

THE MILITANT

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

No U.S. ships or planes to Persian Gulf!

—PAGE 3

WOMEN AND THE 1980 ELECTIONS

—PAGE 12



WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 29—More than 10,000 Black students demonstrate against budget cuts for Black colleges and moves to shut them down. Militant/Osborne Hart

Blacks march to save schools

—PAGE 7

Lie machine at work

It is becoming clear that the version of the Iraqi-Iran war dished out in the capitalist media doesn't have much to do with reality.

The media ape the Carter administration in masking support for the Iraqi regime's drive against the Iranian revolution as "neutrality."

And if that means that facts have to be bent out of shape or even made up out of whole cloth, then so be it.

"Port City Falls to Iraqis," the headlines blared day after day. They were taking as good coin the claims by the Iraqi government that the port city of Khorramshahr, along the Shatt-al-Arab River, had been captured.

News stories daily proclaimed the capture or imminent fall of Ahwaz, Abadan, Dezful, and other Iranian cities.

Newspaper and television commentators repeatedly assure us that Iran's armed forces will collapse momentarily for want of "spare parts."

The U.S. media dubs the Iraqi army "victorious." It portrays Iran as responsible for continuing the war because Tehran rejects "cease-fire offers." They obscure the fact that the Iraqi regime started the war, invaded Iran, and is trying to hold Iranian territory.

The media claims are lies.

Iraqi forces have penetrated Iranian territory, but everywhere they meet fierce resistance as revolutionary guards, troops, and local people rally to the revolution.

Despite devastating artillery fire, the Iraqi troops have failed thus far to take Khorramshahr, Abadan, Ahwaz, Dezful, or other major cities.

Some of the truth is seeping out.

In the October 1 *New York Times*, John Kifner described a typical clash near Khorramshahr: "At dawn, an Iraqi special forces unit attempted to storm into Khorramshahr. . . .

"But the Iraqi commandos reportedly ran into fierce resistance from the paramilitary Iranian revolutionary guards, who were battling house to house. By tonight, the Iraqi forces had pulled back."

The method used to fabricate Iraqi victories was described by Loren Jenkins in the Sep-

tember 29 *Washington Post*. "To the Iraqis," he explained, "the mere fact that a town is besieged is interpreted as its being actually taken, although the battles of Abadan and Khorramshahr have now demonstrated that there remains a large difference between the two."

The following day Jenkins declared that the facts belie "Iraqi claims of control of the war."

"Indeed, all along the contested Shatt-al-Arab that divides the two warring nations south of here, the fighting seemed to be continuing much as it has since the first days of the conflict last week."

The media and the U.S. government have insisted that Iran's army wouldn't march, its air force couldn't fly, and its navy wouldn't stay afloat.

Clearly, the die was cast against the Iranian revolution.

But Iran's ground forces—revolutionary guards and army—have fought fiercely, often against heavy odds.

The air force relentlessly bombs Iraqi targets, including almost daily strikes at the Iraqi capital of Baghdad.

Some of the crudest propaganda out of Washington concerned the Iranian navy. "An Iranian naval sortie," a NATO aid assured "military expert" Drew Middleton in the September 28 *New York Times*, "would be a death ride."

"Western specialists," Middleton confidently continued, "see no military obstacles to Iraq's taking the islands and control of the Strait of Hormuz."

But two days later, Middleton complained that "the [Iranian] navy has shown signs of taking the offensive."

After a week of naval battles, he stated, "Iran also contends that its navy is in complete control of the northern shore of the Persian Gulf, the Iranian continental shelf and the Strait of Hormuz. NATO naval sources accept these statements and emphasize that Iranian naval superiority could add a new dimension to the war."

So much for the "death ride."

The estimates of Iran's military capacity were a different type of lie than the claims of

Iraqi military victories. In the former case, the U.S. government apparently believed its own propaganda and passed it along to the Iraqi rulers.

The course of the war is provoking complaints in Washington about U.S. "intelligence lapses."

The spies reply, however, that the problem isn't lack of military data. "Frankly," one spy told the September 27 *New York Times*, "we're in the Dark Ages when it comes to knowing what makes these nations tick."

Faced with the contradiction between their predictions and reality, the government and media are taking refuge in describing the Iranians as "fanatics." Frustrated Iraqi military officers are picking up this assertion.

This has long been Washington's favorite term for oppressed peoples who fight for their rights against superior force—especially when they prove hard to beat.

Washington's spies are really in the Dark Ages when it comes to understanding revolutions. That's why the "intelligence" estimates were all wrong in Vietnam, Cuba, and Nicaragua. Remember all those detailed reports that assured Carter that the Iranian people could never bring down the shah's mighty army and police?

The U.S. rulers and their hired "analysts" have contempt for the working people who make revolutions. They view them as inferior beings. Our rulers will never understand how fiercely working people can fight when they begin to take their destinies into their hands, rid themselves of oppressive masters, and change society in their own interests.

That's why the war against Iran has fallen far short of the knockout blow that Washington hoped for.

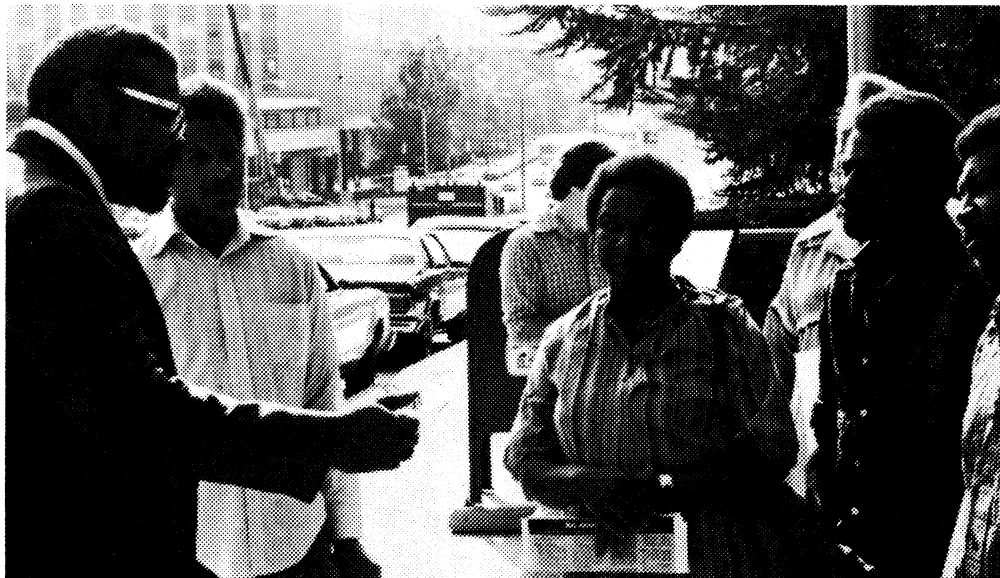
In the face of the defiant courage of the Iranian masses, the Carter administration is sending more warships and warplanes into the Persian Gulf.

It's time for American working people to raise our voices and demand that Carter get U.S. troops, ships, and planes out of the Middle East.

No to the draft! We won't fight big oil's war!

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The fight for jobs

Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate Andrew Pulley talks with jobless workers in Baltimore about unemployment and how the labor movement can fight back. Pages 18-19.

The Militant

Editors: CINDY JAQUITH
ANDY ROSE

Business Manager: NANCY ROSENSTOCK
Editorial Staff: Nan Bailey, Fred Feldman,
Suzanne Haig, Osborne Hart, Diane Jacobs,
Harry Ring, Vivian Sahrer, Priscilla Schenk, Stu
Singer.

Published weekly by the Militant
(ISSN 0026-3885), 14 Charles Lane,
New York, N.Y. 10014. Telephone:
Editorial Office, (212) 243-6392; Busi-
ness Office, (212) 929-3486.

Correspondence concerning sub-
scriptions or changes of address
should be addressed to The Militant
Business Office, 14 Charles Lane,
New York, N.Y. 10014.

Second-class postage paid at New
York, N.Y. Subscriptions: U.S. \$24.00
a year, outside U.S. \$30.00. By first-
class mail: U.S., Canada, and Mexico:
\$60.00. Write for airmail rates to all
other countries.

For subscriptions airfreighted to London and
then posted to Britain and Ireland: £3.00 for ten
issues, £6.00 for six months (twenty-four issues),
£11.00 for one year (forty-eight issues). Posted
from London to Continental Europe: £4.50 for
ten issues, £10.00 for six months, £15.00 for one
year. Send checks or international money order
(payable to Intercontinental Press account) to
Intercontinental Press (The Militant), P.O. Box
50, London N1 2XP, England.

Signed articles by contributors do not neces-
sarily represent the Militant's views. These are
expressed in editorials.

Carter sends naval fleet, planes to threaten Iran

By Fred Feldman

The Carter administration announced September 30 that it is sending four Air Force radar and command planes, with 300 American crew members, to Saudi Arabia. The Saudi Arabian monarchy is closely allied with the Iraqi regime in its war with Iran.

Gen. David Jones, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has been in Saudi Arabia.

"The aircraft, converted Boeing 707s, aren't merely capable of performing surveillance, but are also designed to take control of a battle, coordinating the efforts of fighter planes and ships," reported Walter Mossberg in the October 1 *Wall Street Journal*.

With a radar range of 350 miles, they will be able to follow closely the course of the Iraqi invasion of Iran—and perhaps even allow U.S. or Saudi personnel to advise the Iraqis from a safe distance.

The Iraqi military is likely to want such help, as the Iranian air force—to Washington's astonishment—has dominated the skies in the fighting.

"In addition," Mossberg went on, "they could serve as command centers if U.S. or multinational naval intervention proves necessary to protect oil tankers moving through the Persian Gulf."

Washington now has thirty-one warships in the Arabian Sea and moves are underway to massively reinforce them.

"The aircraft carrier Midway was due to leave Mombassa in Kenya yesterday after loading supplies," reported Drew Middleton in the September 28 *New York Times*. "The Midway, which deploys 65 aircraft, will probably rendezvous with the carrier strike force built around the nuclear powered carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower in the Arabian Sea."

Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman Frank Church met with Secretary of State Edmund Muskie September 29 and declared "that the United States Navy should be ready to



U.S. marines train for desert warfare in Georgia. Gathering of massive naval, air fleet near Iran, and sending of planes to Iraq's allies increases danger of a new Vietnam.

use force if necessary to keep the Strait of Hormuz open."

Washington was reported to have won agreement from the governments of Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, and Japan for a meeting to discuss sending a joint naval armada to the Gulf.

"Should it be necessary to organize an international naval force to enforce navigation rights through the Strait of Hormuz," noted Middleton, "the nucleus of such a force could be drawn from the American squadrons, a 14-vessel French force in the Indian Ocean, and a British destroyer division that recently left the area after a deployment. In addition, Australia has volunteered to send ships into the Indian Ocean."

U.S. moves toward massive naval intervention were stepped up after Iraqi warships failed to expel the Iranian navy from its positions in the Gulf and Strait. The Iraqi vessels were driven out of the area, another devel-

opment that U.S. officials had not expected.

There is hardly any attempt to conceal that the target of this naval armada will be Iran. The September 29 *Wall Street Journal* described it as a move "to protect American interests in the Gulf from possible desperate acts by a humiliated Iran."

"We're dealing with nuts," one official said of the Iranians.

No one in the state department has suggested the obvious fact that Iraqi withdrawal from Iran would help assure that the Gulf stays open.

Instead, they prepare moves that could lead to direct U.S. involvement in the war, and even bring the world to the brink of a nuclear holocaust. And they call the Iranians "nuts!"

At the same time, some voices are becoming more outspoken in support of the Iraqi regime's counterrevolutionary assault. Henry Kissinger declared September 28 that the invasion could have "serious effects inside Iran,

which are not necessarily all bad from our point of view." He cited the possibility of "a change in the regime or a change in the orientation of the regime."

Egyptian President Anwar el-Sadat called for the U.S. government to engineer a coup against Khomeini. Sadat said a coup in Iran would be welcomed by Persian Gulf states that have been "shivering in their boots" since the ouster of the shah.

Certainly Washington's closest allies in the Persian Gulf region—the reactionary monarchies and emirates—are strongly backing the Iraqi regime in the war.

Kuwait has reportedly sent troops into Iraq to help prop up Hussein's war effort.

Wall Street Journal correspondent Karen Elliot House cited one reason why the Saudi monarchy wants to see Iran defeated: the inspiration the Iranian revolution is giving to Saudi oil workers.

She cited the Iranian revolution's ability "to stir up internal trouble in the Saudi oil fields. About 200,000 Moslems of the Shia sect, which looks to the Ayatollah [Khomeini] as its leader, lives in the Saudi oil region, and many of them work in the oil facilities there. Twice in the past year they have rioted, carrying signs and pictures hailing the Ayatollah. Iran's radio beams daily broadcasts at them urging that they overthrow the Saudi royal family. . . ."

One Persian Gulf diplomat told the *Times*' Barbara Slavin that the purpose of the Iraqi invasion was to "destroy the myth of the Iranian revolution, to show that the Khomeini revolution is not the French revolution, which terrified the European monarchies."

Washington's military moves show that it is anxious to help the Iraqi rulers achieve this goal. And if they fail, the Carter administration wants to be in a position to help crush any popular movements that new advances in the Iranian revolution may inspire.

Report from Iran

Masses mobilize to defend revolution

By Janice Lynn

Iranian workers and farmers are mobilizing throughout the country to defend the gains they have won since the February 1979 overthrow of the shah. They correctly view the Iraqi regime's invasion of their country as a direct attack on their revolution.

Reports from socialists in Tehran indicate that throughout the country there have been massive demonstrations and rallies in defense of the revolution.

At first the Iranian government thought it could depend solely on the armed forces to counter the assault by the Iraqi regime. But it soon became clear that this would not be possible.

Workers in factories throughout Tehran began to sign up through their factory *shoras* (committees) to volunteer to fight the Iraqi attacks. The *shoras* published lists of the volunteers, making them available to the government.

Iranian president Abolhassan Bani-Sadr asked every mosque throughout the country to sign up twenty-two people to fight the Iraqi military attacks. In Tehran, this request was fulfilled within hours.

On September 23, the day after the Iraqi attack on Tehran's Mehrabad international airport, a million-strong demonstration against the imperialist-backed Iraqi invasion took place at Tehran University. Coinciding with the opening day of Tehran's high schools, the young students expressed their determination to defend the revolution. A Reuters dispatch reporting on the rally said, "All the leftist groups have offered to send men to the front."

CBS television broadcasts showed young Iranians signing up at Tehran University to fight the Iraqi invasion. Photographs have confirmed the participation of women in defense of the revolution. One photo showed women in villages in Western Iran standing guard at bunkers.

In the city of Tabriz, rallies have also been held denouncing the Iraqi invasion. Tabriz is the center of the Azerbaijani population, the largest of Iran's oppressed nationalities.

Even the *New York Times* has been forced to finally report that the Iranian masses are solidly behind defending their revolution.

The September 30 *Times* ran a dispatch from *Le Monde* under the decep-



Revolutionary guards march in Tehran

tive headline "In Teheran, Enforced Blackouts; In Baghdad, Lively Nonchalance."

But the end of the dispatch admitted the following:

"Random conversations with Iranians indicate that the people are less politically divided than before the war. They still criticize politicians and mullahs, and sometimes even Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini himself, but most seem to throw their support behind the Government in 'repelling the Iraqi invaders.'"

"Despite their differences on domestic issues, all political parties, nationalists, centrists, leftists, Marxists and Moslems, legal or illegal, are calling for support to the war effort."

"Signing up for the armed forces has become so popular that authorities have had to turn many men down. . . ."

"The most widely held opinion is that Iraq is the tool of Western 'imperialists,' primarily the United States, which it is believed intend to suppress the gains of the Iranian revolution and undermine the Islamic Republic."

'Iranian masses must strike as one fist'

The following is an editorial from the September 23 issue of 'Kargar,' the weekly newspaper of the Hezb-e Kargar-e Enqelab (HKE—Revolutionary Workers Party) of Iran. It was written before the full-scale Iraqi invasion of Iran on September 22.

The attention of the whole country has been focused on the military attacks on Iran from the Iraqi border. Newspaper headlines, various articles, government statements, and radio and television news all speak of sensitive and even critical conditions in the west of the country. This topic has dominated discussions within all circles of the working people and toilers. Among the young Muslim and revolutionary militants in the plants and elsewhere, a wave of opposition against these attacks has arisen.

Escalating offensive

The events on the western border are a serious warning, signaling the need to defend the Iranian revolution. There are sufficient facts to show the serious and extraordinary significance of these events.

- A week has passed since the right-wing coup in Turkey.
- The mobilization of the U.S. military strike force continues.
- Movements by the U.S. military strike force in Egypt have been reported.
- Activities of elements associated with the Pahlavi autocracy, such as [Gen. Gholam] Oveissi, [Gen. Ahmed] Palizban, and [Shahpur] Bakhtiar in Iraq—both in the field of news propaganda and of military mobilizations—have continued and expanded.
- U.S. imperialism has not responded positively to the just demands of the Iranian revolution, and with the start of hearings on the hostage question in the Majlis [parliament], imperialism still continues its conspiracies and attacks against the Iranian revolution.

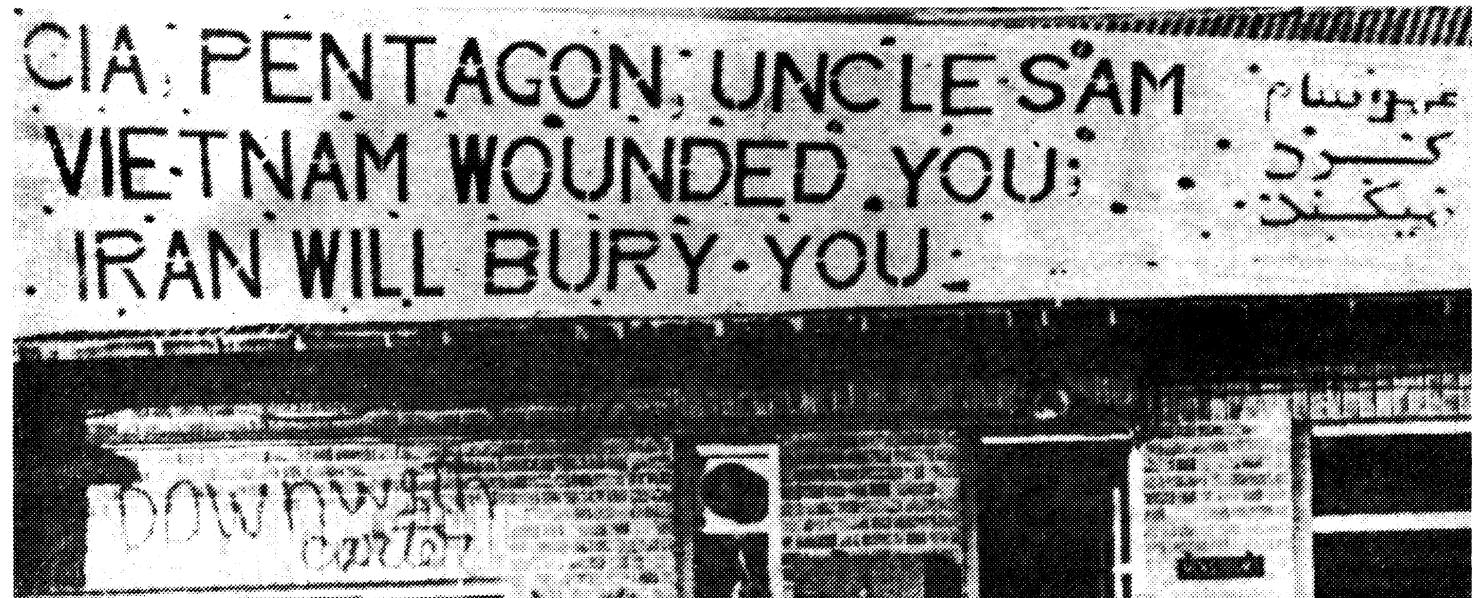
It is in this context that the military attacks by the right-wing regime of [Iraqi President] Saddam Hussein and attacks by counterrevolutionaries on the western borders have greatly intensified. Based on various reports, it is now clear that the military offensive against the revolution has escalated, both in the air and on the ground.

After the failure of the [April 24] imperialist attack in the Tabas Desert, and then the disintegration of the [July] coup attempt, the attacks in the west of the country have now opened a new front for extensive counterrevolutionary activities. It is clear to many militant workers and toilers that the struggle of the Iranian revolution against the imperialist offensive is neither incidental nor temporary. This is a conflict that will decide the fate of our struggle to be rid of the imperialist yoke.

The experience of our revolution up to now has clearly shown that imperialism's aim is to exhaust, break down, and demobilize the masses and to destroy and sabotage production and the organization of the nation's economy through both its indigenous and external agents. The experience of our revolution has shown that imperialism's aim is to mobilize repressive and brutal forces in order to suppress the revolution. Washington's entire diplomacy revolves around organizing and mobilizing for counterrevolution.

Tasks of Iranian revolution

What is on the agenda of the Iranian revolution is: achieving total and genuine independence from imperialism; solving the land problem; emancipating the masses of peasants and farmers from poverty and oppression; and expropriating power and wealth from landowners, millionaire capitalists, the rich, and other indigenous agents of imperialism. As opposed to the planned long-term exploitation of



Banner at former U.S. embassy in Tehran

the imperialists, now another perspective is realizable—that of the workers taking authority over the country's production and successfully planning to develop the country's industry and economy. By extending the organizations of the broad masses, instead of SAVAK's repression, that is, by extending shoras [workers committees], various neighborhood organizations, the jihad for reconstruction, and the Camps for Rallying Our Forces [an organization set up by Islamic associations on the universities for the reconstruction of the country], and other mass action organizations, the emergence of a government of the oppressed—a workers and peasants government—will be made possible. This is the only guarantee for breaking all the chains of oppression and exploitation.

Historically, the battle against imperialism has shown that national oppression can be terminated through a victory over imperialism. Iranian women, the vanguard of women in the entire Middle East, have shown the way to get involved in social activities by their unprecedented action in their millions. They are also taking steps toward winning equal rights.

The Iranian revolution is paving the way for social emancipation from painful and barbaric imperialist oppression. The events in the western part of the country have once again clearly shown that in order for this cause to advance, workers and toilers must fight the mobilization and extension of counterrevolutionary activities.

Danger of counterrevolution

The advance of counterrevolution in any sphere means losing the freedom we gained with the overthrow of autocracy. It means the peasants being suppressed by the landowners and bankers once again. It means repression returning to the factories. It means monarchist generals commanding soldiers. In one word, the advance of counterrevolution means losing the gains of the revolution and accepting the yoke of exploitation and colonialism once again.

Consequently, a national program of struggle to defend the revolution is of utmost necessity. The discussion and activity taking place nationally regarding the Iraqi invasion shows the preparedness and readiness of the broad masses for all-out action against counterrevolution.

In order to plan and put into action a program of struggle against counterrevolution, there must be the broadest organization and participation by factory shoras, neighborhood organizations, the jihad for reconstruction, the Camps for Rallying Our Forces, and peasant shoras. United action by the *pasdaran* [revolutionary guards] and the armed forces in order to mobilize the army of twenty million should be placed on the top of the agenda. The struggle against counterrevolution does not start from a military program

or plan. If the aim of revolution is the victory of the oppressed and the realization of their aspirations, then only the broad masses themselves can really defend the revolution.

Mass mobilization

The struggle to defend the revolution should be guided by an irreconcilable anti-imperialist policy. To collaborate with the imperialists and their indigenous agents—the capitalists and millionaire landowners—weakens the active participation of the masses of people. It is this participation that constitutes freedom. Collaboration only encourages the appetite of the oppressors. It encourages the oppressors to rebel against revolution and the people. Victory of the revolution and victory of the people lies in mobilizing and efficiently utilizing the energies of the masses of workers and toilers. Muslim workers and militants understand that we can only trust our own abilities, our own discipline, and our own organized power.

The state's weaknesses in the face of the Tabas conspiracy [Carter's commando raid] and in the face of the plans for the coup d'etat that were neutralized and defeated have so far shown that the state, although enjoying the support of the overwhelming majority of the population in the past as well as the present, has been incapable of fulfilling its most immediate tasks—uprooting the counterrevolution—because it is based on the bureaucracy inherited from the monarchy. In the entire period since the February insurrection, the immediate task of the state has been and still is to uproot the counterrevolution, i.e., to uproot capitalism and the profit-mongering order.

The experience of our own country's history during the Mossadegh era, as well as the experience of revolutions around the world, have shown that government bureaucracies are less than effective in combating the extension of counterrevolution. The only power capable of defending the revolution and preventing counterrevolutionary damage is that power which seeks to carry through the aspirations of the masses of workers, *pasdaran*, soldiers, and peasants, and consequently is immune to the vacillations and impotence caused by pressures from the oppressors and the state bureaucracy.

With the military invasion against this revolution spreading in the west of the country, it must be shown that neither the imperialists, nor the remnants of the Pahlavi autocracy, such as Oveissi, Palizban, Bakhtiar, and their ilk, nor the conspiracies by Saddam Hussein will be able to trample the revolution. No, we can and should show the revolution's capacity to crush to pieces all attempts by the imperialist or capitalist counterrevolution.

The invasions occurring in the western part of the country reaffirm the special importance of deepening the revolution through solving the problem

of the brothers and sisters of the oppressed nationalities, as an effective weapon against counterrevolution. With counterrevolutionary activities from the Iraqi border spreading, a consistent and revolutionary policy toward the problem of Kurdistan should be adopted.

National oppression

The national oppression of our Kurdish brothers and sisters was born as a result of colonial imperialist rule of our society. Due to this suppression of national rights, the oppression of nationalities became more painful than that of the rest of the Iranian people. The present reactionary intervention from the Kurdish region explicitly clarifies the axis of mobilization and popular unity against imperialism.

Military attacks by mercenaries and Saddam Hussein's armed forces—supported by imperialism and agents of the former autocracy—have threatened the Kurdish people with a direct danger. Today, even though imperialism and agents of the Pahlavi autocracy are apparently speaking of national rights for Kurdistan, the broad Kurdish masses know these enemies.

Events since the February insurrection have shown the possibilities that exist for extending Kurdish culture, which previously had been repressed. Broad masses of Kurdish people in the provinces, as well as the rest of the peasants of the country, have been attracted by the elimination of the oppressors. A policy calling for the national rights of the Kurdish peoples and advancing affirmative action for economic aid (which was promised by the state) can play a key role in mobilizing the Kurdish people against counterrevolution. In the struggles of the oppressed nationalities, a leadership will materialize which conceives the struggle against imperialism as the precondition for national emancipation.

Now, for the defense of the revolution, it is necessary for the toiling masses of Iran to mobilize for war against imperialism as one united family, to close ranks, and to strike as one fist.

Those forces that toppled the Pahlavi autocracy, those forces that paved the way for overthrowing the influence of imperialism in our society, will not for a moment tolerate the return of reaction and imperialism. In this fight it is necessary for workers and militants, Muslims and revolutionary people to take the initiative.

For the popular military mobilization through rallying and arming the shoras and mass organizations! Let us build the army of twenty million!

For immediate military training through combined mobilizations of the army, *pasdaran*, and armed forces!

For a special program for the people of Kurdistan against counterrevolution by propagating the national rights of the Kurdish people!

Dictator Hussein's ultimate gamble

How Carter, Iraq regime ganged up on Iran

By Fred Feldman

"Iran has defied everyone!" an Iraqi officer, part of the invasion force that is trying to occupy Khuzestan Province, told a CBS television interviewer September 30. His voice rising with indignation, he continued: "It has defied the United States! Iran seized the American hostages. America could do nothing about it. We are doing something about it!"

Quite a statement for a representative of a "radical" Arab state!

But for the Iraqi rulers, this was only another step in forging an alliance with Washington.

Doing business

As *Christian Science Monitor* correspondent David Hirst put it September 25, by assaulting Iran, President Hussein is demonstrating "in the most spectacular way possible that, whatever the US Congress and the Zionist lobby may think about it, in straight political terms he is a leader with whom the US can do serious business."

Saadun Hamadi, Hussein's foreign minister, met with Secretary of State Edmund Muskie in Washington September 30. State Department officials reported that Muskie had received "assurances" about the Iraqi regime's war aims. Haamadi declared himself opposed to direct U.S. military intervention in the region.

Muskie's spokesman described the meeting as "businesslike, serious. It certainly wasn't unfriendly." There was no indication that Muskie had suggested that Hussein end the invasion of Iran.

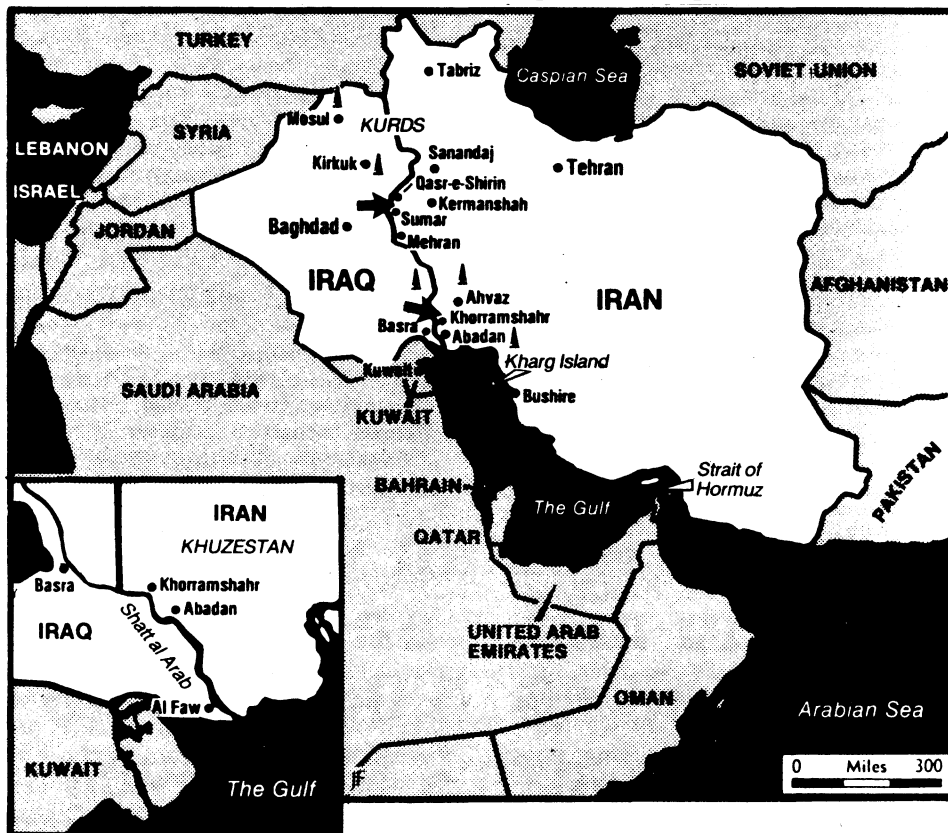
Hussein's tie-up with Washington is the product of a long political evolution in Iraq, a country of 13 million people and vast oil wealth.

Iraq's revolution

Iraq used to be an absolute monarchy, like the one that existed in Iran until February 1979. But in 1958 the Iraqi masses rose up. Nationalist military officers responded by carrying out a coup and abolishing the monarchy.

The Eisenhower administration sent marines to Lebanon, poised to invade Iraq. But Eisenhower backed off in face of the massive support for the revolution among the Iraqis.

The revolution led to many changes.



Baghdad pulled out of the U.S.-organized Baghdad Pact, a regional military pact directed against the Soviet Union and popular upsurges in the area. The oil industry was eventually nationalized.

But the revolution stopped far short of ending capitalism, landlordism, or the domination of Western capital. Instead a succession of military regimes imposed tightening police-state controls, culminating in Hussein's rise to power in 1979.

Because of the anti-imperialist sentiments of the masses, Iraqi regimes took a hostile diplomatic stance toward Washington, Israel, and the shah. Iraq broke relations with Washington after Israel's June 1967 blitzkrieg. The Iraqi leaders also forged close ties with Moscow.

The CIA and Israel responded with efforts to "destabilize" Iraq, including giving some aid to a massive popular rebellion of the oppressed Kurdish people in Iraq.

Policy shift

In the mid-1970s, however, the mil-

itary dictators decided to mend their fences with Washington. In 1975 they signed an agreement with the shah settling a long-standing border dispute. Hussein shifted from opposing the shah to supporting him.

The shah, Israel, and Washington dropped their support to the Iraqi Kurds, who were crushed.

Hussein has forged friendly relations as well with the Saudi Arabian, Jordanian, and Persian Gulf monarchies—all of which now support Iraq in the war.

The Iranian revolution brought the process to a head. Like Washington, Hussein bitterly opposed the movement to bring down the shah and continuing upheaval of the oppressed that followed the tyrant's fall.

In April 1979, Iranian diplomats told *Washington Post* reporter Thomas Lippman of their fear that events in Iran "raised the possibility that Iraq's restive Kurdish minority, or its communists or its Shia Moslems or all three, would be stirred into action." (A majority of Iraqi workers and farmers are from the Shi'ite branch of Islam, which also predominates in Iran. But the great majority of the government and ruling class are Sunnis.)

The officials told Lippman that tens of thousands of Kurds and Shi'ites had migrated to the cities, forming "a kind of urban proletariat, vulnerable to communist agitation for social and economic, not religious or ethnic reasons."

The Carter administration moved to seize the opening offered by Hussein's fear of the Iranian revolution. On April 19 National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski declared, "We see no fundamental incompatibility of interests between the United States and Iraq."

Amos Perlmutter wrote in the May 3 *New Republic*: "The Carter administration sees Iraq as a potential check on the Iranian Islamic revolution, and as a stabilizing force in the Persian Gulf. To the administration, Iraq and Hussein now loom as protectors of Saudi Arabia and its oil."

Hussein's hostility to the Iranian revolution kept pace with Washington's.

Attacking Iran

In April—the same month as the unsuccessful U.S. raid against Iran—the Iraqi army began to attack along the Iranian border. The Iraqi regime avoided condemning the raid. In June, an Iraqi air attack was to signal the opening of a coup against the Khomeini-Bani-Sadr government but the plot was uncovered.

By June 4, 1980, the *Wall Street Journal* could report, "Already, there are hints that Washington is lending

covert military assistance to the Iraqis; U.S. companies are beginning to sell farm equipment and engineering know-how, and Western analysts believe that more of Iraq's oil revenues are being invested in the U.S."

At the same time, Washington was organizing an international economic boycott of Iran.

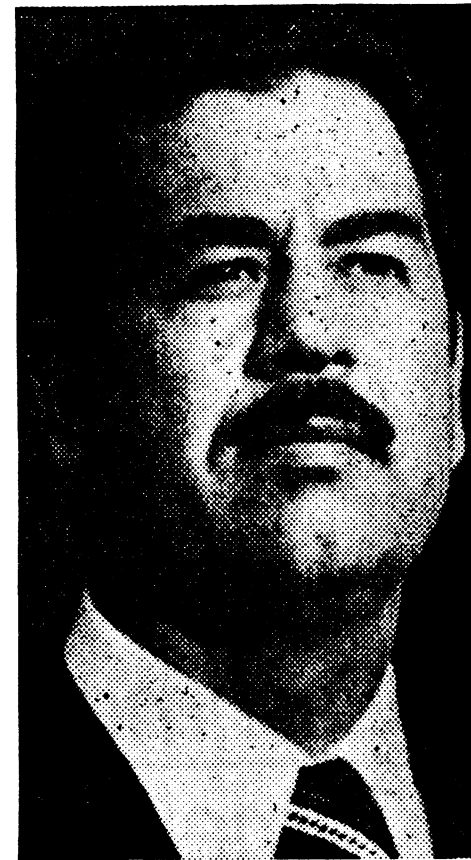
Hussein has given refuge and training camps to former secret police agents and army officers of the shah. Headed by Gen. Gholam Ali Oveissi, one of the shah's most brutal commanders, these killers are being organized for an invasion of Iran. Oveissi shuttles between the border area, Baghdad, and Washington.

Shahpur Bakhtiar, the shah's last prime minister, is also a frequent visitor in Baghdad. He has forged an alliance with Oveissi and has announced plans to form a provisional government.

For months Iraqi radio stations have called out appeals for the establishment of a military dictatorship under these forces in Iran. The same message is being sent out by transmitters admittedly maintained by the CIA in Egypt. The resemblance is unlikely to be coincidental.

With the invasion of Iran, Hussein has taken the ultimate gamble—one from which he will not be able to easily extricate himself.

One Iraqi official told the *Wall Street*



President Saddam Hussein of Iraq

Journal, "Our goal is nothing less than to bring down Khomeini."

Despite media efforts to portray Iraq as a great power, it remains a poor country brutally exploited by imperialism. The terrible costs of the war will only increase the dependence of Iraq and the poverty of its people.

There is no indication of broad popular support for the war in Iraq.

CBS reporter Larry Pintak reported September 29 that Baghdad's working people are stunned at the Iranian Air Force's daily bombing raids in which dozens have reportedly been killed. Hussein had promised the Iraqi people that this could not happen. Pintak said many wish the war would end immediately.

The blood of these people is on Hussein's hands—and on the hands of those in Washington who encouraged him to take on the Iranian revolution.

If Hussein falls short of his goal of crushing the Iranian revolution, the fate of the shah is likely to overtake him as well.

Washington's record of hostility to Tehran

Carter claims to be neutral in the war between Iran and Iraq. But his September 30 deployment of four sophisticated radar and communications planes to Saudi Arabia, along with several hundred ground service crew forces, is but the latest step in a pattern of U.S. action against Iran.

- As the shah's reign was falling, the Carter administration sent Gen. Robert Huyser to Tehran to try to block the revolution. "The purpose was to install a military government," U.S. officials admitted. Huyser drew up plans for a coup, but his efforts were stymied by revolutionary sentiment in the ranks of the shah's armed forces.

- In a carefully planned provocation, the ex-shah was brought to this country in October 1979. Washington had received reports from its Tehran embassy that such a move was certain to provoke a response by the Iranian people. Occupation of the U.S. embassy followed.

- On April 7 of this year, economic sanctions were imposed

against Iran and its financial assets in this country were frozen.

- On April 24 came Carter's aborted raid on Iran in which eight GI's died.

- In June it was disclosed that the CIA had provided transmitters for nightly broadcasts into Iran from Egypt by Iranian counterrevolutionaries.

- On July 10, Iran crushed a plot by leftover officers of the shah to execute a military coup aimed at re-installing former premier Shahpur Bakhtiar. Iran charged the coup was backed by the CIA. Washington made no denial. The "blueprint" for the coup, according to the *Christian Science Monitor*, included diversionary bombing of Iranian targets by Iraqi Air Force planes.

- On August 18, columnist Jack Anderson revealed that Washington had a "top-secret plan to invade Iran with a powerful military force" in October. Anderson said the primary invasion targets would be Kharg Island and possibly some of the southern Iranian oil fields.

N.Y. Squad 47 exposed

FBI goes on trial in DC for black bag jobs

By Vivian Sahner

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The long-delayed trial of two former FBI officials, W. Mark Felt and Edward Miller, began in Federal District Court here on September 15.

The two are being charged by the Justice Department with illegally authorizing "black bag jobs"—break-ins—into nine New York and New Jersey residences during 1972 and 1973 under the guise of searching for members of the Weathermen. The Weathermen was a radical student group in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Relatives of the Weathermen, one of their lawyers, and even casual acquaintances, all became targets of the FBI.

Miller, who served in the FBI for twenty-four years, was the assistant director in charge of the Intelligence Division in 1972-73. Felt was the number two official of the bureau at the time.

L. Patrick Gray III, then acting director, denies any knowledge of the break-ins. He was indicted along with Miller and Felt in 1978 but his case was separated and may never go to trial because of government claims that it might expose "national secrets."

This prosecution of government

agents by the Justice Department is an attempt to clean up the image of the FBI; to try to convince the working people of this country that such abuses are a thing of the past.

They have opted for letting some of the truth come out, so as to be able to cut short bigger disclosures about the crimes the secret police commit against the left, labor, Black, and women's organizations.

Caught in lies

Eight years after the burglaries, Felt and Miller are on trial because the FBI got caught in lies to Congress that the break-ins had stopped in 1968.

The trial, which is expected to last more than six weeks, has been postponed eight times since the April 1978 indictment.

Former President Richard Nixon, FBI Director William Webster, and seven attorney generals, including Griffin Bell, are among dozens of high-level government officials who have been listed as possible witnesses.

The government has given fourteen former FBI agents security clearances to help Felt and Miller prepare for trial.

In addition, agents and former agents have raised \$1.2 million in legal defense funds for the more than 100

agents questioned during the Justice Department investigation, including Felt and Miller. Felt and Miller are portrayed by other FBI agents as innocent victims of "post-Watergate backlash" who were only doing their jobs.

Like the Watergate burglars, Felt and Miller claim to have been following orders from higher government officials including President Nixon.

None of these higher officials are expected to be indicted. The government has decided it would be against "national security" to do so.

If convicted, Felt and Miller would each face a maximum penalty of ten years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

History of cover-up

In 1976 the FBI was caught lying when the Socialist Workers Party suit against government spying uncovered files documenting FBI burglaries against the Weathermen as late as 1973—five years past the date the FBI said such break-ins had stopped! The Justice Department announced that it would launch an investigation and punish the culprits.

This investigation was shut down by Attorney General Bell shortly after the indictments of Felt, Miller, and Gray. "The crux of the dispute," William

Gardner, head of the Justice Department investigation told the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee in 1978, "was the fact that there were viable prosecutions against so many figures. The Attorney General recognized this in stating many times that he had to manage the Bureau, but couldn't do it with their officials on trial so often."

In his opening statement at the Felt-Miller trial, Justice Department prosecutor John Nields, Jr., described how Squad 47 agents, dressed in casual clothes or disguised as telephone repairmen, entered the residences by picking locks or using keys purchased from landlords.

Then, he said, they searched every room in the home, methodically looking through desks, closets, clothing, and private papers for clues to the whereabouts of the Weathermen. With a special document camera that could be concealed in an attaché case, the agents photographed diaries, love letters, address books, and other documents.

Alleged foreign ties

Felt and Miller claim that the burglaries were legal because they believed the Weathermen had ties to Cuba, North Vietnam, and the Pales-

Continued on page 17

When unexpected company drops in...

WASHINGTON, D.C.—If anyone tells you the FBI doesn't burglarize people, read their mail, or tap their phones, tell them to drop by Room 6016 in the Federal Court Building in Washington, D.C., this fall.

There Chief Judge William B. Bryant is presiding over the trial of the Justice Department v. former FBI officials W. Mark Felt and Edward S. Miller.

Each morning the jury files into the left side of the courtroom and the two ex-agents sit as far away as possible on the other side. And one FBI agent after another is called to the stand and spills the beans about New York FBI Squad 47 burglaries.

They boast of how efficient they were, they could get through an average Manhattan apartment in thirty minutes flat and still have time to check between the mattress and photograph a Valentine.

It wasn't all fun and games, they pointed out. Former agent John Glennen complained on September 24 that some of the apartments had "ratty" furniture and "books just everywhere."

Glennen was an FBI agent from January, 1971, to October, 1973. Before that he was a gun dealer and today he is a high school principal. Although his FBI career was short he was still able to break into radical professor Murray Bookchin's apartment and had time to visit twice the home of Jennifer Dohrn, whose sister belonged to the Weathermen.

He was very unhappy with the Justice Department's use of the term "black bag job." When asked if he ever did one, he said "no, I did a surreptitious entry."

The Justice Department probably wasn't aware of Glennen's aversion, since it had lots of Glennen's FBI reports on hand, where he specifically used the term "black bag job."

Another agent who spoke on September 24 was Michael Kirshenbower. He's been in the FBI since 1969 and was in Squad 47 from 1971 to 1973.

He told the jury he was in a subdivision called the "garbage raiders." He didn't have to bother with stuffy suits and ties but got to "blend in



"We understand you tore the little tag off your mattress."

with the Village scene," and worked almost all night hours.

He still got to participate on the Squad 47 burglary teams and said he'd been in on about five or six.

One he described was in the home of Leonard Machtinger, brother of Weathermen supporter Howard Machtinger.

The key to the apartment cost a hefty \$50 to the doorman. Once inside, Kirshenbower checked out the bedroom, where he conscientiously "breezed" through all the books for clues.

On September 25, agent Bernard Steck took the stand. He started with the FBI as a clerk in 1966, while he was attending the University of Detroit in Michigan.

Since he was on campus anyway, he didn't hesitate a minute when the FBI asked him to pitch in and attend meetings there of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS).

He struck up an acquaintance with Lawrence Weiss. Weiss went on to join the Weathermen and Steck moved on to Squad 47 in New York.

Steck later helped break into Murray Bookchin's apartment hoping to locate Weiss, who the police were looking for.

The burglars saved the key charge by picking the lock, but were not able to find any clue of Weiss's whereabouts once inside.

Bookchin took the stand on September 25, too. He was not impressed by the professionalism and thoroughness of the FBI.

Bookchin is currently a sociology professor at Ramapo College in Mahwah, New Jersey. He's the author of seven books, including several on anarchism. He has lectured on sociology and ecology at campuses across the country.

He told the court he was surprised about the break-in since he wasn't a supporter of the Weathermen. But he probably couldn't believe his ears when defense lawyers showed him their xerox copy of his lease—which the FBI took out of his desk—and began telling him that he violated the lease by subletting his apartment!

Bookchin was spending most of his time in Vermont during February, 1972, when the FBI broke into his New York City home. Even though he had two or three locks on the door, and four window gates, he still had been burglarized and was considering moving out of New York City. Now he knows who some of the crooks were.

Another burglary victim, Frances Schreilberg, testified right after Bookchin. Schreilberg is an attorney and helped represent the Weathermen in a wide range of cases.

The FBI had questioned her about the Weathermen in 1972 and Schreilberg explained to them that the attorney-client relationship was protected by the Bill of Rights. So then the FBI broke into her apartment, camera in hand.

Prosecutor Nields asked her to identify FBI xerox copies marked Exhibit 11c. She looked at them for a few minutes and quietly told the jury that it was pages from her diary. "My father was dying then," she said, "I wrote in here about my father."

—V.S.

Over 10,000 rally to save Black schools

By Osborne Hart

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Marching behind bands and chanting "Save Black Colleges," thousands of Black students rallied on the Capitol steps here September 29 for the preservation of their schools.

As part of the "Black College Day" demonstration, more than 10,000 students from at least fifty of the Black colleges around the country participated in the day's activities.

The focus of the action—and a one-day conference at Howard University the previous day—was the maintenance and survival of Black colleges. With the exception of three, all 107 Black colleges were established during the Reconstruction era in the nineteenth century. In recent years they have faced cutbacks in federal funds and become targets of government plans that under the guise of "desegregation" have eliminated some, and threaten the rest.

Black activist Dick Gregory, a featured speaker at the rally, told the crowd, "You live in a country that gave Chrysler \$1.5 billion to build a car that nobody wants. But when you come to Black colleges, they act like they don't know who you are talking about."

Expressing opposition to war and the draft, Gregory said to cheers and a loud ovation, "They trick you youngsters because a group of old greedy men determine where young men are going to fight."

"One day, you youngsters are going to have to get wise enough and go over to that Pentagon and tell them that if old men make war, then damn it, let old men fight war!"

Tony Brown, host of the Black syndicated television show "Tony Brown's Journal" and the central organizer of "Black College Day" explained the importance of the demonstration.

"Why are we concerned about saving Black colleges?" Brown said. "In America, the primary means to move up economically, politically, and other-



Demonstrators came from more than fifty Black campuses across the country.

wise is a ticket called a bachelors degree. And where do we get the ticket?"

Answering his own question, Brown continued, "Only 30 percent of Black students go to Black colleges, but over 50 percent of the Black graduates each year come from the 30 percent."

Brown added that seven out of ten Black graduates come from Black schools, while at predominantly white schools seven out of ten Blacks don't graduate. "Over 75 percent of Blacks who get their advanced degrees from white universities got their undergraduate degree from a Black college," he said.

"The bottom line," Brown emphasized, "is: take Black colleges out and we will lose 50 percent of all Blacks who graduate from college."

Underscoring the significance of the demonstration—particularly during an election year—Brown concluded, "We have succeeded in making—for the first time in the history of America—Black colleges a political issue."

Part of the rally program included Black representatives from the Carter,

Reagan, and Anderson presidential campaigns. The three surrogates for the capitalist politicians were met with boos and heckled by the demonstrators because of the bipartisan attacks on Black education.

Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate Andrew Pulley sent a message to march organizers expressing his support in the fight to save Black schools.

Demonstrators interviewed by the *Militant* described the plight of Black schools.

Neil Hicksen, a student at Morehouse College in Atlanta, said, "Our main source of survival is the donations made by the alumni. We need governmental funding in order to survive, because you can't just go on donations."

Hicksen was one of a thousand students from the Atlanta University Center Complex who attended the demonstration.

"As long as the [Carter] administration acknowledges that we are here as a unit," Hicksen remarked, "they have to recognize our power and our

strength. Just look around. We are from different parts of the country but we are standing together for one basic purpose."

Michael Jarvis attends South Carolina State College, which faces the threat of becoming an annex of the University of South Carolina. He was pleased with the march turnout.

"This is the first one. And hopefully they will get bigger and bigger and better," Jarvis said.

Curtis Morris, from Cheyney State College in Pennsylvania, explained to this reporter, "It is easy to see discrimination at Cheyney State as compared to the rest of the state colleges."

"We have 300 people waiting for dormitories who can't go to school because of small facilities."

The faculty and students at CSC recently filed a discrimination suit against the state and federal governments. The suit aims to remedy the past inequalities that made Cheyney State College unequal in facilities and academic programs compared to other institutions in the state system.

Morris says that the cutbacks are continuing at CSC. Stressing the importance of "Black College Day" in the struggle to save schools like CSC, Morris said, "I think it should be done annually."

Militant sales

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Socialist Workers campaign supporters from several cities participated in the "Black College Day" event.

A campaign literature table was set up at the rally site and thousands of brochures, pamphlets, and buttons on the SWP campaign were distributed during the demonstration.

Thirty-six subscriptions to the *Militant* and forty dollars worth of Pathfinder books and pamphlets were sold.

Young Socialist Alliance leaders on nat'l tours

Four national leaders of the Young Socialist Alliance are now on speaking tours that will bring them to more than twenty-three cities across the country.

Their aim is to win support for the Socialist Workers Party election campaign, gain new recruits to the YSA, and to build attendance at the YSA's national convention, which will be held in Indianapolis December 27-30.

The four touring speakers are Kara Obradović, Agnes Chapa, Kathryn Crowder, and Richard Fawkes.

They are discussing why working people need their own political party; the stake that young workers and students have in the present revolutionary struggles in Central America and the Caribbean, as well as the fight against registration and the draft.

In addition to lectures and participation in symposiums, the four are also giving classes on socialism on their various tour stops.

Two of the speakers, Obradović and Chapa, visited Cuba this year and will

be offering firsthand accounts of the progress of the revolution there. They will also be showing slides of their trip.

Obradović, the national secretary of the YSA, was active in the California Black liberation movement before coming to the YSA national headquarters in New York.

She was a leader of the Black Student Union at Merritt College in Oakland, an activist in the Student Coalition Against Racism, and an organizer of speaking tours in this country for noted African liberation fighters.

Chapa is editor of the *Young Socialist*, and on the editorial board of *Perspectiva Mundial*. A native of Texas, she has been an activist in the Chicano and socialist movements since she entered high school. She has participated in the fight against deportation of undocumented immigrants and in support of the farm workers organizing battles in Texas and California.

A member of the national executive committee of the YSA, Kathryn Crowder was a San Diego factory worker before coming to New York. She was a member of the International Association of Machinists and represented her union local at a 1979 regional civil rights conference. She has also played a prominent role in the Southern California women's rights movement.

YSA national staff member Richard Fawkes is from the Bahamas, where he was active in the youth movement. He went to college in Washington, D.C. He is a past president of the Caribbean Student Association at Georgetown University and of the Washington, D.C., Bahamian Association.

For information on when one of these speakers will be in your area, check with the Socialist Workers Party/Young Socialist Alliance offices listed in the directory on page 23.

Actions against draft

By Joanne Kuniansky

Some seventy young Blacks and Latinos picketed outside the state office building in Harlem September 27 protesting registration and the draft. The action was sponsored by Blacks and Latinos Against the Military. A contingent of twenty-five went from the picket line to join the rally protesting the planned shutdown of Sydenham Hospital in Harlem.

A number of protests against the draft are scheduled to take place around the country during the week of actions October 12-18, called by the Committee Against Registration and the Draft (CARD).

On October 13, the film "No Vietnamese Ever Called Me Nigger" will be shown at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Cosponsors include the All-African Peoples Revolutionary Party, Columbia Heights Youth Center, and Washington CARD.

On October 16, a labor and the draft forum will be held at the University of the District of Columbia.

On October 17 a rally entitled "No Intervention in Central America and the Caribbean" will be held at George Washington University, sponsored by WaCARD; Tabor House; Epica; El Salvadoran Solidarity Group; D.C. Nica; and others.

The week's activities in Washington will culminate with a picket

line at noon, October 18, at the Pennsylvania Avenue recruiting station.

Maryland CARD held a picket line September 21 at the presidential debate between Reagan and Anderson. Some 100 people picketed.

On October 11, SANE is holding a conference on militarism, and on October 18 CARD is holding a forum on the draft, both in Baltimore.

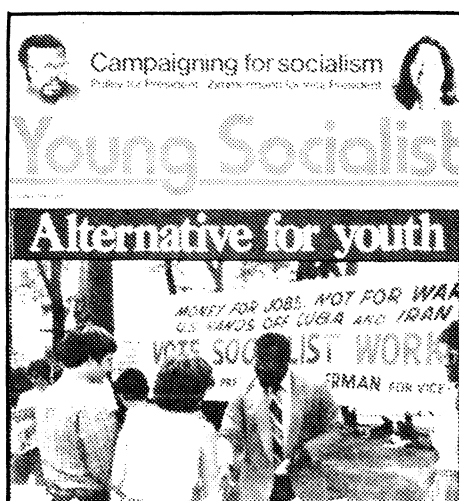
Iron Range CARD and the local National Organization for Women chapter in Minnesota are sponsoring a panel discussion October 16 at Mesabi College, 7 p.m., Room 87. Speakers include Peter Hartwig, a Vietnam vet; Rev. Bob Beck, the United Church of Christ; a representative from NOW; and a speaker from the U.S.-Grenada Friendship Society.

Atlanta CARD is holding a Rock Against Registration benefit concert October 13 at the Little 5 Points Pub.

Boston Committee Against Registration and the Draft will hold a march and rally October 4. Birmingham CARD plans a teach-in on October 17.

On September 28, an Indiana Statewide Conference against the Draft and War was held to plan further actions in that state.

For further information contact National CARD, 245 Second Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002. Telephone: (202) 547-4340.



The October issue of the 'Young Socialist' features SWP Pulley/Zimmermann campaign.

Caracas to free assassins

Castro assails Venezuela on terrorists

By Harry Ring

Cuba has withdrawn its diplomatic staff from Venezuela and stands ready to end diplomatic relations with the Venezuelan government.

The action is in response to the decision by Venezuelan authorities to free four terrorists who blew up a Cuban passenger plane in 1976, killing all seventy-three passengers and crew members.

Those responsible for the mass murder—Cuban counterrevolutionaries and Venezuelan accomplices—were apprehended almost immediately afterward and their guilt clearly established.

Now, four years later, authorities in Caracas blandly announce there is no "convincing evidence" of guilt and propose to let the killers loose.

Announcement of Cuba's response was made by Fidel Castro at a September 27 mass rally. The gathering in

Cuban counterrevolutionaries from the United States and elsewhere will hold a conference in Caracas, Venezuela, October 17-19, according to the October 1 issue of El Diario, a New York Spanish-language daily.

The most publicized participant, the paper reported, is Huber Matos, who spent twenty years in prison in Cuba for counterrevolutionary activity, and was released a year ago. He now resides in the United States and, according to El Diario, has been speaking before Cuban exile groups in major U.S. cities.

Havana's Plaza of the Revolution marked the twentieth anniversary of the founding of Cuba's Committees for the Defense of the Revolution.

Fidel harshly denounced the action of the Venezuelan government. He noted that the prosecutor who asked the military judges to release the killers had initially presented the proof of their guilt and had recommended thirty-year prison terms.

If the assassins are actually released, Fidel declared, "Cuba will consider that prosecutor, those judges, and the government of Venezuela to be the ones responsible for that monstrous crime committed on October 6, 1976."

A military court in Caracas is slated to take final action October 11 on freeing the killers. Apparently to demonstrate the even-handedness of its justice, two of the assassins are now being sentenced to four months and twenty-two days for having entered Venezuela with forged passports.

Both men, Orlando Bosch and Luis Posada, are Cuban exiles. Bosch was a notorious figure among the counterrevolutionary forces in Miami. He is a fugitive from the United States and, theoretically, Washington should be seeking his extradition.

Posada functioned in Venezuela, where for a period he was a ranking official in the country's secret political police.

In 1968, Bosch had been convicted of a bazooka attack on a Polish ship in Miami. He was sentenced to ten years, but paroled after four years.

He then left the country in violation of his parole, making him a fugitive. He entered Venezuela with a phony passport in September 1976.

In October the Cuban airliner exploded as it was taking off from the airport in Barbados.

Two Venezuelans—Héran Ricardo and Freddy Lugo—had boarded the plane in Trinidad and left it in Barbados. They returned to Trinidad where they were arrested the next day. Police in Trinidad disclosed that the two had confessed to planting the bomb en route between Trinidad and Barbados.

They said they were employed by a private detective agency in Caracas staffed by exile Cubans.

This was confirmed by Venezuelan police who arrested Posada, then head of the detective agency, and Bosch, who presented himself publicly as chief of the Command of United Revolutionary Organizations, an umbrella group, at the time, of counterrevolutionary Cuban exile gangs operating in Miami and Latin America.

The group took public credit for the destruction of the plane.

The four were indicted on the basis of evidence compiled by police in Venezuela, Trinidad, and Barbados, plus bomb fragments retrieved by Cuban divers from the plane wreckage in Barbados waters.

Fidel Castro bluntly charged that the crime had been directly organized



FIDEL CASTRO

by the CIA. He cited eight major terrorist attacks against Cuban officials in various countries that immediately preceded the bombing of the plane.

He charged that the CIA had undertaken these criminal acts in retaliation for the role played by Cuban troops in Angola in late 1975. They had played an important role in helping Angola drive back an invasion by South African troops.

Washington, Fidel charged, was "resentful of Cuba's contribution to the defeat suffered by imperialists and racists" in Angola.

Henry Kissinger, then secretary of state, issued a heated denial. He flatly asserted that no United States government agency had anything to do with the killers jailed in Venezuela.

A few days later, "officials" conceded to the *New York Times* (October 29, 1976) that both Bosch and Posada had been trained by the CIA and both had been used in various operations against Cuba.

Five days later, the *Washington Post* reported that the FBI agent attached to the U.S. embassy in Caracas had been in contact with Posada and Ricardo.

And when Freddy Lugo, who with Ricardo had planted the bomb, was arrested, his appointment book contained the address and phone number of the FBI agent.

In the past months, the Venezuelan government has moved into open cooperation with Washington's anti-Cuba campaign. Feeling the hot breath of the rising Central American revolution, it has joined in the effort to exploit the Cuban "refugee" issue and has sought to help stabilize Central American dictatorships.

The decision to free Bosch and his murderous cohorts came fifteen days after Cuban diplomat Félix García was murdered by counterrevolutionaries in New York. U.S. authorities say they are without a clue in that case.

A U.S. miner looks at Polish miners' strike

MARIANNA, Pa.—Miners in this country closely followed accounts of the workers' struggle in Poland during the past weeks. Particularly we watched the coal miners.

As the shipyard workers and other strikers on the Baltic Coast returned victoriously to work on September 1, the coal miners of Silesia continued their walkout. Angered by the deaths of eight of their co-

AS I SEE IT

workers in an underground accident that day, the Polish miners expanded their strike in numbers and scope.

Two hundred thousand were out now. They were fighting for the same demands as the rest of their class. And what's more, they were fighting for safety in the mines and a shorter workweek, for lowering the retirement age to fifty from fifty-five, for a union that was run by and in the interests of coal miners.

In Poland the miners play a strategic role in the economy. Coal exports provide 30 percent of the country's hard currency and is Poland's most important natural resource.

As a result, the ruling bureaucracy has granted concessions to the coal miners that other workers did not have. Inflation and the meat shortage affected the miners less than other workers. Miners earned double the average of other Polish workers. Owing to these concessions, the miners on the

whole had not participated in the 1970 and 1976 upsurges that shook Poland.

This time around was different. They joined in the battle and won the right to strike and wage increases as the price of consumer goods increase.

The Polish coal miners were not striking against socialism. They don't want Rockefeller to own their mines. They don't want Consolidated Coal or Bethlehem Steel to control their lives.

The Polish coal miners were striking for workers' control over production, for the right to strike, and against the bureaucratic parasitic government. And they won.

The contract between the United Mine Workers and the coal operators expires March 28, 1981. Throughout the coalfields, discussions are taking place and preparations are being made. Miners in Poland have provided an inspiration and example for all of us.

In the West the coal barons pay nonunion miners more to keep the unions out, but economic concessions will not be enough. The Polish coal miners were not pacified by economic concessions in their fight for safe and humane working conditions.

Nonunion miners in this country cannot be bought off permanently for a few dollars per hour. Issues of safety and job security will come to the fore.

The UMWA will be attractive to these miners in their fight for health, safety, and job security against the coal operators. The UMWA can provide them with the organized power that they need in their fight against the coal operators to whom life and limb have no value in their drive for production

and profits. We can organize nonunion coal and win.

As long as control of the production of coal lies in the hands of the tiny number of rich families that own the energy corporations, the health and safety of the miners and the needs of working people will be sacrificed in their profit drive. Coal mines and all other major industries should be nationalized.

Those who labor underground must control production. We know best how coal can be mined safely and efficiently. As workers we must control our energy policies through elected public representatives who defend our interests.

This battle cannot be taken on by coal miners alone.

We need a political party of workers, coal miners, steelworkers, auto workers, and all who labor for a living that can take on, fight for, and defend us against the ruling government of the Democrats and Republicans, the two parties of our bosses. A labor party based on the trade unions could shut down nuclear power plants immediately and put unemployed coal miners and rail workers back to work.

A labor party could defeat court injunctions and Taft-Hartley strikebreaking laws, which tie our hands when we try to fight back against our bosses. A labor party could take control of the country for working people. The example of the Polish miners showed us the way.

—Jesse McDonnell

Jesse McDonnell is a member of United Mine Workers Local 2874 and of the Young Socialist Alliance.

U.S.-backed regime guns down children

El Salvador refugees describe terror

By Seth Galinsky

PHOENIX, Arizona—This year alone, hundreds, if not thousands of people from El Salvador have come to the United States to escape government terror in their own country. Since January over 5,000 people have been killed by the reign of terror there launched by the U.S.-backed military government.

Over the Labor Day weekend, thirty-one Salvadorans were captured by the U.S. Immigration Service in Globe-Miami, a mining region in Arizona. They had crossed over from Mexico.

Some families in the Phoenix area, hearing about the case through the media or their churches, volunteered to front the \$500 bond and put up some of the refugees in their own houses. The cases will go before an immigration judge. Most of the refugees are now free, although some have not been able to raise the bond.

Most of the Salvadorans plan to request political asylum.

Josefina Otero, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from Arizona, and I met with three of the women who were recently captured. (In the following report we change their names to protect their families still in El Salvador.)

We asked Linda why she came to the United States.

"The situation is terrible," she said. "Shots from one side. Shots from the other. Every night you hear the fighting and in the morning there are six dead or eight dead. You see bodies lying along the street in the downtown area."

"I worked in a lawyer's office. I earned \$40 a month. A pound of beans that used to cost 35 cents, now costs \$1.08. Tortillas used to be three for 5 cents. Now it's 5 cents a piece."

Linda, Maria, and Isabel described some of the profiteering that goes on under the military regime. IRA (Regulatory Institute of Supply) are government-owned stores that are supposed to sell products at low cost to the workers and poor people.

But instead, the IRA sells large quantities to businesses who resell the products at a profit.

All three women agreed, however, that it was not the economic crisis or profiteering that made them decide to leave.

Linda told us the story of a young man who was fleeing from a patrol car one Saturday. He ran into a small cafe to hide. The soldiers opened fire on everyone in the cafe, killing many

people, including a little girl.

She also told us about a family that was accused of hiding a revolutionary. The Death Squad came and killed everyone. "One little boy hid on the roof, but they saw him. They didn't want to leave any witnesses, so they shot him too."

"The situation for young people is tremendously bad," Linda said with tears in her eyes. "My little girl is still there. One day she came home and told me, 'Mommy, I'm afraid of the police.' I asked her why. She said, 'because they go around killing.'"

"One time the police chief went on TV and said, 'I know that the people are blaming us for the violence, but it's not us.' They are feeling that the people do blame them," said Maria.

They are not always sure who is responsible for the killings, the Death Squads, the National Guard, or the police. But they said everyone knows, "it's always from the government."

Sometimes the repressive forces go to the Medical University and just shoot any students they see. "They think they're with the 'muchachos,' the young revolutionaries."

They described to us what happens to people who are captured by the government and later released.

"Sometimes they squeeze the men's testicles and stick wires in them. Or they cut off a piece of their ears. Some reappear without noses."

One young woman, twenty years old, was suspected of being with the muchachos. "They came at night. They cut off her breasts, and then they decapitated her."

None of the women we interviewed were members of a revolutionary group. Maria said, "I have friends in the BPR (Revolutionary People's Bloc), but I never joined. Still, I was threatened with death."

Maria marched in the funeral procession for Archbishop Romero. [Catholic Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero was gunned down March 24 in a hospital chapel. He was an outspoken opponent of the military government and had just called on the United States to stop sending arms to the military in El Salvador. Army troops and right wing gunmen attacked part of the crowd of 500,000 at his funeral March 30, killing at least 100 people and wounding 600 others.]

We asked all three what they would do if the "muchachos" won.

Their immediate reaction was, "we would go back right away, of course."

Big support rally for NIPSCo strikers

HAMMOND, Ind.—The packed American Legion hall here shook with the sounds of labor solidarity on September 25, as more than 700 unionists, many of them Steelworkers, rallied in support of northern Indiana's striking utility workers.

The strike, which began June 1, pits 3,200 production workers, represented by United Steelworkers Local 12775, and 1,000 clerical workers, represented by USWA Local 13796, against Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCo), which covers the northern third of the state.

The energy barons want to "push back the clock, take back the hard won gains the union movement has made," USWA District 31 Director James Balanoff told the rally. "These companies, these corporations, have never changed. They're out to break unions like they always have been. They've just got one idea in mind: how to get by as cheap as possible and make as much money as they can."

Balanoff sounded the theme that every speaker touched on. If NIPSCo's bosses can bring the striking steelworkers to their knees, every worker loses. "The fight of NIPSCo workers is not only their fight," Balanoff said,

"but a fight of the whole trade union movement. Their battle is our battle. We're going to be victorious, get that support, do whatever we have to do to win," he said to a huge round of cheers.

The highlight of the evening was the announcement of pledges from area USWA locals to "adopt" families of strikers to help the financially strapped workers. USWA Local 1010 at Inland Steel has mapped out plans for plant-gate collections as well.

"NIPSCo wants to bust us," Local 13796 President Jackie Becich told the crowd, "but with all our brother and sister locals here, they're not going to. They want to pit the clerical local against the physical [production] local, man against woman. It ain't gonna work. We're solid, we're united, we're unionists." The cheers raised the roof.

Negotiations between the unions and management were broken off on the day before the rally. The employers have stonewalled from the beginning, provoking the strike by demanding major takeaways in seniority, work rules, benefits, pensions, and medical care as well as pressing for elimination of the cost-of-living adjustment provision.

The energy monopoly hired the anti-labor law firm of Seyfarther, Shaw, Fairweather and Geraldson, which coached Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne's assault on public employee unions and Tenneco's unsuccessful effort to stop union organization at its Newport News, Virginia, shipyard.

Such outfits, USWA international treasurer Frank McKee told the gathering, "talk about 'union free' environments and 'right to work.' These are just fancy terms for union busting."

"We're not just battling NIPSCo," McKee said, "but every multinational corporation in this country. We have to join forces to beat them down."

"I can't see any difference between your [NIPSCo steelworkers] attitude and the attitude of those gallant copper workers out in the West," McKee said.

Pledging the full support of the international to the NIPSCo strikers, McKee said he was adopting one striker's family for the duration of the struggle.

A major stumbling block to labor unity in the strike has been the refusal of building-trades unions to honor steelworker picket lines, crossing them to work in NIPSCo generating stations.

"By God," Local 12775 President Fred Hershberger said to cheers, "we'd better start pulling together instead of being divided apart. We can't be used one union against each other. We've got to work in solidarity, in total commitment to each other."

McKee reported that USWA international President Lloyd McBride was attempting to reverse the building trades policy.

Hershberger blasted the utility for its rate gouging policies. Even while pocketing the wages of strikers, NIPSCo just received an 11.2 percent rate increase. "The company only cares about that dollar in its pocket, it doesn't care about us," he said.

"It's about damn time," the young strike leader told the crowd, "that the unions wake up and get off their dead ass and put this country back where it belongs. Not in the pockets of these multinational corporations, but back into the hands of working people." The cheers began. "And that's people like

you and me and a lot of other people." The hall went up.

The message of solidarity and militancy was loud and clear, symbolized by the standing ovation for Chicago fire fighters' leader Frank Muscare, who defied Democrat Jane Byrne, and whose union, in alliance with labor and the Black community, brought victory home.

"The only thing that beats them [the employer] is when you're united and stick together. We're back where we were twenty years ago, because some of our great labor leaders are affiliated with politics and this other stuff, so we have to do it all over again. If we don't get off our ass and offer all labor's support to anybody who's being stepped on, we're all eventually going to be stepped on when our damn time comes," Muscare said.

Benefits low; support needed

HAMMOND, Ind.—"We need support," United Steelworkers Local 13796 President Jackie Becich told the solidarity rally.

The forty dollars per capita weekly benefit for strikers' families isn't enough, after four months on strike and no end in sight.

Becich said money would go for food, clothing, house and car payments.

She told the *Militant* her local "would be grateful" for anything it receives.

"Any person who believes in the union movement can help," Local 12775 President Fred Hershberger told the *Militant*. Contributions, "large and small," telegrams, and letters would be well received. "If the unions don't unite, people down the road will be faced with the same situation we are in," he said. Contributions and communications should be addressed to: USWA Locals 13796 and 12775, 701 East Eighty-third Avenue, Merrillville, Indiana 47410.



Steelworkers picket NIPSCo. Other unionists are 'adopting' strikers' families to support the fight.

Judge rules against SWP

Texas socialists plan appeal in ballot fight

By Regina Dotson

HOUSTON—The Socialist Workers Party will appeal an October 1 ruling by Federal District Court Judge Fred Shannon upholding the Texas Secretary of State's exclusion of the SWP from a place on the November ballot.

Shannon ruled after a three-day hearing in San Antonio. The Texas Socialist Workers Party had challenged the verification procedure used by the state on the party's nominating petitions. The SWP had submitted more than 38,000 voters' signatures to gain a place on the ballot; 23,698 are required.

The Secretary of State claimed to have checked a random sample of about one percent, 389 names, from the petitions. The majority were ruled invalid.

But the SWP's federal court suit documented how this sample was tampered with by state officials. Names to be checked were incorrectly copied. Signatures were invalidated for address discrepancies with outdated registration lists. Other signatures were invalidated for no apparent reason.

At a news conference prior to the judge's ruling, SWP candidate for Texas Railroad Commissioner, John Sarge, charged, "We are being excluded because of the issues we raise and the favorable response our campaign has gotten from working people in Texas."

Prominent groups and individuals throughout the state have protested

the move by the Secretary of State. Heading the list of supporters of the SWP's right to be on the ballot is San Antonio City Councilmember Bernardo Eureste. Eureste is the co-chairman of the Carter-Mondale campaign committee in Texas.

In an article appearing in the September 24 San Antonio News, Eureste explained that the petition checking "was not administered properly. If you have a situation like this, you ought to exhaust it to the end."

Eureste said that he does not support the SWP platform, but the inclusion of the SWP candidates on the ballot is "just a principle. I figure it's something which could apply at another time to other parties—if another party were treated in a similar manner."

The same point was made by SWP congressional candidate Lea Sherman in Dallas. She explained at a news conference, "The centerpiece of the Socialist Workers Party campaign in 1980 is a call for the formation of a political party of labor to be organized by the union movement. The ballot laws in Texas are designed to keep third parties, including a potential labor party, from developing."

The SWP has appeared on the Texas ballot in every statewide election since 1972 in spite of the large petitioning requirements. A 1972 court suit by the SWP struck down state laws requiring candidates to sign a loyalty oath, own property, and pay a filing fee.

A 1974 attempt by the Secretary of

The News

Wednesday, September 24, 1980

San Antonio, Texas

Page 16-A

Eureste: Let Socialist Workers run!

By FRANK PATRICK

NEWS CITY HALL REPORTER

City Councilman Bern-

nardo Eureste, a state

campaign co-chairman

for the Carter-Mondale

ticket, is urging that So-

cialist Workers Party

candidates be included

on the Texas ballot.

Eureste's name led a

list of supporters on a

flyer claiming political

discrimination against

the party by Texas Sec-

retary of State George

W. Strake, Jr.

and checked every hun-

dredth name, as he

claims he did. The val-

idity rate would have been

64 percent," it continued.

Carter campaign, but

explaining that would

have been more than

enough to qualify.

"It's just a principle,"

Eureste said of his sup-

port for the cause. "I fig-

ure it's something which

CARTER BOOSTER RAPS BALLOT EXCLUSION

Eureste said he was

contacted on the SWP is-

sue before he was named

a state chairman for the

Carter campaign, but

that the two matters

were not related.

"It's (the SWP issue)

speaking to principle. I

believe in the principle,"

he explained.

Part of an article from San Antonio 'News,' September 24: 'It's just a principle.'

State to deny the SWP a place on the ballot was overturned in court.

In addition to the support from Eureste, protests have been sent to the Texas Secretary of State by officials of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union, the Houston Federation of Teachers, and the United Auto Workers union; by prominent university and college faculty members throughout the state; leaders of the National Organization for Women, including the entire Dallas County chapter; and Chicano leader and Zavala County Judge José Angel Gutiérrez.

SWP vice-presidential candidate Ma-

tilde Zimmermann will be campaigning in Texas from October 5-13. She will attend the national convention of NOW in San Antonio and will also campaign in Austin, Dallas, and Houston.

Protest messages demanding the SWP be placed on the Texas ballot should be sent to Secretary of State George W. Strake, Jr., State Capitol, Austin, Texas 78711.

Copies of the messages and funds to help continue to publicize the ballot fight should be sent to Texas Fair Ballot Committee, P.O. Box 61678, Houston, Texas 77208.

LA rally to protest ballot denial, cop harassment

By Pearl Chertov

The Los Angeles Socialist Workers Election Campaign Committee will sponsor a rally on October 11. The rally will protest Gov. Edmund Brown's moves to keep the SWP off the California ballot, and demand that Mayor Thomas Bradley's office apprehend those responsible for the September 20 bombing of the Communist Party's Los Angeles headquarters, and the September 23 attempted bombing of the SWP's headquarters.

The featured speaker will be Mark Friedman, SWP candidate for Congress in the Forty-third Congressional District. Friedman is running against Democratic Party Ku Klux Klan leader Thomas Metzger.

The fight against right-wing terrorism in California is linked to the fight for ballot rights. Both the SWP and the Communist Party are fighting their illegal and fraudulent exclusion from the California ballot.

This action by Governor Brown has helped to embolden the right wing and create the climate for the kind of terrorist assaults that took place on September 20 and 23.

Actions taken by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) since then have encouraged further attacks.

On Wednesday, September 24, SWP campaign supporter Jim Little, who was one of the eyewitnesses to the September 23 attack, provided the LAPD with a composite drawing of the bomber. But police admit they have not used the drawing to try to identify the attacker.

Instead, police officials have told SWP leaders that they will proceed no further with the investigation until they are given a list of the names, addresses, and places of work of the twenty people inside the headquarters at the time of the attack.

What the police would do with a list of campaign supporters was made

clear by the treatment given to another witness to the September 23 attack. They picked up a socialist campaign supporter from her job at the McDonnell-Douglas Corporation and held her for four hours of questioning. Police refused repeated requests from Socialist Workers Party officials and lawyers to see her because they said she was not under arrest.

The SWP is demanding that Los Angeles mayor Thomas Bradley open an investigation into the right-wing terrorism. Support for this demand has grown quickly. Within twenty-four hours of the incident, for example, twenty-one union officials attending the California State AFL-CIO convention signed an open letter to Mayor Bradley calling on him to use all the powers of his office to put an end to the terrorism.

But on Friday, September 26, Bradley and his aides refused to meet with

a delegation organized to present the signed statements to him. John Perez, president of the civil rights committee of United Steelworkers District 38; Al Belmontez, president of United Auto Workers Local 216; Linda Valentino, a coordinator of the Citizens Commission Against Police Repression, and co-chairperson of the Southern California Citizens Party; Donald Freed, author; Maggie Feigen, representative of the Socialist Party; and Rebecca Finch, chairperson of the Los Angeles SWP Election Campaign Committee, were turned back by a guard. They were told that no one would see them despite repeated attempts by delegation members to obtain an appointment.

In a statement released to the press after the delegation was turned away, Finch demanded an end to the police harassment of the victims of the attempted bombing attack. She pointed

Continued on page 17

SWP candidate debates Klan-Democrat

SAN DIEGO—For the first time in his campaign, Mark Friedman, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in the Forty-third District, was able to extensively debate his Ku Klux Klan-Democratic Party opponent Thomas Metzger.

The debate was sponsored by the Santee Chamber of Commerce and was widely attended by the media. Claire Burgener, the Republican candidate, declined to attend because he said it would "give Metzger a forum for his ideas."

The meeting was attended by a number of high school students who decided after the debate to support the SWP campaign.

Burgener's refusal to debate Metzger and Friedman has received a lot of attention. The Los Angeles Times has even editorialized on the need for Burgener to take up the Klan. In response

to this, Burgener held a news conference where he remained opposed to a public debate. Friedman went to Burgener's conference and publicly challenged him to a debate, asking him also to join in the protest against the attempted bombing of the Los Angeles SWP campaign headquarters.

One of the major local television programs here, "Newsmakers," filmed and aired a half-hour interview with Friedman on September 28. It included an extensive section on the need for a labor party based on the unions and for a solidarity movement to defend fired and framed-up workers at the big NASSCO shipyards here.

Excerpts from this television show, Friedman's debate with Metzger, the "Speak Up America" show, plant-gate campaigning, and footage with Pulley and Zimmermann will be incorporated into a one-half-hour video show. The video will be available statewide for

cable television and classroom showings.

The campaign has expanded geographically. A campaign and subscription team toured through the Riverside, Fontana, and Pomona area, campaigning for all the socialist candidates. They received a warm response at the Kaiser Steel plant in Fontana, where workers have been forced to accept a giveback contract. The major newspaper in Riverside, the Press/Enterprise, did an extensive interview with Friedman. And the student government and Black Student Union at Mount San Antonio Community College organized a meeting of 100 people for him.

New trailblazing for the campaign is taking place in the Imperial Valley, an agricultural center in California.

Meetings have been set up for Friedman at Chicano churches, on the campuses, and in the fields among undocumented and migrant workers.



Militant/Mark Satinoff

SWP candidate Mark Friedman.

Pulley hails fight against cutbacks

Phila. school strike sets militant example

By Andy Rose

PHILADELPHIA—"Your strike has set an example for working people across the country," Andrew Pulley told teachers entering a mass union meeting here on Monday, September 22.

"We don't have to accept layoffs," the Socialist Workers presidential candidate said. "We don't have to accept the lie that there is no money for schools and other services."

"If we unite and use the power of our unions, the way you have done, we can say no to these attacks."

Pulley and a half-dozen socialist campaigners got a friendly response handing out literature and talking with unionists.

Teachers seemed confident as they streamed into the Philadelphia Civic Center to vote on a proposed settlement to their fifteen-day walkout. With some 10,000 strikers present, the meeting approved the new contract by a big majority. Schools opened the next day.

Solidarity

The solidarity of 23,000 teachers, aides, and other school personnel, who all struck together with broad support from the community, was a powerful rebuff to the school board's demands to lay off employees and increase class sizes.

After picket lines of up to 1,000 strikers protested attempts to open some schools, the school board declared the system closed and made no further bid to bring in strikebreakers.

Efforts to pit the Black community against strikers fell flat. The teachers, with their demand for no layoffs, were clearly seen as fighting on the side of quality education for all. More than a third of the striking school employees were Black, as are sixty percent of Philadelphia public school students.

The turning point was a militant demonstration of 10,000 teachers, students, and parents at city hall on Friday, September 19. (See box.)

"The rally showed labor and everyday working folk and parents of the children we serve all banding together," one leading activist in the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers told Andrew Pulley.

Such a powerful show of labor and community solidarity with the teachers has "never happened before," she said.

Bill O'Connor, a striking teacher, told Pulley he had "never seen anything like that. We closed up the whole center of the city. Nothing moved."

Layoffs were the central disputed issue. Philadelphia Mayor William Green, a liberal Democrat, insisted on school authorities having "sole discretion" to axe as many teachers as they wanted for "budgetary reasons."

The city's big-business press chimed in with editorials calling on Green to "stand firm" against "squander[ing] money" on "unnecessary teachers."

Newspaper readers evidently had a different view. In the September 18 *Philadelphia Inquirer*, for example, every single letter to the editor voiced support to the teachers.

The settlement, while not meeting the teachers' demands for retention of a no-layoff guarantee in the contract, did block the worst of Green's attack.

Contract terms

All 2,000 teachers and other school employees laid off last June are to be rehired. No one can be laid off in the first year of the contract. The second year, layoffs are allowed, but only in proportion to the decline in student enrollment. Based on current trends, this would be far less than the number the school board has been trying to throw out of work.

Class size and teacher preparation time will not be altered. Strikers will be paid for six of the fifteen days of their walkout.



ANDREW PULLEY

Teachers had not sought a substantial wage increase and did not get one. There is no pay increase in the first year of the contract and a 10 percent raise in the second. Teachers' salaries progress in ten yearly steps from \$12,073 to \$25,960.

Classroom aides, secretaries, and non-teaching assistants (also members of the PFT) get less, with starting salaries ranging about \$6,000 to \$8,000.

Teachers that Andrew Pulley talked to were unanimous in rejecting school board pleas of poverty. "Education always takes a back seat, especially the Black schools," said one Black woman teacher. "They can get money for everything else, they ought to be able to get money for the schools."

"Certainly there is money," said

striker Bill Scott. "It's a question of what it will be spent on."

Pulley was told that nearly 10 percent of the Philadelphia school budget, around \$60 million a year, goes to interest payments to banks and bond holders.

"There should be an immediate moratorium on interest payments," the socialist said. "Education for our children and decent pay for teachers must come before the profits of the banks."

"There could be plenty of money for education, jobs, and social services," Pulley said, "if the federal government's \$157 billion war budget were scrapped." Teachers he talked with nodded in agreement.

"If we spent money on a better school system instead of a few military systems, we'd be in a lot better shape," said Bill O'Connor.

Grenada example

"Grenada—a little island of Black people in the Caribbean that had a revolution last year—finds money to expand education," Pulley said. "They got it by taxing the rich while they reduced or eliminated taxes on workers."

"Nicaragua finds money for schools. Cuba finds money for schools. And these are all poor countries. But in the richest country in the world, education is at the bottom of the list."

"The difference," he said, "is that Nicaragua, Cuba, and Grenada have governments run by working people."

"In this country," Pulley told

teachers, "the Democrats and Republicans alike line up against the workers' interests."

"Carter and Reagan claimed they loved unions and workers rights in Poland," he pointed out. "Where are they now? Where is their love for workers right here in Philadelphia when you go on strike?"

Green's role

Mayor Green had the support of the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers and the AFL-CIO when he ran for election last year. Teachers were angry that he had turned around and led the attack on their union.

"Politicians just put on an image when it's time for an election," said Bill Scott. "They say what they need to get votes."

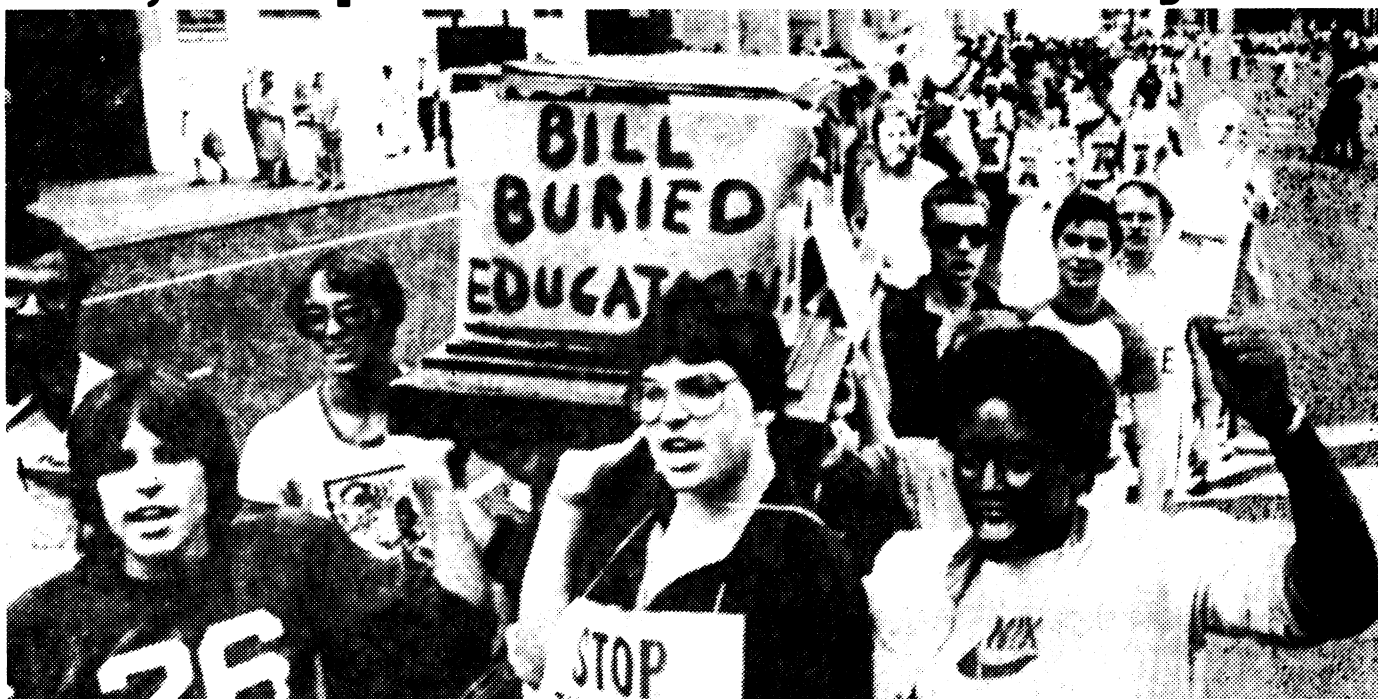
He agreed that support to Green had meant no gain for teachers, but still hoped that "maybe this isn't the whole story."

Pulley said he thought the strike offered a prime example of why the unions need to break from the Democrats and Republicans and form a labor party.

"That's how we can break out of this trap of putting people in office and then having to fight against them whenever our contracts come up."

"They need us to get elected, but we have no need for them. We can put workers in office who will support union rights, tax the rich instead of workers, and spend the money where it ought to be spent, on human needs."

10,000 protesters surround city hall



Students from High School of Creative and Performing Arts join rally to support teachers' strike. Mock casket protests Mayor William Green's efforts to cut back schools and fire teachers.

By Haskell Berman

PHILADELPHIA—Ten thousand teachers, students, and parents turned out September 19 for a militant demonstration of support to the three-week-old school strike.

The action, called by the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers (PFT), demanded that Democratic Mayor William Green renew serious negotiations and stop trying to lay off teachers.

School workers and students marching four and eight abreast completely encircled the six-block square around city hall.

Their slogans and chants included:

"Lay off Green."

"Job security = continuity and quality education."

"This is Bill Green's strike."

"No contract, no work."

A contingent of students from the new High School of Creative and Performing Arts carried a

mock casket lettered "Bill [Green] buried education." Some wore PFT signs that said "Stop the Cuts."

Students from Central and Girls high schools carried signs demanding that the mayor open the schools.

Teachers from West Philadelphia High wore orange T-shirts with the initials of their school on the back and "Solidarity" written across the front.

Students from Frankford High, wearing their blue and white football jerseys, demanded their right to play football. The demonstration began around 9:00 a.m. as 200 parents and students gathered at the board of education building. They marched to Fifteenth and Market, where at 10:30 sixty parents and students sat down in the street.

From then until the rally dispersed that afternoon, no traffic moved near the area of the protest.

By 11:30 the PFT members began

to assemble and contingents of high school students arrived.

By noon, all the adjacent streets surrounding city hall were filled with teachers, students, and parents. They marched around city hall three times, then rallied in the West City Hall Plaza.

Philadelphia AFL-CIO President Edward Toohey declared, "We are 100 percent in solid support of the strike. The strike will never be broken because of the solidarity that exists here today."

John Reilly, head of the fire fighters union, and Al Fondy, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Teachers, were also present to show their support.

Philadelphia Federation of Teachers President John Murray told the crowd that their action had already succeeded in forcing a renewal of direct negotiations. "This assembly is the best card we can put on the table," he said.

By Matilde Zimmermann

As we enter the decade of the 1980s, women's rights supporters find ourselves joining other workers, young people, and victims of racist oppression in a common fight for equality and human dignity.

We're frustrated with having to go to battle with politicians of the big business parties—male and female—who refuse to represent our interests.

We share with millions of others a common interest in challenging the political and economic system that gave birth to class, racial, and sexual exploitation and replacing it with a society that can lay the basis for our freedom.

How can we pursue these goals as we approach election day?

Women's status in 1980

Women today make up 42 percent of the workforce. In spite of this, the gap in income between men and women who work full-time has actually increased.

The average full-time woman worker earns \$.59 for every dollar earned by a man. The overwhelming majority of 46 million women who work for a living are still crowded into poorly paid clerical and service jobs.

Even in times of economic prosperity for capitalism, women did not enjoy an equal economic status.

Today, with the chaos and uncertainty of the capitalist economic system at its worst, we are confronted by a government that is trying to take away the hard-won gains of women and our allies.

Affirmative action plans that meant jobs training programs, preferential hiring and quotas—steps aimed at undoing years of sex and race discrimination—are being cut back or eliminated. Education cutbacks lower the quality of education for all working people and reduce gains made by women to win easier access to higher education opportunities.

The massive layoffs mean women, who are a high percentage of those just recently hired, are among the first to be fired, along with Blacks and Latinos. In this way, the layoffs perpetuate and reinforce sexual and racial oppression.

Black, Chicana, and Puerto Rican women are victims of a triple oppression. They are discriminated against as workers, women, and members of oppressed nationalities. All the economic, political, and social problems faced by women as a whole hit them especially hard.

Over the last several years we've faced setbacks to the 1973 Supreme Court decision that made abortions safe and legal.

The Supreme Court recently upheld the legality of the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits use of Medicaid funds for abortions, thus limiting the right of poor women to exercise their rights under the 1973 Supreme Court decision.

Budget cuts, war

The slashes in funding to social services being ordered by Democratic and Republican officials are placing even more economic burdens on women and our families.

Cutbacks in funds for already inadequate child-care facilities are one example. Today, more than 40 percent of women with preschool-age children have jobs. But government and big business have closed down or drastically curtailed child-care centers.

The United States government threatens military action against Iran and the men and women of other countries who are fighting for the same things we are fighting for here: human justice and a decent standard of living. The Democrats and Republicans approve a \$150 billion war budget while they close down schools and hospitals, claiming lack of funds.

They're trying to reinstitute the draft. Under the phony guise of extending "equal rights," they're discussing whether to draft young women.

The only "equality" women will find in that proposal is an equal violation of our rights by a government that wants to draft young people to use them as cannon fodder in a war to defend the interests of Exxon and the oil moguls.

At the same time they want to draft us, simple

Why women need a labor party



Chicago, May 10: National march for ERA initiated by National Organization for Women and backed by many unions. Militant/Susan Ellis

legal equality has not been granted women. The "yes" votes of three more state legislatures are needed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. The Democratic and Republican politicians who dominate the state legislatures of fifteen states still refuse to recognize women's right to equality.

Sexism and capitalism

Only the tiny minority who own the wealth in this country have a stake in keeping women down.

From their class viewpoint, it's profitable to have an easily defined pool of labor that is the last hired, first fired, and lowest paid. They know that when millions of workers are paid less because of their sex or their race, that helps keep everyone's wages down.

Billions are pocketed by the ruling rich because they force women and our families to take care of individual social needs—needs that society should provide to all. The capitalists make working people pay for the economic crisis of their system by cutting back on child-care facilities, hospitals, and schools.

The Democratic and Republican parties were created to defend the interests of the wealthy capitalist class, and to administer their attacks on the working class.

These politicians represent interests counterposed to the struggle for women's equality. That's why they make election promises to women that they won't keep.

Their class interests are alien to ours.

Reagan, Carter, Anderson

Neither Reagan, Carter, nor Anderson are alternatives for women in the 1980 elections.

Reagan and the Republicans boldly make their reactionary anti-woman, anti-worker program clear. Their campaign platform against the ERA and a

woman's right to choose abortion go hand in hand with their warmongering threats, and proposals for even more budget cutbacks in social services.

But is Carter the answer to stopping the program Reagan threatens to carry out? No. Carter's class loyalties are the same as Reagan's.

Following the Democratic Party convention, Carter immediately disassociated himself from some of the planks adopted in the party's platform. On the pro-abortion rights position fought for by women delegates, for example, Carter commented: "Since the beginning of my administration, I have personally opposed Federal funding of abortion."

Carter promised us the ERA in 1976, but he didn't deliver. Today he is no longer even promising the ERA. His is the party that controls the majority of the U.S. Congress that passed the anti-abortion Hyde Amendment. He is already cutting social services and jobs.

He has tried to initiate draft registration—possibly with women included. He is threatening military intervention in the Persian Gulf to defend the interests of the oil monopolies.

Anderson's class allegiances are no different. His devastating anti-labor program includes doing away with the minimum wage and imposing a \$.50 per gallon gasoline tax. Anderson recently gave us a glimpse of how much his campaign promises to women are actually worth. Although he has campaigned as an abortion rights supporter, he explained, "Would I lead a drive, as President, to repeal the Hyde Amendment? No. I don't think I would. . . . it seems to me the court has spoken on this."

Not one of these candidates would advance the fight for women's equality, if elected. Any one of them in the White House would be an obstacle to our struggle at a time when more than ever, women need fighters who truly stand for our interests representing us in office.

A workers government

Every political, social, and economic problem that women collectively face today is the result of the fact that the capitalist class that rules this country, and the political parties that represent it, have a stake in maintaining women's oppression. Only a government run by workers will place political power in the hands of a class that has no material interest in oppressing women.

Both women's oppression and the exploitation of workers are products of class society. Women and all workers share the common goal of replacing the system dominated by those who benefit from our oppression with a social and economic system that will lay the basis for our freedom.

This is what the Cubans have accomplished. A

Meet Matilde Zimmermann

October 5 - 7 San Antonio
9 Austin
10 - 11 Dallas
12 - 13 Houston

Campaign rallies

San Antonio: Sunday, October 5, 7:00 p.m., Crockett Hotel, 301 E. Crockett Street. \$2.00 Donation.

Dallas: Saturday, October 11, 7:00 p.m. 5442 E. Grand. \$3.00 Donation.

Houston: Sunday, October 12, 5:00 p.m.—Buffet; 6:00 p.m.—Rally, 806 Elgin. \$2.00 Donation.



Matilde Zimmermann is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for vice-president of the United States.

new life opened up for Cuban women when the workers and farmers of Cuba took over and began to run the country.

The Cuban revolution is truly a model in its fight to eliminate the economic, social, and political barriers to women's equality.

The workers government that came to power in Cuba in 1960 has worked with the two million member Federation of Cuban Women to advance women's rights and increase their self-confidence.

A mass literacy campaign was begun in 1961. Schools to educate and retrain maids were set up, as was a school for peasant girls.

By 1963, half the medical students in the country were women.

The 800,600 Cuban working women make up 30 percent of the workforce. Thirty-one percent of those women take courses in school, where women make up 44 percent of the higher education enrollment figures.

Cuban women have made important strides in leadership positions. They make up 40 percent of the trade union leadership and 46.4 percent of the leaders of the Federation of University Students.

Equal rights in Cuba

The family code in Cuba puts many rights for women on the books that are nonexistent in most other countries. It proclaims that women are equal in marriage and have equal control of joint property. It decrees equal rights and responsibilities for both sexes in raising the children and maintaining the home. It affirms the equal right to have a job or profession and participate in social activity.

An important gain for the people of Cuba are the child-care centers for more than 90,000 children, beginning as young as forty-five days old. Clothes, baths, and meals are provided, twenty-four hours a day where possible, along with free medical care. All this has been accomplished in a small country with meager resources—a tiny fraction of the material resources available in this country.

These gains have been possible because in Cuba men and women who work for a living run their country.

Their government has a class interest in fighting women's oppression, unlike the U.S.-backed regime in power there until 1959, which defended the interests of big business against those of the Cuban people.

The U.S. government has tried to black out the truth about Cuban society. They fear the example of a small island that booted out capitalist interests and is building a society based on human needs instead of private profit.

They fear what American workers can learn from the Cuban example.

How to move forward?

How can we move forward in the struggle to defend our rights and to build that kind of society here?

First, we must continue to build our own organizations. The National Organization for Women and the Coalition of Labor Union Women, for example, are important political vehicles for advancing the fight for women's rights. Through them we have

been able to collectively voice and act on our demands. Our unions and their civil rights and women's rights committees are also central in helping to lead the fight.

We must go on a campaign to educate all working people about the common stakes we share and the need for unity in the fight for women's rights. We can expose the class interests responsible for maintaining women's oppression. We can explain that women's oppression divides the working class, that it has negative consequences on the wages and working conditions of all of us. We can point out that our enemy is the boss class and its agents who consciously try to deepen the antagonisms between male and female workers, and between female workers, because that weakens our solidarity and unity.

The organized working class can be a powerful

A government run by working people will put political power in the hands of a class with a stake in women's equality.

ally in the fight for women's rights.

Women make up half the class.

It is the millions of working people—men and women—who keep this country running, not the wealthy minority that rules. Working people keep the transportation systems moving, the plants running, the electricity going, make the cars, and produce the steel. Without us, the country would come to a halt.

This is a great economic and social power that can be made into a tremendous political power.

Many women's rights activists have already recognized the potential of an alliance between the labor and feminist movements. Organizations like NOW and CLUW have taken the initiative to build a close relationship with the labor movement. Two outstanding results of this work were the May 10, 1980 pro-ERA march in Chicago, and the April 1980 national Labor Conference for the ERA. At this conference, labor and women's rights leaders explained the need for unity in the struggle to win the ERA.

NOW president Eleanor Smeal said, "We are allies. We are determined and we are working together for a historic common goal against an enemy that is out there fighting us on all of our issues."

Charles Hayes, vice-president of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists spoke, saying, "It appears that we've realized the necessity of togetherness in order to win our objectives. This is going to be a tough, tough battle."

"... the economic and political situation in this country today dictates the need for cohesion and union among people who have to work for a living."

Winning the ranks of the unions—and all the resources and political clout this will bring—to the fight for women's rights is key to our victory.

We must work to cement this unity in common discussions, political action, and educational campaigns.

It is also time to take a new step forward in the fight for women's rights. Because while they are critically important, the efforts of women's rights groups and the trade unions alone are not enough to win this fight once and for all.

In order to most effectively carry on the fight for our rights we need a political party that will speak and act in our interests—a labor party.

We have no such party today. Both the Democrats and Republicans speak for the interests of the class of multimillionaires and big businessmen who profit from women's oppression and have every interest in maintaining it.

A labor party, based on the unions, would run working men and women for office. It would explain that working people should run the country.

Fighting women's oppression would be one of its priorities, not a verbal promise or written campaign

platform that none of its candidates are responsible to.

Unlike the Democrats and Republican parties, this party of workers would have a stake in ending the oppression of women, just as it would have a stake in stopping war, racism, and unemployment. Its interests would be the common interests of the overwhelming majority of Americans.

It would put us in the best position to fight for:

- **JOBS FOR ALL**—Shorten the workweek with no cut in pay to spread the available work. Equal pay for equal work. A crash public works program to create jobs in order to build schools, hospitals, and rebuild the cities.

- **NO DRAFT, NO WAR**—No draft for men or women. U.S. hands off Iran, Nicaragua, Cuba, El Salvador. Eliminate the \$150 billion war budget and use those funds to meet human needs.

- **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**—Resumption and extension of affirmative action training and hiring programs and quotas to back them up. No discriminatory layoffs: layoffs should not be allowed to reduce the percentage of women, Blacks, Chicanos, or Puerto Ricans.

- **RATIFY ERA**—Full legal, political, and social equality for women.

- **FOR A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE**—The right to safe, legal abortion for all women. Repeal the Hyde Amendment so that Medicaid funds can be used for abortions.

A labor party now

The discussion of how and why to organize a labor party has already begun. The first step to forming such a party is to join this discussion to help to promote and influence it.

We should follow the lead of the recent national convention of the million-member International Association of Machinists, where more than 2,100 delegates decided to refuse endorsement of Carter, Reagan, or Anderson. They voted to "join with other progressive and liberal groups in our society to determine the extent to which grass roots support might be developed for an independent pro-labor party."

As Anthony Mazzocchi, leader of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union has explained, "I am not interested in electing an individual from either party because it doesn't make a damn bit of difference."

"We absolutely need a new political mechanism, that's a labor party. I think those of us at the grassroots, and those of us who carry positions... have to start now in every local union hall and on every level to institute a discussion of how this mechanism is to be created."

California NOW recently passed a resolution to support and participate in the labor party discussion.

Others can take this discussion to unions and women's rights organizations, and make it a part of the day-to-day political campaigning in the fight for women's rights.

A big task

As the Socialist Workers Party candidate for vice-president, this is what I'm campaigning for.

Building our own political party is a big task. The early suffragists faced a massive task, too, as they fought to establish that women's equality was a legitimate political issue. Like theirs, this task is an absolute necessity if we want to make political progress in our fight against sexual and economic exploitation. That is why it is the only realistic perspective for women in 1980.

The time for a labor party is now.

If you agree, vote Socialist Workers in 1980—for the only party whose candidates are working and campaigning for this perspective.





Monday, September 22, 1980

Profile of a Radical

Vermonters Turning To Socialist Workers

By NEIL DAVIS
Free Press Staff Writer

From apolitical to feminist to socialist was the evolution of Valerie Eckart's thinking, and now the Worcester woman, 29, is heading for North Carolina to attach herself to a Socialist Workers Party headquarters in Winston-Salem.

Often with her two small children in tow, Mrs. Eckart has been for several years an increasingly prominent figure at anti-establishment political events in central Vermont.

Whether protesting military draft-registration outside the Montpelier Post Office or peddling the Militant to fellow feminists in "the movement," she has tried to persuade others to believe that socialism would help cure a variety of ills.

She came to Vermont 11 years ago from Garden City, N.Y., and enrolled at Goddard College in Plainfield. She and husband Tom, a carpenter, live in an isolated country home with children Natasha, 1, and Jesse, 3.

Her political interest was sparked by feminist organizing in central Vermont, which resulted in establishment of a women's center on Langdon Street in Montpelier, and was intensified during the 1976 campaign in which she met the Socialist Workers presidential and vice presidential candidates at a Goddard forum.

This year, she has become a leading party worker in Vermont, helping to gather the more than 1,000 signatures needed to put presidential and vice presidential contenders Andrew Pulley and Matilde Zimmerman on the state ballot and hosting Ms. Zimmerman when she campaigned in the state.

In an interview, Ms. Eckart said she considers Vermont fertile ground for socialist ideas, because incomes are relatively low and "the people here are well aware of economics."

"As economic conditions worsen even more, as they will, people are going to start thinking more and

more about what is an alternative," Mrs. Eckart said.

She said she is convinced working for change within the dominant two-party system would be unproductive, because the Republican and Democratic parties and the national government itself are set up to protect the interest of those who already have political clout.

"Take nuclear power. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will never close plants because they're unsafe. The NRC is designed to protect the interests of those who own the plants.

"If your goal is to stop nuclear power, you can't rely on the government. You have to have a movement that acts independently from the government."

Mrs. Eckart's convictions are strong enough that she has chosen to move to North Carolina at the beginning of October largely because she will be able to join a well-organized Socialist Workers branch there and both learn and work more effectively, she said.

"At this point in my life, the inhumane conditions brought about by capitalism and U.S. foreign policy are of such significance to me that I feel there isn't anything more worthwhile I could do than to work for socialism," she said.

"I think other people will come to the same conclusion — not because of anything I can tell them but because of what they discover in their own experiences.

"I find people very receptive. When they hear the party's slogan — 'working people keep the country running, working people should run the country' — most people say they agree with it."

In North Carolina, Mrs. Eckart

hopes to find mentors and camaraderie, she said, both of which are harder to find in rural Vermont.

"I have felt a certain isolation, a need for education, a need to be with other socialists," she said.

Although a party supporter in Vermont, she never has joined the party formally — a commitment she intends to make in North Carolina, she said.

"In the SWP, you can have different opinions, but you adhere to the program of the party. It's the program that's important, not personality," she said.

She said persons dissatisfied with status quo politics should read the Militant, published by the Socialist Workers, and other newspapers with radical perspectives as a way to try to choose an alternative party to support.

"You can't get a good picture of what political alternatives to the Democratic and Republican Parties are available by reading your local newspaper, because the local newspaper has very little interest in what other parties have to say. People should read the Militant or some other alternative paper."

Although she said she has no anxiety about party membership, Mrs. Eckart said some headquarters have been bombed, and the party has a pending lawsuit alleging that the federal government engaged in improper secret surveillance and harassment.

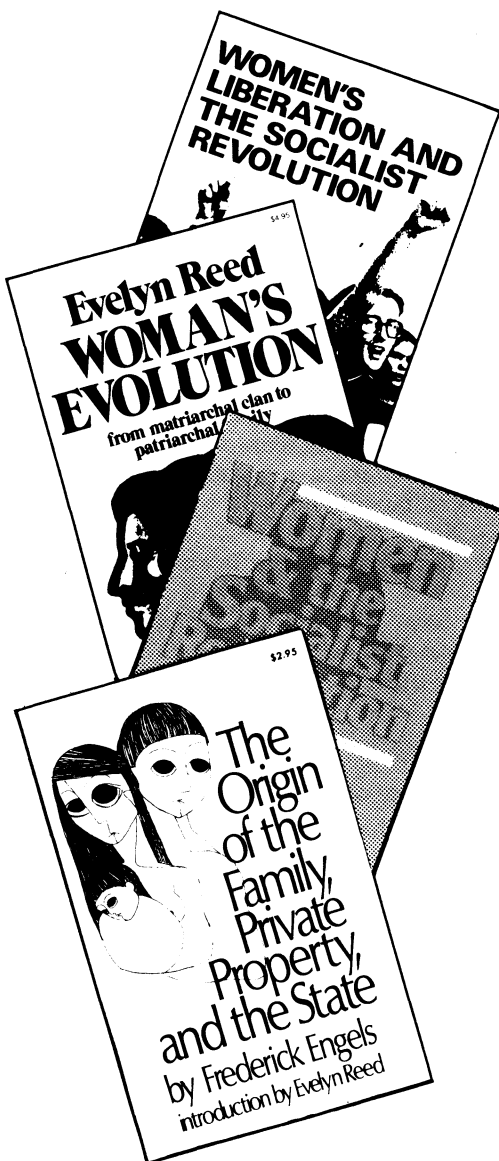
While collecting nominating petition signatures, she found "some people who signed were comfortable, but some people were scared.

"I'm an open socialist," Mrs. Eckart said, "because I'm proud of it."

Article above from 'Burlington Free Press' in Vermont shows spread of socialist ideas.

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Victory won in lesbian mother's custody case

By Chris Hildebrand

NEWARK—Enemies of gay rights are attempting to remove a judge who ruled that a divorced mother living in a lesbian relationship cannot be denied custody of her children simply because of her sexual orientation.

The Rabbinical Alliance of America is calling for the ouster of Judge William D'Annunzio of the Superior Court in Flemington, New Jersey. Abraham Hecht, president of the Alliance, said D'Annunzio is "aiding those who would destroy the institution of the family in America."

D'Annunzio's ruling came in the case of Rosemary Dempsey, a former National Board member and New Jersey state coordinator for the National Organization for Women. Dempsey successfully defended her rights in court against a legal challenge by her ex-husband, who attempted to gain custody of their two children, Christina, 10, and Edward, 11, on the grounds that they were neglected and were being harmed by their mother's lesbian relationship. For almost five years Rosemary Dempsey and her children have shared their Trenton, New Jersey home with Margret Wales and her three children.

Dempsey returned from a brief vacation to find that her ex-husband, Edward Belmont, had removed the children from her house after finding a judge to award him temporary custody. He then had Dempsey arrested and jailed for trying to take the children home.

Belmont, employed by Mercer

Chris Hildebrand is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in New Jersey's Tenth C.D.

County as a Public Defender, also charged that he could provide a superior home and education for the children in suburban East Windsor where he lives with his new wife, in contrast to their mother's Trenton home.

Judge D'Annunzio ruled that Belmont "didn't produce even a scintilla of evidence from which the court could infer that Dempsey's sexual orientation was adversely affecting the children." He said the children were performing well in school and were well-adjusted. He cited interviews that convinced him that both youngsters preferred to live with their mother in what he described as a "loving, though unconventional, family."

"Her sexual preference and relationship with Wales are only two of the many factors to be considered in determining the best interest of the children," the judge ruled. He added that "there is no evidence [the homosexual relationship] has adversely affected the children's welfare or their best interest."

The August, 1980 *National NOW Times* reports on a recent article in *Family Advocate* (a publication of the American Bar Association) which estimates that although 1.3 million lesbian mothers are currently raising children, when faced by custody challenges, a woman in a lesbian relationship retains custody in less than 10 percent of the cases. In 1978 the Washington state Supreme Court ruled that two lesbian mothers could be permitted custody of their children, but the court denied them the right to live together. The Belmont vs. Dempsey case makes a clear ruling regarding the rights of a parent openly living in a homosexual relationship.

The draft and women's rights

By Suzanne Haig

In February President Carter called upon Congress to include women in draft registration. Although Congress voted to register men only, the question touched off a major discussion and debate in the women's movement.

In March the leadership of the National Organization for Women published a position paper in the *National NOW Times* that stated opposition to registration and the draft, but argued for including women if these were reimposed on men.

It argued that a volunteer army that included more women would be a stronger army than one built through the draft. It asserted that women's role in building a powerful U.S. armed force would aid the fight for women's rights.

This position of national NOW poses a mortal danger to NOW and the entire women's movement. It threatens to lead NOW into an alliance with the very forces that are the worst enemies of women's rights and of working people all over the world.

The position paper has met with widespread disagreement by NOW members. The Milwaukee NOW chapter and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference voted against support for extending registration and the draft to women. Several NOW chapters are actively working with the growing antidraft movement.

Nor has the issue lost its urgency. A legal question mark hangs over the draft. In July a three-judge federal court voted the Selective Service Act unconstitutional for excluding women. The Supreme Court is scheduled to take up the case this fall.

At this moment U.S. aircraft and personnel are being rushed to Saudi Arabia and a massive naval fleet is concentrating in the Arabian Sea. Carter has threatened to use military force in the area to protect the oil flow.

Clearly it is vital that the NOW conference, taking place in San Antonio October 3-5, take a correct position on the draft and the military.

Role of U.S. Army

The question of drafting women cannot be separated from the role of the U.S. Army.

The U.S. Army is a killing machine whose function is to protect the property and profits of big oil and the other

corporate giants. It is used against working people and oppressed nations around the world.

Washington's ability to use this instrument of terror was dealt a stunning blow by the powerful, organized opposition to the Vietnam War. But today Carter is striving to reverse the antiwar sentiments of the American people. Washington needs to beef up the war machine so it can be used to take on the challenges to big business, particularly from the oppressed peoples of Latin America, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia.

The government needs to be able to use U.S. military force as a credible threat against the Iranian people. Millions of men and women went into the streets to bring down the shah, who made that country safe for the oil companies by torturing and killing tens of thousands.

Washington wants to be able to use its army to stop freedom struggles in Central America. U.S. military aid and advisers have been sent to El Salvador to help keep a hated military dictatorship in power.

Carter wants the draft for more effective blackmail against Nicaragua. There working men and women are taking the land and resources into their own hands, repairing the destruction carried out with U.S. planes and weapons by the Somoza regime.

Carter wants to roll back the gains made by the people of Grenada, the first free Black country in the world.

Washington also wants to escalate the pressure on Cuba, where the socialist revolution has eliminated unemployment, illiteracy, and malnutrition by throwing out the profit-hungry U.S. corporations.

Repression at home

The army is a repressive force at home as well as abroad. Carter threatened to use federal troops to break the United Mine Workers strike in 1978. Federal troops killed dozens of Black people during the Detroit rebellion of 1967.

Today Carter and Congress are asking us to sacrifice so the government can spend more on arms. That means more tax dollars for weapons of annihilation. And it means cutbacks for programs such as child care, education, medical care (especially abortions), and funds for the elderly.

The fight for women's rights puts us

on the opposite side of the employers, Carter, the racists, and the dictators—on the side of the struggles of working people, the civil rights movement, and the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America who are fighting for a better life. Our enemies are the same and our victories are intertwined.

But the NOW position paper proposes a different orientation—that women can and should improve the fighting qualities of the U.S. Army. That a "small agile person" is as good as a heavy one or that the person who pushes the button doesn't need tremendous strength anyway. One wonders, with this line of thinking, if we will also save the army money on pine boxes because we're shorter.

Women will not be rewarded with equal rights by the government for showing concern for military superiority. Dying for imperialism—the very system built on discriminating against women—will not bring us one step closer to equality.

Blacks and Latinos fought and died in disproportionate numbers on the front lines in Vietnam. They received no rewards. The vets upon returning home faced poverty and unemployment. Many were victims of drug addiction or cancer and other diseases caused by the deadly Agent Orange. The conditions of Blacks and Latinos in jobs, education, health, and housing have deteriorated since Vietnam.

Moreover, women in the armed forces today, like Blacks and Latinos, face widespread discrimination and harassment from the brass.

Carter and the media have tried to portray the U.S. military as an equal opportunity employer, a force for women's rights.

But the army can no more become a vehicle for advancing the interests of women and the oppressed nationalities than the police force, whose job is to intimidate and repress working people into accepting the rule of the rich.

Equality & responsibility

A major argument raised for including women in the draft is that it constitutes part of the fight for equal rights. This is dead wrong.

Being drafted or serving in the military is not a right. It is a violation of our rights and our interests. It is a forcible disruption of our lives, ac-

cepted on pain of jail, exile, poverty, or unemployment.

Equality of rights for the oppressed sex means the extension of rights and opportunities for women on the job, in education, and society. Registration and the draft would not be a new opportunity for women, but a new restriction on our freedom.

Women's rights supporters have never argued that violations or restrictions of rights should be extended to women.

Nor is drafting women a favor for men.

In fact, one of the main reasons Washington is considering registering women and encouraging more women to volunteer for the army is to put them in non-combat positions—traditionally "female" positions, such as clerical, nursing, and so on—to free up more men for combat.

It was in the interests of women and men that women were not drafted into the Vietnam War.

The issue during the war was not to extend the carnage to women but to build a movement strong enough to bring the troops home and end the draft.

Nor do women need to prove ourselves as fighters in the U.S. Army. Women are quite capable of fighting for something we believe in.

ERA means the draft?

Women need give not one ounce of credence to the lie that ERA will mean drafting women. That was what the opposition used to engineer the defeat of the ERA this year in Missouri, Virginia, and Illinois.

When Carter called for women's registration—parading as a friend of women's rights—he knew equating the ERA with the draft would deal a blow to the fight for equal rights.

The way to win the ERA is not to volunteer for the employers' war drive, but to join with other working people in fighting it.

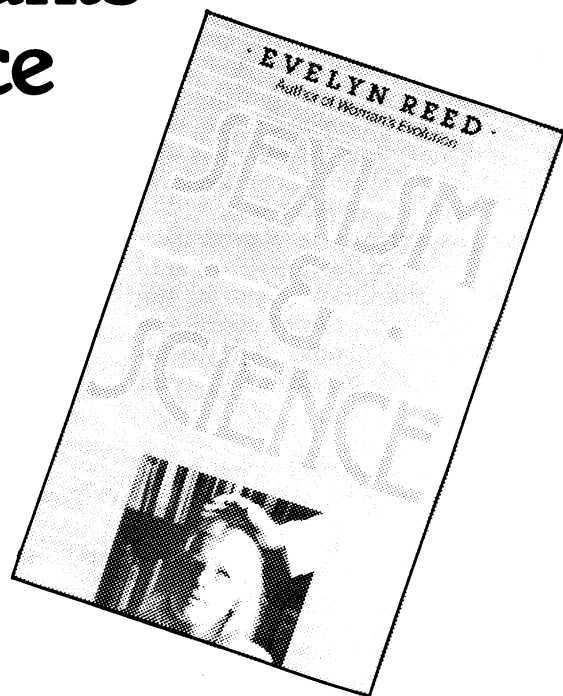
NOW can be the spearhead of the organized women's movement's opposition to the draft. It can be a powerful force in this society speaking out to say No to militarism and the draft and Yes to equality for women and all the oppressed.

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THE NEW WOMAN OF

The following article is taken from the August 2 issue of the 'Free West Indian,' a weekly newspaper published in St. George's, Grenada.

What kind of women will the Grenada revolution produce?

Will the new Caribbean woman be born out of developments on this little, controversial island—developments which began years before March 13, 1979, with the political culture inaugurated by the New Jewel Movement?¹

In today's Grenada, women are singled out as a category of nation-builders. National issues are addressed to "workers, farmers, women, youth and students." Public speakers preface their offerings with the salutation "sisters and brothers."

The courageous role of Grenada's women in the long and dangerous struggle against the Gairy regime is a chapter of Caribbean history that is yet to be fully documented.

But the list of fallen heroines officially recognised by the people of Grenada has, at the time of writing, grown to four. Women now outnumber men in the pantheon of national heroes of Grenada.

The two latest additions are the fatalities of this year's Butler-Strachan day on June 19. Laurice Humphrey, 23 and Laureen Phillip, 13, were killed by a bomb that was meant to wipe out the entire leadership of the country and whoever else happened in its path.² They have joined two other women honoured this year at the first festival of the Revolution, two fighting NJM women who died in separate, tragic incidents.

Many women were involved, under the Gairy regime, in the clandestine production and distribution of the NJM party paper. They risked their lives and safety by hiding the printing machine in their homes, typing the stencils or carrying bundles of the paper innocently concealed in the market baskets to be delivered at secret destinations.

Heroines of revolution

Edith McBain was a part of this network, hiding bundles of *New Jewel* at her home and placing them on appointed buses, which took them to contacts in the countryside. She died under the wheels of one of these buses, in a freak accident.

Scotilda "Scottie" Noel, an organiser of women and small farmers, was a foremost personality of the NJM struggle. She had just been persuaded to give up some of her important activities in the northeast to serve at the Women's Desk set up by the People's Revolutionary Government. She came for discussions which finalised her appointment to the post. On her way back home, she was killed when the car in which she was travelling plunged into a rocky river bed.

Among the honours paid to Scottie, were the naming of the *Scotilda*, a ship purchased by the Government for the transporting of agricultural produce to other Caribbean islands, and the establishment of the Scotilda Memorial



Militant/Jerry Hunnicutt

Women are in front lines of defending new society in Grenada.

Fund for the building of day-nurseries.

The violent and wilful deaths of sisters Laurice and Laureen have produced a reaction in Grenada that could never have been calculated by the setters of the bomb.

The role that these two women have played in death is perhaps more dramatic than the impact of any single event in the recent history of this island.

The majority of the casualties of Butler-Strachan day were women, attesting to the already high level of women's participation in the political life of the nation. The involvement of women and children in what is elsewhere seen as "politics" is reflected in the very mixed composition of crowds at rallies and other such gatherings.

In the first traumatic moments of the attack, it seemed certain that this would spell the end of mass political manifestations in Grenada, and surely the withdrawal of women and children from what had suddenly turned into a deadly dangerous affair.

But, far from it. Far from intimidating the "weaker" sex, the bombing has catapulted women in Grenada into a new consciousness, a new militancy.

Defiance, not fear

Injured women, interviewed in hospital the same night of the attack, expressed defiance rather than fear.

Asked whether she was not frightened by the explosion, one woman scornfully answered, "Afraid for what? I pick up a bottle. . . . I got ready to fight."

An 18-year-old woman, recovering from a broken leg, told reporters: "That still can't stop me from going to rallies. For as long as I have strength, I going."

So much for women being scared away from political affairs. The historic nationwide marches of June 20,

the day after the attack, brought out more women than ever.

Thousands of people marched in solidarity all over the island. In all of these marches, women were a strong and vocal presence—not only the stalwarts, but women who had never marched in their lives, bank clerks in crisp uniforms and stiletto-heeled shoes, matronly middle-class women, flocks of schoolgirls with books in their hands.

In the St. George's demonstration, marchers helped to support a young woman fresh from hospital, her knee and ankle having been badly injured in the bombing, but herself determined to be part of the solidarity march.

Women join militia

Women flocked to the recruiting centres set up immediately after the bomb attack, aimed at increasing the ranks of the people's militia. Reports are that the majority of new recruits are women.

Ironically, on June 1, barely two weeks before Butler-Strachan Day, the National Women's Organisation (NWO) had launched a campaign to step up the participation of women in Grenada's national life. One aspect of this campaign was to be the recruitment of more women for the militia.

The NWO, the umbrella organisation of the NJM women's groups, has set its members certain goals for the six-month period June to November 1980.

The steady progress of this campaign has now been dramatically accelerated by what is seen as the martyrdom of two women and by what women recognise as the indiscriminate aim of counter-revolution.

Some of the objectives of the programme are summed up in these slogans launched on June 1: "Organise all women," "Educate all women," "Build services for women," "Create

work for women and raise up national production."

The vanguard NJM women's groups have been charged with the task of organising Grenadian women into a "solid revolutionary force."

Education and mobilization

They have begun a programme of education for women through film shows, panel discussions, talks and cultural shows and through active collaboration with the Centre for Popular Education, Grenada's adult education programme.

Members of each group are selected to attend a current health education training course set up by the Ministry of Health and the Women's Desk. These trainees then act as health educators for their group and their community, tying in with the government's approach of developing a system of primary health care in the communities.

Another of the goals set by the NWO is to have every child in school. Women's groups are engaged in house-to-house work aimed at identifying all children not in school and trying to solve the problems which keep them out of school.

The provision of day care for pre-school children, like many other development projects in Grenada today, is being organised at community level specifically by the NJM women's groups. In their house-to-house work they also gather information on how many children need day care, and seek to raise funds to set up day nurseries. Community projects, such as the provision of training personnel to run the day care centres, get assistance from government.

"To undertake community improvement projects which would directly benefit women," is yet another of the NWO's goals. Members are asked to investigate the needs and wishes of women in their communities.

They follow this up by organising their sisters in projects such as the erection of stand-pipes, the improvement of local health facilities, the testing of children's sight and hearing, providing electricity to villages without it, improving roads, community centres and other community facilities, establishing pre-primary schools, and helping single women and old people to repair their homes.

In all these projects the pattern is for the community to assess its needs and provide voluntary labour and whatever materials it can muster through fundraising activities. This is to be matched by government assistance with materials.

This development has led to an interesting resurgence in Grenada of a Caribbean institution that is called by different names in the various islands. In Grenada it's known as the "Maroon"—the practice of community workers gathering to help a family in land-clearing, harvesting, house repairs, etc., to the accompaniment of eating, drinking and general festivity.

The last remaining objective of the six-month campaign also ties in with developments on the overall national scene.

Grenada is in the initial stages of a land-reform programme which will entail the establishment of farming co-operatives on idle lands bought or leased from owners. Women's groups have been asked to "help create work for women while raising production through co-operatives." They also assist in the current process of identifying idle lands in each area.

The NWO will also spearhead the organisation of women into farming, and agroindustrial and handicraft co-operatives.

Concrete gains

Measures taken at governmental level, in the interest of women, include the formula of a much-needed maternity leave law which has been put out

1. The New Jewel Movement (NJM) seized power during a popular insurrection on March 13, 1979, overthrowing the old dictatorship of Eric Gairy.—*Militant*

2. On June 19, a bomb exploded under the speakers' platform at a mass rally in St. George's, the capital of Grenada. The rally had been called to commemorate Uriah Butler and Alister Strachan, two Grenadian national heroes. Although Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and other top Grenadian leaders who were on the platform escaped injury, dozens of demonstrators were wounded and Laurice Humphrey and Laureen Phillip were killed. On July 21, after this article was written, fifteen-year-old Bernadette Bailey also died of wounds she received during the June 19 bombing.—*Militant*

GRENADA

for discussion before it is passed later this year.

Other measures are equal pay for equal work and a hard line taken against "sexploitation" of women in employment, which was rampant under the Gairy regime. The government is also moving to establish a national commission on women.

The new woman of Grenada will be the product of a changing education system which is geared towards equal educational exposure for girls and boys and a more conscious attack, through education, on the roots of sexual stereotyping than is evident anywhere in the English-speaking Caribbean.

The education system is aiming too at a greater involvement of the young in their community's life and their country's development.

Already, the young are having an impact on decision-making in the country through their very conscious, very vocal and very active student councils and youth groups. In these organizations there is no question of girls taking a subservient role—quite to the contrary.

Increasingly, the extra-curricular activities of older girls and boys in Grenada include voluntary community work and para-military training.

Today's motto for Grenadians— young and old, male and female—is "tool in the right hand, gun in the left" . . . production and the defence of the revolution.

The woman of the Grenada revolution is prefigured by the schoolgirl who, with equal confidence, will take up the shovel or the gun.

Grenadian Friendship Society leader speaks

By Andy Rose

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Since the revolution of March 13, 1979, the people of Grenada feel for the first time that "it's their country, they know what to do with it, they know how to protect it," says Don Bridgeman.

Bridgeman, local treasurer of the U.S.-Grenada Friendship Society, was a guest speaker at the Socialist Workers campaign rally here September 14.

He was born and raised in Grenada, he explained, and was active in politics there for some time. Now a resident of the United States, Bridgeman told how the Grenadian community here has been organizing solidarity with the freedom struggle on the island since the 1960s.

Most of his talk was devoted to social gains made by the revolutionary government under the leadership of the New Jewel Movement.

Describing the enthusiastic spirit in Grenada today, he said, "I don't know how many people you would get here in Washington to get out and clean the streets for free, or to repair the roads for free, or to be building bridges for free, or repainting schools for free." But all this is happening in Grenada.

"It's very encouraging to see everyone in the villages pulling together and deciding what *they* want to do, what they want to have for the village, and then *doing it*," he declared. "Not waiting for the government to do it for them, or tell them to do it. In fact, they tell the government what they are going to do, because they feel they *are* the government."

Health care is one area of dramatic change, he said. There are three hospitals on the island, and before the revolution "people had to get to hospitals however they could to get to medicine."

"Our socialist philosophy in Grenada has changed that. We now bring medicine to the people. The emphasis is not on the hospitals, but on building health care centers around the country where the people live and work."

"One of our greatest improvements has been to make sure health care is not a privilege but is a right and opportunity for the poorest person in the country."

"We are very proud that there has been quite some assistance from Cuba in this respect," he said. "They sent seventeen doctors. They have divided the country in zones; they have gone around and taken care of dental health, medical health, of those who couldn't afford it—for free!"

"Grenada is a poor country," he pointed out. "Rich people who could buy milk and provide adequate care always grew up with healthy babies. We find it important to make sure all poor kids are healthy too. With the

help of some other countries we consider our friends, one of our main programs is free milk for all mothers and babies who can't afford it."

Another major project of the new government is improving education. Bridgeman told of the Center for Popular Education, similar to literacy and education programs in Cuba and Nicaragua.

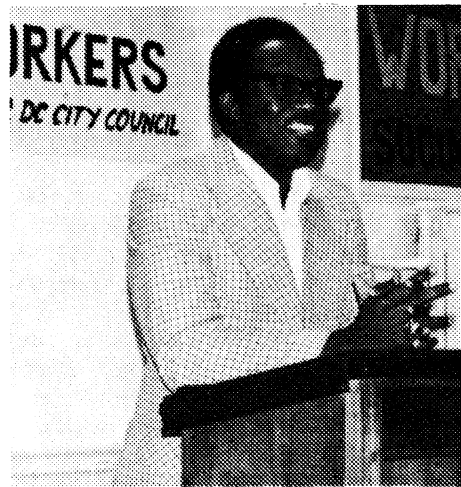
In Grenada's literacy campaign, teachers are "high school students or anyone who volunteers to teach a brother or sister to write," while students are "anyone, any age, who is willing to learn."

Bridgeman showed a copy of the basic workbook of the literacy campaign and explained how it aims to raise political consciousness. For example, he said, it teaches that "we are one Caribbean, we are one people, whether we speak Spanish, Dutch, French, or whatever. We are trying to build one community out of the people who are disadvantaged."

The new government has another program whose theme is "idle hands for idle lands," encouraging the unemployed to organize themselves and begin putting unused land into production.

Another especially important project, he explained, is "building our international airport, which will be a big help for tourism and for building our relations with other peoples." The audience burst into applause when Bridgeman announced that due to the great community spirit of the workers involved, "people working all through the night," the airport construction is now seven months ahead of schedule.

Finally, Bridgeman paid tribute to the role of women in the Grenadian revolution. "The most vigilant people in Grenada today, the most socially minded people, the most community minded people, the hardest working people, everybody recognizes, are Grenada's women."



Don Bridgeman, treasurer of U.S. Grenada Friendship Society.

... FBI trial

Continued from page 6

tine Liberation Organization.

The Justice Department says the FBI had no proof, and prosecutor Nields introduced a June 1972 document sent from Miller to Felt that said "no evidence exists at this time" of Weathermen involvement with foreign powers.

FBI records show that the telephone tap on Jennifer Dohrn, sister of Weathermen fugitive Bernadine Dohrn, was removed in June 1972, shortly after a Supreme Court ruling barred warrantless searches against domestic groups.

Break-ins at Jennifer Dohrn's home later in 1972 and again in 1973 are two of the illegal searches that Felt and Miller were indicted for.

On September 24, FBI agent James Vermeersch was called as a witness for the government, but much of his testimony was in support of Miller's and Felt's contentions. He testified that the Cuban Mission was "a contact point for the Weatherman organization," and that Bernadine Dohrn met with representatives of the Vietnamese and PLO in the late '60s.

At some time in the late 1960s or early 1970s, he claimed, she lived with a "Chinese communist agent" in San Francisco.

After making all of these statements, Vermeersch admitted that he had no proof that could be used in the court!

"Foreign power" influence has been used as a cloak by the FBI for all of the government's spy tactics. But it's the United States—through the CIA and FBI—that intervenes around the world, installing tyrants like the shah and sabotaging revolutions like that in Chile. Somehow that's not "illegal," but opposing wars like that in Vietnam or organizing solidarity with revolutions in Latin America makes one a target for FBI spying.

The possibility remains that the Felt-Miller trial will be dropped by the Justice Department on grounds of "national security."

The stage has been set by the government and press to abandon it if too much information begins to leak out.

A September 20 *New York Times* article describes the "conflict in such cases between the need of the Government to protect classified information and the right of the defendants to obtain and use all relevant evidence."

The government claims to be the victim of "graymail," referring to the defendants who use the threat of exposing national security secrets so as to force the government to drop the charges or settle on terms advantageous to the defendants.

The government has abandoned a number of major cases involving intelligence operations, including the perjury prosecution of former Director of Central Intelligence Richard Helms, citing this problem.

... ballot

Continued from page 10

out that members of the Los Angeles School Board, who are openly organizing racist mobilizations against court-ordered busing, are also responsible for creating the kind of atmosphere in which such right-wing attacks can take place.

The actions of the school board were sharply criticized at a public meeting on the fight for school desegregation in Los Angeles that was held in the SWP's headquarters on Saturday, September 27.

Participants in the meeting sent a telegram to Gov. Brown demanding that the socialist candidates be immediately placed on the ballot. They also sent a telegram to the Communist Party condemning the bombing of its headquarters.

The attempted bombing attacks have spurred further support for the socialists' fight to get on the November ballot. Pat Stanyo, a member of the

What they are really worried about is disclosures exposing the criminal methods used by the government. For them "national security" means protecting their "right" to do this and hiding the truth from the working people of this country.

In February 1979 the Justice Department dropped perjury charges against a former executive of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, Robert Berrellez, to avoid the disclosure of information about the U.S. government's role in overthrowing the Allende government in Chile.

"The trial of Mr. Felt and Mr. Miller appears to present even more difficult problems regarding national security secrets than those that led to the dismissal of the Berrellez case," says the *Times*.

The case floats on a "virtual sea of classified information," according to court papers filed by one of Felt's attorneys, Brian Gettings, a former U.S. attorney in Alexandria, Virginia.

These government cover-up attempts make the suit by the Socialist Workers Party against the FBI all the more important.

Just as the government must try to overcome the "Vietnam syndrome," they have got to overcome the widespread distrust of and opposition to the FBI. Portraying revolutions from Iran to El Salvador as a threat to American workers, they try to convince us that the CIA and FBI are necessary to national security and should be strengthened.

They have been pressing further bills in Congress to legalize and legitimize secret-police methods, and even to prosecute anyone who reveals the names of their agents.

SWP suit

The suit by the Socialist Workers Party is an important roadblock to attempts to refurbish the image of the FBI.

The suit was filed on July 18, 1973, during the height of the Watergate scandal. It charges the government with a decades-long campaign of illegal activities against the socialists and their supporters.

In the course of gathering documentation of harassment by the FBI and CIA, the SWP suit has uncovered hundreds of pages of evidence of FBI mail fraud, phone taps, and burglaries like those used by the New York Squad 47.

In 1973 very few facts had surfaced about how much the FBI had hounded Martin Luther King; that they had spies inside the National Organization for Women; or that they had been intimately involved in the preparation for the murderous police raid on the Black Panthers in Chicago.

The SWP suit has played a major role in helping obtain this information and has inspired similar suits by other organizations against the FBI.

United Teachers of Los Angeles; Henry Gutierrez, Hispanic Urban Center; and Larry Aubry of the NAACP all signed an open letter to California Secretary of State March Fong Eu asking that SWP candidates be placed on the ballot. Seventy labor officials attending the California State AFL-CIO convention also signed the letter.

Socialist in TV debate

Missouri Socialist Workers candidate for Senate, Martha Pettit, will appear in a televised debate on Monday, October 6 at 9 p.m. on public TV channel 19.

Pettit's opponents in the Senate race are incumbent Democrat Sen. Thomas Eagleton and Republican Gene McNary. This is the second debate between the three candidates. It will be held at the KCPT-TV studios in Kansas City.

'Money for jobs, not war!'

Pulley meets with Baltimore unemployed

By Andy Rose

BALTIMORE—The desperation of Baltimore's unemployed made national news just a few days before Socialist Workers presidential candidate Andrew Pulley arrived here.

Starting around 5:00 a.m. on September 15, more than 12,000 people lined up to apply for seventy low-paid, temporary jobs with the Social Security Administration.

By the time the deadline for applications passed at the end of that week, 26,205 jobless workers, most of them Black, had put in their bid for the jobs. Only 225 will even get interviews. Those chosen for the 70 jobs will be paid from \$7,210 for clerical work to \$11,565 for warehouse duties.

As the Baltimore *Afro-American* newspaper declared in an angry headline, "Who said we don't want jobs?"

"Anyone who believed the racist myth that Black people do not want to work would have seen this falsehood shattered on Monday at the Social Security office," the paper said.

Andrew Pulley's first tour stop in Baltimore was at a downtown unemployment center on September 19. Pulley, together with Socialist Workers senatorial candidate Geoff Mirelowitz and several campaign supporters, handed out literature inside and outside the building.

Many people stopped to find out more and to relate their own fruitless search for jobs. At times six or eight unemployed workers were gathered around talking with Pulley.

Media attention

The campaign stop had been announced to the news media and a steady stream of reporters and camera crews came by throughout the morning. Pulley's campaigning was reported on two television stations that evening, prominently featured in the next morning's Baltimore *Sun*, and carried on numerous radio stations.

Many of those we met were laid-off steelworkers or longshore workers. Some were young people just out of high school or college and looking for their first full-time job.

Not a single person we talked to expressed any confidence that Carter, Reagan, or Anderson had the answer to unemployment. Scorn was the most common attitude toward the Democratic and Republican candidates.

"The whole country is messed up," said a middle-aged longshore worker, one of the few whites we encountered. "Carter and Reagan are both on the same level, and they've got everybody else down where they want them."

He had never filed for unemploy-



Militant/Andy Rose

Socialist Workers presidential candidate Andrew Pulley, left, talks with workers outside Baltimore unemployment center. He found no one who thought Carter, Reagan, or Anderson had answer to jobs crisis.

ment benefits before. He had been "ashamed to," he said. Now he had no choice.

One young Black worker's anger built up visibly as he talked. "Nothing's going to be done with all this legislation," he said. "People have got to wake up and start taking what they need. The war is going to be right here in the United States, in my opinion. Like in Miami, that's what's going to have to happen. Collectively. Not just in spurts, but all together, all at once."

'Everybody could be working'

"Unemployment is completely preventable," Pulley told workers. "We could have full employment in this country. Everybody could be working."

"All you've got to do is look at the inner city and see the raggedy housing, the worn-out bridges, the potholes, and everything else that needs to be corrected. There is lots of work to do."

"Yet the government won't allocate the funds to solve these problems. It prefers to spend \$157 billion for the military and the CIA."

"We say the billions that are wasted on war and preparation for war should be used instead to provide jobs and solve our domestic problems."

Pulley said the politicians and news media "want us to blame all our problems on foreigners—Japanese, Iranians, Arabs, Cubans. But my gripe is not with the Japanese; it's with the

American billionaires.

"When I got laid off, it wasn't a Japanese that laid me off. No, it was a red-blooded American, acting on behalf of the American billionaires."

The socialist candidate charged that neither Democrats nor Republicans "have any plan to end unemployment. They only have plans to make life easier for big business by giving them more tax cuts. They claim the way we can get jobs is for business to make lots of profits."

"The fact is, big business made record profits after the 1974-75 recession, yet they didn't employ everyone. Even during the boom, unemployment was 6 or 7 percent. Working people never recovered from the last recession."

"Our view," the socialist candidate continued, "is that regardless of how profits are affected, the needs of the majority of people should come first."

"The government should pay every unemployed person benefits equal to union wages. You didn't choose to be unemployed. You shouldn't be subjected to poverty and misery because the system can't provide a job for you."

"Second, we should shorten the hours of work from forty to thirty with no reduction in pay."

"Third, these industries like auto, steel, energy, and others have proved themselves incapable of even keeping

their past work force working, much less providing jobs for the millions of unemployed. Human needs must come first. These industries should become public property. They should be nationalized and run to provide jobs and meet society's needs."

One of the people Pulley met was a Black woman steelworker who had been laid off by U.S. Steel in Pittsburgh and had been in Baltimore since July.

"We have something in common," Pulley told her. "I'm laid off from U.S. Steel too—in Gary, Indiana."

She liked the idea of nationalizing the steel industry, because "steel mills are needed so much."

A nurse who had just been fired from her job at Johns Hopkins thought the shorter workweek "makes sense, but I don't think it will go through. They're not going to let you work thirty hours and pay you for forty."

In general we found no disagreement with the socialist proposals for providing jobs, but a lot of skepticism about whether they could be won. A few workers were bitter over the failure of their unions to defend them against flagrant discrimination or injustice in the loss of their jobs. They found it hard to imagine the unions organizing a real fight.

But heads nodded when Pulley pointed to the example of the Polish

Vietnam vet 'disgusted' with election choice

BALTIMORE—One of the workers Andrew Pulley talked with at a major unemployment center here was a Black army veteran who served in Vietnam for seventeen months.

"As soon as I came out of the service in 1970 I couldn't find a job," he told Pulley. "Oh, I had a few jobs, just something to make ends meet, but really no good job. You know, \$3.10, \$3.40 [an hour], but nothing to pay bills on."

"A guy I know went to get a job, and the minute he mentioned that he was a Vietnam veteran, the company didn't even want to talk to him. He said they acted like all Vietnam veterans are nuts or something, especially combat veterans. They turned away from him right away, told him they didn't have anything."

"I volunteered, you know, right after I got out of high school. But if I

was eighteen or nineteen years old now, I wouldn't sign up [for the draft]. I wouldn't do it. They would have to come and get me."

"Because right now, it seems to me it's not worth anything. You don't even know what you're fighting for. When I was in Vietnam—I didn't volunteer, they sent me over—I don't know what I was over there for."

"You were there because they told you to go," Pulley responded. "To put down average people like you and me who were fighting to get control of their own country and run it the way they pleased."

The vet explained that he had gotten a letter telling him to report for tests on whether he had been affected by Agent Orange, the deadly chemical Washington used as a herbicide over much of Vietnam. Now thousands of vets are dying of cancer from their exposure to the poison.

"But the day they told me to come

out for these tests, I had a job interview, so to me that was more important. I'm buying my home, and I didn't want to lose that. But they said if I didn't come that particular day, they wouldn't give me the tests. I called back and they told me to just forget about it."

"And I didn't get the job, either."

The vet said he had voted for Carter in 1976. "Matter of fact, I campaigned for him." He wouldn't do it again.

"I've been voting ever since I was old enough, but this last election I was just so disgusted I didn't even go vote."

"They say Carter is better than Reagan, but to me neither one of them is about nothing. They put who they want to in there, regardless of who's running. I bet you Jimmy Carter's going to get elected again. It's a system."

Pulley responded that "the key

thing is to build a movement, to build the kind of party that can achieve victory one day."

"I know they say your vote counts," the vet said, "but what's the use of voting if it doesn't mean anything?"

"It only counts if you vote for the candidate and the party with policies that represent you, whether they win this election or not," Pulley said. "It doesn't count if you vote for the people who are responsible for your problems."

"Carter and Reagan claim to represent all the people," the socialist candidate pointed out. "That's impossible. You can't represent the slave and the slavemaster. You can't represent Exxon and the victims of Exxon. You can't represent General Motors and the auto workers laid off by General Motors."

"That's why we've got to have a labor party."

—A.R.

Md. socialist: Two-party swindle sabotages labor's fight for jobs

workers. "Their struggle shows that if workers organize and unite, no force on earth can stop us," the socialist candidate said.

"We're going to have to organize ourselves to get control of things in this country. We need a labor party, based on the unions, based on the strength of the oppressed. So working people can move to take power in the country and get these problems solved. Nobody else is going to do it."

Lesser evil?

One worker asked whether Pulley's campaign would enhance Reagan's chances of being elected. "Aren't you just helping to put the worse of two evils in office?"

"It doesn't matter at all which one of those characters wins," Pulley replied.

"When Reagan was governor of California, he was no better and no worse than the present character, [Gov. Edmund] Brown. They represent the same thing in reality.

"Brown, a liberal Democrat, has taken the axe to school budgets, laid off thousands of people, worsened education. He just ruled our party off the ballot, violating the law and our constitutional rights. He's just as much a dog as this right-wing Republican Reagan.

"This is the trick of the super-rich. Every four years they bring before us a choice between what appears to be an evil and a worse evil.

"On the surface of what they say, Reagan says some things that sound worse than Carter. But what is decisive is what they do. And what Carter is doing is exactly what Reagan is talking about doing.

"He's preventing desegregation from being implemented. He's cutting back on jobs, welfare, Social Security, health care. And he's expanding the military budget.

"The fact is the super-rich use both the Democratic and Republican parties to benefit themselves and keep us confused. Every four years, when we become disenchanted or opposed to the policies of one party, we have the option of voting for the other party—which they also control.

"We have to get out of this trick bag, get out of this framework. We have to begin to organize our own party, a labor party.

"The only real choice in November is between myself, representing working people, and Reagan, Carter, or Anderson, who all represent the billionaires."

The following are excerpts from a talk given by Geoff Mirelowitz to the Socialist Workers campaign rally in Baltimore on September 20. Mirelowitz, a laid-off steelworker at Bethlehem Steel's Sparrows Point complex, is Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from Maryland.

The answer to unemployment is not a secret and it is not complicated. Although from listening to Carter, Reagan, and Anderson you would think it was very complicated.

First, shorten the workweek to thirty hours with no cut in pay to spread the work to all those who want jobs. While we're at it we should end mandatory overtime.

Second, start a public works program. Rebuild the schools that are so run down in the cities. Build some day care centers so women can work. Build new hospitals. Create a real mass transit system.

Third, nationalize the big corporations, starting with the oil companies and including auto, steel, railroads, and every company that is putting people out of work. Put these businesses under public ownership, with elected boards to manage them out in the open where we can see all the decisions, and with production in the factories under control of the workers themselves.

You won't hear these simple proposals from Carter, Reagan, or Anderson.



GEOFF MIRELOWITZ

Or from any other Democratic or Republican politicians. And that is for a simple reason.

Political parties represent classes in society. Both the Democratic and Republican parties represent the owners of Exxon, Texaco, General Motors, Bethlehem Steel, and the other corporations.

This class—which owns the vast wealth of this nation and much of the world, wealth that we produce through our work—is only interested in one thing, their own profits. The Democrats and Republicans are in business to protect those profit interests, and they do a good job.

What about the other class? The 26,000 who went down to the Social Security Administration? The millions of others who work or want to work?

The companies and their mouthpieces don't like to hear talk about the working class in this country. They try to divide us. They give some of us a job and pay us a little more to try to make us believe we're "middle class." They discriminate against Blacks and Latinos and women. Even when we're unemployed, they give some of us benefits they don't give to others, in order to divide us further.

But the millions who work for a living have more in common with each other than we will ever have with the employers or their politicians.

No steelworker will ever own Sparrows Point under American capitalism. No auto worker will ever own General Motors.

No oil worker will ever own Exxon.



Militant/Dennis Scarla

April 26, 1975—The first and so far only national jobs protest ever organized by AFL-CIO. Union officials rely on promises from Democratic politicians instead of mobilizing power of union ranks, Mirelowitz said.

And none of us will ever be represented by their politicians.

Individually we don't have a lot of power. On an individual basis, about the best we can do to deal with the recession is go out and get on line and compete with each other for the few jobs that are around.

But together as a class we have more power in our hands than many of us realize. We don't have to start from scratch. The trade unions represent millions of workers. And in those unions lies the potential power to change everything.

The unions already stand in favor of many of the solutions to unemployment. The Steelworkers and Auto Workers have favored the shorter workweek for years. The Machinists stand opposed to the draft and for cutting the war budget and putting the money into human needs. More and more unions are for nationalizing the oil companies.

The problem is not that the unions haven't thought of the ideas. The problem is that the unions are not yet fighting for these solutions.

What we need today cannot be fought for only on the shop floor or through contract negotiations, the traditional province of the unions. The recession has already kicked millions of workers off the shop floor.

Our unions have to take political action.

The economic crisis is discussed and debated by the rulers' candidates every day. But working class solutions are not put forward.

Because when the unions endorse Carter, they endorse his program, he doesn't endorse ours.

So the shorter workweek is not proposed.

Nationalization is not proposed.

Cutting the war budget is not proposed.

Machinists point way

A couple of weeks ago, the Machinists union took an important step. They voted not to endorse Carter, Reagan, or Anderson. Instead, they passed a resolution to explore the idea of a labor party.

That is what is needed, a labor party. A party of workers with a labor program, running candidates who are workers, using union power to advance our interests in politics.

The moment our unions start to do this, something fundamental will change. Labor's program for jobs will be in the news, at the center of debate. Not ignored as it is now.

More is at stake than just running in

the elections. A lot more. A labor party could lead a real fight for jobs, one that would not end on election day.

What we saw this past week was a demonstration of 26,000 people for jobs. No one organized it. But 26,000 people on their own, each as an individual, got out of bed early and stood on line to try to get work.

Thousands in this city and millions across the country put tremendous energy into looking for work every day. The energy is there. Powerful unions already exist with resources for organizing this energy.

What would happen if we put this energy and those resources together—behind a labor party?

Not to ask for jobs.

Not to beg for jobs.

Not to hope for jobs.

But to demand jobs!

Movement of the majority

In the plants and in the streets, we could organize a movement of the majority, through demonstrations, pickets, rallies, and strikes—the traditional methods of the labor movement that have won us everything we have.

What prevents us from doing this today is that our unions are tied to the Democratic Party. And the Democrats don't want to see this kind of labor fight for jobs.

Our union officials trade the promise of favors from the bosses' politicians in exchange for keeping the unions in line. Once the elections are over the promises are forgotten and we're right back where we started.

It's time we stopped putting our faith in promises from parties that represent the corporations. It's time the unions formed a labor party to put forward labor's program and to fight for it 365 days a year.

This idea is being discussed more seriously in the labor movement today than any time in decades. We make no prediction it will happen tomorrow, or next week, or this year.

But we can say this. The rulers of this country are not as strong as they like us to think.

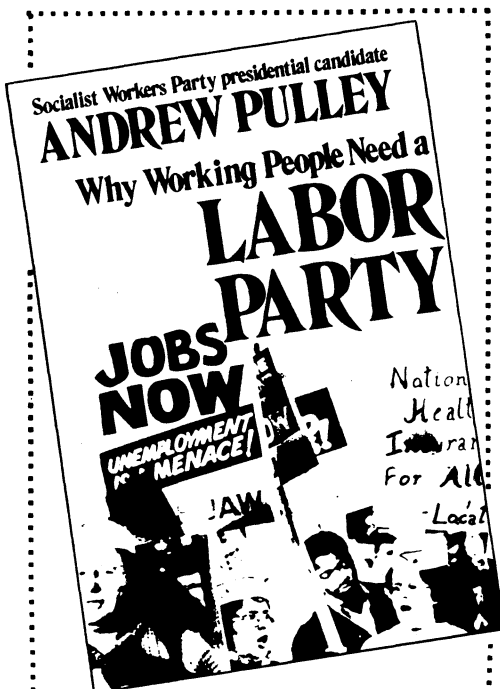
They never expected the shah to be overthrown.

They never expected Somoza to fall in Nicaragua.

And despite their pretense of solidarity, they never expected the Polish workers to rise up and fight for workers democracy and genuine socialism.

Whether the rulers expect it or not, the American workers too will find a way to organize our own power to fight for our needs.

That's what we are campaigning for in this election. I hope you'll join us.



New from Socialist Workers 1980 Campaign.

48 pages. \$.50 each, or \$.35 for ten or more.

Order from **Socialist Workers Presidential Campaign Committee**, 14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014.

Rallies attract wide spectrum of activists

Who's coming to hear Andrew Pulley?

In Miami, eleven of those present for an evening rally were attending their first socialist campaign event.

One Dominican and three Cuban supporters of the dialogue between the Cuban community here and the Cuban government were there.

A Black telephone company worker and part-time student got a leaflet on campus and decided to check out the meeting.

A worker from an auto body repair shop had been looking something up in the phone book and saw "Socialist Workers Party" listed. He hadn't known there were any socialists in Miami, so he called to find out more and ended up coming to the rally.

One young woman who had come to a Militant Forum on Poland came back and brought four friends with her.

In Newport News, Virginia, four shipyard workers who are not members of the Socialist Workers Party or Young Socialist Alliance turned out to hear Pulley.

A woman from Grenada attended the meeting for Pulley in Washington, D.C., because she had gotten a leaflet the night before at a benefit concert for Grenada given by the Mighty Sparrow, the famed calypso singer.

A man from St. Lucia, another of the Windward

Islands in the Caribbean, was also there.

The *Washington Afro-American* newspaper had a reporter at the event.

And five high school students attended along with their teacher.

Quite a few activists from the local antidraft coalition came to a rally for Pulley in Baltimore.

Also present was a young Black veteran who had run into a *Militant* subscription salesperson just that day. He said he had begun to question the capitalist system while he was in the army, had done some reading and a lot of thinking about what kind of changes were needed.

When he heard there was a socialist party running a Black steelworker for president, he said, "it was just what I had been waiting for."

On September 11 Pulley was interviewed for an hour on a popular call-in show on Miami's WMBM radio. A couple of times during the program Pulley gave the address and phone number of the local campaign headquarters.

Within just one hour after the show, three people had called and one had come by the headquarters to get a subscription to the *Militant* and sign up on the campaign mailing list.

U.S. Rep. Paul Trible's refusal to debate Sharon Grant was evidently the most newsworthy event in his September 6 "town meeting" in Newport News, Virginia. SWP candidate Grant is the only person running against Trible, a right-wing Republican, in Virginia's First Congressional District.

The Newport News *Times-Herald* headlined its story, "Trible's firm: No debates with foe," and reported on Grant's challenge to him during the meeting.

In an earlier story on Trible's Carteresque strategy, the *Times-Herald* reported



Militant/Jon Hillson
SHARON GRANT

Grant's factfinding trip to Miami and quoted her comments:

"It is clear that unemployment, police brutality, substandard housing and inflation were at the root of the rebellion," Grant said. "These are the same problems confronting the people of the 1st Congressional District, especially in the East End in Newport News."

"Rep. Trible is for more guns and bombs, not jobs, quality education and justice. It is solutions to these problems that the people of this district are interested in hearing."

—Andy Rose



Baltimore socialist campaign rally

Militant/Andy Rose

Help get out literature on the labor party

By Duncan Williams

If you've been reading the *Militant* for a while, or even if this is your first issue, you know that the idea of a labor party is central to the Socialist Workers Party campaign of Andrew Pulley for president and Matilde Zimmermann for vice president.

The Socialist Workers Party is raising this idea not only in the *Militant* and the Spanish-language *Perspectiva Mundial*, but in all its literature, especially the pamphlet *Why Working People Need a Labor Party* by Andrew Pulley.

This pamphlet, and all the campaign literature, is financed by the contributions of hundreds of *Militant* readers and other working people who support the Pulley-Zimmermann campaign. Several thousand dollars of the \$75,000 fall campaign fund drive has already been spent on the printing and shipping of this valuable piece of literature.

The labor party proposal, Pulley points out, is "an important discussion... going on in the labor movement that affects all working people and their families."

Labor leaders, such as John Henning, California Labor Federation executive secretary-treasurer, and Anthony Mazzochi of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union have raised

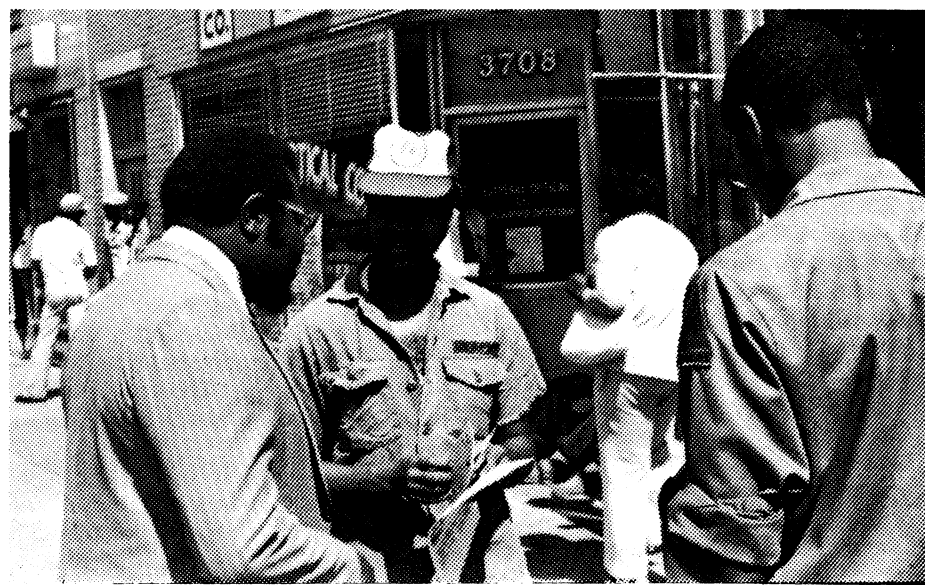
the idea in union meetings and publications. (Several statements, resolutions, and *Militant* articles are included in the pamphlet.)

Pulley shows how, on every major question facing working people—energy, jobs, union rights, nuclear power, racist and sexist discrimination, the threat of war and the draft—the Democratic and Republican parties and their candidates come down on the side of big business, against the workers.

A labor party, he points out, "would give a big boost to all the struggles for things people need...."

Socialist workers in Chicago report the Pulley labor party pamphlet is a valuable addition to the labor party discussion. Recently, Chicago SWP senatorial candidate Lee Artz spoke to a meeting of his co-workers at Danly Machine, Steelworkers local 15271. At this and other union meetings ten copies of the labor party pamphlet have been sold.

Socialist workers who have been selling subscriptions to the campaign newspaper, the *Militant* and *Perspectiva Mundial*, report many of the people they talk to don't like Carter and Reagan and are interested when the idea of labor running its own candidates is raised. Several copies of the



Andrew Pulley, left, with Newport News, Virginia shipyard workers.

Militant/Andy Rose

pamphlet have been sold along with subscriptions.

If you would like a copy of this pamphlet, send \$.50 to the Socialist Workers Presidential Campaign Committee.

Your contributions give us the opportunity to get the widest possible hearing for the Socialist Workers program.

With the election in sight—now is the time to send the most generous contribution you can.

So far \$33,884.00 has been sent to the national campaign office. If you have not yet made a contribution we hope you will clip the coupon below and send us your check today. If you have contributed, we hope you will dig a little deeper and send us more.

Socialist Workers \$75,000 Fund Drive



\$10,000 \$20,000 \$30,000 \$40,000 \$50,000 \$60,000 \$70,000

so far: \$33,884

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Make checks payable to:
Socialist Workers Presidential Campaign Committee, 14 Charles Lane,
New York, N.Y. 10014.



Did Somoza have one?—Hess & Eisenhardt says political figures and corporate execs can't afford to be without their armor-plated car, which features tear gas dispensers and a remote control ignition starter and bomb scanner.

Beat the rap—Israeli police cleared a carrier pigeon suspected of working for the Arab guerrillas. It was apprehended with an Arabic message taped to its leg. This created press headlines until the message was translated as an ancient proverb wishing good luck to newlyweds.

Pot sues kettle—The Standard Asbestos Company of Kansas City, defendant in a suit charging lung damage to its employees, is filing suit against major tobacco companies, charging them with the responsibility for the damage.

Layaway plan—The Rev. Wallace Helfin says his End Time Food Company is doing a brisk business in dehydrated food that can be stored for a time of total social crisis. A year's supply \$884. The gourmet version, including desserts, extra. The ration is packed into a module that will fit

under the bed, "where looters aren't likely to look."

They're all robbing banks?—For three months in New York, the post of deputy mayor for economic development—\$64,582 a year—has been vacant. Officials explain that those who are qualified for the job are all making lots more than that.

Suggestion—The super of a Chicago tenement got the idea that the presence of some garden variety snakes might drive off a horde of rats. The rats, reportedly the size of cats, were undisturbed. But the snakes re-

produced rapidly and the building now has a double infestation. One thought on clearing it up—include a few of each with the rent check.

Art dep't—If you make it down to D.C. before November 30 you can catch the National Portrait Gallery's special exhibit of twenty-four photos of President Carter and his cabinet members.

Thin green line—The editors of *Leaders*, a mag designed for corporate readers, say they've received comments that it's difficult to distinguish between the articles and the ads.

Women in Revolt

Women in Nicaragua

In July 1979 the people of Nicaragua overthrew the bloody dictatorship of Anastasio Somoza. On that day, the process of rebuilding the country, ending poverty, illiteracy, and underdevelopment began.

"Women in Nicaragua," a pamphlet edited by Megan Martin and Susie Willett of the Nicaraguan Solidarity Campaign in Britain, tells the story of women's heroic role in this struggle.

The population was kept in poverty, the authors write, by the hereditary dictatorship of the Somoza family, which was installed, armed, and protected by Washington.

Somoza bled the country white, amassing a vast fortune from the ownership of nearly one-third of the cultivable land, the majority of the most profitable industries and trading concerns, and from speculation and corruption.

The majority of the people lived in extreme poverty. Nearly two-thirds of the rural population were illiterate, 54 percent of the houses were without safe drinking water, and 59 percent without electricity. In the cities 74 percent of the houses had no sewerage facilities.

Nicaragua had the second highest death rate in Central America from gastroenteritis, dysentery, and typhoid. Half the registered deaths were children under five, and the average life expectancy was fifty-seven years for women, fifty-three for men.

Women and children made up a large proportion of the agricultural workers who engaged in seasonal work on the big plantations. Many were left alone on the land because their husband were forced to go elsewhere for work. In the cities, women

took work as domestics, and children were street vendors, shoe shiners, prostitutes.

As the economy declined during the last years of Somoza's reign, the dictator stepped up his repression in a desperate attempt to stem the growing opposition. In Somoza's eyes, every young person was a potential guerrilla, so he sent out the National Guard to slaughter the youth of the country.

But the workers, peasants, women, and youth organized despite the tortures and killings. In September 1977 Ampronac, the Association of Women Concerned with the National Problem, was formed. It became increasingly involved in organizing women in the movement to overthrow the dictatorship.

The pamphlet describes the women's determination.

Maria Esperanza, a grandmother speaks: "Today the people are waking up from a long sleep. From a sleep of 44 years. . . ."

Another, Juanita, seventeen years old: "We are struggling not only to bring down the dictatorship but also for ourselves as women."

In July 1979, the people, led by the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), overthrew Somoza, and a revolutionary government came to power. Women made up 30 percent of the FSLN guerrilla army and fought in the neighborhood militias. Today, they are an active part of the revolutionary army.

The Nicaraguan people face tremendous obstacles. They inherited a country in ashes. Hospitals, schools, and entire cities were devastated. Out of a

Suzanne Haig



population of 2.5 million, 40,000 were dead and 100,000 wounded, 40,000 children orphaned, and 200,000 families homeless. Almost half the population had little or no food. Only recently has the U.S. government agreed to financial aid.

But despite the problems, the Nicaraguan people, including the women, are mobilizing to rebuild their country. Ampronac, which changed its name to the Luisa Amanda Espinoza Association of Nicaraguan Women (AMNLAE), after the first woman militant of the FSLN to fall in combat, began immediately to tackle these problems.

AMNLAE has involved its members in all the mobilization campaigns, such as the recently successful drive to eliminate illiteracy. Women are building child-care, job training, and medical centers. Equal rights for women is written into the constitution.

The revolution in Nicaragua is showing that the way forward for the full equality of women and their integration into all aspects of society can only be achieved through taking the revolution forward—building the necessary material foundation for developing child-care, industry, training programs, and combatting the old ideas about women that were reinforced by decades of imperialism.

The revolutionary government, moreover, is firmly committed to this course.

Women in this country should closely follow the process unfolding in Nicaragua. We can defend their struggle by getting out the facts, by fighting against the reinstitution of the draft, and by opposing any U.S. military moves in Central America and the Caribbean.

What's Going On

FLORIDA MIAMI

BEHIND IRAN-IRAQ WAR: ATTACK ON IRANIAN REVOLUTION. Speaker: Darren Crown, chairperson, Miami Young Socialist Alliance. Wed., Oct. 8, 7 p.m. 8171 Northeast 2nd Ave. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (305) 756-8358.

ILLINOIS CHICAGO

IRAN VS. IRAQ: BEHIND THE WAR. Speaker: Malik Miah, national committee, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Oct. 4, 8 p.m. 434 S. Wabash, Room 700. Aup: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (312) 939-0737.

INDIANA GARY

EL SALVADOR: THE NEXT U.S. VIETNAM? Slide show with Ricardo Melara, Committee in Solidarity with El Salvador. Fri., Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m. 3883 Broadway. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (219) 884-9509.

LOUISIANA NEW ORLEANS

POLISH VICTORIES: WHAT U.S. WORKERS CAN LEARN. Speaker: John Williams, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Oct. 10, 8 p.m. 3207 Dublin. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (504) 486-8048.

MINNESOTA IRON RANGE

SOCIALISM TODAY IN THE AMERICAS. A Socialist Educational Conference. Classes: Sat., Oct. 11: 12:30 p.m. "Socialism and the Working Class"; 3 p.m. "Development of the Cuban Revolution and Its Role in the World"; 6 p.m. dinner: \$3; 7:30 p.m. "Prospects for Socialism in Canada and the U.S." Speakers from Canadian Revolutionary Workers League and U.S. Socialist Workers Party. Sun., Oct. 12, 10 a.m. "Grenada: First Free Black English-speaking Country on Earth"; 1 p.m. "Revolution in Nicaragua." All events at 1012 2nd Ave. S., Virginia, Minn. Aup: SWP, Young Socialist Alliance, Winnipeg RWL. For more information call (218) 749-6327.

TWIN CITIES

'WITH BABIES AND BANNERS' A film about the

1937 General Motors Sit-Down Strike in Flint, Michigan. A talk by Gillian Furst, member of Teamsters Local 1145 and Socialist Workers Party. Sun., Oct. 12, 4 p.m. 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Twin Cities Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

OREGON PORTLAND

THE MEDICAL INDUSTRY'S USE OF WOMEN AS GUINEA PIGS: FROM DES TO TOXIC SHOCK SYNDROME. Speaker: Sara Baird, member of National Organization for Women. Sun., Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m. 711 NW Everett St. Donation: \$1. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

PENNSYLVANIA PITTSBURGH

SOCIALIST WORKERS CAMPAIGN RALLY. Speakers: Andrew Pulley, SWP candidate for president; Linda Mohrbacher, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate from Pa.; Tory Dunn, SWP candidate for State treasurer, Pa.; Tom Moriarty, SWP candidate for governor from West Virginia. Sun., Oct. 12, open house 2 p.m., rally 4 p.m. 1210 E. Carson St. (south side). Donation: \$3.50. Aup: Western Pa. Socialist Workers Campaign Committee. For more information call (412) 488-7000.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

WHAT'S BEHIND THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR? Speakers: Bahrām Hanidīan, Iranian activist; Jim Gotesky, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m. 3106 Mount Pleasant N.W. Donation: \$2. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (202) 797-7699.

WISCONSIN MILWAUKEE

WHAT'S BEHIND THE IRAQI INVASION? HANDS OFF IRAN! Speakers: Matthew Herreshoff, national committee, Young Socialist Alliance; an Iranian student. Fri., Oct. 3, 12:30 p.m. Univ. of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, Bolton 83. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Young Socialists for Pulley and Zimmermann. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

WHAT'S BEHIND THE IRAQI INVASION? HANDS OFF IRAN! Speakers: Matthew Herreshoff, national committee, Young Socialist Alliance; an Iranian student. Sun., Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m. 3901 N. 27th. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

FERMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN. Speakers: Theresa Delgadillo, Young Socialist Alliance, Iranian student. Tape by Maurice Bishop, prime minister of Grenada. Sun., Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m. 3901 N. 27th. Donation: \$1.50. Aup: Militant Forum. For more information call (414) 445-2076.

John Brown

In January 1860 Karl Marx wrote to Frederick Engels: 'In my opinion, the biggest things that are happening in the world today are on the one hand the movement of the slaves in America, started by the death of John Brown, and on the other the movement of the slaves in Russia.'

'... I have just seen in the 'Tribune' that a new revolt of slaves took place in Missouri and was naturally suppressed. But the signal has now been given. ...'

A year after Marx wrote this, the Civil War that was to end the system of slavery in the United States broke out. It was a vindication of John Brown, who gave his life in an attempt to start a revolutionary war against the slaveholders.

On October 16, 1859, Brown led a raid on the government arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Virginia, aimed at sparking a slave uprising. Nearly all his men—including five Blacks—were killed. Brown and the other survivors were later executed.

The following are excerpts from an appreciation of Brown's revolutionary role by George Novack. It comes from 'America's Revolutionary Heritage' (Pathfinder Press, \$5.95).

John Brown inherited his family's love of liberty and his father's abolitionism. At an early age he had sworn eternal war against slavery. His barn at Richmond, Pennsylvania, where in 1825 he set up a tannery, the first of his commercial enterprises, was a station on the Underground Railway. Ten years later, he was discussing plans for the establishment of a Negro school.

As the slave power tightened its grip upon the government, John Brown's views on emancipation changed radically. "A firm believer in the divine authenticity of the Bible," he drew his inspiration from the Old Testament rather than the New. He lost sympathy with the abolitionists of the [William] Garrison school, who advocated the Christ-like doctrine of non-resistance to force. He identified himself with the shepherd Gideon who led his band against the Midianites and slew them with his own hand.

A project for carrying the war [against slavery] into the enemy's camp had long been germinating in John Brown's mind. By establishing a stronghold in the mountains bordering southern territory from which his men could raid the plantations, he planned to free the slaves and run them to Canada.

However, his first assaults upon the slave power were to be made not from the mountains of Maryland and West Virginia, but on the plains of Kansas.

Upon arriving in Osawatimie, Kansas, John Brown became the captain of the local militia company and led it in the bloodless "Wakarusa War." Then he plunged into the thick of the struggle for

the possession of the territory that gave it the name of "Bleeding Kansas." In retaliation for the sacking of Lawrence by the Border Ruffians [armed gangs who attacked antislavery farmers] Brown's men, including four of his sons, slaughtered five proslavery sympathizers in a night raid near Pottawatomie Creek.

He continued his guerrilla warfare throughout 1856 until Kansas was pacified by the federal troops.

No longer needed in Kansas, John Brown reverted to his long-cherished scheme of mountain warfare. To prepare for his enterprise he called a convention of his followers and free Negroes at Chat-ham in Canada.

Early in the summer of 1859 a farm was rented about five miles from Harper's Ferry. There John Brown collected his men and prepared for his coup. On the night of October 16 they descended upon the town, took possession of the United States armories, imprisoned a number of the inhabitants, and persuaded a few slaves to join them.

By noon, militia companies arrived from nearby Charlestown and blocked his only road to escape. The next night a company of United States marines commanded by Colonel Robert E. Lee appeared and at dawn, when Brown refused to surrender, stormed the enginehouse in which Brown, his surviving men, and his prisoners were barricaded. Fighting with matchless coolness and courage over the body of his dying son, he was overpowered and arrested.

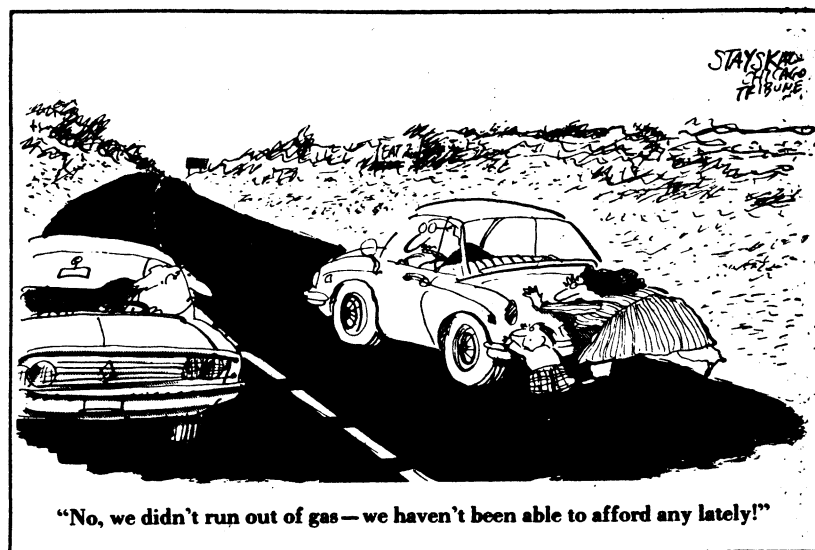
John Brown was promptly sentenced to death by the State of Virginia.

John Brown was misled by the apparent effectiveness of his terrorist activities in Kansas. He did not understand that there his raids and reprisals were an integral part of the open struggle of the Free Soil settlers against the invasion of the slaveholders' Hessians.

But at the same time many thousands rallied to John Brown's side, hailing him as a martyr in the cause of emancipation. The radical abolitionists spoke up most boldly in his behalf and most correctly assayed the significance of his life and death.

At John Brown's funeral service, Wendell Phillips spoke these words: "Marvelous old man! ... He abolished slavery in Virginia ... True, the slave is still there. So, when the tempest uproots a pine on your hills, it looks green for months—a year or two. Still, it is timber, not a tree. John Brown has loosened the roots of the slave system; it only breathes—it does not live—hereafter."

Longfellow wrote in his diary on the day of the hanging: "This will be a great day in our history; the date of a new revolution—quite as much needed as the old one. Even now as I write, they are leading old John Brown to execution in Virginia for attempting to rescue slaves! This is sowing the wind to reap the whirlwind, which will come soon."



Pat Gorman

Pat Gorman died of cancer September 3 in a Chicago hospital. He was buried in Louisville, Kentucky, where he was born November 27, 1892.

In connection with a labor history research project last October, I was able to tape a lengthy interview with Patrick Emmet Gorman in his office at the old headquarters of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America in Chicago.

Many will remember him as one of the few national union officers who had the guts to lend their names to antiwar and civil rights movements of the '60s and '70s.

He was also president of the Eugene V. Debs Foundation of Terre Haute, Indiana, and supported efforts to keep alive the truth about the socialist tradition exemplified by Debs in the American labor movement.

Pat Gorman was the son of a tanner from Ireland who became a butcher in the Louisville plant of the John Cudahy Packing Company when new processes made the tanner's craft obsolete.

Pat followed his father and brothers into the packing plant and into the Amalgamated Meat Cutters. About the same time, he was introduced to socialist ideas by older workers in the local labor movement.

"I was a young socialist from seventeen years on," he told me. But he did not remain a member of the Socialist Party or active in the organization, he said, because of the opposition of his mother, a devout Catholic and "tender tyrant" who pleaded with him not to abandon the family traditions.

From the time he joined the Amalgamated in June 1911, however, he was an activist in the labor movement. In 1912 he became business agent of his union, Amalgamated Local 227, and went to school nights. In 1917 he graduated from the University of Louisville Law School, was elected president of the city's United Trades and Labor Assembly, became a special organizer for the Amalgamated and attended his first American Federation of Labor convention as a delegate.

In 1918 he became vice-president of the Kentucky Federation of Labor; vice-president of the Amalgamated in 1920, and president in 1923 at thirty years of age.

A nationwide defensive strike against wage cuts was lost in 1921, resulting in a drop in membership from more than

150,000 to 5,000. The young president had played a militant role in the strike, and shouldered the task of rebuilding, educating, and strengthening the union.

In 1942 he became secretary-treasurer, the chief administrative officer of the Amalgamated, until 1976, when he was named chairman of the board. After the merger in 1979 with the Retail Clerks, he was chairman emeritus of the new United Food and Commercial Workers Union until his death.

Jean Y. Tussey
Cleveland, Ohio

Campaign debates

The following letter from Timothy V. Craine to the editor of the *Detroit Free Press*, which appeared in the September 20 issue of that paper is so clear, concise, and accurate that I thought you might want to reprint it in the *Militant* for the benefit of your readers outside the Detroit area.

Sam Ashare
Troy, Michigan

Put Pulley in

In view of President Carter's refusal to debate John Anderson and Ronald Reagan, the League of Women Voters should offer the empty chair to the Socialist Workers Party candidate, Andrew Pulley.

Carter, Reagan and Anderson don't have much to debate about since they all agree that military spending should be increased, social services cut, tax breaks given to the corporate rich and the burden of inflation and depression left to the working people.

In contrast, Pulley's platform puts the interests of working people first with a program for full employment, full COLA protection for all workers and retirees and the elimination of the \$150 billion war budget. His inclusion in the debate would provide a much more interesting and informative exchange of ideas.

Timothy V. Craine

Posters

In addition to subscribing to the *Militant* myself, I would like to put up some posters or bulletins around town. I would be willing to pay for them, if it wasn't too expensive (like ten dollars worth, no more).

As far as I know, there exists not one socialist in Charlottesville, Virginia. I wouldn't call myself a socialist either, but I would like to see the Socialist Workers Party (and left-wing groups in general) get more exposure.

J.H.
Charlottesville, Virginia

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Learning About Socialism

A correction

I hasten to make some corrections before letters from readers start pouring in. Two erroneous dates appeared in the "Learning About Socialism" column of October 3. Lenin called for the New Economic Policy in 1921, not 1922. And the Soviet bureaucratic apparatus headed by Stalin began its rise to power not later than 1922, instead of 1923.

I should add that competent translators disagree with the English translation that I cited of Lenin's 1921 characterization of the Soviet Union: "... a workers' state with a bureaucratic twist to it." I took this from the new collection, *Lenin on Trade Unions* (p. 375), published in Moscow and edited by Stalinist twisters. This is an attempt to soften the severity of Lenin's assessment. As recently as 1965 the same Moscow publishers translated it as "a workers' state with bureaucratic distortions." (*Collected Works*, Vol. 32, p. 48) A better translation is, a workers' state with bureaucratic deformations, which is how it has been translated in our Trotskyist publications for over forty years.

Militant readers may also be interested to know that according to the September 28 *New York Times*, an article in the Soviet Communist Party paper *Pravda* attacked the new Polish Unions for violating Lenin's position on the trade unions.

Frank Lovell
New York, New York

Well informed year

I am pleased to send money for another year of the *Militant*. Also, send the list of Pathfinder books available at reduced prices with each subscription renewal. My renewal letter did not include this.

Living in an isolated New England town (population 484) tends to insulate one from the struggles occurring in the industrial centers.

The *Militant* allows me to keep a perspective on world events and an analysis of the news not found in any other source.

Looking forward to another well-informed year.

A.W.
Heath, Massachusetts

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 you prefer that your initials be used rather than your full name.

A labor candidate in 1852

The 1980 elections offer workers a choice of capitalist candidates who hold out less hope than usual that things can get better. It is no wonder there is increasing discussion of a labor party.

The working class has gone through these kinds of experiences before. Some of this is documented by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels. Their *Collected Works* are being published in English for the first time.

In Volume 11 of the *Collected Works*, which covers the years 1851-53, there are some articles written by Marx about the British parliamentary elections of 1852. The articles were written for an American audience and were published in the New York *Daily Tribune*.

Marx reported on an election campaign meeting held July 6, 1852. Although there were four candidates involved, Marx said that "The serious struggle . . . lay only between (Sir Charles) Wood and (Ernest) Jones, between the Whig and the Chartist."

The Whigs were one of the ruling class parties in Britain. The Chartists were the key representatives of the workers movement of the time, predecessors to the Labour Party.

Ernest Jones was one of the best known Chartist leaders. Two months before this meeting he had started a newspaper called the *People's Paper*. Marx and Engels, who both lived in England at the time, helped edit and write for it.

Marx described the Chartists as "the politically active section of the British working class. The six points of the Charter which they contend for contain nothing but the demand of Universal Suffrage, and of the conditions without which Universal Suffrage would be illusory for the working class; such as the ballot, payment of members [of parliament], annual general elections. . . ."

To be a voter for the British Parliament at that time, you had to own a certain amount of property or pay a certain level of taxes. Similar to the poll tax in the U.S., this requirement restricted who could vote.

The British ruling class also had a deceptive election procedure.

As Marx described it, "When the candidates have made their appearance on the day of election, and have publicly harangued the people, they are elected, in the first instance, by the show of hands, and every hand has the right to be raised, the hand of non elector as well as that of the elector [voter who meets the property qualifications]."

"... The election by show of hands was a mere ceremony, an act of formal politeness toward the 'sovereign people,' and the politeness ceases as soon as privilege is menaced. For if the show of hands does not return the candidates of the privileged electors, those candidates demand a poll; only the privileged electors can take part in the poll, and who-soever has there the majority of votes is declared duly elected."

Marx reported to his American audience at length on the speech by the workers' candidate Ernest Jones, adding: "you will not find it in any of the great London ruling-class papers."

Below are some excerpts from Jones's campaign speech: "I say the representatives of two systems stand before you. Whig, Tory and money-mongers are on my left . . . but they are all as one. The money-monger says, buy cheap and sell dear. The Tory [the other major British ruling class

party] says, buy dear, sell dearer. Both are the same for labor. . . . Labor is the creator of all wealth. A man must work before a grain is grown, or a yarn is woven. . . .

"For every increase of competition abroad, there must be an increase of cheapness at home. Every increase of cheapness in labor is based on increase of labor surplus [unemployment], and this surplus is obtained by an increase of machinery. I repeat, how does this operate on you? The Manchester Liberal [industrialist capitalist candidate who was supporting the Whigs] . . . establishes a new patent and throws 300 men as a surplus in the streets. Shopkeepers! 300 customers less. Rate payers! 300 paupers more. (Loud cheers) But mark me. The evil stops not there. These 300 men operate first to bring down the wages of those who remain at work in their own trade. The employer says, 'Now I reduce your wages.' The men demur. Then he adds: 'Do you see those three hundred men who have just walked out—you may change places if you like, they're sighing to come in on any terms, for they're starving.' The men feel it and are crushed. . . .

"... Those men, driven from their own trade, seek employment in others, when they swell the surplus, and bring wages down. The low paid trades of today were the high paid once—the high paid of today will be the low paid soon. Thus the purchasing power of the working classes is diminished every day. . . ."

Jones went on to describe his two years and one week in prison, in solitary confinement "on the silent system, without pen, ink, or paper." Then he explains some of the positions he would support if elected to parliament, comparing them to the stand of the Whig incumbent:

"Who voted for Irish coercion, the gagging bill, and tampering with the Irish press? The Whig! There he sits! Turn him out!"

Jones pointed to the Whig's votes against expanding ballot rights, against releasing working class political prisoners, including himself. He attacked the Whig vote against inquiry into colonial abuses, against reducing the £12,000 salary of a duke, against reductions in the army and navy, against an inquiry into the adulteration of food, against shortening the nightwork of bakers, against eliminating child labor abuses, against the "Ten Hours Bill", for shortening the work day to ten hours.

And after each point, Jones shouted, "The Whig—There he sits; turn him out!" He ended: "the two systems are before you. Now judge and choose!"

Marx wrote: "It is impossible to describe the enthusiasm kindled by this speech. . . . On the show of hands being taken, very few, and those chiefly of the hired or intimidated, were held up for Sir C. Wood; but almost everyone present raised both hands for Ernest Jones, amidst cheering and enthusiasm it would be impossible to describe."

Jones was declared winner and elected, but Wood demanded a poll of the property owner electors.

The system did what it was designed for. Jones lost.

—Stu Singer

Please send questions you would like to see answered in this column to: Stu Singer, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.

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Where to find the Socialist Workers Party, Young Socialist Alliance, and socialist books and pamphlets

ALABAMA: Birmingham: SWP, YSA, 1609 5th Ave. N. Tel: (205) 328-9403. Send mail to P.O. Box 3382-A. Zip: 35205.

ARIZONA: Phoenix: SWP, YSA, 1243 E. McDowell. Zip: 85006. Tel: (602) 255-0450.

CALIFORNIA: East Bay: SWP, YSA, 2864 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Zip: 94609. Tel: (415) 763-3792. Los Angeles: SWP, YSA, 2211 N. Broadway. Zip: 90031. Tel: (213) 225-3126. San Diego SWP, YSA, 1053 15th St. Zip: 92101. Tel: (714) 234-4630. San Francisco: SWP, YSA, 3284 23rd St. Zip: 94110. Tel: (415) 824-1992. San Jose: SWP, YSA, 201 N. 9th St. Zip: 95112. Tel: (408) 998-4007.

COLORADO: Denver: SWP, YSA, 126 W. 12th Ave. Zip: 80204. Tel: (303) 534-8954.

FLORIDA: Miami SWP, YSA, 8171 NE 2nd Ave. Zip: 33138. Tel: (305) 756-8358.

GEORGIA: Atlanta: SWP, YSA, 509 Peachtree St. NE. Zip: 30308. Tel: (404) 872-7229.

ILLINOIS: Champaign-Urbana: YSA, 284 Illini Union, Urbana. Zip: 61801. Chicago: SWP, YSA, 434 S. Wabash, Room 700. Zip: 60605. Tel: (312) 939-0737.

INDIANA: Gary: SWP, YSA, 3883 Broadway. Zip: 46409. Tel: (219) 884-9509. Indianapolis: SWP, YSA, 4850 N. College. Zip: 46205. Tel: (317) 283-6149.

IOWA: Cedar Falls: YSA, Box 352. Zip: 50613.

KENTUCKY: Louisville: SWP, YSA, 131 W. Main #102. Zip: 40202. Tel: (502) 587-8418.

LOUISIANA: New Orleans SWP, YSA, 3207 Dublin St. Zip: 70118. Tel: (504) 486-8048.

MARYLAND: Baltimore: SWP, YSA, 2913 Greenmount Ave. Zip: 21218. Tel: (301) 235-0013.

MASSACHUSETTS: Amherst: YSA, P.O. Box 837. Zip: 01002. Tel: (413) 546-5942. Boston: SWP, YSA, 510 Commonwealth Ave., 4th Floor. Zip: 02215. Tel: (617) 262-4621.

MICHIGAN: Ann Arbor: YSA, 4120 Michigan Union, U. of M. Zip: 48109. Detroit: SWP, YSA, 6404 Woodward Ave. Zip: 48202. Tel: (313) 875-5322.

MINNESOTA: Mesabi Iron Range: SWP, YSA, 1012 2nd Ave. South, Virginia, Minn. Zip: 55792. Tel: (218) 749-6327. Twin Cities: SWP, YSA, 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Zip: 55104. Tel: (612) 644-6325.

MISSOURI: Kansas City: SWP, YSA, 4715A Troost. Zip: 64110. Tel: (816) 753-0404. St. Louis: SWP, YSA, 6223 Delmar Blvd. Zip: 63130. Tel: (314) 725-1570.

NEW JERSEY: Newark: SWP, YSA, 11-A Central Ave. Zip: 07102. Tel: (201) 643-3341.

NEW MEXICO: Albuquerque: SWP, YSA, 1417 Central Ave. NE. Zip: 87106. Tel: (505) 842-0954.

NEW YORK: Capital District (Schenectady): SWP, YSA, 323 State St. Zip: 12305. Tel: (518) 374-1494. New York, Brooklyn: SWP, 335 Atlantic Ave. Zip: 11201. Tel: (212) 852-7922. New York, Manhattan: SWP, YSA, 108 E. 16th St. 2nd Floor. Zip: 10003. Tel: (212) 260-6400. New York: City-wide SWP, YSA, 108 E. 16th St. 2nd Floor. Zip: 10003. Tel: (212) 533-2902.

NORTH CAROLINA: Piedmont: SWP, YSA, 216 E. 6th St., Winston-Salem. Zip: 27101. Tel: (919) 723-3419.

OHIO: Cincinnati: SWP, YSA, 2531 Gilbert Ave. Zip: 45206. Tel: (513) 751-2636. Cleveland: SWP, YSA, 2230 Superior. Zip: 44114. Tel: (216) 579-9369. Toledo: SWP, YSA, 2120 Dorr St. Zip: 43607. Tel: (419) 536-0383.

OREGON: Portland: SWP, YSA, 711 NW Everett. Zip: 97209. Tel: (503) 222-7225.

PENNSYLVANIA: Edinboro: YSA, Edinboro State College. Zip: 16444. Tel: (215) 734-4415. Philadelphia: SWP, YSA, 5811 N. Broad St. Zip: 19141. Tel: (215) 927-4747 or 927-4748. Pittsburgh: SWP, YSA, 1210 E. Carson St. Zip: 15203. Tel: (412) 488-7000. State College: YSA, c/o Jack Craypo, 606 S. Allen St. Zip: 16801. Tel: (814) 234-6655.

TEXAS: Austin: YSA, c/o Mike Rose, 7409 Berkman Dr. Zip: 78752. Dallas: SWP, YSA, 5442 E. Grand. Zip: 75223. Tel: (214) 826-4711. Houston: SWP, YSA, 806 Elgin St. #1. Zip: 77006. Tel: (713) 524-8761. San Antonio: SWP, YSA, 1406 N. Flores Rd. Zip: 78212. Tel: (512) 222-8398.

UTAH: Salt Lake City: SWP, YSA, 677 S. 7th East, 2nd Floor. Zip: 84102. Tel: (801) 355-1124.

VIRGINIA: Tidewater Area (Newport News): SWP, YSA, 111 28th St. Zip: 23607. Tel: (804) 380-0133.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: SWP, YSA, 3106 Mt. Pleasant St. NW. Zip: 20010. Tel: (202) 797-7699.

WASHINGTON: Olympia: YSA, Room 3208, The Evergreen State College. Zip: 98501. Tel: (206) 866-7332. Seattle: SWP, YSA, 4868 Rainier Ave. South. Zip: 98118. Tel: (206) 723-5330.

WEST VIRGINIA: Morgantown: SWP, YSA, 957 S. University Ave. Zip: 26505. Tel: (304) 296-0055.

WISCONSIN: Milwaukee: SWP, YSA, 3901 N. 27th St. Zip: 53216. Tel: (414) 445-2076.

THE MILITANT

Labor support mounts for energy & jobs meeting Unionists to meet in Pittsburgh Oct. 10-12

By Suzanne Haig

The upcoming National Labor Conference for Safe Energy and Full Employment is drawing the interest of trade unionists from the rail yards of Chicago to the coal fields of West Virginia to the Bath shipyard in Maine.

The conference will be held in Pittsburgh at the Hilton Hotel October 10-12. It will consist of a Friday night rally, general sessions, and workshops on such topics as radiation, jobs and energy, coal, nuclear accidents, transportation and storage of nuclear materials, and others.

The conference has broad union backing. Sponsors include: United Auto Workers; United Mine Workers; Graphic Arts International Union; United Furniture Workers of America; Service Employees International Union; International Woodworkers of America; International Association of Machinists; International Chemical Workers Union; Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment; and the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

UMWA President Sam Church and IAM President William Winpisinger are among the scheduled conference speakers.

Linda Nordquist, a field organizer building the conference, told the *Militant* about her experiences in western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio. The UMWA districts and locals in the area plan to send delegations from their executive boards. Interested rank and file members will also be attending.

"The miners know they have a lot to say," she explained, "and understand that trade unionists will be coming to the conference wanting to discuss the questions of coal and jobs."

Nordquist has found growing concern among rail workers about the dangers of nuclear power since the September 6 train collision in Hemphill, West Virginia, which killed three rail workers. A freight train carrying



Protest after accident at Three Mile Island nuclear power plant, owned by Metropolitan Edison. Labor conference will discuss safe energy and jobs.

radioactive uranium 235 hit an empty coal train and leaked nuclear material, according to one local paper.

"People are very concerned," she said, "because they work on the line running from Portsmouth, Ohio, to Norfolk, Virginia, the location of a nuclear submarine base. They are constantly carrying dangerous material."

United Transportation Union officials told her that another derailment on the same line occurred a few days ago. Although no one was hurt, and the train carried no nuclear material, "We know it's dangerous," one UTU local president told her. "They have us

carrying things we don't even know about," he added.

In Chicago, members of the labor outreach committee of the Citizens Against Nuclear Power have spoken at a number of trade union gatherings, including to several UTU locals.

Representatives addressed International Chemical Workers Local 60 in Waukegan, Illinois. The fifty, mainly Black, unionists in attendance were especially concerned to learn that the nuclear plant in Zion, Illinois, near Waukegan, had released 10,000 gallons of radioactive water last year that had

not been reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Committee members also spoke to the Chicago chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists. They pointed out that the scheduled routes taken by vehicles transporting nuclear wastes mainly go through the Black communities of cities across the country.

Several weeks ago a truck carrying radioactive material was in an accident in the Black section of Chicago's south side.

Representatives also spoke to 250 delegates at the IAM State Council meeting in Chicago, September 27. The IAM represents workers at the Argonne Laboratory in a Chicago suburb, where a person was recently "dusted" with plutonium, one of the most hazardous substances known.

The goals of the conference are outlined in its informational brochure:

"The sponsors of this national conference seek to provide an opportunity for trade unionists concerned about the dangers of nuclear power and the lack of democratic control over energy and employment policies to meet and address these problems. The conference will enable us: to expose the exploitative nature of corporate job blackmail over energy policy, and promote the involvement of working people in the democratic planning of our energy and employment futures; to stimulate local labor education and organizing efforts around the country; to become better informed about the economic and health dangers of nuclear power, and the availability of safe, economically feasible alternatives; to build on the historical experiences of anti-nuclear trade unionists in the U.S. and abroad, and unite trade unionists around safe energy and full employment demands."

All trade union members are urged to attend the conference. The Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment is at 1536 16th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Telephone (202) 265-7190.

Stop attacks on busing in Los Angeles!

The following statement by George Johnson, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate from California was released October 1.

Seventeen years ago the Supreme Court ordered that the Los Angeles school board desegregate the city's schools.

Los Angeles, one of the largest school districts in the country, is also one of the most deeply segregated, thanks to the actions of public officials who refuse to give Black and Chicano students an equal education.



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The school board poured funds and legal resources into fighting the ruling. As a result, Los Angeles' first busing plan was not implemented until last fall. This year a new plan expanded the schools involved in the busing program.

Busing to desegregate the schools is a step forward for the education of the sons and daughters of all working people in Los Angeles. By trying to divide Black, white, and Chicano; by fomenting divisions between parents, teachers, and students, school officials for decades have kept down the quality of education for everyone.

But for decades Black and Chicano students have been shunted into the most dilapidated and poorly equipped schools. Forcing such deplorable conditions on some students has allowed the city officials to lower education stand-

ards throughout the whole system.

It's only by equally distributing the funding and facilities that exist today that working people in Los Angeles will be able to carry out the united fight it will take to upgrade the entire education system.

The majority of the members of the Los Angeles school board, including board president Roberta Weintraub should be jailed for their attempts to illegally sabotage school desegregation. Some board members have called for and helped organize antibusing protests. After squandering school funds to try to get the busing plan dismissed, the school board announced budget cuts for this school year due to lack of funds!

Can there be any doubt that these criminal actions on the part of school officials have inspired and encouraged

recent incidents of violence and terrorism that have victimized Black and Chicano students?

The school board has encouraged the terrorist actions of outfits like the Ku Klux Klan, who have stepped up their activities in southern California.

These racists target not just Black and Chicano students, but all of us who support justice and human rights and a better education for all.

Civil rights groups, labor organizations, students, teachers, and parents must join together to demand an end to the criminal behavior of many of those who sit on the school board. We must demand that the buses keep rolling in Los Angeles, that the racist violence be stopped, and that all public officials who are illegally sabotaging school desegregation be arrested and prosecuted.