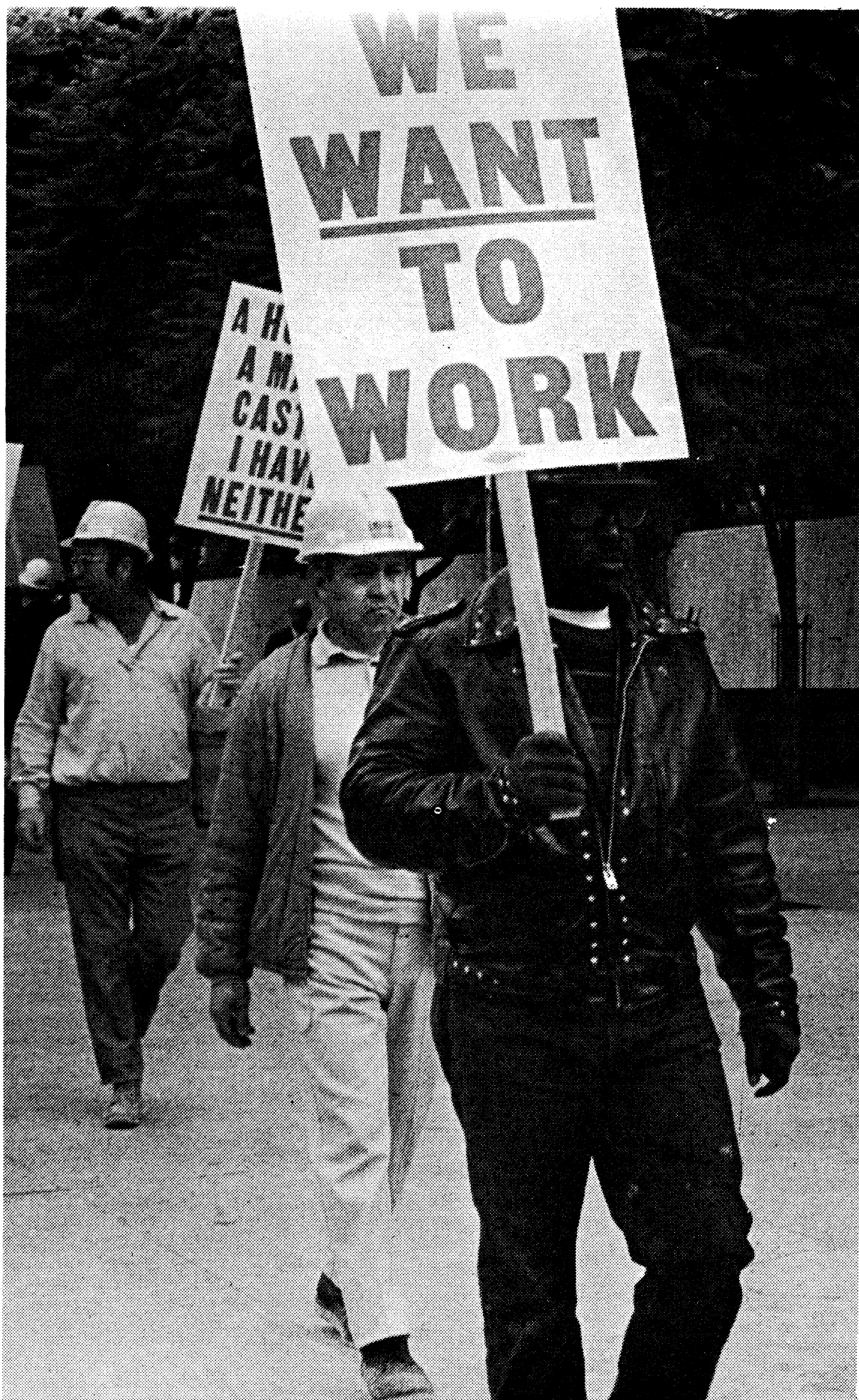


# THE MILITANT

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

## Unions plan mass protests for jobs



Militant/Miguel Pendas

Sentiment is growing for massive labor action to stop the layoffs and provide jobs for all. For reports on March 8 demonstrations and proposed march on Washington, see page 3.

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## THE MILITANT

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# In Brief

**PRESIDENTIAL DOUBLE-TALK:** "An independent Cambodia cannot survive unless the Congress acts very soon to provide supplemental military and economic assistance. . . . Is the United States . . . now to condemn, in effect, a small Asian nation totally dependent upon us?" (Emphasis added.)

Gerald Ford penned those lines in a Feb. 26 letter to Speaker of the House Carl Albert. Maybe it's arguments such as this that explain why the American people can't get excited about propping up the corrupt Lon Nol regime in Cambodia.

**'YOU CAN FOOL SOME OF THE PEOPLE . . .':** George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, admitted at a Feb. 21 news conference that he had been deceived on the Vietnam war by President Nixon, Henry Kissinger, and "possibly" President Johnson.

At the same news conference Meany called for Congressional approval of \$522-million in increased military aid to South Vietnam and Cambodia. He announced the adoption of a resolution backing the aid by the 35-member AFL-CIO Executive Council, meeting in Bal Harbour, Fla. Only one dissenting vote was cast.

"The question is whether the U. S. is going to keep its word," Meany said. "After all, we've invested 16 years out there."

**FBI HARASSMENT IN KENTUCKY:** The FBI is on a campaign of harassment against women and gay activists in Lexington, Ky. The FBI says its agents are looking for Katherine Power and Susan Saxe, former Brandeis students charged with the robbery of a Boston bank and the murder of a policeman in 1970. On the pretext of gathering information on two recent Lexington residents, whom the FBI claims were Power and Saxe, the federal police have questioned some 40 people.

When six people refused to talk to the FBI and referred agents to their attorney, they were hauled before a federal grand jury, where they were given immunity from self-incrimination in order to compel them to answer questions. Since the six, who include the president of the University of Kentucky Gay Coalition and a People's Party activist, still refused to talk about their associations, they now face contempt charges and prison sentences.

Meanwhile, the Feb. 23 *Boston Globe* reports that the FBI has traced Power and Saxe back to Hartford and New Haven, Conn., where they supposedly lived before moving to Lexington. Federal grand juries in those two cities have also opened investigations, and former associates of the two suspects have become victims of identical harassment.

The Lexington Grand Jury Defense Fund has been set up to defend the six. The address is Defense Fund, c/o Sally Kundert, 454 South Ashland Ext., Lexington, Ky., 40502.

**UP THE ESCALATOR:** Recent statistics from the Department of Labor testify to the growing popularity of cost-of-living escalator clauses as a means of protecting wages from erosion by inflation. During 1974, escalators were introduced in 164 settlements, covering 869,000 workers. This is the largest increase in coverage since 1971, when steel and communications workers won escalator clauses. (The figures include only "major" contracts—those covering 1,000 or more workers.)

Even so, escalator clauses cover only some 5.3 million workers out of the total U. S. work force of more than 90 million. And the provisions of many escalators are so weak that they hardly merit the name.

It is clear that the cost-of-living provisions pay off, even when the weakest ones are averaged in. Contracts negotiated in 1974 with escalators paid an average 11.7 percent increase last year, compared with an average annual increase of 9.1 percent in contracts without cost-of-living. Wages still fell behind the 12.2 percent rise in the Consumer Price Index. Real buying power of the average manufacturing worker fell 5.4 percent last year and is low lower than in 1965.

**NEWARK COP CONSPIRACY:** A grand jury has issued a report holding Newark police responsible for the deaths of two people during a massive police assault on the Puerto Rican community over Labor Day weekend last year.

The grand jury also found "a conspiracy of silence" on the part of the cops. While all accounts agree that the police did a lot of shooting over the four-day period, only one of the 100 policemen interviewed by the grand jury admitted having fired a shot, and not one said he had seen another policeman shoot his gun.

**'NO ADMITTANCE':** A Black woman in Latta, S. C., gave birth to a baby girl in an ambulance after the county hospital refused to admit her, according to a Feb. 20 Associated Press dispatch.

The ambulance driver delivered the baby with instructions from a midwife when the hospital refused to accept the woman, because no physician would take the case. She owed \$350 for a previous delivery. The driver had taken the woman to 20 doctors in an unsuccessful attempt to get one of them to deliver the baby.

There has been no comment from the so-called right-to-life forces, now celebrating the manslaughter conviction of Dr. Kenneth Edelin for performing a legal abortion in Boston.

**COONTZ CONTROVERSY:** Last week this column reported on the furor that erupted among red-baiters in Washington State in reaction to the appointment of locally well-known socialist and antiwar leader Stephanie Coontz to the faculty of Evergreen State College.

In later developments, the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* sent its education editor to sit in on one of Coontz's classes. The report was favorable.

And the *Seattle Times* measured public response by asking people what they thought about Coontz's appointment as the question of the day for their "Candid Comments" column. Five favored the hiring. Three opposed it.

"If she is fit to be on the faculty academically, it is nobody's business about her political affiliations or beliefs. We profess to be a nation that thrives on political diversity—let's practice what we preach," one interviewee said.

**'IT GETS AROUND':** "I don't know how it gets there. But if you put the right things in it, what you put in it will see that it gets around," Malcolm X said at a Militant Labor Forum in January 1965. He was talking about *The Militant*.

That still seems to be true, and it doesn't apply only to *The Militant*.

The Feb. 5 *Wall Street Journal* carried a front-page article on the rising interest in Marxist economics. The *Journal* reporter describes the scene at a recent meeting of Fight Back, a Harlem-based organization of Black and Latin construction workers:

"The ambience is unmistakable revolutionary: Black liberation flags on the walls; people walking around distributing radical newspapers; books for sale with titles like 'Construction Workers Under Attack.'"

That is the name of a Pathfinder Press pamphlet on the problems facing the building-trades unions, written by Nat Weinstein, Frank Lovell, and Carol Lipman. It can be ordered by sending 35 cents to Pathfinder Press, 410 West St., New York, N. Y. 10014.

**THE MILITANT GETS REPRINTED:** The Feb. 7 issue of *El Sol De Texas*, a Dallas-based Chicano newspaper, ran under a front-page banner headline a Spanish translation of Harry Ring's article on plans by La Raza Unida Party leader Jose Angel Gutierrez to visit Cuba.

*El Sol* also reprinted an English version of Ring's story. Gutierrez, who was recently elected judge of Zavala County, will be accompanied by a delegation of Raza Unida leaders from several states. — NELSON BLACKSTOCK

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# Sacramento job protest

## Calif. labor organizes March 8 action

By HARRY RING

LOS ANGELES—Organizing activity has begun for a statewide unemployment protest march called by the California AFL-CIO. The demonstration will be held March 8 at the state capitol in Sacramento.

The lead article in the Feb. 14 *California AFL-CIO News* called on union organizations throughout the state to join the march "to demand federal and state action to meet the needs of California's jobless workers."

Detailed plans for the jobless action were slated to be mailed to all California AFL-CIO bodies by John Henning, secretary-treasurer of the state labor body, which represents 1.7-million California unionists.

The *Citizen*, voice of the Los Angeles County AFL-CIO labor federation, featured the call for the march across its front page.

The paper reported that the county federation of labor is preparing for participation of affiliated councils and unions.

It reported that unionists are slated



California jobless rate is highest in 25 years, spurring protests like this one in San Diego last fall

Militant/Dennis Scarla

to assemble March 8 in Sacramento at 12:30 in the afternoon at a site to be announced. They will then march to the capitol building, where a rally will be held.

The county federation is reportedly

readying plans for chartering buses to transport participants to Sacramento.

A meeting of the steering committee of the Los Angeles Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) voted to recommend postponement of a meeting scheduled for March 8 so that buses could be chartered for union women to go to the demonstration under CLUW auspices.

In San Francisco CLUW has planned a teach-in on women and unemployment for Friday night, March 7. This is expected to serve as a springboard for building participation of women unionists in the capitol demonstration.

The Bay Area district council of the carpenters union, which has been especially hard hit by unemployment, voted to charter five buses to help transport its members to Sacramento.

Also in the Bay Area, Local 1304 of the United Steelworkers voted to endorse the action and to charter buses for its members.

The urgent need for the demonstration was underscored by a report in the *California AFL-CIO News* that in January there were 921,200 officially listed as unemployed in California, a rate of 9.3 percent of the work force. This is the highest jobless rate in the state since 1950.

The unemployed rolls have increased by 31 percent in the past year, and that's only part of the picture.

Describing the latest figures as "a stark reflection of the deepening economic recession in the nation," James Lorenz, a state unemployment official, noted that "these figures don't count people who are so discouraged that they are no longer looking for work."

If these jobless workers were included, he said, it would add at least 130,000 to the figures for an actual unemployment rate of at least 10.4 percent.

"If that's so," he commented, "then we are in double digit unemployment as well as double digit inflation."

Meanwhile AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer Henning called on Congress to appropriate \$7.8-billion immediately to create public jobs.

He warned that the soaring jobless rate was "inviting social protest of the most vigorous kind."

Henning said the state AFL-CIO officials "want to save what's left of the old gray mare—the private enterprise system."

However, he added, "private enterprise, frankly, has never given us full employment in this country. We can't rely on it to provide the jobs. We want public employment opportunities."

### CLUW backs N.Y. rally

NEW YORK—Members of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) are mobilizing support for a demonstration here March 8, focusing on demands for jobs.

The action on International Women's Day is sponsored by a coalition including members of the National Organization for Women, Women's Political Caucus, Women Strike for Peace, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Communist Party and Socialist Workers Party.

This coalition voted to invite labor union women to head up the march, which will assemble at noon at Forty-first Street and Fifth Avenue and march down Fifth Avenue to Union Square for a rally.

Eleanor Tilson, chairperson of New York CLUW, will speak at the rally, along with Gloria Steinem,

Bella Abzug, Betty Friedan, and others.

CLUW's National Coordinating Committee met in January and decided to launch a campaign against unemployment beginning with demonstrations March 8. CLUW's demands include a shorter workweek at no loss of pay, public works jobs at union wages, and cutting U.S. military spending.

New York CLUW is distributing its own leaflet urging women to join the March 8 rally. The action is also supported by Local 1199, National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees; District Council 37, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); and the women's committee of District Council 1707, AFSCME.

## N.Y. unions: 'March on D.C. for jobs!'

By GENE ANDERSON

NEW YORK—A mass march on Washington to protest unemployment has been called for mid-April by a group of New York City unions.

In demanding federal funds to provide jobs, the demonstration will also call for "no more millions for Vietnam."

District Council 37 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees is spearheading preparations for the march.

According to Victor Gotbaum, executive director of District Council 37, leaders of 20 major unions in the city have met and are in "unanimous agreement" on the need for mass protest.

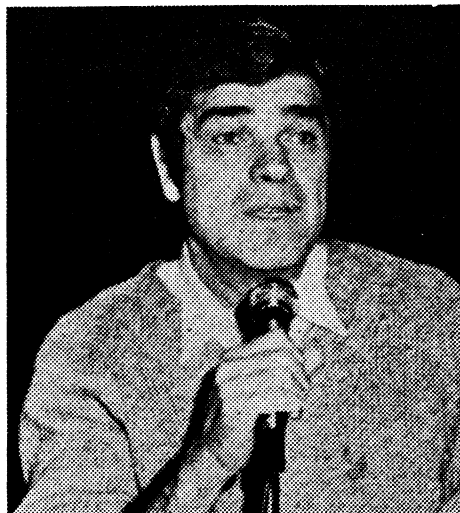
"The civil rights movement was led by Blacks and the peace movement was led by youth," Gotbaum said, and labor is the "natural institution to lead a great movement for social and economic justice."

Gotbaum indicated that the date for the march is still under discussion and will be announced soon.

Gotbaum reported on plans for the demonstration at the Feb. 25 delegates assembly meeting of District Council 37. "What the union has to do is start saying that workers should

not be attacked for the ills of this society," he said, but should put the blame where it belongs—on the banks and corporate profiteers.

Associate Director Lillian Roberts stressed the importance of a big turnout from District Council 37 members. She linked the march to the New York City budget crisis, saying that layoffs of 50,000 to 80,000 city workers were threatened unless federal funds were obtained.



Public Employee Press

AFSCME's GOTBAUM: "Labor should lead a great social movement for social and economic justice."

The fight is to save everyone's job, Roberts said, not just those already unemployed or under attack.

The student senate of the City University of New York, which has carried out protests against city cutbacks, has asked to participate, Gotbaum reported, as have several community groups.

Ray Markey, a delegate from Local 1930, was one of several speakers from the floor in support of the proposed action. He urged involvement of the broadest possible forces, since all working people are affected by the economic crisis.

"We should make a special effort to get out the unemployed," Markey said.

"Yes, exactly," Gotbaum responded. "There's been talk on the steering committee about bringing in the unemployed and we fully intend to do so." He added that unions would be asked to chip in money to provide free buses to Washington so that unemployed workers could join the march.

District Council 37 leaders have been pressing for such a demonstration for several weeks. The Jan 17 issue of *Public Employee Press* featured an article by Gotbaum on "Why Labor Must March on Washington."

Working people are fed up with the

recession, the inflation, and the downright indecency of carrying the economic burden on their backs," he wrote, "while the oil interests and the sugar interests rack up profits at a record pace, and the tax-dodging wealthy get off scot free."

"They have lost confidence in the bumbling, business-oriented Ford Administration and its dilly-dallying with the economic crisis, and aren't too hopeful that the Democratic leadership in Congress will get off its rear end and do something."

The next issue of *Public Employee Press* reported that "momentum is growing throughout the country" for a mass march on Washington. It quoted Lillian Roberts as saying that among District Council 37 members, "everyone wants such a march, in fact is demanding such a march, and the sooner the better."

This call by District Council 37 can pave the way for a massive show of strength by the labor movement, mobilizing thousands of union members, the unemployed, and their allies in the streets of Washington.

Such actions, relying on labor's own strength instead of the capitalist Democratic and Republican parties, offer the only way to stop the layoffs and provide jobs for all.

## PST leader to tour U.S.

# Repression & rightist terror in Argentina

By JOSE PEREZ

A two-month tour of the United States by Argentine socialist leader Juan Carlos Coral is scheduled to begin March 4 in Detroit. (See box for schedule of meetings.) Coral, general secretary of the Argentine Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores (PST—Socialist Workers Party), will be speaking on "Repression and right-wing terror in Argentina."

The timeliness of this tour was highlighted by a Feb. 3 news conference held in Paris under the auspices of the International Federation of the Rights of Man, the International Association of Catholic Jurists, and several French committees of solidarity with Argentina.

At the news conference, French lawyer Daniel Jacobi told reporters that there are about 2,000 people in Argentina being held for alleged political offenses. Because of the terrorist activities of the Argentine Anticommunist Alliance (AAA), the prisoners are being effectively denied the right to legal defense.

The AAA is the most prominent of several right-wing assassination squads that, in recent months, have executed six lawyers who were defending political prisoners. Among those killed was Silvio Frondizi, brother of former Argentine president Arturo Frondizi. In addition, many other defense lawyers have received death threats and some have been forced to flee the country.

The reign of terror described at the Paris news conference is the result of



Two scenes of PST offices in Cordoba after police raid Oct. 9, 1974. Instead of rounding up right-wing terror squads, government has increased persecution of the left.

a two-year evolution in Argentine politics.

When mass protests forced Argentine military strongmen to turn over the government to an elected Peronist administration in 1973, many expected that this would signal a new era of political freedom in that country. But although the protests were able initially to win a substantial expansion of democratic rights, these have been steadily eroded under Peronist rule.

The opening of the right-wing drive was signaled by Juan Perón himself in a September 1973 speech in which he "declared war" on "Marxist infiltrators." In January of 1974 *el líder* [Perón] rammed through the legislature a new Penal Code, which restored many of the military dictatorship's repressive measures.

At first the target of the campaign was primarily the left wing of Perón's own movement. The purge of the left wing, which began as soon as Perón took office, reached a high point at the end of February 1974, when police in Córdoba, Argentina's second-largest city, staged a right-wing mini-coup against a governor who had been elected on the Peronist slate. Perón himself quickly sanctioned the move.

### Extend campaign

During the Córdoba revolt, the police carried out a general roundup of 1,000 leftists, including many members of the PST. Although most were quickly released, this roundup served as a green light for right-wing terrorists to step up attacks against all left groups.

In March, April, and May of 1974 there were many violent attacks against the PST, including several bombings of party offices. On May 7, PST member Inosencio Fernández was gunned down in Buenos Aires. A few weeks later, three more PST members were assassinated.

During the first weekend of November, three more members of the PST were gunned down by the terror squads, including César Robles, a prominent national leader of the party.

One terrorist organization issued a communiqué pledging "to wage an underground fight against all Marxist organizations, especially the PST."

But the campaign of terror was not limited to the Marxists.

In addition to the attacks on the PST, there were dozens of attacks on left Peronists and on several other groups.

On July 31, a left Peronist deputy to the national legislature, Rodolfo

Ortega Peña, was assassinated by the AAA. Eight leaders of the country's second-largest political party, the Radical Civic Union, received death threats from the AAA.

On Oct. 25, all the deans at the University of Tucumán resigned as a result of an AAA terror campaign, which included machine-gunning and later bombing the university cafeteria as well as blowing up one dean's summer home.

### 'Legal' attacks

"Legal" attacks also continued unabated, reaching a high point on Oct. 9 in Córdoba, where the offices of the PST and the Communist Party were raided and destroyed by police. More than 60 members of the two organizations were savagely beaten and arrested. One young woman at the CP office died as a result of the beating.

On Nov. 6 the government declared a "state of siege" under the pretext of combating left-wing guerrillas. The decree suspended all constitutional guarantees. The first action of the government under the state of siege was to raid the national offices of the PST.

The government has used the state of siege to disrupt the functioning of other parties, even of parties belonging to the Peronist governmental bloc. Thousands have been arrested

and many, including members of the PST, are still being detained. Civil liberties organizations have charged that the government is torturing the prisoners, particularly those suspected of connections with guerrilla groups.

The government has also used the state of siege to muzzle those newspapers that disagree with its policies. During 1974, a total of 10 newspapers were shut down.

The press in the United States has tried to depict the situation in Argentina as a private war "between rival factions within the Peronist movement and between Marxist guerrillas and security forces," as one article in the *New York Times* put it. The government's repression is called "an effort to combat a mounting wave of political violence."

### Silence opposition

But what has actually occurred is that the Argentine government, both through the official repression and unofficial terrorism, has carried out an antidemocratic campaign of terror aimed at silencing all left-wing opposition.

The targets of this drive have been trade-union and student activists, educators, well-known political figures, civil liberties lawyers, and even political refugees from dictatorships such as those in Chile and Uruguay who had sought asylum in Argentina.

One aspect of the situation that has been kept under wraps—at least so far—is the extent of U.S. involvement in the antidemocratic attacks.

The revelations about the CIA's role in organizing the 1973 bloodbath in Chile indicate that Washington's participation is substantial.

Death squads like the AAA, with ties to powerful government figures and technology provided by U.S. "advisers," have operated with impunity in at least a half dozen other Latin American countries. Since 1966 there have been repeated charges that the finger on the trigger—directly or indirectly—is Uncle Sam's.

The aim of the rulers in Washington in the case of Argentina is the same as it was in the case of Chile: to silence all dissenting voices. The tour by Coral will focus public attention on this mounting reign of terror, on the U.S. role in Latin America, and on the need for a broad campaign in this country in defense of the victims of this repression.

## Tour dates

The opening part of the tour by Argentine socialist leader Juan Carlos Coral will be a swing through the Midwest. On March 4 he will kick off the tour at a 12:30 p.m. meeting at Wayne State University in Detroit. In addition to Coral, Dr. Charles Parrish, head of the political science department, will address the gathering.

A campus meeting is planned for March 5 in Bloomington, Ind., co-sponsored by the Latin American Students Association, the Student Union Board, and the Young Socialist Alliance. It will take place in Ballantine Hall, Room 109, at 7:30 p.m.

On the morning of March 6, Coral will speak at the University of Illinois Circle Campus and will hold a news conference immediately afterwards. Other Chicago meetings include a forum sponsored by the Puerto Rican Socialist Party on March 7. The forum will be held at 8 p.m. at Centro Ramón Betances, 2156 West North Ave.

On March 9 Coral will speak at the University of Chicago at 2 p.m. The meeting will be preceded by a meeting to which union leaders from the Chicago area are being invited.

After the Midwest meetings, Coral will be traveling to Los Angeles, where he will tour March 11-15, and then to the San Francisco Bay Area, which he will visit March 16-22. Other tour stops will include Houston, Denver, Atlanta, Washington, D.C., Boston, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, and New York.

The tour is being organized by the United States Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners (USLA). More information about the tour is available from USLA, 156 Fifth Ave., Suite 600, New York, N.Y. 10010. Telephone: (212) 691-2880.

## Coral: veteran socialist

Juan Carlos Coral has played a prominent role in Argentine politics for nearly two decades.

In the early 1960s, he led a campaign in defense of the Cuban revolution, and it was on this basis of support to Cuba that he was elected to the legislature on the Socialist Party ticket in 1963.

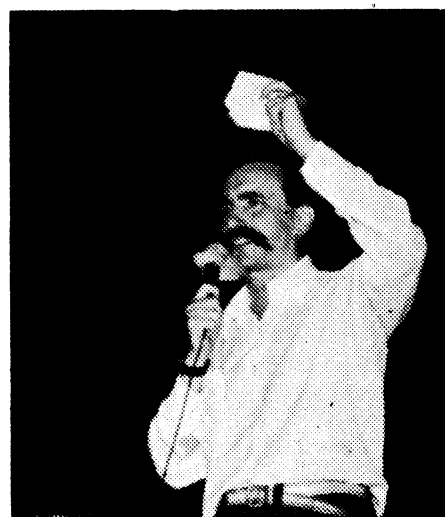
In 1967, he was invited by Fidel Castro to represent Argentine socialists at the conference of the Organization of Latin American Solidarity (OLAS) held in Havana.

Coral was the presidential candidate of the Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores (PST-Socialist Workers Party) in the two 1973 elections that were held in Argentina. Since those elections, Coral has continued to speak out in support of workers' struggles and in defense of democratic rights.

In March 1974, for example, a general strike broke out in the industrial suburb of Villa Constitución in Rosario, over the issue of union democracy. Coral was asked

to negotiate on behalf of the workers, whose strike ended in a victory.

Most recently Coral has led his party's campaign against terrorist attacks. As a result of his activities, Coral has been personally "sentenced" to death by the Argentine Anticommunist Alliance (AAA) murder squad.



Juan Carlos Coral



## Cops still refuse to act

# New right-wing bomb attacks in L.A.

By HARRY RING

LOS ANGELES—In response to a flood of telegrams and messages from around the country, Los Angeles Mayor Thomas Bradley sent a letter to the Socialist Workers Party expressing his concern over the Feb. 4 bombing of its Central-East headquarters and stating that steps were being taken to initiate a thorough investigation. Meanwhile, there was a new bomb attack in the city.

On the night of Feb. 22 two bombs were placed in the air-conditioning vent in the studio of station KCET-TV (Channel 28), the Los Angeles affiliate of the Public Broadcasting Service. Earlier the station had announced scheduling the Cuban film *Lucia*.

Meanwhile, there was a new bomb threat against the Socialist Workers Party.

On the evening of Feb. 19 a package was found in the entrance of the West Side headquarters of the SWP in Santa Monica. The Santa Monica police were called, and they in turn summoned a bomb squad operated by the Los Angeles County sheriff's department.

The area was cordoned off for about an hour while the bomb squad examined, tested, and finally opened the package.

When opened, it proved to be a dummy with two rocks inside. There was no accompanying identification.

Earlier a threatening leaflet signed by the National Socialist [Nazi] Liberation Front had been posted on the door of the same headquarters entrance.

The bomb explosion at KCET occurred about 8:30 p.m. Minutes later, several news organizations, including the *Los Angeles Times* and two radio stations, received calls stating that the two bombs had been planted.

### 'Retaliation'

A *Los Angeles Times* phone operator said that the caller told her, "Two bombs at Channel 28 in retaliation for showing the movie *Lucia*."

About a half hour later radio station KFWB received a call, apparently from the same person. The caller said, "Two bombs at Channel 28 . . . Communist propaganda for Castro."

In an interview, Bert Snow, public relations director of KCET, said station representatives would meet with the police to see what measures were being taken to press an investi-



Militant/Al Twiss

Nazis who took credit for bombing L.A. socialist campaign headquarters function publicly and operate this 'New Order Book Shop,' in nearby El Monte, but police have not even questioned them.

gation, and also to seek protection against possible future attacks.

He said that while the two bombs that were planted in the studio seemed to be primitive—one did not explode—it was not wise to proceed on the assumption that it was not a significant incident.

"You don't know if it was a group or amateurs," he observed, "or if it was intentionally done this way. You have to assume the worst—that it was a kind of a warning."

There is a fairly large number of Cuban counterrevolutionary exiles in the Los Angeles area, some of them with CIA ties. Over the years they have conducted terrorist attacks against the Socialist Workers Party and others.

Most recently a group of them entered a Chile defense rally where Hortensia Allende, widow of the slain Chilean president, was the featured speaker. The gang of exiled thugs disrupted the rally by hurling a tear-gas canister.

### Links with Nazis

Nor is it to be precluded that the Cuban exiles may have ties with the several Nazi groups functioning in this area, including the National Socialist Liberation Front. This is the gang that is taking public credit for the Feb. 4 bombing of the SWP campaign hall and the Feb. 2 tear-gas disruption of a rally demanding re-

opening of the Rosenberg case.

While Mayor Bradley has expressed concern about the bombing of the SWP hall, there is still no evidence that the police are conducting the kind of investigation the continuing acts of terrorism obviously require.

For example, there is an eyewitness who saw the person light the fuse and hurl the bomb. The same night, the eyewitness gave the police a detailed description that was used by a police artist to make a sketch of the bomber.

However, the police officials subsequently assigned to the investigation have never contacted the eyewitness. He has not been asked to examine police photo files to see if the bomber's picture is among them.

Nor have the police questioned members of the publicly functioning National Socialist Liberation Front, even though they have taken credit for the bombing and for the earlier gas attack on the Rosenberg rally.

It is hoped, however, that the letter to the SWP from Bradley means serious action will now be taken to find those responsible and put them behind bars.

### Demand for action

The Bradley letter came in response to a demand for action on his part by an unusually broad spectrum of organizations and public figures nationally and locally.

In a telegram to the mayor, Basil Paterson, vice-chairman of the national committee of the Democratic Party, said the bombing must be made "a priority investigation."

"The perpetrators of this heinous attack," Paterson said, "must be apprehended as quickly as possible."

In a similar vein, Los Angeles city council member Dave Cunningham said, "It is imperative that every effort be made to apprehend the person(s) responsible."

Recent similar messages to the mayor came from the following: U. S. Representative Andrew Young of Georgia; former California attorney general Robert Kenney; Representative Elaine Noble of the Massachusetts legislature; and 15 faculty members and students at Sacramento City College in California.

Also, Art Carter of the California Bay Area Contra Costa Labor Council; the San Antonio, Tex., antideportation organization CASA; Berkeley city council member Ying Lee Kelley; the Socialist Party of Los Angeles; the president of the St. Louis AFL-CIO Labor Council and seven of his associates; and Gertrude Barnstone, Houston civil libertarian.

## Letter from Bradley

Following is the text of a letter sent Feb. 20 by Los Angeles Mayor Thomas Bradley:

Members of the Socialist Workers Party:

As Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, I share your concern over the bombing of your headquarters on February 4, 1975.

I abhor this kind of violence and any action which would deny the right of American citizens to the freedom of speech.

You may be assured that all steps are being taken to initiate a thorough investigation. I have requested that the Los Angeles Police Commission submit a report to me in this regard.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Tom Bradley  
Mayor

# CIA caught in lie: admits spying on Fonda

By HARRY RING

LOS ANGELES—The CIA has now admitted that it opened letters addressed to Jane Fonda and made copies of them. A Justice Department representative said that an earlier denial had been an "error."

Disclosure of the CIA activity came in a letter to attorney Leonard Weinglass, who is representing Fonda in a \$2.8-million suit against various government agencies.

Among those named in the suit by the antiwar activist are the White House, the FBI, the CIA, and the Internal Revenue Service, as well as individual members of government.

Her suit charges illegal surveillance and harassment by these agencies because of her dissident views and activities. In addition to damages, she is seeking an injunction to bar further



Militant/Laura Miller

CIA illegally opened mail addressed to antiwar activist Jane Fonda.

such illegal activity by the government.

In an interview, attorney Weinglass said this disclosure is particularly significant since it constitutes the first admission by that agency that it has conducted a surveillance operation against a U.S. citizen within the United States. This is in flat violation of the CIA's charter.

While admitting it had provided wigs and other paraphernalia for the break-in at the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist, Weinglass explained, the CIA has denied it knew what the operation actually was.

Weinglass said the present admission by the CIA will greatly strengthen Fonda's suit.

All of the government agencies named, he said, have now admitted they kept files on Fonda. The CIA had earlier admitted that it had a file

on Fonda but denied it had actually initiated collection of the material.

The present admission of illegal surveillance constitutes a retraction of that earlier position, which had been presented in a sworn court deposition.

Weinglass said he had been advised that if he were to come to Washington, D.C., he would be permitted to examine the copies the CIA had made of letters to Fonda from overseas correspondents.

Weinglass was told that such a trip to Washington would be necessary because the CIA would not forward him the copies by mail.

The reason for this, he was informed is that the CIA is concerned with protecting the "right of privacy of the senders."

And you thought you'd heard everything.

# New 'Bill of Rights' gets good response

By WENDY LYONS

Residents of Harrisburg, Pa., are hearing about the Socialist Workers Party presidential ticket of Peter Camejo and Willie Mae Reid. An at-large member of the Young Socialist Alliance has ordered 1,000 copies of the Bill of Rights for Working People to distribute there.

Readers of the Bradenton, Fla., *Herald* recently read about the Camejo-Reid campaign in a letter to the editor. David Maynard wrote, "I hope the citizens of Florida will be allowed to vote for them in 1976. Due to undemocratic election laws, Florida voters have been effectively prevented from voting for socialist candidates in the past."

"It is hard to believe that in 1968 I was behind Richard Nixon's bid for the presidency," wrote one supporter from Sharon, Pa., requesting literature from the Socialist Workers 1976 National Campaign Committee.

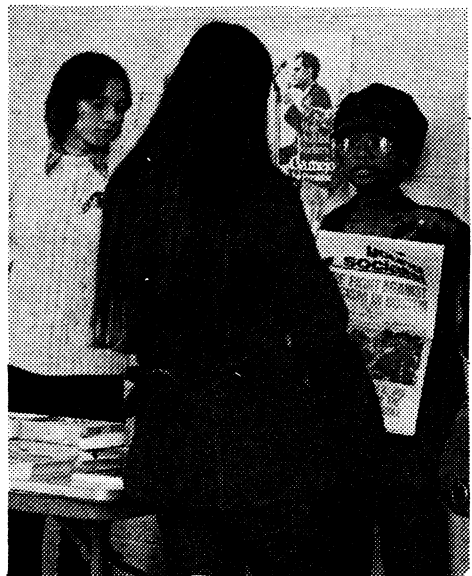
"Believing the SWP offers the only hope for workers, women, blacks, gays, and all oppressed people, I know I must immediately work for the election of SWP candidates. There are millions of Americans to be reached, educated," he continued.

A prisoner at Leavenworth, Kans., wrote, "I was looking through this most interesting paper (*The Militant*) and ran across an article about the Bill of Rights for Working People. I am an inmate in the United States Disciplinary Barracks [and] I am trying to keep up on what happens to all my brothers and sisters out there in the third world. . . . There are a lot of prisoners here trying to keep up with the economic inflation, strikes, boycotts, etc. So I am going to tell them about your article and see if we can get together and collect some money from the people who work here for the Camejo-Reid campaign."

"This is just a small sample of the response we are receiving," said Andrea Morell of the Socialist Workers national campaign staff. "The Bill of Rights for Working People seems to have really struck a chord. People are writing in from all over the country to order copies for distribution."

She reported that a student from the University of Maryland wrote in last week to order 200 copies. "This week he wrote back asking for 20 endorser cards for the Camejo-Reid ticket," she said.

"Another student, from the University of Oklahoma, saw an ad for the



Militant/Cindy Jaquith

Young Socialists across country are getting out word on Camejo-Reid ticket.

campaign in the *Village Voice*. He called us in New York to order the Bill of Rights and lots of posters and buttons. He plans to set up a regular campaign table in the student union," Morell reported.

She said that the overwhelming number of inquiries about the campaign come from people who first hear about it through *The Militant*. "Not only does this show the important role *The Militant* plays as the campaign newspaper," said Morell, "it also shows how widely *The Militant* is getting around these days. With the launching of the drive to increase circulation, we expect to win even broader support for the socialist alternative in 1976."

## St. Louis candidate supports machinists

By PAT HAYES

ST. LOUIS—Barbara Bowman, Socialist Workers Party candidate for president of the St. Louis board of aldermen, has pledged her support to striking machinists in their fight against the giant McDonnell Douglas Corporation.

Bowman condemned the aerospace corporation for its refusal to negotiate with representatives of the Inter-



Machinists union has rejected McDonnell Douglas offer of 16 cents an hour.

national Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) District 837.

Nineteen thousand IAM members—12,000 here and 7,000 in the Los Angeles area—walked off the job Feb. 10 when McDonnell Douglas refused to budge from a wage offer of 16 cents an hour this year and 3 percent increases in 1976 and again in 1977. The company also refuses to pay the 12-cent cost-of-living allowance (COLA) that workers should have received last October and the 15-cent COLA due in January—and it wants to keep the first 4 cents in COLA due in April!

The union demands that McDonnell Douglas match the pattern set in new contracts at Boeing and Lockheed—annual wage increases of 5.5 percent, 3 percent, and 3 percent, plus an unlimited cost-of-living escalator.

The huge McDonnell Douglas complex here is shut down tight, with only a few pickets needed to keep an eye on the entrances.

"It's a matter of principle and money," said one picket at Building 101. "If someone doesn't want to pay you decent and fair wages, you have

to go out, despite the consequences."

In her statement, Bowman noted that "McDonnell Douglas is the third-largest war contractor in the country, with profits of \$106.7-million last year. This year they have landed another fat government contract to produce more F-15 fighter planes. Yet the company claims it can't pay the men and women who work here enough to keep up with the cost of living."

"The books of McDonnell Douglas should be opened up to independent inspection by the striking union," the socialist candidate continued. "The workers should have the right to see for themselves the real financial story of this war profiteer."

In another development, United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 148 in Long Beach, Calif., voted to accept a new three-year contract with McDonnell Douglas. The UAW members had been working without a contract since last September, and did not join in the IAM strike.

## Jenness, Heisler open nat'l tours

Linda Jenness and Ed Heisler have begun nationwide tours to win support for the Socialist Workers Party presidential slate of Peter Camejo and Willie Mae Reid.

Jenness addressed student audiences in Colorado and Utah on the topic "Can Socialism Solve the Economic Crisis in America?" from Feb. 18 to Feb. 25.

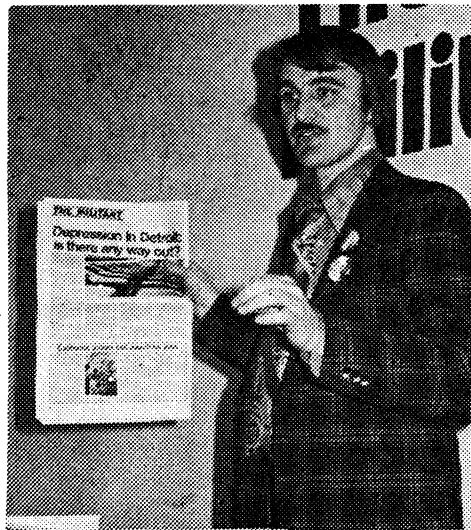
A high point of her tour was a series of three meetings in the space of a day at Colorado State University at Fort Collins. The student government had erected a giant banner reading, "Capitalism vs. Socialism—hear Linda Jenness" to advertise the talks. She spoke to 550 students.

At the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley, Jenness spoke to 125. An intense two-hour discussion followed her speech. In Boulder she spoke at Colorado University and Metro Community College. In Denver she addressed audiences at South High School and Denver University. Jenness's next tours will take her to Minneapolis and Boston.

Heisler, accompanied by a team of Young Socialists campaigning for Camejo and Reid, toured three cities in Missouri—St. Louis, Columbia, and Webster Grove—in addition to Edwardsville, Ill., Feb. 12-22. He spoke at five colleges and one high school.

At Southern Illinois University 100 people came to hear his talk.

He addressed an audience of 60 at



Militant/Chris Smith

Ed Heisler calls attention to 'Militant' during campaign meeting.

the University of Missouri. The Young Socialist team sold \$24 worth of socialist literature at the talk.

Heisler will appear in the Seattle region from Feb. 25 through March 1, and the Portland, Ore., area March 5-11.

## Portland: SWP vs. Common Cause

By STACEY SEIGLE

PORTLAND, Ore.—"Do Campaign Disclosure Laws Abridge the Rights of Minor Political Parties?" was the subject of a debate here between a representative of the Socialist Workers Party and a representative of Common Cause. The debate was held Feb. 12 at Portland State University.

John Lemon, youth coordinator of the Oregon SWP 1976 campaign, argued that the SWP's constitutional rights are violated by an Oregon law that forces its campaign committee to submit to the government the names and addresses of contributors of \$25 or more.

The committee has filed a suit seeking to be exempted from the law.

"Members and supporters of the SWP campaigns are subject to an organized campaign of government harassment," Lemon said. "To disclose the names of our contributors would open them up to this illegal intimidation and inhibit potential supporters from contributing to our election campaigns."

John Wolfe, a former research coordinator for the McGovern campaign, represented Common Cause. Common Cause, the self-styled "People's Lobby," has been devoting a great deal of money and energy to trying to force the socialists to disclose the names of their contributors.

Wolfe conceded that Lemon had proved "quite effectively that the FBI and the government in general violate the rights of minor political parties, and specifically the SWP. I can't deny that." But, he argued, the voters' right to information about political parties is more important than First Amendment rights.

Instead of challenging the disclosure laws, he said, the SWP should concentrate on winning the suit undertaken by the Political Rights Defense Fund to end government harassment of the SWP.

Lemon responded, "Common Cause is saying that we should expect to be bugged, bombed, wiretapped, 'surveilled,' evicted, fired, or otherwise Watergated until the courts come to a decision on our suit. We say we must protect the constitutional rights of our supporters now."

Lemon also hit at Common Cause's hypocrisy in posing as a "champion of the people."

"As long as we're talking about disclosure," he said, "let's talk about the guru of Common Cause, John Gardner. Why didn't he disclose that he happens to be a trustee of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and has been on the boards of New York Telephone, Shell Oil, Time, Inc., and other of the most powerful corporations in the United States?"

"Why hasn't he disclosed that the seed money for Common Cause came from such sources as the Rockefeller Fund, Time, Inc., and Oregon's Boise Cascade?"

"Doesn't this raise a question as to which side John Gardner and Common Cause are on?"



## Reid vs. Newhouse

# Candidates debate issues in Chicago

By JOHN ISENHOWER

CHICAGO—Two hundred students attended a debate at Roosevelt University on Feb. 20 between the two Black candidates challenging Mayor Richard Daley in the upcoming elections. They are Willie Mae Reid of the Socialist Workers Party and Richard Newhouse, a Democrat.

The audience, composed mostly of Black students, asked tough, to-the-point questions about the candidates' solutions to the problems facing Black people in Chicago.

"What are you going to do about unemployment? about inflation? racism in the schools? jobs? housing? Do you support the Equal Rights Amendment for women? What do you think about the campaign disclosure laws?" they asked.

Both candidates painted a grim picture of life in the "inner cities." The audience responded, "Tell it like it is!" and "Right on!"

But there were big differences between the candidates on the causes and solutions.

Newhouse said that corruption and poor administration are the root causes of the problems facing the people of Chicago.

Reid replied, "The problems facing Blacks and all working people are not just corruption and poor administration, but the system that breeds them. The system that breeds racism, unemployment, and inflation. The system that places profits before human needs. That is the capitalist system."

A questioner asked, "What do you think should be done to improve community-police relations?"

### Role of police

"We call for the abolition of the police force in the Black community," Reid replied. "More cops in our community will mean more of the same kind of repression that happened last week when they gunned down an 18-year-old Black man, Michael Gilmore, for no reason at all. The only reason the cops are in the community is to 'serve and protect'—the interests of the slumlords, the bankers, and the industrialists. Black people are the only ones capable of defending ourselves, and we are the only ones who will."

Newhouse hedged. "The solutions are available to us in the Black community. There is a wealth of resources



Willie Mae Reid discusses socialist answer to layoffs with worker at Chicago unemployment center. Democratic candidates have no solution to economic crisis and racist oppression.

there," he said. But in earlier debates in front of mainly white audiences, Newhouse had called for more police as part of the solution to crime.

Both candidates urged public works programs to build schools, housing, and hospitals. Newhouse proposed to finance part of this program by requiring city employees to live in the city, thereby keeping their wage money in Chicago.

Reid said, "The money that is necessary to bring about the massive public works program that we support can only come from steps like eliminating the federal 'defense' budget and using that money for human needs. The same goes for the police budget. Further, we think the money should come from taxing the corporations to the hilt."

### Standard Oil

"I don't know what tax formula they use for Standard Oil. But I think we should have a look at Standard Oil's books and the city's method of taxing them. If we had a look at those books, I bet we'd have no trouble finding the necessary money."

On inflation, Newhouse could only comment on how bad it was for the poor, the Blacks, and the elderly. Reid called for an automatic cost-of-living increase in wages and benefits for all workers, including the unemployed, the elderly, and those on welfare.

She said, "The poor must not be made to pay for the greed of the corporations."

Two more questions from the floor really put Newhouse on the spot: "Do you support the Equal Rights Amendment?" and "How can you be in the same party with George Wallace?"

Newhouse claimed that he was for "equal rights for women," but that he could not support the ERA because it might be used against both women and men. Newhouse hedged again on the Wallace question. He said, "Some people don't even consider me a Democrat."

Reid took both questions head-on. "The Socialist Workers Party supports the ERA unconditionally. We think that protective legislation for women should be extended to men."

She said, "We are opposed to being in a party that has room for racists like George Wallace, Edward Hanrahan, and Richard Daley. We think the Democratic and Republican parties are both the parties of the oppressors. Black people must break with these parties."

"I know how we won our rights. I haven't forgotten. We won them in the streets, not by relying on those parties. The Civil Rights Act was not given to us by the liberals; we won it by demonstrating in the streets."

The debate ended with a question about the campaign disclosure laws.

Newhouse responded first. "I voted for it when it first came up. Now I oppose it. In fact, I'm supporting the SWP's suit seeking exemption from its provisions requiring disclosure of individual contributors."

Reid said, "We filed a suit against this law because it is directed against us, not the Democrats and Republicans. They have millions of ways of getting around disclosure. If we turn over the names of our contributors, the FBI will be at our employers' doors the next day. The law is not designed to prevent big business from controlling politics; it is designed to harass radical organizations."

After the formal debate, there was a reception for the candidates. The purpose was to give the audience a chance to meet the candidates personally.

Newhouse suddenly had to leave. Reid and her campaign supporters stayed for further discussion with the students and distributed the "Bill of Rights for Working People."

This debate said something about the various mayoral candidates. All of the candidates had been invited to participate in the debate. But Willie Mae Reid was the only candidate willing to come to grips with and thoroughly discuss her solutions to the pressing problems facing the people of Chicago.

### Refuse to debate

Mayor Daley has refused to attend any debates. Edward Hanrahan, who ordered the murder of Black Panther Party leaders Fred Hampton and Mark Clark, made no attempt to face this audience. William Singer, the white liberal, did not have time to speak to these Black students. Richard Newhouse, the Black Democrat, "had to leave" when the going got tough.

In a conversation with a student after the debate, Reid said, "We make only one promise. We will be with you when you are fighting for your rights. That's what we were doing in Boston last week at the conference against racism. We have a program that speaks to the needs of the oppressed and exploited and we are going to get our message out."

"I urge you not only to vote for the Socialist Workers Party, but to become involved with us in the struggles that are going on where people are fighting for their rights."

# Phila. SWP launches mayoral campaign

By LINDA WILLAMAN

PHILADELPHIA—Challenging her opponents to debate her "any time, any place," Terry Ann Hardy announced her candidacy for mayor of Philadelphia on the Socialist Workers Party ticket Feb. 22.

"I don't think it's possible to represent both the working people of Philadelphia and their bosses," said the 26-year-old Hardy in her campaign announcement. "Politicians have to take sides; I am campaigning on the side of working people in this election."

Hardy's Democratic Party opponents include incumbent Mayor Frank Rizzo, a racist, labor-hating ex-cop, who is trying to build up his own version of the Daley machine in Philadelphia. Also running in the Democratic Party primary with Rizzo are State Senator Louis Hill and Muhammed Kenyatta, a Black community leader.

Charles Bowser, head of the Philadelphia Urban Coalition, was originally seeking the Democratic nomination

as well, but has announced that he may now run as an independent. The Republican Party has not yet announced any candidate.

The planks in Hardy's platform calling for shortening the workweek with no reduction in pay in order to create more jobs, and for cost-of-living clauses in all union contracts and all pension and Social Security payments, are particularly timely in Philadelphia. The current official unemployment rate here stands at 9 percent, and last year consumer prices increased locally by 12.6 percent.

In her announcement Hardy said, "Everyone must be guaranteed jobs as well as an adequate income. The government should launch a crash program of public works to construct new schools, hospitals, and public transportation."

Such a program would not only provide jobs, but would also meet the needs of the working people of Philadelphia in other ways. For instance, Hardy noted, "Philadelphia is in serious need of new schools, espe-

cially within the Black community. I support the demand of Black and Puerto Rican students in Philadelphia to build a new Edison High School."

In Rizzo's Philadelphia the police budget is three and one-half times as much as the city hospital budget, and cops are the only city employees that received raises in 1974. The housing situation is no better than that in health care.

"Housing costs in Philadelphia have soared 15.1 percent in the last year," said Hardy. "I am supporting the passage of Bill 1657, a rent-control bill, which would push rents back to the rates of July 1974 and prohibit them from being raised for at least one year. This bill would be a first step in providing quality low-cost housing to all."

Hardy stressed that in addition to fighting for the rights of the working class as a whole, "I am also the only candidate actively fighting for the rights of women and the oppressed nationalities."



Militant/Jon Flanders

Terry Ann Hardy, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor.

## Camejo takes job program to unemployed

By CINDY JAQUITH

PITTSBURGH—"Why not? If it will provide jobs I'll try anything." That was the response of one unemployed worker here when he heard about the Socialist Workers Party 1976 presidential campaign and met Peter Camejo.

Camejo, the SWP candidate for president, found a friendly reception when he went to the unemployment lines here. "Reaching out to working people with the socialist alternative is what our campaign is all about," Camejo told reporters.

"We are taking our program to unemployment lines, plant gates, Black communities, and everywhere else, to let working people know there is an alternative to the Democrats and Republicans in 1976."

Camejo campaigned here at the East Liberty unemployment center Feb. 21 and Feb. 24, joined by a team of campaign supporters. Standing on the sidewalk outside the center, campaign workers passed out copies of the SWP's Bill of Rights for Working People and sold *The Militant*, which is sold regularly at this unemployment office. They invited those interested to stop and meet the socialist candidate for president.

### 'Cut war budget'

"Sir, how long have you been unemployed?" Camejo asked an older Black worker.

"Since November," the man answered.

"I'm the socialist candidate for president. We would cut the war budget so we could start an emergency public works program," Camejo told him. "What would you think of that?"

"I'd cut the war budget any day," the man replied. "And those corpora-

checks that could be, how many food stamps that could buy."

The man shook Camejo's hand, took a copy of the Bill of Rights, and promised, "I'll take this home and read it."

Passersby were attracted by the campaign activity in front of the unemployment office. Two Black youths walked up to one campaign supporter to see what she was handing out. "A bill of rights for working people." "Solid!" said one, grabbing a copy.

A retired steelworker expressed the same enthusiasm when he approached Camejo to shake his hand. "I'm 85, but when I was a young man like you, I campaigned for Eugene V. Debs of the Socialist Party," he told Camejo. "If you're on the ballot in Pennsylvania I'll vote for you."

Camejo asked each person he met, "Would you consider voting socialist in 1976, instead of for the Democrats or Republicans?"

"I'll vote for anything that will better the people," was the response from one white worker.

Another said, "If your program has anything to do with making jobs, why I guess everyone out here would consider it."

Some people said they thought the Democrats were "a little better" than the Republicans. Others were completely cynical about both capitalist parties. As one elderly white woman put it: "Down in Washington, nobody is doing anything about unemployment."

### 'I wish you luck'

One young man told Camejo, "I'm a socialist too. I wish you so much luck, I can't even put it into words."

Campaigning among the unemployed was one of Camejo's many activities during his eight-day visit here, which began Feb. 18. Pittsburgh was the second stop on a three-month tour. Earlier in the month, Camejo concluded a tour of the Southeast with speaking engagements at the University of Georgia in Athens and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

Camejo's visit here gave a big boost to the Pittsburgh Socialist Workers campaign. The SWP has just announced a slate of candidates for the 1975 county and city elections.

On Feb. 22 Camejo addressed a socialist campaign meeting with SWP county commissioner candidates Neil Berns and Joan Buchanan. The 70 supporters at the gathering donated and pledged more than \$1,300 to the campaign.

Berns, a member of United Steelworkers Local 1557 at the Clairton Coke Works, said a socialist government would make Pittsburgh a decent place for working people to live.

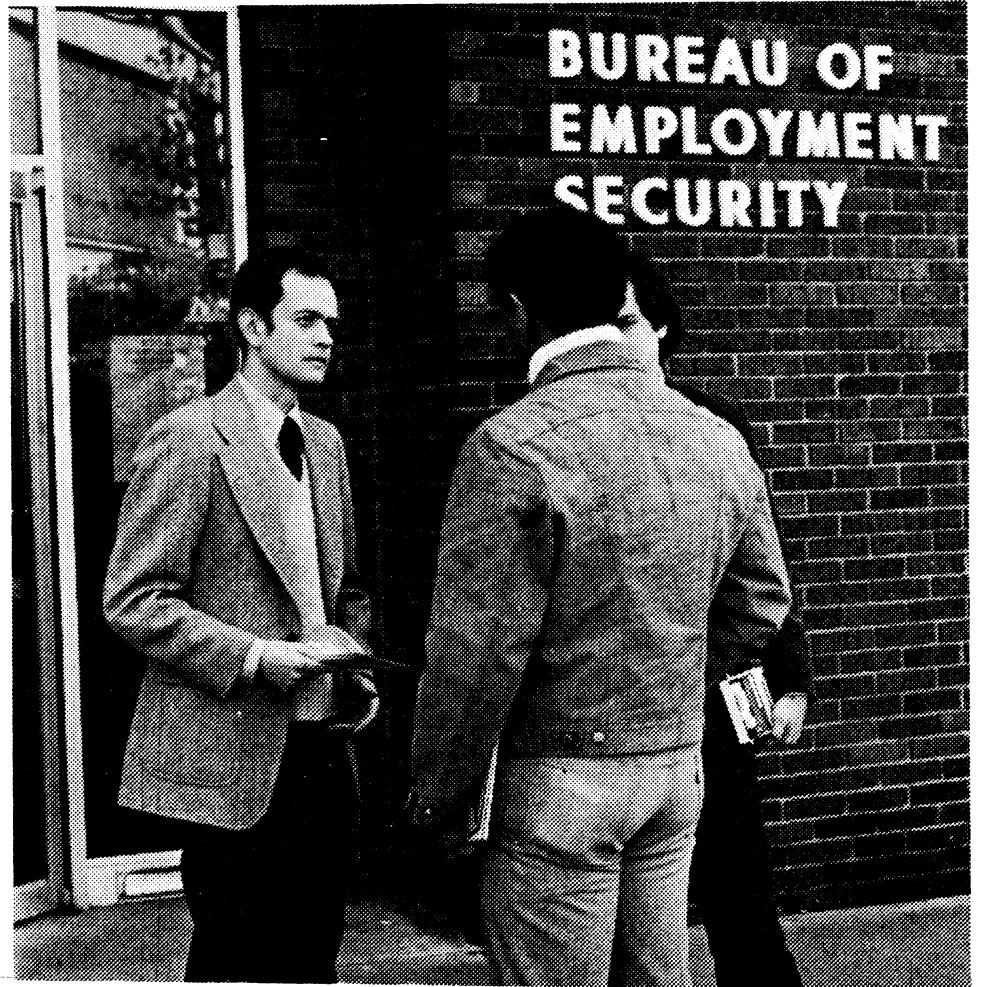
### 'End economic blackmail'

"We would put an end to the economic blackmail of the steel corporations," he declared. "These corporations contaminate our water and destroy our environment. They murder us in unsafe and unhealthy plants. They poison the air we breathe. They pay us inadequate wages while they rake in the profits."

"Then when people from Allegheny County call for the most meager improvements in our lives, these economic dictators tell us, 'Shut up or we'll shut down.'"

"As socialists, we would enforce safe health and pollution standards in this city and county," Berns said. "We would make a job and decent wages the right of everyone."

Buchanan, a former hospital worker, denounced the recent decision of the West Penn Hospital to prohibit



Militant/Cindy Jaquith

SWP presidential candidate Peter Camejo (left) at East Liberty unemployment center. Workers agreed war budget should be cut to pay for public works jobs.

all abortions beyond the twelfth week of pregnancy. She called the move another setback for women, like the recent manslaughter conviction of Dr. Kenneth Edelin, a Black physician in Boston, for having performed a legal abortion.

"The right-wing forces are trying to roll back the victory women won when the Supreme Court ruled that abortion is a woman's right," she said.

### 'Join YSA' meetings

Through the campaign rally and a series of campus meetings for Camejo, more than 20 people in Western Pennsylvania have signed up to join the Young Socialist Alliance, which is organizing youth support for the SWP campaign.

These people attended "Join the YSA" meetings held at the conclusion of Camejo's talks, where a YSA representative discussed how young people can build the socialist movement.

Many others have signed up as endorsers of the SWP campaign. At Edinboro College, in Edinboro, Pa., for example, 20 people endorsed the campaign out of a meeting of 100. In the weeks ahead, these endorsers will be distributing copies of the Bill of Rights for Working People, participating in *Militant* sales, attending classes on socialism, and building meetings for socialist candidates.

In addition to the Edinboro meeting, Camejo addressed student audiences at the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, Point Park College, and Allegheny Community College.

He also met with John Pribanic, the mayor of McKeesport, a city of 40,000 just outside Pittsburgh. Camejo discussed the problem of illegal FBI harassment of socialists with the mayor. He urged Pribanic to consider becoming a supporter of the Political Rights Defense Fund (PRDF), the organization supporting the SWP and YSA suit against government attacks.

When Camejo emerged from Pribanic's office, a reporter from the McKeesport *Daily News* was there to find out what the socialist had to say to the mayor. The next day there was a story on page three of the *Daily*

*News*, complete with Camejo's itinerary for the remainder of his Western Pennsylvania tour.

### 'People need alternative'

"Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate Peter Camejo says the American people need an alternative to the two major political parties and that the SWP is providing it," reported the *News*.

"... Capitalism's what's wrong with America," the 35-year-old socialist said. "We are the wealthiest nation in the world, yet factories are closing. . . ."

The *News* went on to explain, "The SWP Bill of Rights for Working People is the party's platform for the presidential campaign. . . ."

"The Bill of Rights proposes: right to a job, right to an adequate income, free education, free medical care and a secure retirement."

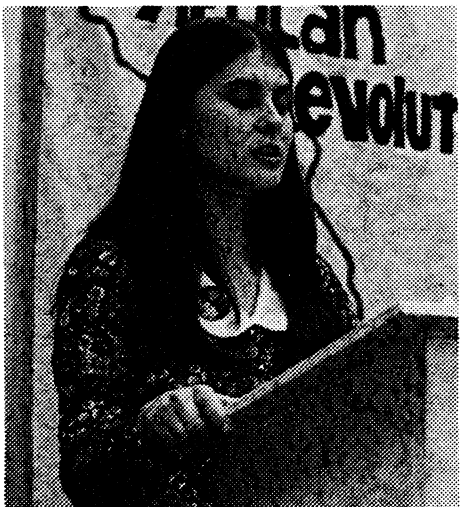
"In addition, the SWP proposes the 'right to know the truth about economic and political policies that effect our lives, the right of oppressed minorities to control their own affairs, and the right to decide economic and political policies.'"

Camejo also met here with Bill Hill, president of the Fraternal Association of Steel Haulers (FASH), and a leader of the 1974 independent truckers' strike against high gasoline prices.

Camejo and Hill talked about the Bill of Rights for Working People and how it relates to the problems of independent truckers. Hill says he foresees possible big battles by truckers if the government raises gasoline prices again.

On Feb. 21, Pittsburgh's Northside Rotary Club invited Camejo to address its weekly lecture meeting. The Socialist outlined the Political Rights Defense Fund's activities and urged the Rotary members to become supporters of the PRDF.

While touring here, Camejo appeared on the popular morning program "AM Pittsburgh" (WTAE-TV) and was interviewed by the major daily, the *Pittsburgh Press*; the local Black paper, the *Pittsburgh Courier*; and the *Pittsburgh Forum*.



Militant/Cindy Jaquith

Joan Buchanan, SWP candidate for county commissioner.

tions. they're getting away with murder. Half of them don't even pay taxes."

A younger, white worker told Camejo, "I was in the service for four years. I think cutting the war budget is a good idea."

"During the thirties we had public works," added a Black man. "I think we can do it again."

Nearly everyone who stopped to talk to the socialist candidate expressed disgust with the way President Ford is handling the economy. "Ford's more interested in foreign aid than in dealing with the real problems peopleface," said one man. "People need jobs."

An older Black worker nodded in agreement when Camejo said, "This system puts profits before human needs."

"That's right," the man replied. "Just yesterday they were jiving about sending someone to the moon or Mars or something. Well that don't feed nobody. That just ties up \$30-million. Think how many unemployment



## No solutions from UAW

# Growing hardships hit Detroit jobless

By DICK ROBERTS

DETROIT—The unemployment office at the corner of Mack and Conner is in the industrial center of East Detroit. Across the street is the Budd factory, an automobile parts supplier. Down a few blocks is Chrysler's Jefferson Assembly Plant.

This is an overwhelmingly Black neighborhood. Chrysler's threat to shut down Jefferson for good at the end of this model year will mean terrible hardship for a community that is already deep in unemployment.

"I'm a poor man."

"There isn't anything to talk about. There just isn't any work any more."

"I don't think anybody knows when they're going to get their job back."

These were typical comments on the crowded lines at the state unemployment office.

Bill Elam, 26 years old, had worked for six months at Budd, taking home about \$250 a week before he was laid off last September. His unemployment benefits are \$154 every two weeks, "for rent, baby, a wife, and school. If you juggle it right you can get that far; it's just how you handle it," he told *The Militant*.

How long did he expect high unemployment to last? "The way Ford's running this country, forever."

Elam believes that the city is still hiring, and he has taken four tests for different city jobs. "They got the money but I haven't got called yet."

### 'Everything's poor'

"Everything's really poor, man, really poor," Charles Rice, 25 years old, said. He had worked for Chrysler for a year and eight months. But even that is not enough to get the Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB) that are supposed to go to unemployed auto workers. Credits for SUB begin to pile up after working one year, but they only begin to be paid out after working two.

"I don't make but \$134 every two weeks. It lasts just the weekend. I send money to my son," Rice explained.

"OK," Elam said, "the average man collecting unemployment right now is barely getting by. What the government doesn't realize is that by the time

things do get better, if they get better, what's going to happen to the man that has all these bills? How's he going to make up for it?"

"The bills pile up, you know, food is higher, everything is higher," Rice added.

Both of these men are in the United Auto Workers (UAW), but they are far removed from the union leadership and put little confidence in it.

Elam said, "The union plays both ways. [UAW President Leonard] Woodcock comes out that we got to get jobs, the whole bit. That's cool. Talk is good, but he's not really relevant to the worker because he's not doing anything to help the worker."

Elam believes that if there isn't enough work in factories the union should help people to get other types of skills.

"Look," he said, "anytime you can spend money to go to Vietnam, you can spend money on Cambodia, you can spend money to buy a statue for the city of Detroit that costs \$10,000—you know the man has got money. What it is, is making money by laying off. Budd, GM, Chrysler—all of them—are going to write off the tax deductions and say we lost money, and make money."

### Solidarity House

From Mack and Conner to Solidarity House, the international headquarters of the UAW, is not very far walking or driving. But it is miles, politically.

On Feb. 18 Irving Bluestone, the UAW vice-president in charge of the General Motors (GM) department, held a GM subcouncil meeting at the Sheraton Cadillac Hotel.

GM shop committeemen were invited by telegram to attend the conference, at a few days' notice, and without being told what it was about. Some 500 delegates attended. The news media were informed that a major move was in the offing.

In fact, the whole affair only illustrated the vast distance between the UAW leadership and the economic problems and needs of workers.

What Bluestone had worked up was an arrangement for the union to borrow money from GM to pay hos-



Militant/Dick Roberts

Comment from unemployed line: 'Look, anytime you can spend money on Vietnam and Cambodia, you know the man has got money. GM, Chrysler, all of them, are making money by laying off.'

pital benefits to workers whose SUB funds have expired. The money was borrowed at interest against a two-cent-an-hour payment due GM workers later in the year for medical programs.

### Jargon

If that sounds confusing, it is. The details of the contract were so complicated that most of the subcouncil delegates didn't pay any attention to the presentation and voted overwhelmingly for it in a rush to leave the room. "That technical bullshit screws up your mind," one delegate told *The Militant*, "and that is what they wanted to do."

Bluestone then tried to explain the contract to reporters at a news conference. That took 45 minutes and even so, the major press misreported the UAW-GM deal.

What is involved is an emergency hospital fund for older workers. Bluestone said that the GM SUB fund is likely to run out in mid-May.

The union leadership fears a sudden backlash from the unemployed workers and is trying to put together various palliatives—at the union's own

expense—to ease the coming drop-off of SUB.

"We didn't discuss any additional costs to GM," Bluestone told the media. "They made it clear that they wouldn't pay out anything additional and we didn't ask for it."

When asked how many workers have already used up their SUB benefits, Bluestone said he didn't know. There are now about 125,000 unemployed GM workers.

"What we've started to do is negotiate with ourselves," said Rodger McFadden, a delegate to the subcouncil meeting. The union leadership, he explained, "ran into stiff opposition when they tried to collect benefit money out of our cost-of-living fund. They're looking for other ways to do it because they're trying to prevent a cliff drop-off in SUB."

McFadden added, "It's still further illustration they haven't got any idea of what to do to help unemployed workers. They're just hoping something will carry them through the economic crisis. Woodcock is trying to get the Democratic Party to pull him out of the hole. He has no idea what to do on his own."

## 400 rally to defend women political prisoners

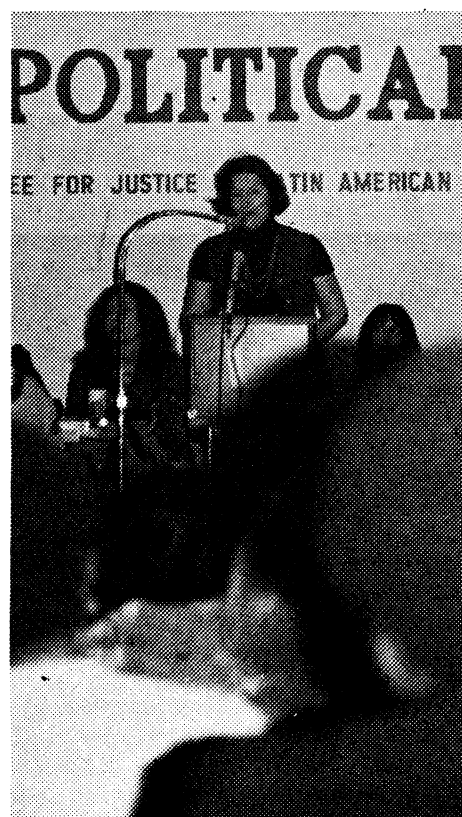
By JAY RESSLER

NEW YORK—An overflow crowd packed into New York University's Loeb Student Center Feb. 21 for a speak-out on "Women as Political Prisoners," organized by the U.S. Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners (USLA).

The rally featured Maria Isabel Barreno, coauthor of *The Three Marias: New Portuguese Letters*, who is on a nationwide tour. Her participation provided the opportunity to draw together a variety of groups and individuals to expose the harsh treatment of women political prisoners in Latin America and elsewhere.

Of the more than 400 participants, the overwhelming majority were women. From the buttons they wore and the leaflets they distributed, it was clear that those in attendance represented a wide cross section of the women's liberation movement and supporters of civil liberties in Latin America.

A huge banner reading "Free all political prisoners" provided the backdrop for the platform, from which speakers addressed the audience concerning a number of specific cases. "One of the most pressing needs of



Militant/Tom Bias

Jacqueline Ceballos of NOW urged that March 8 protests demand freedom for women political prisoners.

the international women's movement is to free our sisters who are locked up in torture chambers throughout the world," said Marion Crawford, who chaired the meeting.

Barreno devoted most of her remarks to the case of Ines Romeu, a Brazilian who has been imprisoned since 1972 on charges stemming from an alleged plot to kidnap the German ambassador to Brazil. She is being tortured.

Jacqueline Ceballos, of the International Committee of New York National Organization for Women, cited information that has recently been made public about the sadistic sexual torture of women prisoners in Chile. She called on people to participate in the March 8 International Women's Day demonstration in New York. Ceballos expressed her belief that the issue of women political prisoners is an important one to be raised as part of the demonstration.

Other speakers included Judy White, former USLA staff member; Ti-Grace Atkinson, prominent feminist writer; Phyllis Chesler, author of *Women and Madness*; Gloria Waldman, a faculty member of the City University of New York; and Dolores Huerta, of the Uni-

ted Farm Workers.

Waldman reported on the cases of Lidia Falcón and Genoveva Forest, whom she recently interviewed. Falcón and Forest are Spanish feminists who have been framed up on charges linking them to the assassination of Spanish prime minister Carrero Blanco and other terrorist activities. They reportedly are being tortured.

Huerta pointed to the similarities between the plight of the farm workers in California fighting for union recognition and the plight of women political prisoners in Latin America. She mentioned the case of Olga Talamante, daughter of a Chicano farm worker from Gilroy, Calif. Talamante has been imprisoned in Argentina and subjected to torture.

Organizers of the rally pledged to continue an energetic fight for the release of women and men prisoners throughout Latin America. Participants were urged to attend a working meeting to plan future activities.

USLA is circulating petitions in support of Ines Romeu and Olga Talamante. Copies can be obtained by writing to: USLA Justice Committee, 156 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10010. Telephone: (212) 691-2880.

## War in Cambodia

Since Richard Nixon ordered the invasion of Cambodia in the spring of 1970, Washington has dropped more than 250,000 tons of bombs on that small country. At a cost of nearly \$7-billion and in a period of less than five years the U.S. government has managed to create a refugee population of nearly 3.4 million—half the people in Cambodia. Some 700,000 Cambodians—10 percent of the population—have been either killed or wounded.

Not satisfied with these successes in the "fight against Communism," the Ford administration is now asking Congress for another \$222-million to prop up the Pnompenh regime. And, according to press reports, this is just a prelude to another request for \$425-million in military aid for the year beginning July 1. In the meantime, an expanded U.S. airlift has begun to fly rice donated under the "Food for Peace" program, as well as arms, into Pnompenh.

"This is a moral question," wrote Ford in a Feb. 25 letter to one of his old cronies in Congress. "Are we to deliberately abandon a small country in the midst of its life and death struggle?"

There certainly is a life-and-death struggle going on in Cambodia; the problem is that the U.S. government, with all its arms and ammunition, is on the side of death.

Kissinger and Ford have made clear that they are prepared to see another 700,000 Cambodians die in their attempt to maintain capitalism in Southeast Asia. And the Democratic-controlled Congress, while making a grand show of opposition to the slaughter, has until now approved every dollar and every bomb that has gone to defend Washington's creatures in Pnompenh.

The Ford administration's drive to garner new public acceptance of its military intervention in Southeast Asia—and for the expansion of that effort—must be answered.

Fortunately, the massive antiwar sentiment of the American people makes it politically difficult for Congress to continue its appropriations for the Cambodian war. But even so, not a single Democratic or Republican politician is willing to speak the blunt truth about Cambodia because every one of them supports American capitalism. They know that the same type of wars will be necessary in other parts of the world as part of the price for preserving the private profit system.

Washington is fighting to defend its worldwide empire, and it is prepared to use any means—whether it's terror bombing in Southeast Asia or secret plotting in Chile—in the pursuit of that goal.

## Rights in danger

Government officials and capitalist propagandists across the country are working overtime to pin the blame for the social problems caused by capitalism on immigrant workers without papers. The latest instance came on Feb. 23 when Frances Knight, director of the State Department's Passport Office, said that U.S. citizens "are sick and tired of supporting nontaxpaying criminals and illegal aliens."

Knight's attempt to label immigrant workers as criminals and freeloaders was typical in its crude and vicious racism. But her statement was not just aimed at undocumented workers.

"It is my considered opinion," said Knight, "that the U.S. government owes every American citizen a true, recorded national identity to protect him from criminal impersonations."

She proposed that every citizen be required to carry a government identification card, complete with fingerprints, claiming that "an insignificant number of our citizens would be opposed to national registration and being issued a national identity card."

This police-state proposal is vivid proof of what *The Militant* has said repeatedly: the reactionary campaign against the so-called illegal aliens is really aimed against all working people.

The poisonous propaganda against immigrant workers appeals to the most reactionary prejudices. It is designed to sow divisions among the working class and to divert attention from the real cause of joblessness: the capitalist system.

Dragnet raids for "illegal aliens" have already been used as a means to break up union-organizing drives and as a weapon of political repression and intimidation.

The logic of the antidemocratic crusade against the immigrants without papers leads directly to police-state measures, like the national registration system Knight is proposing.

### Bicentennial hypocrisy

At a recent meeting of bicentennial organizers and a group of Native American leaders, Robert Burnette, the tribal chairman of the Rosebud Sioux, stated, "This bicentennial is hypocritical because it makes heroes out of men who have stolen our land and our lives."

In rereading the U. S. Declaration of Independence, I came across this reference to Native Americans as part of the list of grievances against King George of Great Britain:

"He [King George] has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions."

Rosalie Schwartz  
New York, N. Y.

### 'Daily World' & ERA

I knew the Communist Party's opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment was one of their most openly reactionary positions—putting them to the right of George Meany and Betty Ford, not to mention most women in this country—but I never expected them to point this out in their newspaper.

The lead editorial in the Feb. 18 *Daily World* spells it out, though. Reporting on the recent Conservative Political Conference of Republican right-wingers like Ronald Reagan and James Buckley, the *World* edit says the conference resolutions "ran true to form. They opposed the right to abortion, the Equal Rights Amendment, and busing for purposes of integration. . . ."

Whoa, there! From the CP's own anti-ERA stance, this could hardly be attacked as "true to form" conservatism—it should be hailed as a *progressive* move. Instead of pouring vitriol on these Birchites, the *Daily World* should propose a united front!

Perhaps all the ramifications had not been thought out, or maybe a *Daily World* staffer was trying to discreetly call attention to the embarrassment the anti-ERA position causes for those who must try to defend it.

G. A.  
New York, N. Y.

### Barreno tour

Emma Jackson's article reporting on the success of the tour for Maria Barreno (*Militant*, Feb. 21) had one inaccuracy that should be corrected. Barreno spoke at the University of California campus in San Diego, not at San Diego State University.

The UCSD meeting, which attracted 75 people, was sponsored by the UCSD Women's Center and the Young Socialist Alliance.

Bruce Marcus  
San Diego, Calif.

### Be sensible

The ideas expressed in *The Militant* are too extreme for the system to change so suddenly. I hope someday you will try to compromise and become more sensible. Then maybe more people will listen to your ideas.

A. S.  
Davis, Calif.

### PL vs. unions

The ultraleft sect known as the Progressive Labor Party (PL) has very few members in Minneapolis and is rarely seen in political life here. However, they have a few members in several unions around town who were recently involved in one of the most crass and opportunist maneuvers ever pulled.

PL went to various union groups with proposals to endorse something, sometime, that would somehow relate to unemployment. And, in good faith, some unions endorsed.

Subsequently, a leaflet materialized, calling for a rally at the state capitol. It was signed by the "Jobs Now Coalition" and said it had been endorsed by several unions.

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Council 6 was listed as having endorsed, right under a list of demands that AFSCME never saw, one of which AFSCME has a totally different position on.

The Central Labor Union Council, upon seeing all the demands, put an article on the front page of the *Minneapolis Labor Review* headlined, "CLUC Will Avoid Job Rally Feb. 17."

These disclaimers are bad enough for the union movement to have to issue, but the rally of about 35 people was worse than anyone imagined. The speeches attacked the union officials as "creeps" for withdrawing endorsement. There was some attacking of bosses too.

The fact that the unions did so readily endorse the idea of actions for jobs makes the PL sham rally a criminal act. However, the real union movement will find fertile ground for mass, public rallies for "Jobs For All." PL will undoubtedly boycott such rallies since they will most assuredly find some "creeps" at them.

Mary Hillery  
Minneapolis, Minn.

### Edelin trial

Richard Cahalane's story on the Edelin trial ("Black doctor tried for performing abortion," Jan. 31) was not only inaccurate but slanted to make the doctor appear to be a victim of racial prejudice and to paint "right to life" people as "reactionaries."

The inaccuracy: Edelin was not on trial for performing an abortion but for manslaughter (causing the death of a viable baby).

Edelin, of course, was identified in the story as a Black. But the one other individual also mentioned was not mentioned by race. Could it be that Cahalane didn't know that Mildred Jefferson, chairman of the National Right to Life Committee's board of directors, also is Black? So was the baby in the case.

One of the reasons Dr. Jefferson and other members of her race have become active in the right-to-life movement is that they see widespread abortion as particularly threatening to minorities. Jesse Jackson and Dick Gregory both have been very vocal on the subject and have participated in pro-life conventions. Would Cahalane call them "reactionary"?

Janet Grant  
Maplewood, Minn.



# Women In Revolt

Linda Jenness



## Stewardesses & women's rights

### Belated renewal

Enclosed is my belated renewal.

Keep up the good work. Your campaign is finally having some effect.

N.P.

Indianapolis, Ind.

### Latino prisoners

We are writing to expose one of the many abuses that are being perpetrated against the inmates here.

Recently an incident took place here in which a Latino inmate and a sergeant got into an argument that unfortunately led to a fight.

This sergeant is known throughout the prison to provoke individuals into doing things that will lead them into confrontation with the administration.

After the inmate was restrained, he was handcuffed and led away by a total of 20 goon-squad guards. It was observed by several witnesses that he was not injured.

However, the prisoner is now in segregation with a broken nose, a fractured jaw, a possible concussion, and injured ribs. These beatings are tactics definitely in violation of the departmental law governing the use of physical force.

The beating that was sadistically perpetrated against the inmate was inhuman, against the policies of the department, and uncalled for. Yet it was sanctioned by the higher-ups in the administration.

We are taking steps to bring to the attention of the community the abuses that the prisoners are forced to endure under the guise of rehabilitation, with the hope that those who are concerned on the outside will try to get involved in helping us to stop this inhumane treatment.  
*Concerned Latin Prisoners*  
New York

### Real news

Please accept my introductory subscription. Enclosed is a check for \$1 for two months of *The Militant*. I am a new subscriber. Send me some real news!

R. S.

Valparaiso, Ind.

### Hand in hand

The necessity of enlightening the majority of the American people to the ideas of socialism hit home last week as I was listening to a radio program about the overthrow of Allende in Chile.

The speaker said, in effect, "Allende, who was a Marxist, did, however, do a lot of good for the people."

It's too bad that he didn't realize that true Marxism and the betterment of humanity go hand in hand.

Rudy Durci

Shinnston, W. Va.

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.

DENVER—A little more than two years old, Stewardesses For Women's Rights (SFWR) has already scored some victories, both for better health and safety precautions in the skies, and for women's rights.

"Our first victory," Nan Welmars, national coordinator of SFWR, told an audience at the Denver Militant Forum on Feb. 21, "was changing the requirement that stewardesses could not marry and were forced to retire at 32."

Now the retirement age is 60 and many stewardesses both are married and have children. SFWR also anticipates a victory shortly through the courts that will abolish the rigid weight requirements.

"The first stewardesses in the 1930s," Welmars reminded the audience, "were registered nurses. Today the airlines have forgotten the purpose of stewardesses—safety—and think our main purpose is to make every male passenger feel good."

Sharon Noelke, the Denver chapter head of SFWR, also spoke at the forum. She reported on the refusal by airline pilots, as of Feb. 1, 1975, to carry cargoes of hazardous gases and radioactive materials on passenger planes.

"This victory is a result of our protest," said Noelke. "SFWR publicized the fact that there's a tremendous amount of laxity on the airlines' part in carrying millions of tons of hazardous material. In 1973, for instance, a Pan American plane went down with eight tons of nitric and sulfuric acid on it. And Delta had two leaks of radioactive material that exposed several hundred people."

Encouraged by these victories and by their membership of more than 2,000, with chapters representing every airline and all 12 unions that organize the airlines, the stewardesses are stepping up their campaign to protect the health of stewardesses.

The noise level, vibrations, and lack of humidity in the pressurized cabins, as well as the heavy work done in a short period of time under crowded and confined conditions, has resulted, Noelke said, in stewardesses having a high level of kidney infections and other illnesses.

In addition, Welmars reported on studies showing

that stewardesses require a high rate of psychiatric treatment.

"We believe that's because you're never right in our business. I hate to think of the number of times someone has stepped on *my* foot and *I* say 'I'm sorry.' We're people too. At least once in a while we should be able to say, 'I'm sorry, sir, but that's wrong.'"

The stewardesses are all union members. "The fact that we had to go to the courts instead of relying on our unions shows the subordinate place of women in the unions, and it shows their lack of concern," Welmars said. That's one reason she was excited about the formation of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) and why she and many other stewardesses belong to CLUW.

The day before the Militant Forum meeting, Noelke's union, the Air Line Pilots Association, (ALPA) took a 98 percent strike vote against Western Airlines. Western Airlines employees have been without a contract for more than a year.

"The airline pleads poverty to our demands for a wage increase," Noelke said, "but that's a lot of bull. All you have to do is look at their financial statement. They made over \$22-million in profits last year."

The campaign of SFWR against sexist advertising continues. They are appealing to passengers to join them in this campaign.

"I'm a highly trained professional with a serious job to do," reads their message to the flying public. "Should an emergency situation arise, I urgently need the respect, confidence and cooperation of all my passengers in order to minimize danger and accomplish what must be done. . . . I don't think of myself as a sex object or a servant, but as someone who is capable of opening the door of a 747 in the dark, upside down, and in the water. . . . Fantasies are fine, in their place, but let's be honest, the 'sexpot stewardess' image is unsafe at any altitude."

The stewardesses can be contacted at Stewardesses For Women's Rights, Inc., Suite 52, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. 10020.

## National Picket Line

Frank Lovell



## Congress takes care of itself

Most unions have trouble finding a formula for cost-of-living adjustments that will keep wages fully abreast of rising prices. But the U. S. Congress had no such problem when it sought a formula in 1969 to protect pensions of retired federal employees against inflation. This was natural because the astute lawmakers were devising a plan to protect their own pensions. Here is what they worked out.

The generous Capitol Hill pension plan pays retired members of Congress up to three-quarters of their \$42,500 annual salary, depending on length of service. Their pension check is adjusted in accordance with the rising Consumer Price Index. Each time the pension check is adjusted, an extra 1 percent is added to make up for money lost during the time lag between the price increases and the adjustment.

Since these adjustments are made on a percentage basis, it all works out well for those who get fat checks to begin with, but not so well for those who are low-paid all their working lives and get correspondingly low pension checks.

Members of Congress, military officers, and civil servants all benefit. But the generals and admirals, top bureaucrats, and time-servers in Congress benefit more. The Army sergeant, government clerk, or Capitol grounds keeper gets less—much less.

Take the case of the legislator who has been retired after 20 years or so by the voters—probably because they decided to try to find someone who would represent them for a change. The retiree continues to collect three-quarters pay, from a base of \$31,875, every year for life.

When the cost of living goes up 12 percent as it did last year, this retiree gets a \$3,825 raise to compensate for rising prices and insure a proper lifestyle. In addition, he or she will collect another \$318.75 in "lost money," which brings the total to

\$36,018.75 for the next year.

According to projections by the *Associated Press* (AP), a "typical Federal employee" (not a member of Congress or a general) who retired in January 1973 could draw \$27,500 more (spread out over 18 years) than if his or her pension kept even, month by month, with the Consumer Price Index.

With about two million federal pensioners, AP reckons that the 1 percent "lost money" increase, because it compounds over the years, will probably amount to \$100-billion by 1990.

In 1973 there were 2,775,000 federal employees, with an average annual wage of \$12,500. The lowest was \$5,017, and the highest (excluding Congress), \$36,000. If a woman senior clerk earning the average \$12,500 could retire at three-quarters pay, her pension would be \$9,375, and her 1 percent catch-up when the cost-of-living adjustment is made would be less than \$94 the first year.

For the vast majority who get well below the average and retire at half pay, the 1 percent added for lost pay will be less than \$40. Obviously these are not the ones who will unduly benefit from the \$100-billion that AP projections envisage as an unbearable drain on the federal-treasury—an "unintended bonus." This "bonus" was only a partial oversight by Congress, a case of the lawmakers looking out for themselves and neglecting to make the usual exceptions and exclusions.

But the idea of making up lost money, despite its distortion by self-servers in Congress, is completely valid. It ought to be incorporated into the inadequate cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) clauses that many unions have won in an effort to keep wages in line with rising prices.

Next week we'll look at some of the other provisions union cost-of-living escalator clauses ought to have to protect workers' incomes.

# The Great Society

**The full picture**—People don't appreciate how justified that proposed \$1-million increase in the household budget for the queen of England really is. In addition to the high costs of servants, the **London Daily Mirror** reports, "The Queen's investments have suffered from the world slump in shares, and she is believed to have been drawing on her private purse for years in order to pay her bills."

**And not only that, but . . .**—After workers tore down 90 of its 365 rooms, a project to remodelize the queen's Sandringham Estate was called off. Buckingham Palace explained the \$600,000 face-lifting job was called off because "The Queen feels it would be inappropriate to go ahead with the work at a time when so many people are facing economic difficulties."

**Contagious**—Researchers reported in a British medical journal that non-smokers closeted with smokers absorbed a significant amount of nicotine into their blood and urine. "Virtually all urban nonsmokers," they concluded, "have measurable amounts of nicotine in their body fluids throughout most of their lives. . . . It requires no more than one or two smokers to contaminate a vehicle or building."

**The bright side**—A correspondent for the **Los Angeles Times** assures that everything is fine at Palm Beach. The Rolls Royces still line up in front of the chic Breakers Hotel (starting rates, \$90 a day) and one coupon clipper wrote home: "You don't see any signs of the depression around here."

## Harry Ring



Oliphant

'Hi, Ferguson, FBI'. . . 'Oh, Hi, Kelley, CIA. . . Meet Wilson, Phone Company'. . . 'Hi.'

## By Any Means Necessary

### Robert F. Williams still fighting

#### Baxter Smith



Way back in the 1950s Robert F. Williams was earning his spurs as a scrapper going up against Jim Crow segregation in Monroe, in the heart of North Carolina Klan country.

And he's still fighting today.

Any day now the Michigan Supreme Court will rule on a North Carolina state request to extradite him for trial on a 1961 kidnapping indictment.

If he is sent back and tried, he could be put in prison for life. He needs your support.

Two weeks ago Williams was in Boston for the National Student Conference Against Racism.

"I knew they had racism here," he said in an interview at the conference, "but I was shocked at how severe it is. On the faces on the television I saw the same hatred that I saw in the South during the civil rights days."

"And if there's no counterforce many people can be sucked in. If there's no force to disseminate the truth it becomes lopsided in favor of the segregationists. So it's important that rallies



Robert F. Williams

take place and people are mobilized.

"I thought if we could have integration any place without violent conflict it would be Boston. But the racists here have taken off the kid gloves."

In Monroe the racists took off the kid gloves too, but Williams fought back.

Union County, where Monroe is located, was always known as Klan country. But until Williams returned to Monroe after a hitch in the service, nobody was really standing up to the Klan.

The NAACP had dwindled to six people, until one day Williams ambled into a pool hall, gathered some guys who were just killing time, gave a pep talk, and began signing up new members.

Blacks soon flocked to the NAACP in droves. The first victory of the reborn organization was celebrated after it successfully challenged the "Whites Only" public library.

The group set its sights on the "Whites Only" swimming pool in 1957. Williams led eight youngsters wearing swimming trunks to the city pool but they were denied admittance.

The challenge to the white pool set the Klan night riders into action against the Black community. But armed self-defense met the Klan's attacks.

By 1961 Williams had become a marked man. In August of that year the racists found their opportunity.

Freedom Riders from up North and local Blacks

on Aug. 27, 1961, were picketing the county courthouse to demand police protection from Klan attacks when a mob of racists gathered and beat the picketers.

Carloads of Klansmen then drove through and shot up the Black community. A crowd of Blacks that had gathered on William's block intercepted a white couple from out of town that was driving by. The crowd would have killed them, Williams recalled in the interview, but he allowed them to stay in his home until they could safely leave.

Later he was charged with kidnapping the couple, even though in a newspaper interview the couple denied they had been forcibly held.

Realizing he could never get a fair trial, Williams fled the country. He went to Canada, Cuba, China, Africa, and returned to the States in 1969.

Now settled in Baldwin, Mich., with his family, Williams, 49, although graying, is trim, gritty, and determined as ever.

"I just want to have the right to go back to North Carolina any time I want to without worry," he said. Just like Black youngsters who want to have the right to go to white schools in Boston, right Bob? "Right!"

If the Michigan Supreme Court rules against Williams he plans to take his case into federal court. To contribute to help defray court costs or to get more information on his case, write to him at: P.O. Box 611, Baldwin, Mich. 49304.

## The American Way of Life

### Their money or our lives?

Nineteen percent of all the wealth in the United States is owned by 0.1 percent of the population—about 210,000 people. If a working person, through some unlikely coincidence, ever got close enough to one of these rarefied individuals to ask them whether they valued money more than human life, I suppose the conventional answer would be forthcoming.

"Of course people are more important than money! How could you ask such a question?"

Unfortunately, everyday life tells us that, in fact, money is much more important than lives to the people who control the U.S. economy. It's not that they're all monsters—although after Vietnam and Attica some people have begun wondering. It's just that the whole point of the capitalist system is making a profit. That comes first, before human life and before everything else.

Take cancer, for example. One out of every four people in the U.S. gets cancer at some point in

their lives; about 16 percent of all deaths in the U.S. are due to cancer.

Scientists still don't know how to cure it—but they do know how to prevent it. Researchers at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) now estimate that 60 to 90 percent of all human cancers are caused by environmental factors—mainly exposure to artificially produced carcinogens. These cancer-causing agents have been added to our food—as was the case with cyclamates in soft drinks, and as remains the case with nitrite preservatives in meats and growth hormones used on cattle and chickens. Petrochemical companies dump them into our drinking water and into the air we breathe.

A recent NCI study found that the incidence of cancer is highest in the most heavily industrialized areas of the country. Specific types of cancer are increasingly being linked to occupational exposure of factory workers to carcinogens or to exposure of the surrounding population to factory wastes.

According to a report in the Feb. 16 *Washington Post*, "The highest bladder cancer rate turned up in Salem County, N.J., which is across the Delaware River from the giant [Du Pont] petrochemical complex in Wilmington [Del.], one of the nation's oldest."

Apparently, organic wastes dumped into the Delaware by Du Pont were turned into carcinogens when the water was chlorinated for use by nearby residents.

But knowing what the problem is and getting anything done about it are two different things. There is no system to test new chemicals before they are put to use in industry, and funds for the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences are all being cut back.

Human life may be more important than money to you and me, but not to those who run the country.

—DAVE FRANKEL



## Abortion rights defended

# Black community scores Edelin verdict

By RICH CAHALANE

BOSTON—Referring to the all-white jury that convicted Dr. Kenneth Edelin of manslaughter for performing a legal abortion on a young Black woman, his wife, Professor Ramona Edelin, said:

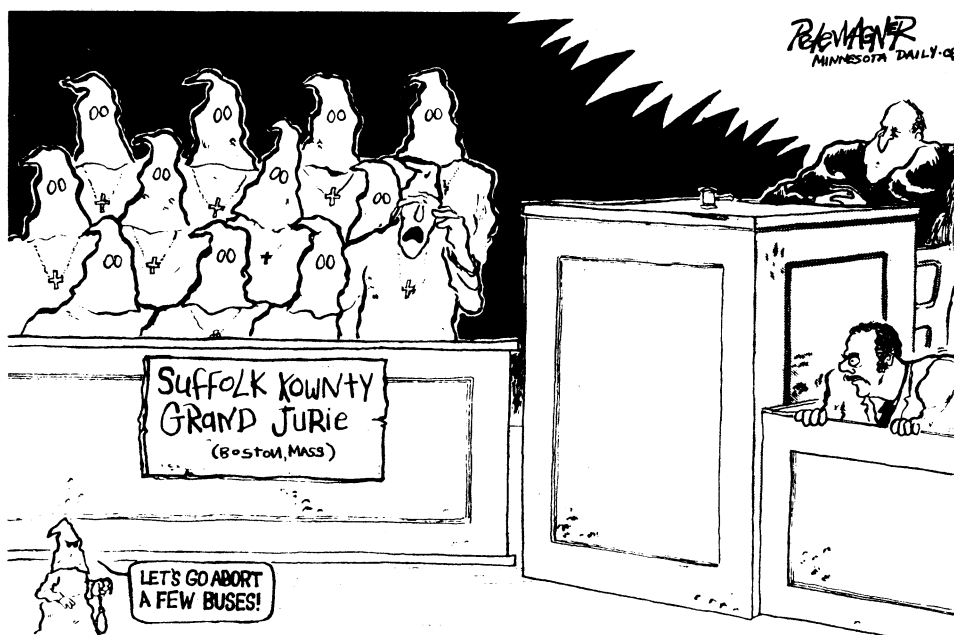
"What realistically do they care about a Black fetus? Yes, everyone has a right to life, but we Blacks have a right to starve and the right to be spit upon, all in the name of an insane morality. These same people are spitting and throwing rocks at Black children going to school on a bus."

She expressed the outrage of many in the Black community who are well aware that the racism whipped up in Boston by opponents of school desegregation played a key role in the Edelin conviction. One alternate juror in the case disclosed that jurors made such comments as "This nigger is guilty as sin."

Thomas Atkins, president of the Boston NAACP, condemned the conviction in a news conference Feb. 20. He called upon "NAACP branches across the country to state their support for Dr. Edelin."

"The weight of evidence in this case was so overwhelmingly on the side of the doctor that we can only explain the verdict as having been motivated either by religious bias, racial bias, or both," he said.

"We think it is especially regretful that of all of the doctors at Boston City Hospital, the prosecutors chose the Black department head to make an



"We find the nigger. . . er, I mean the abortionist. . . er, make that the defendant, guilty of manslaughter. . ."

example of, from the only hospital in the city which has a clientele which is predominantly Black."

Atkins called on the judge to "set aside the verdict of the jury as insupportable by the evidence and as tainted with impermissible racial or religious motivations which denied the defendant any semblance of a fair trial."

On the same day, Edelin appealed to the judge to set aside his conviction on the grounds that it was based on "bias, misapprehension, or prejudice."

The racist verdict against Edelin has

already dealt a severe blow to the right of women around the country to abortion.

As a direct result of the conviction, West Penn Hospital in Pittsburgh has banned abortions after the third month of pregnancy, Hutzel Hospital in Detroit after 16 weeks, Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville after 12 weeks, and Nassau Medical Center in New York after 12 weeks.

Planned Parenthood in Los Angeles reports a 10 percent increase in the number of women in their seventeenth or eighteenth week of pregnancy turning to them for help after being re-

fused abortions by hospitals.

In Boston, Beth Israel Hospital announced that it now has a policy of keeping lifesaving equipment on hand for all second-trimester abortions, adding hundreds of dollars a day to the cost of an abortion. This also raises the possibility that a woman could go to the hospital to terminate a pregnancy only to have a fetus kept alive artificially for an indefinite period at a cost of thousands of dollars!

With new wind in their sails, the reactionary anti-abortion forces are threatening to press for prosecutions similar to the Edelin case around the country. They are on a sustained campaign to further undermine the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion and thus return women to the days of back-alley abortions.

Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate Peter Camejo issued an appeal for action to defend abortion rights and Dr. Edelin. He said, "Just as the attack on school desegregation in Boston has ramifications far beyond Boston—threatening the rights of all Blacks—this new racist attack on a Black doctor for performing a legal abortion has national implications. The rights of all women are now threatened."

"All opponents of racism and all supporters of women's rights must unite to defeat the reactionaries. We must join together around the country in demonstrations, rallies, and pickets in support of Dr. Edelin. His conviction must be overturned."

# Carl Braden: fighter for democratic rights

By NELSON BLACKSTOCK

Carl Braden, a longtime Southern civil rights activist, died at his home in Louisville, Ky., on Feb. 18. He was 60 years old.

Braden fought courageously against witch-hunters and racists in the South during the conservative 1950s, when few were willing to stand up and be counted. He was twice jailed on charges of sedition against the state of Kentucky and spent nine months in federal prison after being convicted of contempt of Congress for his refusal to cooperate with the red-baiters of the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC).

Carl Braden was always among the first to come to the defense of others whose democratic rights were under attack.

Carl and Anne Braden, his wife, often cooperated with the Socialist Workers Party in defense of the rights of socialists to speak out free from government harassment and right-wing terror.

The Bradens were strong supporters of the Political Rights Defense Fund, which is sponsoring the SWP's suit against the government. Recently, they sent a telegram to Mayor Thomas Bradley in Los Angeles demanding action against the bombers of the SWP headquarters in that city.

The young generation of activists in the South of the 1960s will probably remember Carl Braden best for his deep involvement with the issues of that time, from his support of miners in Kentucky to his participation in the movement against the war in Vietnam.

I recall meeting Braden in Nashville in 1964 at the founding conference of the Southern Students Organizing Committee. The conference was attended mainly by white students who were beginning to become involved in the civil rights movement.

An older white-haired man sat quietly to one side of the room during most of the proceedings. In the course of the meeting, speakers had frequently used the term "power structure," which was popular among liberals and radicals at the time.

Near the end of the conference, I vividly remember Braden taking the floor and telling us, "This power structure you're talking about is nothing more than the ruling class."

Although these were pretty revolutionary-sounding words to our ears back then, Braden was far from being a "sectarian." In fact, he was just the opposite. While firmly holding to his own views, he always made every effort to work with everyone on the left in a nonsectarian, nonfactional way.

After the conference, I stayed briefly at the Bradens' home in Louisville. Carl was a voracious reader, and the house had a large library. Inside many books I discovered that there had been stamped, "Property of the State of Kentucky," or words similar to that.

Ten years earlier the government had confiscated and held many of the Bradens' books as evidence of their political leanings in a witch-hunt trial growing out of an attempt to break down segregated housing in Louisville.

In 1954 Carl and Anne Braden sold their home in an all-white section of Louisville to a Black family. This act set off a racist furor, which was climaxed with the bombing of the house.

The Louisville authorities, who had refused to provide police protection to the house prior to the bombing, were unwilling to take serious steps to apprehend the criminals. Finally an investigation began, but it resulted in a totally incredible charge: That the Bradens had conspired to set the

bomb themselves as part of an attempt to overthrow the state of Kentucky!

In a sensational trial at the height of the McCarthyite hysteria, the prosecution accused the Bradens of involvement in a "Communist plot" to foment racial turmoil.

Although both were indicted, only Carl was brought to trial. He was convicted of sedition against the state of Kentucky and sentenced to 15 years in prison.

After spending eight months behind bars, Braden was released on \$40,000 bond. A vigorous defense resulted in a reversal of the conviction in 1956.

Carl Braden was a native of Louisville, where his father had been a railroad worker and a socialist.

Prior to the sedition trial, Braden had been a journalist, having worked on papers in Louisville, Cincinnati, Knoxville, Ky., and Harlan, Ky. He had also helped to build the union movement.

After winning the Louisville case, Carl and Anne Braden became field secretaries for the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF), and for years their names were almost synonymous with SCEF.

SCEF tried to involve Southern whites alongside Blacks in the civil rights movement, and their work took them all over the South.

In 1958 the House Un-American Activities Committee subpoenaed Carl Braden to appear at hearings in Atlanta. He refused to testify on grounds of the First Amendment. "My beliefs and associations are none of the business of this committee," he told them.

As a result of this stand, Braden was convicted of contempt of Congress and sentenced to a year in prison, which he began serving in 1961. His case became a rallying point in the fight to abolish HUAC.



Southern Patriot

Carl and Anne Braden entering Pikeville, Ky., courtroom in 1967 during proceedings of witch-hunt 'sedition' trial.

From 1966 until 1971 Braden served as executive secretary of SCEF. For their part in organizing against strip mining, Carl and Anne were arrested and spent several days in jail, again on charges of violating the Kentucky sedition law. They succeeded this time in getting the law declared unconstitutional.

After a lengthy internal dispute within SCEF, Carl Braden resigned from the organization in October 1973. He then devoted his efforts to the Training Institute for Propaganda and Organizing, which he established with the aim of passing along to others the practical organizing skills he had acquired.

Immediately prior to his death, Carl had conducted training sessions in several cities around the country for groups organizing defense of political prisoners.

Continued on page 26

## Boston court order

# Deadline nears for school busing plan

By JON HILLSON

BOSTON—With a mid-March deadline approaching for a decision on "phase two"—the extension of court-ordered busing to achieve city-wide desegregation of the Boston schools—Federal District Judge Arthur Garrity has ruled that a "voluntary integration" plan not be considered by a court-appointed panel.

Garrity rejected the plan, submitted by the Home and School Association (HSA), on the grounds that it clearly failed to meet desegregation standards set by a previous Supreme Court decision.

The HSA, led by notorious segregationist city council member Louise Day Hicks, is an umbrella organization of antibusing committees. Its proposal for phase two was a bogus plan that called for the preservation of "neighborhood schools" and Boston's de facto segregated system of education, which Garrity had previously found to be in violation of the rights of Boston's Black community to an equal education.

The HSA is now appealing Garrity's initial desegregation ruling to the U. S. Supreme Court.

The rejection of the HSA's proposal narrows to three the major proposals awaiting consideration by a court-appointed panel. The panel will submit a final plan to Garrity for his approval or amendment.

One of these, drawn up by the Boston school committee, is similar to that submitted by the HSA. The school committee, which Garrity has found to have carried out a 10-year campaign of opposition to desegregation, has called for the retention of "neighborhood schools" four days a week, with one day being reserved for "integrated" schools on "neutral" sites.

Garrity has also ruled that an earlier proposal that the school committee tried to withdraw from consideration will also be considered by the panel. This plan was drawn up for the school committee by its educational planning division and contains proposals for mandatory busing to achieve desegregation.

It was drafted in an attempt to comply with Garrity's original desegregation ruling. However, the school committee refused to submit it to the court. Garrity received the plan from the school committee's lawyers, who were seeking to save their clients from contempt charges in early January.

The other major plan is that of the NAACP. This proposal calls for busing to achieve desegregation of the remaining nearly all-white schools, including those of East Boston and Charlestown.

At the hearings on the proposed plans, Boston Police Superintendent Joseph Jordan predicted violence in Charlestown and East Boston if the NAACP plan is accepted. He testified that his department has information that "some residents over there would think of blowing up bridges and blowing up tunnels."

Jordan didn't say what measures the police are taking to stop these threats of violence. Instead, his testimony was designed to intimidate busing supporters and block the court from carrying out desegregation of the schools.

John Doherty, president of the Boston Teachers Union, also raised the



Police escort bus carrying Black students to South Boston High School. Racists threaten new violence if other schools are desegregated under 'phase two' plan.

specter of violence. He said the "NAACP plan would be an absolute disaster."

Refusing to stand up for the law against segregated schooling, Doherty proposed that no further efforts to desegregate the schools be made until at least the fall of 1976.

Emboldened by the capitulation—or outright collaboration—of federal, state, and local officials to their campaign of violence, the racists are planning a national mobilization in Washington, D. C., on March 18-19. They will press for an amendment to the Constitution to outlaw busing for the purpose of desegregating schools. They are distributing leaflets all over Boston advertising the weekend's activities.

Meanwhile, a battle is shaping up over a bill introduced into the Massachusetts state legislature to repeal the Racial Imbalance Law. Repeal of the law, which was previously weakened, would not technically affect the process of school desegregation in Boston, which is proceeding under a federal court order. But it would deal a blow to the principle of Black civil rights.

On Feb. 20, the Boston NAACP

issued a statement condemning the move to repeal the law. It said, "We call upon the Speaker, the Senate President and the Governor to let it be known now that they will not support such efforts to further disgrace Boston and Massachusetts in the eyes of the nation and the world. Anything less than this will be inadequate to stem the wave of anti-black feeling which has apparently become popular in this state today. . . ."

"The successful repeal of the Racial Imbalance Law will be interpreted by a still-shocked nation and world as proof positive that ours has become a state in which racists may feel comfortable."

The recent events in Boston underline the importance of the task the National Student Coalition Against Racism (NSCAR) set for itself at its founding convention.

The 2,000 students who met in Boston Feb. 14-16 to form NSCAR have gone back to the many cities they came from to organize an answer to the racists. In response to a call for action by the Boston NAACP they will play a key role in assembling a massive countermobilization in the streets of Boston on May 17.

## Black student framed up

BOSTON—On Feb. 21, James White, a 17-year-old Black student being bused to South Boston High School, pleaded innocent to charges stemming from the stabbing of a white student Dec. 11.

The stabbing incident was the excuse used by white parents and students for forming a lynch mob outside South Boston High that same day. More than 100 Black students were trapped inside the school while the mob outside screamed, "Kill the niggers!" They stoned buses and

fought police for several hours before the students were finally escorted to safety.

This ugly spectacle was the outgrowth of the campaign of racist violence and intimidation aimed at Black students—a campaign that continues to this day.

White is one of the many victims of this campaign, along with large numbers of Black students who are being arrested or suspended from school because of incidents provoked by the reactionaries.

# Demand N.Y. regents act on desegregation

By BAXTER SMITH

In the running battle over public school desegregation in New York State, the New York board of regents, at its Feb. 20 meeting, retreated from its month-old policy of barring racial makeup figures when determining integration in a district.

The regents, meeting in what was described as an unusually long session, adopted 10 to 2 a "clarification" of their Jan. 22 policy statement.

The regents' session, in Albany, N.Y., was picketed by some 65 people, many of them from New York City. The demonstrators were protesting a recent series of retreats on busing made by the regents. In particular, the protesters denounced the regents' January policy statement adjudging a given district as "integrated" even though it may have no Black students.

The picket was built mainly by the

New York chapter of the newly formed National Student Coalition Against Racism.

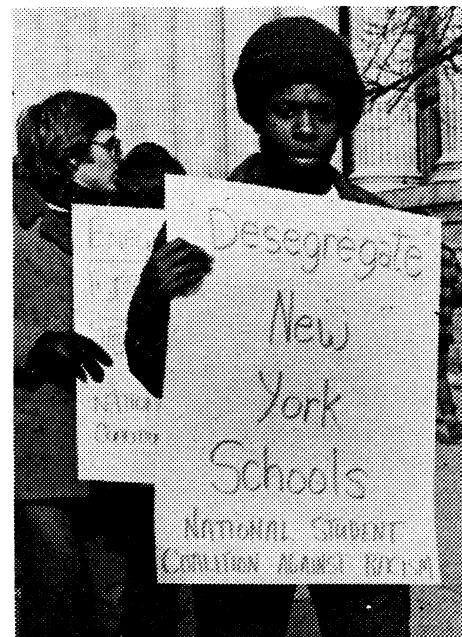
In their new statement, the regents said:

"We define an integrated school as one in which the racial composition of the student body reflects the pupil population of the school district without necessarily attempting to be proportionate to it."

Ewald Nyquist, state education commissioner, said the new policy was one "we can live with" and added that he now had a free hand to implement desegregation orders in five cities.

Language in the January statement, Nyquist charged, came "perilously close to the 'separate but equal' concept, which was long since rejected by the United States Supreme Court."

Voting against the new policy were Genevieve Klein, a vigorous busing opponent who said the new policy



Demonstrators picket board of regents meeting in Albany.

"stinks to high heaven," and Kenneth Clark. Clark is the board's only Black member and a strong supporter of desegregation. His negative vote was grounded on his dislike of the measure's introductory language.

The regents, in introductory remarks, state that busing is not "productive in the education of our children." They add that "recourse to quantitative measures is not the sole nor necessarily the principal method for determining and maintaining school integration or for detecting and correcting school segregation."

On Feb. 19, Theodore Black was chosen as chancellor of the regents. Black, a 55-year-old publisher, is a strong opponent of busing. As chancellor, he will preside over regents meetings and activities, while Nyquist handles the day-to-day operations of the state education department, which is responsible to the regents.



## Racist treatment protested

# High school students jailed in Georgia

By JOEL ABER

DECATUR, Ga. — Ninety-eight Black people, mostly Columbia High School students, were carted off to jail Feb. 20 for attempting to go to their classes. Two days earlier, 200 of the 700 Black students at Columbia had been suspended from school for protesting racism by school officials in suburban De Kalb County, which is adjacent to Atlanta.

After the students sat down in the hallways to protest arbitrary cancellation of a Black History Week assembly, they were pushed out of the school by administrators and detectives, then suspended for leaving school!

The suspended students and many parents have held three singing, chanting civil rights marches to demand readmission to Columbia High School. "Black students have rights" and "Dr. Hinson jails children" were among the signs carried by 150 students and parents seven miles from Columbia High to the De Kalb County courthouse Feb. 22. Dr. Hinson is the De Kalb school superintendent.

The marchers were addressed by parents from the Concerned Citizens of De Kalb and by De Kalb County state legislator Hosea Williams, attorney Roger Mills, and Socialist Workers Party 1974 candidate for governor Vince Eagan.

"Keep marching," Williams told the students. "It was young folks like you



Georgia state legislator Hosea Williams

marching in Selma, Ala., that gave me the right to eat a hamburger with dignity here in Georgia."

Eagan linked up the desegregation struggles in De Kalb County and Boston. "I just returned from a national conference of 2,000 students who met in Boston to form a national student committee against racism," Eagan told the crowd, "and I want you to know that there is a national student organization ready to back you in this struggle."

Three years ago, the Blacks who first moved into this area were confronted by racist administrators demanding that they bring deeds to their homes before they could enroll their children at Columbia. Once admitted to school, the Black students were faced with constant humiliation and segregation within the building.

Cheerleading, band, sports, and other extracurricular activities were closed to all but a few token Blacks. To join a school club, the students found, they often needed the recommendation of students already in the club. "Our kids are tired of just studying and going home," says parent Gail Cook. "They're shut out of anything that's called fun."

Students are also demanding an end to the tracking system, which relegates most of the Black students to the "slow" tracks. Hinson admits this inequity exists but says it is "justified" by test scores.

The tracking system is "designed to create a permanent class of maids and janitors," says lawyer Roger Mills. Phil McGregor, a Black teacher who left Columbia last year, says the assistant principal "assigns students to class levels based on how intelligently their parents speak."

Mills told *The Militant* how Concerned Citizens of De Kalb was formed last October. A fight developed after

the homecoming game. Police were brought in, and they roughed up many Black students at Columbia. A delegation of parents demanded to know why the police had been called in. Receiving no satisfactory answer, they constituted an organization to fight institutionalized racism in the school system.

For the past week, parents and Concerned Citizens and student activists have held several joint meetings.

Hinson told the *Atlanta Constitution* that the parents should not be taking so much interest in what happens at their children's school: "We can handle the matter better without interference from parents!" He has even obtained a De Kalb County court injunction against certain parents setting foot on school grounds.

When principal Hardy ordered Eunice Smith to leave the school, she recounts that she told him, "Mr. Hardy, get out of my face, because I pay as many taxes as you do in De Kalb County."

The spirit of their meetings and demonstrations makes it clear that the students and parents intend to keep marching. "Twenty-one years is enough," they say, referring to the lack of progress since the 1954 Supreme Court decision outlawing school segregation.

# May 17 solidarity action set for Pasadena

By OMARI MUSA

PASADENA, Calif. — The Committee Against Segregation in Education (CASE) hosted a conference here Feb. 22 to map out a strategy against racism in the Los Angeles and Pasadena schools.

Michael Zinzun, CASE steering committee member and longtime activist in Pasadena, reported to the 200 people in attendance on the National Conference Against Racism held in Boston Feb. 14-16.

Concluding his report, Zinzun pointed to the call by the Boston NAACP for a national march on Boston May 17, the twenty-first anniversary of the Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in public schools. "We have to build a movement powerful enough to defeat the racists in Boston and all over the country," he said.

Two action proposals were passed

overwhelmingly by the conference. The first called for a mass, legal, peaceful march in Los Angeles on May 17 in solidarity with the Boston march and to protest school segregation in Los Angeles and the attacks on the Pasadena busing plan. Included in the proposal was a call for building actions beginning April 4.

The second proposal adopted was to hold a picket line at the Pasadena police headquarters, protesting "cop sweeps" in the Black community. The cop sweep, dubbed Operation Burglary Abatement Detail (BAD) allows the police to sweep through the Black community to stop, frisk, photograph, and record information primarily on young Black people.

The conference also passed a resolution expressing solidarity with the anti-deportation movement.

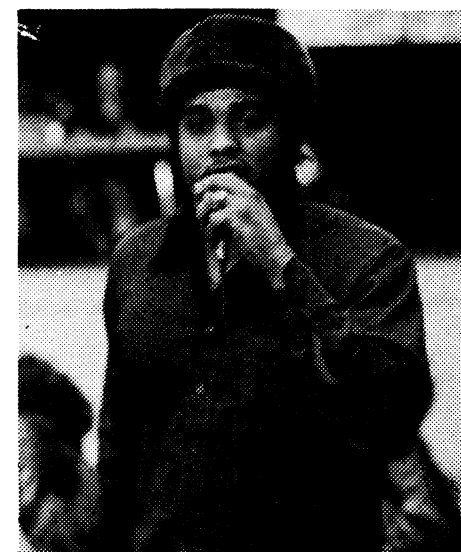
Speakers at the conference included

David Cunningham, a member of the Los Angeles city council, who addressed the conference as an initiator of a proposal in the city council that would prohibit the city from funding institutions that segregate against Blacks and Chicanos. The Los Angeles school system has been declared segregated, but the city gives the school system \$6-million a year.

Sam Sheats, a member of the Pasadena school board and a supporter of the busing plan there, also spoke.

Tim Mallory, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Pasadena school board, gave his solidarity to the conference and pledged his support to building the May 17 action through his campaign.

Other speakers included Don Wildon and Issac Richard, a Pasadena high school student.



Militant/Harry Ring

Michael Zinzun, a leader of Pasadena desegregation fight, addressing conference.

# Seattle conference hears NAACP leader

By JEFFREY FORD

SEATTLE — One hundred fifty people gathered on the University of Washington (U of W) campus the night of Feb. 21 for a teach-in against racism organized by the Seattle Freedom March Coalition and the Student Teach-in Committee Against Racism.

Talks by Thomas Atkins of the Boston NAACP and Hosea Williams of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference highlighted the teach-in.

Both speakers received standing ovations after their talks, which centered on the necessity of action to counter racist attacks on the gains won by Black people in the 1960s.

Williams emphasized that the gains of the 1960s were won by people being in the streets. "Don't anybody ever tell you there's not power in demonstrations; don't anybody ever tell you there's not power in marching feet."

Atkins outlined the history of the desegregation struggle in Boston,

showing how the school board there had consciously segregated the schools for decades.

Atkins also repeated the call for a national march on Boston on May 17. He urged all to support the NAACP and the National Student Coalition Against Racism in building the May 17 action by coming to Boston and by building support actions in their own localities.

Other speakers at the teach-in included Lacy Steel, president of the Seattle NAACP; Reverend William Cate of the Greater Seattle Area Council of Churches; and Joe Brazil, an associate professor of music at the University of Washington.

Brazil spoke about his own experience with racism on the university campus. In December he was denied tenure by the music school faculty under the old "publish or perish" rule and because of "incompetence."

Brazil taught jazz at the music school, and he is a nationally prominent jazz musician. In addition, Brazil has one of the most popular classes on the entire campus.

His is not the only instance of racism. A Black professor at the law school, Don Seawell, was denied tenure because rather than publish he spent his summers tutoring for a program to assist minority students in gaining entrance to the law school.

The law school was the focus recently of charges of racism when it voted not to hire a well-qualified Chicano professor whose sin was not that he did not publish but that what he published was "too superficial."

Under mass pressure, after the scandal hit the school newspaper, the faculty was forced to reverse its position.

On the day after the teach-in, 45 people, including representatives from community and campus groups, gathered on campus again to attend a

meeting to decide what steps to take next in the fight against racism.

The participants heard a report on the situation in Boston and on what occurred at the Boston conference. They also heard a report on the tenure case at the U of W and discussed different ways to deal with it.

Reverend Willie Jackson, of the campus Christian Ministry and a member of the steering committee of the Seattle Freedom March Coalition, outlined the proposal of the steering committee for the spring.

This included coordinating actions with the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression for April 4 and a week of actions April 14-20.

These actions are designed to focus attention on racism and to help build a mass march in Seattle on May 17, in support of the national march on Boston on that date.

## Debate over Aspira decision

# Bilingual education: challenge to teacher

By CATARINO GARZA

NEW YORK—By next September all New York schoolchildren who have difficulty with the English language must be offered bilingual education, according to a federal court consent decree.

The consent decree is an agreement between the New York board of education and Aspira, a Puerto Rican organization, which together with the Puerto Rican Educational and Defense Fund had brought a suit against the board.

The decree has rekindled debate nationally over bilingual education, a debate in which the two rival teachers'

**Catarino Garza is a bilingual teacher in New York City and a member of the United Federation of Teachers.**

unions, the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and the National Education Association (NEA), play a major role.

Language discrimination is a vital aspect of the oppression of Puerto Ricans, Chicanos, and some other minorities in the United States; and reactionary resistance to bilingual education has been strong. Until the passage of the federal Bilingual Education Act in 1968, a majority of the 50 states had laws requiring that English be the sole medium of instruction.

Especially since the mid-1960s, though, young people have revolted against being slapped, having their mouths taped, being fined, and being humiliated in countless other ways for speaking the language of their parents. The results of treatment like this could be seen, for example, in the 53 percent dropout rate among Puerto Rican high school students in New York City.

Under pressure from the oppressed minorities, the federal government first made funds available for bilingual education in 1968. Some states, including New York, have also appropriated funds. The results are still modest, to say the least. In New York City there are only 1,500 bilingual teachers to serve an estimated 100,000 students who need such instruction.

The New York consent decree in the Aspira case calls for a systematic effort to identify children who can learn



Militant/B.R. Washington

Upsurge in Puerto Rican struggle has sparked demands to maintain language, culture of oppressed minorities

more effectively in Spanish, and for providing them with reading, science, mathematics, and social studies instruction in Spanish as well as intensive instruction in English.

To provide the needed staff, the board is directed to retrain teachers to become fluent in a second language and also to implement an affirmative-action program to recruit bilingual personnel.

The acknowledgment that Spanish-speaking children have the right to an education has prompted a howl of outrage from reactionaries. The right-wing New York *Daily News* ran an editorial headlined "Bilingual Headache." It bemoaned the fact that the board is now "hunting high and low for the necessary 1,500 to 3,000 teachers" and even looking "as far as [!] Puerto Rico."

The *News* insisted that "in an English-speaking society, the duty of a school system is to provide all its students with a firm grounding in that language." And that language alone, it seems.

Where do the teachers' organizations stand?

The NEA straightforwardly supports

the right of oppressed minorities to learn and preserve their culture and to maintain their language. NEA President James Harris writes that the NEA favors a bilingual program that "enables minority students to use their language and culture as a base (to be reinforced, not denigrated or ignored) from which they can develop abilities and acquire knowledge in the English language."

### Shanker's stand

AFT President Albert Shanker claims to also support bilingual education, with some seemingly subtle differences. But when his position and his record are examined more closely, they are found to be closer to the *Daily News* standpoint.

The issue is most sharply posed to the 60,000-member New York City United Federation of Teachers (UFT), which is Shanker's power base in the AFT nationally and of which he is president. The UFT's official statement of position on bilingual education has nothing to say about the right of minorities to preserve their language. It does say that the UFT "supports basic skills instruction in the child's native language until English can be learned" (emphasis added).

Shanker often explains that immigrant groups in the U.S. have been assimilated in the past, learning English in order to do so, and that the aim of a bilingual program should be to make students learn English as rapidly as possible so they too can be assimilated.

### White job trust

What is really at stake here? Two-thirds of the students in New York City schools are Black or Puerto Rican, but 88 percent of teachers and assistant principals are white. With teaching jobs and funds tight and getting tighter, the modest growth of bilingual programs has caused monolingual English-speaking teachers in predominantly Spanish-speaking areas to become alarmed about their job security.

This is why the UFT persistently slanders the existing bilingual programs in New York. The Shankerites claim that "unqualified" teachers who allegedly can't speak English are being hired as "political patronage" by community school boards where Blacks and Puerto Ricans have won a voice, and that "discrimination against whites" is rampant.

What Shanker really opposes is any large-scale hiring of Puerto Rican and

other Latino teachers that might upset the white job trust he upholds in the New York schools.

In this racist atmosphere, the Aspira decision was met by an almost panic-stricken reaction from many New York City teachers.

The January issue of *Morim*, newspaper of the influential Jewish Teachers Association (JTA), of which Shanker is a member, vehemently attacks the compromise.

"In a furious search for Spanish-speaking personnel and an initial attempt to introduce crash Spanish courses," *Morim* writes, "the Board of Education has introduced its opening guns in a campaign to employ what conservative estimates consider to be 2000 persons in the next two years. . . ."

"In this process there will be the inevitable loss of jobs for currently employed teachers as well as decreases in job opportunities for any but bilingual teachers. Clearly this policy is discriminatory against the majority of N.Y.C. teachers who are not fluent in Spanish. Clearly, the effect of this discriminatory practice will reflect itself in the loss of positions for young Jewish teachers."

### Fanning the flames

Clearly, the JTA is fanning the flames of ethnic strife and trying to pit Jews against the Spanish-speaking people of New York City. Besides its utter disregard for the needs of Spanish-speaking students, the charge of taking jobs away from young Jewish teachers is false.

Young Jewish teachers who have taken the trouble to become fluent in Spanish and to learn about Puerto Rican culture will have little difficulty in keeping their present positions, or even being hired as part of that 2,000. Community school boards, parents, and Latino colleagues who have observed such young people fulfilling their tasks as teachers would be among the first to fight to retain them.

The jobs of New York City teachers are being threatened—but the threat doesn't come from the Puerto Rican community or the Aspira decision. The threat to teaching jobs comes from City Hall and the cutbacks being implemented by the administration of Mayor Abraham Beame. Rather than mobilizing opposition to these cutbacks, however, Shanker has spent all his time (and the union's money) crusading against the "threat" of bi-

## Shanker's real record

United Federation of Teachers (UFT) President Albert Shanker claims to support bilingual education, but the record of the Shankerite majority on the District 1 community school board in Lower Manhattan speaks far louder than his dishonest public relations job.

During the short period in 1972-73 when pro-community-control forces held a majority on the board, progress was made toward setting up effective bilingual programs for the thousands of Puerto Rican and Chinese children who speak little or no English.

Teachers were invited to join classes in Spanish and Chinese, but the UFT—in direct contradiction to its current stated position that current teaching staff should be retrained for bilingual programs—refused to cooperate.

Since the Shankerites regained control of the board, they have systematically sabotaged bilingual programs and fired parent-approved bilingual personnel right and left.

A fact sheet drawn up by district 1 teachers gives a school-by-

school breakdown of these attacks. The record shows:

- Bilingual teachers have time and time again been hired late, paid late, fired without due process, transferred involuntarily, or harassed into leaving the district.

- Puerto Rican history and culture programs have been eliminated.

- Genuine bilingual classes have been replaced with "pull-out" programs in which children are taken out of their regular classes to be taught English.

- The bilingual director of the Title I program was fired and replaced with a person who is virtually illiterate in Spanish.

- Supervision of bilingual programs has been taken out of the hands of bilingual education specialists and turned over to monolingual staff.

This is what Shanker—the crusader for a "merit system" and "qualified" teachers—has accomplished. It is a vicious, racist assault, whose primary victims are the children of District 1.



# unions

lingual education.

Only if the UFT leadership continues to refuse to mobilize teachers against the cutbacks, and instead tries to make scapegoats out of bilingual teachers, will any teachers lose their jobs.

The *Morim* article goes on to claim that "the effects of the Aspira case will result in developing a generation of Spanish-American citizens with insufficient command of English," young people who have been "trained totally in Spanish."

Apparently the writer's command of English is less than adequate, because the Aspira decision explicitly specifies intensive instruction in English and teachers proficient in both English and Spanish. This charge is only another deliberate attempt to distort the Aspira compromise and incite hostility toward it among the city's Jewish teachers.

## Independent delegates

Although Shanker's position on bilingual education was overwhelmingly adopted last fall by the UFT delegate assembly, a small group of delegates who call themselves "Independent Delegates for a Democratic Union" distributed a lengthy leaflet at that meeting, with a point-by-point rebuttal of the UFT position paper.

These delegates stressed the need for teachers to defend the right of oppressed minorities "to incorporate and teach their history and culture as understood and interpreted by those who know it best."

They point out the dishonesty of Shanker's charge that bilingual teachers drag down teaching standards because they take a separate licensing exam, when the standard exams are widely known to be both irrelevant to teaching ability and racially biased against minorities.

"Shanker and the Board of Ed are always quick to cry 'Patronage' when it comes to Black and minority communities making decisions about what goes on and who is hired in their schools," the Independent Delegates write. But the Shankerite machine is notorious for "getting what's best for themselves in terms of patronage wherever they can."

They also write that bilingual education "must not be viewed as a threat to anyone's job," and urge the UFT to fight for smaller class sizes to improve education and create more teaching jobs.

## Issues not settled

The Aspira decision does not meet all the requirements of the Spanish-speaking community. It is not clear, for example, whether all Spanish-surnamed children will be eligible for bilingual education.

Many Spanish-surnamed children speak enough English to function with culturally deprived teachers who speak no Spanish. If they are kept out of the bilingual programs, then many teachers who might otherwise feel it necessary to learn some Spanish can go on as they have in the past, putting all the weight of learning on the children.

The struggle for bilingual education is only part of the overall fight of oppressed minorities for the right to preserve their cultural identity. It is one of the most active arenas of struggle among Puerto Ricans in New York, though, and deserves the backing of all supporters of the rights of oppressed nationalities.

The favorable court decisions remain to be implemented, and only mobilization of the community and interested educators can ensure that these slight concessions become the rallying point for further gains.

## Militant Forum discussion

# Lessons of Mich. teachers' strikes

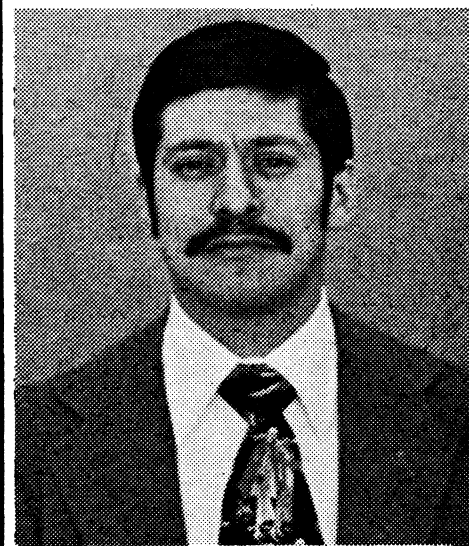
By DICK ROBERTS

DETROIT—Dearborn Heights and Garden City are two small working-class suburbs about half an hour's drive from downtown Detroit. They are the sites of two recent teachers' struggles that inspired workers throughout the region and came close to provoking large-scale sympathy strikes.

The story and lessons of the two struggles were discussed by strike participants at the Militant Forum here Feb. 7.

"Teachers are no longer willing to follow laws that make them victims of a parasitic board of education," John Melchor said. Melchor is the chief negotiator for the Garden City Education Association and a leader of the strike that landed him and 10 other teachers in jail last November.

Michigan's Public Law 379, which bans strikes by public employees, encourages school boards to refuse to deal seriously with teachers' demands. It was this stubborn resistance to their



Militant/Dick Roberts

JOHN MELCHOR: "Any human being is entitled to right of dissent without being oppressed by his employer."

demands for a cost-of-living allowance and a limit on class size that prompted the 529 Garden City teachers to walk out last September in their first strike.

They returned to work under court order after three and a half weeks, but struck again Nov. 11 in defiance of the order when the board kept stalling. Four days later Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Charles Kaufman sentenced Melchor to 30 days in prison and 10 other teachers to five days each.

The jailed teachers were held overnight and released on bond pending appeal. Their cases are still in the courts and the threat of further imprisonment still hangs over their heads.

The Garden City teachers stayed out

through most of December fighting off attempts to crush the strike. Picket lines were joined by teachers from throughout the region as well as by members of other unions.

When the school board agreed to binding arbitration at the end of the month, the Garden City teachers went back to work, with little faith in the "impartiality" of arbitration but viewing this as the best they could get under the circumstances.

## Teachers fired

Meanwhile, in the neighboring school district of Crestwood in Dearborn Heights, a struggle had broken out in which the school board tried to destroy outright the Crestwood Education Association.

When the Crestwood teachers went out in early December, it was their fourth strike since 1966. "You may wonder," said Duncan Jones, a Crestwood teacher speaking at the Militant Forum, "why in this little district, down to 208 teachers at the time, we were on our fourth strike."

"There aren't any radicals among us," said Jones, a music teacher. "It's that the board of education has refused to bargain with us."

The Crestwood teachers were also served with court orders to return to their jobs and they also refused. On Dec. 27 the Crestwood board fired virtually all the strikers and began hiring a scab teaching staff.

It was this out-and-out union busting that catapulted the teachers' strike into a major Michigan-wide class battle.

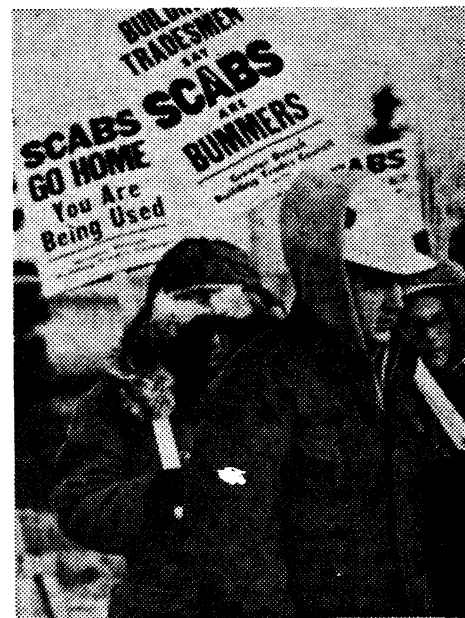
The Michigan Education Association printed bumper stickers, leaflets, and posters. Workers poured in from all over the state to join the Crestwood picket lines, and substantial financial aid was sent by teachers' and other local unions.

"I was walking on line with plumbers and electricians," Jones said, "with railroad and auto workers, union people. They knew that if it happened in Crestwood it could happen to them." Sixteen other locals of the Michigan Education Association threatened sympathy strikes, and Tom Turner, head of the Metropolitan Detroit AFL-CIO, began talking about possible "one-day holidays" of nonteacher unions.

## Labor support

The fast-mounting working-class solidarity brought fast court action. To head off the potentially explosive confrontation, a higher court on Jan. 9 ordered the fired teachers reinstated and the strike issues settled by arbitration.

The court ruling is under appeal by the board and, as in Garden City, this and the disputed contract



American Teacher

Broad labor support was key to victory of Crestwood teachers.

terms are still up in the air.

But the rapid show of labor support for the fired teachers and the quick results that it brought made a deep impression here.

The teachers emphasized the importance of seeing themselves as an integral part of the labor movement. You can't eat 'professionalism,'" Duncan Jones said.

"The important thing," he continued, "is the realization that all workers are in the same fight. People are starting to understand that the loss of a single job threatens every person."

Also speaking at the Militant Forum was Paula Reimers, vice-president of the Wayne County Community College Federation of Teachers. She emphasized the unity of the workers on one side of the struggle and the cooperation of the courts and capitalist parties with the board of education on the other.

"No Democratic or Republican Party politician joined the teachers' picket lines," she pointed out. "They're sitting in Lansing planning how to put an end to teachers' strikes."

The central struggle now facing Michigan teachers is overturning the state law prohibiting public employee strikes, these teachers feel.

"Personally, I have lost a great deal of faith in the judicial system," Melchor told *The Militant* later. "We might have to go back to jail to finish our terms. I indicated to Judge Kaufman a long time ago that we were willing to do this time with honor and dignity, because I felt that we had not done anything wrong."

"I felt that any human being was entitled to the right of dissent without being oppressed by his employer, without being crushed by the system or victimized by an agent of the legislature."

# Columbus EA leaders accept pact

Officials of the Columbus, Ohio, Education Association (CEA) reached agreement Feb. 7 with the local board of education, ending the dispute that had led in January to the city's first teachers' strike.

The CEA board of governors invoked its emergency powers in ratifying the agreement, so that teachers will apparently have no opportunity to vote on it.

The wage package accepted is essentially the same one voted down overwhelmingly by a meeting of 2,800 teachers earlier that week.

Only 25 percent of the teachers, however, voted to renew the strike they

had carried out for one week in January, which had been ended in compliance with a court back-to-work order. As the education writer for the *Columbus Dispatch* noted, the rejection of the strike recommendation left the CEA "in less than a strong bargaining position. For all practical purposes, the negotiations were over."

The agreement provides for an immediate 6 percent pay increase, 2 percent more as soon as a new school aid bill is signed or by Sept. 1 at the latest, and a third increase next January. The size of the third increase depends on state funding, and negotiations may be reopened at that time.

The first two steps will bring the minimum salary from \$8,071 to \$8,717. Teachers had been asking for a 12 percent raise; the board's first offer was 4 percent.

The contract also includes a no-reprisals clause demanded by the teachers.

CEA President Ted Thomas called the agreement "the best that could be reached under the circumstances. I'm satisfied, but not satisfied completely."

Thomas said that "without the strike the resolve of the teachers would have never been tested. That's what made the difference."

# Del. teachers' demands sabotaged by Getty Oil

By ANDY ROSE

Which comes first, education or oil company profits?

In Delaware the answer is clear. When J. Paul Getty, owner of Getty Oil Company, says "Jump!" the Democrats and Republicans in the state government only pause long enough to ask, "How high?"

That's the story behind the first full-fledged teacher strike ever called by the Delaware State Education Association, which represents 5,200 of the state's 7,000 teachers.

The teachers' salaries are scarcely above poverty level, ranging from \$7,000 for beginning teachers to \$11,500 for those with a doctoral degree and 10 years' experience. They have been trying to get an 8 percent increase, and they would also like smaller class sizes and a provision for twice-yearly cost-of-living adjustments. It is little enough to ask with inflation surpassing 12 percent.

On the first day of school last September the teachers staged what they called a "work action" to back up their demands. They went back into the classrooms, though, when Democratic Governor Sherman Tribbitt promised them a raise when the legislature met in January.

A wage package was worked out in negotiations with the teachers, and a penny-per-gallon tax on oil refineries was passed by the legislature to pay for the raise. Then the doublecross began.

There is only one oil refinery in the state, and Getty said flat out that he

would close it if the state had the temerity to impose the tax. Governor Tribbitt promptly vetoed the tax—and the teachers' raise.

Teachers were justifiably outraged, and struck on Feb. 18 in defiance of a state law against public employee strikes. They succeeded in closing down 18 of the state's 26 school districts. School custodians, who also lost a raise when the governor caved in to Getty Oil, honored the picket lines.

The teachers stayed out for three days despite a court injunction ordering them back to work. Tribbitt was forced to pledge that he would find the money somewhere to pay the scheduled increases.

Thelma Thompson, president of the Delaware State Education Association, said Feb. 20 that teachers would temporarily obey the court order, but would keep their five strike centers around the state open until Tribbitt actually signed legislation granting their demands.

"The strike has driven the point home to the governor that we are ready to walk out at any time to get justice on these issues," Thompson said, adding that Tribbitt had "committed himself to resolving the issues by the end of next week."

One sour note: The Delaware Federation of Teachers, an 1,800-member minority in the state, reportedly broke ranks and kept the schools open in the districts it represents. It made a separate deal giving the state until April 7 to meet its pay proposals.

# D.C. teachers' union cancels strike threat

A strike by the Washington (D.C.) Teachers Union (WTU), set to begin Feb. 25, was called off Feb. 23 after an agreement was reached between WTU President William Simons and school board head Virginia Morris.

Following a four-hour meeting with Morris, Mayor Walter Washington, and top officials of the Greater Washington Central Labor Council, Simons announced, "School will be open on Tuesday and every day until the close of school."

The agreement calls for immediate reinstatement of the union contract, which was unilaterally terminated by the board at the beginning of February.

At that time the board broke off negotiations for a new contract. The old one had been extended on a day-to-day basis since March 31, 1974. Negotiations were deadlocked over school board demands that teachers work an extra 45 minutes a day without additional pay and that the griev-

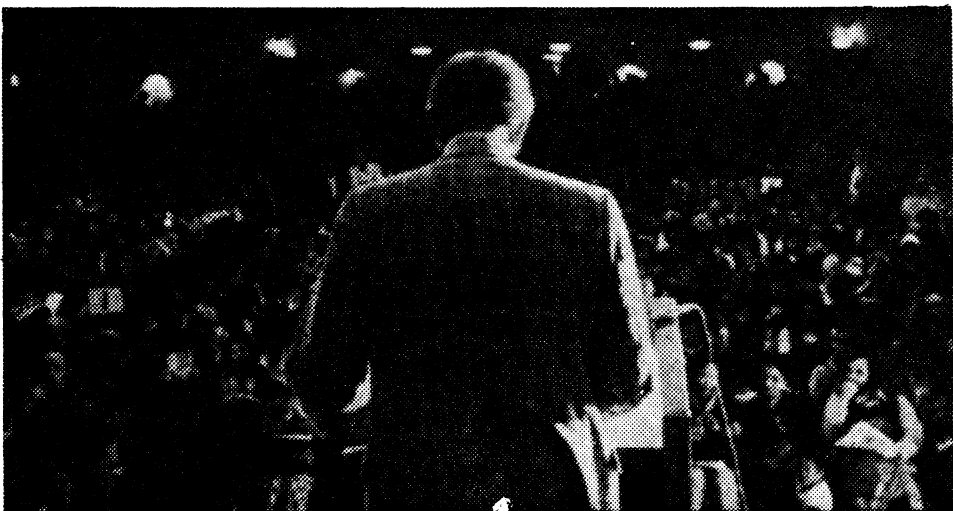
ance procedure be weakened.

Teachers asked that the disputed issues be submitted to fact-finding and binding arbitration. The school board refused. According to the agreement worked out Feb. 23, Superior Court Judge Robert Campbell will act as arbitrator to decide what procedures will be used to settle the contract dispute. Campbell is to hold public hearings before reaching a decision.

Teachers can hardly expect Campbell to give a sympathetic ear to their case. He is the same judge who ruled the teachers in contempt of court when they struck in 1972, and slapped a \$50,000 fine on the union.

In addition, the public no-strike pledge given by Simons leaves the union in a weak position to do anything except go along with whatever Campbell and the school board cook up.

Pressure from officials of the Central Labor Council reportedly played a big role in getting the strike called off.



Washington Teachers Union President Simons addresses mass meeting of teachers.

# Dist. 1 parents organize for May 6 elections

By KATHERINE SOJOURNER

NEW YORK — One hundred fifty people filled a community room in Manhattan's Lower East Side on Saturday, Feb. 22, to discuss organizing support for the parent-chosen "Por los Niños/Save the Children" slate in the May 6 community school board elections.

The enthusiastic group of parents, students, teachers, and supporters from throughout New York City came in response to a conference call that stated:

"We must organize to win a majority in the next local school board election. We won 4 seats last year. We can win 5 or more seats May 6, 1975. . . . Your help is needed if

pending superintendent, described the tour organized for him by students in an earlier campaign.

Some of the ideas proposed from the workshop included: arranging for Fuentes and other District 1 representatives to speak to Black and Puerto Rican studies classes; putting out a special leaflet appealing to young people to join the Por los Niños campaign; getting articles in campus newspapers; involving students in the weekly campaign meetings; and planning a special Saturday mobilization from colleges and high schools to help in District 1.

The teacher and paraprofessional workshop discussed similar proposals to get teachers involved in support of



'Puerto Ricans: Defend your children,' says banner from last year's 'Por los Niños' school board campaign.

we are going to win. Come to the Conference to organize to win!"

Miriam González, a leader of parents in District 1, welcomed the conference participants. "The importance of this campaign brings us together," she said. "This cannot be anything but a total community slate of candidates, and to win we must run as one and work as one."

The district's children are 95 percent Puerto Rican, Black, and Chinese. But the voting population is close to 50 percent older white residents who have no children in the public schools.

Albert Shanker, head of New York's United Federation of Teachers (UFT), and arch-opponent of the right of oppressed minorities to control the schools in their communities, has waged a campaign against the community-control forces. The Shankerites aim their racist propaganda at these white residents.

Proparent school board members have been in a minority on the nine-member local school board during most of the past few years. In the past year, with the Shankerites holding a majority of 5 to 4, the Puerto Rican community superintendent has been suspended, proparent principals have been removed, and the bilingual education program has been sabotaged.

A number of workshops were held at the Feb. 22 conference. The district was divided into geographic areas, and workshops discussed strategy for registering new voters, door-to-door canvassing, and petitioning to get school board candidates on the ballot.

About 35 young people attended a student workshop to discuss what can be done on New York City area campuses to support the Por los Niños slate. Richard Ariza from Livingston College opened the workshop with an explanation of what students have done in previous campaigns to support the parents. Luis Fuentes, the sus-

Por los Niños. Participants stressed the importance of winning teachers to support the parents, and the need to explain to teachers what's wrong with the anticommunity and antiteacher policies of the Shanker leadership of the UFT.

Teachers in District 1 have had the opportunity to see the contrast between the performance of the pro-community-control board—which expanded programs, opened the schools to parents, implemented bilingual education, and fought for more funding—and a vicious anticommunity board, which has tried to reverse every gain made by parents.

The teacher and paraprofessional workshop discussed issuing a leaflet describing what has happened to bilingual education since September; circulating among teachers a petition in support of Por los Niños; carrying out fund-raising activities in support of the campaign; and involving as many teachers as possible in the Por los Niños campaign activities and committees.

The overwhelming sentiment at the conference was that a victory at the polls on May 6 for the Por los Niños slate will be a significant step in the struggle to reinstate Fuentes and the fired principals, teachers, and paraprofessionals, and to put the bilingual education program back together. Such a victory would be an advance in the fight for more funds and the fight to implement the entire community-control program of the Por los Niños slate.

Win or lose on May 6, parents and their supporters will continue to struggle against the powerful racist forces who want to use District 1 as an example to other oppressed communities by crushing the struggle for community control. The sentiment of the Feb. 22 conference was clear: "Let's go out and win!"



# World Outlook

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

MARCH 7, 1975

## Socialist Workers campaign featured in Venezuelan press

By Judy White

"Son of Venezuelan to Be Third U. S. Presidential Candidate in 1976."

"My Grandson Will Form a Government for the Poor If He Wins the U. S. Elections."

These were two of the banner headlines with which major Venezuelan daily newspapers reported the announcement of the Socialist Workers party presidential ticket headed by Peter Camejo. Camejo is of Venezuelan descent.

The headlines were accompanied by feature stories, cartoons, and even a poem entitled "Viva Pedro Camejo," identifying the candidate with Negro Primero, a Venezuelan hero of the struggle for independence from Spain. The launching of the SWP campaign was reported extensively in three major dailies.

All reports described Camejo's background of political activism:

### ZAPATAZOS

SOY UNA VÍCTIMA  
DEL IMPERIALISMO VENEZOLANO:  
AHORA ME QUIEREN IMPONER  
UN PRESIDENTE!

PETER  
CAMEJO  
FOR  
PRESIDENT

ZAPATA



El Nacional

"I am a victim of Venezuelan imperialism: Now they want to force a president on me!"

*El Nacional*, January 13: "The presidential candidate of the socialists in the United States . . . has been the most outstanding leader of the mass movement against the Vietnam war and the staunchest defender of the Cuban revolution."

*El Nacional*, January 17: "He is known as an admirer of Fidel Castro and has even been to Cuba several times. He is considered to be a young man of the revolutionary conviction that there should be equality in all countries."

"Once he was arrested and threatened with expulsion from the state of California for his activity on behalf of the Blacks. Peter was exonerated of the charges that had been made against him."

*Antorcha*, January 13: "In 1970 he confronted Edward Kennedy, brother of ex-President Kennedy, as candidate for Senate from the state of Massachusetts and received greatest support among young voters and students."

*El Informador* conducted a telephone interview with Camejo January 17, which they published the following day. Referring to the effects of the economic crisis on working people in the United States, Camejo was quoted as saying, "All those reasons have caused growth in the only party trying to break the traditions and make fundamental changes in the social and economic structures of this country."

"We propose paying wages to unemployed workers and instituting a sliding scale of wages, determined by the cost of living."

"The workers shouldn't have to pay for the failures of the capitalist economic system. The capitalists should always pay for them. . . ."

"I will defend the peoples of Latin America, and in the specific case of Venezuela, I support the defense of its oil resources, because we oppose imperialist penetration anywhere in the world."

"We are opposed to President Ford's war threats against the oil-producing countries."



### HIJO DE CAMEJO OCTAVIO CANDIDATO PRESIDENCIAL EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS

Peter Camejo defiende la Revolución Cubana y es el más consecuente luchador contra la guerra de Vietnam.

El 1976 se lanza como candidato a Senador contra Edwards Kennedy

BARCELONA. Ángel M. . . .

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BARCELONA. Ángel M. . . .



'Son of Camejo Octavio presidential candidate in the United States,' says headline. Subhead says: 'Peter Camejo defends the Cuban revolution and is the most consistent fighter against the war in Vietnam.'

### Peter Camejo Octavio es el Nieto Preferido de su Abuela que Vive en Barquisimeto

\*Ella Dice: 'si va a ser Presidente para los Poderosos  
que más bien venga a sembrar papas a Río Claro'  
\*Candidato Presidencial Norteamericano Vivio su  
infancia en esta Ciudad  
\*Trabajadores y Estudiantes Respaldan su Candidatura  
(Amplia información en la B-7)



'Peter Camejo Octavio is the favorite grandson of his grandmother who lives in Barquisimeto,' says headline in Barquisimeto daily.

The press also conducted interviews with members of the candidate's family about the campaign:

*El Nacional*, January 17, with Camejo's grandmother, Carmen de Camejo: "I know Pedro very well. I know how he feels. I know about his struggles for social justice. If he wins the election, I am sure he won't cheat me. Peter, as they call him up north, won't rule for the rich. If he aspired to the presidency to be able to live in luxury and buy valuable jewels like Onassis does to give to Jacqueline, and to protect the powerful, I would prefer to see my favorite grandson . . . decline the candidacy and return to Venezuela to dedicate himself—for example—to planting potatoes in Río Claro."

*El Informador*, January 16, with

one of Camejo's uncles, Amador Camejo Octavio: ". . . Peter has the support of university youth, the Chicanos—that is, North Americans of Mexican origin who number in the millions in the western United States—the Puerto Ricans, and a sizable number of persons who want to change the society's structures. . . ."

"It's a new experience in the United States, since the party presenting it [the third candidacy] is getting legal status in all the states. In this case, we are talking about a party composed of students and workers, most of them under forty years old—the sector that will vote most heavily for Peter in the elections. And it is hoped that big sectors that don't agree with the Democrats and Republicans perhaps will also support his candidacy. . . ."

## Support from workers movement

# French army draftees fight for democratic rights



Soldiers march in Draguignan, France, September 10 to press demands for rights.

By F. L. Derry

Paris

"If the army was not affected by the events of 1968," Francis Cornu said in the January 7 *Le Monde*, "it was only a brief respite. The young draftees of 1974 have lived the heritage of 1968 in the high schools, at their places of work, and, having obtained the right to vote,<sup>1</sup> are full citizens. They no longer accept having their rights and civil liberties temporarily suspended, if only for twelve months. In their view, military regulations and discipline are all the more intolerable since the principles and tradition being pressed on them seem outmoded and irrelevant: Why is there a need for military service? What kind of defense? . . . Forced conscription has been abolished in a number of foreign countries, and its retention in France has for a long time been the object of discussion inside the military high command."

Nearly 275,000 soldiers—half of the French armed forces—are draftees, and the protest movement that has been spreading rapidly through their ranks has aroused fear among both military officers and government officials. Neither the carrot nor the stick, neither appeasement nor repression, seem able to contain the growing protest, which was recently focused on a military courtroom in Marseilles.

On trial January 7 and 8 were three young draftees—26-year-old Robert Pelletier, 21-year-old Alex Taurus, and 20-year-old Serge Ravet. All faced serious charges under Article 71 of the Military Code of Justice for "incitement

to commit acts contrary to duty and general discipline."

The three were accused of being the ringleaders of the September 10 "demonstration at Draguignan," during which 200 draftees at the small military base near Draguignan in southern France took to the streets in the first public demonstration of soldiers against the oppressive conditions, rampant racism, and restrictions on democratic rights that are the mark of military life in France.

A broad and impressive movement in defense of the "200" stalled the government's retaliatory measures for more than two months. It was only in November that the government felt confident enough to arrest the three soldiers. The arrests touched off one of the broadest political defense efforts in recent French history. It was a movement that grew, at long last, to include many locals of the CFDT,<sup>2</sup> the CGT,<sup>3</sup> and the FEN.<sup>4</sup> It received backing even from the PCF<sup>5</sup> and PS.<sup>6</sup> The extent and seriousness of this defense were registered emphatically in the verdict: Taurus was acquitted and Pelletier and Ravet received one-year sentences, mostly suspended, and they have already been released.

"The trial has demonstrated what a

2. Confederation Francaise et Democratique du Travail—French Democratic Confederation of Labor.

3. Confederation General du Travail—General Confederation of Labor.

4. Federation de l'Education Nationale—National Education Federation.

5. Parti Communiste Francais—French Communist party.

6. Parti Socialiste—Socialist party.

farce the military courts are," was the response of the Comité de Défense des Appelés (Committee for the Defense of Draftees). "They must be abolished, along with the military's security branch."

The January 10 *Le Monde* reported the reaction of the Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire, the French Trotskyist organization that has helped spearhead the defense campaign: "The determination and courage shown by the soldiers of Draguignan and the unprecedented mobilization of the entire workers movement have demonstrated that it is possible to block the plans of the bourgeoisie and the military hierarchy."

"The only winner in this trumped-up affair is Mr. Alain Krivine. . .," claimed the conservative daily *Le Figaro*. "His program for national defense can be summed up in these few words: The bourgeois army must be destroyed. The Draguignan defendants were the first three mines planted by his organization to set off an explosion in the ranks."

But the response of the soldiers themselves was somewhat more dramatic: Within days a "second Draguignan" took place. On January 13, several hundred French soldiers (the military officials say 150; the Comité de Défense des Appelés says more than 300) stationed at Karlsruhe in Germany staged a similar demonstration, holding a general assembly in the morning and then, joined by other soldiers, taking to the streets in a peaceful protest for more than an hour before returning to base. So far, no arrests have been announced.

The three central demands of the Karlsruhe action involved free transportation to allow soldiers on leave to visit their families in France, an

increase in the number of leaves granted, and inclusion of soldiers under provisions of the minimum-wage law. Underlying the demands, however, was a questioning by the young draftees of the French army's right to station its troops outside of French borders.

"For several weeks now," *Le Monde* pointed out January 14, "the solidarity committees, for the most part made up of militants close to Mr. Alain Krivine's Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire, have been meeting in the Federal German Republic to lay the groundwork for new forms of protest action in the army."

How extensive is the protest of the soldiers and what support do the soldiers' actions have within the army ranks, not to speak of civilian society as a whole? How, and why, did this movement develop? And, most important, how was it possible to score a relative success in defending these three soldiers?

All young men, at the age of eighteen, face the draft in France. Military service is for one year, although an alternative service called "coopération," involving such choices as teaching in one of France's former (or current) colonies, for example, may take up to two years. The discipline and living conditions are among the most obnoxious of all the imperialist armies. Draftees receive 2 francs a day (one franc equals about US\$0.23) for a total of 60 francs a month.

Many young draftees have families to support, which is obviously impossible for them under these conditions.

Officers can levy fines, to be paid out of the soldier's meager "wage" for such offenses as having a button missing. They can also order the imprisonment of any soldier, without trial, for up to two months. In addition, other, more informal, forms of punishment such as "hazing" are common.

Racism is also a serious problem. This is particularly true for the many soldiers who come from the French colonies in the Antilles. These Black soldiers are often assigned the most menial tasks, such as sweeping floors, and face the most severe punishments. In addition, the soldiers are saddled with an officer caste renowned on a world scale for its reactionary character. This is the grouping that produced not only the "Dreyfus Affair" at the end of the nineteenth century but the Secret Army Organization terror and torture squads during the Algerian war.

Antimilitarist sentiment was on the rise in France even before the massive general strike of 1968. The French colonial wars in Algeria and Indochina, followed by the American military effort in Vietnam, have left their mark, as has the use of the French army to "restore order" in 1968 and break strikes since then.

For some years a specifically antimilitarist movement has been growing. In the spring of 1973, massive demonstrations of French high-school students took place against the "Debré law,"<sup>7</sup> which eliminated students' military deferments. Recently, military documents were published showing that the officers view their main threat today as coming from the "enemy within," that is, students and workers affected by domestic social unrest. It is the growth of this "enemy within" that has finally had its impact in the composition of the ranks of the army itself. In December, a group of soldiers at a clandestine news conference in Paris described this process:

7. See *Intercontinental Press* April 2, April 9, April 16, April 23, 1973.

1. The voting age in France was lowered to eighteen years in June 1974.



"The young Breton peasants from the 'milk war' are in the army. The CET<sup>8</sup> student strikers of last year are in the army. The high-school students who demonstrated two years ago against the Debré law are in the army. Soon the young postal workers who carried out the strikes in November will be in the army. The young militant workers of the last few years are already there. They are exactly what the military brass has in mind when it talks about the 'enemy within.'"

### Appeal of the One Hundred

These forces came together during the presidential election campaign in May 1974 to produce the first significant protest among the soldiers themselves. In the last days before the second round of voting on May 19, a petition addressed to the presidential candidates, signed by 100 soldiers, was made public. The "Appel des Cent" (Appeal of the One Hundred)<sup>9</sup> called for a free choice of induction date until the age of twenty-five,<sup>10</sup> payment of the legal minimum wage, abolition of arbitrary discipline, and an end to all postings abroad.

In addition, the petition demanded the right of soldiers to read any political material they choose and to freely express their opinions. These rights are denied soldiers whose mail is opened by the SM (Sécurité Militaire, the military police), which confiscates all left-wing journals.

The original signers came from army bases all over the country, and the text had apparently been circulated among many small clandestine groups of draftees associated with the various revolutionary organizations on the French left. But, from the beginning, the Appeal of the One Hundred met with a much broader response than just that of revolutionists. The reasonable nature of the demands for basic democratic rights was supported by most soldiers. It formed the base for a broad, civilian support movement. Most important, it struck a responsive chord among the draftees. Within three months, 3,000 soldiers had signed the appeal, and the figure is now approaching 5,500.

Thus began what *Le Monde* described as "a movement whose scope must have surprised not only the high command but even the far-left organizations that had launched it, as well as the left-wing parties and trade unions that up until now have maintained a certain coolness toward various efforts to launch a struggle in the army, efforts often judged to be too radically antimilitarist."

As the number of signers of the appeal grew, the government was forced to retreat on its campaign of intimidation and repression with which it had greeted the new movement. The big stick was replaced by the carrot of reforms when Defense Minister Soufflet announced last August a "liberalization" of discipline. For example, some left newspapers from the trade unions, and *l'Humanité*, the newspaper of the French Communist party, would be allowed in the barracks. However, *Rouge*, the revolutionary weekly organ of the French Trotskyists; *Crosse-en-l'air*, the journal of the Committee for the Defense of Draffees; and similar papers were still banned.

"But these measures," Cornu said in *Le Monde*, "were too late and, in any event, too little." The demonstration at Draguignan followed the "Soufflet reforms" by only three weeks.

### The Protest at Draguignan

Draguignan itself is a small base with fewer than 1,000 soldiers. Approximately 200 took part in the demonstration and many others would have but were at other locations at the time. If there was any distinguishing characteristic of the Nineteenth RA (Régiment d'Artillerie), Draguignan, it was probably the large number of Black soldiers from the French colony in the Antilles, who are subject to racial abuse on the part of the racist officer caste. The protest against this racism merged with the sentiments voiced in the Appeal of the One Hundred to produce the demonstration.

The Appeal of the One Hundred campaign was organized on the base by a "soldiers committee" of about thirty members. Activity spread among Black soldiers from the Antilles, who drew up a separate text, in addition to the appeal, dealing specifically with the racist treatment they receive.

On September 9, this text was distributed in the form of a leaflet. An additional 100 soldiers, many of them from the Antilles, signed the appeal. That night the committee met with delegates from every barracks and decided to launch a demonstration the next day. In spite of these preliminary preparations, the officers remained unaware of the plans for the action.

As soldiers gathered for lunch the next day, representatives of the committee gave speeches, and virtually all the soldiers present joined in a march to present their grievances to the prefecture—the highest civilian administrative authority in the area. When the prefect refused to accept the list of demands from his 200 uninvited guests, the soldiers decided to march through the streets of Draguignan to emphasize their protest.

For the next two hours as the soldiers marched, the local residents (most of whom are immigrant workers and also subject to racist abuse) indicated their support. Finally, with perfect discipline, the 200 returned to the base, where they engaged one of their commanding officers in a one-hour public discussion on the conditions at the base. After obtaining a promise that the conditions would be

"investigated," the soldiers returned to their barracks.

The repercussions were considerable. Within a few weeks, a similar attempt to stage a demonstration at an army base near Strasbourg was broken up when the officers were given advance notice by an informer they had planted in the ranks. Nine soldiers at Draguignan were put under detention without trial. Further repression was forestalled, however, by a broad united effort to defend the draftees.

### Defense Against Army Crackdown

"The undersigned organizations, meeting September 11, 1974, affirm their solidarity with the draftees of the 19th RA of Draguignan" began one of the many leaflets of support circulated after the demonstration. "These organizations declare their readiness to mobilize for and defend the draftees in the face of any sanctions that may be taken against them by the military authorities."

Among the signers were the reformist mass workers organizations such as the Communist and Socialist parties, trade unions such as the CFDT and the FO,<sup>11</sup> as well as revolutionists such as the FCR. Such broad unity is rare in France, where the Communist party refuses to have any relations with the Trotskyists—indeed they refused to sign any subsequent joint statements. Nevertheless, this unity in defense of the soldiers, no matter how briefly achieved, successfully halted further repression for several months.

Suddenly, without warning, Pelletier, Ravet, and Taurus were arrested November 10. Pelletier, on his way home while on leave, was illegally arrested on the train platform by civilian police and kept in a civilian jail in isolation from his fellow soldiers.

The two months from the arrests until the trial on January 7 saw the development of the broadest defense effort on behalf of the soldiers movement. For the first time, important sectors of the trade unions were involved. The Comité de Soutien aux Soldats de Draguignan et Tous les Soldats Emprisonnés (Committee to Support the Draguignan Soldiers and All Imprisoned Soldiers) was formed as an ad hoc group of notables to organize the defense. This committee included revolutionists such as Pierre Frank and Alain Krivine of the FCR,

representatives from *Lutte Ouvrière* and *Revolution!*, and both wings of the PSU.<sup>12</sup> Major intellectual figures such as Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir were also sponsors.

However, significant by their absence were the leaders of the Communist party and the major figures in the Socialist party such as François Mitterrand. Nor did the national leaderships of the CFDT and CGT support the defense committee. It is important to note that several councils (Union Local) of the CFDT, which include all CFDT branches in a city, and even one Union Départementale, which includes all CFDT units in a department, i.e., many ULs, adhered to the committee.

### Stalinist Hatchetmen at Work

This illustrates one of the central political problems in France—the extreme difficulty in getting the Communist party, without doubt the most powerful organized force in the French workers movement, to work in a common front around even the most limited activities with revolutionists such as the French Trotskyists. This is even true in areas where the CP has a certain self-interest—such as stopping the repression in the army which extends to its own members. The CP's sectarianism may go to extreme lengths and be very damaging to a common defense effort, as the following example will clearly show.

When the Committee to Support the Draguignan Soldiers was formed, the UL-CFDT in Gennevilliers near Paris was one of the sponsors; it agreed to use its address as a "postal drop" for the committee. Roger Pelletier is a member of this local and its endorsement was considered quite a breakthrough for the defense effort. However, a letter was soon received from the CGT local for the same area, attacking the CFDT for joining the committee on the grounds that Krivine and Sartre were members of the committee. The CGT local then withdrew from a previously agreed upon joint public meeting with the CFDT in defense of the soldiers. Why? Because, said the Stalinist labor officials, the CFDT was allowing to enter "through the window the grouplets that the CFDT should, in our opinion, have thrown out the front door." Needless to say, the Stalinists were absent from

*Continued on next page*

8. Colléges d'Enseignement Technique—Technical Education Schools.

9. See text elsewhere in this issue.

10. Instead of the current obligatory induction at age eighteen. This was the central demand in the "anti-Debre law" struggles the previous year.

11. Force Ouvrière—Labor Force.

12. Parti Socialiste Unifié—United Socialist party.



Draguignan demonstration

## ...soldiers movement

Continued from preceding page

the rally of nearly 3,000 at the Mutualité that launched the defense committee just as they were absent from the slightly larger demonstration in Paris just before the trial began.

### Campaign Rolls On

In spite of the Stalinists' sabotage of a united defense campaign, support for the soldiers mounted. A small trickle of CFDT locals began to issue statements defending the soldiers. Some of them endorsed the united defense committee. The trickle became an important stream and finally included locals and even national federations of the CGT itself. The Communist and Socialist parties were forced to issue statements in support of the three soldiers (while refraining from joining the defense committee). Both organizations sent witnesses to testify on behalf of the draftees.

Support came mostly from small union locals and shop committees, particularly from CFDT branches among postal and hospital workers, bank workers, insurance company clerks, and teachers.

However, support also came from steelworkers, electricians, and railroad workers in the CGT. The national congress of the Union Syndicale de l'Aviation Civile, a CGT union, passed a statement defending Pelletier, Ravet, and Taurus ("even though the first of these three Draguignan draftees is close to the Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire," *Le Monde* pointed out).

"Just a few months ago," Francis Cornu said in the January 7 *Le Monde*, "the opposition political parties and the unions maintained an attitude of reserve, if not complete hostility, toward the antimilitarism of the leftist groups, calling it 'puerile' and 'demagogic.' Since that time they have learned that the movement set off by the 'Appeal of the One Hundred' has reached not only a number of young people who were in no way 'leftists,' but even their own members . . . and, an important fact, young people who had never before taken part in any movement. . . ."

"In this regard, it should be noted that many young Communists were among the first to sign the Appeal of the One Hundred."

### Soldiers Press Ahead

In addition to the broad and impressive defense effort, the soldiers movement has itself grown.

In December a clandestine news conference was held by soldiers from thirteen bases of the French army stationed in Germany. Wearing masks to hide their identity, they said in front of the German television cameras that there were now more than twenty soldiers committees and a dozen clandestine journals among the 60,000 French troops (half of them draftees) stationed in Germany. ". . . the Appeal of the One Hundred has changed everything in the barracks. It forms the basis for discussion on the demands of draftees. Draguignan has shown, despite the repression, what it is possible to do in the barracks, that it is possible to open your mouth."

The next week a similar news conference was held in Paris by representatives of twenty soldiers committees based in France. "It is true, of course," the representatives said, "that the membership of these committees makes up no more than an active

minority on the bases. But this minority can easily win the recognition and support of the majority, as was shown by the Draguignan demonstration, to take one example. The majority recognizes its common interests with the committees, with their demands, even if it does not take the important step leading to clandestine organizing in the barracks. . . ."

"It is often the Appeal of the One Hundred that gives isolated individuals the idea of forming a group to get something done. . . ."

It seems clear that in the soldiers movement today there are at least several dozen more or less stable functioning soldiers committees, publishing clandestine journals, organizing the Appeal of the One Hundred, and occasionally organizing demonstrations. Each of these committees has a real possibility of developing at least a solid relationship with other soldiers—a relationship in which these committees are able to provide leadership for a serious struggle for democratic rights in the army.

The type of relationship developed with the ranks will depend on many things—the ability of these committees to take advantage of limited openings under adverse conditions and extreme repression, their ability to avoid unnecessary victimization of their own members and of their fellow soldiers, and the extent to which they can develop effective civilian support. Without such support, there is little likelihood of the soldiers movement surviving for long.

No bourgeois army can tolerate a truly democratic internal regime. An imperialist army relies on military police and the jurisdiction of special military courts and judges. To allow the free and unhampered functioning of political parties and trade unions in the army would make it very difficult to break strikes and fight colonial wars in the future. To question the right of an imperialist army to assign its troops at will, where it wants, anywhere in the world is objectively to question the right of imperialism to exist. To question the need for a bourgeois army by demanding democratic rights very quickly leads in the direction of questioning capitalist society itself.

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## World news notes

### PLO representatives banned from Australia

Amid a campaign to whip up an anti-Arab hysteria in Australia, the Labor government has decided to prohibit the entry of a delegation from the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The PLO had been invited to Australia for a speaking tour by Bill Hartley, a leading member of the Australian Labor Party (ALP).

A pro-Zionist campaign to keep the PLO out because of its "record of terrorism" scored a victory when Whitlam announced a January 29 decision by his cabinet to block the entry of the Palestinians.

This denial of the right of the Australian people to hear the PLO viewpoint has not gone unchallenged. The Australian Union of Students voted almost unanimously to condemn the government's decision. Several leaders of Young Labor, the youth movement affiliated to the ALP, attacked the ban. A meeting in Sydney called to protest the government action drew 800 people.

An editorial in the February 7 issue of the Australian Trotskyist paper *Direct Action* answered the government's justification for the ban. *Direct Action's* managing editor, Sol Salby, was to have been a national coordinator of the tour.

"The visit would cause violence and dissension within the Australian community, they said. . . . From where does Whitlam expect the violence to come?" the editorial asked. "Surely not from the supporters of the Palestinians who have allowed dozens upon dozens of Israeli delegations to visit this country without a single incidence of violence?"

"Perhaps Whitlam expected violence from the Palestinians' opponents. This may well be the case. . . . But why should the Palestinians be victimised because of the intentions and activities of their opponents?"

### Portuguese CP tells landless peasants to wait

Thousands of landless Portuguese peasants in the Alentejo region attended a conference in Evora February 9 to discuss land reform. The conference was sponsored by the Communist party.

Alvaro Cunhal, CP general secretary and a cabinet minister in the Portuguese government, addressed the crowd of about 12,000 persons. When they began to chant demands for immediate expropriation of the large estates in the region, Cunhal replied that they would have to wait. "But you'll have it soon enough," he promised.

A week earlier, the minister of agriculture told Alentejo farm workers that the provisional government had plans to expropriate arable lands currently not in use.

The peasants, eager for land reform, are apparently not waiting. During early February, they seized at least three estates owned by absentee landlords.

In some cases peasants armed with shotguns patrolled the seized properties. Landlords who do not take care of their livestock, machinery, and property have been denounced by the peasants for their economic sabotage.

About 40 percent of Portugal's population of 9.2 million is engaged in agriculture.

### Abortion advance in Italy

Under the impact of a growing abortion rights movement, Italy's highest court has ruled unconstitutional sections of that country's fascist-era abortion law. The court knocked out the most extreme provisions of the law, so that abortion is now legal in cases in which doctors determine that a pregnancy is a serious threat to the woman's physical or psychological health.

Even this relatively minor concession did not fail to draw the condemnation of the Catholic church, according to a dispatch from Rome appearing in the February 19 *Washington Post*. The Vatican termed the ruling "questionable and of an extreme gravity because it backs the killing of one to be born."

A recent poll taken by the news magazine *Panorama* indicated that 50 percent of Italians believe that abortion is a matter of individual choice, not a matter to be decided by church or state. Forty-one percent know a woman who has had an abortion.

### Spanish court reduces sentences of Carabanchel 10

Franco's Supreme Court rejected an appeal to set aside the convictions of the Carabanchel 10, but on February 15 it reduced their twelve- to twenty-year sentences.

The ten were arrested in June 1972 when police raided a Catholic church in the suburbs of Madrid. They were charged with "illegal association" as a result of their alleged membership in the outlawed Workers Commissions, and were accused of belonging to the national coordinating committee of the commissions.

They were originally sentenced at a trial in December 1973 that attracted worldwide attention. Franco's prime minister, Admiral Carrero Blanco, was assassinated on the day the trial opened.

The reduced sentences now range from two years and four months to six years. Four of the ten were released from prison immediately, having already spent more time in jail than their reduced sentences called for. Nine of the prisoners had been on a hunger strike since the court took up their appeal on February 11.

An extensive campaign for freedom for all political prisoners is now under way throughout Spain. About 160,000 signatures have been gathered on a petition to Franco. Among the signers are said to be 2,000 members of the armed forces.



# West Coast Reed tour gets big response

By JON BRITTON

Two hundred seventy-five people turned out Feb. 21 to hear Marxist anthropologist Evelyn Reed speak on "Woman's Evolution and Human Nature" at the University of California at Berkeley. Thirty autographed copies of Reed's new book, *Woman's Evolution: From Matriarchal Clan to Patriarchal Family*, were sold at the gathering.

This was the biggest meeting so far in a highly successful author's tour that has taken Evelyn Reed to Pittsburgh, Kingston, R.I., Chicago, Milwaukee, and most recently the Bay Area.

While in Northern California, Reed addressed four campus meetings, attended two meet-the-author receptions, and had lengthy interviews with several newspaper reporters and a nationally syndicated public broadcasting service.

Feature stories on the author and her book appeared in the San Francisco *Examiner* and the Oakland *Tribune*. One hundred fifty copies of *Woman's Evolution* were purchased from campus literature tables and from the Granma Bookstore in Berkeley and the Militant Bookstore in San Francisco during the week Reed was there. Many retail and college stores in the area also carry the book.

Reed will travel next to Southern California, where she will address several meetings, appear on radio and TV, and attend two receptions. The high point of this tour stop will be a symposium March 1 on "Women's Role in History" at the Women's Building in Los Angeles, sponsored by the Sisterhood Bookstore. Participating, in addition to Reed, will be four women professors whose specialties include anthropology, psychology, history, and animal behavior.

A program and reception in New York City March 9, hosted by Pathfinder Press, will culminate Evelyn Reed's tour. The theme of the event



Daily Northwestern/Bob Tilden

EVELYN REED: Her new book is winning acclaim from reviewers and feminists.

will be "Woman's Part in History," and Reed will give the keynote address. Other speakers will include Ana Rivera, editor of *El Tacón de la Chancleta*, a Puerto Rican feminist publication; film critic Joan Mellen; author and playwright Myrna Lamb; and abortion rights leader Dr. Barbara Roberts. Socialist Workers Party vice-presidential candidate Willie Mae Reid will chair the meeting.

The March 9 event, which is expected to attract the largest audience of the entire tour, is being widely publicized by socialists and feminists in the New York area.

The event is also being publicized in publishing circles. In its Feb. 17 issue, *Publishers Weekly* carried a prominent announcement of the affair. This journal, the most widely read in the publishing industry, reviewed *Woman's Evolution* in its Jan. 27 issue, predicting that it is "certain to become a classic text in women's history."

The program will begin at 3 p.m. and the reception at 5 p.m. Both will be held at Tishman Auditorium, New York University, 40 Washington Square South.

# Wis. Indians go on trial for abbey occupation

By MARY HILLERY

MINNEAPOLIS—On Feb. 14, the first five of the 39 Indians arrested after the occupation of an abbey in Gresham, Wis., went on trial in Shawano County Court. The courtroom proceedings were a microcosm of the white-controlled system of justice that led to the Jan. 1 seizure of the vacant abbey by the Menominee Warriors Society.

The five defendants were led into the courtroom handcuffed and gagged. Families and friends were not allowed into the courtroom at all. But the brief glimpse of the young Indians under such heavy restraints caused a near riot of Indian supporters outside.

Those inside the building were forcibly ejected and tear gas and rifle butts were used by police against the people in the street, including many children.

Artley Skenadore reported these events to the audience of the Twin Cities Militant Forum on the evening of Feb. 14. Skenadore had served as the chief negotiator for the Indians during the occupation. He said that the 34 days inside the abbey was not in any way a "takeover" but rather a "repossession."

The Alexian Brothers abbey is located within lands signed over to the Menominees in a nineteenth-century

treaty that has long since been violated. The Chicago-based Catholic order of Alexian Brothers, who received the abbey free of charge from the National Biscuit Company, had demanded \$750,000 from the Indians before they would give it up.

Under the terms of the recent truce, the Indians are expected to pay for the abbey, although the amount is as yet undetermined, and the transfer of ownership cannot take place until tribal status, now sought by the Menominees in the courts, is re-instituted.

Skenadore reported the details of the negotiations and told about the daily harassment and intimidation the Indians have faced since the agreement was reached.

White vigilantes, who were in close collaboration with Wisconsin Governor Patrick Lucey and the commander of the National Guard during the occupation, are now cheering on the prosecution of the indicted Indians.

George Redstone, of the American Indian Movement (AIM), also spoke at the forum. He reported that AIM is lending legal support and is organizing public defense of the 39 people who have been indicted. A major project is to raise bail, which has been set at \$50,000 cash bond for the first five defendants. A collection was taken at the forum toward the defense efforts.

# LA gay mother denied custody of her children

By HARRY RING

LOS ANGELES—A California woman has been denied custody of her two children on grounds that she is a homosexual.

Custody of her daughters was denied Linda Mae Chaffin, and, with the approval of her ex-husband, the children were turned over to her parents.

"A woman such as this should not have custody of the children," the former husband told the court. "There is nobody that can guarantee that these children will not be exposed to the behavior of their mother and her girl friend."

Custody was originally denied to Ms. Chaffin by a municipal judge in Torrance. On Jan. 31, his ruling was upheld by Justice Macklin Fleming of the state appeals court.

Fleming asserted he was upholding denial of custody because of a "combination of factors," noting that at one time the mother had been convicted of shoplifting and of writing some bad checks. He contended that the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), which filed a friend-of-the-court brief, was unjustified in asserting that the case actually hinged solely on her admission that she was gay.

The opinion he handed down, however, more than justifies the ACLU charge.

Fleming stated the court was concerned about the "well-being" of two young girls if they shared an apartment with their mother and her female companion.

The fact that enforcement of anti-gay laws may be "inappropriate" and even falling into disuse, the judge piously opined, "does not argue that society accepts homosexuality as a pattern to which children should be exposed in their most formative and impressionable years. . . ."

"In exercising a choice between homosexual and heterosexual households for the purpose of child custody," he continued, "a trial court could conclude that permanent residence in a homosexual household would be detrimental to the children and contrary to their best interests."

The court did not try to demonstrate its thesis that a homosexual household is inherently inferior to a heterosexual one.

In an interview, Ms. Chaffin's attorney, Albert Gordon, said that despite Justice Fleming's assertion to the contrary, there was no question in his mind that the court's ruling was based solely on the fact of his client's homosexuality.

Referring to the shoplifting and bad-check charges, Gordon said, "Literally a hundred times I've seen cases involving such charges and I've never seen a judge consider them important enough to take children away from their mother."

"The whole meaning of the case," he observed, "is that a lesbian woman cannot have custody of her children unless she's perfect. And a lesbian mother cannot be perfect because she's a lesbian. That's really Catch 22."

# Young Socialist teams build antiracist action

By RICK BERMAN

The Young Socialist Alliance is planning a vigorous campaign to build support for the NAACP-called May 17 national demonstration in Boston against racism. One of the ways the YSA will do this is by fielding 15 traveling teams of young socialist activists this spring. The teams will each have three members and will be on the road for eight weeks.

"These teams will travel to almost every state," said Malik Miah, YSA national chairperson. "They will be going to many smaller cities and college towns where campus activists may be unaware of the new movement to desegregate Boston's schools. The teams will distribute leaflets for the demonstration and encourage local activists to set up student committees against racism."

Many team members, Miah said, attended the National Student Conference Against Racism in Boston and will organize public meetings during their tour to report on the conference results. They will also be explaining the socialist strategy to defeat racism.

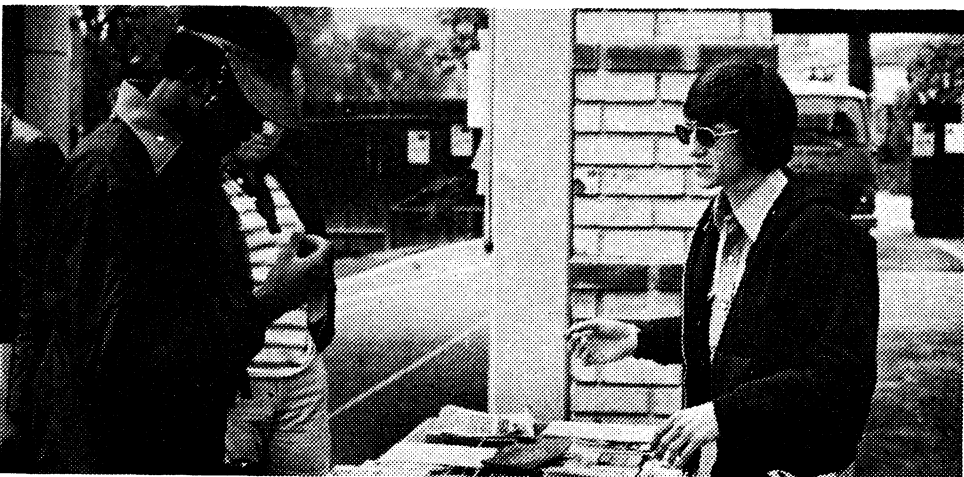
The teams will make a special effort to reach Black students. One team,

based in Houston, is scheduled to visit North Texas State, Lamar University, and the Baton Rouge and New Orleans campuses of Southern University—all schools with large Black enrollments.

A highlight of team activities this spring will be helping to organize the national speaking tour of Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate Peter Camejo. Team members will accompany Camejo to his speaking engagements, signing up new campaign endorsers and talking to young people about joining the YSA.

One of the team's major objectives is to expand the circulation of socialist publications. Each team will have a weekly goal of selling 100 copies of *The Militant*, 100 copies of the *Young Socialist* newspaper, and 30 introductory *Militant* subscriptions.

"We expect the teams to significantly expand the socialist movement this spring," said Miah. "Through the teams, the YSA will become known to hundreds of students as a leading organization in the struggle against racism and as an organization with a realistic alternative to the racist Democratic and Republican parties."



Militant/Al Twiss

Young Socialist teams will take socialist ideas to hundreds of campuses across country

## Behind the lies

# U.S. oil plan: keep prices, profits up

By DAVE FRANKEL

During the past month Washington's grand strategy to drive up world oil prices and keep them up has been spelled out more clearly than ever before.

The big winners will be the U.S. oil giants, who aim to hold on to their monopoly over world energy supplies. The losers will be U.S. capitalism's competitors abroad and the working class here at home.

While President Ford unveiled the domestic side of the operation in his State of the Union speech Jan. 15, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger detailed the international plan Feb. 3.

With unparalleled hypocrisy, Washington continues to pose as the champion of lower oil prices, blaming both inflation and recession on the machinations of greedy Arab sheikhs. But in the proposals presented by Ford and Kissinger, that pretense was cast aside. "Higher prices and higher profits" was the rallying cry.

Kissinger's proposal is that the major imperialist powers agree to set a common floor price for all oil imports—a plan to keep oil prices up, not bring them down. *New York Times* reporter William Smith, writing Feb. 18, said:

"One economist wryly noted that the only country pushing for higher oil prices besides Kuwait at the moment was the United States through President Ford's oil tariff and the proposal for a floor under oil prices to support new energy sources."

It was only last September that President Ford told the delegates assembled at the World Energy Conference that "exorbitant [oil] prices can only distort the world economy, run the risk of worldwide depression and threaten the breakdown of world order and safety."

Despite all the lofty phrases about international cooperation and "world order and safety," Washington's policy is motivated by old-fashioned capitalist greed. The seemingly contradictory statements on oil prices are actually quite consistent from this point of view.

### U. S. objectives

The key to U.S. energy policy is that lower prices paid to members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) for crude oil is not the same thing at all as lower prices for the people around the world who depend on petroleum products. The giant oil corporations that control the world petroleum industry—the "seven sisters"—want to sell oil at the same prices they have been, if not higher, while paying less to the OPEC countries.

Since five of the "seven sisters" are U.S.-owned, the net result of this would not only be higher profits, but also an increased transfer of wealth from Europe, Japan, and the colo-

nial world to the U.S. In search of this objective, Washington has carried out a campaign of economic and political pressure—including threats of war—against the oil-producing countries.

The recently passed trade bill included a provision denying members of OPEC tariff reductions available to other semicolonial countries, and Washington has tried to cut off credits from the World Bank to OPEC countries. Most important, the U.S. has led a worldwide campaign to cut down on oil consumption, which has been aided by the deepening recession.

The oil prices charged by OPEC countries have in fact begun to come down. Despite OPEC production cutbacks amounting to 21 percent over the past year, there is currently a glut of oil on the world market, with the surplus variously estimated at two million to nine million barrels a day. "At least six tankers carrying more than 100,000 tons of heating oil lay off the Dutch port of Rotterdam last week, unable to find buyers, not even at the bargain prices asked for the oil," wrote *Washington Post* reporter Thomas O'Toole Feb. 9.

According to the Feb. 21 *Christian Science Monitor*, "The net cost of oil is coming down in some cases as supertankers wait in the Atlantic off the Canary Islands or Land's End for instructions as to which European port is least awash in oil."

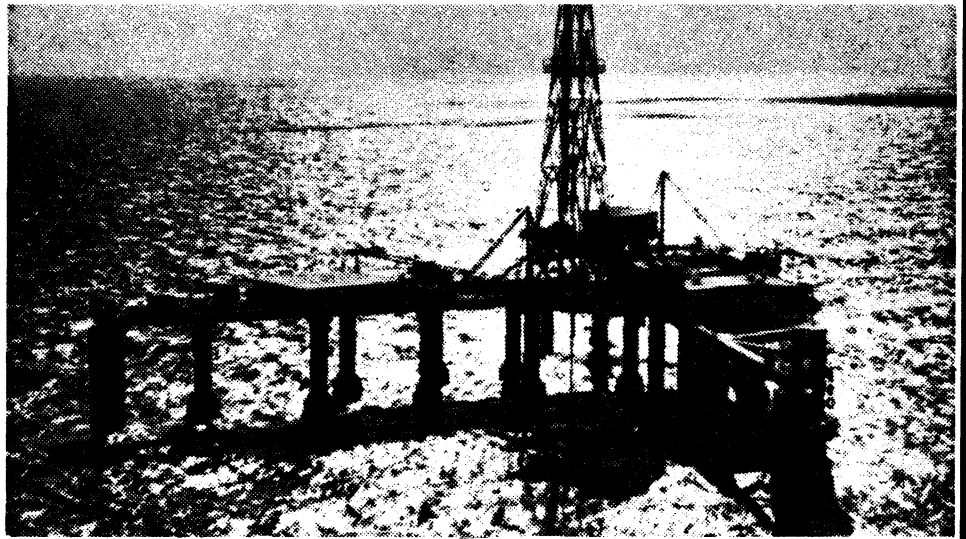
Although official prices have not changed, *New York Times* reporter William Smith wrote Feb. 18, "Buyers point out that credit extensions can effectively cut crude prices from more than \$10 to as low as \$8.50 a barrel." This is well within the \$7-to-\$9 range cited as desirable by U.S. officials.

The real price of oil has been further eroded by continuing inflation and recent declines in the value of the dollar, which is what the OPEC countries mostly receive in payment for their oil. Even on the face of it, the current official price of about \$10.50 is well below the high point of more than \$16 reached last year.

But no matter how big a glut there is, the oil companies and their government in Washington are determined to keep the profits up. They intend to see to it that for the real consumers, the millions of working people, the price never falls. As *Business Week* candidly explained in its Feb. 3 issue:

"Whatever new production comes from the oil companies' intensified worldwide search [for oil], it is unlikely to bring down petroleum prices. Today's costly exploration efforts are predicated on oil prices going no lower than the current world market price of about \$11 a bbl. [barrel], and possibly rising still further."

The maintenance of high oil prices is the centerpiece of U.S. strategy be-



Oil rig in Gulf of Mexico. High prices will make it profitable to develop expensive energy sources and will put U.S. even further ahead of its energy-poor competitors.

cause it makes profitable the development of other energy sources—offshore oil, oil shale, coal, nuclear reactors, and synthetic fuels—within the U.S. or under U.S. control. This, Washington planners hope, could eventually make the U.S. virtually self-sufficient in oil, while Europe and Japan would continue to be dependent on imported supplies bought from American companies.

According to a report in the Jan. 20 *Time* magazine on a study by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, "In the long run, today's high oil prices are really best for everybody—especially for the U.S. . . ."

"The U.S., in continuing to meet the \$10.80 price, would be able to reduce imports from around 6 million bbl. a day now, to zero by 1985 and actually export a domestic-oil surplus of 1.35 million bbl. a day."

Describing the reaction to Washington's proposal for keeping prices high in the Feb. 5 *New York Times*, William Smith quoted "an independent oil economist who said the Kissinger plan as stated 'appeared to be replacing OPEC with the United States as the governing force in the world energy situation.' He noted that Europeans would be little more pleased with American than with Arab hegemony over their futures."

(The remarks about the U.S. "replacing" OPEC are disingenuous, to say the least. The real international oil cartel has been and remains the giant energy conglomerates, which have never for a moment relinquished control over world refining and marketing.)

*Time* reported Feb. 17 that chances for acceptance of the Kissinger plan "seem uncertain at best. In Western Europe and Japan, which are far more dependent on OPEC oil than is the U.S., critics argue that the floor plan is mainly aimed at getting the rest of the industrial world to safeguard a big U.S. investment in costlier

sources of energy. . . . Japan's Foreign Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said that he considered the floor plan 'beyond the bounds of reason' for his country."

### Prospect at home

If the European and Japanese capitalists have no reason to be happy, the prospect for the American working class is even grimmer. Using the standard argument that the monopolists do not have enough "incentive" to provide the country with energy, Ford has proposed the standard capitalist solution—increase profits at the expense of the living standard of the American people.

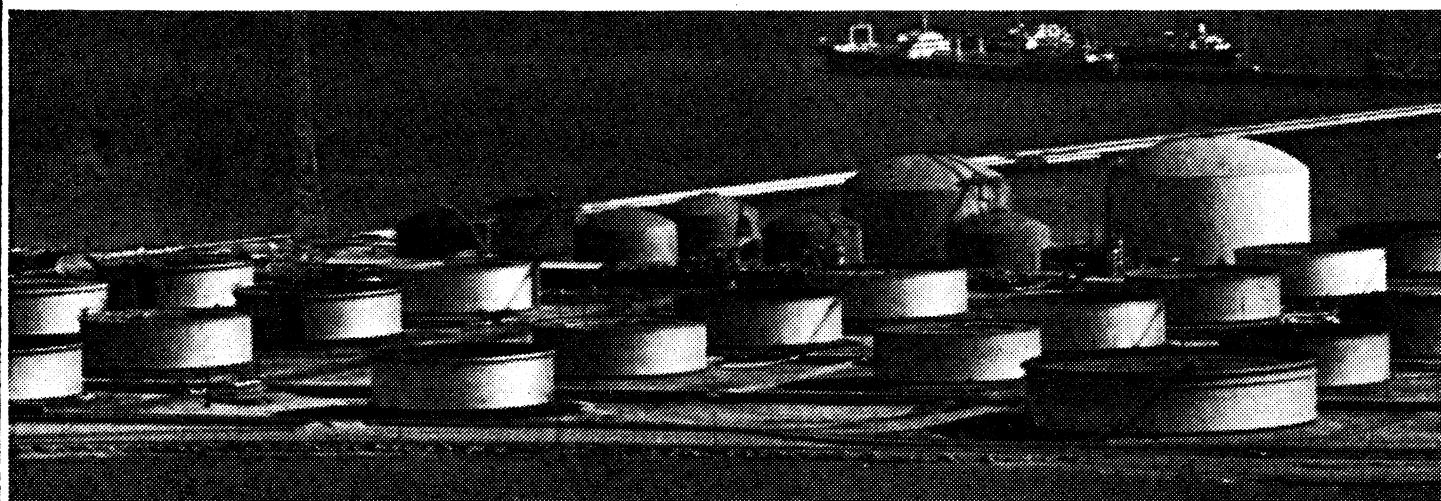
In his State of the Union message he announced that he intends to remove government controls that hold the price of two-thirds of the oil produced in the U.S. at \$5.25 a barrel. This measure would immediately raise the average price of crude oil in the U.S. from about \$7.50 a barrel to the world market price of about \$10.50. It would cost American consumers an estimated \$10.2-billion annually.

In addition, Ford called for the repeal of federal regulations holding down the price of natural gas. This would cost consumers another \$59.9-billion by the end of 1980.

Another aspect of Ford's energy program is the further gutting of what little legislation has been adopted for the protection of the environment. One Democratic legislator told the *Wall Street Journal* Feb. 19 that there are "areas in which congressional Democrats seem to be in 'substantial' agreement with President Ford. . . . These include more-rapid offshore development of the outer continental shelf, increased surface mining of coal, [and] deadlines for using some fuel besides natural gas in electric power generation. . . ."

With their eyes on the 1976 elections, congressional Democrats have made a big show of proposing their own energy package. Despite the headlines proclaiming a "battle" between Ford and Congress, the programs differ only in tactical details. Congress passed a special bill against Ford's proposal to put an additional \$3 tariff on each barrel of imported oil, proposing instead to carry out the economic war against OPEC by the setting of import quotas and higher gasoline taxes.

Ford has promised to veto the bill, so the skirmishing over who will take responsibility for higher fuel prices, higher taxes, more inflation, and more unemployment is still not over. One thing is certain, however: all of these evils will be the results of whatever plan is adopted by the capitalist government.



Oil storage tanks are full around the world and production has been cut back, but oil companies are making sure that consumer prices stay high.



## 'Cointelpro' in Florida

# Agent reveals FBI infiltrated trade unions

By NELSON BLACKSTOCK

According to revelations published in the Feb. 24 *New York Times*, the FBI has carried out "counterintelligence" disruption activities against the union movement. The FBI arranged for at least one informer to infiltrate the United Electrical Workers (UE) in Tampa, Fla. The union had organized a Westinghouse plant there.

The *Times* story, based on an interview with the informer, also sustains charges made by the Socialist Workers Party and others that Cointelpro ("counterintelligence program") type operations did not cease in April 1971 as the government claims.

In 1973 the informer, John Burton, was directed by the FBI to get a job at the Westinghouse plant. He also infiltrated a Tampa local of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), which was attempting to organize garbage workers.

Under FBI orders, Burton had set up the "Red Star Cadre," an ostensibly Maoist organization, in Tampa in May 1972. He led this group until July 1974 when, he said, he stopped working for the FBI.

With the financial backing of the FBI, Burton also established the Red Star Swap Shop, a junk store that served as the headquarters of his organization.

The FBI proposed the name "Red Star Cadre" and provided Burton with funds. The bureau even provided T-shirts emblazoned with a large red star and the words "Fight Back."



FBI informer Joseph Burton



Westinghouse workers in Tampa, Fla., after successful UE organizing drive in 1973. FBI directed informer to infiltrate union and report on activities of union organizers.

The "Red Star Cadre," which grew to a size of 20, participated in the national discussions and activities going on within Maoist circles. Burton described his general instructions from the FBI as follows: "Do not ever do anything that will bring Marxist-Leninists together in any way, do anything to prevent them from coming together."

During the 1972 demonstrations at the Republican national convention in Miami, the FBI urged Burton to take part in the "trashing" of taxicabs around the convention site. He refused on the grounds that he might lose his cover since such activity would have been contrary to the political line he was advocating.

However, he told *Times* reporter John Crewdson, he did "incite people to turn over one of the buses and then told them that if they really wanted to blow the bus up, to stick a rag in the gas tank and light it."

Burton said he was paid \$3,000 by the FBI for the first half of 1974. This was in addition to the \$400 he regularly received for monthly expenses, plus money to finance out-of-town trips.

Despite such generous monetary rewards, Burton told the FBI that he needed more money and asked them to assist him in finding a job. The FBI then told him that they had long wanted to "get somebody in" the UE local, which they said was "controlled by Communists."

The *Times* reported that an FBI official in Washington admitted getting Burton a job at Westinghouse. There was a long waiting list of people want-

ing to get hired at the plant, and Burton had become well known for his political activity. Nevertheless, he was hired immediately and put on the day shift, usually reserved for workers with seniority.

The FBI instructed Burton, once he was in the union, to pay special attention to a UE organizer who had been influential in getting the union voted into the plant. Burton said that the FBI wanted to know what the union leader "was doing, where he was, what time he was there, and who he was meeting with."

The FBI was also interested in "anybody connected with the U. E.—what their sentiments were and how they felt." Burton's superiors were particularly interested in workers' attitudes toward an upcoming contract vote.

After five months, Burton quit his job at Westinghouse. He was later directed to spy on the AFSCME local, although the *Times* story gives no details of his activities in that union.

Burton says he became disillusioned and quit the FBI. "I don't see anything wrong with gleaning intelligence," he said, "but I do see it with setting up an espionage agency in order to glean that intelligence and, at the same time, to do disruptive, disorganizing types of things."

The FBI was forced to issue a statement confirming that Burton had indeed been on their payroll but terming his allegations "distorted and false."

However, the FBI statement is ambiguously worded with regard to the present status of the FBI's disruption

programs. "FBI Cointelpro operations were discontinued in April, 1971," the FBI said. "The activities of Burton and the 'Red Star Cadre' were not designed or carried out as any type of domestic Cointelpro operation." (Emphasis added.)

However, the statement continues, "Burton was targeted to uncover foreign intelligence direction and influence on the Marxist-Leninist movement in the United States." (Emphasis added.)

In the event more of their dirty tricks are uncovered, the FBI can claim that they are not "any type of domestic Cointelpro operation," but are aimed at "foreign intelligence and influence." Of course, uncovering "foreign intelligence and influence" has long been used as a justification for all sorts of crimes, including CIA spying on the U. S. antiwar movement.

These latest revelations back up the evidence gathered by the Political Rights Defense Fund (PRDF). More than 50 incidences of Cointelpro-type disruption and harassment after the supposed April 1971 termination date have been documented by the PRDF, which is financing and publicizing the Socialist Workers Party suit demanding a halt to such activities by the FBI and other government agencies.

## G-Men battle revisionism?

Many radicals who have gotten together to organize political groups and publish newspapers have had to grapple with the difficult problems of working out a clear political line to put forward. In some cases, we now know, internal divisions have been fomented by FBI agents working to disrupt and divide the radical movement.

But even among themselves, it turns out, the FBI disrupters can't agree on "a line."

The *New York Times* reported that FBI informer Joseph Burton was assigned to prepare a bogus radical paper called "The Southern Socialist." An agent from the FBI's Chicago office, reputed to be "an expert on Marxist philosophy," was called in to help.

However, Burton reported, the FBI "could not agree on what line the newspaper should espouse." As a result, the bureau had to "just kind of let it die."

# Public outrage at superspies bugs CIA chief

By CAROLINE LUND

CIA Director William Colby told a House subcommittee Feb. 20 that "the almost hysterical excitement that surrounds any news story mentioning CIA, or even referring to a perfectly legitimate activity of CIA, has raised the question whether secret intelligence operations can be conducted by the United States."

Stated more directly, Colby was pointing out that any scrutiny of the CIA by the American people endangers the basic functions of the super-secret spy agency.

Colby also bemoaned the fact that his spies were getting demoralized by the public criticism, and that businesses were even refusing to bid on CIA contracts out of fear of bad publicity from subsequent exposure.

Senator Frank Church (D-Idaho), who is heading the Senate inquiry into government spy operations, was quick to make his loyalties clear following Colby's statement. He immedi-

ately announced his "surprise" at "the hysteria of those who are fearful that this committee is out to wreck these [spy] agencies."

Church assured such people that his investigating committee "will be a judicious and responsible body." He didn't say responsible to whom.

Lucien Nedzi (D-Mich.), who heads the House inquiry, has already given ample proof of his notions of "responsibility." He was one of those charged with congressional "oversight" of the CIA since 1971, as head of the House Armed Services Committee's Subcommittee on Intelligence. After overseeing the CIA crimes for years, he now will supposedly "investigate" those crimes.

What about the Rockefeller "blue-ribbon" panel? A Harris poll released Feb. 13 found that a plurality of 43 to 33 percent of Americans feel it will "end up as another coverup."

According to the poll, 62 percent oppose CIA spying on U. S. citizens,

such as antiwar protesters. Two-thirds oppose acts such as the CIA role in overthrowing the Allende regime in Chile.

The Harris poll concluded: "Public awareness of the need to protect civil liberties has never been higher, and attempts by those in government to violate these rights have never been so subject to scrutiny. Given this public mood, nothing short of a thorough, tough and independent investigation of the CIA will satisfy the doubts of the American people."

Judging from the response in Congress to Colby's Feb. 20 statement, the American people cannot look to Washington for any such satisfaction.

The Feb. 21 *New York Times* reported that most members of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, before which Colby spoke, "spoke sympathetically of Mr. Colby's efforts to improve the agency and to end what the director insisted had been 'mistakes' that were 'few and far be-

tween.'"

Representative George Mahon (D-Tex.) did his best to make Colby feel at home, praising each of the CIA directors since 1947. While noting that the agency might have made some "mistakes," Mahon told Colby, "I do want you to know you are among people who believe in the intelligence mechanism."

But despite Colby's efforts to stop the "irresponsible exposure" of the real role of the CIA, new revelations continue to come out.

The *Washington Star-News* revealed recently that during the years of the antiwar movement, local police departments regularly cooperated with CIA spy operations against U. S. citizens by providing the agents with police badges and credentials as "cover."

Syndicated columnist Jack Anderson revealed evidence Feb. 19 of CIA secret collaboration with narcotics and customs agents. "This raises the ques-

Continued on page 26

# Calendar

## ATLANTA

**WOMEN IN HISTORY: A FEMINIST PERSPECTIVE.** Panel discussion. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 68 Peachtree St. N.E., Third Floor. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Bookstore Forum. For more information call (404) 523-0610.

## BROOKLYN

**WOMEN'S LIBERATION IN PUERTO RICO TODAY.** Speaker: Ana Rivera, editor, *El Tacon de la Chancleta*, and member, *Mujer Integrate Ahora*. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 136 Lawrence St. (near A&S). Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (212) 596-2849.

## CHICAGO

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY.** Speakers: Brenda Eichelberger, National Black Feminist Organization; Bronwin Zwerner, coordinator, Illinois Coalition of Labor Union Women; others. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 428 S. Wabash, Fifth Floor. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (312) 939-0737.

## CLEVELAND

**BLACK WOMEN'S LIBERATION.** Speakers: Lois Jones, coordinator, Cleveland area Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; Linda Ferlow, state coordinator, Minority Women of NOW; Betty Harris, parent coordinator, Relevant Community Institutions; Hattie McCutcheon, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. University Center Room 364A-B, Cleveland State University. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (216) 391-5553.

## LOS ANGELES: CENTRAL-EAST

**WOMEN IN THE ARTS.** Speakers: Michelle Cort, coordinator of Women's Building, MBA in arts administration; Susan King, coordinator of Women's Building, art historian; Vaughan Kropow, photographer. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 710 S. Westlake Ave. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (213) 483-1512.

## NEW YORK: LOWER MANHATTAN

**STRUGGLE FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN THE TRADE UNIONS PAST AND PRESENT.** Speakers: Irene Martes, member, National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees District 1199, Coalition of Labor Union Women; Pat Wright, member, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1707, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 706 Broadway (4th St.), Eighth Floor. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (212) 982-6051.

## NEW YORK: UPPER WEST SIDE

**REPRESSION IN IRAN.** Speakers from Committee for Artistic and Intellectual Freedom in Iran. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 2726 Broadway (104th St.), Third Floor. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Westside Militant Forum. For more information call (212) 663-3000.

## OAKLAND/BERKELEY

**TEACH-IN ON STRUGGLE IN BOSTON.** Speakers: Howard Moore, attorney; Elaine Brown, Black Panther Party; Bernardo Garcia, Peralta Federation of Teachers. Thurs., March 6, 7:30 p.m. Pauley Ballroom, University of California, Berkeley. Ausp: Student Committee Against Racism. For more information call (415) 524-7501.

## PHILADELPHIA

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION.** Program: *Rites of Women*, performed by Feminist Theater Collective; Maxine Weiner, singer. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 1004 Filbert St. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (215) WA5-4316.

## SAN DIEGO

**THE CASE OF DR. EDELIN AND THE RIGHT TO ABORTION.** Panel discussion. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 4635 El Cajon Blvd. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (714) 280-1292.

## SEATTLE

**CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY.** Sexism in education. Speakers: member of women's studies department, University of Washington; member of NOW. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 5623 University Way N.E. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (206) 522-7800.

## TWIN CITIES

**CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY.** Speaker: Joanne Murphy, member of Coalition of Labor Union Women and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 1164. Films: *Some Will Be Apples*; *Face*. Fri., March 7, 8 p.m. 25 University Ave. S.E. Mpls. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 332-7781.

# ...KKK

*Continued from back page* feels it has a license to carry out this kind of activity."

"Not only have the mayor and the police chief admitted to spying on legal groups such as the Socialist Workers Party," Vázquez said, "both have stated that they intend to continue doing so. At the same time, the FBI and their 'SWP Disruption Program' have emboldened cowardly scum like the Klan to try to intimidate us.

"I want to point out that the lead editorial in yesterday's *Houston Post* was in support of Socialist Workers Party member Morris Starsky [whom the FBI worked to get fired from his teaching post at Arizona State University], and in support of the Socialist Workers Party's rights as a legal political organization."

A meeting was held at the University of Houston Feb. 7 to focus opposition on the Criminal Intelligence Division of the Houston police, which has made front-page news in recent weeks because it keeps a secret "enemies list" of more than 1,000 radicals, civil libertarians, Black and Chicano activists, and other "extremists."

That meeting was cosponsored by the University of Houston Student Association, the Mexican American Student Association, the Young Socialist Alliance, the Black Student Union, the Committee for Intellectual and Artistic Freedom in Iran, and the Houston Militant Forum.

Vázquez has made the demand to open up secret police files a central part of his campaign for mayor.

The socialist candidate has charged that a commission appointed by Hofheinz to investigate the police files will only produce a "whitewash."

Hofheinz, under considerable public pressure, appointed the three-person board to "purge the legitimate from the illegitimate [police] activities." Police Chief Lynn has announced that files on "extremist" political groups and on "anybody who is a threat to the community" will be retained.

Vázquez points out that while verbally opposing police spying, Hofheinz has failed to order the police to withdraw from a new, super-secret spy group, known as the Harris County Organized Crime Intelligence Unit.

This unit is funded by the federal government and 10 local police departments. The 1973 report of this organization includes information that it has targeted the SWP and other radical groups for spying. But the right-wing terrorist groups that have carried out numerous violent attacks in Houston for many years were not listed.

Police collaboration with the Klan and other right-wingers is an old story in Houston. Hofheinz's election as mayor two years ago and the appointment of Lynn as police chief were portrayed as a step away from official tolerance of Klan terrorism and police harassment of radicals.

The refusal of the city government to take action against the Klan even after such a naked provocation as that of Feb. 20 can only encourage the Klan and others to believe they can carry out violent acts of terror with impunity.

# ...Braden

*Continued from page 13*

A memorial service for Braden was held in Louisville on Feb. 23. Speakers included James Dombrowski, former executive director of SCEF; Lyman Johnson, president of the Louisville NAACP; Frank Wilkinson, executive director of the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation; Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Angela Davis of the Communist Party; and Anne Braden. Messages were read from Coretta King, the United Mine Workers of America, and Albert Fitzgerald, president of the United Electrical Workers.

At the memorial service Anne Braden said that Carl had always been a great admirer of Eugene Debs and that he lived by the famous quote from Karl Marx: "The philosophers have

only interpreted the world in various ways; the point, however, is to change it."

*The Militant* gave extensive coverage to the Bradens' battles going back to the original charges against them in 1954. In her book on the Louisville case, *The Wall Between*, Anne Braden credits *The Militant* with being one of the national publications that campaigned on their behalf.

"Carl was tired," Anne Braden said just after his death. "If he had slowed down 10 years ago and become an 'elder statesman' of the movement, he might have lived longer—but I don't think he would have been happy, and he couldn't do it. He felt there was so much to do."

Messages of condolence were sent to Anne Braden by SWP presidential candidate Peter Camejo and by the Political Rights Defense Fund.

Friends of Carl Braden have established a fund to help the various efforts he supported. Contributions can be sent to the Carl Braden Memorial Fund to Support Southern Organizing, 4403 Virginia Ave., Louisville, Ky., 40211.

# ...CIA

*Continued from page 25*

tion," Anderson wrote, "of whether the CIA has hidden its illegal domestic operations behind other federal agencies."

There are some 60 government agencies that have some dealing with "intelligence" matters.

The enormous scope of CIA operations was also indicated by a recent exposure of only one portion of its budget—which is concealed in the budgets of other government agencies.

In testimony before a Senate committee, Air Force Secretary John McLucas listed the millions being spent on various missiles—Minuteman III, \$298.4-million; Maverick, \$72.7-million; Sparrow, \$43.3-million. Then the list read, "Other"—\$734.1-million.

Senator Stuart Symington (D-Mo.) asked McLucas, "Is that CIA money?"

"It includes some intelligence money," McLucas replied.

"CIA?" asked Symington.

"Yes," said McLucas.

A Feb. 11 *Reuters* dispatch reporting on the exchange said that Symington "indicated no surprise at the disclosure, nor did he press for a breakdown of how much of the \$734.1 million was earmarked for the CIA."

# Socialist Directory

**ARIZONA: Tucson:** YSA, c/o Clennon, S.U.P.O. Box 20965, Tucson, Ariz. 85720.

**CALIFORNIA: Berkeley-Oakland:** SWP and YSA, 1849 University Ave., Berkeley, Calif. 94703. Tel: (415) 548-0354.

**Los Angeles, Central-East:** SWP, YSA, Militant Bookstore, 710 S. Westlake Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90057. Tel: (213) 483-1512.

**Los Angeles, West Side:** SWP and YSA, 230 Broadway, Santa Monica, Calif. 90401. Tel: (213) 394-9050.

**Los Angeles:** City-wide SWP and YSA, 710 S. Westlake Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90057. Tel: (213) 483-0357.

**Riverside:** YSA, c/o U. of Cal. Campus Activities, 234 Commons, Riverside, Calif. 92507.

**Sacramento:** YSA, c/o Marlene Metcalf, P.O. Box 2061, Sacramento, Calif. 95810.

**San Diego:** SWP, YSA, and Militant Bookstore, 4635 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, Calif. 92115. Tel: (714) 280-1292.

**San Francisco:** SWP, YSA, Militant Labor Forum, and Militant Books, 1519 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif. 94103. Tel: SWP—(415) 431-8918; YSA—(415) 863-2285; Militant Books—(415) 864-9174.

**San Jose:** YSA, 96 S. 17th St., San Jose, Calif. 95112. Tel: (408) 286-0615.

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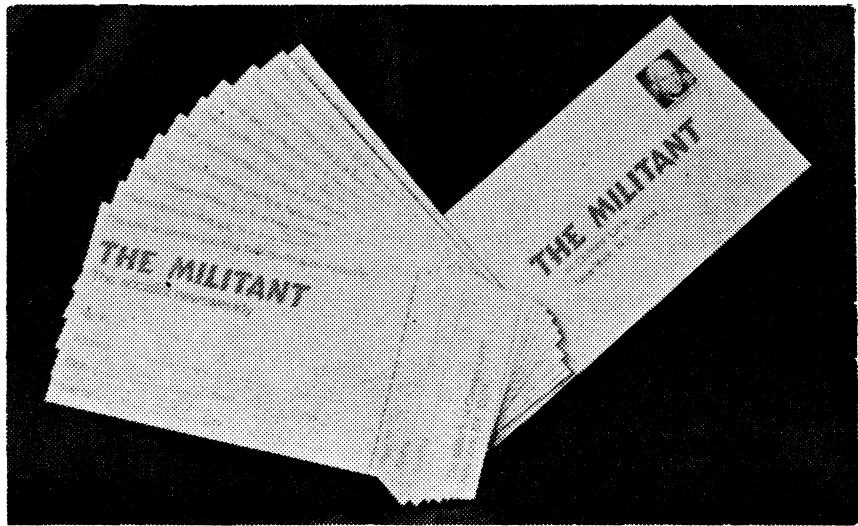
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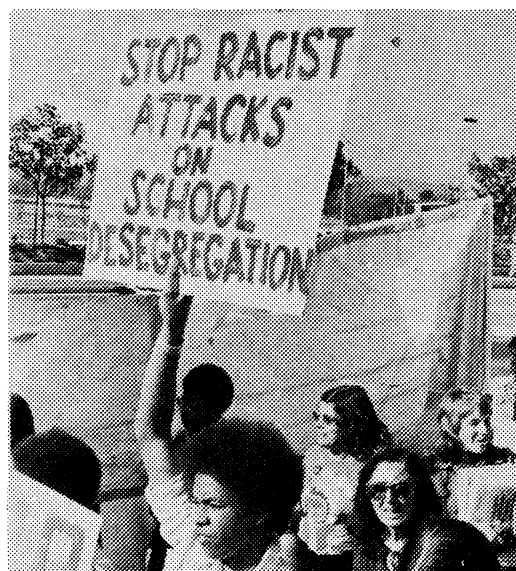
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## Houston cops: 'It's legal'

# Armed Klansmen threaten socialists

By STU SINGER

HOUSTON—The Ku Klux Klan staged an armed demonstration here Feb. 20 outside the campaign headquarters of Pedro Vásquez, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor. News media subsequently reported that Police Chief Carrol Lynn knew about the provocation in advance, but failed to notify the SWP. Moreover, Lynn has publicly defended the Klan intimidation as "legal."

The Klan's armed display came in the wake of extensive publicity and wide debate over revelations of illegal spying on the SWP and other radicals and dissidents by city and state police agencies.

At 9:30 p.m. on Feb. 20, SWP campaign workers were leaving the offices when they spotted 12-18 Klansmen on a street corner half a block from the headquarters.

Some of the Klansmen were wearing sheets and hoods, the rest were dressed in Army fatigues. At least two of those wearing fatigues were carrying rifles. Klansmen were also spotted in the parking lot behind the office building in which the campaign headquarters is located.

The police were immediately called and about 10 minutes later three patrol cars arrived. The Klansmen left just before the cops showed up.

The police took down all the information about the Klan action, making note of the names and addresses of all the witnesses. The information included descriptions of two of the Klan cars and the license number of one of them.

Earlier in the week, suspicious-looking persons had been spotted loitering in and around the building where the offices are located, and a poster with a swastika and "White Power" written on it had been put on a pole near the building.

### Cops 'knew for days'

The Houston police were conspicuously absent from the scene at the time of the Klan appearance. Usually, po-



Klan member covers police badge number as he leaves Houston cop car. Cops and KKK maintain cozy relationship in Houston.

lice cars are parked right around that area.

Moreover, an article in the Feb. 22 *Houston Post* reported that "Chief Carrol Lynn said his department had been aware for days the incident was to happen. . . .

"Lynn went on, 'our position is going to be, we will arrest anyone who violates the law, but until they do this, the last time I checked, it was a free country.'"

Despite Lynn's defense of the "right" of the KKK to carry out armed intimidation of socialists, an assistant city attorney questioned Feb. 24 said that the Klan could be charged under the disorderly conduct statute of the penal code. One violation would be hiding behind masks; another, "pub-

licly displaying firearms to intimidate people."

However, the *Houston Post* also reported that "police officials said Friday they could not confirm any of the alleged Klansmen were armed, and said a license number provided by the SWP did not check out."

Officials of the KKK also adopted a know-nothing attitude. The *Houston Post* quoted Scott Nelson, "Imperial Wizard of the Texas Fiery Knights of the Ku Klux Klan," as denying "any knowledge of Klan presence near the SWP headquarters. . . ."

### Threaten bomb attack

In a Feb. 21 interview on radio station KPRC, Nelson went further, asserting that it was SWP campaign supporters themselves who had carried out the armed action. He went on to predict that the SWP would blow up its own headquarters, all in an attempt to win sympathy for Pedro Vásquez among Houston Blacks.

Nelson's "prediction" is a particularly ominous threat. In 1971, the SWP offices in Houston were bombed as part of a campaign by right-wing terrorists who had also attacked radio stations, a newspaper, and several radical and civil libertarian groups.

The KKK—and Houston city officials—at first tried to claim that the SWP had bombed its own offices. But an energetic protest campaign forced a grand jury investigation, resulting in the indictment of several Klansmen involved in the attacks. One of the indicted, Jimmy Hutto, had worked as an undercover agent for Houston

police in radical groups.

The terrorist attacks subsided after the indictments.

In light of the long history of KKK terrorism in the city, the SWP demanded around-the-clock police protection for the campaign offices. However, the cops refused, claiming they were understaffed.

SWP campaign supporters also requested, to no avail, protection for people attending a Militant Forum the following night at the headquarters. That meeting, which had been widely publicized as a memorial tribute to Malcolm X, was held without incident.

### News conference

Immediately after the Klan incident, the news media were informed of what had happened, and a news conference was called for the following morning at campaign headquarters.

At the news conference, Dwight Allen, a leader of the Congress of African People, and Gloria Rodriguez, of the Houston 12 defense committee, expressed support for the rights of the SWP. Messages urging police action to halt the KKK terror were read from a number of people, including: 15 delegates to the Texas State Teachers Association convention being held that weekend in Fort Worth; Gertrude Barnstone, former Houston school board member; and Henry Rosenblum, chairperson of the Greater Houston Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Pedro Vásquez spoke at the news conference for the SWP. Vásquez, a longtime activist in the Chicano movement, recently announced his candidacy for mayor.

Vásquez blasted Mayor Fred Hofheinz and Police Chief Lynn for "creating the atmosphere in which the Klan

Continued on page 26

## More Nazi harassment

In addition to the Klan armed show of force in Houston, Nazis in several cities have been harassing the Socialist Workers Party and other groups.

● In Minneapolis, a phone caller to the SWP said that the Nazis would be out the following Saturday on the Nicollet Mall, where *The Militant* is sold regularly. The caller shouted, "White Power," as he hung up. A similar call was made to the Progressive Labor Party.

That Saturday, 10 helmeted and uniformed Nazis marched around the mall, but they made no attempt

to interfere with *Militant* salespeople.

● In Boston, where the SWP has been very active in the desegregation struggle, two swastikas and the slogan "Smash Communism" were painted on the stairway leading to the office of the SWP candidate for school committee, Ollie Bivins.

● Several weeks ago, a Nazi group bombed the Central-East Los Angeles SWP hall. Further bombings and a series of bomb threats have occurred since then, but the police have still failed to take action to apprehend the terrorists. (See story, page 5.)



Militant/Tom Vernier

Pedro Vasquez, SWP candidate for mayor of Houston, demands immediate police action to halt Klan terror.