a collision course with the Chicano community with its former position of support to the Rodino-Kennedy bill. This was a critical problem for the union. It is up against the powerful czars of agribusiness and it needs the support of everyone in the Chicano community. Despite the heroic efforts of the union, the struggle cannot be won in the fields alone. The drive to organize the grape fields was an example of this. It was the support given the grape boycott that finally forced the growers to sign union contracts.

One of the big obstacles the union has faced in its strikes has been the unscrupulous use of undocumented workers from Mexico and other Latin countries as strikebreakers. The union leaders responded to this by supporting laws that would help

keep undocumented workers out of the country by barring employers from hiring them. Such laws, they thought, would stop scabbing. They could not be more mistaken.

First of all, it must be kept in mind that the people involved are not professional scabs. Rather, they are honest working people—refugees from imperialist-caused hunger in Latin America. They are desperately looking for any kind of work to support themselves and their families. I am sure that many times they do not even know that there is a strike going on at the place they are about to work.

I am not arguing that the growers' strikebreaking efforts don't present a big problem for the union. But the solution to that problem will not be found in threatening these workers with the border patrol.

The biggest mistake the Farm Workers—or any other union—can make is to rely on the laws of this racist antilabor government to prevent strikebreaking. Regardless of what laws are on the books, when the *patrones* (bosses) need scabs to break a strike, the government will look the other way.

Rather than looking to the government the union must develop the means to reach these superexploited undocumented workers. It must demonstrate to them that they are being used and abused. It must assure them that if they come over to the side of the workers, where they belong, they will have the full support of the union.

We must never fall into the *patrones'* game of pitting one sector of the oppressed against another. Solidarity is the key to union organization. It is the key to progress for all our people.

The Great Society

Harry Ring



How moral can you get?—Those who argue it's better to put rich people in office because they have less need to steal might make a point about Dolph Briscoe, the new governor of Texas. After he was elected, the legislature boosted the governor's pay from \$58,500 to \$63,000. Briscoe, a millionaire banker-rancher, returned the extra \$4,500, saying: "I won't take any more than it was paying when I announced for the job."

Roachlore—Scientists say a fossilized cockroach found in Japan indicates the sturdy little critters have been around for 180 million years. What puzzles us though is how it got there from New York.

Sorry about that—The FDA has ordered a recall of an aerosol foam used in Pap smear tests for cervical cancer. The foam may cause a false reading

of test results, suggesting cancer where there is none and vice versa. About 40,000 cans of the product, Lubri-foam, is said to be on the market. It's been used for more than two years by doctors, hospitals, and clinics.

Essence of capitalism—In a splendidly symbolic act, Australian health officials ordered workers in Sydney to spray a fragrant deodorant on rubbish accumulated in the streets during a sanitation strike.

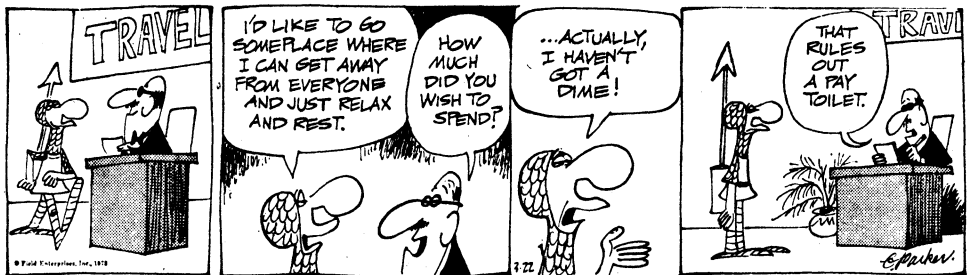
Nonpuffers' premium—An apartment complex in Waco, Texas, offers new tenants a month's free rent if they promise not to smoke. Probably cuts fire insurance premiums, and painting bills, not to mention that the tenants last longer.

Dick Nixon and all that jazz—John Scali, U.S. ambassador to the

United Nations, says the president's achievements in the field of diplomacy entitle him to billing as "director of the symphony orchestra." The corner philosopher in our neighborhood used to put it just a bit differently: "If bullshit was music, he'd be the leader of the band."

They could dicker—Defense attorney Henry Rothblatt handed the four Watergate defendants a bill for \$150,000. Sources said the buggers were shocked.

Oh freedom—Recently the Chicago-based Committee to End Pay Toilets in America unfurled its banner—a clenched fist grasping a padlock and chain and emerging from a toilet bowl. In short order the city fathers ended pay toilets in all municipal buildings and at O'Hare Airport. Somewhat overpowered by the ease of the victory, CEPTIA president Stephen Karganovic declared the outcome confirmed the "openness and democratic structure of our society."



Women In Revolt

Linda Jenness



ERA: will women be drafted?

Opponents of the Equal Rights Amendment claim that if the ERA is passed women will be subject to the draft. This argument has captured the fancy of many right-wing forces and is used in the most demagogic fashion.

Phyllis Schlafly, head of STOP ERA, travels around the country telling legislators, "Mothers would be subject to the same draft as fathers. . . . Can you see women going into combat carrying 40-pound packs? Can you see your daughter fighting under a 40-pound pack?"

State Senator Guy Jones from Arkansas, sound-like a character from *Gone With the Wind*, told the Arkansas legislature, "You don't want to see these sweet and tender little bodies with their heads torn off by shrapnel." He raised no objection, incidentally, to the bodies of Vietnamese women being burned by napalm.

And the anti-ERA forces in California sent their legislators bullets in order to "dramatize the danger that women could be drafted, sent into combat, and shot."

This is sheer nonsense. First of all, *no one* is

being drafted right now. The U.S. government has been forced by mass opposition to the draft and the Vietnam war to suspend conscription.

More important, a government attempt to draft women at this point would be met with massive opposition by the antiwar and women's liberation movements. If women had the "equal right" to be drafted, then women would swell the ranks of those opposed to renewed draft.

More and more people, women and men alike, are beginning to see the reactionary character of the imperialist American army. The draft is used to force people to participate in the U.S. government's attempts to crush struggles of national liberation, defend reactionary regimes against their own people, and protect American capitalist investment abroad.

Supporters of the ERA must fight against men or women being drafted because of the role the U.S. Army plays, not because women are "incapable" of fighting.

Women have played important fighting roles in revolutionary struggles throughout history. Harriet Tubman, for example, was an officer in

the Union Army during the American civil war and led troops in military operations. The Vietnamese, Palestinian, Algerian, and Cuban women have proven their abilities in combat. Larissa Reisner played a heroic role in the Red Army of the Soviet Union. Women have fought in the past, and we will participate in the struggles ahead.

This anti-ERA argument is really just an attempt on the part of reactionary forces to distract attention from the real issue—the right of women to equality. We are not demanding passage of the ERA so that we can fight in the American imperialist army. We are demanding passage of the ERA so we won't be discriminated against in education, hiring, and pay.

Passage of the ERA would challenge some basic assumptions about women's role in society. It would challenge the notion that: "If a nation is to survive, men must provide the first line of defense while women keep the home fires burning," which is just another version of "the woman's place is in the home." And that's the real reason the right-wing is against the ERA.

By Any Means Necessary

Baxter Smith



A Black pro: 'speed, little judgment'

It's been 26 years since Jackie Robinson "broke the color line" and became the first Black to play major league baseball. Robinson had courage and his example began a struggle that continues today. But the battle that Robinson fought has not yet been won.

Racism still permeates most aspects of sports in the United States. But nowadays, with so many Black faces on the field, it often takes revolts or protests by Black athletes to stir us to that fact.

Who can forget the International Olympic Committee's reaction when John Carlos and Tommie Smith gave the Black power salute during the 1968 Olympics? Or the similar reaction to Vince Matthews and Wayne Collett during the 1972 games?

The racism that exists in professional sports is just as bad.

How many Black first-string pro quarterbacks are there? Or how many Black pro football or baseball general managers are there? The answer is none. Moreover, there are very few Black game officials, assistant coaches, or assistant managers.

Black superstars, though, in most popular professional sports abound by the bushel.

One example of how deep racism runs in professional sports was the subject of a California sociologist's doctoral thesis on racism in pro football. The March 13 *Los Angeles Times* printed an interview with Dr. Jonathan Brower based on his findings.

Dr. Brower based his study on a survey of media guides—data on players and teams for sports writers—and two summers he spent in the training camp of a National Football League team.

Overall he found that whites usually play positions that require intelligence and leadership, while Blacks play those judged to require speed, instinctual reaction, and little independent judgment. He found that *all* positions on the field are governed by race:

- Kickers and punters, positions that the experts say require ability to withstand pressure and make quick decisions, have been less than one percent Black over the last 12 years.

- Quarterbacks, centers, and linebackers—positions that experts say require intelligence and leadership qualities—have been only seven percent Black.

- Among guards, offensive tackles, and tight ends, where the experts rate finesse, technique, and

control most important, Blacks number 13 percent over the past 12 years.

- Defensive ends and tackles, positions where quickness is rated of highest importance, Blacks hold 18 percent.

- Running backs, wide receivers, defensive backs, and kick returners, where the experts value speed and instinct, Blacks number 62 percent. Thirty-four percent of NFL players are Black.

Dr. Brower found that most Blacks who happen to play "white" positions in college, get switched to "Black" positions in pro ball. Owners, managers, and coaches, according to Brower, would generally prefer having fewer Blacks on the team, but need them to win. The lower a team is in the standings, the "blacker" it will become in order to gain more victories.

He also found repetition of the old stymie—*Blacks have to be better than whites* in order to play professionally. Most Blacks who are signed to pro contracts become starters. There are relatively few second-string Black players, and most players who sit on the bench are white.

According to Dr. Brower, "Mediocrity is a white luxury. . . . They can get by just being adequate, while the black has to excel."

An Army-CIA plan?

New revelations on Mylai massacre

From Intercontinental Press

Five years after the massacre of hundreds of South Vietnamese civilians by U.S. troops at Mylai, those persons responsible for the atrocity remain unpunished and even to a large extent unidentified. The administration headed by the biggest war criminal of them all has maintained that the slaughter was an "aberration" rather than an inseparable part of U.S. policy, and has so far prevented any investigation that could bring to light all those higher-ups who played a role in the massacre.

Now a U.S. newspaper has uncovered new evidence indicating that the destruction of Mylai was *deliberately planned* by the army and the CIA as a means of terrorizing the population in the region.

The March 25 issue of the Oklahoma City *Daily Oklahoman* carries an article by Jack Taylor based on interviews with five Pentagon officers who have had access to secret data on the massacre, two of whom say they were personally involved in planning the attack.

All five of his sources, Taylor indicated, "believe the Army and the Defense Department are perpetuating a cover-up about the more serious aspects of the massacre and even more serious and numerous atrocities committed by American troops. One of the sources said other incidents 'make My Lai look like a Sunday school picnic.'

"All of the sources agreed to talk after being guaranteed anonymity. 'I can't blow the whistle,' one said, 'because they'll crucify me.'"

Taylor's informants indicated that the Mylai assault was connected with the notorious Operation Phoenix, the CIA's program of assassination of suspected members of the Vietcong infrastructure."

Even before the Tet offensive of February 1968, many U.S. officials had begun to feel that individual assassinations were not terrorizing the population sufficiently and needed to be supplemented by larger operations. This was later indicated by a 1969 National Security Study Memorandum:

"Most easy targets have already been hit and there are indications that some of the intelligence agencies involved are already beginning to exhaust their data bases. . . .

"As easy targets disappear, reliance upon large-scale cordon and search operations and less on rifle-shot efforts based on detailed intelligence; cordon and search operations may get VC supporters and guerrillas, but rarely members of the infrastructure. . . .

"We have no systematic or continuing evidence on the 'side effects' of the Phoenix program. There are those who feel that the Phoenix-Phung

Hoang program, in particular the operation of the PRUs [Provincial Reconnaissance Units, the CIA-directed striking arm of Phoenix] may be counter-productive as it alienates the non-committed population more than it hurts the VCI [Vietcong infrastructure]."

Much the same idea was expressed in less bureaucratic language by James A. May, the senior U.S. "adviser" for the "pacification" program in Quang Ngai province (in which Mylai is located) at the time of the massacre. In 1967 May told author Jonathan Schell:

"In a few areas, the villages have been destroyed. This is a necessary side effect if you're going to fight hard. . . . The VC use villages as protection, the way a gangster uses a hostage.

"So in the process of getting at Charlie [the liberation forces] it's inevitable that the village gets it. . . . To me, it's just like the Second World War in places in France and Italy where the villages were wiped out as far as you could see.

"You just can't get at the enemy unless you get at them where they're at. There isn't any way to get them but level the villages they're located in. . . . So I expect to see a lot more destruction" (emphasis added).

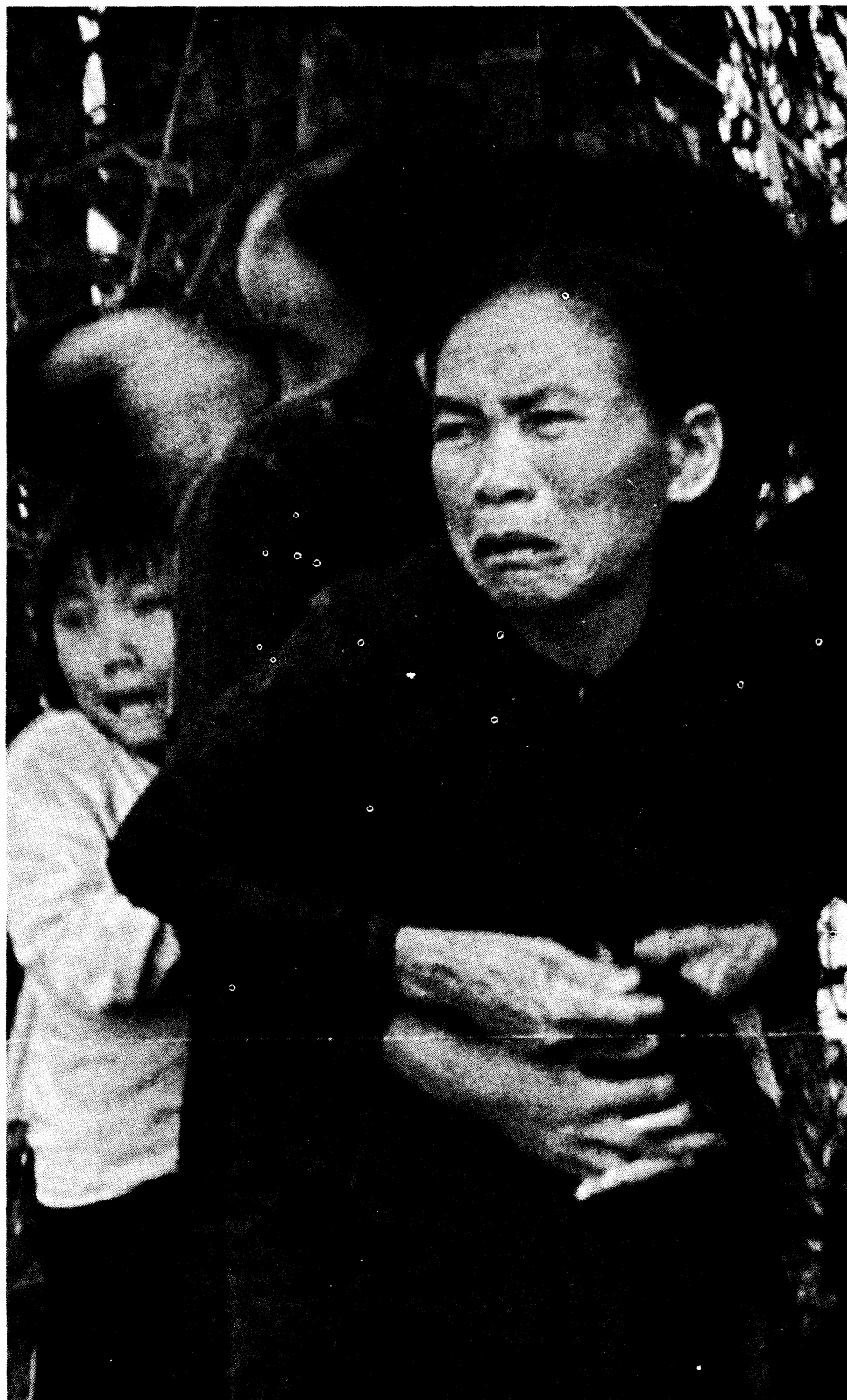
When May later testified at one of the Mylai courts-martial, portions of his testimony were kept secret from the public.

There exists documentary evidence that the army was ordered by the Defense Department to cooperate with the CIA in Phoenix-type operations, particularly when these operations were on a large scale. For example, National Security Action Memorandum No. 162, dated June 19, 1962, states:

"More Special Forces personnel will be assigned to support CIA covert paramilitary operations where acute insurgency situations exist. The Department of Defense has taken steps to expedite these assignments. In addition the Department of Defense will increase its capacity to fund, support, and conduct wholly or partly covert paramilitary operations. . . .

"Where such an operation is to be wholly covert or disavowable, it may be assigned to CIA, provided that it is within the normal capabilities of the agency. Any large paramilitary operation wholly or partly covert which requires significant numbers of militarily trained personnel, amounts of military equipment which exceed normal CIA-controlled stocks and/or military experience of a kind and level peculiar to the Armed Forces is properly the primary responsibility of the Department of Defense with the CIA in a supporting role."

"It was in such a setting," Taylor wrote, that "the planning for the destruction of My Lai took place, the sources say. One who was there and



Mylai, 1968. U.S. troops murdered these people moments after this picture was taken

in on the planning talked about it for the first time.

"Barker [Lieutenant Colonel Frank Barker, who was killed in a helicopter crash several months after the massacre], the task force commander, worked in close coordination with CIA agents headquartered in Quang Ngai City, and CIA agents involved in the Phoenix program met with Barker in his headquarters to 'set up' the operation, the source, now at the Pentagon, said.

"The same source said: 'Prior to the operation of going into My Lai there was a previous operation where they went down there and blew hell out of a lot of people—a real shoot-em-up, and they had the boys from Quang Ngai [CIA agents] with them on that event.'"

The same officer said that orders for the complete destruction of the village were given by Barker to Captain Ernest Medina, who was later tried but acquitted on charges of murder.

"He sat right there and told Medina, and Medina came out and said, 'This is it, boys,' and that's why Medina got in the jam that he got in, because Medina—based on what Barker told him—set the deal up, and then everybody backed out on it and ran from Medina. Nobody would back Medina up."

According to Taylor, "Medina told an original investigator that Barker

claimed to have been given permission to burn My Lai because, according to Barker, 'It is the last time we are going into that place and we want it cleaned out.' . . .

"One Pentagon source said . . . that Barker even wanted B52 strikes on the village and 15-ton plows to plow it under after the operation."

The contention that the army and CIA planned the Mylai massacre receives circumstantial support from the way in which the government handled the Mylai courts-martial.

"Throughout the My Lai proceedings," Taylor noted, "issues over military intelligence, CIA operations and the Phoenix program were met with apprehension—and secrecy—whenver they arose.

"Whenever such issues cropped up in courts-martial, the Army promptly shied away. When subpoenas of CIA operatives were threatened, charges were dismissed."

Of twenty-five persons originally charged with crimes at Mylai, only six were brought to trial and only one—Lieutenant William Calley—convicted. Taylor quoted the words of one defense attorney who was able to subpoena three CIA agents:

"We got those subpoenas ordered. They [CIA agents] came down and briefed us. Within a week the Army dropped the charges. The subpoenas were what did it."



Victims of the Mylai massacre

Demand end to bombing of Cambodia

Anti-Thieu pickets say 'the war is not over'

Saigon President Nguyen Van Thieu was met by antiwar pickets in cities throughout the United States during his visit here the first week in April. The nationwide actions were called in February by the National Peace Action Coalition (NPAC). In last week's Militant we reported on actions that took place March 31-April 3.

Boston

By BRETT MERKEY

BOSTON—"End U.S. Aid to Thieu" was a central slogan that drew together more than 600 protesters April 5 for a picket line in front of the JFK building in Boston's government center.

More than 10 antiwar groups participated in the picket line to expose Nixon's attempts to perform a face-lift on the Thieu regime to justify further support for the U.S.-imposed dictatorship.

The demonstration was built by the Greater Boston Peace Action Coalition, Indochina Peace Campaign, American Friends Service Committee, and the Student Mobilization Committee. Other sponsors and participants included Citizens for Participation in Political Action, a statewide lobbying group; Campus Coalition; Cambridge Ministry in Higher Education; Clergy and Laity Concerned; Peace Boutiques; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; the Socialist Workers Party; Young Socialist Alliance; and Vietnam Solidarity Committee.

The picket line, held during the after-work rush hour, attracted a lot of attention and kept growing until the



New York

Militant/Mark Satinoff

very end. The number of office workers and passers-by joining the line reflected the widespread opposition to the continuing U.S. intervention in Southeast Asia. The demonstration was a success, despite a virtual blackout by the local media on Thieu's visit and the plans for the picket line.

Thieu's current campaign of massive political repression and the plight of 200,000 political prisoners held in his U.S.-financed prisons were emphasized in a street theater whose participants joined the main picket line.

New York

NEW YORK—Some 300 people picketed the offices of the Saigon representatives to the United Nations on April 5 in protest against U.S. aid to Thieu and the bombing of Cambodia. The spirited march was the target of three eggs thrown from the windows of the mission, but it received a friendly re-

sponse from passers-by.

Many of the demonstrators were students from New York University, Brooklyn College, Columbia University, and several high schools. Various local peace groups and several Democratic clubs were also represented. At the conclusion of the picket Katherine Sojourner of NPAC spoke on the necessity for continuing to demonstrate until the U.S. gets completely out of Indochina.

Another picket of about 100 was held at Times Square April 4 in a cold rain. This action was sponsored by the Fifth Avenue Peace Parade Committee, an affiliate of the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice, which had declined to join with NPAC in building a common protest action.

Chicago

By BRUCE BLOY

CHICAGO—More than 150 people picketed the federal building here April 5 protesting continued U.S. aid to the Thieu regime and demanding an immediate end to the bombing in Cambodia and the withdrawal of all U.S. forces from Southeast Asia.

The demonstrators chanted "Out Now" and demanded removal of the Seventh Fleet B-52 squadrons from Thailand and Guam and the 18,000 U.S. "civilian" advisers in South Vietnam. Others handed out leaflets to rush-hour commuters detailing the extent of continuing U.S. involvement in Indochina.

In a short rally following the picket line, Polly Connally, coordinator of the Chicago Peace Action Coalition, termed the Thieu visit "an affront to the American people" and "an attempt by the Nixon administration to lay the groundwork for even further U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia."

The picket line was sponsored by the Chicago Peace Action Coalition and was joined by supporters of the Chicago Peace Council, the local affiliate of the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice.

Washington, D.C.

By ERNEST HARSCH

WASHINGTON, D.C.—More than 120 demonstrators turned out April 5 to picket in front of the White House to protest President Thieu's visit to the United States. The picket line and rally were organized by the Washington Area Peace Action Coalition.

During the picket, a heavily escorted motorcade took Thieu from his guest house to the White House to meet with Nixon.

The rally, held afterwards at Lafayette Park across from the White House, was chaired by Father McSorley of the Catholic Peace Fellowship. Speaking at the rally were Lynn Watson of the Women's Strike for Peace, Marilyn Lerch of the Washington Area Peace Action Coalition, and Chuck Petrin, a national coordinator of the Student Mobilization Committee.

Minneapolis

By MARTY ANDERSON

MINNEAPOLIS—Eighty people weathered light showers April 5 to demand an end to U.S. support to the Thieu regime and U.S. presence in Southeast Asia. The spirited picket line in front of the old federal building chanted slogans such as "Free all Vietnamese political prisoners; Incarcerate Thieu!" and "No support to Thieu; U.S. out now!" There were many good responses from passing motorists.

One of the speakers at the picket line was Gary Prevost, Twin Cities coordinator of the Minnesota Peace Action Coalition and education task force director of the National Peace Action Coalition. He stressed the continued threat of resumption of U.S. bombing in Vietnam and the current heavy bombing of Cambodia.

Also speaking was Bruce Johnson from the New American Movement, who discussed American and Saigon violations of the peace treaty.

In addition to MPAC and NAM, the picket line was sponsored by the Committee of Concerned Asian Schol-



Austin picket line at Bergstrom Air Base.

Militant/Derek Jeffers

ars, Fellowship of Reconciliation's University of Minnesota chapter, People's Coalition for Peace and Justice, Socialist Workers Party, Student Mobilization Committee, Young Socialist Alliance, and the Coalition to Free South Vietnamese Political Prisoners.

Philadelphia

By BOB STANTON

PHILADELPHIA—Two demonstrations were held here April 5 to oppose Thieu's visit. Both actions were planned and built by the No Support to Thieu Coalition, an ad hoc group initiated by the Philadelphia Peace Action Coalition. It includes Resistance, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Women Strike for Peace, SANE, Student Mobilization Committee, Young Socialist Alliance, and the Socialist Workers Party.

A picket line held at noon at the federal building was attended by 50 people, who carried signs demanding an end to aid to Thieu and an immediate end to all U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia.

At this picket leaflets were distributed announcing the rally to be held later in the day. The rally, held at evening rush hour at city hall, had 75 participants.

Detroit

By TIM CRAINE

DETROIT—More than 50 people participated in a picket line at the federal building in downtown Detroit April 5 in an action called by the Detroit Coalition to End the War Now, the local NPAC affiliate. Earlier in the day members of the People's Peace Treaty constructed a "tiger cage" at the same site as a symbolic protest against the brutal repression by the Thieu regime.

At a joint news conference held the previous day by the Detroit Coalition and the People's Peace Treaty, representatives of both organizations denounced Thieu's visit to the U.S. and the continued U.S. aid to the Thieu regime.

Participants in the picket line included activists from Clergy and Laity Concerned About Vietnam, Wayne

State University SMC, Oakland County Women for Peace, Socialist Workers Party, Human Rights Party, and the Young Socialist Alliance.

Austin

By GREG COLE

AUSTIN—Fifty antiwar pickets demonstrated outside Bergstrom Air Force Base in Austin April 7 while President Thieu's plane landed at the base. Thieu spent a few hours in Texas to lay a wreath on the grave of his late benefactor in the Vietnam war,

Lyndon Johnson.

The demonstration had to be called on only two days' notice because of the secrecy surrounding Thieu's travel plans.

Nevertheless, the Student Mobilization Committee, the Peace Treaty Coalition, Direct Action, and other groups joined in organizing the picket line, demanding an end to U.S. support to Thieu and U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia.

Some of the signs read: Dictator Thieu unwelcome here; End the bombing; U.S. out now; and Free Thieu's 200,000 political prisoners.

The pickets were kept outside the front gate of the base. A number of airmen driving past gave clenched fists of solidarity to the demonstrators.

Earlier in the week, on April 4, about 50 people attended an antiwar rally on the University of Texas campus.

Logan, Utah

By BRUCE FARNSWORTH

LOGAN, Utah—The Logan chapter of the Student Mobilization Committee and the Salt Lake-based Wasatch Peace Action Coalition combined forces to hold a picket protest and rally April 1 in response to Thieu's arrival in the U.S.

It was windy and snowing and the crowd wasn't large (about 30), but enthusiasm ran high. The demonstrators marched on the state capitol building in Salt Lake City. The theme of the demonstration was "The war is over—APRIL FOOLS!" The demands were: Dump Thieu! No U.S.-imposed regimes! and the demand for a general amnesty in the U.S.

Houston

By PAT O'REILLY

HOUSTON—A spirited group of 30 people picketed the federal building here during evening rush hour April 5. The main slogans were "End support to Thieu!" and "U.S. out of Southeast Asia now!" The demonstration, called by the Houston Peace Action Coalition and the University of Houston Student Mobilization Committee, drew significant attention from employees leaving work.

Moscow, Peking silent on U.S. bombing

Cambodian capital surrounded by rebels

By CAROLINE LUND

APRIL 10—The insurgent forces in Cambodia have succeeded in surrounding Phnom Penh and cutting all supply routes into the capital city. The corrupt Lon Nol puppet regime continues to survive solely because of the massive military and financial support pumped into it by the U.S. Cambodia is now being bombed by some 60 B-52s and 150 fighter-bombers per day, according to the April 8 *New York Times*.

The rebels are continuing to press forward despite 33 days of U.S. saturation bombing and despite the fact that they are reported to be outnumbered 3 to 1 by the Phnom Penh army.

The insurgents, however, are now facing the possibility of even greater U.S. intervention to crush their struggle. This danger is increased by the fact that neither Moscow nor Peking has raised any serious objection to the U.S. bombing raids.

On April 7 Nixon sent General Alexander Haig, the U.S. Army vice-chief of staff, on a sudden trip to Southeast Asia to make an "assessment of the situation" in Cambodia in order to help President Nixon decide what steps the U.S. should take to stop the rebels.

White House press secretary Ronald Ziegler issued a statement the same day saying that "the United States government has no intentions, no plans, and no desire to reintroduce American ground forces into Southeast Asia."

One reason Nixon might think twice before taking such a step is the Cooper-Church amendment, which Congress passed in 1970 under the pressure of the mass movement



Nixon's 'peace with honor' includes U.S. B-52 saturation bombing of Cambodia

that arose against Nixon's invasion of Cambodia that year. The amendment prohibits operations by U.S. combat troops and military advisers on the ground in Cambodia.

The U.S. Air Force has already begun an airlift of ammunition and other military supplies to Phnom Penh troops isolated in the capital. The rebels control all major roads into the city. They have cut off traffic up the Mekong River for three weeks.

Despite heavy U.S. air cover, a 19-vessel convoy carrying supplies for Phnom Penh up the Mekong River was broken up by the rebels. Only eight ships got through to the city in two days.

The Cambodian situation is giving the lie to Nixon's talk about "peace with honor" in Southeast Asia. Back in 1971 Nixon pointed to Cambodia as embodying "the Nixon Doctrine in its purest form." He said this was be-

cause "in Cambodia what we are doing is helping the Cambodians to help themselves . . . rather than to go in and do the fighting out ourselves."

The success of the insurgent forces is forcing Nixon to consider more naked methods of enforcing his will on the Cambodian people.

Nixon's first move has been to put pressure on Hanoi, Moscow, and Peking to in turn pressure the Cambodians to stop their struggle. According to Courtney Sheldon in the April 9 *Christian Science Monitor*, "From the discreet mention of diplomatic options by officials, it is clear the main pressure is being put on Hanoi itself." Sheldon speculates that the U.S. is telling Hanoi that "if Hanoi does not pull its forces out of Cambodia and Laos, it will forfeit both U.S. economic aid and also a political opportunity for a role in the government of South Vietnam."

U.S. officials are now trying to

claim that U.S. bombing of Cambodia is legitimized by the Vietnam accords. An administration official asserted April 3 that North Vietnamese negotiator Le Duc Tho "fully understood" that the U.S. intended to continue bombing of Cambodia until a cease-fire might be achieved there, and Tho did not object, therefore the bombing is supposedly legitimate.

On April 5 the official North Vietnamese newspaper *Nhan Dan* called U.S. Cambodian air strikes "genocidal" and "a blatant violation" of the Paris accords. It compared the bombing to "the air blitz against Hanoi and Haiphong in late 1972."

When Saigon President Thieu was in the U.S. he indicated that the U.S. is also using Moscow and Peking to put pressure on Hanoi to stop fighting both in South Vietnam and Cambodia.

According to the April 7 *Washington Post*, "South Vietnam says it is depending on what it calls private assurances by presidential national security adviser Henry A. Kissinger that there is a U.S. 'understanding' with Moscow and Peking to restrict their flow of war materiel into North Vietnam and uphold the cease-fire agreement."

APRIL 10—United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim has reportedly refused a request from the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam for an office at the UN. Waldheim's ruling came after U.S. officials told him the U.S. would not grant a visa to any PRG representative to the UN even if Waldheim had approved the request.

The Saigon dictatorship, on the other hand, already has an observer office at the UN.

Russo takes stand in Pentagon papers trial

By HARRY RING

LOS ANGELES, April 9—The Pentagon papers trial entered its final phase today as defendant Anthony Russo took the stand. In initial testimony he described a fact-finding trip he made for the government in 1965. He broke into tears as he recalled talking with a captured liberation fighter who described to him the goals of the movement for independence in Vietnam.

As an employee for the Rand Corporation in Vietnam, Russo wrote a report for the Air Force on antipersonnel weapons the U.S. used in Vietnam. "Sometimes they don't go off," he said, "and they were attractive to kids. In many areas kids would take them home and show them to their family, and then it would go off and kill them." According to Russo, six million tons of these weapons have been dropped by the U.S.

When Russo completes his testimony, Daniel Ellsberg will take the stand.

Besides the defendants, the defense reportedly has two remaining witnesses, Senator J. William Fulbright and Professor Noam Chomsky.

Presenting its case, the defense has been able to bring out key political issues that have motivated the government throughout the prosecution. For making the Pentagon papers public, Ellsberg and Russo are charged with theft, conspiracy, and violation of espionage statutes. The latter charge is based on the allegation that publication of the documents aided "the enemy."

Defense witnesses have effectively demonstrated this charge is a fake. A series of ranking government figures have testified that key information in the papers was already available and that they contain nothing of military value to another country.

Since then witnesses have explained the real reasons for the prosecution—namely that the government wants to keep from the American people material concerning the true nature of American aggression in Vietnam.

Professor Howard Zinn, a longtime proponent of U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam, presented a strong indictment of the U.S. role in Vietnam.

Speaking in a simple, easily comprehensible way, he traced the history of the Vietnamese struggle for independence. He described the long years of French colonial oppression, the efforts of the Japanese to replace them, and the process of U.S. involvement.

He told how the U.S. had first provided France with the guns and ammunition to fight the liberation forces, and then, when it saw the French headed for defeat, moved in to supplant them.

Zinn responded effectively to the assertion that publication of the Pentagon papers injured "national defense."

The question, he told the jury, is "whether something is injurious to the defense of the whole country, not whether something is injurious to the defense of some group of people in the country, not whether something is injurious to some politician, not

whether the release of these documents might be embarrassing to some political figures in the country. There are things that we might do that might be injurious to the profits of corporations. Maybe there are corporations who are interested in rubber, tin, and oil.

"My point," he explained, "is that there is very important differences between something that injures the national interest and something that injures special interests. The war in Viet-



Anthony Russo

Gary Leonard

nam was a war that involved special interests, and not the defense of the United States."

Former Senator Ernest Gruening of Alaska, an early critic of the war, testified about the so-called attack on a U.S. ship in the Gulf of Tonkin, which became the pretext for senatorial approval of escalating the war.

Gruening testified that at the time the Senate voted to give Lyndon Johnson such authority, the Pentagon already had a telegram from the captain of the ship involved confirming that there had been no such attack.

That telegram, Gruening testified, was kept from the U.S. Senate as well as from the American people.

Donald Luce, who first exposed the horrifying "tiger cages" in which Saigon held prisoners, described from firsthand knowledge the reactionary nature of the "pacification" program.

He then read from the witness stand an article he had written that offers a chilling description of a "tiger cage." After describing the barbarous treatment of the prisoners (which he and members of a congressional committee were able to witness), he recalled the response of a colonel in the Saigon forces who accompanied them.

"These are bad people," the colonel told them. "They will not salute the flag. They will not even salute the American flag."

Activist Tom Hayden discussed the Pentagon papers from the viewpoint of how they confirmed that from the outset U.S. talk of "peace" was a cloak for continued aggression.

French abortion struggle: 'tip of iceberg'

The following are excerpts from a discussion between Linda Jenness and Cindy Jaquith of The Militant and three leaders of the struggle for the right to abortion in France. The three—Gisele Halimi, Claude Servan-Schreiber, and Michelle Chevalier—were in the United States last month at the invitation of the Women's National Abortion Action Coalition.

Michelle Chevalier is one of the 500 to 600 French women who each year are tried for having, performing, or procuring an abortion. She was tried last November for helping her 17-year-old daughter, Marie-Claire, get an illegal abortion. Michelle Chevalier, a subway worker, didn't have enough money to pay for a legal abortion for her daughter in England or Switzerland.

Marie-Claire Chevalier also faced trial last October. She became pregnant after being raped by a school acquaintance who later turned her in for having an abortion in order to get leniency on charges of car theft. Marie-Claire's abortion was a harrowing ordeal consisting of five different attempts on a kitchen table. After the last one she had to be taken to a hospital.

The trials of the Chevaliers made abortion a national issue in France. The abortion rights and women's movements, primarily the group Choisir (To Choose), organized testimony by prominent figures in defense of Marie-Claire and her mother, as well as demonstrations outside the courthouse. As a result Marie-Claire was acquitted, and her mother received a fine with suspended sentence.

Both Gisele Halimi and Claude Servan-Schreiber are members of Choisir, whose main activity is to build up support for any women brought to trial for abortion in France. Halimi was the defense attorney in the Chevalier trials. She was prominent in the struggle against the Algerian war and in the Bertrand Russell War Crimes Tribunal, which exposed the U. S. role in Vietnam.

Claude Servan-Schreiber is a well-known French journalist.

Militant: Ms. Chevalier, what did your friends think when you became involved in the trial?

Chevalier: They were all very much in solidarity with me because it (abortion) is a problem faced by many women; many have had abortions.

Halimi: At the trial I gave the judges a long petition signed by all the co-workers of Michelle Chevalier. Men and women, Catholic and non-Catholic, they signed for her, and they gave money. Everyone gave something.

Servan-Schreiber: The whole subway line was for Michelle Chevalier.

Chevalier: If I had received too great a sentence, there were some of my colleagues who had pledged to organize a strike in my behalf.

Militant: How many chapters does Choisir have?

Halimi: We have a chapter in every major city.

Servan-Schreiber: And the important thing is that these chapters now are taking care of the cases in their own areas. Before, the local members of Choisir would call us in Paris and

WOMEN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE

ABORTION ACTION COALITION



From left: Claude Servan-Schreiber, Michelle Chevalier, and Gisele Halimi, at a news conference of Women's National Abortion Action Coalition.

say, "This is happening, will you come and help us?" Now they have enough strength so that when a trial comes up they can handle it. This is how we are going to grow.

Halimi: Tomorrow we have a trial in Toulon, and afterwards we will have a big meeting. That's what we do after a trial. That's what we did for Michelle. The day the trial and sentencing was over, we had a meeting of 3,000. We were afraid beforehand—we hired a little room for 500 or 600. We thought we were going to look ridiculous. But at the last moment we had to rent another room and open both of them.

Militant: You have legislative elections in France this month. Did the candidates in the elections take positions on abortion because of the trial and work that you have done?

Halimi: Through the trial and our actions we did force the parties and leaders to take a position. But we voted not to intervene in the election rallies and meetings—and I don't think we were right to do so.

Servan-Schreiber: We voted not to interrogate each candidate on his position . . . we regret now that we didn't. But what did happen—and this was indirectly because of us, and especially Michelle, the fact that she stood up at her trial—was that there was such a wave of both indignation and interest in reform in the general political atmosphere in France that the political leaders have been forced to say what their stand was.

Not very clearly . . . most of them just said, "Something has to change." Not many went beyond that.

Halimi: Except the Ligue Communiste (Communist League, French section of the Fourth International, which ran candidates in the first round of the elections). Their program is very clear about the right to abortion.

Militant: Could you describe the social norms and attitudes about sexual behavior, contraception, and abortion in France.

say "abortion"; we say "pleasure." And in the meetings we have in France the young people, and even the older ones, are now so glad that they can at least talk about these words. And that, I think, is the beginning.

Militant: How do you think the U. S. Supreme Court abortion ruling will affect your struggle in France?

Halimi: It's important for us because what we want to show is that abortion is the right of women, it's not murder. In China, Russia, close to half the human population has the right of free abortion. But in France they keep saying that we are murderers.

What I think is that in the United States you can win free abortion and it will not make your system collapse. But in our country, a Catholic country, the question of free abortion is like an iceberg. Underneath it lie so many other questions—sexual liberation, the family, the economy, equal pay for women, etc.

Servan-Schreiber: That is why it's not going to happen quickly, because the implications are so great, the implications of our demands go so clearly to the roots of the French system and of French society that free abortion is a real menace to the system.

Halimi: Yes, that's why I think some of the leftists are wrong when they say that all we are trying to attain with free abortion is just a reform.

Let's take another example. In May 1968 the working class was fighting for a minimum wage of \$300 a month. In France the minimum pay is \$160. If workers ask for \$300, well, it seems that they aren't asking for the revolution, they are just asking to be paid more. But if you win this, the capitalist system cannot continue in the same way for very long. Something has to happen.

And I think it's the same with abortion. It seems reformist, but it is not. It's very important on a political level.

If women don't have power over themselves, over their own bodies, how do you expect them to think they could have power on a political level?

It's very important because it's a starting point for feeling that you can act as a human being. Now women are afraid for our bodies, we know we can have babies we don't want, we can have a horrible abortion on the kitchen table, we can be tried.

It's our struggle, something to learn how to fight. And the fight begins with this, to win for ourselves the right to dispose of our own bodies. Then you know that you can do anything. You can fight, you can change life, but you have to begin with that.

Halimi: In France our laws and culture are based on Judeo-Christian traditions and taboos. That's why we really have no contraception in France. It's forbidden to speak about it or know about it.

Nor is there sex education. The only "sex education" we have, in the high schools and universities, is about procreation. The name of the commission in charge of sex education is the Commission for the Regulation of Families and Procreation. It's not really sex education.

I was speaking on television once on a special show about sex education, and everyone was talking about procreation and contraception, and I said, "All this is very hypocritical because in France there is one thing we never hear about, and that is the pleasure."

Real sex education, I said, must let children know that when you make love there is a major psychological dimension, and there is the pleasure. You can make love to have a baby if you want to, but you can make love to make love, because it is good.

It was something like a scandal when I said this on TV. I couldn't read all the letters and telegrams that came to my home because of it.

This is very important. The fight for sexual liberation begins by the opportunity to say the words openly. Since the Chevalier trial, for example, you can openly say "abortion," and "right to abortion." Before you wouldn't say these things. Now we



One of the demonstrations held in support of Michelle and Marie-Claire Chevalier.

World Outlook

A WEEKLY INTERNATIONAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE MILITANT BASED ON SELECTIONS FROM INTERCONTINENTAL PRESS,
A NEWSMAGAZINE REFLECTING THE VIEWPOINT OF REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALISM.

APRIL 20, 1973

Chile

The generals leave Allende's cabinet

By Joseph Hansen

President Salvador Allende's announcement March 27 of the composition of his new cabinet caused some surprise internationally. He said that he had accepted the resignation of the three generals, who had become a more and more prominent feature of his regime, and had named three civilians to their posts.

Army Commander in Chief General Carlos González Prats, the minister of the interior, Air Force General Claudio Sepulveda, the minister of mining, and Rear Admiral Daniel Arellano, the minister of public works, were replaced by Gerardo Espinoza, a Socialist, Sergio Bitar, a left Christian Democrat, and Humberto Martones, a Radical.

The departure of the generals did not seem compatible at first sight with the widely held view that they were moving toward taking power in view of the sharpening class tensions in Chile and the increasing polarization in the political arena. Does the shift in makeup of Allende's cabinet show that the danger of a military take-over has been overcome?

It is true that Allende did better in the March 4 legislative elections than the ultrarightists expected. They were counting on a two-thirds vote for the bourgeois opposition, which they thought would be proof positive of the erosion of popular support for Allende's Unidad Popular (Popular Unity) coalition, thereby justifying an immediate military coup and eliminating the need to wait for the 1976 elections for a change in regime.

The vote for the UP candidates, however, was 43.4%, which was an impressive gain over the 36.6% that won office for Allende in the presidential elections of 1970. Instead of 66% or better, as they had hoped, the combined bourgeois opposition candidates received only 54.7%.

Despite this relatively favorable electoral showing, Allende continues to face the perspective of an intensifying class struggle in which long survival for his regime is hardly in the cards. Chilean capitalism is not viable in face of the pressure from U.S. imperialism on the one hand and the demands of the masses on the other. Inflation alone continually goads the masses into action.

Chilean democracy itself, for all the boasts of its protagonists, cannot be maintained for a prolonged period under such circumstances. The Chilean capitalists, in fact, have already been

debating whether it is not beyond their economic means. Hence the appearance of ultrarightist and fascistlike bands. Concomitant to this, the uneasiness of the working class and its allies and the formation of various types of committees on the rank-and-file level in both cities and countryside—concerned at present mostly about defending their standard of living, about decent housing, distribution of the land, prices, etc.—constitute signs of the rising level of political consciousness in Chile.

Last October, the mounting tensions flared into a widespread bourgeois "strike" that shook the Allende regime. The workers began to counter this "strike" with defensive actions of their own.

The rapidly increasing polarization of political forces led Allende on November 2, 1972, to bring the three top generals into his cabinet.

His action was highly revealing as to the class nature of the Popular Unity. Besides the Socialist and Communist parties and some bourgeois splinters, the army-party (as some have dubbed the military in Latin America) was included in the coalition. In the cabinet, General Carlos Prats stood next to Allende. This showed in a decisive way what influence the most powerful bourgeois party in Chile actually wielded in the regime set up by the Popular Unity. This proof that the Popular Unity is class collaborationist to the core could hardly be more convincing.

Allende called in the generals—to only temporarily—to strengthen his regime against the ultrarightists and those among the bourgeoisie who, out of fear and impatience, were provoking the masses, possibly goading them into actions that once started could

end by bringing down the entire capitalist structure in Chile in short order.

Although the generals blocked with Allende against the right from November till March, thereby seemingly supporting the left, their real role was to dampen the class struggle. The generals, especially General Prats, played the role of "savior" when the country appeared to be on the verge of civil war.

But the mere inclusion of the generals in the cabinet raised apprehensions in the far left in Chile—the left wing of the Socialist party, the Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionaria (MIR), the Trotskyists, and similar formations. They feared a coup d'état by the "gorillas," an outcome that was clearly inherent in the political role assumed by the generals in the Allende regime.

This fear became a new element in the polarization. Warnings about the danger of a take-over became more insistent and more widely heard. The issue began to give a keener cutting edge to the propaganda of the far left concerning the bourgeois nature of Allende's government, the need to end with capitalism once and for all, the need to carry out the socialist revolution, to prepare for a test of arms, and so on.

The continued presence of the generals was beginning to compromise Allende politically.

At the same time, the vote in the March 4 elections showed that Allende's standing with the working class and masses of the people was still strong. The emergency aid rushed to his regime last November (with its implication of a further emergency operation by the military if required) could now be withdrawn.

These appear to be the main political reasons why the powers that

be in Chile decided to shift the generals from center stage back to the wings. On the surface it appeared to be a concession to the left. Actually it was intended to allay the growing fears about a coup, induce the masses to relax, and help block the organizing efforts of those who insist that the danger is very real. From this point of view, the "withdrawal" of the generals was only a tactical maneuver.

General Prats, it should be noted, is not without guile. He owes his post as commander in chief of the army in part, no doubt, to his capacities as a military politician. He remained constantly in public attention, evoking the image of an incorruptible patriot and statesman, as he upheld the regime against the frenzied layers that sought to bring it down before Allende's work was done and the masses had become demoralized. The image-makers likened him to the late Mexican President Cárdenas, who became heralded as the elder statesman of Latin America, mostly because of his role in diverting the Mexican masses from taking the road opened by the Cuban revolution.

Thus the Chilean general became widely known as a strong person able to deal blows to right and left, an upright figure on whom the entire country can depend in a crisis, a potential Bonaparte. He withdrew to the sidelines before this image had time to become tarnished.

Reporting from Santiago, Chile, in the March 28 *New York Times*, Jonathan Kandell sized up the experience with the general as follows:

"He has described himself as a 'simple soldier' with no political ambitions and has always indicated that his continued participation in the Cabinet was entirely in President Allende's hands.

"But his political stature has risen spectacularly in recent months and he has occasionally been considered a possible presidential candidate in 1976, when Dr. Allende's term expires."

This general bears watching. It can safely be predicted that he will be heard from again, and probably much sooner than 1976. □



The Coming Confrontation

Where is Allende taking Chile? When the chips are down, where will the military stand? What are the organizations of the workers, peasants, and the left doing? What are their programs? What are the perspectives facing the Chilean people?

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Bureaucrats use secret trials, imprisonment in mental hospitals

Suppression of oppositionists in the Ukraine

[News continues to reach the West of trials of dissidents arrested in the Soviet Union during last year's crack-down on the opposition movement.

[The repression is particularly intense in the Ukraine, where opposition to Russification has led to the growth of a movement of workers, students, and intellectuals and to the emergence of the Ukrainiansamvydav (Ukrainian for "samizdat," underground writings reproduced and circulated despite the authorities) journal *Ukrainsky Vysnyk*. Of the more than 100 dissidents arrested in the Ukraine in January 1972, dozens have already been tried and sentenced to prison terms ranging from three to fifteen years.

[One of these activists, Leonid Plyushch, was a founding member of the Initiative Group for the Defense of Human Rights in the USSR. A Kievan mathematician and engineer, he was dismissed from his job in 1968 for signing a letter in defense of four oppositionists charged with the circulation of samizdat writings. At the time of Plyushch's dismissal, the director of the institute accused him of "behaving like Dubcek!"

[In his 1968 letter Plyushch stated: "But—alas!—the times have passed when Bolsheviks proudly proclaimed: 'We don't fear the truth, as the truth works for us!' Their indirect heirs (the direct ones were destroyed in Stalin's torture chambers by Beria), the Thermidorians of October, fear the truth. The most they can rise to is stereotyped and distorted quotations, thrown together at random."

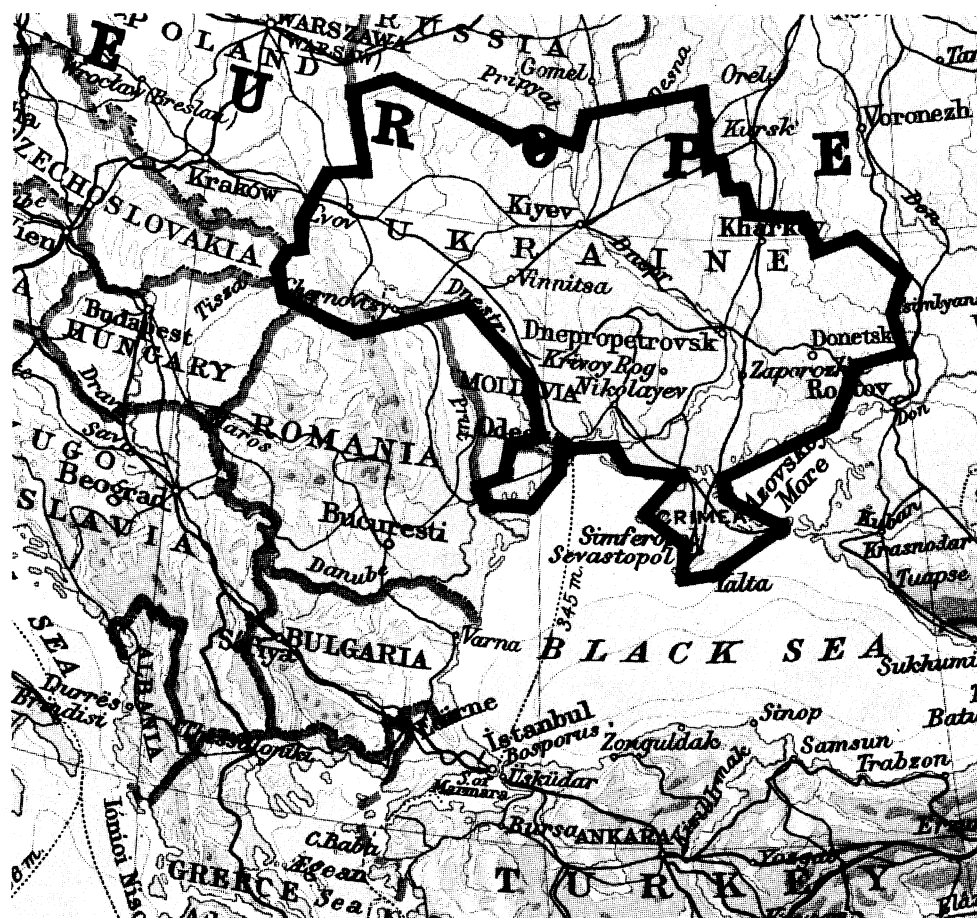
[Plyushch's home was searched and he was arrested January 14, 1972, in Kiev. The New York-based Committee for the Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners reports that Plyushch was sentenced on January 30, 1973, to "an indefinite term of 'treatment' in a prison psychiatric hospital. It is now known that Plyushch was sentenced under Article 62 of the Ukrainian Criminal Code ('agitation or propaganda carried on for the purpose of subverting or weakening Soviet power'). He was accused of having signed appeals to the United Nations on the persecution of intellectuals in the USSR and of taking part in the allegedly illegal Initiative Group, which collected the signatures."

[Plyushch was also held liable for the 1968 letter and for manuscripts of other articles found in his apartment.

[The Defense Committee reports that "Plyushch was not allowed in the courtroom and was sentenced by default. He made no statement to the court. When asked why the defendant was not allowed into the courtroom, the judge responded that 'the court does not consider it necessary. . . .'"

[Moreover, Plyushch's wife and sister were not allowed at the trial. "Until now," reports the Committee for the Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners, "his wife has not been allowed to visit him on the pretext of a 'quarantine.' On matters concerning the appeal and other aspects of his case, his wife and friends are being referred by the court to the KGB (Soviet secret police). They are told: 'The KGB will tell you everything.'"

[The cases of other Ukrainian oppositionists are described below.]



The case of Vyacheslav Chornovil

[The following press release was issued March 20 by the New York-based Committee for the Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners.]

Vyacheslav Chornovil, a 35-year-old Ukrainian journalist, who was the first to expose the KGB [Soviet secret police] witch-hunts and trials in Ukraine in 1965-66, has been sentenced to seven years at hard labor and five years exile by a court in Lviv. Chornovil was tried under Article 62 of the Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Penal Code, which makes it a crime to "spread anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda."

According to reliable sources, the trial took place in February 1973, and one of the witnesses at the trial was Valentyn Moroz, a 36-year-old historian who is presently serving a nine-year term of imprisonment. Moroz refused to testify, claiming that the trial was invalid since the accused was kept under pretrial detention for more than one year. The trial was held behind closed doors.

Chornovil was born in the Cherkasy region of Ukraine in 1938, graduated from Kiev State University, and worked on the editorial board of the newspaper *Kiev Komsomolets*. He was secretary of the Komsomol [Young Communist League] committee during the construction of the Kiev hydroelectric station and worked in the editorial office of the Komsomol newspaper *Moloda Gvardia*.

Dismissed from his job in April 1966 for refusing to testify at a political trial, he was sentenced on July 8, 1966, to three months forced labor for this offense. On August 3, 1967, he was arrested a second time for

"spreading anti-Soviet propaganda" and was sentenced to three years in jail. This sentence was reduced to eighteen months by an amnesty.

In 1967 Chornovil sent a letter and copies of documents to P. Yu. Shelest, then first secretary of the Communist party of Ukraine, protesting closed trials of Ukrainian intellectuals. This collection was eventually published in English under the title *The Chornovil Papers* [New York: McGraw Hill, 1968, \$6.95].

Chornovil was also the author of numerous petitions and letters to Soviet authorities in Ukraine, in which he constantly brought up the fact that he was not in any way antisocialist. This is illustrated by the following quotation: "I categorically state, contrary to all illogical assertions . . . that I have always firmly adhered to the principles of socialism and continue to do so. But not of that socialism that tries to regiment not merely the actions but also the thoughts of individuals. I cannot imagine true socialism without guaranteed democratic freedoms, without the widest political and economic self-government of all the cells of the state organism down to and including the smallest, without a real guarantee—and not merely a paper one—of the rights of all nations within a multinational state." □

The case of Ivan Dzyuba

By Marilyn Vogt

Ivan Dzyuba, prominent Ukrainian Marxist, was sentenced to five years imprisonment at a trial held during mid-March 1973 in Kiev, according to a press release issued by the New York-based Committee for the Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners. He has been an outspoken opponent of the Stalinist policy on nationalities.

A respected literary critic, the forty-two-year-old Dzyuba is best known for his book *Internationalism or Russification?*, a Leninist critique of the Russification policy currently being carried out by the Kremlin in the Ukraine and in the other non-Russian Soviet republics. Originally written in 1965 as a memorandum to P. Yu. Shelest, first secretary of the Communist party of the Ukraine, the book circulated in *samvydav* [Ukrainian term for samizdat] and later was published in West Germany, Great Britain, and Canada.

In *Internationalism or Russification?* Dzyuba describes the Ukrainization process the Bolsheviks instituted in the early 1920s to encourage the development of Ukrainian language, literature, and culture and to foster the control by Ukrainians of their social, political, and economic life. He counterposes this program to those instituted by Stalin in the late 1920s and after: massive repression, purges, and arrests with imprisonment or execution of Ukrainian literary, political, and academic figures; he denounces Stalin's labeling of the achievements of the Bolshevik Ukrainization program as bourgeois nationalism.

Dzyuba cites abundant data and quotes party leaders to support his charge that the policy and practices of the Kremlin rulers today are a continuation of the policies of Stalin. The current Soviet policy has nothing in common with the internationalism of Lenin, Dzyuba states. It is rather Russification—a return to the Great Russian chauvinism that Lenin and the Bolsheviks fought so hard against.

Dzyuba states that the restoration of the Leninist policy on nationalities is imperative "for the cause of building communism, for the future communist society, and for the fate of the world communist movement."

Dzyuba has been a target of Kremlin harassment for years because of his literary and political activities. Since 1950 he has held a series of editorial posts with publishing houses and periodicals and has also published numerous articles on literary criticism. Although his views brought him respect and popularity with the younger generation of writers, in 1963 he was threatened with expulsion from the Ukrainian Writers' Union for allegedly presenting a distorted view of Ukrainian literature.

On September 4, 1965, Dzyuba staged with Vyacheslav Chornovil and I. Stus a protest in a Kievan movie theater against the massive wave of arrests that was then being conducted against Ukrainian students, workers, and intellectuals.

In a speech delivered on September 29, 1966, at Babyn Yar [site of the September 29, 1941, mass execution of Kievan Jews by the Nazis], Dzyuba stressed that the histories of the Ukrainian and Jewish peoples are similar in their tragic features. "In the times of Stalin there were clear and obvious attempts to play on the mutual prejudices of Ukrainians and Jews—attempts to destroy the Jewish culture under the pretext of combating Jewish bourgeois nationalism, Zionism, and so on; attempts to destroy the Ukrainian national culture and language under the pretext of combating Ukrainian bourgeois nationalism."

He stated that such attempts continue today. "It seems that Lenin's directives on the struggle against anti-Semitism are being forgotten, like the Leninist directives on the national development of Ukraine."

Dzyuba has made numerous public protests against the repression of Soviet dissidents, particularly those who are resisting the forces of Russification. With V. Chornovil and B.D. Antonenko-Davidovich, Dzyuba refused to testify when summoned as a witness in the trial of Valentin Moroz in November 1970 because of the numerous illegalities of the case. His statement on this incident is circulating in samvydav.

Dzyuba was among the more than a hundred persons arrested in January 1972 in the Ukraine as the Kremlin launched its campaign against the opposition movement. He was released in February but kept under house arrest until he was re-arrested on April 18. His apartment was searched by the KGB three times during that period. Part of the "incriminating" evidence confiscated during a search at the end of January was the complete works of Lenin, in which Dzyuba had made marginal notes.

Dzyuba has been jailed since April 1972, and until his sentence became known there had been no word of his fate. Possession of Dzyuba's writings had been used as "incriminating" evidence for the conviction of other Ukrainian dissidents tried as a result of the KGB raids in 1972.

A five-year sentence is especially severe in Dzyuba's case: He suffers from cirrhosis of the liver and from an advanced case of tuberculosis.



Ivan Dzyuba

In the prefatory letter to Shelest that accompanied the manuscript of his book Dzyuba stated: "I am firmly convinced that today a Ukrainian who is devoted to the cause of building communism has every reason to be worried about the fate of his nation, and if that is so, nobody in the world has the power to prevent him from speaking out about it."

A vigorous international defense campaign on Dzyuba's behalf is necessary to guarantee this claim. □

N.Y. conference on defense of Soviet political prisoners

[The following press release was issued by the Committee for the Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners, P. O. Box 1294, Woodhaven Station, Woodhaven, New York 11421, USA.]

On March 2-4, 1973, at Columbia University in New York City, the first international conference in defense of Soviet political prisoners was held. Taking part were the "Set Them Free" Committee in Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners, from Toronto and Montreal, Canada; the Committee for the Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners (New York, Boston, Chicago, in the United States); representatives from Great Britain; members of the Czech left opposition presently in the U.S.; and a representative of the Lithuanian struggle for independence.

On Friday, March 2, the conference heard a report on the current struggle for human rights within the USSR by Alexander S. Yesenin-Volpin, formerly a consulting member of the Human Rights Committee in Moscow. Volpin gave examples of the current struggle and some personal observations on the situation in Ukraine.

Conference participants listened to a number of analyses of the Soviet Union and the nature of the struggle of the various political and national oppositions. Discussion centered on the nature of Soviet society, the position of the left on the national question, and the varying strategic approaches to defending political prisoners.

On Saturday, March 3, the various committees and individuals presented position papers and proposals for international defense. There were disagreements among the various committees on certain ideological and

tactical questions. However, a genuine consensus was reached on the following points:

1. The need to work together for the defense of Soviet political prisoners.
2. A broad formulation on the questions of social justice, democracy, and national self-determination.
3. The need for continuing and intensifying study of the various social systems and ideologies in the world today, as well as of particular situations in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

The conference agreed that the following projects be continued or initiated: (1) to continue gathering signatures for a petition in defense of political prisoners in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe—thus far petition endorsers have included the Rev. Daniel Berrigan, Prof. Noam Chomsky, Prof. Erich Fromm, the Rev. Paul Mayer, journalist Nat Hentoff, and Prof. Yesenin-Volpin; (2) to distribute a paperback edition of the collection of opposition documents entitled *Ferment in the Ukraine*; (3) to build an international defense campaign to free Ivan Dzyuba, a currently imprisoned political activist in Ukraine.

The participants also agreed to publish a booklet on the national question in the Soviet Union in the coming year. And it was agreed, another conference would be held within the year, to continue discussion on the various issues encountered in defense work.

A regularly published bulletin, supported by those who attended the conference, is available from the "Set Them Free" Committee in Defense of Soviet Political Prisoners, P. O. Box 294, Station "M," Toronto, 21, Ontario, Canada. Subscriptions are \$2.50 annually. □

World news notes

New student demonstrations in Greece

The military dictatorship in Greece suffered a new blow April 6 when the entire governing body of Athens University resigned. The resignation of the eleven-member Athens University Senate following the regime's refusal to allow new elections for student representatives is particularly significant in that the same body approved the use of police to evict student demonstrators from the law school on March 20.

The university senate had promised free elections as part of its attempt to end the massive student demonstrations that closed down Greek universities during much of February and March. This pledge was repudiated by the minister of education, a retired colonel, who announced that the government considered the leaders of the official student organizations as "the only ones who legitimately represent the students."

According to the April 7 *New York Times*, Athens University has been closed again, and the students have taken to the streets in new antigovernment actions.

Students and workers protest in Spain

In an attempt to expand its repressive apparatus in the universities and quell university unrest, the Spanish government forced 1,166 assistant professors in Madrid to swear allegiance to Generalissimo Francisco Franco and his regime April 1. In return for publicly swearing to uphold the laws and ideology of the Franco regime, the assistant professors were granted lifetime tenure and guaranteed annual salaries.

However, the "solemn Bible-crucifix-and-candle ceremony in Madrid's Royal Theater," reported in the April 2 *Washington Post*, is unlikely to help very much in demobilizing the students. Student strikes are currently reported at Zaragoza University, Malaga University, where the U.S. ambassador to Spain, Horacio Rivera, was stoned March 22, and at the universities in Madrid and Barcelona.

In another development, Spanish police killed one striking worker and seriously wounded another April 3 near Barcelona. More than 1,700 workers had been demanding higher pay, a 40-hour week, sick pay, and the right of assembly. The April 5 *New York Times* reports that 2,000 to 3,000 people took part in a demonstration protesting the shootings the next day.

Court sentences 14 in Sallustro case

Fourteen persons were sentenced in Buenos Aires March 16 in connection with the case of Oberdan Sallustro. The head of Fiat Concord Argentina, Sallustro was kidnapped by members of the Ejército Revolucionario del Pueblo (ERP—Revolutionary Army of the People) on March 21, 1972, and executed during a raid on the guerrillas' hideout on April 10.

Of the fourteen defendants, three were sentenced to life imprisonment. They are Angel Fausto Averame, Carlos Tomás Ponce de León, and José Luis Da Silva Ferreira. Three others—Giomar Schmidt de Klachko, Mirta Emilce Sgró de Menajovsky, and Marta Alicia Abrego—were acquitted. The remainder received the following sentences: Mirta Adriana Mitidiero de Da Silva and Osvaldo Sigfrido De Benedetti—twelve years each; Elena María Da Silva Perrera—ten years; Silvia Inés Urdampilleta and José Beristain—nine years; Eduardo Adrián Menajovsky—seven years; Andrés Alsina Bea—six years; and Liliana Olga Montanaro—eighteen months, sentence suspended.

As the trial proceedings drew to a close on March 8, the defense criticized the prosecution for having ignored the fact that the defendants had been subjected to torture and that this barbaric treatment had been verified by medical doctors.

As a result of testimony during the trial, the prosecutor himself felt obliged to withdraw his request for life sentences against five of the defendants. Initially, this sentence was sought against all fourteen.

Danish workers win new contract

On March 21, some 258,000 Danish workers went out on strike or were locked out in the biggest industrial and labor conflict here since 1936.

In Denmark wage contracts for the entire work force are renegotiated every two years. The current contract expired on March 1, and negotiations for a new one had been going on since mid-October.

The official mediator in the negotiations, Sigurd Wechseltmann, had presented a compromise proposal that Premier Anker Joergensen, a Social Democrat and former leader of the country's largest union, had gotten the negotiators for the Trade Union Confederation to accept, but the Danish Employers Federation rejected it.

"The conflict that the employers have provoked for political reasons must be carried through to victory," said 300 shop stewards in a statement to the workers of Copenhagen. "Now that a full-fledged conflict has broken out, we regard the negotiated compromise proposal as having no validity; henceforward, it is on the basis of the demands that have been raised that negotiations will have to be carried out."

On April 9, the union rank and file approved a new contract by a better than 2-to-1 vote. The agreement includes equal pay for men and women in industrial work and a shortening of the work-week from 41.75 hours to forty hours by December 1974.

Argentina

'Let's initiate a massive campaign for a general amnesty!'

[The following is a translation by *Intercontinental Press* of an article that appeared in the March 15 issue of the Buenos Aires *Avanzada Socialista*, the weekly newspaper of the Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores.]

Journalist: Is it true that one of your first measures will be to proclaim a broad amnesty law for political crimes?

Cámpora: Without doubt; in fact we're doing our utmost to contribute to pacifying [the country]. I think that the Argentine parliament . . . will be anxious to contribute to this pacification and to this Argentine coexistence, providing on the parliamentary level a broad amnesty for all those who have been unjustly deprived of their freedom. (La Nación, March 13.)

We appeal on this occasion to the *compañeros* who in one way or another have been struggling or who want to struggle to free the prisoners. We appeal especially to the *compañeros* of the Juventud Peronista [Peronist Youth] and to the militant sector of the Peronist movement, who have been campaigning on the fundamental slogan "Cámpora for president, freedom for the fighters." It was a satisfaction perhaps when you learned about the declarations of the president-elect reported above.

As a matter of principle, it likewise appeared positive to us for Dr. Cámpora to indicate that he favors a broad amnesty.

Nevertheless, *compañeros*, we feel obliged to say that there's a long way to go before these declarations become converted into the reality of an Argentina without a single political prisoner after next May [when Cámpora is scheduled to take office]. The fact is that the president-elect's words were ambiguous.

In his declaration Dr. Cámpora said, "I think that the Argentine parliament . . . will be anxious . . ." We wonder. And if parliament is not "anxious"?

Why didn't Dr. Cámpora, in order to dispel any doubts, simply say: "My first act in government will be to send a bill to parliament; and the FREJULI [Frente Justicialista de Liberación—Liberation Front for Social Justice, the Peronist coalition] legislators—who constitute the majority—will immediately approve it." Millions of citizens are awaiting a promise like that—clear and emphatic.

Another point to be disturbed about, because it lends itself to a double interpretation, is the statement that the "broad amnesty" will be "for all those who have been unjustly deprived of their freedom." And we say that it lends itself to misinterpretation because it can very well be concluded that if there are political prisoners who are "unjustly" held in jail, then there are others who are quite justly being held in jail. And this interpretation is not a fanciful one. We know—Mor Roig [minister of the interior] himself hinted at this just hours before the polls opened—that the military, in order to alleviate pressures,



Riot police in Buenos Aires

is prepared to allow a discriminating or selective amnesty; that is, to release a handful of prisoners for minor so-called crimes, letting the rest rot in jail. By no means do we say that Dr. Cámpora's intentions merit such an interpretation. But it is necessary to clarify the point.

ALL the political prisoners, including ALL the guerrillas, must be freed. Who is going to determine which have been "justly" or "unjustly" imprisoned? Perhaps the same judges who convicted them on the basis of "spontaneous confessions" obtained through torture? And on the basis of what norm are they to be liberated or left in jail? Perhaps on the basis of ideological discrimination?

Absolutely ALL the political prisoners and guerrillas must be freed, because the guilt for all the violence in these past years falls solely on the military regime. It was the dictatorship that began repressing the popular protest in blood and fire. It was on this basis that the guerrilla actions arose and developed.

Compañeros of the Juventud Peronista and the militant sector of the Peronist movement: You, better than anyone else, know the conditions that the armed forces want to impose on the incoming government. And you also know that one of the main points among these conditions concerns the political prisoners.

Dr. Cámpora's declaration thus fails to answer the main question: how to counteract the formidable pressure that will be mounted by the military to block a genuinely broad and full amnesty? There is only one means: All of us who want to finish with the reign of the jail and torture must mobilize in a united way!! And with a precise objective: to solicit from the elected deputies and senators, especially those belonging to the FREJULI, a public promise that the first law to be passed by Congress will be a broad amnesty, the abolition of all the repressive legislation and of the Supreme Criminal Court, and an investigation of the torture, murders, and kidnappings committed under the military dictatorship. For this investigation we must demand the formation of an Investigating Commission, with a labor majority, made up of legislators representing the trade-union organizations, political parties, and the families of those who were murdered.

To accomplish this, we appeal in the first place to the *compañeros* of the Juventud Peronista and of the militant sector of the Peronist movement. You bear an enormous responsibility. You carried the FREJULI campaign, and you raised as one of the main slogans of that campaign: "Cámpora for president; freedom for the fighters." There is no point in discussing whether the FREJULI legislators intend to carry out their electoral promise without vacillating. It is not a matter of intentions in the main, but of the strength available to neutralize the formidable pressure of the military. For that, *compañeros* of the Juventud Peronista and of the militant sector of the Peronist movement, your interest and feeling of urgency must be higher than that of anyone else in advancing this broad mobilization for the prisoners.

We likewise call on the young Radicals. You claim the tradition of the UCR [Unión Cívica Radical] on the question of civil liberties, having been the first to demand from your legislators the promise to free the prisoners and to repeal the repressive laws.

We likewise call on all the tendencies that claim to be in the left. Enough of sectarianism!! Let's unite in the struggle for an amnesty!! Whoever, on whatever pretext, holds back the broadest unity of action in demanding that parliament grant an amnesty facilitates our *compañeros'* being held prisoner until they rot.

Finally, we appeal to the families of those detained. We suggest that they take the initiative in convoking a public mass meeting to which all the legislators are invited, there to be asked to sign a promise to vote for a general amnesty. Demand that the Peronists, the Radicals, and members of any other party take a position on this point.

Let's initiate a massive campaign for a general amnesty!! □



Workers Front rally in Cordoba. The Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores (PST), which initiated the Workers Front, used its election campaign to demand the release of all political prisoners.

Former nun exposes repression in Bolivia

By BAXTER SMITH

NEW YORK, April 9—In 1959, Mary Elizabeth Harding, a U.S. citizen, went to Bolivia and taught in an elementary school in the northern, jungle region. She was then a Maryknoll nun. After teaching for four and a half years, she took a different assignment in La Paz.

But in 1970, disillusioned after 17 years as a nun, she resigned. She felt compelled to make a stronger commitment to social change.

Harding had been working in a plastics factory in La Paz since 1968, where she earned the equivalent of \$20 a week. In September 1971, though, she lost the job because the government claimed she was working "illegally." She then obtained a job as an English teacher at the Bolivian-American Center, a cultural/educational institute affiliated with the U.S. embassy.

Harding taught at the center until Dec. 5, 1972, when she was arrested and charged with being a member of the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN—National Liberation Army), the guerrilla organization commonly associated with Che Guevara.

She was held in jail until Jan. 14, 1973, when she was released and deported to the U.S. During her imprisonment, she had been beaten and

tortured.

Today, Harding began a speaking tour that will take her to 17 U.S. cities. She will report on the suppression of human rights in Bolivia and the generous aid the military dictatorship gets from the U.S. government.

The tour is cosponsored by the United States Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners (USLA) and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. This morning I attended her first speaking engagement, a meeting at Nassau Community College, attended by 60 students.

Harding explained the situation confronting Bolivian workers and gave a background to the present regime.

The present regime dates back to August 1971. A right-wing army officer, Colonel Hugo Banzer Suárez, came to power then in a bloody military coup that toppled the regime of Juan José Torres. Hundreds of workers, peasants, and students were killed when they resisted the Banzer take-over. Banzer thus became the fourth consecutive president to come to power through a military take-over. Bolivia has not had a presidential election since 1964.

Since the coup, Banzer has taken steps to repress the trade unions and radical political groups. This has won him significant U.S. backing. According to Harding, "Since 1953, the U.S. has been supplying economic assistance to the various regimes in order to influence the internal affairs of the country."

In 1970, U.S. aid to Bolivia was \$10.9-million, and in 1971 it was \$5.9-million. But in 1972, after the Banzer coup, it skyrocketed to \$87.4-million. In addition, the U.S. offers military and counterinsurgency assistance to the Bolivian armed forces.

Harding added that an additional \$500-million in foreign investments from various countries is expected if the regime can maintain domestic social calm.

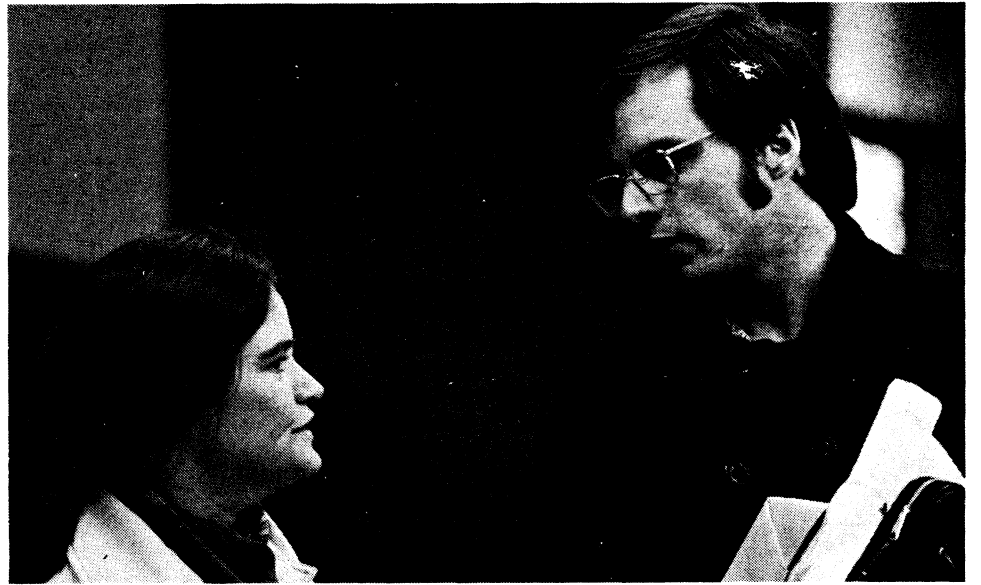
But on Nov. 23, 1972, Banzer declared a "state of siege." This was in response to a wave of militant union strikes protesting the deteriorating economic situation. This crisis was precipitated in part by the October devaluation of the Bolivian peso from

12 per U.S. dollar to 20—more than 39 percent. The resulting steps were "necessary," the government claimed, because "extremists" were attempting to provoke the unions into a confrontation.

The new "state of siege" is one of many in Bolivia in recent years. It curtails freedom of speech, press, and assembly. Bolivian citizens have been held for many months without charges or trials. There are currently more than 1,000 political prisoners in Bolivia.

in a city jail. She was finally released only after a protest campaign by family, friends, and public figures both in Bolivia and the U.S. Upon her release, she was taken to the airport and placed on an airliner bound for Miami.

Upon hearing of her impending release, the U.S. ambassador had the gall to invite her to the embassy so he could extend his "sympathy" to her. He did this fully aware of U.S. complicity with the unpopular, repressive regime.



Militant/John Lauritsen

Mary Elizabeth Harding with Frank Grinnon, a national staff member of U.S. Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners.

Harding explained her arrest. "When they came and announced they were taking me to the ministry of the interior building, I nearly got sick." The ministry of interior is the much-feared government building where rooms in its basement are cells used for holding, interrogating, and torturing political prisoners.

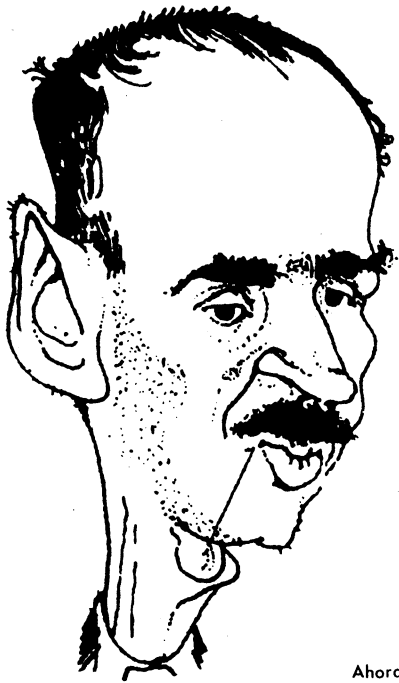
In the first week of her detention, she was beaten and interrogated about the activities of the ELN. During this time, she was visited by the American Consul, Donald Mudd. When she appeared before him, her eye was blackened and her voice was weakened from physical exhaustion caused by torture. Yet when Mudd left her, he made a statement claiming she had not been mistreated.

Harding spent the last four weeks of detention in solitary confinement

According to Harding, the U.S. supports the Banzer regime because of Bolivia's natural wealth. The country is rich in bismuth, oil reserves, and zinc, tin, iron, and uranium ores.

Harding concluded her speech by recalling her own case and pointing out the need for an international defense of Bolivian political prisoners. She cited the sensitivity of the Banzer regime to U.S. public opinion, the importance of groups like USLA, and the gains that can be made by mounting a defense of Bolivian political prisoners.

Those interested in arranging a meeting for Harding or getting more information on Bolivian political prisoners or the work of USLA should contact them at USLA, 150 Fifth Ave., Room 737, New York, N.Y. 10011. Telephone: (212) 691-2880.



Ahora

Bolivian dictator Colonel Hugo Banzer Suárez.

4 victims of Denver police attack indicted

DENVER—On March 27 district attorney Dale Tooley filed assault charges in district court against four Chicanos. The four were among the victims of the March 17 police attack on the dormitories of the Escuela y Colegio Tlatelolco (Tlatelolco School and College). They are Ernesto Vigil, Mario Vásquez, Luis Ramírez, and Charlie García.

The Tlatelolco school is run by the Crusade for Justice, a Chicano human and civil rights organization that has frequently exposed the racism and brutality of the Denver police.

During the March 17 attack, police fired thousands of rounds of ammunition into the dormitory building. Two Chicano activists were severely wounded, and immediately before the attack, police shot and killed Luis "Junior" Martínez, a teacher at the school.

A section of the dormitory was destroyed by an explosion. But the next day police finished the work of demolition, thus preventing any investigation of the cause of the blast.

Ernesto Vigil, a leader of the Crusade, has been charged with first degree assault on policewoman Carol Hogue. Witnesses other than police say they saw Ernesto shot in the back as he was entering one of the apartments. Yet the police witnesses, all cops, maintain that Ernesto was shot in the back while firing at Hogue!

Ernesto faces from five to 40 years on this charge, and is free on \$25,000 bail.

Mario Vásquez is charged with three counts of first degree assault. He allegedly wounded three policemen who kicked in the back door of a dormitory apartment minutes before the explosion.

Mario was found in the rubble, stunned and in shock from the blast. Witnesses charge that the police took Vásquez outside, placed him on a stretcher, and beat him. He faces five to 40 years in prison on each count, and is free on \$25,000 bond.

Luis Ramírez and Charlie García are both charged with second-degree assault on patrolman Peter Díaz. Díaz

and other cops say they were ordering García out of the area when Ramírez arrived and said he would take García home.

Díaz claims that Ramírez turned to leave, then suddenly wheeled around and hit him in the face, breaking his nose. Ramírez and others say that when he had begun to leave, six or seven cops jumped him. He was savagely beaten.

Ramírez and García face, if convicted, from one to 10 years. Both are now free on \$5,000 bond.

Charges against José Martínez, brother of the murdered Luis, were dropped after district attorney Tooley admitted there was "insufficient evidence to support criminal charges." David Gonzales, who was pulled from his car and brutalized, is still under investigation.

Meanwhile, in a letter to chief of police Art Dill, Tooley stated: "We intend to prosecute these cases with the utmost vigor. . . . Violence simply cannot be justified, and shooting and killing must be dealt with immediately

and without fear or favor."

However, Tooley has yet to charge any police, either in connection with the murder of Luis "Junior" Martínez, or with the attack on the dormitory.

Attitudes of the Denver police toward the Crusade for Justice, and its chairman Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales, were illustrated by a recent comment of a police cadet that was picked up in Denver newspapers. "If I ever get a clear chance at him [Gonzales] I'm going to take it," said the cadet.

The cadet was participating in a five-day police training session on "human relations." He later retracted the statement, because he said he realized "how people took it."

On March 25, only a week after the police attack on the Crusade for Justice school, Denver police chief Art Dill was presented with an award by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was named the police administrator most concerned with police-community relations during the past year.

Burke-Hartke bill no answer to labor's needs

Unions & the multinational corporations

By CAROLINE LUND

There is growing debate in Congress, in the newspapers, and within the trans-union movement over the role of the giant U.S. multinational corporations. Headlines recently have highlighted revelations from the Senate foreign affairs subcommittee investigation of the intervention of ITT into the affairs of Chile. Meanwhile the Senate finance subcommittee is also holding hearings on the big imperialist corporations in preparation for its consideration of trade legislation later this year.

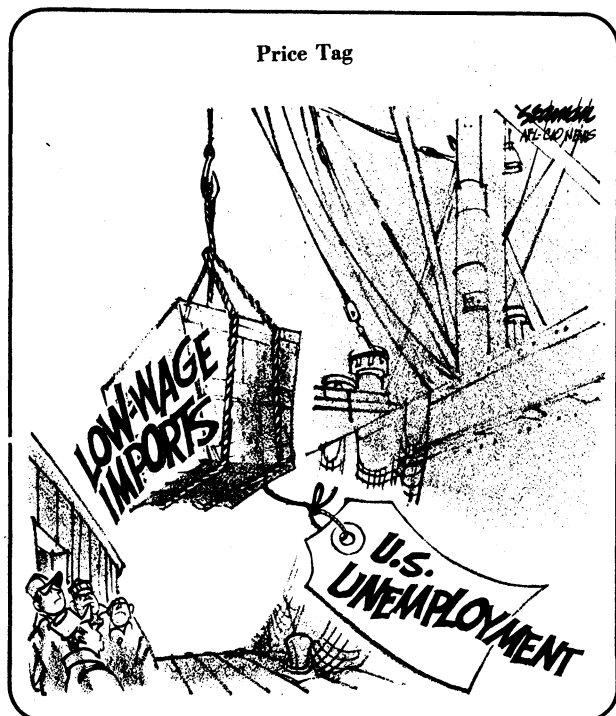
On March 6 the finance subcommittee heard testimony from Andrew Biemiller, legislative director of the AFL-CIO. Biemiller charged that U.S.-based multinational corporations such as General Motors, General Electric, and AT&T are exporting American capital, technology, and jobs.

He also accused the multinational corporations of contributing to the international monetary crisis by profiteering in the sale of dollars in foreign money markets, driving down the value of the dollar, and forcing prices up at home.

"By these currency actions," he stated, "U.S. corporations and banks put profits ahead of patriotism, selling their country's currency in order to make swift profits for themselves."

In line with the position adopted by the 1971 AFL-CIO convention, Biemiller urged adoption of the Burke-Hartke trade bill as a solution to the problems of inflation, financial crises, and unemployment.

The Foreign Trade and Investment Act of 1973



AFL-CIO News

This cartoon from AFL-CIO News illustrates attempt by union bureaucrats to portray import quotas as an answer to unemployment. This is a cover for their refusal to fight for a shorter workweek, the only solution to joblessness.

was introduced by Representative James Burke (D-Mass.) and Senator Vance Hartke (D-Ind.). It would impose greater quotas on foreign imports, increase restraints on the export of American technology and capital, and remove tax subsidies and other incentives that encourage U.S. foreign investment.

Nixon wants 'flexibility'

President Nixon has opposed the Burke-Hartke bill on the grounds that he wants more "flexibility" to change trade and investment policies as he sees fit. After Nixon appeared at the AFL-CIO executive council meeting on Feb. 19, George Meany said he was willing to compromise, and found Nixon's proposals "attractive."

The charges leveled against the giant corporations—from such varied critics as the AFL-CIO officialdom and the Allende government in Chile—are perfectly true. These concerns operate strictly according to what is most profitable for themselves, with no consideration for guaranteeing jobs, for holding prices down to what working people in this country can afford, or for the interests of working people in the other countries whose resources they exploit.

But the question is whether any trade regula-

tions, such as the Burke-Hartke bill, imposed on the giant corporations by capitalist governments, can resolve the problems of the international monetary crisis, curb runaway prices, create full employment, or prevent the corporations from manipulating the affairs of other countries just as they manipulate the politics of this country.

The traditional position of the trade-union bureaucracy, going back to the 1930s, has been to oppose restrictions on free trade. As recently as 1962, George Meany was saying, "We [U.S. industry] can compete with anyone because we have the skill and know-how to do it." The idea was that since U.S. exports were greater than its imports, free trade would stimulate jobs in this country to produce for export more than it would contribute to an export of jobs.

The tables were turned in 1971, however, when the U.S. recorded its first trade deficit since 1893. That year U.S. imports were \$2-billion higher than exports. More and more U.S. factories are closing in such industries as electronics, auto, steel, and rubber as U.S.-based corporations move plants to other countries to take advantage of cheaper labor costs, and other advantages.

Multinationals not new

The multinational corporations that both produce and sell their products in more than one country are hardly a new phenomenon. These corporations have been spreading their tentacles around the world for decades.

The multinational corporations are the expression of what Marxists call the imperialist stage of capitalism. They grow up because of the inherent need of capitalists to find new markets to invest their surplus capital.

The two world wars in this century spurred the growth of American imperialism and made the U.S. dominant among the imperialist powers. The tremendous expansion of the power and size of U.S. corporations in more recent years has come largely from profits reaped from U.S. investment in the rebuilding of capitalism in Europe and Japan, whose industries were partially destroyed during the second world war.

Now European and Japanese capitalism—re-built with the latest technological innovations—is challenging the supremacy of U.S. corporations.

Moreover, in its role as chief among the imperialist nations, the U.S. has poured billions into military spending—to try to keep the world safe for U.S. investment. This deficit spending has undermined the dollar through inflation, leaving international financial operations on a very shaky groundwork.

But according to the AFL-CIO officials, the deep-going problems of rising prices and not enough jobs in this country can be dealt with simply by placing a few restraints on the multinational corporations and imposing barriers against products made in other countries. That is, to restrict the export of American technological developments, keep U.S. capital operating in this country rather than other countries, and keep out foreign-made products.

Racist, chauvinist logic

This narrow, reactionary view takes the side of U.S. capitalists against foreign capitalists and sets U.S. workers against workers of other countries. Its racist, chauvinist logic was illustrated by the demonstrations organized last November by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union against foreign imports, especially from Japan. The ILGWU bureaucracy's slogan "Buy American" is designed to promote the false idea that the enemies of American workers are the lower-paid workers in Japan and elsewhere, rather than their own capitalist bosses.

Where do the interests of working people lie in this maze of international trade and monetary relations?

We have to start from the realization that the concerns of working people—for job security, a decent standard of living, and better social services—are totally different from the concern of the corporations—greater profits.

The labor movement will get nowhere by trying to solve the trade and monetary problems of the capitalists for them. The imperialists themselves, try as they may, cannot solve these problems

because they are generated by the system of capitalist competition itself.

Second, the U.S. labor movement will get nowhere if it bases its policies on a narrow, chauvinistic perspective of seeking short-term privileges at the expense of workers in other countries.

Thomas Jefferson once said, "Merchants have no country. The mere spot they stand on does not constitute so strong an attachment as that from which they draw their gains." This is even more true today, as the multinational corporations expand around the world, each trying to beat the others out for greater profits.

Workers 'have no country'

Working people have to realize that they "have no country" either, when it comes to solving such problems as high prices, wage controls, and unemployment.

The AFL-CIO members have nothing to gain by keeping U.S. technology within the boundaries of this country—why shouldn't the people of all countries benefit from it? Working people have no interest in keeping industry inside this country, or in keeping out foreign-made goods. Progress for humanity depends on even greater international cooperation, not on national insulation.

It is the capitalist system of competition that pits company against company, nation against nation, family against family, and worker against worker.

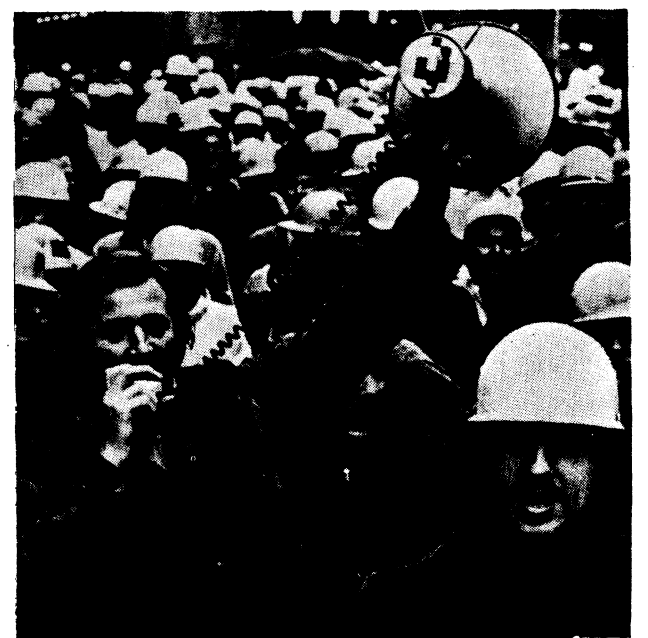
The answer to unemployment caused by U.S. industry moving to other countries is not to try to fight the Japanese worker for those jobs. It is rather to fight our own employers and our own government for a shorter workweek at no reduction in pay, so that the available jobs are spread to everyone who needs one.

The answer to the pull of cheaper labor in other countries is not racist downgrading of those workers. Rather, it is for the American labor movement to solidarize with, and aid, their struggles for union organization and for higher wages. In addition, the AFL-CIO should support these workers' political struggles against domination by U.S. corporations and against the capitalists of their own countries.

The answer of the labor movement to inflation must be to fight to protect the living conditions of working people, so that we do not have to pay for the problems created by the employers' profit-oriented system. The working class can protect its standard of living only by demanding an escalator clause in every union contract, so that wages will rise automatically with any rise in consumer prices.

Also key to fighting inflation is to demand an end to military spending.

These are the types of solutions to the twin evils of inflation and unemployment that the union movement could provide if its well-paid leaders were not off debating what is best for the employing class, such as in the debate over the Burke-Hartke bill.



Der Spiegel

German workers going out on wildcat strike. In supporting Burke-Hartke bill, AFL-CIO officialdom sets American workers against working people of other countries.

Abel may be in for some surprises

No-strike plan: blow to steel wage struggle

By FRANK LOVELL

When I.W. Abel, president of the United Steelworkers of America, announced his no-strike plan for the steel industry on March 29 in Pittsburgh, it came as no surprise to the 500,000 USWA members in basic steel mills across the nation.

Most steelworkers have known since the 1971 contract negotiations that Abel was looking for some way to

tie the hands of USWA locals with a national no-strike pledge and to saddle them with compulsory arbitration before the current contract expires Aug. 1, 1974.

The plan was submitted to the 600-member Basic Steel Conference in Pittsburgh on March 28. This conference of district directors, local union presidents, and International USWA staff members debated for a day and

a half before Abel could announce publicly that his "experimental negotiating agreement" had been approved.

Some surprises may be in store for Abel as details of his surrender scheme are reported at local membership meetings. In Lorain, Ohio, Local 1104—the first local to act on the plan—rejected it at a membership meeting on April 4. In the Chicago area, Local 65 President Frank Mirocha claims he has opposed the deal, but he's now trying to sell it to the ranks on the grounds that it has been endorsed by the union's International Executive Board and the Basic Steel Conference. A membership meeting of Local 65 voted on April 11 to reject the plan.

The plan provides for a five-member arbitration board: three "public" members and one each from union and management. The wage pattern for the next three years is fixed at a 3 percent annual raise, plus a totally inadequate cost-of-living adjustment and a \$150 "no-strike bonus" at the beginning of the new contract.

When the current contract expires next year, the arbitration board will make all decisions, having had all disputed issues in its hands on or before April 15, 1974. The arbitration ruling will be final and binding.

When Abel made this public R. Heath Larry, vice-chairman of U.S. Steel and top negotiator for the big 10 major steel companies, was at his side. Larry said, "This experimental agreement should work for the union, the corporations, the customers, and the nation." He was silent about what he expects it to do to the steelworkers. Speaking for the Steel Trust, he said it "ought to allow us to regain some significant portion of our markets that we have lost to others."

By nailing down guarantees against a strike, the U.S. steel industry hopes



I.W. Abel

to hold wages down, control the home market and expand in the world market. Larry explained that steady production with no fear of strikes will end the practice of stockpiling by the auto industry and other major domestic users.

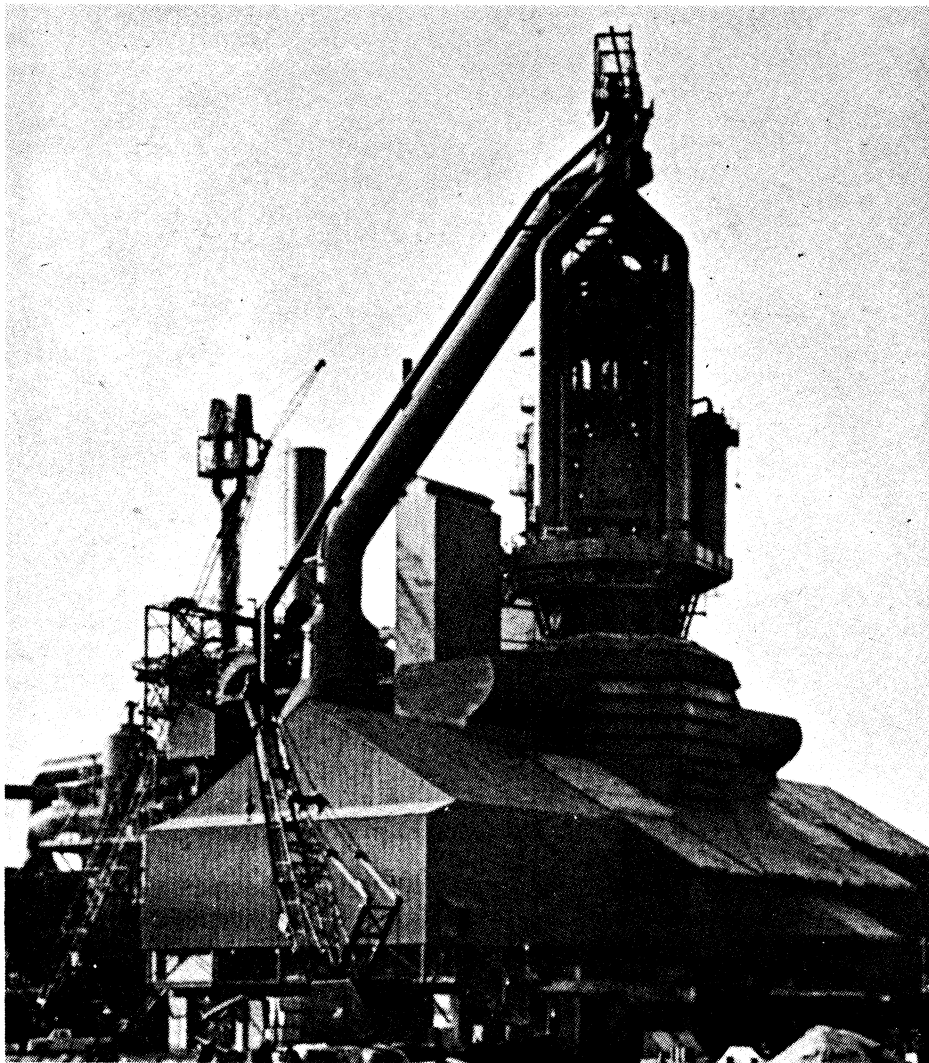
These customers imported 18.3 million tons of steel in 1971 and 17.7 million tons in 1972, mostly from Japan and Canada. The Steel Trust seeks to cut imports and boost its own production to "well over 100 million tons this year."

The companies claim that imports resulting from stockpiling in anticipation of a possible steel strike in 1971 caused the loss of 150,000 jobs in the mills of this country. Thus the steelworkers are blamed for unemployment in the industry.

Abel pretends to accept this false argument for good coin. At the Pittsburgh press conference he turned to Larry and said, "I hope that with this agreement the industry will modernize and provide more jobs."

It is modernization of the steel industry—the most advanced oxygen furnaces and automated rolling mills—that has reduced the work force and raised production. Union-

Continued on page 22



Computer-controlled blast furnace in Burns Harbor, Ind.

Building-trades unions scabbing on Shell strike

By NAT WEINSTEIN

BERKELEY, March 30—Pickets from the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union, (AFL-CIO), on strike against Shell Oil in nearby Martinez for 67 days, showed up here today at headquarters of contractor C. Norman Peterson.

Peterson has a contract with Shell for maintenance work in the Martinez refinery. Members of the AFL-CIO building-trades unions employed by Peterson have been crossing the OCAW picket lines.

This explains why a picture of AFL-CIO President George Meany sunning himself in Miami Beach, posted in the Martinez OCAW Local 1-5 hall, has some unflattering handwritten comments scrawled across it.

The AFL-CIO executive council has endorsed the Oil Workers strike and supports the boycott of Shell products. But strike support where it is most needed—at the refinery—is lacking. The strikers blame Meany, among others.

Meany has not lifted a finger to halt the International presidents of the various building-trades unions who are sabotaging the Oil Workers strike.

Early in the strike, OCAW Local 1-5 arranged a meeting with local building-trades officials in Contra Costa County and demanded an explanation of their strikebreaking actions. These craft-union officials countered with a raft of complaints about who has jurisdiction over maintenance work—them or OCAW. They demand-

ed a series of jurisdictional concessions, and the OCAW representatives conceded all of them.

The surprised building-trades officials then promised to respect OCAW picket lines. And they did—for one day. They then shamefacedly put the



George Meany at poolside

finger on the International presidents of their own unions, claiming there is a "presidents' agreement" among the top officials of the building trades not to recognize picket lines. They said they had been ordered via telegram by their International presidents in Washington to resume work behind OCAW picket lines.

This apparently was a forerunner

of a pact reached Feb. 14 in Miami Beach between 16 AFL-CIO building-trades unions and the construction industry, represented by the Associated General Contractors of America and the National Constructors Association. The agreement provides for a joint union-industry board to decide jurisdictional disputes and levy fines against unions that strike against board decisions.

The purpose of the ban on jurisdictional strikes is to bring peace to the unionized segment of the industry, according to union sources. An estimated \$45-billion of the total \$109-billion worth of U.S. construction last year was nonunion.

Edward Carlough, president of the Sheet Metal Workers, reported recently to the 500,000 members of his union that a ban on jurisdictional strikes would eliminate one of the construction industry's costliest problems.

Building-trades union officials are in a race with open-shop contractors to prove that construction work can be done better and faster and cheaper under union contract than with non-union labor.

This drive to comply with the needs of the employers is carried over into the mass production industries. These craft-minded union officials are using the pact among themselves to supply strikebreakers against industrial unions, as in the case of the OCAW strike at Shell's Martinez refinery.

The agreement to ban jurisdictional strikes to meet the demands and needs

of the building contractors is used as a weapon in jurisdictional warfare against an industrial union, also to meet the demands and needs of the employers.

The strikers hold Meany responsible for the perfidy of the building-trades unions because it is his duty to prevent interunion warfare. That is one of the purposes of federation. And OCAW, as an AFL-CIO affiliate, has jurisdiction over all work, including maintenance, in the oil industry.

The building-trades unions, under pressure of the open-shop drive in the construction industry, are reverting to their former practice of cannibal unionism. They are trying to raid industrial unions by signing sweetheart contracts during strikes instead of organizing the construction industry.

Both in the short and long run the building tradesmen are doing themselves a disservice. In the short run, this outside contractor C. Norman Peterson will not have much work at the Shell refinery in Martinez when the strike is over—even if, in the unlikely outcome, OCAW strikers are forced back to work without a contract.

And in the long run, the direction the oil companies are marching is toward weakened unions, or no union at all. The policies of the building-trades unions, as imposed by their short-sighted officials with George Meany's support, aid only the employers and harm the unions.

Over 300,000 march as National Assembly meets

French youth challenge draft, education

From Intercontinental Press
By JON ROTHCHILD

The newly elected French National Assembly convened on April 2. The capitalist press dutifully gave front-page coverage to the event, complete with detailed descriptions of the intricate parliamentary maneuvering going on. The Assembly, after all, was busy forming a new government that is supposed to determine what will happen in France for the next four years.

But outside, on the same day, were some people who have other ideas on that score. Responding to the call put out at the March 24 national coordinating meeting of the Committees of Struggle Against the Debré law, more than 100,000 were marching—university students, high-schoolers, vocational-school students, and many young workers too.

Throughout France, participation in the April 2 "day of national action" exceeded even the massive turnout for the March 22 demonstrations.

Even the Ministry of the Interior was forced to concede the immense geographical breadth and the size of the demonstrations. It released the following statistics: There were a total of 216 demonstrations throughout France on April 2; the total number of marchers was 320,000! This is almost certainly a serious underestimation of the size. The Ministry claimed the Paris demonstration was only 40,000-strong. But it had rated the March 22 action at 25,000-30,000, and that one was clearly at least 80,000, and more likely well more than 100,000.

In any case, the April 2 actions definitely represented a broadening of the movement. The wave of demonstrations began when high-schoolers initiated struggle against the Debré law (Michel Debré was the minister of national defense in the outgoing cabinet; he was not reappointed to the new cabinet), a "reform" of the military service system that abolished deferments that had allowed students to

postpone their obligatory military service until completion of their studies.

As the elections ended, a university movement against another Gaullist reform began to take hold. Students at dozens of universities went on strike against the Fontanet decrees, which established a new degree, the DEUG (Diplôme d'Etudes Universitaires Générales—General University Studies Diplomas), a means of reducing the number of university students by increasing the number of students leaving after two years to take their place as semitrained white-collar workers.

The struggles against the Debré law and the DEUG have now merged into a general battle against the bourgeois army and against the regime's plans to intensify social selection and stratification.

April 2 was a turning point in that struggle. For the first time since the anti-Debré-law movement broke out in early February significant components of the marches were workers—employed apprentices and other young workers, plus students from the CET (Collèges d'Enseignement Technique, technical schools). The March 30 issue of *Rouge*—weekly organ of the Ligue Communiste, French section of the Fourth International which has played a leading role in the organization of the movement—noted the beginning of motion in the CET: "The main thing is the CET's entry into the struggle. On March 26 a Paris coordinating meeting was held: 400 attended. A collective leadership was elected. In an atmosphere marked by militant work, five demonstrations were planned out for the following day. And on March 27, about 12,000 youth came out!"

The entry of the technical students greatly increased the movement's sense of power and organization. This was reflected in the Paris demonstration April 2.

In the provinces, a total of more than 200,000 people marched in near-

ly 200 actions ranging in size from about 1,000 to at least 20,000.

The demonstrations were generally combined with student strikes, which according to *Le Monde* were nearly 100 percent effective. And in many areas the demonstrators tried to get to army barracks to express their support for soldiers organizing struggles

committee delegates two representatives to the local or regional coordination committee, which meets every two days or so. . . .

"After each meeting of the coordination or central strike committees, the delegates report back to their high-school general assemblies on the discussions held, the positions they took,



A coordinating meeting of the high-school strike committees. Democratic organizational forms have been central factor in success of struggle.

inside the armed forces.

The new student upsurge has been notable not only for its size and breadth. One of its most important contributions to the French political scene as a whole has been its democratic organizational forms. The March 30 *Rouge* described the operations of the "high-school soviets" that have set the tone for the whole movement:

"In the high schools general assemblies meet on a daily basis and, after discussion, conduct hand-votes on whether to strike, continue a strike, or initiate some other action. After that a strike committee charged with carrying out the assembly's decisions is elected; the members of the strike committee are recallable at any time. The general assembly or the strike

and the decisions made."

The same sort of structure, *Rouge* reported, took hold in the universities and the technical schools. All the decisions of the movement—when and where to demonstrate, at what point strikes should be called, and so on—were made in these general assemblies or local and regional coordinating meetings.

The movement's success in drawing a majority of high-schoolers into some form of activity is in large part attributable to this democratic form of organization, which can allow for the greatest controversy in discussion, but is also able to forge a unity in action.

The April 4 *Le Monde* reported that the Paris coordination committee announced that it would meet within days to decide "the forms of action for coming days."

Indians wary of new Wounded Knee treaty

By SKIP BALL

APRIL 10—On April 5, the federal government and two groups occupying Wounded Knee announced a six-point settlement aimed at ending the occupation. The settlement was termed a "small victory" by American Indian Movement (AIM) leader Russell Means. It made several promises to the Indians, including the opening of presidential-level negotiations in Washington, in exchange for an Indian pledge to lay down arms and leave the village.

Two days later, however, Means made it clear that the government would have to begin meaningful negotiations with him in Washington before he would telephone his supporters and advise them to leave Wounded Knee and surrender to federal officials.

The government replied that it would not negotiate "at gunpoint," referring to the estimated 40 to 50 Indians at Wounded Knee, and canceled the meetings scheduled with Means.

This is certainly one of the most hypocritical statements among many the government has made throughout the Wounded Knee occupation. An Associated Press dispatch last week put the number of armed government forces around the area at 300, including the federal marshals, the FBI,

and the entire membership of a carefully screened unit called the Special Operations Groups (SOG). SOG is made up of "highly motivated men," including Green Beret and Marine Corps veterans.

The commander of SOG, supposedly "held at gunpoint" by the occupiers of Wounded Knee, told the Associated Press that unleashing his unit would be akin to "letting a dog loose on a cat."

One SOG bunker stands directly on the site of the 1890 Hotchkiss guns that massacred the first Wounded Knee victims.

Unfortunately for the government, the Harris poll revealed April 2 "a majority of the American people sympathize more with the militant American Indians, than with the federal government at Wounded Knee by 51 to 21 percent. Ninety-three percent of the public has followed the episode."

According to the poll, only 3 percent of those polled felt the government treatment of Indians was excellent. Sixty percent gave the government the worst rating in the poll.

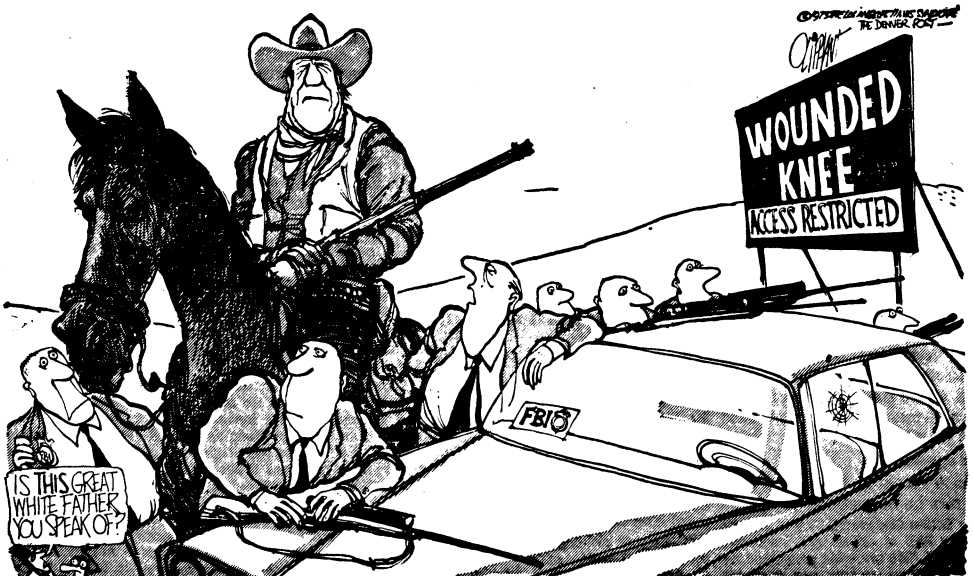
Thursday's settlement was signed by leaders of the Oglala Sioux Civil Rights Organization, AIM, and by several of the traditional tribal chiefs of the Oglala Sioux.

The settlement provides for the establishment of a presidential commission to renegotiate the Treaty of 1868, the document Red Cloud signed with the U.S. following the only war Indians won against the government. The settlement also calls for Justice Department protection of civil liberties on the reservation—denied still by the dictatorial regime of tribal chief Richard Wilson.

Also, the settlement promises: a meeting in Washington where Indian

leaders and White House representatives would consider Indian affairs; federal investigation of Indian affairs throughout the Pine Ridge Reservation, and an audit of tribal funds.

In other developments, dissident tribal councilman Hobart Kieth told *The Militant* he was arrested April 5 for felonious assault after being attacked by two of Wilson's goons. Trumped-up charges against Denver AIM leader Jesse Larges were dropped, however, last week.



"NOT JUST NOW, MR. WAYNE . . . PERHAPS LATER . . ."

Puerto Rican Socialist Party meets in NY

By DOUG JENNESS

NEW YORK, April 8—A spirited rally held here this afternoon at Manhattan Center drew 1,500 people. It was the final session of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party's (PSP) first convention of its U.S. section. Banners fastened to the walls and the balcony by party activists and sympathizers showed that the participants came from many cities and campuses throughout the East Coast and the Midwest.

The purpose of the rally was to present a report to the party's members and sympathizers on the decisions made by the delegates at closed sessions March 31 and April 1. Juan Mari Brás, the party's secretary general, presented the main report. Standing under the party's flag, which was flanked by huge photo posters of Marx and Lenin, Brás summarized the main political resolution. All the resolutions were available in Spanish and English.

The PSP in the United States is a section of the party that was founded at a convention in Puerto Rico in November 1971. It grew out of the Pro-Independence Movement (MPI) founded in 1959. The political declaration of the U.S. section is viewed as an appendix to the general resolution adopted at the party's founding convention in Puerto Rico.

The declaration views the two million Puerto Ricans in the U.S. as part of the Puerto Rican nation, which includes the 2.7 million Puerto Ricans who live in Puerto Rico. Puerto Ricans in the U.S. have a genuine stake in the fight for independence and socialism in Puerto Rico.

On the other hand the document also states that "the construction of socialism here [the U.S.] is also a priority for Puerto Ricans in the United States. This is the only way to end the superexploitation that we



Some of those who attended public session of Puerto Rican Socialist Party convention

suffer in the United States. The effective participation of Puerto Rican workers in the radical struggles of North American society will be an important contribution towards raising the level of class struggle in this country. In addition, it will contribute decisively to our gaining independence and socialism in Puerto Rico." The document pledges the PSP to participate in the "revolutionary transformation of North American society."

The congress mandated the leadership to initiate a discussion that will develop a more specific program for the struggle of Puerto Ricans in the United States.

The document rejects "the notion that the revolution in this country shall be accomplished by the marginal sectors, the superexploited." Although these forces will make an important contribution, the PSP states that "the spinal cord of the revolution must be the workers connected with the vital sectors of production, the only ones capable of paralyzing the country and inflicting mortal blows on the ruling class."

What role does the PSP see for itself in the struggle for a socialist North America? It disclaims "any pretensions to being the vanguard in the United States—which would certainly be ridiculous." It says it would "form part of the vanguard. . . ."

The PSP views other socialist tendencies in the U.S.—which it lumps together as the "vanguard"—to be "diffused, dispersed, inarticulate organizationally and ideologically." One of the reasons it feels that there is disunity and "sectarianism" in the radical movement is "the practice of many organizations of defining themselves on international questions before engaging in concrete organizing work among the masses."

As of yet the PSP has not taken a stand on many international questions. Brás told the assembly the PSP supports the "socialist camp" against imperialism and will accept support from all countries in the "socialist" camp that offer it. But he did not go beyond this elementary pledge of international solidarity against imperialism. He was careful not to take

a pro-Maoist, pro-Moscow, or pro-Trotskyist position, nor did he attack any of these tendencies.

Ramón Arbona, first secretary of the U.S. section of the party, reported on what the party plans to do in the U.S. The plans include building a Puerto Rican student organization, continuing to campaign for the defense of Puerto Rican political prisoners, educational activity both inside and outside the organization, and "strengthening the struggle of Puerto Rican people for their basic democratic rights in the community." Although Arbona didn't mention it, the document also says that one of their priorities will be establishing the basis for a Brotherhood of Latin Workers across union lines.

Except for the defense of political prisoners (the convention was dedicated to Puerto Rican political prisoners), Arbona didn't mention any specific struggles taking place in the U.S. For example, he did not indicate whether the PSP plans to support the struggle of Puerto Rican parents to control the schools in their communities, particularly the present struggle in New York City's District 1.

Arbona explained that the PSP will not support Representative Herman Badillo, a contender for the Democratic nomination for mayor of New York City, or any other Puerto Rican who runs on a capitalist party ticket. The document indicates that "a Puerto Rican mayor will not end the exploitation of the Puerto Rican community within the Capitalist system, just as it has been proven that the numerous Afro-American mayors elected have not been able to change the overall condition of their people." Although he said the PSP won't support any capitalist candidates in New York's mayoralty race, he didn't specify what position the party will take in respect to the elections.

Continued on page 22

N.Y.'s Dist. 1 community slate files for ballot

Fuentes cleared of 'anti-Semitism' charges

By REBECCA FINCH

NEW YORK, April 9—Two major developments took place this week in the continuing campaign of Black, Puerto Rican, and Chinese parents to win community-controlled schools in District 1. In a major victory, Vincent Broderick, a special hearing officer appointed by the chancellor of education in New York to hear charges of racism brought against pro-community-control District 1 Superintendent Luis Fuentes, found that he is "at the present time neither a bigot nor a racist."

The charges had been brought against Fuentes by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the American Jewish Congress, and the Jewish Labor Committee. These organizations also charged that the District 1 community school board members had been derelict in their duty and should be removed because of the procedure they used to select Fuentes as superintendent.

Broderick reported that, to the contrary, the board's selection of Fuentes took place only "after the school board had advertised for applicants; after a screening committee representative of various elements in the community and the school district had been selected; after the screening committee, in consultation with the school board, had developed a set of criteria for the position," and after they had reviewed 60 applications and interviewed 20 applicants.

A B'nai B'rith representative said

the three organizations will pursue the charges against Fuentes through the board of education and the courts.

At a news conference attended by members of the community school board and several parents association representatives, Fuentes stated, "For almost six years these charges have dogged my career because I have fought for the rights of Blacks, Puerto Ricans, and Chinese in the school system. I have been tried in the press."

"Prominent public officials have sought my suspension without a hearing. . . . I hope that with the results of the intensive investigation before the public, we can at last bind the wounds that divide people and move ahead together on behalf of the children. . . ."

In a second victory, the eight pro-community-control candidates filed petitions for ballot status on April 3. Although only 200 signatures of registered voters are required, each of the eight had almost 500 or more signatures. The bulk of the petitioning was completed by Coalition for Education activists and students from New York City campuses.

Parent registration in District 1 has been unusually high, with more than 3,000 new registrants gained during the recent drive community activists conducted.

The Coalition for Education is distributing a letter to District 1 teachers in answer to a letter mailed to all teachers by Albert Shanker, president of the United Federation of Teachers.

The Shanker letter accused Luis Fuentes of building a "tyranny of racism and patronage" in District 1. It also urged teachers to contribute \$10 to the UFT fund for school board candidates who oppose Black and Puerto Rican parents having a greater say in their school districts.

The letter from the coalition reads in part: "Shanker has not fought against the firing or excessing of thousands of New York teachers, but Luis Fuentes and the District 1 School Board have taken up this struggle. Despite the large budget cuts this year,

the district fought against any reduction in its teaching staff. District 1's proposed \$42,000,000 budget would increase the teaching staff and reduce class size. Anti-unionism, like anti-Semitism, has been exposed as a lie promulgated by 'Shankerism.'"

The letter ends with an appeal to the teachers to make donations to the coalition to help support the community-control slate. The address of the Coalition for Education in District 1 is 105 Avenue B (between 6th and 7th streets). The phone number is (212) 673-1886.



Students from New York colleges discuss support for community-control slate at March 31 meeting. Picture mistakenly identified as March 31 meeting in last week's Militant showed an anti-tuition meeting.

April Coalition hit by dissension in ranks

By RICK CONGRESS

BERKELEY—There are two Democratic slates in the race for city council here this year. One, known as "The Berkeley Four," includes Democrats from the anti-McGovern wing of the party. It has the support of many local Republicans who see it as the "lesser evil" against the more liberal Democrats and the campus radicals.

These latter forces are organized into the April Coalition, which also has a slate of four candidates. The April Coalition includes the pro-McGovern Democratic groups and has the support of many people who consider themselves radicals and even "socialists."

Four seats are open on the nine-person city council in the elections, which will be held April 17.

In its quest for votes at all costs, the April Coalition slate has moved to the right. The April Coalition strategists figure they have the "radical" vote locked up and face their main difficulty in competing for the liberal vote with the "Berkeley Four."

At the same time, the Berkeley Four, figuring they have the conservative vote in their pocket, are looking mainly to the left, trying to undercut the April Coalition's liberal support.

The result has been a collision in the center and a growing disaffection on the left with the April Coalition's opportunistic stance.

The Berkeley Four have been using rhetoric nearly indistinguishable from that of the April Coalition. The Berkeley Four issued a program that stated their commitment to "Diverse and quality child care programs with sliding fee schedules," "A shift from the property tax to a graduated income tax to finance municipal services . . . any final decision on an income tax policy should be made by Berkeley voters," and support for "Berkeley's new Affirmative Action Program to eliminate racial and sexual discrimination."

The publication of this platform prompted the April Coalition candidates to picket the headquarters of the Berkeley Four in protest of the alleged "theft" of the April Coalition program! The April Coalition candidates, however, did not bother to explain how it was so easy for the Berkeley Four, who they denounce as being reactionary and Nixonite, to take over their program.

However, this problem did bother groups on the left that have been supporting the April Coalition, although with increasing misgivings. On April 2, a meeting of 200 people was organized by left-wing groups that had been giving support to the April Coalition.

Some of the groups sponsoring the meeting were: the New American Movement, the Radical Student Union, and the Educational Liberation Front. The meeting was organized to enable

the April Coalition candidates to explain to their radical supporters their rightward moves.

Questions were posed to them such as "Are you or are you not socialists?" "What are the limits of reform in capitalist society?" and "What is the relation between electoral politics and mass movements?" The answers that they received from the April Coalition candidates could have been given by many Democratic Party candidates.

Peter Birdsall's answer to the question of "Are you a socialist?" was "I never said I was a socialist, but—I never said I wasn't a socialist either." Ying Kelley, the most up-front about her Democratic Party ties of all the April Coalition candidates, threw down the gauntlet to her uneasy radical supporters. She delivered a ringing defense of her long career in the Democratic Party, and in so many words said that the April Coalition can take the radical vote for granted and is now going after the more right-wing votes.

The misgivings expressed at this meeting have been growing for some time. Some radical supporters of the April Coalition have been dismayed at Coalition assurances to the business community that businessmen needn't fear that a Coalition victory would interfere with their profits. These assurances have been backed up with the endorsement of the April Coalition by the Democrats United Organization, the major Democratic Party organization in Berkeley, which went for McGovern in 1972. Several local Democratic politicians, and Representative Ron Dellums, have endorsed the slate also.

The left-wing backers of the Coalition really got upset, however, with the collapse of the agreement that no member of the coalition would accept an endorsement that didn't cover the slate as a whole. This agreement was a concession to the left wing of the Coalition, which was outvoted at the nominating meeting. The "radicals" were awarded one of the four spots to keep them from bolting, and they wanted some assurance that this would not be just a token slot.

However, when Assemblyman John Miller endorsed only three members of the slate, leaving out Lenny Goldberg, the "radical" of the four, the principle was put to the test. Despite the agreement, the three refused to disavow the endorsement. The three have also received endorsements from the Committee on Political Education of the local AFL-CIO and from the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

The collapse of the agreement barring partial endorsements caused the Berkeley Tenants Organizing Committee, which played the decisive role in getting the recent rent control initiative on the ballot, to withdraw its endorse-

Continued on page 22



Berkeley's April Coalition slate (from right): Peter Birdsall, Margot Dashiell, Lenny Goldberg. Not shown is Ying Kelly. At left is Coalition leader Ilona Hancock.

Campaigning for Socialism

BARNARD COLLEGE STUDENT LEADERS ENDORSE YSA CANDIDATES: The campaigns of two members of the Young Socialist Alliance at Barnard College in New York City, Arlene Rubinstein for undergrad president and Julie Simon for Columbia University Senate, are only two days old. Already the two socialists have received the support of many leading political activists on campus.

These include: Gwyneth Murphy of the Barnard Abortion Action Coalition, Jean Lichty of the Columbia Democratic Caucus, Liza C. May Chan of Lesbians at Barnard, Leyli Shayegan of the Barnard Women's Collective, Marjorie Freeman of New American Movement, and Mary Jo Melone, news editor of the campus radio station, WKCR.

The Young Socialist candidates have distributed campaign leaflets calling for Columbia University and Barnard to sell all their stocks in Gulf Oil and all other companies that do

like having the criminals investigate the crime."

"HO-HUM! IT'S BRADLEY vs. MAYOR SAM AGAIN": This was the headline on the UCLA *Daily Bruin* announcing the results of the April 3 elections in Los Angeles. Democrats Thomas Bradley and Sam Yorty will meet in a runoff election May 29.

Olga Rodriguez, SWP candidate for mayor, said on election night: "The fact that there will be no socialist candidate in the May 29 election is a defeat for the working people of Los Angeles. With a choice between two Democrats, there is nothing really at stake in the runoff. It is a shell game. . . . no matter who wins, we all lose!"

Rodriguez placed seventh in a field of 13 mayoral candidates. She received 2,326 votes—0.35 percent of those cast.

Other returns for the Los Angeles socialist slate are as follow:



Photo from London Sunday Times shows Houston, Texas, cop in patrol car, wearing Klan hood. He is covering his badge number.

business with South Africa and the Portuguese colonies; honor an affirmative-action plan that projects preferential hiring for women on campus; end demolition of community housing for Columbia expansion; and recognize the right of campus workers to organize, including the recognition of District 65 of the Distributive Workers Union at Barnard.

The leaflets also call for support to the New York mayoral campaign of Norman Oliver, candidate of the Socialist Workers Party.

Election day is April 12.

WHO WAS THAT MASKED RIDER? On March 2, SWP Houston mayoral candidate Dan Fein joined Ovid Duncantelle, a Houston Black man who ran for city council in the last election, in holding a news conference on the steps of the Houston police department. The two demanded an independent investigation of the links between the Houston police department and the Ku Klux Klan.

The question of Klan-police ties gained renewed attention as a result of an article that appeared in the Feb. 18 London *Sunday Times*. The story was accompanied by photographs of Houston Klansmen, including one showing a Houston cop in his patrol car wearing a Klan hood.

In calling for an independent investigation into these charges by anti-war activists, Blacks, Chicanos, Pacifica Radio, and other victims of Klan terror, Fein blasted police chief Herman Short's claim that a two-week investigation within the police department had turned up no Klan members. Fein said, "Herman Short investigating the police department is

Board of Education Number 2, Sally Anderson, 27,603 (4.65 percent).

Board of Education Number 4, Walter Lippman, 22,441 (3.92 percent).

Community College Board Number 2, Natalie Bombaro, 31,644 (5.43 percent).

Community College Board Number 4, Arnie Weissberg, 18,355 (3.40 percent).

Community College Board Number 6, Marianna Hernandez, 56,513 (13.44).

William Taylor, Communist Party candidate for controller, got 20,505 (3.54 percent). Mary Siegfried, Peace and Freedom Party candidate for city council district number 15, received 2,768 votes (10.99 percent.)

CLEVELAND SOCIALISTS FIRST TO FILE FOR BALLOT STATUS: On April 10, Roberta Scherr, SWP candidate for mayor of Cleveland, filed 6,900 signatures (over twice the legal requirement of 3,000) on nominating petitions required to ensure her ballot status. The signatures were gathered in the record time of only seven days. Scherr is the first candidate to file nominating petitions, and so far the only official candidate in the mayoral race. At a pre-filing news conference she challenged incumbent Democratic Mayor Ralph Perk, who is expected to seek another term, and any of her other potential opponents to debate her on the issues facing the people of Cleveland. The news conference was covered by WEWS-TV and radio stations WHK and WGAR.

—PETER SEIDMAN

Mpls. SWP launches mayor, council race

By ED JURENAS

MINNEAPOLIS, April 7—Speaking here tonight to a crowd of 80 enthusiastic supporters of the 1973 Socialist Workers Party municipal campaign in Minneapolis, Harry DeBoer, an organizer of the famous 1934 Teamster strikes that shook this city, said:

"I can't see any change in the capitalists or their politicians since the 30s. They were lying and cheating then and they still are. The revolutionary socialists were honest then, and they still are. We have to change this rotten system, and we have to go to the workers and the youth to do it! And we're doing a good job of that by this audience tonight!"

DeBoer spoke at a banquet and rally called to launch the 1973 Minneapolis SWP campaign of Jane Van Deusen for mayor; Jeanne Stevens for school board; and Martin Anderson (second ward), Betsy Farley (sixth ward), and Dave Welters (eighth ward) for city council.

Van Deusen, 24, is a registered nurse and an activist in the feminist movement. In her talk at the banquet, she described the record of her only announced opponent so far, Democratic incumbent Mayor Charles Stenvig, as that of a racist, a witch-hunter of radicals, a supporter of the Vietnam war, a sexist, and a particular benefactor of the Minneapolis police department.

"Has Stenvig done one positive thing

for this city?" Van Deusen asked. "Has he improved the quality of life for the working people of Minneapolis even one bit? How about when he called out the Minneapolis tactical squad to beat up students who were protesting the mining of Haiphong harbor last spring? How about when he called out the canine corps on the southside Black community?"

"While food prices are skyrocketing, what does he have to say? While 20 percent of the families in this city have an income below \$3,000 a year, what is he doing to bring a halt to this disgraceful situation?"

"While thousands go to the unemployment center, he goes to the Orient. While conditions on the job in this city and in this country as a whole get worse for working people, Charles Stenvig says nothing and does nothing!"

Van Deusen contrasted the record and program of her Democratic Party opponent with the program and record of the Socialist Workers Party candidates in Minneapolis.

The rally was chaired by Mary Hillery, 1972 Minnesota SWP candidate for U.S. Senate. It featured a special address by Joe Johnson, who gave an eyewitness account of the Indian struggle at Wounded Knee. During the rally, supporters contributed \$650 to get the socialist campaign under way.

Socialists name D.C. school board slate

By BITSY MEYERS

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 9—The largest slate of socialists ever to run for public office in Washington, D.C., was announced here April 7 at a Socialist Workers Party campaign rally that ended a highly successful Young Socialist educational weekend.

More than 120 people from Baltimore and College Park, Md.; Chapel Hill, N.C.; Huntington, W. Va.; as well as Washington, D.C., participated in the weekend's activities.

Helen Gurewitz, a long-time activist in Washington Labor for Peace and a leader of the Washington Area Peace Action Coalition, chaired the rally.

At the rally, the Socialist Workers Party announced the candidacies of Black activist and ironworker Herman Fagg, and Washington Teachers Union member Erich Martell for at-large seats on the District of Columbia school board.

Also announced were the campaigns of Nan Bailey, a member of the Young Socialist Alliance and a past coordinator of the D.C. Women's National Abortion Action Coalition, and

James Harris, an organizer of the Black task force for the Jan. 20 national antiwar demonstration held in Washington, for two of the three ward seats being contested in the 1973 election.

Linda Jenness, 1972 SWP presidential candidate, spoke at the rally. She said that SWP campaigns being run in Washington, D.C., and other cities throughout the U.S. were explaining the need for the union movement to take an active part in the fight against the skyrocketing cost of living. She showed how the power of the unions could be utilized in support of actions like the massive meat boycott.

Jenness attacked labor bureaucrats like AFL-CIO President George Meany for standing in the way of union action against inflation. "The bureaucrats," she said, "have put the unions under the thumb of the Democratic and Republican parties. . . ."

In response to an appeal by Jenness for funds to launch the SWP campaign, supporters donated more than \$1,300.



Nan Bailey addressing D.C. campaign rally

Militant/Cappy Kidd

Prisoners demand right to vote in Austin

By MIKE ALEWITZ

AUSTIN, April 8—On election day, April 7, when the Democratic and Republican party candidates had ended their campaigns and were simply waiting to hear whether they'd won or lost, the Austin Socialist Workers Party candidates continued their permanent campaign against the oppression and injustice of the capitalist system.

After returning from a picket line yesterday called to protest continuing U.S. intervention in Southeast Asia, Melissa Singler, SWP candidate for mayor, and James Burfeind and Steven Fuchs, SWP candidates for city council, received a call from prisoners in the Travis County jail.

The prisoners said they wanted to vote for the SWP candidates but were being denied that right by jail officials.

The candidates, who had previously toured the jail, demanded of Austin Mayor Roy Butler, one of Singler's opponents in the race, and District Judge Meyers that the prisoners be permitted to vote.

Singler and Burfeind went to the jail and spoke with one of the Black prisoners, Joe Hutchinson.

Hutchinson explained that the inmates had not been allowed to vote absentee, and that although large numbers of prisoners were registered

and qualified to vote, they were simply not being permitted to exercise their rights.

Even the sheriff agreed that this was the case. But he used the excuse that he didn't have enough personnel to provide transportation to take the prisoners to the polls. When the socialist candidates volunteered to provide the transportation, he refused the offer.

Burfeind asked Hutchinson how many prisoners wanted to vote. Hutchinson replied there were about 80 qualified prisoners who wanted to vote. "They came up to register us, but when it came time for voting, everyone was gone. . . . They've been working on the assumption that we're illiterate fools with no knowledge of the laws."

Legal actions are currently being considered to challenge this basic denial of rights.

Election returns gave Melissa Singler, SWP mayoral candidate, 3,426 votes, placing her third in a field of six, with 5.7 percent of the vote.

Burfeind, city council place 2 candidate, received 1,073 votes, or 1.8 percent of the total.

Fuchs, who was ruled off the ballot because he is 19 years old, was forced to run a write-in campaign. His vote totals are not yet available.



Melissa Singler (left) and Jim Burfeind (right) speaking with Joe Hutchinson in Austin jail.

Militant/Mike Alewitz

Oliver hits Dems, CP in N.Y. debate

By HUGH MORGAN

NEW YORK, April 9—Norman Oliver, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor, appeared with four other mayoral candidates before an audience of 500 people at New York University April 6.

The other candidates were Jesse Gray and Albert Blumenthal, both seeking the Democratic Party's nomination; Rasheed Storey, the candidate of the Communist Party; and Tony Chaitkin, the candidate of the National Caucus of Labor Committees.

Even though Sanford Garelik, Mario Biaggi, and Herman Badillo, three other contenders for the Democratic nomination, failed to appear, it was the first time so many of the mayoral candidates have appeared together on the same platform.

The meeting also marked the first confrontation in this campaign between Communist Party candidate Rasheed Storey and Norman Oliver. It was one of Storey's first public appearances since the announcement of his candidacy. The meeting was sponsored by the Program Board of Loeb Student Center.

In his opening remarks, Blumenthal said that "while it may not be possible to be all things to all men, New York needs a mayor who will try to represent all the people of the city."

Gray said he would seek to mobilize a "people's coalition" to solve the city's problems. Storey also advocated "building an antimonopoly coalition." "Let's be clear," Storey said, "the

Communist Party is not going for socialism."

Norman Oliver addressed himself to actual struggles taking place in the city, such as the meat boycott and demonstrations against rising food prices. He said, "I and my party support the eight pro-community-control candidates running for the District 1 school board on the Lower East Side."

Calling attention to the fact that an official investigation had just cleared District 1 superintendent Luis Fuentes of charges of "racism and anti-Semitism," Oliver said this was a victory for "the Black, Puerto Rican, and Chinese community fighting for control of their children's education."

In the course of the discussion, Oliver attacked the "antimonopoly coalition" strategy put forward by Rasheed Storey to solve the problems of New York. He explained that the working people, Blacks, and Puerto Ricans of New York had to make a clear break with capitalist politics in order to attack the city's problems.

Tony Chaitkin predicted that his group would "bury" the Communist Party within three months. Then, after announcing the U.S. "is in the midst of a depression" and predicting a "revolution in four years," he appealed to the Socialist Workers Party: "Give up your Black nationalism, your animalism." "Get human," he urged.

The following day, Oliver and Joanna Misnik, SWP candidate for city council president, both participated in a demonstration of some 400 people against high food prices.

In Review

Spider's Stratagem

The Spider's Stratagem (1970) and Before the Revolution (1964). Directed by Bernardo Bertolucci. New Yorker Films. English subtitles.

These two early films by Bernardo Bertolucci explore the effects and pressures of society on the individuals involved. (Bertolucci's latest movie is *Last Tango in Paris*.)

Using highly agile camera work and a rich metaphorical style, Bertolucci traces his characters as confused and half-conscious pawns unaware of the social pressures that bend and shape them. The main protagonists in both these films consider themselves rebels against modern, capitalist society. But without a clear understanding of what's necessary to change it, they inevitably succumb to their environment.

The Spider's Stratagem is based on a short story by Jorge Luis Borges entitled "The Theme of the Traitor and the Hero." The film follows Athos Magnani Jr. (Giulio Brogi) as he tries to solve the assassination of his father (also played by Giulio Brogi), a fa-

Film

mous anti-fascist leader supposed killed by the fascists in 1936.

But as the son presses his father's coconspirators, he discovers the myth of Athos Magnani Sr. is hollow. The father, he finds out, had actually betrayed a conspiracy to assassinate Mussolini.

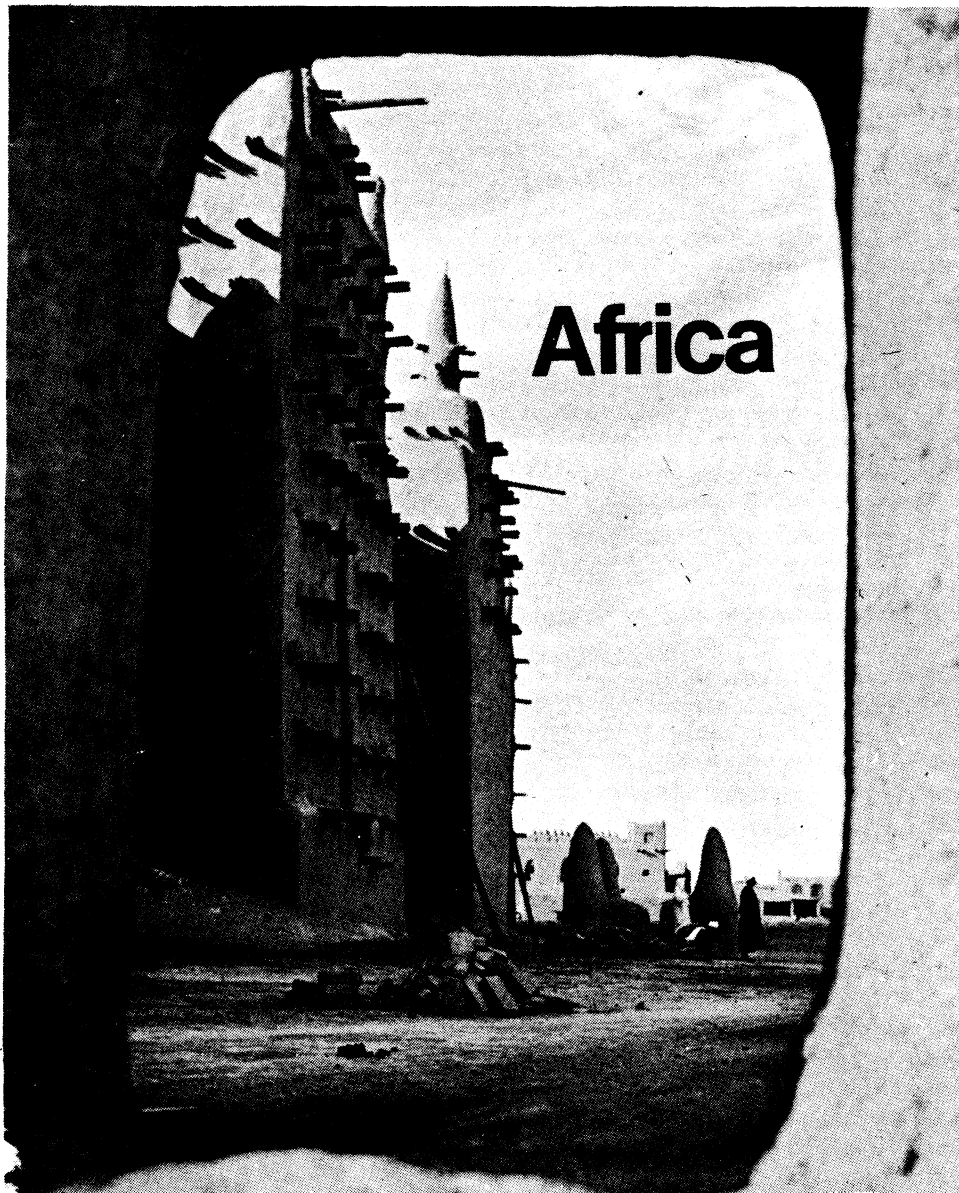
As penance, he requested his friends to kill him under highly dramatic circumstances to make it look like a fascist act, thus preserving his outward appearance as a legendary "people's hero." But the son, a mirror image of his father and unwilling to reveal the truth, also becomes enmeshed in the spider web of deceit, also falls victim to the myth of the romantic hero.

Using metaphors and imagery rich in allusion and subtle meaning, Bertolucci reveals the romanticism of the individualistic "hero" as nothing but bravura. By being more concerned with his own image, Magnani carries within himself the seeds of betrayal.

Before the Revolution, more direct and less allusive than *The Spider's Stratagem*, examines the brief flirtation of Fabrizio (Francesco Barilli) both with the Italian Communist Party and with his aunt (Adriana Asti). Fabrizio finds he cannot escape his bourgeois environment, although he realizes the mental and emotional shackles that capitalist Italy places on him.

Bertolucci, himself a Communist Party member, holds the CP partially at fault. At a festival, Fabrizio reveals his disgust with the CP. Why don't they hold protests against the killing of Blacks in Alabama or in solidarity with the Algerian revolution and the struggle in Angola? The CP, he realizes, is incapable of making a revolution. But not seeing any other alternative, Fabrizio drowns in his comfortable surroundings.

— ERNEST HARSCH



Fourteenth century mosque in Jenne, Mali

Africa: History of a Continent by Basil Davidson. Macmillan. New York, 1972. 320 pp. \$12.95.

In the past several years there has been a reawakening of interest in Africa among growing numbers of Blacks in the United States. A reflection of this is the publication of a large number of books on African history and culture by major publishing houses.

This book contains a great many photographs and a summary of African history. The illustrations, which

Books

focus on African art and architecture, as well as historical events, are the book's main attraction. (A sample of these photographs appear on this page.)

Africa has more than 320 million inhabitants, who speak numerous languages and have different cultures and historical experiences. Africa is not one big country, but many nations and nationalities. There is no one African people, just as there is no one Asian or one European people.

Within these limitations, Davidson gives the reader a glimpse of Stone Age Africa; dynastic Egypt; a brief survey of the rise of the Nile civilizations; the birth of the Iron Age and its effects on many African peoples and cultures; the conquest of Africa by the European colonial powers in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; and the present liberation struggles.

Davidson makes no pretense of trying to write a full and detailed history. As he explains, his history is "an attempt to trace a broad out-

line of African growth and change over some twenty centuries, to present a general and yet reasonably chronological survey of those years, as well as to suggest the long-range historical explanation of Africans and their development."

He provides a brief description of the rise of nationalist consciousness among Africans after World War II. There is a section on the winning of political independence by many African countries and a mention of white-ruled southern Africa.

In concluding his work, Davidson notes the special relationship the new independent countries still have with their former masters:

"Independence had brought many changes, many advances; it had not yet begun, save partially here and there, to alter Africa's relationship to the industrialized countries which still dominated the fortunes of the continent."

— MALIK MIAH



Algerian freedom fighters

Prine: Diamonds in the Rough

John Prine by John Prine. Atlantic Recording Company. 1971. \$4.99. Diamonds in the Rough by John Prine. Atlantic Recording Company. 1972. \$4.99.

John Prine, a young singer and songwriter from Chicago, is shattering the myth that country music belongs to "red-necks."

Prine's songs are peopled by victims—prostitutes, jilted lovers, crippled bums, lonely strangers. Their stories are told with compassion laced with irony, as in "The Late John Garfield Blues":

"Two men were standing upon a bridge
One jumped and screamed you lose
And just left the odd man holding
Those late John Garfield blues."

Prine seems to have a special fascination for old people and Vietnam veterans. "Hello in There" tells the

Records

story of a sad, deserted old couple looking for something to fill their lives:

"Me and Loretta, we don't talk much more
She sits and stares through the back door screen
And all the news just repeats itself
Like some forgotten dream, that we've both seen."

He returns to this theme in "Angel from Montgomery," in which an old woman yearns for "one thing that I can hold on to. To believe in this living is a hard way to go."

Prine's songs about Vietnam veterans are effective antidotes to the "Okie from Muskogee" brand of pseudopatriotism that sometimes seems to flood the top 40 country airways. In "Sam Stone," one of his best-known compositions, an unemployed vet ends his hopeless existence with a heroin overdose, while the chorus mourns, "There's a hole in Daddy's arm where all the money goes. And Jesus Christ died for nothing, I suppose." In another song, a returning GI orders his parents to "take the star out of the window and let my conscience take a rest."

Not all of John Prine's songs, however, deal with such heavy topics. He displays an engaging silliness in several pieces, including "The Frying Pan," in which he pokes fun at a familiar theme in country music: the runaway housewife.

He's quite adept at acoustic guitar, supplementing his own playing with that of Goodman, David Bromberg, and an impressive assortment of fiddle players, pedal steel guitarists, and other back-up musicians.

If you've never paid attention to country music before, John Prine is a good place to begin. If you're already a country fan, put these two John Prine albums right up there alongside those of Hank Williams. That's where they belong.

— LAURA MILLER

Militant sales go well among supporters of meat boycott

By NANCY COLE

APRIL 11—The *Militant* sales campaign came close last week to its goal of 7,000 weekly street sales with an increase of 182 over the previous week. Eighteen areas, or more than half those listed on the scoreboard, made their quotas. Seven hit 100 percent for the first time—Chicago, Detroit, Long Island, Mt. Pleasant, Oakland/Berkeley, Portland, and Salt Lake City.

Of special note are the two areas that sold the most this week, Chicago and Oakland/Berkeley. Coincidentally, their week's totals were the same—511. In Chicago, 200 of those were sold in the Black community and 125 at the action organized by Operation PUSH. Sales in the Oakland/Berkeley area included 50 at grocery stores, 100 at Merritt College registration, and 100 at SWP election campaign meetings.

At a Shell strike meeting in San Francisco, a *Militant* supporter from the Oakland/Berkeley area quickly sold out of the 22 *Militants* she had taken with her.

Sales in all areas were aided last week by the interest in the meat boycott and *The Militant's* special feature on the high cost of eating. Many supporters tried selling at grocery stores for the first time and plan to continue such sales in the future.

In Cleveland, where *Militant* supporters were also in the midst of an intensive ballot petitioning effort, 192 *Militants* were sold on Saturday outside grocery stores. This was accomplished by teams consisting of two petitioners and one *Militant* seller. In about two hours, most salespeople had sold out of their bundles of 30 to 35 *Militants* each.

Members of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance in Detroit sold 200 *Militants* on campuses last week and more than 160 at supermarkets. At a shopping center in Highland Park where they sell regularly, they concentrated on the two grocery stores and sold almost 100 *Militants*. According to SWP sales director Sandy Knoll, the interest was high because "people were a part of the meat boycott and they wanted to read about it. Some were already looking forward to the next issue of *The Militant* and wanted to know if we would be back the next week."

Individual supporters are also finding *The Militant* easy to sell. From Nashville, Tenn., Ben Harris accepted a sales quota of 25 with the following note: "As I finished selling Nashville's *Mil-*

itant bundle last week, I thought that one at-large YSAer selling 20 or 25 copies a week was good enough to make the scoreboard." Since then he's made his quota twice.

Also in the 100 percent category for two weeks is our salesman in Hershey, Pa., Richard Faloney. He writes, "Even though I lost my best selling day, Saturday, this week my sales have improved. I sold six in one hour at a local shopping center on Monday, and four more at the same place in less than an hour on Tuesday."

Militant scoreboard

AREA	SOLD LAST WEEK	WEEKLY GOAL	%	SOLD PREVIOUS WEEK
Cleveland	322	250	129	(285)
Mt. Pleasant	25	20	125	(*)
San Diego	275	225	122	(450)
Upper West Side	372	325	114	(354)
Atlanta	282	250	113	(280)
Salt Lake City	22	20	110	(*)
Austin	209	200	105	(152)
Detroit	361	350	103	(256)
Lower Manhattan	360	350	103	(388)
Portland	206	200	103	(176)
Chicago	511	500	102	(340)
Oakland-Berkeley	511	500	102	(284)
Amherst	25	25	100	(*)
Hershey	10	10	100	(10)
Houston	500	500	100	(500)
Huntington	40	40	100	(40)
Long Island	45	45	100	(35)
Nashville	25	25	100	(25)
Washington	242	250	97	(113)
Seattle	236	250	94	(268)
Brooklyn	298	325	92	(275)
Storrs	27	30	90	(30)
Boston	422	500	84	(317)
Philadelphia	202	275	73	(167)
Twin Cities	290	425	68	(297)
San Francisco	314	500	63	(249)
College Park	30	50	60	(29)
Denver	135	225	60	(575)
East Lansing	15	25	60	(*)
St. Louis	20	35	57	(*)
Los Angeles	300	550	55	(338)
Hartford	24	45	53	(25)
Madison	27	55	49	(*)
Scranton	5	20	25	(*)
TOTAL SOLD LAST WEEK	6,688			
GOAL	7,000			

(* no report)

CREEP still going \$strong

Five months after Nixon's landslide victory over McGovern, the Committee to Reelect the President is still going strong. True, it's not quite like the good old days when CREEP had a budget of \$40-million and a staff of 400. But they still have a hefty \$5-million in the bank, a full-time staff of 12, and a paper shredder in the corner.

What does the CREEP staff do these days? Well, for one thing they auction off embassies. Top bidder this season was Ruth Farkas, owner of a New York department store. According to the April 4 *New York Times*, "she and her husband contributed \$300,000 to President Nixon's campaign. In return, she gets the embassy in Luxembourg."

She should have shopped around. John Irwin II snapped up the French embassy for only \$52,500. John Krehbiel picked up Finland for only \$12,500. Trinidad and Tobago went to Anthony Marshall for a mere \$49,505. And Henry Catto Jr. put in a successful bid of only \$26,000 for El Salvador.

If you think you might like to be an ambassador yourself, it's never too late to enter the auction. CREEP is still accepting bids, or "campaign contributions" as they are sometimes called.

CREEP, alas, has also had to return a few

American Way of Life

"contributions." Like the one from accused stock swindler Robert Vesco.

Vesco, it seems, had been having trouble with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission over the matter of \$224-million that had vanished from a series of mutual funds he managed. He thought it might help if John Mitchell (former attorney general and then head of CREEP) set up an appointment for him with the SEC.

Mitchell agreed. In return, the grateful Vesco sent Nixon a suitcase full of hundred dollar bills—\$200,000 worth.

When the story broke in the press, Nixon reluctantly returned the money. If the SEC ever finds Vesco (who was last seen in Costa Rica), he may have some explaining to do.

CREEP may have more things to explain too. According to the *Washington Post*, there's \$15-million more in secret "contributions" CREEP has yet to account for. —MICHAEL BAUMANN

Another YSA local in La.

By DELFINE WELCH

Several Young Socialist teams marked the halfway point this week in their eight-week campus tours. To date, more than 15,000 *Young Socialists* and *Militants* have been sold by the teams. Last week the 12 teams sold a record total of 4,587 *Young Socialists* and *Militants*!

The Austin-Houston team signed up five University of Southwestern Louisiana students as new members of the YSA to form a chapter of the YSA in Lafayette. So far, 40 people have joined the YSA through the work of the teams, and new chapters have also been set up in Lake Charles, La., San Antonio, Texas, and Sacramento, Calif.

The teams are bringing many students to the regional socialist conferences planned for the end of April. The Atlanta team reports that the West Georgia College radio station is sending a reporter to the Atlanta conference to tape Andrew Pulley's talk and the socialist campaign rally.

All the teams report brisk sales of Pathfinder books and pamphlets at campus literature tables. Some of the fastest selling titles include *Burning Issues of the Mideast Crisis* and *The Truth About Israel and Zionism*. *The Communist Manifesto*, *Revolutionary Potential of the Working Class* and many of Trotsky's works are best sellers.

So far the teams have obtained Pathfinder orders from campus bookstores totaling well over \$1,000. When the Cleveland-Detroit team visited the University of Louisville, they found the campus bookstore displaying Trotsky's works and other Pathfinder titles.

Last week the Young Socialist Teams Fund received a \$650 contribution from a supporter in New York. In addition to a few smaller contributions this brings the total received so far to \$6,575.

Young Socialist teams

TEAM	MILITANT SOLD LAST WEEK	WEEKLY GOAL	YOUNG SOCIALIST SOLD LAST WEEK	WEEKLY GOAL
Denver	237	200	286	200
Philadelphia-D. C.	223	175	295	175
Cleveland-Detroit	274	200	228	200
Atlanta	234	200	215	200
Chicago	184	150	217	150
Boston	176	150	200	150
Austin-Houston	169	150	179	150
Twin Cities	176	150	154	150
Berkeley-San Francisco	168	175	259	175
Los Angeles-San Diego	125	150	201	150
New York	45	150	80	150
Seattle-Portland	134	150	128	150
TOTAL SOLD	2,145	2,000	2,442	2,000



\$0 \$6,575 \$10,000

() I can contribute \$_____ to the \$10,000 YS Teams Fund.

() I can provide food and housing, set up a speaking engagement or interview, or otherwise help a team visiting my area.

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YS Teams Fund, Box 471 Cooper Station, New York, N.Y. 10003.



Calendar

BOSTON

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM: WORLD IN REVOLT. April 20-22. Conference Auditorium, Sherman Union, Boston University. Fri., April 20, 7:30 p.m.: The Cease-Fire Accords: Vietnam for the Vietnamese? Sat., April 21, 11 a.m.: Black Nationalism, Socialism, and the African Revolution; 2:30 p.m.: Can There Be a Revolution in the USA?; 8 p.m.: Decline of the Dollar, Rising Prices, and the International Monetary Crisis; Sun., April 22, 1 p.m.: The Struggle for Freedom in Northern Ireland. For more information call (617) 482-8051.

HOUSTON

WORLD POLITICS IN 1973. SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE—APRIL 19-22 at University of Houston student center. Thurs., April 19, 7 p.m.: The Struggle at Wounded Knee. A presentation by a national organizer of the American Indian Movement. San Antonio room. Fri., April 20, 8 p.m.: African Liberation Day 1973—panel. Includes film and a presentation by Dawolu Gene Locke of the Lynn Eusan Institute. San Antonio room.

Sat., April 21, 11 a.m.: Middle East in Crisis—panel debate. San Antonio room. 2 p.m.: Perspectives for Chicano Liberation—panel discussion with 1972 Raza Unida candidates Alberto Pena III and Fred Garza; Kris Vasquez, Socialist Workers Party; Maria Jimenez, U of Houston MAYO. San Antonio room. 4 p.m.: Vietnam and Nixon's World Strategy. Presentation by Syd Stapleton, central organizer of the Inauguration Day demonstration in Washington, D.C., and spokesman for the Socialist Workers Party. Honors Hall.

Donation: \$3 for entire weekend; 75c per session. Sponsored by Young Socialist Alliance, Young Socialists for Dan Fein, and University of Houston Students Association. For more information contact YSA, 3311 Montrose Blvd., telephone (713) 526-1082.

LOS ANGELES

"A LUTA CONTINUA" (THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES)—film. Documentary of struggle for national liberation against Portuguese colonialism in Mozambique. Speaker: Robert Van Lierop, producer and narrator of film. Fri., April 20, 8 p.m. 1107 1/2 N. Western Ave., Second Floor. Donation: \$1, h.s. students 50c. Sponsored by Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (213) 463-1917.

NEW YORK: LOWER MANHATTAN

THE STRUGGLE FOR BLACK, PUERTO RICAN, AND CHINESE CONTROL OF DISTRICT 1 SCHOOLS: A Debate: Who Should Control Education in District 1? Speakers: Georgina Hoggard, chairwoman, District 1 community school board; Carolyn Kozlowsky, UFT-endorsed candidate for District 1 community school board. Fri., April 20, 8 p.m. 706 Broadway (near 4th St.), Eighth Floor. Donation: \$1, h.s. students 50c. Ausp. Militant Forum. For more information call (212) 982-6051.

NEW YORK: UPPER WEST SIDE

VIVA LA CAUSA. Film and talk on United Farm Workers struggle and lettuce boycott. Speaker: Ben Spivak, Manhattan coordinator of UFW. Fri., April 20, 8 p.m. 2744 Broadway (near 105th St.) Donation: \$1, h.s. students 50c. Ausp: West Side Militant Forum. For more information call (212) 663-3000.

PHILADELPHIA

FOUR MORE YEARS OF NIXON AND WHAT TO DO

ABOUT IT. Speaker: Andrew Pulley, national secretary of the Young Socialist Alliance. Fri., April 20, 8 p.m. U of Pa., Houston Hall, 3417 Spruce St., Second Floor. Donation: \$1, h.s. students 50c. Ausp: Philadelphia Socialist Forums. For more information call (215) WA5-4316.

SAN FRANCISCO

A GENERAL STRIKE IN GREAT BRITAIN? The British upsurge and its meaning for the American labor movement. Speaker: Art Sharon, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., April 20, 8 p.m. 1519 Mission St. Donation: \$1, h.s. students 50c. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (415) 864-9174.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

THE SWP ON THE AIR. Listen to Theodore Edwards, spokesman for the Socialist Workers Party, on his weekly radio program, 2 p.m., every Saturday, KPFF-FM, 90.7.

TWIN CITIES

THE NEW RESISTANCE IN GREECE. Speaker: Ev Kalambokidis, member of Greek-American Solidarity. Fri., April 20, 8 p.m. 1 University Ave. N.E., Mpls. Donation: \$1, h.s. students and unemployed 50c. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 332-7781.

...steel

Continued from page 15

management productivity committees under the 1971 contract have further raised output per worker per hour during the past year, doubling the average 2 percent annual increase of the entire period since the mid-1950s.

The Abel-Larry deal is in accordance with the agreement between the George Meany-led AFL-CIO bureaucracy and the Nixon administration to try to forestall any major strike action this year. But the no-strike plan for the steel industry goes further in its specific details than any of the others under discussion.

The plan was hailed by George Meany, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the *New York Times*. One of the leading congressional antiunion exponents of compulsory arbitration Senator Bob Packwood (R-Ore.), told his colleagues, "I for one would like to congratulate and commend the steelworkers and the steel companies for achieving this landmark agreement."

Union officials other than Meany have responded more cautiously. United Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock and Machinists President Floyd Smith both said they could not give up the right to strike without getting rank-and-file approv-

al, an obstacle Abel hopes to circumvent by substituting the action of the 600-member basic steel conference for the membership vote.

Abel also hopes to distract the steelworkers from their own problems by interesting them in the problems of the industry. A propaganda campaign has been launched for this purpose. Last February a film was released jointly by the union and the steel companies titled "Where's Joe?," with the message that Joe got laid off at the mill because the *threat* and *fear* of strikes are losing customers and business for the steel companies.

"Later," reports the Feb. 16 *Wall Street Journal*, "the message is to be carried into the Steelworkers' homes by way of comic books, a comic strip, educational television and possibly even a game, tentatively called 'Hedge,' after the practice of 'hedge-buying' of steel in anticipation of a strike."

The Abel-Larry deal appears to be nicely packaged, signed, sealed, and delivered. But the steelworkers will yet have the final word. Much will happen in the next 16 months before the present steel contract expires. No amount of company propaganda in the form of comic books, games, and TV shows will put meat on the table or otherwise compensate for lean paychecks, harder work and more layoffs.

...PSP

Continued from page 17

Among many resolutions adopted by the conference was one on Latin American immigrants without visas. The PSP attacked the proposed legislation (Rodino-Kennedy Bill) that would make it a crime to apply for a job if the applicant lacks a visa.

A resolution on Puerto Rican women pledges support to the struggle for equal educational opportunities, equal pay for equal work, and free child-care facilities. The Equal Rights Amendment was not specifically mentioned in the resolution. The congress mandated the leadership "to do research regarding abortion as it affects the Puerto Rican woman in the United States, and thereby stimulate

the necessary discussion . . . to take a position. . . ."

The preface to the political document indicates that it is not a finished product. "We hope that this Declaration will be widely read and discussed, not only by Party members but by our sympathizers, friends, and all those interested in the Puerto Rican struggle.

"These discussions will form the basis for the Political Thesis that the Congress mandated be written."

There were many invited guests who sat on the platform both at the opening session on March 31 and at the final rally. Among them were representatives of Puerto Rican organizations and radical political parties, including Norman Oliver, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of New York.

...April

Continued from page 18

ment of the April Coalition. This group had been an important base of support among radical-minded activists for the April Coalition.

The Socialist Workers Party candidates and their supporters have been actively explaining that the April Coalition was a diversion from the independent political activity needed to achieve revolutionary change. As a result of the disarray among the April Coalition's more radical supporters, this view is getting a hearing.

Many former April Coalition enthusiasts now see that the Coalition is neither revolutionary nor even very radical. Many still believe, however, that it should be supported as a "lesser evil" than the Berkeley Four slate.

The city council campaign of SWP candidates Nancy Makler, Brian Williams, Kathryn Pon, and Ken Miliner has been getting an increasingly favorable response among leftward-moving people. It remains the only campaign that puts forth a consistent program on the side of the oppressed as opposed to the two brands of Democratic Party politics represented by the April Coalition and the Berkeley Four.

Socialist Directory

ALABAMA: Tuscaloosa: YSA, P.O. Box 5462, University, Ala. 35486.

ARIZONA: Phoenix: YSA, P.O. Box 890, Tempe, Ariz. 85281.

CALIFORNIA: Berkeley-Oakland: SWP and YSA, 3536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, Calif. 94609. Tel: (415) 654-9728.

Chico: YSA, c/o Kathy Isabell, 266 E. Sacramento Ave., Chico, Calif. 95926.

Los Angeles: SWP and YSA, 1107 1/2 N. Western Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90029. Tel: SWP—(213) 463-1917, YSA—(213) 463-1966.

Riverside: YSA, c/o Don Andrews, 3408 Florida, Riverside, Calif. 92507.

Sacramento: YSA, c/o Norm Holsinger, 817a 27 St., Sacramento, Calif. 95816. Tel: (916) 447-1883.

San Diego: Militant Bookstore, SWP and YSA, 5617 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, Calif. 92115. Tel: (714) 582-3352.

San Francisco: SWP, YSA, Militant Labor Forum, and Militant Books, 1519 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif. 94103. Tel: (415) 864-9174.

San Jose: YSA, c/o Chico Aldape, 543 S. 9th, #5, San Jose, Calif. 95112. Tel: (408) 286-8492.

San Mateo: YSA, c/o Chris Stanley, 1712 Yorktown Rd., San Mateo, Calif. 97330.

Santa Barbara: YSA, c/o Carolyn Marsden, 413 Shasta Ln., Santa Barbara, Calif. 93101.

COLORADO: Boulder: YSA, c/o UMC Hostess Desk, U of Colorado, Boulder, Colo. 80302.

Denver: SWP, YSA, and Militant Bookstore, 1203 California, Denver, Colo. 80204. Tel: (303) 623-2825. Bookstore open Mon.-Sat., 10:30 a.m.—7 p.m.

CONNECTICUT: Hartford: YSA, P.O. Box 1184, Hartford, Conn. 06101. Tel: (203) 523-7582.

New Haven: YSA, P.O. Box 185, New Haven, Conn. 06501.

Storrs: YSA, U of Conn., P.O. Box 344, Storrs, Conn. 06268.

FLORIDA: Tallahassee: YSA, c/o Sarah Ryan, 1806 Lake Bradford Rd., Tallahassee, Fla. 32304.

GEORGIA: Atlanta: Militant Bookstore, 68 Peachtree St. N.E., Third Floor, Atlanta, Ga. 30303. SWP and YSA, P.O. Box 846, Atlanta, Ga. 30301. Tel: (404) 523-0610.

ILLINOIS: Carbondale: YSA, c/o Lawrence Roth/Mark Harris, 505 S. Graham, #341, Carbondale, Ill. 62901.

Chicago: SWP, YSA, and bookstore, 180 N. Wacker Dr., Room 310, Chicago, Ill. 60606. Tel: SWP—(312) 641-0147, YSA—(312) 641-0233.

INDIANA: Bloomington: YSA, c/o Student Activities Desk, Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind. 47401.

IOWA: Cedar Falls: YSA, c/o Mark Jacobsen, 2310 College St. Apt. B, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613. Tel: (319) 277-2544.

KENTUCKY: Lexington: YSA, P.O. Box 952, University Station, Lexington, Ky. 40506.

MARYLAND: Baltimore: YSA, c/o Dave McKim, 2103 Belair Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21213. Tel: (301) 732-8996.

College Park: YSA, University P.O. Box 73, U of Md., College Park, Md. 20742.

MASSACHUSETTS: Amherst: YSA, R.S.O. Box 324, U of Mass., Amherst, Mass. 01002.

Boston: SWP and YSA, c/o Militant Labor Forum, 655 Atlantic Ave., Third Floor, Boston, Mass. 02111. Tel: SWP—(617) 482-8050, YSA—(617) 482-8051; Issues and Activists Speaker's Bureau (IASB) and Regional Committee—(617) 482-8052; Pathfinder Books—(617) 338-8560.

MICHIGAN: Detroit: SWP, YSA, Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich. 48201. Tel: (313) TE1-6135.

East Lansing: YSA, Second Floor Offices, Union Bldg. Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich. 48823.

Mt. Pleasant: YSA, P.O. Box 98, Warriner Hall, CMU, Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858.

MINNESOTA: Minneapolis-St. Paul: SWP, YSA, and Labor Bookstore, 1 University N.E. (at E. Hennepin) Second Floor, Mpls. 55413. Tel: (612) 332-7781.

MISSOURI: Kansas City: YSA, c/o Student Activities Office, U of Missouri at Kansas City, 5100 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, Mo. 64110.

St. Louis: YSA, P.O. Box 8037, St. Louis, Mo. 63156. Tel: (314) 371-1503.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Portsmouth: YSA, P.O. Box 479, Durham, N.H. 03824.

NEW JERSEY: New Brunswick: YSA, c/o Ruben Montare, Livingston College, Room 313, New Brunswick, N.J. 10119. Tel: (201) 463-9766.

NEW MEXICO: Albuquerque: YSA, c/o Kathy Helmer, 9920 Leyendecker Rd. N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87112. Tel: (505) 296-6230.

NEW YORK: Binghamton: YSA, Box 1073, Harpur College, Binghamton, N.Y. 13901. Tel: (607) 798-4142.

Brooklyn: SWP and YSA, 136 Lawrence St. (at Willoughby), Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201. Tel: (212) 596-2849.

Long Island: YSA, P.O. Box 357, Roosevelt, L.I., N.Y. 11575. Tel: (516) FR9-0289.

New York City—City-wide SWP and YSA, 706 Broadway (4th St.), Eighth Floor, New York, N.Y. 10003. Tel: (212) 982-8214.

Lower Manhattan: SWP, YSA, and Merit Bookstore, 706 Broadway (4th St.), Eighth Floor, New York, N.Y. 10003. Tel: SWP, YSA—(212) 982-6051; Merit Books—(212) 982-5940.

Upper West Side: SWP and YSA, 2744 Broadway (106th St.), New York, N.Y. 10025. Tel: (212) 663-3000.

OHIO: Bowling Green: YSA, Box 27, U. Hall, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402.

Cincinnati: YSA, c/o C.R. Mitts, P.O. Box 32084, Cincinnati, Ohio 45232.

Tel: (513) 242-6132.

Cleveland: SWP and YSA, 4420 Superior Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44103. Tel: SWP—(216) 391-5553, YSA—(216) 391-3278.

Columbus: YSA, c/o Daryl Drobnick, 1510 Georgesville Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43228.

Toledo: YSA, c/o Shannon O'Toole, 1606 Freeman St., #2, Toledo, Ohio 43606. Tel: (419) 472-2592.

Yellow Springs: YSA, Antioch College Union, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

OREGON: Eugene: YSA, c/o Dave Hough, 1216 1/2 Lincoln, Eugene, Ore. 97401.

Portland: SWP and YSA, 208 S.W. Stark, Fifth Floor, Portland, Ore. 97204. Tel: (503) 226-2715.

PENNSYLVANIA: Edinboro: YSA, Edinboro State College, Edinboro, Pa. 16412.

Philadelphia: SWP and YSA, 1004 Filbert St. (one block north of Market), Philadelphia, Pa. 19107. Tel: (215) WA5-4316.

RHODE ISLAND: Providence: YSA, P.O. Box 117, Annex Sta., Providence, R.I. 02901. Militant Bookstore: 88 Benevolent St. Tel: (401) 331-1480.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Sioux Falls: YSA, c/o Deb Rogers, Box 1658, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. 57102.

TENNESSEE: Nashville: YSA, 1214 17th Ave. S., Nashville, Tenn. 37212. Tel: (615) 292-8827.

TEXAS: Austin: YSA, SWP, Militant Bookstore, Harriet Tubman Hall, 1801 Nueces, Austin, Texas 78701. Tel: (512) 478-8602.

Houston: SWP, YSA, and Pathfinder Books, 3311 Montrose, Houston, Texas 77006. Tel: (713) 526-1082.

San Antonio: YSA, c/o P.O. Box 774, San Antonio, Texas 78202.

UTAH: Logan: YSA, P.O. Box 1233, Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84321.

VERMONT: Burlington: YSA, c/o John Franco, 241 Malletts Bay Ave., Winooski, Vt. 05404.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: SWP and YSA, 746 9th St. N.W., Second Floor, Wash., D.C. 20001. Tel: (202) 783-2363.

WASHINGTON: Pullman: YSA, c/o Dean W. Johnson, 1718 A St., Pullman, Wash. 99163.

Seattle: SWP, YSA, and Militant Bookstore, 5257 University Way N.E., Seattle, Wash. 98105. Hrs. 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Mon.-Sat. Tel: (206) 523-2555.

WEST VIRGINIA: Huntington: YSA, Marshall University, Huntington, W. Va. 25701.

WISCONSIN: Madison: YSA, c/o James Levitt, 411 W. Gorham St., Madison, Wis. 53703. Tel: (608) 257-2835.

untangling Nixon's economics

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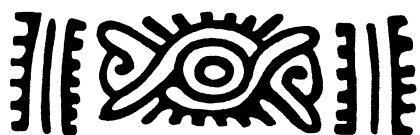
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THE MILITANT

Hundreds walk off jobs, demand higher pay

Black workers strike Atlanta dept. stores

By TONY DUTROW

ATLANTA, April 7—Hundreds of Black workers walked off their jobs April 2 at most of Rich's department stores in the Atlanta area. Rich's is Georgia's largest department store chain. It is also one of its biggest employers, with more than 10,000 workers in the Southeast, and with at least eight stores in Atlanta alone. Its sales last year totaled more than \$250-million.

Strikers are calling for a boycott of all Rich's department stores until the workers are able to win their demand for an end to racist hiring, promotional and firing practices, and low wages. The boycott has already cut into normally lucrative Easter sales.

Most of the strikers are from the downtown store and have been picketing it daily. Picket lines have been as large as 300. Spirited mass meetings have been held nightly, with 300 to 400 workers present. Delegations of strikers from most of the stores have come to the meetings to explain the effect of the boycott and to participate in the chanting and singing that mark these meetings.

The Reverend Hosea Williams of the Metro-De Kalb SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference), who is advising the strike, says about 1,300 workers are out on strike.

Thousands of Black workers have now been involved in a series of strikes that began a year ago with the

Holy Family Hospital strike. Sears Roebuck and the giant Mead packaging plant in Atlanta were also hit. Each strike has been set off by racist practices as intolerable as the low pay the Black workers are forced to accept.

The Black workers at Rich's are demanding an end to such discriminatory practices as openly promoting white employees into jobs for which Black workers are more qualified. Black job applicants are often passed over, while whites are immediately hired, sometimes before the Black applicants leave the employment office.

Rich's executives are among the highest paid in the Southeast, while

its workers are among the lowest paid. Black women in some departments work for as little as \$1.65 an hour. Black workers in the warehouses and docks make only a little over \$2 an hour.

Black truck drivers, who make more than twice the wages of their co-workers, are also on strike, the drivers share in the poor working conditions and heavy workloads. This is common in many of the nonunion industries in the Southeast.

On April 3 a meeting of all truck drivers at Rich's main distribution center in Tucker, Ga., was held. The Black drivers voted unanimously to walk out, and half the white drivers

joined them. As the organizer of the truckers told the mass meeting the next evening, "We have shut it down, and it is locked up tight."

The closing of this distribution center hits Rich's hard. Much of its business is home delivery of bulky appliances and furniture.

A meeting of about 300 workers, mostly Black, overwhelmingly approved a list of 37 demands to be presented to Rich's in the negotiations. Demands include a \$1-an-hour across-the-board increase for all workers, protection against reprisals after the strike is settled, sick pay and sick leave for all workers upon employment, and increases in pay after jobs are reclassified according to the actual work being done. Several other demands deal with the specific problems of Black workers at Rich's.

A victory at Rich's would have an impact throughout the retail stores in Atlanta.

Richard Rich, the owner of the chain, has influenced policy in the city of Atlanta for years and has masqueraded as a "progressive" businessman.

Debby Bustin, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor of Atlanta, has been doing daily picket duty at Rich's downtown store. She has issued a statement urging all Atlantans to support the strike, to participate in the boycott of Rich's stores, and to join the picket lines.



Militant/George Basley

Like Atlanta Mead strike last September, Rich's strike is led by Black workers

Hit funding of 'STRESS' police terror squad

Detroit group calls April 28 protest

By MIKE KELLY

DETROIT—The Coalition to Abolish STRESS ("Stop the Robberies, Enjoy Safe Streets"), the Detroit police terror squad, has announced the date for its mass demonstration to demand the abolition of STRESS.

Saturday, April 28, has been selected because it falls in the middle of the period when the Detroit common council considers the new budget, including appropriations for the police department. On April 26, the council discusses the police budget. The coalition has called for a picket line on this date.

On April 30, the council is scheduled to hold an open hearing when citizens may testify on the budget. The coalition is calling on citizens to voice their opposition to funding of STRESS at this hearing.

Support for the demonstration continues to mount as prominent members of the Black community endorse these actions. Jurlean Tandy of the Michigan Black Political Assembly and Sidney Fields of the Association of Black Social Workers joined Daisy Elliot and Jackie Vaughn III, Michigan state representatives, in endorsing the actions.

Other endorsers include George Cushingberry, Black Causes Association; Loretta Akers, chairwoman, Association of Black Students, Wayne State University; Ira Samuels, Michigan Guardians; Stu House, aide to Congressman John Conyers; Rollins Reed, Black Panther Party; and others.

High school students at predominantly Black Mumford High

School protested STRESS on April 6 and called for support to the April 28 demonstration. The nearly 100 students also protested the Mumford administration's refusal to grant official recognition to the Mumford Committee to Abolish STRESS. Trudi Hawkins, 16, lead a delegation of 30 to principal Myer Heresh's office, where they presented him with more than 500 signatures of students and teachers calling on him to recognize the committee.

The white principal has consistently blocked the committee and similar groups from gaining recognition in the school. Expecting this, the group had already gotten the American Civil Liberties Union to agree to take their case to court. The right to have such committees was affirmed previously by the federal court in a case involving the High School Student Mobilization Committee in Detroit.

The Mumford committee has received the support of almost every organized group in the school. A similar rally has been called for Murray Wright High School for April 12.

Meetings to form anti-STRESS committees are also scheduled for Highland Park Community College and the University of Detroit.

In a related development, it was announced April 6 that first-degree murder charges were being dropped against Hayward Brown, 18, in the death of STRESS patrolman Robert Bradford.

Detroit Records Court Judge Samuel Gardner ruled that there is insufficient evidence to support the

charge. Brown will still face other charges ranging from assault with intent to murder to arson in the Dec. 27 death of Bradford and the Dec. 4 shoot-out with STRESS and other incidents he is alleged to have participated in.

It was the shoot-out with STRESS that sparked the most massive manhunt in Detroit's history. The Black community was terrorized during the manhunt and responded by supporting a variety of anti-STRESS activities.

Two others, Mark Clyde Bethune and John Percy Boyd, were sought with Brown in the manhunt. Atlanta police later killed both. All three were antidrug activists in the Black community.

In response to the rising wave of protest, police commissioner John Nichols has taken a hard line in de-

fense of STRESS. In an article in the April 6 *Detroit News*, Nichols was reported to have spoken on STRESS at graduation ceremonies for the Detroit police academy.

The *News* reports that Nichols took note of the "considerable criticism from various elements of the community and from elected officials" but stated he would not disband STRESS until there were no longer any street hold-ups in Detroit. STRESS was ostensibly set up to stop street crime in Detroit. But from its inception it has brutalized the Black community, killing 18 people, 17 of them Black.

The Coalition to Abolish STRESS is in need of funds and volunteers. It can be contacted in care of the Association of Black Students, University Center Building, Wayne State University, Detroit, Mich., or by calling (313) 577-3489.



Militant/Gene Yzquierdo

Coalition to Abolish STRESS was formed in wake of Independent Black Commission of Inquiry's hearings into activities of STRESS unit.