

THE MILITANT

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Hostages deny 'torture' stories

By Janice Lynn

The hostage "torture" story is blowing up in Washington's face.

Finally able to speak for themselves at a January 27 news conference at West Point, former hostages, one after another, emphatically denied claims that they had been brutalized or mistreated.

Elizabeth Ann Swift, who had been a ranking political officer at the former U.S. Embassy in Tehran, made a vehement appeal for the media to stop lying.

"I, at the moment, have a case in point which I am very concerned over," she said, "which is *Newsweek* magazine, which has a statement by me, a quote by me in here on torture."

The *Newsweek* article had said: "At one point, a guard put the cold muzzle of his pistol to the head of Elizabeth Ann Swift. 'I heard the trigger click, but nothing happened,' she said after her release last week. 'They only wanted to torture us.'"

But the whole story, cold muzzle and



ELIZABETH SWIFT: *Newsweek* tale 'is not true.'



JAMES LOPEZ: 'Were we subject to torture? No sir.'

all, came from somebody's hot imagination.

"I never talked to anybody from *Newsweek*," Swift told the West Point news conference. "I never said this to anybody, any other correspondent. *And it's not true.*"

Swift's comments came after one reporter tried to ask for the facts about so-called torture of the hostages in light of the shah's brutal record.

L. Bruce Laingen, former charge d'affaires at the embassy, acted as though he hadn't heard the question, and State Department official John

Cannon declared it out of order.

But Swift insisted on getting out the truth. And she explained why:

"The Iranian students . . . were constantly saying that the U.S. press was misreporting it, and we were constantly telling them that the U.S. had a free and a good, responsible press. And I'd like for the U.S. press to prove that now."

Judging from how the media have ignored the comments by Swift and other former hostages at the news conference, it will be a long time before the Iranian students are disproved.

Marine Sgt. James Lopez was asked about reports that hostages were tortured in the desert after the failure of Carter's "rescue" raid.

"Were we subject to torture? No sir," Lopez said.

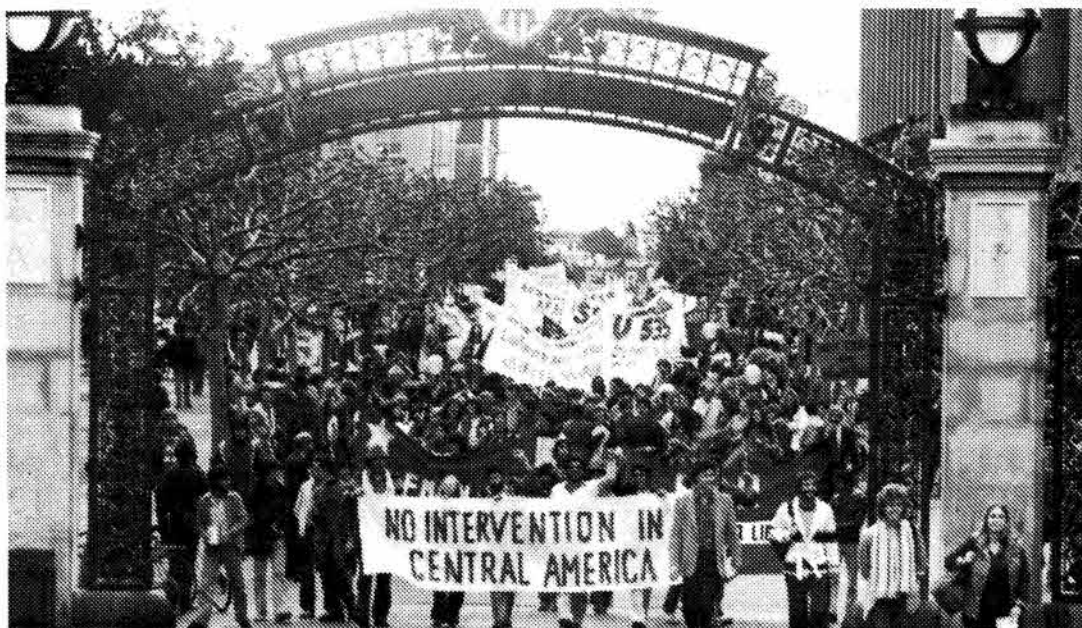
"I think what you're referring to is that fact that we were dispersed around the country and that it was done in such a helter-skelter style that many of us were crammed into small cars, and the lodgings were last-minute affairs. . . ."

Marine Sgt. Kevin Hermening, whose mother—Barbara Timm—had

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Families of slain nuns: 'No aid to El Salvador!'

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Berkeley march of 3,000 protests U.S. role in El Salvador. Teach-in the day before featured debate with State Department speakers. Page 7.

Company spies vs. Black rights

Lockheed's
racist record
at Ga. plant

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U.S. threatens to stop aid to Nicaragua

The U.S. government is threatening to stop economic aid to Nicaragua while it steps up military and economic backing to the bloody dictatorship in El Salvador.

As the survival of that dictatorship meets a growing challenge from the Salvadoran people, Washington has committed \$10 million in military aid, including supplies of deadly arms. Economic aid has been raised to \$65 million. In his January 28 news conference, Secretary of State Alexander Haig promised to increase military aid even more.

But at the same time the \$75 million approved for Nicaragua last October may be stopped.

In the January 23 *New York Times*, reporter Juan de Onis wrote that "further disbursements of economic aid [to Nicaragua] would be suspended until it was decided that the Nicaraguan Government was not giving aid to El Salvador's guerrillas. Nicaragua officially denies it has given such aid."

A UPI dispatch from Managua a few days later quoted Nicaraguan Minister of Planning Henry Ruiz, who said there had been no official notification of the aid cutoff.

When the *Militant* called State Department and Agency for International Development (AID) officials, they denied that the loans had already been suspended. Don Soles, head of the AID Nicaragua desk, said that a review is going on to determine whether the money already sent was used as the U.S. Congress specified, with 60 percent going to private business. The final \$15 million will not be released until this is certified.

The threat of an aid cutoff shows where Washington's priorities lie. Nicaragua is carrying out a genuine land reform and has recently completed a successful literacy drive. The Sandinista government is working to rebuild the economy shattered by the Somoza dictatorship, overthrown in 1979.

The government of El Salvador is today the worst violator of human rights in Latin America. Government forces killed more than 10,000 people last year. The repression is against the peasants, the majority of the population, and against anyone who opposes the wretched poverty inflicted on them.

The Salvadoran military government stays in power only through terror. *U.S. economic and military aid means stepping up that terror.*

In a January 16 editorial in the Managua daily *Barricada*, the Sandinista leadership explained what is involved. The real aim of the threat to cut off aid, the editorial said, "cannot be covered up: that is, to create a climate for intervention against El Salvador, which in turn would threaten to internationalize the conflict in Central America."

The warning of the Sandinistas is absolutely correct.

In recent weeks, Washington has intensified its propaganda campaign that the revolution in El Salvador is being sponsored and provoked by Nicaragua and Cuba. Stories have been floated about "boat invasions" of El Salvador from Nicaragua. A report was released that a Nicaraguan airplane was shot down. No evidence has accompanied these charges.

This propaganda drive is aimed not only at isolating the El Salvador rebels from international support, but also at destabilizing Nicaragua, where the class polarization continues to deepen. (See page 16.)

The cutoff of aid to Nicaragua would be a further blow to the young revolution there. But some among the U.S. rulers are worried it could backfire.

The January 24 *New York Times* editorialized against increasing aid to El Salvador while cutting off the loans to Nicaragua. It called both measures "shortsighted."

In Nicaragua, the editorial said, "the \$75 million aid program, long delayed and now suspended, was intended to strengthen the groups most favorable to the United States. They are sure to suffer politically if they cannot deliver significant support."

The *Times* is worried about the ground the capitalist forces are losing in Nicaragua. The Nicaraguan workers and peasants continue in their determination to rebuild their country, despite threats and sabotage.

As the *Barricada* editorial declared: "The tasks of the people of Sandino . . . are to close ranks and prepare in an organized way to defend our dignity and our revolution, and to prepare ourselves for the harshest economic, social, and political tests. . . . That is also the best solidarity we can provide to our sister people of El Salvador."

And the best solidarity working people in this country can offer is to demand: No cutoff of aid to Nicaragua! Halt all funds to the Salvador junta!

A big opportunity to stop the draft

The upcoming National Antidraft Conference, February 13-15 in Detroit, has the potential to represent the breadth of antidraft and antiwar sentiment in this country.

It has attracted support from high school and college students, Black leaders, trade unionists, members of the National Organization for Women, and antinuclear activists (see news story, page 24).

Central American solidarity groups have been among the most active builders of the conference. They see that a powerful antidraft, antiwar movement is one of the best ways to support the revolutions in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

Different political tendencies will also be participating: the Young Workers' Liberation League, the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee, the Young Socialist Alliance, the Socialist Workers Party, Maoist groups, and others.

In addition, the right-wing Libertarian Party will be present to press its reactionary views.

Many ideas will be debated as activists grapple with the kinds of demands, issues, and actions that will advance this movement.

Among the questions the conference will discuss in plenaries and workshops are:

- Will the antidraft movement oppose the draft for women and men, or bend to the notion that women should be drafted "equally"?

- Should the antidraft movement concentrate its fire on U.S. imperialism and oppose U.S. military intervention anywhere, or should it go along with the idea that Soviet "aggression" must be condemned?

- Will the antidraft movement demand government funds for social services and jobs instead of war? Will it link up with unionists fighting the capitalist austerity drive, Blacks and Latinos fighting racism, antinuclear forces? Or will it shun such allies and oppose the draft only as a matter of countering "big government," as the pro-capitalist Libertarians insist?

The Detroit conference can be a big step toward assembling a broad united movement that has the power to stay the warmakers' hands.

The stakes of this conference are high. Its outcome will help set the direction of the antidraft fight. Be in Detroit February 13-15.

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Behind Polish farmers' struggle

Workers World Party says the farmers movement threatens the Polish workers and socialism. Suzanne Haig answers this charge, explaining the farmers' grievances and the Marxist position on a worker-farmer alliance. **Page 13.**

The Militant

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Four major unions back national antinuclear action

By Suzanne Haig

Two more international unions—the United Auto Workers and the United Furniture Workers—have joined with the United Mine Workers and the International Association of Machinists to cosponsor a national demonstration against nuclear power.

The action will be held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on March 28—the second anniversary of the Three Mile Island nuclear accident.

With this broad labor support, the protest can begin bringing together the forces necessary to deal a decisive blow to the nuclear industry.

In addition, the March 28 action is sure to be one of the largest demonstrations in years for jobs and in solidarity with a major labor struggle—the coal miners' battle for a decent contract. (The current UMWA contract expires March 27.)

Harrisburg meetings

The national march and rally were called out of a two-day gathering in Harrisburg, sponsored by the National Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment and the Harrisburg Area Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment.

The gathering, primarily of unionists, met to learn more about the hazards of nuclear power and to chart a course of action to halt it.

Two hundred fifty people attended the educational meeting January 17 and came to the planning meeting January 18.

Thirty-five unions were represented, with the largest contingents coming from the UMWA, followed by the UAW, the IAM, and the United Steelworkers of America (USWA).

Local union presidents, district directors, international representatives, and rank and file members attended, as well as residents of the Three Mile Island area and individuals from antinuclear groups.

The UMWA and IAM sent international representatives to address the meeting: Tom Twomey, director of the UMWA Political Action Committee



Miners at Harrisburg conference. UMWA is playing leading role in antinuclear movement.

(COMPAC), and George Robinson from IAM headquarters.

The urgency of the action was stressed at the conference. As Jerry Gordon, coordinator of the National Labor Committee, pointed out, "After TMI, the nuclear industry went into hiding for a while. Soon after, they recouped and they've been on an all-out offensive ever since; and it's had its effects. . . .

"It's imperative now that this be countered by a highly visible, massive public activity."

The battle lines for the future of nuclear power in this country are being drawn in Harrisburg. The nuclear industry and government desperately want to restart Unit 1, the undamaged TMI reactor, and go forward with the clean-up of Unit 2.

If they are successful, the entire industry will feel free to build more plants and operate the current ones regardless of public opposition to the dangers.

Jane Lee pointed out that Washington is behind the nuclear industry and intends to vigorously support it regardless of the risks to the American people. Lee, a farmer who lives three and a half miles from TMI, has been documenting the effects of TMI on animal and plant life in the area for six years.

Lee told the audience that on January 16 the NRC decided to allow the operators of TMI, Metropolitan Edison, to begin using Unit 1 for training and testing in preparation for restarting the reactor.

Already this year there have been two explosions and hundreds of gallons of sulphuric acid spilled at TMI.

'Shot heard round the world'

Beverly Hess, a Harrisburg area resident who works with the Susquehanna Valley Alliance, told the audience about the frustration many had experienced after fighting so long with seemingly little effect. Her feelings had changed now, however.

"You here in the labor movement know how to get your act together and

do something about this," she said.

"This conference is the antinuclear shot heard round the world. The kind of energy I see being generated here among you is tremendous. I see the beginning of an upsurge here that I haven't seen since March 1979."

The participants responded with cheers when Jerry Gordon explained why the March 28 action should include the demand of support for the UMWA.

"The miners have a special place in the American labor movement and they also have a special place in the safe energy movement. . . . Our fate hinges on support to the miners," he said.

Joe Jurczak, chair of Pennsylvania United Mine Workers COMPAC, spoke on the need to substitute coal for nuclear power. "The decision to force nuclear power on the American people is not based on economics," he said.

"What we're dealing with here is a political question. Without the Price-Anderson Act [limiting the liability of insurance companies in the event of nuclear accident] . . . without the \$100 to 150 billion in federal government tax dollars, your tax dollars, invested in nuclear power, there would be no nuclear power."

"Within a hundred years, renewable resources will supply by far the greatest amount of energy used in this country, whether solar power, wind power, or hydroelectric."

"Meanwhile, we do have an alternative for the next 100 years, the 20 to 30 billion tons of recoverable coal that can be mined safely and burned cleanly and provide jobs for thousands of people."

The significance of powerful labor forces entering the fight against nuclear power has not been lost on the energy industry. It has launched an attack on the unions in an attempt to prevent them from uniting against the nuclear menace.

On Saturday morning, about 100 members of the Harrisburg and Central Pennsylvania Building and Construction Trades Council picketed the

conference. They carried signs reading: "This conference is a hoax," "These people do not speak for labor," "Turn off Iran, turn on TMI," and "Hard hats for America."

Moreover, the Harrisburg Building Trades Council has brought charges against Jane Perkins for her activities against nuclear power and has called for her expulsion from the executive board of the Harrisburg Central Labor Council. Perkins is the coordinator of the Harrisburg Area Labor Committee, secretary-treasurer of Local 668 of the Pennsylvania Social Services Union (SEIU), and trustee of the Central Labor Council.

The National Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment voted unanimously to make her defense one of its major campaigns and to circulate petitions protesting the attempt to silence Perkins and demanding that the charges be dropped.

Conference participants pointed out how the nuclear industry is using some building trades officials as a front.

Paul Garver of the SEIU remarked that the leaflet distributed by the picketers was put out by Americans for Energy Independence. "This is funded by the large corporations and right-wing foundations," he said.

"The building trades are a minor part of this. This group is attempting to divide and dominate the labor movement, to make it support nuclear power."

Several people pointed out that the AFL-CIO Construction Trades Department has signed a no-strike agreement for the TMI clean-up. Met Ed told the unions it would hire their members only if the leaders agreed that there would be no strikes, picket lines, or job actions—even if the workers had safety grievances.

Gene Carrol, a Harrisburg area resident, told the audience to "be patient with these unionists. They are not the enemy. They are our brothers and sisters. When the facts become clear that it's not in the interest of working people to support nuclear power, they will come to our side."

A member of the Union of Operating Engineers who works at TMI spoke. "I apologize for my union," he said. "I don't know why they are [picketing] here. I'm going to try to get them to change their minds. They want a job and don't care where they work. We have to let them know we are fighting for alternative means of employment."

The student body president of the Harrisburg Area Community College (where the meeting took place) is also a member of the USWA local in the area. He summed up what many were feeling at the conference. "I'm scared not only about nuclear power, but about what my country stands for."

Referring to the dangers of nuclear power and nuclear weapons, he said, "I'm convinced that the true patriots are those who stand up and do something about this."

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Socialist for LA mayor is probusing, antiwar

By Rebecca Finch

LOS ANGELES—Thirty campaigners hit the streets January 24 to begin collecting 1,000 signatures of registered voters needed to place James Little, a railroad switchman and member of the United Transportation Union, on the mayoral ballot in this city's April primary election.

"My campaign will speak for the interests of Black, white, and Chicano workers in Los Angeles," Little said as he announced his campaign for mayor against Democratic Party incumbent Thomas Bradley.

"One focal point of my campaign," said Little, "will be responding to the growing racist offensive against the Los Angeles Black and Chicano communities. The policies of the Democratic and Republican politicians, and the big business bosses they represent, are behind this offensive."

"My campaign, for example, is probusing," Little said.

"I am for cross-district busing to achieve real desegregation of our city's schools. And if I am elected mayor, I will help organize the probusing forces out of my office to fight for that."

The majority of the members of the Los Angeles School Board, including board president Roberta Weintraub, are vehemently antibusing, Little explained.

"The school board has poured five million dollars into fighting court ordered desegregation here. And the board majority is actively organizing antibusing protests," Little said.

Antibusing ruling

A state appellate court ruled on December 19 that Proposition 1, the antibusing ballot proposition approved in the 1979 election, is constitutional. Proposition 1 seeks to prohibit busing in the state of California, including the current program in Los Angeles schools.

"That decision was a blow to the rights of Blacks and other workers throughout the state, and I oppose it," said Little.

"If the state supreme court does not hear the appeal filed by the American Civil Liberties Union and the NAACP, the current mandatory busing program will be ended in mid-February."

"I think busing," Little continued, "is an important tool in the fight for equal education for Black and Chicano youth. In the 1979-80 school year, the school board spent three times as much money per pupil on schools in predominantly white neighborhoods as they did on schools located in Black and Chicano neighborhoods. Busing is one way to counter this outright racist discrimination."

"A court-ordered survey completed last month showed that Black and Chicano schools are short more than 200,000 textbooks, while the predominantly white schools had a total of 75,419 unused books in storage!"

Socialist Announces Candidacy for Mayor

Attacks Bradley for Lack of Leadership on Racism, Police Violence

By HENRY WEINSTEIN
Times Staff Writer

Criticizing incumbent Tom Bradley for a lack of leadership on important social issues, James L. Little, a member of the Socialist Workers Party, has announced his candidacy for mayor of Los Angeles in the April primary.

Little, 33, said Bradley has failed to play a positive leadership role in combating racism, police violence and plant closings in the Los Angeles area.

He also accused Bradley of being "anti-labor" because of the mayor's criticism of striking city workers late last year.

Handling of Police

He asserted that Bradley's "handling of the police is terrible." Little contended that the police officers who shot and killed Eulalia Love in a controversial 1979 incident should have been prosecuted.

Although he acknowledged that the district attorney has the ultimate decision on whether to file criminal charges, Little said Bradley "can't prosecute but he can exert tremendous political pressure on (District Attorney John) Van de



James L. Little

Kamp and (Police Chief Daryl) Gates. Instead he just plays a back-ground role."

"Many people in the community were demanding justice be done. He should have been in the leadership of the movement," Little said.

Bradley was critical of police ac-

tions in the Love case, as were the police commissioners he appointed. They recommended changes in police shooting procedures as an outgrowth of the incident.

Little also contended that Bradley should take a more up-front role in pushing for school desegregation. He said he favors mandatory cross-district busing to achieve desegregation "as the only way to get equal education for black and Latino students in this city."

Little said that school desegregation—not formally within the province of the mayor's duties—will be a focal point of his campaign. He said he will campaign in conjunction with Cathleen Gutekunst, a Socialist Workers Party member who will oppose incumbent Roberta Weintraub for a Board of Education position.

The Socialist Workers Party decided to run candidates for mayor and the Board of Education, non-partisan offices, at a gathering of about 60 people in early December, according to Pearl Chertov, campaign coordinator. She said the party hopes to spend in excess of \$10,000 during the mayoral campaign.

January 11 'Los Angeles Times' article announces Little's mayoral campaign.

Little explained why the antibusing campaign waged by the school board hurts white as well as Black and Chicano students.

"While forcing deplorable conditions on Black and Chicano students, city officials have pushed through huge budget cuts in all the schools," said Little. "These have led to teacher layoffs, elimination of extra-curricular activities, elimination of counselors, and the dropping of one whole class period for juniors and seniors."

Little and his campaign supporters in the Young Socialist Alliance are planning to take the Socialist Workers campaign to working class communities, plant gates, and unemployment lines.

High schools

The socialist campaign also plans a special effort to reach out to Los Angeles high school students. Campaigners will talk to these youth about what they can do to fight the antibusing offensive, police brutality in the Black community, the rise of Klan and Nazi terror in southern California, and other aspects of the rulers' racist offensive.

"Even though Los Angeles has a Black mayor, members of the Black community, like other workers, hold no political power," said Little. "We need a city administration that represents the class interests of working people in Los Angeles."

"My campaign supporters and I will be spreading the word about the new National Black Independent Political Party (NBIPP) launched in Philadelphia last fall. I think it's a positive example of what all working people

must do to make economic and political progress," said Little.

"I endorse the discussion taking place among some in the union movement here in California on the merits of a labor party. Working people need to break with the Democratic and Republican parties of the bosses and form a labor party based on the unions—a party that will fight for our interests."

Portland city council race

By Joel Shapiro

PORTLAND—Fred Auger is the Socialist Workers candidate for city council in a special election here February 17.

Auger, who is a member of the International Association of Machinists Local 1005 and the Young Socialist Alliance, emphasizes his campaign's defense of the rights of Portland's Black community.

"Racist harassment and violence are on the rise across the country," said Auger. "Portland is no exception. Cross-burnings in Milwaukie, Oregon, cop brutality, and other incidents of racist harassment against Blacks in Portland bear this out."

The socialist candidate is discussing the attacks on Black education and voicing his support for both school desegregation and Black control over the education of Black youth as "steps towards an equal education for Black students." Auger backs demands raised here by Black leaders for a board of parents, students, and teachers democratically elected by the Black community to oversee the education of their children. He calls for the

hiring of more Black teachers in the Portland public schools.

Auger, who was the Socialist Workers candidate for mayor in the spring of 1980, points to the need for working people to organize a labor party that could lead the fight against city and federal government giveaway programs to large corporations.

"While living standards, transportation, and other services have been deteriorating," said Auger, "the city council has provided millions of dollars in subsidies and tax breaks to non-union plants. It has subsidized builders of high-rise luxury apartments."

"The city government brags about this being the nation's most liveable city," Auger continued. "Yet the unemployment rate is almost 10 percent, city bus fares have increased twice in the past year, social services have been cut back, and there has been an increase in racist violence and harassment by the police."

Auger's campaign has included discussions with co-workers at the Freightliner truck manufacturing plant.

Some people are afraid of losing their jobs. They won't participate. We need all the unions helping in this fight. Let's talk to Laborers Local 210, which had 200 members at the rally, and see how they can help."

One young woman was applauded when she said, "Fighting the Klan is important. But we have to remember one thing, the Klan is like a tentacle of an octopus. When we destroy the Klan we have only cut off one tentacle. We have to destroy the octopus itself."

After the meeting, four people asked to join the YSA and one asked to join the SWP. As people left, we said to each other, "Don't say good-bye, say 'see you later.'"

Another man said, "We have to get more unions involved."

One older Black woman said, "To organize Black people we should be able to use some of our existing organizations. Our community is divided into block associations. Let's use these block associations for more education."

Another man said, "We have to get more unions involved."

Buffalo forum discusses racism and legacy of King

By Linda Slodki

BUFFALO, N.Y.—Two King Day rallies, one of 300 people, the second involving 3,000, took place here January 15.

Following the rallies, the Young Socialist Alliance held a forum titled "How to end racist murders: the legacy of Dr. King."

YSA and Socialist Workers Party members had joined both rallies that day and we had passed out leaflets inviting other Black rights demonstrators to the meeting. We held the forum at a hotel across from Niagara Square, where one of the rallies had taken place.

Forty people came, most from the Black community in Buffalo. They had the recent

murders of several Black men here on their minds.

In his presentation, SWP leader Thabo Ntweng predicted more Black rights demonstrations like those on January 15. He outlined King's legacy of mass actions for Black civil rights and against the war.

He explained why mass protests are one effective way to challenge both racist violence by the Klan and Nazis, and racist attacks by the government and the bosses.

Ntweng explained how the National Black Independent Political Party was formed and how the Cleveland chapter plans to be involved in the fight against racist attacks.

He also discussed the role of

socialists in the fight against racism.

In the open discussion, people got down to business. While the talk lasted twenty minutes, discussion continued for three hours.

One Black woman said, "We have to get more people involved. There were still many folks who stayed at home who were afraid to participate."

"One way to accomplish this is to cut across confusion. Having two anti-Nazi, anti-Klan demonstrations was confusing, and the media played on that confusion," she said.

"The press would say, don't go to this demonstration because there will be a confrontation with the Nazis. Or they would

say, don't go to that demonstration for whatever reason. We have to educate and unite."

Everyone agreed with the suggestion to build more Black rights demonstrations and educational activities. February, which is Black history month, was pointed to as a good focus for educational activities. February 21, the anniversary of Malcolm X's assassination, was also singled out.

One older Black woman said, "To organize Black people we should be able to use some of our existing organizations. Our community is divided into block associations. Let's use these block associations for more education."

Another man said, "We have to get more unions involved."

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Chrysler blackmail puts squeeze on UAW

United Auto Workers union members who work for Chrysler are voting this week on new contract givebacks that will slash their paychecks by \$622 million over the next two years.

The federal Chrysler Loan Guarantee Board withheld approval of \$400 million in loan guarantees to the sinking corporation until the UAW leadership agreed to a wage freeze and the elimination of future cost-of-living adjustment payments.

The concessions will cost each Chrysler worker \$9,600 during the two-year contract period. Beginning March 1, workers will lose an average of \$46 a week.

A letter sent from UAW International headquarters to UAW-Chrysler workers urges a yes vote and offers the choice of "accepting the additional sacrifices or losing your job and endangering pension and health benefits for retirees."

To sugar coat these cutbacks, Chrysler offers a "profit sharing" program. Of course, the company is making no profits.

If it ever does, Chrysler will keep all profits up to 10 percent of its net worth. In the highly unlikely event that profits go above this level, the workers are to receive 15 percent of the excess.

In addition to the wage cuts, Chrysler is pushing for special tax breaks and extended time to meet federal standards on pollution and safety. It is asking the government for import restrictions, which will further increase the price of all cars.

A report by Neil Goldschmidt, Carter's Transportation Secretary who helped draw up the Chrysler blackmail plan, makes clear that saving Chrysler does not equal saving jobs.

He argues that the union must support increases in productivity "even where productivity advances may mean a reduction in employment opportunities."

Michigan Senator Donald Riegle hails Goldschmidt's recommendations as "the centerpiece of a new industrial strategy for America. They provide an essential roadmap of the future."

General Motors and Ford apparently agree. Awaiting the outcome of the union vote on February 2, they have already begun to argue for concessions of their own.

Detroit: 'Whole contract is undermined'

By Joe Allor

DETROIT—It's Chrysler bail-out time all over again. Almost half the workers at Chrysler are already laid off.

Dodge Main is being torn down. The Outer Drive Stamping Plant contents were sold at auction to capitalists from all over the world. The Lynch Road Assembly Plant is shut down, and as I'm writing this, every other Chrysler production facility is either on temporary or indefinite layoff.

Chrysler is worse off than they are telling us in the news. Everybody at work knows that. We've worked only one week at Dodge Truck since the holidays. We knew a layoff was coming because the parts suppliers refused to deliver any more stock until they saw cash.

Vendors who launder our coveralls hadn't been paid in six months, so we had to start washing our own. Before long, people said, we'd have to start bringing our own coffee because there wouldn't be any in the machines.

Anger over concessions

This time the discussion in my plant

Joe Allor is a member of United Auto Workers Local 140. He has worked at Dodge Truck in Warren, Michigan, for fifteen years.



Detroit taxpayers are footing bill to tear down Dodge Main site for new owners—General Motors.

around the contract concessions is different. A year ago, many people went along with it because it was the only solution the union leadership was offering. Some believed that with \$450 million worth of concessions from us, Chrysler would surely pull through the crisis. People were demoralized.

Now people are angry and disgusted with the conditions we've been working under for the last year. It's like being in a non-union shop.

The whole contract—what's left of it—has been undermined. There's a new absentee control program, and whatever the man in the absentee control program office says, goes.

It used to mean something to call a chief steward about a grievance or problem, but not now. Chrysler just won't budge. Their attitude is—if you don't like it, you can quit.

Some people were willing to go along with a wage freeze, because of the fear that a depression brings. And we really are in a depression here in Michigan, regardless of what the government wants to call it.

But then we found out that to Chrysler a wage "freeze" actually means a wage cut, and that they want to take away the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) we're already getting.

'Going back ten years'

Jim, a paint shop worker, told me, "We already gave up most of our contract rights and paid holidays to work in sweatshop conditions. If we give up our COLA we'll be taking our real wages back ten years."

Another plant employee told me, "The company wants us to live on subsistence wages while they give up nothing. There are too many foremen and not enough workers."

Dick, a trim shop repairman with fifteen years' seniority, put it this way, "They priced me out of the new car market. Now they're about to price me out of the supermarket. I say 'No' to any more concessions."

If Chrysler workers ever had any doubts about what it means for UAW President Douglas Fraser to be on Chrysler's Board of Directors, now they know what a joke it is.

An international representative, Willie Stovall, spoke at my local's membership meeting one Sunday. He tried to draw some distance between himself and the rest of the Chrysler bargaining committee.

He said nothing we can do is going to save Chrysler. They are going to go down, just like Packard, Studebaker, De Soto, and the rest.

Stovall did say, however, that a new

demand we are making is for Chrysler to open the books. He admitted it didn't really mean anything because Chrysler's financial status is public knowledge.

Open the books

"Open the books" is a good demand for the UAW to make. A lot better than "stop the imports." And let's open 'em wide. For everybody's inspection, everybody who wants to see them. And let's publish our findings.

We especially need to keep a close eye on our pension funds, or else when Chrysler finally goes under we're likely to find they've been looted and we're left with nothing.

We also need to open the books of all the companies, not just Chrysler's. General Motors and Ford are already crying for union concessions.

Let's see for ourselves about all the money they claim to be losing. What are their real plans for automating and wiping out jobs? What are their secret plans for closing more plants? For restoring their competitive edge at our expense?

Actually, we shouldn't be "sharing" management decisions with Chrysler. The whole idea that the company and workers have mutual interests and can solve the problems together is false. They want to make more money by cutting our pay and speeding up the line. That doesn't sound like a two-way street to me.

We should be running the plants. The UAW should be making all the decisions about production, democratically. That would require a real shake-up in the UAW, of course. It could happen only after everybody participated in frank, open discussions.

What future?

I guess the new concessions will get voted up. Most of the workers near retirement and about half of the younger workers I've talked to don't see any choice. I think, though, that the vote will be closer than last time.

Lots of people I work with are talking about moving—anywhere—because they don't see any future in Detroit. For me, the future looks the same as so many other Chrysler workers—unemployed.

I'm convinced Chrysler should be nationalized. It should become public property and run to meet the needs of the working class.

I don't give a damn whether Chrysler as a corporation survives. But Chrysler plants and machinery could produce something, perhaps vehicles for mass transit. And the working class could fight to put them to that use, and maybe even create jobs.

Twinsburg: 'there is no new Chrysler'

By Shirley Pasholk and Jeff Powers

TWINSBURG, Ohio—What does the "new" Chrysler Corporation look like to its workers? We visited Chrysler's stamping plant here to find out.

As the company's main stamping plant, Twinsburg plays a central role in the company's plans for survival.

We talked with three young Black women workers whose seniority ranges from four to eight years.

Like 1,000 others from the plant's total work force of 4,000, they are laid off.

These workers agreed that there is no new Chrysler. About three months ago, this plant called back all of its laid-off workers and began hiring in order to meet initial orders for the K-car.

During the brief increase in production, a number of workers from closed plants in Hamtramck and East St. Louis were offered a chance to transfer to Twinsburg.

When many took advantage of this relocation offer, they found that no provision had been made for them. Some were forced to live in campers while waiting for their pay records to be transferred.

Despite Chrysler's big public relations campaign, these workers told us there is no indication Chrysler product quality has improved. One woman, an inspector, described the frustration of rejecting improperly stamped doors, only to have her foreman approve them.

They told us that a large quantity of doors were recently returned because they were too small for the model they had been stamped for.

Work rules are constantly being eroded, with workers transferred without regard to seniority.

Those who have difficulty making production—often without a proper training period—find themselves transferred to less desirable jobs.

There is also widespread discrimination against women, who are disciplined for violating petty rules that male workers are not expected to follow, they said.

Workers were forced to work ten-hour days, seven days a week, even as plant management was planning another layoff. Many of the workers who had just moved here were let go.

"No one works steady for Chrysler," one woman said. "I've been working eight years there and I expect to get laid off every year. It's just one of those things that goes with working for Chrysler."

U.S. out of El Salvador!

Families of slain nuns hit aid to junta

By Nelson González

NEW YORK—Resumption of U.S. military aid to the Salvadoran junta was bitterly denounced January 22 by the families and colleagues of the four American women slain there last December.

The news conference at United Nations Plaza was packed with reporters from all the major media.

A letter written by Jean Donovan and a taped interview with Ita Ford—both from just a few days before the women were killed—were also released.

The Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) and the Council on Hemispheric Affairs sponsored the news conference.

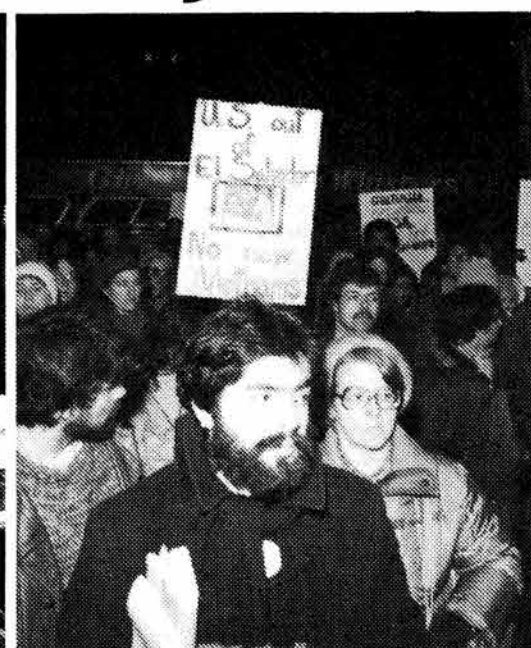
"There is perhaps no other issue on which U.S. church groups are as united as they are in their opposition to the resumption of military aid to El Salvador," said Sister Joan Hart of the Ursuline Order.

She noted that even U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador Robert White disputes Washington's claim that the government of El Salvador has conducted a "serious investigation" of the murder of the American missionaries.

"We must question," she said, "whether the U.S. is giving tacit approval for the persecution of the Church by sending even more military aid."



Press conference participants, left to right: Robert Armstrong of CISPES, Josephine Kollmer of the Maryknoll order, William Ford, brother of Ita Ford.



Protest against U.S. aid to El Salvador at U.N. mission in New York City

val for the persecution of the Church by sending even more military aid."

After the news conference more than 500 people picketed at Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza and then marched to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations.

Speakers included Michael Harrington from the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee; Michael Donovan, brother of Jean Donovan; a representative of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party; a representative of the

H-Block Committee in defense of Irish political prisoners; and a representative of the Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador.

Below are excerpts from the news conference.

'We have no business training murderers'

William Ford, the brother of Ita Ford, one of the slain missionaries, told the January 22 news conference that "Ita and her three companions were murdered by the junta's security forces, who opposed the Church's work with and for the poor of El Salvador."

Ford, like Donovan, noted that the Carter administration had assured the families that aid would not be resumed until a "satisfactory investigation" of the murders had been conducted.

"Despite these promises," he said, "the families have heard nothing. Not one of the telephone calls by the Ford family to the State Department has been returned."

"What makes the resumption of U.S. aid to the junta even more outrageous is that the murdered churchwomen are only four of thousands of people who have been abused, tortured, and murdered by the junta's security forces."

"Our tax dollars are supporting, supplying, and training a government whose security forces have run amok."

"For example, the U.S. government supplies trucks to the Salvadoran army from which maimed and mutilated bodies are regularly dumped out onto streets and parking lots of El Salvador."

"Ita, as well as other churchpeople in El Salvador, asked the United States to stop supplying and supporting the government of El Salvador. These same churchpeople have told us in clear voices that the terror and the bloodbath are caused by the government of El Salvador itself, and they have cut through the propaganda that the junta is in the middle trying to restrain the extreme left and right. There is really no center position in El Salvador. . . ."

"As Americans committed to basic ideas of justice and decency, we have no business supporting, arming, and training murderers. As the destiny of America is and should be decided by Americans, the destiny of El Salvador should be decided by its own people."

William Ford then played a tape of an interview with Ita Ford done by Pacifica Radio a few days before she was killed.

Ita Ford: "... The majority of the people that I come in contact with, the feeling I get is that they want a change, I mean, they are the ones who—what exists now in the way of government and the security forces."

"In fact, many of these people don't

even understand government. What they understand is that they're being terribly repressed by the security forces, and they just kind of live in fear. A truck comes along and they say—you know, it's the death squad, and everybody just kind of trembles, and that night somebody's killed."

"Or where I've been is that the death squad will come in and a few men will just lean up against the wall and stake out a town and just stare for a while or go around, and the people just feel that, you know, there is no defense. . . ."

"People have seen from their eyes, I mean, identifying the cars and seeing the men walking out of the national police stations and seeing them, that—who do you go to to put in a complaint?"

"There is no complaint; there is no place to go to complain against the death squad. That seems to be much more active like, say, in places in Santa Ana it's very, very bad there."

"It's becoming more of a phenomenon in this area now. It wasn't before. It's within the last few weeks, it's really picked up. . . ."

"The colonel of the local regiment said to me the other day that the

Church is indirectly subversive because it's on the side of the weak."

Question: "What do you think of the role of the U.S. government and its support of the military/Christian Democratic junta that rules here?"

Ita Ford: "Well, as a U.S. citizen I'm highly disappointed and mostly outraged at the type of support because I think the U.S. is upholding a myth that there's a center ground and another way, and I think it's just a creation, you know, of the hopes of the State Department. . . ."

"That's not the truth. There is, this government doesn't represent anybody at this point, and you know it, it's fearful . . . when you think of, you know, the U.S. now going to train Salvadoran troops in Panama, the different equipment they're sending in, that type of thing is, you know, it's reprehensible. And I think that sometime the United States has to realize that, you know, it does not own Central America or any other part of the world, that people have the right to shape their own destinies and choose the type of government they want and make their own choices."

'U.S. military aid used to murder and torture'

The following statement was made at the January 22 news conference by Michael Donovan, brother of Jean Donovan, the Catholic lay missionary slain in El Salvador.

I appreciate the opportunity which CISPES has given me to speak here today. I want to express the deep disappointment and dismay that my family and I feel as a result of the reinstatement and subsequent escalation of military aid to El Salvador in the final days of the Carter administration.

On the 22nd of December we met with Secretary Edmund Muskie at his State Department office. During the course of that meeting he assured us that the United States would insist on

a full and complete investigation into the deaths of the four American women.

We were told that the United States would withhold all military aid to the junta in El Salvador, until the investigation reached a full and satisfactory conclusion.

I regret that Mr. Muskie felt compelled to tell us what he thought we wanted to hear, rather than the true situation. And I would ask the new administration in Washington to immediately withdraw the aid.

Last November 20 Jean Donovan sent a letter to Sen. Edward Kennedy about the situation in El Salvador. Here are excerpts:

As a North American, one of the

hardest things to see is how the people are suffering here because of the actions of our government.

Archbishop Romero asked in his letter in February, 1980, before his assassination, for the U.S.A. not to send any military aid, since it is being used to murder and torture an already oppressed people.

Since the Rio Sumpul river killings [where 600 peasants were massacred by the junta's security forces], the violence has only increased. The Church has been persecuted since it is the only voice against the oppression.

Recently the army and other military forces moved into Morazán for a clean-up operation. We still don't fully know what happened, but the reports from the refugees we have picked up are devastating.

Now the confrontation has moved to San Vicente.

I picked up a twelve year old boy last week who appeared to have been machete'd by members of ORDEN, the paramilitary security force. Two days later I helped move him to the arzobispado refugee center.

Last week the arzobispado was searched by military forces. Monsignor Rivera y Damas was present, and I am enclosing his statement.

Unfortunately, I arrived fifteen minutes after they had left, because a number of witnesses testified that the men that were running the search spoke and appeared by their faces to be gringos.

It takes another gringo to determine what country they are from. I certainly hope that they are individual mercenaries.

California debate stuns State Department reps

By Jeff Mackler

BERKELEY, Calif.—At least 1,000 students at the University of California at Berkeley witnessed a head-on debate on the civil war in El Salvador January 16.

Opponents of U.S. policy in El Salvador argued against Prof. Roy Prosterman of the University of Washington and Dr. Einaudi, a State Department representative.

Prosterman takes credit for helping design the "agrarian reform" programs imposed with the backing of the U.S. government in Vietnam and in El Salvador. In both cases the programs were counterinsurgency efforts to organize repression against the rural population.

The six-hour teach-in was sponsored by Professors Concerned about the Situation in El Salvador and U.S. Involvement in the Region and ADELA, a campus based Latin American student group. The auditorium was packed, and hundreds of people were turned away at the door.

Prosterman presented a detailed description of the "land reform" in El Salvador. He argued that it was the most extensive in Latin American history and that it was widely supported by the Salvadoran peasantry.

As evidence he cited the decline in size of public antigovernment demonstrations called by the opposition Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR). He said they went from "100,000 in January 1980 to some 2,000 in May, when the land reform was instituted. A lot of this had to do with the land reform. The bulk of the people would say, a pox on both your houses."

According to Prosterman, opposition to the land reform comes both from a handful of the right-wing oligarchy and from leftists who would prefer to collectivize the land.

University of Chicago Prof. James Stephens, responded to Prosterman, pointing out that the land reform was imposed on the peasantry under a declared "state of siege."

He explained that individual plots that were distributed were too small for subsistence, that the major crops of the country were excluded from the "reform," that title to the land has still not been given to the peasants, and that the private armies of the oligarchy as well as government troops regularly evict and murder the peasants.

Phillip Wheaton also spoke. He is the director of the Ecumenical Program for Inter-American Communication and Action (EPICA), an advisory group to the National Council of Churches. Wheaton quoted from U.S. government sources and a wide range of other material to show that the right-wing military and paramilitary groups are integrated into the military and command structures of the ruling junta.

He concluded that "the use of the terms 'extreme right' and 'extreme left' is a propaganda device used by the U.S. government. The extreme right and the government of El Salvador are the same."

Eileen Malloy, representing Amnesty International, cited reports from church organizations and eyewitness Amnesty International representatives about the direct role of the Salvadoran government in the murders and disappearances of more than 8,000 people.

"Most were taken directly from their homes," she said. "They included trade unionists; members of human rights organizations; virtually the entire leadership of ANDES, the Salvadoran teachers union; opposition political and religious leaders; and peasants."

The high point of the teach-in was the response to the talk by Carlos Vela, representing the FDR. Vela is the central organizer for Casa El Salvador in the Bay Area.

He reviewed the program of the FDR and the history of the freedom struggle there.

Vela received a standing ovation.

Einaudi and Prosterman appeared stunned.

San Diego committee aids Salvador refugees

By Mark Friedman

SAN DIEGO—In response to increasing appeals from refugees fleeing right-wing terror in El Salvador, a broad-based committee has been formed here to help the refugees win political asylum in the United States.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service, *la migra*, has been rounding up undocumented Salvadorans, intern-ing them in concentration camps in El Centro and other parts of the Southwest, and then deporting them.

The committee was formed by local activists, civil libertarians, lawyers, and churches. It will raise money to cover the expenses involved in efforts to win asylum for the refugees and to get them out on bail while they await hearings.

The committee plans to tour some of the refugees on campuses, high schools, churches, and unions throughout the Southwest.

The committee held a news conference January 7 publicizing the plight of the refugees. Shortly afterward, it received a letter from three Salvadoran teachers.

"In light of the present situation in our country, and of the persecution and killing of which the teaching profession nationally has been a victim, we have been forced to emigrate to the United States," they wrote.

They appealed for the committee's help "in preventing our deportation to

our country, where, beyond any doubt, if we are deported we face certain death."

Initial sponsors of the committee include U.S. Rep. Ron Dellums; the Maryknoll Sisters; Peace and Justice Commission of the San Diego Catholic Diocese; Sandra Boyer, president of the San Diego Printers Union; Larry Schwartz, president of American Federation of Teachers Local 1931, and many others.

The committee is working in close collaboration with the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES).

Antígona Martínez, a founder of the committee, explained: "The issue of the refugees is crucial. These people's lives are at stake. Many of them were unionists, students, and political activists in El Salvador before fleeing the right-wing terror."

"There are today more than 5,000 refugees from El Salvador in Tijuana alone who want to come to the United States because of the repression," she said.

The committee is appealing for emergency financial aid to help these refugees. Telegrams demanding the right to political asylum should be sent to President Ronald Reagan with copies to the Salvadoran Refugee Defense Committee, c/o George Haverstick, 1168 Union Street, Room 201, San Diego, California 92101.

Solidarity with Central America



and the Caribbean

If you missed TV show on El Salvador. . .

The excellent documentary "El Salvador: Another Vietnam?" will be shown on Public Television again the weekend of January 31-February 1.

The film interviews leaders of the opposition to the El Salvador junta and workers and farmers, contrasting their story to the justification for official terror offered by the junta and U.S. government representatives.

The film will be broadcast in New York on Channel 13 at 6 p.m. on February 1. It will also be shown in Minneapolis; Madison, Wisconsin; and other cities. Check your TV listings and don't miss it.

Grenadian bomb victim returns from Cuba

"Still smiling, fighting and now walking, Jackie Bailey, the 11-year-old schoolgirl who won the hearts of thousands of Grenadians, returned home last Sunday from Cuba, with an artificial leg," reports the December 20 *Free West Indian*, national newspaper of Grenada.

The article, by Grenadian youth leader Ken Lewis, describes the experiences of Bailey in Cuba, where she went for treatment after the brutal June 19 bomb attack on a rally in Grenada. Bailey's sister lost her life as a result of injuries from the blast, carried out by counterrevolutionaries.

"Jackie said that she liked Cuba very much," Lewis writes, "and while there, at the Frank Pais hospital, celebrated her 11th birthday with a party hosted by the Grenadian Embassy and the nurses and doctors."

At the hospital, "she met Nicaraguan youths who had lost their legs in battle; Zimbabwean, Angolan, and even Yemeni youths, who had suffered at the barbaric hands of imperialism."

Jackie said she wanted to return to her old school. "I want to study hard—I want to be able to help people like myself all over the world."

Grenada's Provisional Revolutionary Government is building a house for Jackie and her mother, Lewis reports, "and they are looking to the future with the right spirit."

For U.S. subscriptions to the *Free West Indian*, write to the Grenada Mission to the United Nations, Room 905, 141 E. 44th Street, New York, New York 10017.

Juan Mari Bras holds news conference

Juan Mari Bras, general secretary of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), appeared at the United Nations January 22 in a news conference organized by the International Information Office for the Independence of Puerto Rico.

Analyzing the November elections in Puerto Rico, Mari Bras said the results were a big setback for those who want to make the island a state of the United States. The pro-statehood party of Carlos Romero Barceló, which had predicted victory by an overwhelming margin, eked out its win by a bare .2 percent of the vote.

Mari Bras cited the strong showing of local PSP candidates in the race as a sign of the developing consciousness among Puerto Ricans of the need for independence and socialism.

He reiterated the demand that the U.S. Navy get out of Vieques and expressed solidarity with the struggle in El Salvador for self-determination.

Puerto Rican socialists announce solidarity drive

The U.S. section of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party has announced a campaign to collect funds and hold activities in solidarity with the people of El Salvador.

Party members and supporters are invited to see a film on El Salvador and hear a speaker from the Salvadoran Democratic National Union on January 30 in New York at 113 West 14th Street.

The PSP also urges its members to participate in the activities of the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES).

Los Angeles CISPES growing

The Los Angeles Committee in Solidarity with El Salvador, a local affiliate of national CISPES, has involved hundreds of people in recent activities, reports Jim Little.

"At Crenshaw High School about 400 Black students heard Arturo Sosa, spokesperson for CISPES, explain the events in El Salvador," Little says. "Fifty students signed up for more information on CISPES activities."

On January 13, Salvadorans and CISPES activists picketed a send-off celebration for Ronald Reagan sponsored by the L.A. City Council and big business luminaries. The most popular chant was "No draft, no war, U.S. out of El Salvador."

The next night more than 300 people met in McArthur Park to hear news of the civil war in El Salvador.

CISPES is also organizing solidarity in colleges, unions, and churches.

Los Angeles has one of the largest populations of Salvadorans in the world, Little writes. They have been prominent in antidraft protests, like one on January 4, when 700-800 young Salvadorans joined in a march of more than 1,000 against draft registration. The focus of the action was how the draft could be used against the people of El Salvador.

—Nelson González

Please send information on activities in your area to Nelson González, 14 Charles Lane, New York, New York 10014.

... torture lies

Continued from front page

visited him in Tehran in defiance of Carter's travel ban, confirmed that the decent treatment he described to his mother had not changed following her visit.

Another reporter asked Charles Jones, the only Black hostage, about a statement that quoted him as saying he was treated "like an animal in the zoo."

What he meant, Jones explained, was that "We were fed like at certain times. [We] were being watched all the time. In other words, that's what I was talking about. I wasn't talking about being mistreated as an animal in a zoo."

Kathryn Koob, a highly religious person, told reporters that she never encountered any religious prejudice from the Iranian students. "As a matter of fact, there were questions, and an opportunity to talk about that."

Two of the hostages said they had passed the fourteen months doing extensive reading and a lot of reflecting.

Air Force Col. Thomas Schaefer said his biggest problem in captivity was "trying to determine what I was going to eat with my rice."

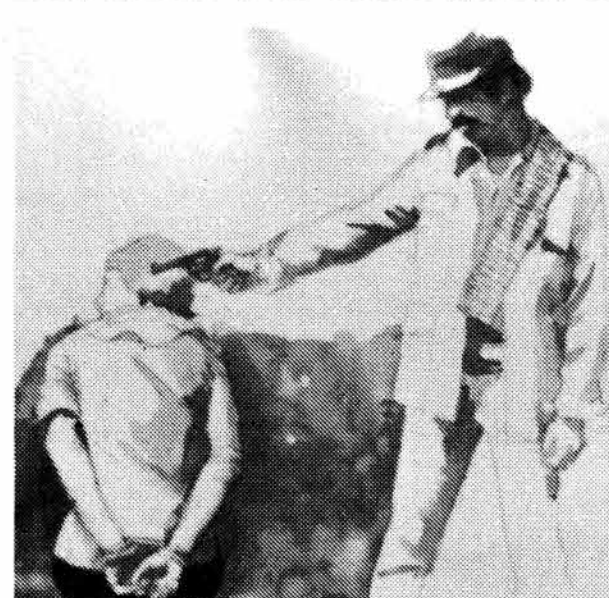
John Graves, public affairs officer at

the embassy, stated: "I am uncomfortable with the fact that much of what I see in the press seems to be a kind of almost willful distortion. . . ."

For example, he said, "there's enormous evidence, completely cogent evidence for the proposition that the people who took us, that captured us, were students. Legitimate students."

The media, of course, have tried for fourteen months to convey the opposite idea.

The government and media claims of Iranian brutality unravelled some more that night when Richard Morefield, former U.S. consul general in



'Newsweek' drawing of alleged torture. Ex-hostage says the magazine never talked to her and its story attributed to her is not true.

Tehran, was interviewed by Ted Koppel on ABC-TV.

"I was never, ever formally interrogated," Morefield said.

"I was always treated with respect. . . . It wasn't torture, in no way. I was never touched physically."

Morefield also said he received 90 to 95 percent of the letters his wife sent him.

Unable to make stick any specific charges of physical torture, the White House announced the day before the hostages' news conference that about a dozen of them were now suffering "severe" mental problems.

Asked about this, Marine Sgt. John McKeel declared: "I don't know how the rumor got out about some of us hostages supposed to be suffering from some mental condition. But I feel from the people I've talked to since my stay here at West Point that we're all all right."

"And as soon as they let us get home so—especially the Marines—we can get back to chasing women, it's going to be perfect."

Then he repeated emphatically, "We are *all all right*, physically and mentally!"

The hostages may be all right, but Washington's latest batch of lies about Iran is in bad shape.

Who are real barbarians?

By Janice Lynn

No sooner were the former American hostages out of Iran than the U.S. government and news media began trumpeting stories about their torture and abuse at Iranian hands.

Former president Carter said he was outraged at "acts of barbarism."

"Grim Tales of Brutality" was the headline in *Newsweek*, which provided lurid drawings of hostages being tormented.

Keeping in mind that some of the former hostages have since repudiated the early media reports, what are some of the horrors they are said to have suffered?

- The mother of economics officer and oil specialist Robert Blucker said her son told her "they shoved him around a lot."

- Robert Ode told his wife that his shoes were taken away.

- Bert Moore, administrative consul at the former U.S. embassy, reportedly told his wife he was "never beaten or tortured," although he said he was threatened with a gun.

Moore supposedly complained about having to wash the pans after the Iranians had cooked. "They used so much grease to cook with," Mrs. Moore said her husband told her, "and all they had to wash the pans was cold water."

Moore also talked about having to take cold showers.

- The mother of vice consul Donald Cooke said her son complained that he was harangued by the Iranian students and that stories were cut out of his magazines.

Rugs and chandeliers

- L. Bruce Laingen, chargé d'affaires, told his wife that after spending more than a year in a large, comfortable room with Persian rugs and crystal chandeliers, he had to spend seventeen days in a jail where he was blindfolded whenever he went to the bathroom. "It was just humiliating," he said.

- There were also complaints about sometimes being tied in chairs, of not receiving all the mail and gifts that had been sent, and of having to eat

This Iranian boy's arms were cut off by SAVAK—shah's secret police—in order to make his father talk. Carter toasted shah's concern for 'human rights.'

"their [Iranian] food."

- Several hostages said they were kept in what they described as solitary confinement.

- Others described an incident—which the media called a "Gestapo raid"—when they were lined up against a wall and the students searched their rooms for weapons. A few reportedly talked about one other incident that was described as a "mock

execution."

- Lloyd Rollins, one of the thirteen hostages released earlier, said that some of the secretaries were forced to participate in a Russian roulette episode.

Elizabeth Montagne, one of the secretaries, immediately issued a statement calling such reports a "sheer fabrication." Later, she again switched her story.

- The worst treatment was reported by Malcolm Kalp. He claimed he spent 374 days in isolation and was "physically assaulted on two occasions."

Documents released by the Iranian students in the embassy revealed that Kalp was, in fact, one of several CIA agents operating in Tehran under diplomatic cover.

The State Department has never denied the charges and has refused to say what Kalp's assignment in Tehran was.

The students also released copies of forged passports and identity cards found at the embassy. One secret memo gave detailed instructions about how an agent could pass himself off as a "commercial business representative" from Belgium.

For the most part, those making charges of abuse and brutality are either people like Kalp or career State Department personnel who can be counted on to say whatever Washington officials want them to. The rest are undoubtedly being pressured to go along with the stories.

While it is certain that fourteen months confined as a hostage is a grueling experience, the conditions the hostages describe are much better than those suffered by prisoners in Attica or other U.S. jails.

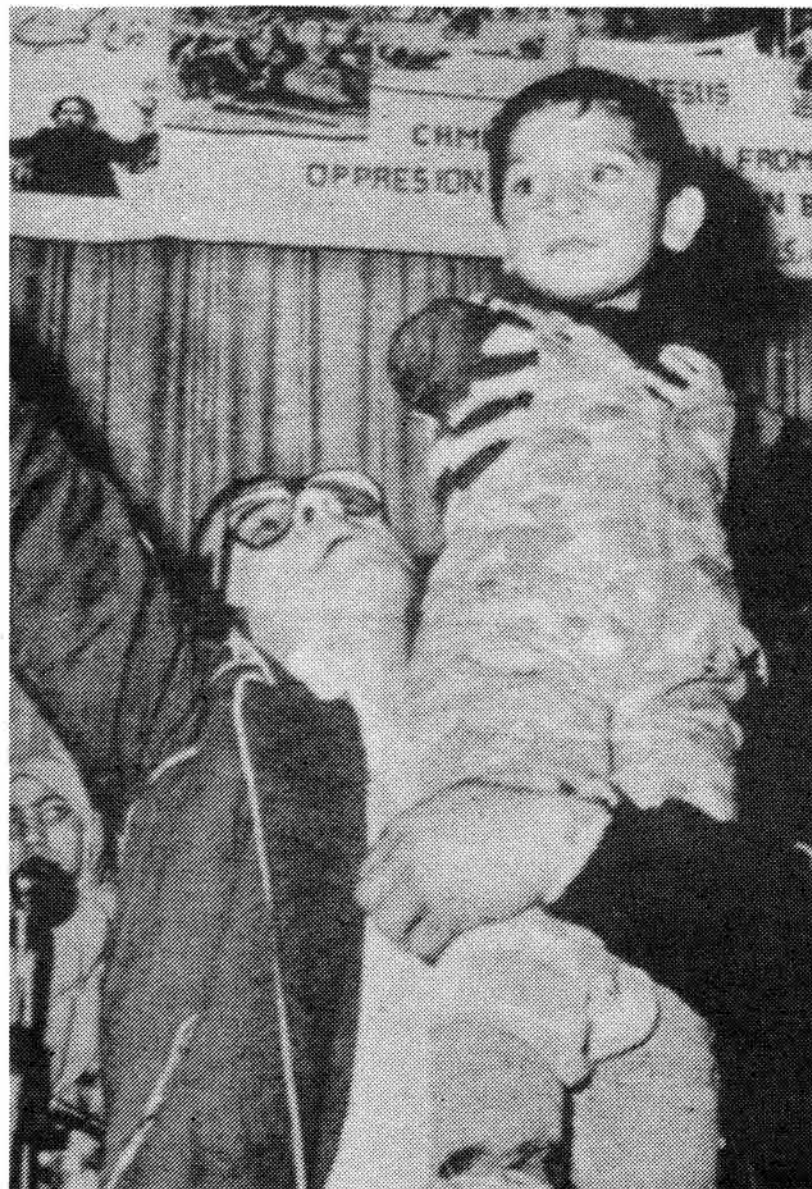
Black, Puerto Rican, and Chicano prisoners in particular must endure frequent beatings, systematic harassment, overcrowding, poor food, no heat, mail censorship, and worse.

'Not brutalized at all'

Some of the truth about the hostages' experiences began leaking out almost immediately. Barry Rosen, press attaché at the former embassy, telephoned an old friend—John Vinocur of the *New York Times*. In the January 23 *Times* Vinocur wrote:

"Every day," he said, "the presence of death was in my mind. But the Iranians never maintained they would kill me and I wasn't brutalized at all. I wasn't beaten at all."

The next day, CBS-TV interviewed



Kathryn Koob and Elizabeth Ann Swift, the two women who had been held at the embassy. Both said they were never physically abused. "There was never a hint of sexual behavior" on the part of the Iranian men, Swift said.

Victor Tomseth, the senior political officer, was also interviewed. And as the January 25 *Daily News* reported, he and the two women said "they harbored no ill feelings toward the Iranian people."

They did express their dismay at Carter's "rescue mission" last April. Koob said her first reaction was, "Thank God for the sandstorm" that helped abort the raid.

The January 22 *New York Times* revealed that if the plan had succeeded Washington expected fifteen of the hostages to be killed. As it was, eight GIs lost their lives in the "rescue" fiasco.

Bruce German, budget officer, was also able to talk to the media. Although he voiced some bitterness toward the Iranians, he told reporters he was never kept in isolation or tortured physically.

In fact, some of the students "were rather humane," he said. "In the beginning we felt that their motives were sound. We just didn't agree with their methods."

Mental problems?

When Carter met with the fifty-two Americans in West Germany, they reportedly questioned him sharply not only about the April raid but also about why the shah had been brought to the United States in the first place.

Such feelings of "hostility and anger" toward Washington were cited in the January 28 *New York Times* as evidence of "mental problems" among the ex-hostages.

Iranian students in the United States expressed their views on Washington's propaganda campaign. "I think they are trying to ready the American people for further action in the Persian Gulf," one said.

Another student said, "The American people think about us as an uncivilized people." But, he said, "the American record is thousands of dead Iranians. Our record is fifty-two live hostages."



Vietnamese 'suspect' is executed on Saigon street in 1968. Washington's war against Vietnam included mass terrorism against that country's people.

Who are the real barbarians? Who has committed the real atrocities?

U.S. record in Iran

As the January 21 *New York Times* stated in a summary of the events leading up to the embassy crisis: "The Central Intelligence Agency helped stage the 1953 coup that restored the young Shah to his throne. . . ."

During the shah's reign, Amnesty International wrote in 1975, "No country in the world has a worse record in human rights than Iran."

In a January 7, 1979, *New York Times* interview, former CIA agent Jesse Leaf disclosed how the CIA had held "torture seminars" to instruct SAVAK—the shah's secret police—in Nazi torture techniques.

The Paris daily *Le Monde* estimated that in 1975 up to 100,000 political prisoners were held in the shah's jails. Thousands were executed before firing squads.

Those who survived told of the chilling horror and physical torture they were forced to undergo. A report in the January 19, 1975, *Sunday Times of London*—based on personal testimony from prisoners, interviews with prisoners' families, and reports from impartial observers—revealed some of these methods of torture:

- the sustained flogging of the soles of the feet;
- extraction of finger and toenails;
- electric shock treatment to sexual organs;
- the thrusting of a broken bottle into the anus of prisoners suspended by their wrists from a beam;
- being forced to watch their children being savagely mistreated;
- being strapped to an electrically wired iron bed while it was heated red hot.

Repertory of tortures

An August 16, 1976, *Time* magazine account said, "The country's repertory of tortures includes not only electric shock and beatings, but also the insertion of bottles in the rectum, hanging weights from testicles, rape, and such apparatus as a helmet that, worn over the head of the victim, magnifies his own screams."

This monstrous torture was even committed against five- and six-year-old children. All with the knowledge and approval of the shah's U.S. backers.

The shah's army, also trained and financed by Washington, was responsible for the slaughter of an estimated 60,000 men, women, and children as they demonstrated peacefully in the

streets against the tyranny. Thousands more were permanently maimed and crippled.

Yet Carter, spending New Year's 1978 with this Hitler of Iran, toasted him and declared: "The cause of human rights is one that also is shared deeply . . . by the leaders of our two countries."

And Carter feigns moral outrage at "atrocities" alleged to be committed against the fifty-two Americans!

From Hiroshima to Chile

The truth is that the U.S. rulers have been responsible for more bloodshed, torture, and human suffering than any other ruling class in history.

Washington heralded its emergence as the top world capitalist power by incinerating more than 100,000 Japanese civilians in the atomic bomb attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Washington was responsible for the deaths of untold millions of Vietnamese and 60,000 Americans during the Vietnam War. For what? To try to preserve a tyrannical puppet regime.

From My Lai—the Vietnamese village where nearly 700 men, women, and children were gunned down in cold blood—to the napalming of Vietnamese children, to the "tiger cages" in which Vietnamese prisoners were crippled for life, Washington amassed a record of brutality surpassing any in history.

U.S. troops, mercenaries, and CIA agents overthrew popular governments and installed dictatorships from Guatemala in 1954 to the Congo in the early 1960s to Chile in 1973. All to keep the cheap labor and raw materials of those countries safe for exploitation by U.S. corporations.

But today Washington's ability to police the world faces a huge obstacle—the deep sentiment among American workers against any more Vietnamese.

So instead of meeting the Iranians' demands for return of the shah and his wealth and thus getting the hostages home—which could have been done on Day One—the Carter administration exploited their plight.

No groundswell

Washington let the hostages sit in jail for fourteen months while it tried to whip up a patriotic hysteria that

Continued on page 14

Iran workers urge release of Nemat Jazayeri

A stepped-up international campaign among supporters of the Iranian revolution is needed to win the release from prison of Nemat Jazayeri, a leader of the Iranian Revolutionary Workers Party (HKE).

Jazayeri was arrested September 8 and taken to Evin Prison in Tehran, where he remains to this day. Charges have still not been brought against him.

Before his arrest, Jazayeri was a lathe operator in the repair shop of the Ray-O-Vac battery factory in Tehran, where he won the respect of his co-workers.

Not only was he one of the best workers (having received a letter of commendation for his work), but he was active in building the workers' *shora* (committee) in the factory and in

its activities in defense of the Iranian revolution.

While in exile in the United States before the overthrow of the shah, Jazayeri served as national secretary of the Committee for Artistic and Intellectual Freedom in Iran. His work in CAIFI helped to win the release of political prisoners held by the shah's torturers and focused international attention on the crimes of the Pahlavi dictatorship.

Many of Jazayeri's co-workers have been speaking out against his arrest. Petitions have been circulated, letters sent, and meetings held.

One of these workers, Siamak Varzi, spoke at a December 17 forum in Tehran on Jazayeri's behalf. Varzi had just gotten out of the hospital after having received three bullet wounds in his legs at the front in the war with Iraq, and came to the forum on crutches. The meeting was attended by about 200 people.

"Nemat was a worker who was always for the revolution," Varzi said, explaining how Jazayeri had encouraged all the workers to become part of the army of 20 million to defend the revolution against attacks.

Varzi told how Jazayeri had come into conflict with the bosses.

"[Nemat] would tell us how they should not rule over us," Varzi told the meeting, and how "supervisors should not be able to provoke a strike just because they are unhappy with the government, and should not be able to just shut down the factory.

"The workers liked him," Varzi said, telling how Jazayeri once had been chosen by the workers to speak at a meeting on behalf of the 500 Ray-O-Vac workers. It was a meeting to defend the president of the shora, who had been beaten up by the bosses.

And Varzi explained how any worker who spoke out against the bosses or campaigned for the release of Jazayeri could be subject to the same kind of unjustified arrest.

While Varzi was collecting signatures on petitions for Jazayeri's release, management broke into his

locker and confiscated the petitions. But the workers vowed to continue the petition campaign.

"I feel sorry that a country makes a revolution, and two years after the revolution, they pick up a person and put him in jail with no visiting rights," Varzi declared. (Only Jazayeri's family have been allowed to visit him).

"The boys in the factory really want Nemat returned to his work. Nemat has done nothing. He has only objected to [the bosses] bullying us," Varzi said.

What you can do

Friends and co-workers of Nemat Jazayeri are urging a stepped-up international campaign to win his release from prison. They are requesting that supporters of the Iranian revolution in factories and other workplaces circulate the following petition to be telegraphed to Ayatollah Ali Ghodosi, Prosecutor General of the Islamic Revolution, Office of the Revolutionary Courts, Tehran, Iran:

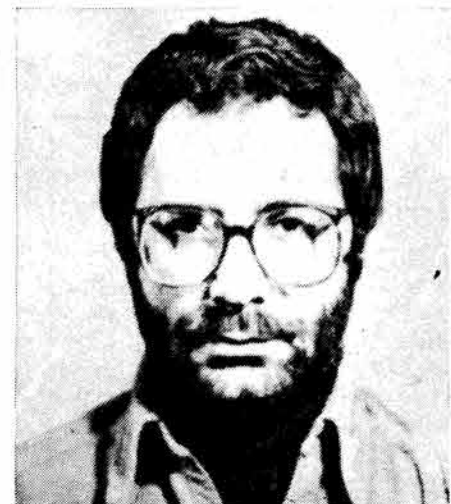
I am a supporter of the Iranian revolution and an opponent of the U.S. government's threats

and the Iraqi regime's criminal military aggression aimed against your revolution.

I am deeply concerned about the arrest of Ray-O-Vac worker Nemat Jazayeri, a staunch anti-imperialist fighter, who is being detained without any charges.

I call on you to secure his immediate release.

Copies should be sent to Prime Minister Mohammed Ali Rajai, Tehran, Iran; President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, Tehran, Iran; and Kargar, Box #43/174, Post Area 14, Tehran, Iran.



NEMAT JAZAYERI

By Garrett Brown

ATLANTA—When the Lockheed-Georgia aircraft company began firing unionists at its Marietta plant last December, it came as no surprise to veteran civil rights activists working in the plant.

Nor were they surprised to learn that the firings were preceded by an intensive company campaign of spying, electronic surveillance, and contact with the FBI and police to determine which workers might be associated with the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance.

At least fifteen unionists, all members of International Association of Machinists Lodge 709, have now been fired. The company claims it's because of discrepancies on our job applications. The fired workers know it's because of our union building activities and our political views.

Lockheed conducted a similar campaign of harassment, spying, and firing against workers who supported the civil rights movement in the 1960s.

Militant interviews with Black activists and a review of government civil rights reports reveal more than a decade of company assaults on the democratic rights of Lockheed workers. The recent firings of the fifteen are but the latest chapter.

Blacks organize for rights

In the 1960s several dozen Black workers at Lockheed formed the Observatory Council on Discrimination to fight the complete racial segregation and discrimination in hiring, training, and promotions at the aerospace facility.

C.T. "Pete" Lewis and T.R. "Bop" Johnson were active in the council. Both are twenty-eight-year veterans of the plant. Johnson, the former chairman of the council, was also a shop steward for seventeen years.

Before 1951 the only Blacks working in the plant were janitors, according to Lewis. Federal employment directives during the Korean War forced Lockheed to begin hiring Blacks for production jobs. But for many years, "you could count the number of Blacks in the plant because the number was so small," Lewis recalled.

Blacks—but not whites—were subjected to a barrage of tests and educational requirements in order to get hired.

Those Blacks who successfully fought their way into the plant found it completely segregated:

"There were totally separate parking lots, water fountains, bathrooms, cafeterias, and recreational facilities," said Johnson.

When formal segregation ended in 1964 as a result of an executive order to federally-funded contractors, Blacks discovered that discrimination continued at Lockheed.

In 1967, for example, the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission (EEOC) found that two thirds of Lockheed's departments had no Blacks at all. Only ten percent of the remaining workforce was Black. In all, there were 1,500 Blacks (6 percent) out of the workforce of 23,400. And there were only 49 Black women.

The EEOC reported that of twenty-one Blacks denied salaried positions, twelve were college graduates and eight had at least two years of college. In contrast, "a random sampling of white supervisors indicated that 80 percent of them had only a high school education."

Training and apprenticeship programs, the report continued, were set up "in such a manner as to virtually exclude Negro employees from participating."

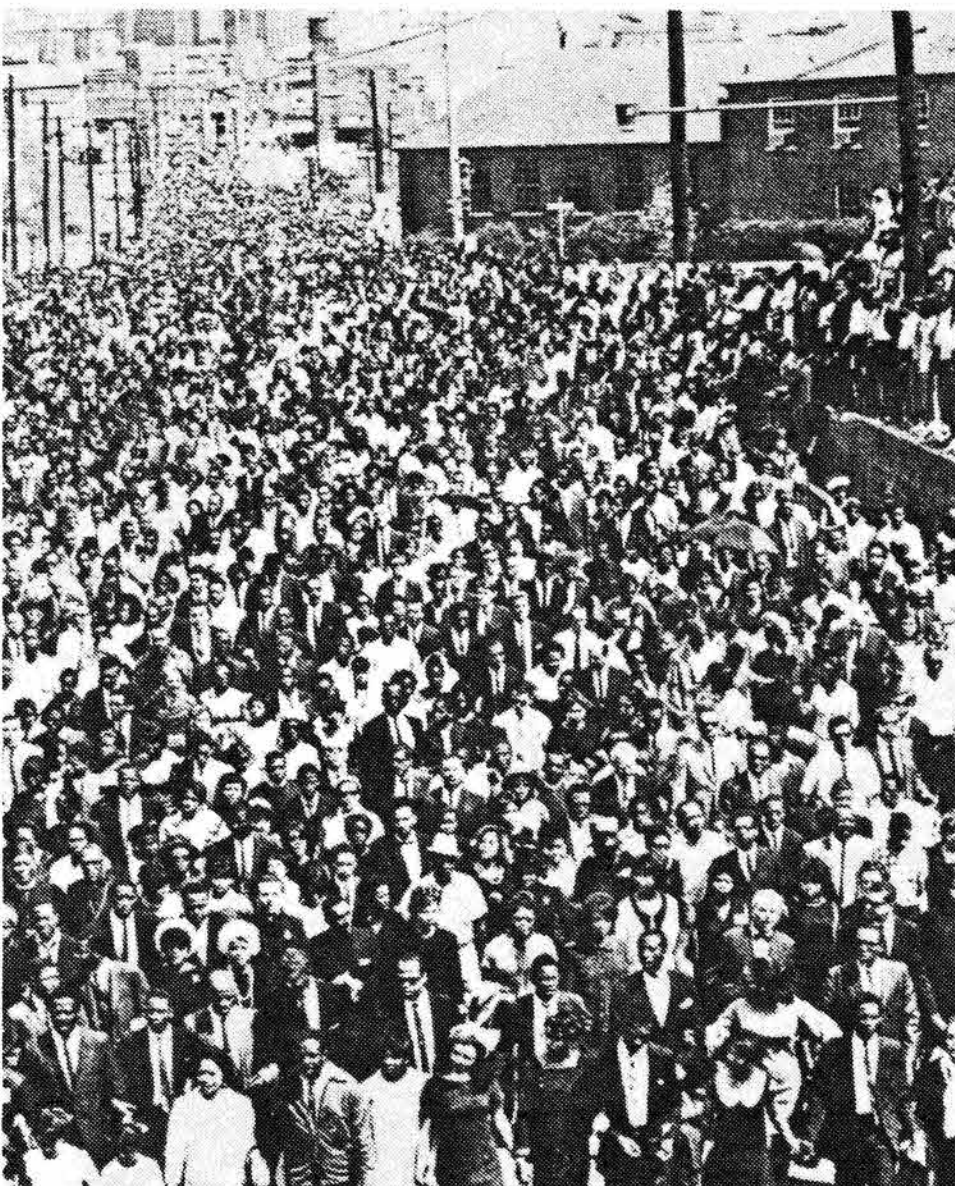
The EEOC's report blasted Lockheed's illegal discrimination and threatened to withhold federal contracts.

In 1968 the NAACP filed a federal suit against Lockheed. After a bitter five-year battle, the suit resulted in a court-ordered affirmative action program and cash settlements for some of the Black workers.

Garrett Brown was fired from Lockheed-Georgia last December. He is a member of International Association of Machinists Lodge 709.

Lockheed spies vs. Black rights

How company tried to block civil rights drive at Georgia plant



Atlanta march in 1968 to protest murder of Dr. Martin Luther King. Lockheed tried to stop Atlanta NAACP from filing suit that year on behalf of Black workers.

Lockheed did everything it could to thwart these challenges to its racist policies.

Despite the publicity surrounding the investigations, and numerous warnings from the EEOC, NAACP, and the courts, the company mounted a campaign of retaliation against Blacks in the plant.

Johnson said it was common knowledge that the phones of activists were tapped and that the company received regular reports on Observatory Council meetings from spies.

Telephoto lenses

Lewis reported that company security personnel were often seen on catwalks taking pictures with telephoto lenses of workers below. This was done presumably while the workers were talking to one another or distributing "subversive" literature about the civil rights movement.

Some activists were also taken to the plant security office under various pretexts, Lewis remembered. There they were grilled about their civil rights activities, personal lives, and job applications.

A September 1967 EEOC report provided details of the interrogation of Willie Beeks, one of the Black workers who filed charges with the EEOC. The document states:

"[Beeks] was interrogated by Respondent Employer's Plant Security Personnel and charged with following and 'picking at' white female workers."

"He alleges that he was questioned about his personal life and financial status and warned he would be fired for such conduct. He was not given an opportunity to confront his accusers and was insulted and threatened with the loss of his job, despite the fact he denied the accusation and the only

evidence against him was the accusation."

"Respondent Employer admits the truth of these allegations except that it denies the threat of dismissal."

"One of the men who interrogated [Beeks] . . . expressed the view that even a voluntary relationship between a Negro male and a white female 'could not be tolerated here at the plant.'"

Activists fired

Although no firings took place after the EEOC and NAACP began their actual investigations in 1967, several firings took place while the Observatory Council's charges were still pending.

Henry Nabrit was an eleven-year veteran of the plant and active in the Observatory Council when he was promoted to the "Jet Star" flight line in June 1966.

Despite an "excellent performance review" in April, Nabrit was subjected to fierce harassment by his supervisor as the only Black worker on the flight line, the EEOC reported.

Just two months later, after the EEOC began collecting discrimination complaints, Nabrit was summarily fired for allegedly eating his lunch ten minutes early.

Johnson told the story of another worker who lost his job in 1966.

"Jesse Porter started working at Lockheed in 1953 and was a real activist in the movement. He always had a little extra money and used to help people out with loans."

"Well, in 1966, the company got pictures of him from the catwalk and forced him to quit for 'loansharking,'" Johnson reported.

The company also backhandedly supported a racist campaign by a white shop steward running for re-election in the union.

The racist's campaign literature denounced Blacks in general, talked about "mixing of the races," and made personal attacks on Joseph Jones, the Black candidate for shop steward.

When the EEOC finally released its report documenting racist practices by the company and making recommendations, it took Lockheed five months to agree to a case-by-case "conciliation agreement" with thirty-seven workers. First, the EEOC had to threaten to withhold Lockheed's billion-dollar-plus contract for the C-5 Galaxy cargo plane.

Lewis reported that in many cases, including his own, the company later reneged on the conciliation agreement.

Ten of the Black workers refused to be part of the conciliation agreement and in March 1968 they filed a federal suit against Lockheed with attorneys provided by the NAACP.

Lockheed carried its harassment campaign outside the plant in response.

A former official of the Atlanta NAACP chapter told the *Militant* that he received a call shortly after the suit was filed in 1968. It was from a white businessman on Lockheed's board of directors. The executive was also a contributor to the NAACP.

He wanted to know "what's the problem out at Lockheed" and "couldn't it be settled out of court." When the NAACP official told him the suit was going ahead, the executive said the civil rights organization would "find it very difficult to raise money" among businessmen if that were the case.

Lockheed fought the discrimination suit tooth and nail, delaying the trial until 1972. In January 1973, after widespread publicity about massive cost overruns and quality deficiencies on the company's C-5 Galaxy program, and growing evidence of international bribery schemes, Lockheed capitulated in the case.

The NAACP suit settlement included elimination of discriminatory "tests" and selection procedures for promotions and apprenticeships; established goals for affirmative action recruiting, hiring, training, and promotion of Blacks; and provided cash settlements and attorneys' fees to suing Blacks.

'Discrimination still there'

Longtime civil rights activists like Lewis and Johnson say that while things have improved since the 1960s, "there's still a lot of discrimination going on. It's a little more subtle maybe, but it's still there."

And so is Lockheed's use of illegal spying and harassment against workers who stick up for their ideas, as the firings today show.

"That's their old tactic, they haven't changed at all. Back in the old days," Lewis recalled, "they used all kinds of spies and files on us. They'd go over people's applications and try to scare them or fire them if they could."

"But you're eventually going to win," he predicted, "if everybody sticks together."

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In attack on NAACP, SWP

Salt Lake cops refuse to investigate Klan

By Bill Hoyle

SALT LAKE CITY—Police here are trying to pass off right-wing attacks on Socialist Workers Party and NAACP offices as a "publicity hype" by the two groups.

Windows of both the SWP and NAACP offices were shot out the night of January 17 by 1/2 inch iron balls.

Attached to the front door of the SWP headquarters was racist literature containing a death threat to "traitors, communists, race mixers, and Black rioters." Similar materials are distributed by the Ku Klux Klan, according to University of Utah Professor Larry Gerlach, an expert on that organization.

Widely reported protest statements from the NAACP, and SWP forced the police to drop their original claim that the attack was "nothing more than broken glass." The police said they would investigate and question the local Ku Klux Klan.

But, in a meeting on January 23, Salt Lake City Detective Gary Fillerup told the socialists that the police refused to question the Klan. He said it was likely that the SWP and NAACP broke their own windows.

Earlier, in a visit to the NAACP, police had implied that the socialists were the culprits: How did the SWP find out so quickly about the damage at the NAACP, they asked?

The NAACP reminded them that the incident had been reported on television.

The charge that the socialists staged the attack on their own offices was first voiced by the local Grand Dragon of the KKK, in a statement quoted in the media.

Police admitted on January 23 that they had information on the Klan.

However, Fillerup told the socialists, "Even if we find out that twenty hooded Klansmen showed up somewhere in town the night of the vandalism, we won't tell you. Because it has nothing to do with you."

There is no doubt that the Salt Lake City police and FBI are aware of Klan activity in the area.

FBI documents released for the Socialist Workers Party lawsuit against government harassment include a 1965 letter to the White House. In the letter, the FBI boasts: "At the present time, there are 14 Klan groups in existence.

We have penetrated every one of them through informants and currently are operating informants in top-level positions of leadership in seven of them."

In 1979 a federal government informer worked with the Klan and Nazi murderers in Greensboro.

In response to the upsurge of racist attacks across the country, and the vandalism of their offices, the Salt Lake NAACP has declared February "Civil Rights Month." They are planning a series of protest activities.

The Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance urge con-

cerned citizens in Utah to write Salt Lake City Mayor Ted Wilson, City and County Building, Salt Lake City 84111. Protest the right-wing attack and the police cover-up.

Among those who have already sent protest statements are Robby Robinson, chairperson of the Utah Governor's Black Advisory Council; Nancy Mottet Elbert, regional director of Amnesty International; Ruth Ross, vice-president of the Salt Lake City NAACP; and Rev. Richard Henry, pastor of the Salt Lake City Unitarian Church.

Julian Bond to Lockheed: rehire unionists

The following statement by Georgia State Senator Julian Bond was released at a January 21 news conference in Atlanta.

One of the fired unionists speaking there was Jean Savage, who said, "If the union cannot discuss its own affairs without company surveillance, then every union member, including shop stewards and committeemen, are vulnerable to company harassment or firings, using whatever pretext the company can find."

Despite massive news coverage on the freed hostages and Reagan inauguration, the conference received substantial and favorable coverage on two television stations and in the 'Atlanta Journal,' plus a smaller story in the 'Constitution.'

I am outraged by the recent firings of 15 workers at Lockheed-Georgia's Marietta aircraft plant following an intensive, politically-inspired investigation of the workers' political beliefs and affiliations.

This Watergate-style investigation, involving electronic and physical surveillance, contacts with FBI offices and police departments across the country, and use of company spies inside the plant and the union hall, constitutes a direct threat to the civil liberties of all Georgians.

How many other Lockheed workers have been followed home from work? Or followed at civil rights marches? Or followed having dinner with friends on a Saturday night? Black Americans are particularly



well-acquainted with these kinds of spying operations after the revelations concerning FBI surveillance and harassment of Dr. King and numerous other civil rights organizations and individuals.

Lockheed's spy operations and political firings are an impermissible assault on fundamental rights and liberties guaranteed to us under the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

These activities by Lockheed are also an intolerable repetition of the FBI "dirty tricks" of the 1960s and 1970s that we fought so hard to end. The fired workers must be reinstated to their jobs.

As a longtime supporter of the Socialist Workers Party's national lawsuit against government spying and harassment, I urge all Georgians to support their legal efforts to defend the political rights of all Americans.

More rallies blast racism, honor Dr. King

Calif. meeting serves notice to racist terrorists

By Tony Thomas

RICHMOND, Calif.—“They’re talking about the hostages in Iran. We are held hostage right in our own home. Right now there are guards at my house, protecting my children.

“I need your support. We need a mass of people to stop these things from happening.”

These are the words of Mary Handy, a Black woman who has been the victim of racist violence in the Tara Hills section of Contra Costa County.

Since early November, Mary Handy’s family and the Presleys and Irelands, two other Black families in that Bay Area community, have been the targets of attacks: guns fired at them, their windows broken, their children harassed, crosses and Ku Klux Klan signs burned on their lawns.

Handy was speaking to the cheers and applause of more than 500, including Blacks and many unionists rallying against racist violence and commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King here on January 16.

The evening rally, held at the Faith Tabernacle Church of God in Christ, was sponsored by Afro-American church groups in Richmond, Oakland, and San Francisco, and by the International Longshoremen’s and Warehousemen’s Union (ILWU); United Steelworkers Local 1440 of Pittsburgh, California; Richmond’s Teamster Local 315; Inland Boatmen’s Union; and Contra Costa County Central Labor Council.

James Herman, president of the ILWU, and Rev. Joseph Lowery, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), were featured speakers. The meeting also heard Democratic Congressman George Miller, Richmond’s mayor, and Rev. Amos Brown, a San Francisco Black community leader.

Herman called for a coalition of Blacks and labor “to tear down the flag of the Nazis and destroy the idiocy of the Ku Klux Klan.”

He said, “We must take the beginnings of this great coalition assembled in this church and march together as they did in Montgomery and Selma . . . and serve notice that they’re not going to get away with throwing a brick through the windows of Black families.”

Herman promised to “commit the total resources” of the ILWU to this struggle.

Reverend Lowery called for the rebirth of the civil rights movement in response to growing racist attacks, unemployment, and threats of war. He said, “We have to change this system that never will be able to meet the needs of the mass of people in this country.”

To those intimidated by Ronald Reagan’s victory, Lowery said, “We can’t rely on any president. We never won anything by relying on a president.” He pointed out that most civil rights victories in the 1960s were won in defiance of the Johnson and Kennedy administrations.

A car caravan came to the rally from a Berkeley march against racist violence held earlier the same day. That march of 1,000 heard speakers from the school board, the teachers union, and Berkeley High School demand an end to racist violence in Contra Costa County and that Dr. King’s birthday be made a national holiday.

The rallies were part of broad opposition to the racist attacks in Contra Costa County. On December 13, more than 400 rallied at Ellis High School here to launch the People’s Coalition Against Racism. The group is helping to provide material and legal support for the Presleys, Handys, and Irelands.

The coalition helped organize the January 16 meeting. Representatives of this coalition, the ILWU, and other Bay Area groups have proposed a march against Klan violence for March 1.

Hundreds have volunteered to participate in a Community Watch to monitor racist violence in Tara Hills and police “protection” of the families.

Mounting pressure has led to the arrest of five white youth involved in the attacks. Police continue to claim that the violence is the work of “youth gangs” and deny any link to the Klan. This is in spite of the fact that at least one of those arrested, John Welsh, has been identified as a KKK activist.

Lawyers for the families say that police and the FBI refuse to arrest others they have identified as participants in the attacks.

Both the families and the Community Watchers feel the threat of racist violence continues in Tara Hills.

‘50,000 Blacks held hostage in E. St. Louis’

By Bruce Kimball and Jon Teitelbaum

ST. LOUIS—They chanted, “Segregation: NO! Discrimination: NO! War: NO!” A big “NO” to continued injustice and discrimination against Blacks was the word of more than 1,500 demonstrators in a spirited two-mile march through downtown St. Louis on Martin Luther King’s birthday.

The march was the highlight of many activities organized January 15 by civil rights groups in the city. An estimated total of 3,000 people participated. Other activities included a religious ceremony at Christ Church Cathedral and an awards dinner sponsored by the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression.

The latter was addressed by Richard Greenwood, special assistant to William Winpisinger, president of the International Association of Machinists.

Martin Luther King’s birthday has traditionally been an important day for Blacks in St. Louis. Schools and

city offices are closed, as are some plants. Many take the holiday even if the employers don’t recognize it.

But this year, the turnout for events was much larger than usual—a response to the deepening racist attacks on the Black community. A particularly big issue in St. Louis is the closing of Homer G. Phillips Hospital, the only hospital left in the Black community.

About fifty people from St. Louis participated in the January 15 national march in Washington, D.C. The bus trip was sponsored by a local Black radio station.

On the ride home, participants in the demonstration were given twenty minutes on the air to talk about the demonstration. One Black man stated:

“All this talk about the fifty American hostages. There are 50,000 Blacks in East St. Louis hostage to a monthly paycheck, a jive job, a poor education, and bad housing. We need to have demonstrations back here in East St. Louis like we did in D.C.”



Militant



Militant/Elizabeth Ziers

Scenes from King Day rallies. Top, machinists join rally of 5,000 in Atlanta. Bottom, Twinkle Clark and the Clark sisters perform at January 11 Detroit meeting. Birthday celebrations for the civil rights leader were held in virtually every major city in the country.

In addition to the 100,000 who rallied in Washington, D.C., on January 15, tens of thousands commemorated the date in New York; Baltimore; Los Angeles; Miami; Chicago; New Orleans; Minneapolis; Charleston, South Carolina; and other cities.

In Philadelphia 3,000 met at a memorial service sponsored by Operation PUSH and other community organizations. In Cleveland, one of several meetings held was a forum sponsored by the Cleveland chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party. In Gary, Indiana, 600 people heard Mayor Richard Hatcher and United Steelworkers District 31 Director James Balanoff at a rally.

Milwaukee labor honors King at steelworkers hall

By Nancy Cole

MILWAUKEE—A broadly sponsored meeting at Smith Steel Workers Memorial Hall here January 15 commemorated the life and struggle of Martin Luther King, Jr.

More than 500 people, the majority Black unionists and their families, packed the meeting room to hear labor and community leaders pledge to continue the fight to win official recognition of King’s birthday as a national holiday.

Earlier in the day 400 people had jammed the auditorium at the Martin Luther King Center, where the featured speaker was King’s son, Dexter King. That meeting was sponsored by the Courier Communications Corporation, owner of Milwaukee’s Black weekly paper and of radio station WNOV.

The meeting at Steel Workers Hall was backed by the Martin Luther King Jr. Coalition consisting of Smith Steel Workers, Milwaukee County Labor Council, Amalgamated Transit Union Division 998, United Electrical Workers, United Auto Workers, International Association of Machinists, United Steelworkers, Milwaukee Black Professional Firefighters, and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

Also Milwaukee NAACP, National Association of Black Veterans, Milwaukee chapter of A. Phillip Randolph Institute, Milwaukee Youth Council, Sierra Club, and Roosevelt Area Action Group.

At its meeting the week of the rally, the Milwaukee chapter of the National

Organization for Women also added its name to those supporting the event.

Earl Lepp, secretary-treasurer of the Milwaukee Labor Council, promised the rally full support to the effort to commemorate King’s birthday as a national holiday.

UAW Region 10 Director Ralph Koenig reported that his region already has two people working full time with the King coalition. “If it takes more people in the field, you’ll have it,” he said.

Labor speakers also represented the Amalgamated Transit Union and the United Electrical Workers.

Other speakers included Milwaukee NAACP President Christine Belnavis and Aldermen Marlene Johnson and Roy Nabors.

Cheers and a standing ovation greeted the remarks of Black community leader Howard Fuller.

“In a racist country like America,” Fuller began, “it would be a political statement for Black people to get to the point where one of our people was honored with a national holiday.”

He warned the audience, however, not to get caught up in the “great man, great woman theory of history.”

“It is the masses who make history,” he said.

Pointing to the problems faced today by the Black community—cutbacks in social services, “educational genocide,” racist attacks in Buffalo, Atlanta, and across the country—Fuller declared the present to be “no time for nostalgia.”

“King was a warrior—and the only way to honor this warrior is to continue the struggle.”

By Suzanne Haig

Inspired by the upsurge of millions of Polish workers, working farmers have established their own organization, Rural Solidarity. Reported to have 600,000 members, it is receiving aid from the workers movement.

Communist Party chairman Stanislaw Kania has attacked Rural Solidarity, which has not yet been recognized by the government. In an effort to prove the union is led by counterrevolutionaries, Kania was reduced to charging that "in some of these biographies, we find an ancestry traceable to the landed gentry"—a class which has not existed in Poland since the end of World War II.

Such attempts to drive a wedge between the farmers and the working class are not surprising.

The overthrow of capitalism in Poland after World War II benefited most farmers. Landlordism, massive rural unemployment, and near starvation were eliminated. Electricity was brought to the countryside and major progress was made toward ending illiteracy. But the living standards of Polish farmers have not kept up with those of city workers.

The parasitic caste that rules the country has placed a low priority on producing consumer goods and agricultural equipment. Mismanagement, privileges for government and Communist Party offi-

To the Workers World Party, the Polish workers are allying with their class enemy when they support the working farmers. The substance of Marcy's argument is that farmers have the Polish workers state by the throat and are choking it to death.

"Aside from the small state sector in agriculture," he wrote on September 12, "capitalist farming prevails throughout Poland. It has been getting steady, consistent, and ever-larger infusions of subsidies from the government, that is from the hides of the workers."

"This is true even though . . . small, private farming is inefficient and largely responsible for the poor state of food production in Poland."

Marcy never bothers to explain why Polish workers, who know a lot about the economy, don't join him in blaming the problems on the working farmers.

The solution, proposed in the November 14 *Workers World*, is for the Polish government to "launch a struggle to collectivize the countryside."

Capitalist threat?

Do Poland's working farmers represent a threat of capitalist restoration? Are they the enemy of the workers?

rich farmers. The Stalin leadership, however, went ahead with forced collectivization, which led to an economic and social catastrophe in the countryside.

Poland in 1981 bears little resemblance to Russia in the 1920s. Poland is now a major industrial country—among the top fifteen largest producers of industrial goods in the world. Its working class has grown steadily, gaining enormous social weight, while the percentage of the population employed in farming has declined steadily.

More than one-third of the farms are cultivated by farmers over sixty years old without heirs intending to farm. The young are leaving for the city to work in the factories.

Many of these farmers still use plow horses. Few have tractors.

The working farmers do not view themselves as capitalists or even consider it possible to accumulate much property. The demands of Rural Solidarity indicate this. A rich landowner, or an aspiring one, would not be demanding better medical and social benefits and a guaranteed income.

This is why they are fighting—not because they are producing large surpluses and want to be freed from the fetters of the planned economy in order to amass huge profits. They are demanding a share of the benefits of a planned economy. And the workers recognize the justice of this demand.

The farmers' main demands assume the existence of a nationalized, planned economy.

The farmers make about 75 percent of the average wage of non-agricultural workers. They are demanding higher prices for their produce from the government and full compensation for crop failure so that their living income will be equal to the average worker.

The farmers are asking that the unused land belonging to the state farms be distributed to those farmers whose possessions are too small to provide them with a decent standard of living.

Workers World claims that since 1956 the farmers have been increasingly subsidized. Are they getting lavish handouts?

Bartering for fertilizer

Three-fourths of the country's food is produced by the private farms. Yet the state farms—which make up 25 percent of the farmland—get 75 percent of the subsidies. Small farmers are forced to barter pigs and potatoes to get fertilizer or coal. They lack modern equipment.

They want a fairer distribution of subsidies, a fight they have been waging since the 1950s.

Nor are they demanding that this come "from the hides of the workers," but from the bureaucrats' hides. Among Rural Solidarity's demands is an end to corruption and the expropriation of the hunting lodges and villas owned by party officials. They are also demanding that wage workers on the state farms be allowed to join Rural Solidarity.

The attitude of the farmers toward the working class was summed up by Rural Solidarity organizer Jan Kulasz when asked by a *New York Times* reporter if the farmers would hold back produce to force recognition of their union.

Said Kulasz, "The workers' and peasants' alliance could not do this. We could not have the children in the cities without milk."

Marcy traces the source of the allegedly growing capitalist sector in the countryside to the "abandonment of collectivization as a result of the 1956 uprising." What actually happened?

From 1950 to 1954 the Polish Stalinist government implemented a series of ruthless collectivization drives, forcing the peasants to give up their land. Few consumer goods made their way to the countryside, and the standard of living did not rise.

The peasants engaged in slowdown strikes, consuming whatever they could produce themselves, and delivering little to the government. Food shortages became acute. Food for the urban population had to be imported. By 1954 six of the most important crops had lower yields than under capitalism in the 1930s.

Following the workers' uprising in 1956—a struggle for economic and democratic rights—the Gomułka regime was forced to drop the drive against the working farmers and decrease the gap in subsidies paid to private as opposed to state farms. Even with a slight decline in the amount of subsidies received, 80 percent of the collective farms collapsed.

Even prominent Polish government economists concede that the decline of agriculture can be attributed to the Stalinist policy of forced collectivization.

In the Soviet Union, the forcible expropriation of millions of Russian peasants in the late 1920s and early 1930s led to a disaster from which Soviet agriculture has still not recovered. Millions died of starvation after burning crops, eating their seed supplies, slaughtering millions of livestock, and

Continued on next page

Poland: why alliance with farmers is vital for working class

A reply to Workers World Party



Working farmers demonstrate outside Warsaw Supreme Court for recognition of Rural Solidarity.

cials, a staggering debt to the imperialist banks, and the absence of democratic involvement of working people in planning have led to serious economic difficulties. The workers and farmers are challenging the oppression they suffer under this misrule.

Workers & farmers alliance

The emerging alliance between the Polish workers and the working farmers is key to advancing the struggle for democratic rights and equality. Without such an alliance, no workers state can advance toward socialism.

But to the Workers World Party, an ultraleft sectarian organization in the United States, the struggle of the oppressed classes in Poland is anathema.

The right to form a union and the other gains won after the August strikes have "set back the clock of socialism," party leader Sam Marcy wrote in the September 12 *Workers World*.

"... what the workers have gained economically and socially," he charged, "is at the cost of legitimatizing a bourgeois opposition," in which he lumps together the reactionary Catholic Church hierarchy with union leaders, dissident intellectuals, and working farmers.

Without resolute government action against the workers and farmers, Marcy believes that this "bourgeois opposition" will "seize the political initiative and urge the workers to move in a bourgeois restorationist direction."

There are today 3.5 million private farmers in Poland. Their farms are not capitalist enterprises with thousands of acres and dozens of workers. The average farm is 12.5 acres. Only one-sixth of all private farms are more than thirty acres, and most of these are cultivated by a single family.

Does the presence of so many small farms constitute an immediate threat to the workers state, as Marcy claims? Hardly.

Marcy makes the error of confusing the potentiality of small farmers to accumulate large tracts of land and hire wage workers—thus threatening the planned economy—with what is actually the situation in Poland today.

In the 1920s Russian revolutionary leader Leon Trotsky warned that the millions of small farmers constituted the "fundamental source of the capitalist tendencies in Russia."

At the time, the Soviet Union was still overwhelmingly agricultural. The industrial sector was very weak, still suffering from the devastation of the civil war. And a class of rich farmers hiring wage labor appeared, which demanded an end to the monopoly of foreign trade and was hostile to the working class.

Forced collectivization

Even under these circumstances, Trotsky opposed forced collectivization, as had Lenin from the beginning of the revolution. He believed the government should take measures that would win the poor farmers to support the workers state against the

500 rally to defend Chicano frame-up victim

By Sally Goodman

PUEBLO, Colo.—"I believe it is you, the people, who will keep the government and the state off my back," explained Francisco "Kiko" Martínez to a rally of 500 people here January 24.

Martínez, a Chicano activist and lawyer, faces charges of mailing letter bombs in 1973. His trial started here on January 27.

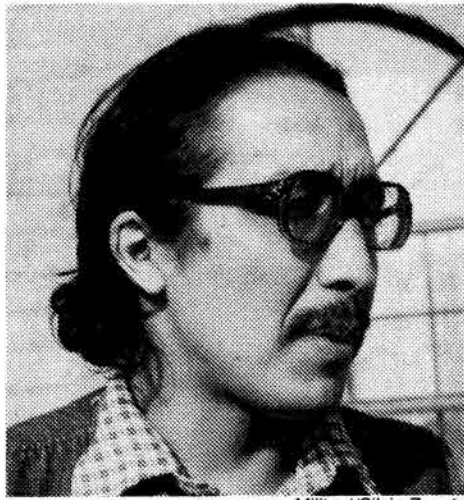
The national demonstration to support Martínez drew participants from all over the southwestern United States and as far away as Chicago, Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

The bombing charges against Martínez were made at the height of a government campaign to discredit and disrupt the Chicano nationalist movement in the early 1970s. A government program was launched under the title "Operation CHAOS: Chicano Power Movement." This was part of the FBI's COINTELPRO (Counterintelligence Program) waged against civil rights activists, socialists, opponents of the Vietnam War, and women's liberation organizations.

Martínez is charged with three alleged bombing incidents in 1973, none of which involved actual explosions.

Police issued a "shoot-on-sight" order, and news media offered a bounty for his capture.

Martínez went into hiding and was



KIKO MARTINEZ

captured and arrested in September 1980.

In recent court hearings, much of the evidence against Martínez has been shown to be fabricated.

In 1973, prosecutors claimed an eye-witness had identified Martínez. Recently it's been learned that she had identified someone else.

Physical evidence in the case has been "accidentally destroyed."

Main speakers at the rally included Russell Means, a leader of the American Indian Movement; Antonio Rodriguez, director of the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice; Ken Padilla, one of the lawyers representing Martínez; and Juan Antonio Corretjer, secretary-general of the Liga Socialista Puertorriqueña.

The rally also heard greetings from many organizations including the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, the National Coalition on the Hannigan Case, the Land Rights Council based in Colorado's San Luis Valley, El Frente Unido por Derechos Humanos in Pueblo, the Socialist Workers Party, and Young Socialist Alliance.

Juan Haro expressed his solidarity with Martínez. Haro, as a leading member of the Crusade for Justice, was framed up and sent to jail on similar charges several years ago.

The main theme of the rally was solidarity between participants in many different movements and within the Chicano movement.

The day's events were dedicated to Los Seis de Boulder, six Chicanos who were killed when two bombs exploded in 1974. The police have never arrested anyone in connection with their deaths. One of those murdered was Reyes Martínez, Kiko's brother.

At the rally, Martínez was welcomed by cries of "Que vive Kiko!" and a standing ovation.

El Salvador "is today at the center of world attention for the struggle which exists there," he said.

"Every country will have its El Salvador. The conditions in El Salvador will find their way to other parts of the world. Any student of history can follow that course."

Kiko thanked those who attended the rally and urged everyone to attend his trial.

Contributions to help defray the large legal expenses can be sent to the Francisco "Kiko" Martínez Defense Committee, P.O. Box 753, Alamosa, Colorado 81101.

Forum backs Martinez

By Sue Adley

DENVER—"Whenever the government succeeds in repressing one person like Kiko," Rita Melgares said January 16, "it can repress anyone's struggle."

Melgares, representing the Francisco Kiko Martínez Defense Committee, spoke January 16 at a Denver Socialist Forum.

An attorney from Nebraska, Melgares moved to Colorado to help Francisco Martínez, her brother, defend himself.

Melgares introduced a thirty-minute videotape of an interview with Martínez.

Following the tape, Melgares explained how flimsy the prosecution's case is.

The audience contributed fifty-seven dollars to the Kiko Martínez Defense Committee.

...barbarians

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could free its hands for military intervention in the Persian Gulf or elsewhere.

This propaganda campaign had little success. Although people sympathized with the hostages and many were confused about the Iranian revolution, there was no groundswell of sentiment for military action.

Many saw that any U.S. war in the Middle East would be a war for Big Oil. And Carter's attempt to impose draft registration in the middle of the hostage crisis met with widespread opposition.

Finally, the U.S. rulers decided they wanted the hostage problem settled before Reagan took office.

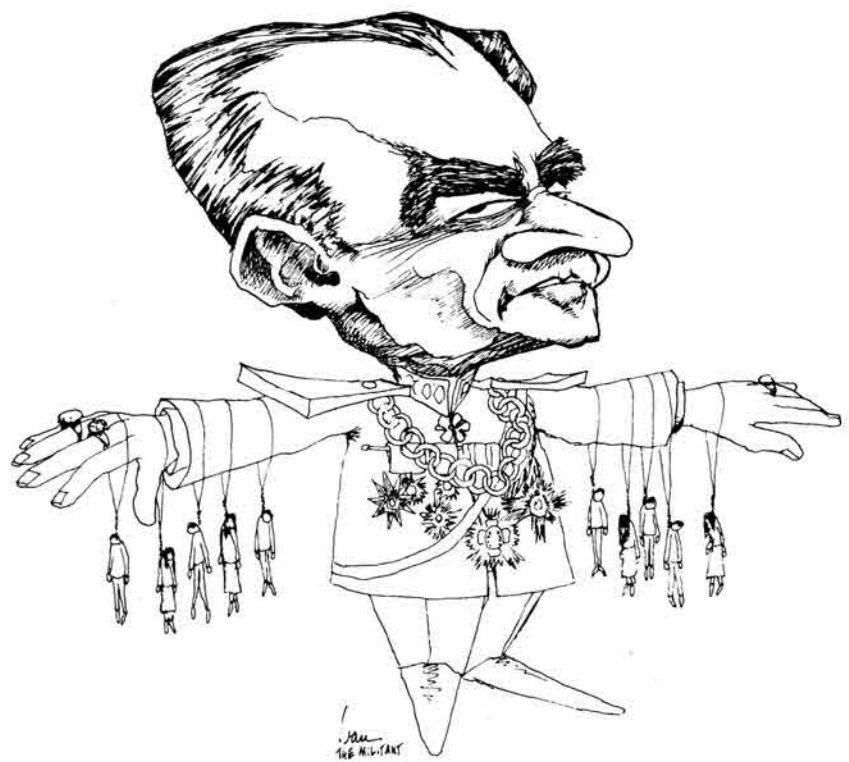
They knew that for all his tough talk, Reagan would not be able to do anything basically different from Carter. Only then did Washington finally agree to the Iranian proposals.

There was a flurry of speculation that Reagan might repudiate the agreement with Iran. But the speed with which the new administration backed off from any such idea confirms that Washington is in a weakened position to attack the Iranian revolution.

With the lurid fabrications about torture, Washington is trying to recoup some of its losses. It tries to portray the Iranians—and anyone else who challenges its right to rule the world—as "barbarians," less than human, fully deserving the harsh treatment meted out by U.S.-backed "modernizers" like the shah.

With the hostages home—all in good health—the U.S. rulers have lost their main pretext for military intervention against Iran.

And as the hostages get out of the clutches of the U.S. military, away from Weisbaden and West Point, and back to their homes where they can speak more freely, Washington may be in for some more unpleasant surprises.



... Poland

Continued from preceding page

destroying farm implements in a rebellion against this inhumane policy.

Workers World believes this policy could inspire workers and poor peasants today and end the food shortage. On the contrary, the bureaucracy would literally drive the farmers into the arms of reaction.

To win working farmers to support the workers state and to participate in more advanced forms of agriculture, they must be shown that state farms are more efficient and will benefit farmers. Equally important, working farmers must be able to make their decision without coercion and must see that the government is on their side.

Petty fiefdoms

This is not the case in Poland. Small farmers face economic discrimination. Because the state farms are better subsidized, farmers resent them and view them as competitors. The state farms, moreover, are highly inefficient, needing two and one-half times more fertilizer to produce the same amount of food as the small farms.

The farmers hate the state farms because they see that these are not organized to benefit both the workers and the farmers. The bureaucratic farm managers operate them as petty fiefdoms, with lifestyles resembling the despised landlords of the past.

Cuba's policy toward small farmers sharply contrasts with that of Poland.

Even though Cuba has made significant progress in establishing state farms, the government defends the farmers' right to own their own land and sell their goods on the market for prices determined jointly by the government and farmers.

Nor has the government withheld social benefits from small farmers in order to force them to give up their land. Instead, better housing, social security, communications, and education have been brought to the countryside.

In a speech to the first congress of the Communist Party of Cuba in 1975, Fidel Castro summed this up, "The revolutionary policy of unfailing respect for the free will of the working peasant, of effectively assisting and supporting him, is the solid basis on which the peasant-worker alliance today develops, growing stronger and stronger."

Cuban peasant given choice

"The peasantry," he stressed, "is the ally of the working class. The latter will never use coercive methods against its brothers in the struggle or depart from the use of persuasion, whether this is successful or not."

Cuba has held this position for the past twenty-two years despite the U.S. blockade and serious economic problems.

No wonder Cuban peasants are totally committed to the revolution—ready to fight and die for it.

Workers World believes that the workers must look to the Stalinist rulers to end the crisis by crushing the working farmers. "It is, after all," Marcy says, "a socialist government." And he adds,

"Aside from the Polish Communist Party and those sincere and devoted administrators, there is no organized political force of a progressive character capable of taking the initiative and redirecting Polish society in a genuinely socialist direction."

This arrogant and patronizing tone reveals an utter contempt for the working people of Poland.

The hatred of capitalism has been burned into the memory of the Polish workers and farmers, who suffered at least six million dead under Hitler's occupation.

They know the misery that capitalism brought them and would fight heroically to prevent its return.

Who defends socialism?

But to Marcy, it is not the workers who defend socialism, but the factory and farm managers, the generals, the cops, and the Communist Party bureaucrats—with their villas, swollen bank accounts, retinues of servants and prostitutes, fancy cars, and special stores.

But they are the most powerful reactionary forces within Poland today—the main obstacle to socialism.

Workers World's support for these privileged bureaucrats says a lot about the kind of "socialism" it stands for.

Revolutionary socialists, on the contrary, have full confidence in the ability of the workers and working farmers in Poland to take control of their own destiny. They are the key to the socialist future.

Death toll at 14 in Atlanta child killings

Atlanta's Black community is alarmed and outraged as the murder toll of Black children continues to rise.

Parents, disgusted by the lack of results in the cop "investigation" and fearful that their child may be next, are taking every precaution. Some groups are organizing patrols to escort lone children.

The latest victim, discovered January 23, brings the death count to fourteen Black youth slain during the past eighteen

months. No arrests have been made.

The body of Terry Pue, a fifteen-year-old boy, was found by a roadside twenty-five miles outside the city.

Three other children who disappeared during March, September, and December last year are still missing and unaccounted for.

The Atlanta Youth Against Crime, a group of youth involved with community patrols and escorts, is planning a public protest in response to the child killings.



Helen Pue, mother of latest victim, being consoled after seeing son's body.

Racist neglect kills Black in D.C. jail

WASHINGTON—Percy Lee Turner, a thirty-three-year-old Black man with sickle-cell disease, died January 3 after being denied medical treatment in the Washington, D.C., jail.

Turner had not been convicted of any crime. He had been sent to jail two weeks before because he was late for his court appearance on a misdemeanor charge.

On January 12, the Percy Turner Action Committee held a picket line at the Superior Court to demand a full investigation

into Turner's death.

Jerry White of the Black United Front read a statement to the media. According to White, Turner had suffered constant debilitating pain.

While in jail, he begged for prescribed medication, but was taunted and beaten by guards. They called him "a junkie crying for a fix."

"Percy Lee Turner did not have to die," White charged. "He was murdered by a racist and bureaucratic judicial system."

Utah food workers win Safeway strike

By Dave Hurst

SALT LAKE CITY—United Food and Commercial Workers Local 537 won a strike victory against Safeway stores in Utah, settling its new contract on December 20, 1980. Full details are not available pending ratification by the members.

Local 537 business agent Bob Graham told the *Militant*, however, that "we kept our contract intact" against attempts of the three major grocery chains here to bust the union. The union protected seniority rights and cost-of-living allowances, which were most heavily under attack by Safeway.

Once Safeway settled with the union, negotiations with Smith's and Albertson's proceeded in short order. The union's goal now is to "organize the unorganized" at other grocery chains.

The support of other unions "had a dramatic effect" on the outcome of the battle, said Graham.

United Steelworkers Local 485 at Kennecott's Bingham Canyon copper mine donated \$200. Members of UAW Local 4208 at Eimco Mining Machin-

ery walked the picket lines with the strikers.

Teamsters refused to drive trucks across the picket lines. Railroad workers, machinists, and electrical workers all gave support.

An attempt was also made to reach out to minority communities in Salt Lake City. The strike leaflet was translated into Tongan to explain the issues to Pacific Islanders. Chicano unionists made a special attempt to solidarize their community with the strike.

This atmosphere of solidarity was very much in evidence at the Salt Lake Militant Forum on December 7. Ralph Moses, president of Local 537, and Steve Novassio, a picket captain, explained why they were on strike. Although the picture looked bleak for the strikers, Novassio explained, the solidarity shown at that meeting rejuvenated his confidence in the union's fight for justice.

Bringing statements of solidarity were Tim Rice, public relations director of the Utah AFL-CIO and John Vigil, president of Cement, Lime, & Gypsum Workers Local 139.

Rally pledges solidarity for striking S.F. clerical workers

By Shannon Sheppard

SAN FRANCISCO—On January 10, Office and Professional Employees Union (OPEIU) Local 3 held a women's and children's solidarity rally for the 1,100 clerical workers who have been on strike against Blue Shield for over a month.

Major issues in the strike are a cost-of-living clause, speed-up and job security, and job-related health hazards.

Speakers at the rally included Kathleen Kinnick, president of Local 3, and representatives from the National Organization for Women, Women Organized for Employment, Union Women's Alliance to Gain Equality, and others.

To counter the support the strikers have been getting, Blue Shield claims things are in "super shape."

But Eric Pace, Local 3 business representative and former Blue Shield employee, knows differently. The company is so desperate to recruit scabs that it sent him a form letter asking him to come back to work!

Picket signs carried by strikers' children highlighted the rally. One showed a duck say-



Strikers' children march in solidarity with OPEIU Local 3 in San Francisco. Sign refers to computer display terminals, which pose health hazard to office workers.

ing, "We can't duck inflation," and another showed a bug saying "CRTs bug me"—a reference to the eye-straining computer terminals the office workers use.

These signs got the message across, and so did the children who carried them. They continue to brave unusually cold

weather to walk the picket lines with their mothers.

Summing up, negotiating committee member Ricky Harris read from a poem he had composed,

"We won't stop walkin' 'til you start talkin' to the people of Local 3" Until then, the Saturday solidarity rallies will continue.

Federal cop finally convicted in border rape and murder

By Nelson González

Beatings, torture, rape and murder. These are among the documented crimes by members of the Immigration and Naturalization Service's Border Patrol against Mexicans and others trying to enter this country.

The acts of sadistic violence against *mexicanos* are not limited to members of the Border Patrol.

Take the case of Michael Kennedy, a Federal Protective Service officer assigned to security at the busy San Ysidro border station, south of San Diego.

Back in March 1979, Ramona Hernández, a Mexican im-

migrant, was stopped because she had no papers.

Although it was not part of his duties, Kennedy volunteered to escort her from the border station to the office of the INS.

Later, her body was found in a shallow grave.

Hernández's address and phone number was found among Kennedy's possessions. Authorities considered him a suspect in the case, but failed to bring charges. Kennedy was permitted to stay on the job.

In November, María López de Felix was stopped at San Ysidro for trying to enter without papers.

Kennedy escorted her back to the border.

Her body was later found in an abandoned customs building nearby. She had been raped and strangled.

This time Kennedy was indicted. Substantial evidence was introduced, including an index file he had apparently compiled with the names, addresses and phone numbers of forty-four women.

Yet it took three trials before Kennedy was convicted. On January 14, he was sentenced to two concurrent life terms. One for murder, the other for murder committed during a rape.

Sounds like a justifiably stiff sentence. But not really. Kennedy will be eligible for parole in ten years.

Violent attacks force end to strike at Mexican university

By Jeffrey Allen

SAN DIEGO—Subjected to violent right-wing attacks in which dozens were injured, academic and service workers were forced to end their strike at the Autonomous University of Baja California in western Mexico.

The strike had been conducted at campuses in Tijuana, Mexicali, Tecati and Ensenada.

Up to 500 organized "porros" (thugs organized by the administration) launched attacks on union-occupied buildings beginning January 12.

After five days of clubbings, shootings and molotov cocktails, the two striking unions were forced to leave the campus buildings and their picket lines were broken.

Faced with the threat of further violence, the complicity of the peninsula's governor, and a bad financial situation, the unions had to accept an agreement that fell far short of their original demands.

The Academic Workers Union and the Service Employees Union were forced on strike November 17 when the university administration recognized two company unions it had initiated. This was coupled with the firing of more than seventy leaders and activists in the two legitimate unions.

The strikers demanded union recognition, reinstatement of those fired and a representation election to prove that they, not the company unions, represented the workers.

Such a vote was finally held—after the strike was broken.

The fired activists were not permitted to vote. But scabs were. In addition there was widespread intimidation, with workers threatened with loss of their jobs if they voted "wrong."

Not surprisingly, the legitimate unions lost the election.

It was a well organized, hard-fought strike marked by a bold outreach for solidarity and repeated mass mobilizations. But the relationship of forces was simply too much for the small unions involved.

The result is a blow to the entire independent union movement.

Salvador events sharpen conflict

Class polarization deepens in Nicaragua

By Matilde Zimmermann

MANAGUA, January 12—Most Nicaraguans identify strongly with the revolutionary struggle in El Salvador, and many are following the news of the current military offensive on an almost hour by hour basis.

There are exceptions, however. The Nicaraguan capitalists, whose press organ is the daily newspaper *La Prensa*, take the side of the Salvadoran junta.

Over the last few months, *La Prensa* has become more and more openly the voice of reaction on both domestic and international questions. The life or death struggle going on in El Salvador makes this even more clear.

La Prensa calls Napoleón Duarte, the head of the brutal military/Christian Democratic junta "the solution for El Salvador."

One day after the launching of the current military offensive, *La Prensa* quoted Salvadoran junta member José Antonio Morales Ehrlich—who had already fled to Costa Rica—as saying the situation in El Salvador was "completely under control."

On the second day of the offensive *La Prensa* reprinted as a news story a Salvadoran army summary of the military situation.

The newspaper has referred to the two Salvadoran officers who led their troops over to the side of the revolution as "traitors to the fatherland," and insist that except for these two "traitors," the army is more united than ever.

La Prensa even puts the name of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) in quotations marks, as if to suggest that the organization under whose banner the Salvadoran people are fighting may not really exist.

'Face the people' discussion

The counterrevolutionary role of *La Prensa* was a major topic at a "face the people" discussion here January 9. (Every week the Junta of National Reconstruction meets face to face with a different group; this week it was the Nicaraguan press corps.)

Several journalists asked what could be done about the lies appearing in *La Prensa* and on its main radio counterpart, Radio Corporación.

Junta member Moisés Hassán explained that at this point it is less



Sandinista rally commemorates third anniversary of assassination of Pedro Chamorro.

Militant/Fred Murphy

damaging to the revolution to allow *La Prensa* to continue publishing its lies and slanders—which are widely recognized as such—than to feed the counterrevolutionary propaganda campaign abroad by shutting the paper down. He noted that the situation could change if *La Prensa* goes even further with its campaign to sabotage the economy and undermine national security.

Sergio Ramírez, another Junta member, compared *La Prensa* and its methods to those of the newspaper *El Mercurio* in Allende's Chile. "There is one very important difference, however," Ramírez said. "*El Mercurio* contributed to the fall of the Unidad Popular regime. It was an effective tool of the reactionary offensive that brought down the Unidad Popular government. That is not going to happen here in Nicaragua. This government is not going to fall."

Daniel Ortega warned that the people who are raising a great hue and cry about "freedom of the press" are mostly interested in only one kind—freedom for a tiny minority of exploiters to buy themselves a wide hearing.

Two rallies held in Managua on January 10 revealed the increasingly clear division between the capitalists, whose interests *La Prensa* represents, and the masses, who are carrying forward the revolutionary process.

Rally and counter rally

Both rallies commemorated the third anniversary of the assassination of Pedro Joaquín Chamorro, who was editor of *La Prensa* at a time when the newspaper was known for its courageous opposition to the Somoza dictatorship. Any similarity between the two demonstrations ends there.

Eight to ten thousand people assembled in Pedro Joaquín Chamorro plaza for the morning rally, including spirited delegations from the army, the militias, and the mass organizations.

Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrión blasted the capitalist elements who are trying to misuse the memory of Chamorro, "who want to make Pedro Joaquín Chamorro into a hero of the counterrevolution."

"And in this, as in everything else, they have failed," Carrión went on. "Because Pedro Joaquín was a man of the people; and the gentlemen from COSEP [Superior Council of Private Enterprise], the gentlemen of the MDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Movement], and the PCD [Democratic Conservative Party], and all the other fine gentlemen who are meeting for their 'Day for Democracy' cannot take that away from him."

"They are trying to steal heroes from the people, because they don't have any heroes of their own. Because unjust causes don't produce heroes, only villains."

Unity of toilers

"National Unity" was the theme of the demonstration. Carrión explained that it was the unity of the toiling masses, women, and youth, that had made every step forward possible, not the capitalist version of "unity."

"Now there are certain sectors, certain parties, certain reactionary little parties who say that they left the Council of State because the FSLN [Sandinista National Liberation Front] turned its back on the program of national reconstruction. They complain that they don't believe in the unity proposed by the FSLN anymore, and say that's why they left, that's why they bolted."

"But we should be very clear about one thing—that these people were never part of our unity. Not because we, the people, the Sandinistas, kept them out. Rather because they never agreed with carrying out the Sandinista People's Revolution."

Carrión explained how the same capi-

talist elements who are now attacking the revolutionary government had tried over and over to work out some deal with the imperialists and even with Somoza himself, to preserve Somozaism without Somoza.

The two rallies, only hours apart, showed how sharply the class line is being drawn in Nicaragua. There was no overlap in speakers, participants, chants, or substance.

Even the Chamorro family itself is divided. Three of Pedro Joaquín's children were honored guests at the morning rally: Cristiana Chamorro; Carlos Fernando Chamorro, editor of the FSLN daily *Barricada*, who was one of the speakers; and Claudia Lucía Chamorro de Bárcenas, who presided over a preliminary event.

Their biological brother, Pedro Joaquín Chamorro Barrios is currently an editor of *La Prensa* and was a featured speaker at the antigovernment rally.

'Salvador will win'

The most enthusiastic chant at the morning rally was "If Nicaragua won, El Salvador will win." In the afternoon the chant was "If Jamaica won, Nicaragua will win."

The popular "Sandino Yesterday, Sandino today, Sandino forever," became "Christ yesterday, Christ today, Christ forever."

The tone of the antigovernment rally was shrill. One speaker even tried to insinuate that the FSLN was covering up for the assassins of Pedro Joaquín Chamorro.

A demonstrator got so carried away that he shouted out: "Democracy does not exist in Nicaragua. What exists is slavery!"

About 1,500 persons attended the afternoon rally, which the Nicaraguan capitalists had hoped would be a major show of strength. It was the first opportunity COSEP and the bourgeois parties had had to mobilize their supporters since the cancellation of a planned November 8 rally. *La Prensa* publicized the January 10 action for weeks ahead of time.

The mood of the right-wing rally was far from confident, however. Although El Salvador was not mentioned—in sharp contrast to the morning rally—the revolutionary advances in that country seemed to cast a shadow over the gathering.

And if the Nicaraguan capitalists are looking over their shoulder at El Salvador, they also have their eyes on another place. As we were walking away from the rally, we saw a young man coming in. On his T-shirt was a message—in English—"Florida is where it's happening!"

From Intercontinental Press

Right-wing terrorists strike at Cuba's Montreal consulate

By Nelson González

A bomb exploded on the sidewalk in front of the Cuban consulate in Montreal the night of December 23. No one was injured, but the windows of the building were blown out.

A phone call from a man identifying himself as a Cuban exile living in Canada credited the bombing to the Alliance of Cuban Revolutionary Organizations.

No one has been arrested.

"This terrorist act could have cost the life of representatives of the Cuban government," stated a message of solidarity from the Revolutionary Workers

League (RWL) to the Cuban consulate.

The message from the socialist organization noted that Felix Garcia, a Cuban attaché to the United Nations, had been assassinated in New York last September. And in Montreal there have been two previous attempts to bomb the Cuban consulate.

An editorial in the December 27 Montreal daily *Le Devoir* recalled a 1972 bombing also in Montreal, that resulted in the death of a member of the Cuban trade delegation.

The editorial declares that "the reason for the failure of the police to arrest the guilty party is hardly in doubt: the explosion was shown to be the work of American agents and only the degree of participation of members of the RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] has not yet been publicly established."

The paper called for beefed up protection for the Cuban consulate and for a special police investigation of the latest bombing and its foreign and Montreal connections.

The *Socialist Voice*, newspaper of the RWL, demanded that Canadian security agencies divulge any information concerning the bombers' identity and that they be immediately arrested and prosecuted.

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Rebellion in 'kingdom of death'

Bloody Guatemala rulers can't stem tide

The following article appeared in the November 1 issue of 'Frente,' the monthly publication of the Guatemalan Democratic Front Against Repression (FDCR).

The FDCR, which is leading the struggle against the military dictatorship of Gen. Romeo Lucas García, is comprised of more than 100 trade unions and peasant organizations and more than 40 student organizations, as well as neighborhood, professional, and religious groups and political parties. The translation is by 'Intercontinental Press.'

For fifteen years Guatemala has been the kingdom of death. It was the first country in Latin America—the laboratory—where the tactic of terror as a means of counterinsurgency was introduced, around 1966.

At that time the military chiefs, the U.S. advisors, and President Méndez Montenegro thought that the use of the tactic would last only a few months. They believed that would serve to eradicate the guerrilla movement forever.

But as in the tale of the Arabian Nights, the demon of violence, invoked by the country's ruling class, refused to return to its bottle. Since that time class rule in Guatemala has been sustained solely by means of terror.

Little by little, the legitimacy of the bourgeois democratic system disappeared. Who in Guatemala believes today in elections or in traditional parties?

The ruling class, condemned to oppress and not to govern, a class that can only maintain itself by means of endless slaughter, by a continually wider and more grotesque butchery, has been changed into a species of collective vampire.

The Guatemalan rich—the military chiefs, the leaders of the government parties, the petty bourgeoisie who have realized their dream of moving into the bourgeoisie, the traditional industrialists, businessmen, and landowners—accumulate and reproduce as a class on the mountain of their victims' bodies.

Mass slaughter

How many have died in Guatemala in the past fifteen years so that the country can be ever more integrated into



Combined police and national guard forces conduct regular, intensive check-and-search operations throughout Guatemala in unceasing effort to stamp out opposition forces. But the repression deepens the opposition.

transnational capitalism, so that a minority—around 1,400 families out of nearly 7 million inhabitants—can be ever richer?

Conservative statistics tell us about 30,000 human beings, although it is difficult to know exactly how many.

The internal mechanism of the policy of terror is now finally known. At first, this was not so. At first, when the slaughter began and the victims fell right and left, nobody knew how to interpret what was happening; it was like a medieval plague.

Little by little the diabolical logic of terror—of terror as a counterinsurgency tactic, of terror as an instrument of social control—was disentangled.

The principle of this tactic—which comes from the Nazis, was perfected by the French in Algeria, and was introduced by the North Americans in Latin America—is simple. Fear is a basic instinct. Elevated to high levels, it is often stronger than other motivations such as patriotism or ideology in determining a person's political behavior.

Consequently, in confronting an insurrection—as the revolutionary process is called in military language—if the population is sufficiently terrorized, the extreme fear will inhibit it from joining the rebels, who can then be isolated and destroyed.

In order to provoke extreme fear it is necessary to threaten injury, an injury that will produce the desired effect. Generally, the threat is of death and torture.

Then there is a tacit message: "If you join with the rebels, if you are against the government and the military, if you participate in unions and student movements, if you write against the rich, you will be kidnapped, tortured, and killed, sometimes along with your friends."

Rulers' invention

As for ideological arguments, the government and the ruling class do not admit that they are the authors of these repressive acts.

So as not to enter into contradiction with their laws—their constitution, their penal code—they pretend that those who kidnap and kill are "paramilitary groups."

And they invent strange names—"the White Hand," "the Death Squad," the "Secret Anticommunist Army"—in order to cover up the activity of special units of the police and army.

All this is carried out along with an intense psychological war: slogans on the walls, intensive utilization of the means of communication, lists of those condemned to death, threats by telephone and in writing, and—the supremely terrifying effect—the abandonment of dozens of corpses with signs of terrible tortures.

At times, when the circumstances require it, they carry out even greater acts of intimidation, such as the Panzós massacre, the burning of the occupants of the Spanish embassy, the kidnapping of twenty-seven trade unionists, etc.*

Such terrible actions have two aims: the destruction of the victim—leaders and militants of political parties, religious figures, trade unionists, peasants, students, professionals, journal-

*The Panzós massacre occurred on May 29, 1978, when army troops and armed landowners machine-gunned more than 100 Kekchí Indians—men, women, and children—in the main square of Panzós, a town about 125 miles northeast of Guatemala City. The Kekchí had committed the crime of demanding their right to land.

The burning of the Spanish embassy in Guatemala City was carried out by police with flame-throwers on January 31, 1980. The embassy had been occupied by a group of peasants from El Quiché Province, who were demanding an end to repression and an accounting of peasant leaders who had "disappeared." More than thirty people, including some Spanish diplomats, were burned alive.

The kidnapping of the leaders of the National Workers Federation (CNT) occurred on June 21, 1980. They had gathered at the CNT headquarters in Guatemala City to discuss the murder of two trade union leaders. The streets in the area were cordoned off just before the attack, and the victims have not been heard of since.

ists, democratic personages—and along with that, the intimidation of the whole population of the country, which witnesses the slaughter.

Has the tactic of terror been successful?

In the short term, yes. It has succeeded at times—in 1966-67 and 1971-72—in temporarily disorienting the people's movement, in inflicting severe reverses on the revolutionary movement, and in taking the lives of valiant leaders and militants.

In the long run, no. Terrorism has never resolved social problems. The police cannot act as a substitute for the state. Violence against the people results in negative dividends for the ruling classes.

When in Guatemala's history, from the days of the Indian rebellions, have the native peoples—Quiché, Cakchiquel, Kekchí, Mam, etc.—been incorporated in the revolutionary process, as they are today?

When has the Indian peasant been united with the Spanish-speaking urban worker in order to confront together the social and racial oppression of hundreds of years?

Nowadays the various forms of struggle are reaching unprecedented dimensions and have in addition a national character.

What then is the defect in the tactic of terror?

The answer must be found in the false conception that underlies the concept of terror. People do not go into action for individual reasons, the masses are not moved by a handful of shadowy agitators. Consequently, although individual fear may be very strong, class consciousness cannot be terrorized. Although many leaders are assassinated, the masses generate their own leaders.

In fact, what explains the upsurge of Guatemala's democratic and revolutionary people's struggle is the dialectic of the class struggle. That is, the objective growth of the working class in Guatemala as a result of the capitalist development and the depauperization of the oppressed sectors. On the subjective side, there is the development of class consciousness.

Although it appears paradoxical in the midst of the worst slaughter that has been known in our national history, those of us who have suffered the terror, those of us who have seen many friends and compañeros die under its claws, are happy because scientific analysis enables us to already foresee the end of the terror.

As in the countries occupied by the Nazis at the end of the Second World War, as in Algeria, as in Vietnam, as in Nicaragua, terrorism will be conquered once again by the endless courage of the class that is the moving force in history.

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Communist Party aids racist drive

Immigrant workers persecuted in France

On Christmas Eve fifty persons from Vitry-sur-Seine, on the outskirts of Paris, bulldozed and ransacked a dormitory where 300 immigrant workers from Mali had just been housed. They cut the electric cables, telephone lines, and gas ducts, and tore down most of the doors.

They were protesting the growing number of immigrant workers who had moved to Vitry in recent years.

This reprehensible action was taken with the approval of the Communist Party mayor of Vitry, Paul Mercieca. The mayor charged that the African immigrants had been secretly transferred from the neighboring community of Saint-Maur to his municipality because they were unwanted in Saint-Maur.

Claiming that the working class community of Vitry already had too many immigrant workers, Mercieca issued an emergency decree forbidding their settlement in Vitry.

Several accounts of the incident at Vitry asserted that the rampage had been led by the Communist Party mayor. Mercieca has denied these charges.

There are an estimated four million immigrant workers and their families in France. They come from the African countries of Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Benin, Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco, as well as from Portugal, Spain, and Turkey.

With the economic crisis and the rise in unemployment in France, these immigrant workers have become scapegoats for the French government's policies of repression and austerity. Racist attacks have been on an increase and are encouraged by the government's policies.

The following article on the events in Vitry and the role of the Communist Party is excerpted from the January 3-9 issue of *Rouge*, weekly newspaper of the French Revolutionary Communist League (LCR). The translation is by *Intercontinental Press*.

* * *

The crocodiles of the right-wing press,

who have never before let themselves get upset over racist attacks, jumped at the opportunity to shed some tears over the Communist Party's "anti-immigration policies." We have nothing in common with these capitalist journalists.

We know that it is the Giscard government that bears primary responsibility for the intolerable situation of immigrant workers in this country.

It is the government that imposes subhuman living and working conditions on immigrant workers. And it is the government that refuses to grant these workers the same rights as French workers.

Used as pawns

The government accepts and rejects immigrant workers according to the needs of the capitalist economy. The immigrant workers are used as pawns in their political and economic game.

If the employers need laborers to work for less money they go looking for them in the most distant countries, closing their eyes to the worst sort of slave trade.

But in times of economic crisis, the borders are closed, mass deportations occur, and immigrant workers are made into scapegoats for the crisis.

On a national scale, right-wing mayors and departmental administrators carry out this same cynical policy. In municipalities controlled by officials from the rightist parties—the Gaullist Assembly for the Republic (RPR) or the Giscardist Union for French Democracy (UDF)—the immigrant population is "pushed out."

These officials claim that the immigrants "lower the standards" and they systematically steer the immigrants towards working-class districts.

Given the government's policy, the Communist Party's position serves to divide the working class and promote the spread of racism.

By calling for "fair distribution of immigrants among all the various communities" the CP is caught in a terrible bind.

This logic leads CP elected officials—



African immigrant 'apartment' in France. Dormitory like this was target of racist attack instigated by Communist Party mayor of Vitry.

catering to the prejudices of their electorate—to fight against any new immigrant workers coming into their communities. Some even prefer to leave housing vacant rather than make it available to immigrant families.

The mayor of Vitry just carried this policy to its logical conclusion.

'Threshold of tolerance'

In order to try and justify this scandalous policy, CP officials explain that when their numbers rise "above a certain threshold," immigrants inevitably encourage racism.

But it is not immigrant workers who create racists, any more than it is Jews who create anti-Semitism! It is the decay of class society that spawns these monsters. The CP would do better to leave this conception of a "threshold of tolerance" to the bourgeois sociologists who invented it.

Communist Party leaders also use another argument. They say that the presence of immigrants in huge numbers creates "an intolerable drain on local budgets."

Of course it would be fruitless to deny the problems that could arise—in education, social welfare, and housing. But everyone who is hit by unemployment or hard times "creates a drain" no matter what the color of their skin! And as long as there are workers districts they must confront this contradiction.

There is only one answer to this problem that corresponds to the interests of the working class as a whole. And that is to mobilize both French and immigrant workers in united action against the government to demand the financial resources that will insure decent housing and work for all. This may be more difficult—but is the only path to take.

To think otherwise is to agree to a policy based on accepting poverty and divisions among the working class. And

it means telling French working people that the reason they pay such high local taxes is because there are too many immigrants.

And why not also blame the taxes on too many people being out of work or too many people earning the bare minimum wage, since they too "create drains?"

In light of the racism and xenophobia that have been on the rise because of the economic crisis, we must stress that true communism is first of all internationalism: "Proletariats have no country."

Unity against Giscard

It is necessary to come out clearly in support of unrestricted travel for all workers and complete equality in all social and political rights.

We must demand that everyone have the right to a job. The solution to unemployment is to greatly reduce the work-week with no cut in pay, not to send the immigrants back to their countries or women back to the kitchens.

A united front of all French and immigrant workers organizations and all antiracist organizations must be formed to fight against the real perpetrators of anti-immigrant attacks and racism.

And that is the Giscard government.

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Paris street scene. French bosses, like those in this country, reserve hardest, dirtiest, lowest-paying jobs for immigrant workers.

French revolutionary youth hold convention

By Janice Lynn

The Jeunesses Communistes Révolutionnaires (Revolutionary Communist Youth) of France held its second national congress December 13-14 in the town of Orsay. More than 300 youth attended the congress.

The JCR was launched less than two years ago by student youth in the Revolutionary Communist League (LCR, the French section of the Fourth International) and young people who had been attracted to the revolutionary-socialist youth paper *Barricades*.

According to the LCR newspaper *Rouge*, the congress was preceded by several weeks of written and oral discussion.

A high point of the congress was an international youth rally that featured speakers from various revolutionary youth movements around the world.

The rally opened with greetings from the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) that recalled the JCR's active work in solidarity with the Nicaraguan revolution. The JCR had been in the forefront of the campaign in France to raise funds for the Nicaraguan literacy campaign.

Other speakers included a Black shipyard worker from the Young Socialist Alliance in the United States and a representative from the newly formed Trotskyist youth group in Sweden. Greetings were also read from the Revolutionary Communist Youth (JCR) of Spain.

The rally unanimously approved a motion in support of the hunger strike by political prisoners in Northern Ireland and protested the scandalous conditions imposed upon these prisoners by the British government.

Rouge reports that the discussion at

the congress revolved around two main topics. First was the JCR's work to win more young people to the "Youth Against Giscard" campaign.

The JCR is actively collecting signatures of young workers and students on petitions calling for defeating French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and his policies of austerity and repression in the upcoming presidential elections.

The JCR is also campaigning for workers unity against the capitalist parties. JCR members are calling on all working class candidates to agree in advance that in the second round of elections they will step down in favor of whichever candidate receives the highest vote in the first round.

As part of the "Youth Against Giscard" campaign the JCR discussed helping to initiate press conferences and "Rock Against Giscard" concerts, as well as other activities.

The second main topic of discussion at the congress revolved around the question of how to win more working-class youth to the JCR—both young workers and youth from France's technical schools.

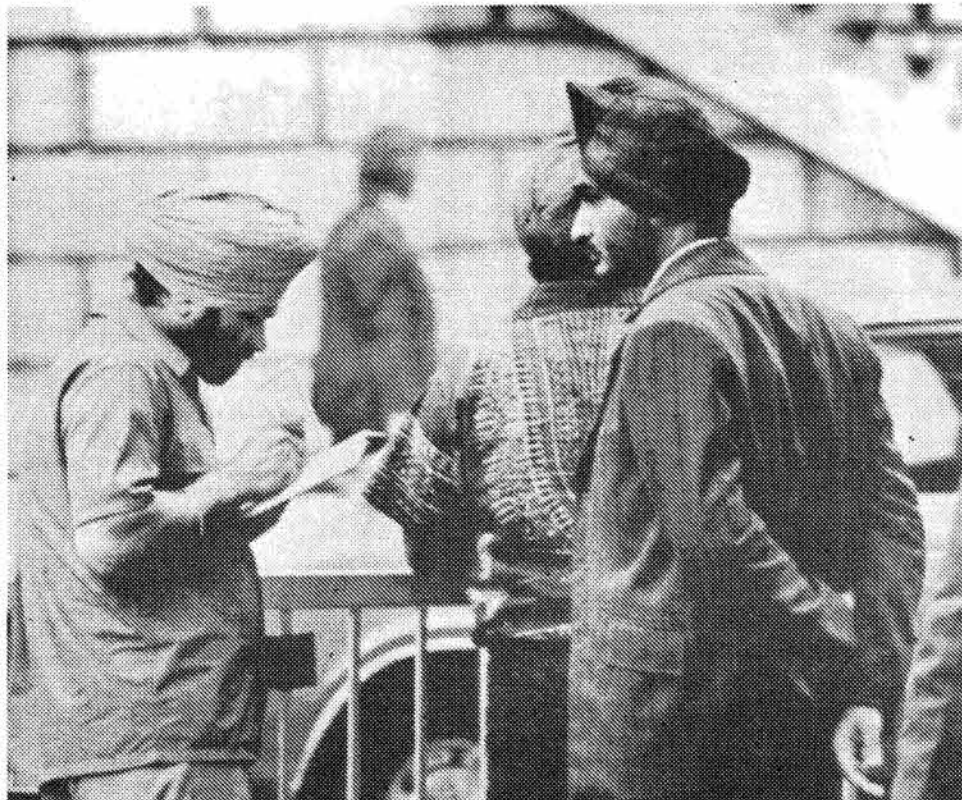
Since September, *Rouge* reported, the JCR had recruited 150 new members. Many of these new members have come from the technical high schools, where they are learning industrial skills.

There was discussion about integrating these new members into the JCR and about the need to transform the JCR into an organization of young workers.

According to *Rouge*, the second congress of the JCR represented the development of the JCR into a truly independent organization that could attract the best revolutionary youth of France.

From *Intercontinental Press*

Immigrants under fire by British government



Asian immigrants in London are among targets of intensified racist attacks.

By Gary Erlisker

LONDON—Since the coming to power of the Tory government of Margaret Thatcher in May 1979, there has been a stepping up of the offensive against Black people in Britain. This is part of the worldwide drive of the capitalist class against oppressed national minorities and immigrant workers.

The election of the Tories was accompanied by racist demagoguery about Britain being "swamped" by an "alien culture."

Putting its racism into practice, Thatcher's government has doubled the level of the deportations. Right now, it is attempting to deport hundreds of Filipino domestic workers.

These workers, who have performed some of the most menial and low-paid jobs in Britain, are being charged with not declaring they had children, when they entered the country.

The fact that they were not required to do so at the time, nor the hardship that their deportations would bring, carries little weight with the racist authorities.

Raids on factories and other workplaces are being stepped up. On any one day, up to 200 people are being held in detention centers. Police harassment is increasing.

Target for attack

In turn, the attacks on Black people by the state create an atmosphere in which any Black person becomes fair game for assault and even murder by racist thugs.

Now the Tories are planning a new stage in the racist campaign. Their Nationality Proposals, which will be coming up for discussion in Parliament early this year, seek to deprive millions of Black people of the right to enter, work, and stay in Britain.

- The proposals divide people into those whose ancestors were born here, mainly white people, and those whose were not, mainly Black people. The latter would have no automatic right of entry into Britain.

- People in countries presently ruled by Britain would not be able to enter the UK as a right.

- Many Black people who opted for British passports could now become stateless.

- Previously stateless people to whom British citizenship was given by the 1948 and 1964 Acts could have that citizenship taken away.

- Residence of five years no longer entitles people to citizenship. It is now a question of Home Office discretion. Black people who speak out and organize against racism or who are active in unions and social struggles may well be victimized.

- Black people not born in Britain

would be unable to adopt children from abroad. Parents would also have to prove they are legally settled here before their children born here are accepted as British. Black women will not gain citizenship by being married to citizens.

More deportations

At the same time, there has been a growing fightback against the racist offensive.

The cases of Anwar Ditta, a British citizen whom the Home Office is trying to prevent from bringing her children here from Pakistan, and Nasira Begum, a Black woman fighting deportation, have won growing support. In November, 500 people demonstrated in support of Ditta in the town of Rochdale, where she lives.

The Filipino domestics' case is being taken up in several unions. Five hundred Filipinos and their supporters marched and rallied in London on November 23 for an amnesty and no deportations.

Black response

Blacks in St. Pauls, Bristol, rebelled against police harassment in March 1980 and drove the cops out of their community.

In November 1979, in the biggest action against racist attacks by the government, nearly 20,000 people took to the streets in London to oppose attempts to tighten immigration controls.

The march, overwhelmingly Black, was called by the newly formed Campaign Against Racist Laws (CARL), a coalition including Black workers' organizations, several left political groups, and members of the Labour Party. Sixty Labour members of Parliament backed the march, as did several unions.

While Black people have shown their determination to fight back and groups like CARL have grown, there has been a lack of involvement in this crucial area of the class struggle by much of the labor movement.

This situation needs to be changed. The support which has been forthcoming from the labor movement so far needs to be increased and built on. The antiracist struggle needs to be taken to the very heart of the labor movement, for instance into the industrial unions.

For if the unions and the Labour Party ranks aren't mobilized the offensive will not be turned back. In turn, if the labor movement cannot mobilize to defend the most disadvantaged sections of working people, it will not be able to defend any working people from the Tories' attacks on our democratic and human rights, wages, and living conditions.

From Intercontinental Press

Marcos pretends to ease Philippine rule

By Janice Lynn

With much fanfare, Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos proclaimed January 17 that after more than eight years, he was lifting martial law.

Two days prior to Marcos's announcement, 200 opposition figures held a news conference to expose his move as a sham. They demanded instead "a dismantling of the Marcos dictatorship." The United Democratic Opposition labeled Marcos's action "a paper lifting."

More than 1,000 decrees and orders that had been issued during the eight years and four months of martial law will all remain intact.

Everything the same

Everything will be the same, representatives of the United Democratic Opposition declared, "no free press, no free speech, no peaceful assembly, no independent legislative body and no rule of law."

Only two of the most repulsive symbols of martial law are scheduled to be phased out. Military tribunals are to be replaced by civilian courts, and army detention centers are to be dismantled.

However, Marcos has authorized the army to arrest and detain suspected "subversives" and quell protests, even without martial law.

The order formally lifting martial law also allows for the continued detention of political prisoners without an inquiry by civil courts.

In addition: the right of habeas corpus remains suspended; strikes in vital industries are still banned; and the military retains the right to arrest people on the island of Mindanao, where the Muslim population had been carrying out a struggle for independence.

Marcos also retains the power to issue additional emergency laws, as needed.

As a token measure, the Marcos regime released 341 prisoners—out of more than 1,700 in military camps around the country.

'Test sincerity'

Groups opposed to the Marcos dictatorship announced plans "to test the sincerity of Marcos."

"By testing we mean trying to exercise our constitutional rights," opposition member Salvador Laurel declared. Plans include rallies, demonstrations, and starting a daily newspaper.

Under martial law, demonstrations were outlawed and only newspapers sympathetic to the Marcos government were allowed to publish.

The United Democratic Opposition has demanded the immediate restoration of habeas corpus, release of all political prisoners, abolition of censorship, and the right of labor to organize and strike.

The coalition also expressed its opposition to the two big United States military bases in the Philippines—Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base—charging that the bases are being used to "prop up the Marcos dictatorship."

Upsurge of protest

The formal lifting of martial law comes in the context of increasing



MARCOS

opposition to the Marcos regime. Student protests and demonstrations, as well as an upsurge of strikes and other labor action, have taken place over the last year.

In one of the largest job actions in the Philippines since martial law was imposed, 6,500 gold miners at the Benguet Corporation walked off their jobs at the beginning of this year. The January 5 strike began after months-long negotiations collapsed.

The gold miners make the equivalent of US\$1.73 a day. They were demanding a 53 cent increase for 1980 and a slightly lower amount for 1981 and 1982. The strikers were ordered back to work the next day.

A leaked confidential memo, written by an independent consultant for the World Bank, warned that "the authority of President Ferdinand Marcos is eroding and his position is becoming increasingly precarious."

It was in this context that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard C. Holbrooke was dispatched to Manila at the end of December to meet with the Philippine dictator.

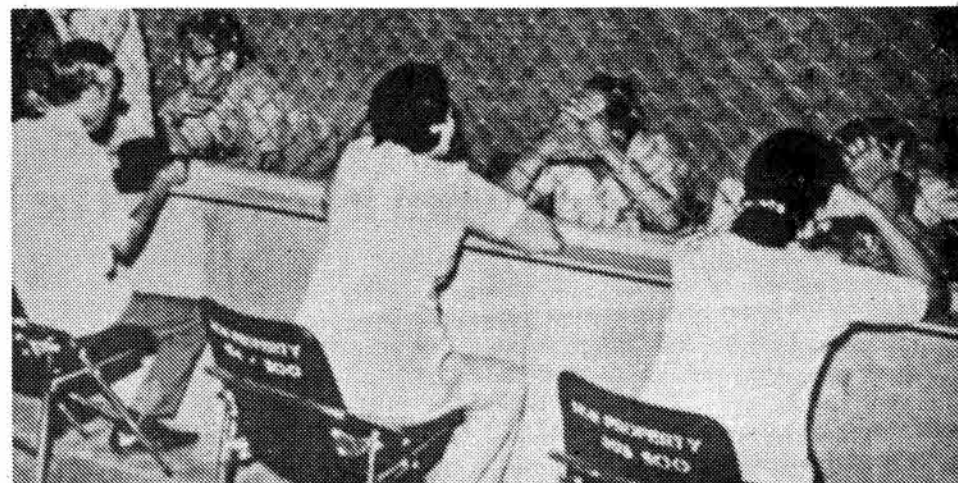
On January 3, Holbrooke also met with one of the principal Filipino opposition leaders, Senator Benigno Aquino. Aquino is in the United States after spending more than seven years in detention in the Philippines.

Holbrooke tried to convince Aquino to accept Marcos's impending lifting of martial law and to denounce opposition forces charged with a recent spate of bombings.

Oppositionists in the Philippines have denounced the U.S. government for its support to Marcos. On January 20, a group of students demonstrated outside the U.S. embassy in Manila to protest Washington's complicity with the Marcos dictatorship and its charade of ending martial law.

The demonstrators were quickly dispersed by Marcos's police.

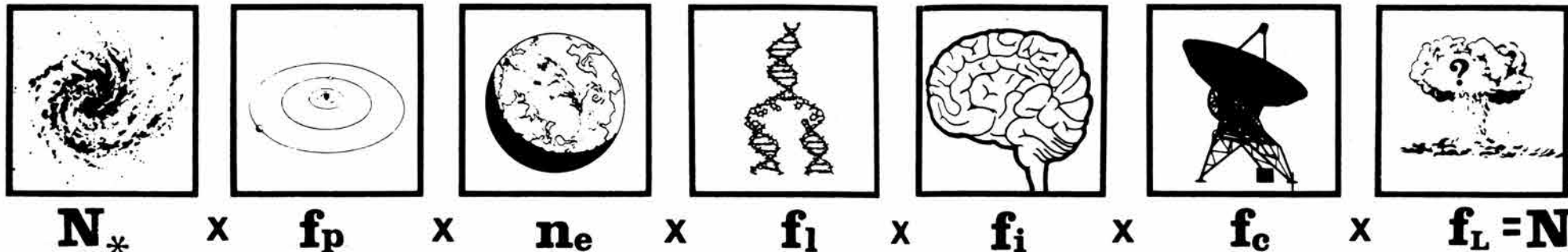
From Intercontinental Press



Prisoners and visitors at concentration camp near Manila.

In Review

In defense of 'Cosmos'



Critics attack 'Cosmos' for promoting science against superstition before large television audience. Capitalist guardians of media do not like Sagan's linking science to social concerns like nuclear war. Graphics above illustrate factors in estimating probability of civilizations on other planets that radio telescopes could detect.

Equation is based on evolutionary theory and study of galaxies, solar systems, DNA molecules (f_i), and intelligence. (f_L) represents possibility of society destroying itself. Sagan thinks it would be possible to detect radio signals sent by other intelligent sources in space. He discounts all claims of UFOs.

Cosmos. By Carl Sagan. Random House, 1980. 365 pp., \$19.95.

The thirteen-part series "Cosmos" was one of the most popular shows ever on Public Television and probably the best thing since "Roots."

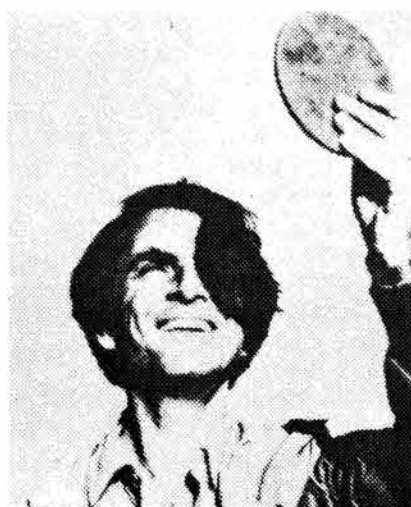
The program, shown last fall, was written by the astronomer Carl Sagan along with Ann Druyan and Steven Soter. Sagan was the narrator of the show.

The book by the same name has been a best seller for several months even though it is only available in a \$19.95 hardback edition. More than 450,000 copies have been sold since last October, according to Random House.

The book will be printed in Spanish by a publishing house in Spain in the fall of 1981. The television show was broadcast throughout Latin America.

Materialist view

Cosmos is about science, and the historical and social questions involved in science. In his introduction to the book, Sagan explains:



CARL SAGAN

"Today we have discovered a powerful and elegant way to understand the universe, a method called science; it has revealed to us a universe so ancient and so vast that human affairs seem at first sight to be of little consequence. We have grown distant from the Cosmos. It has seemed remote and irrelevant to everyday concerns.

"But science has found not only that the universe has a reeling and ecstatic grandeur, not only that it is accessible to human understanding, but also that we are, in a very real and profound sense, a part of that Cosmos, born from it, our fate deeply connected with it.

"The most basic human events and the most trivial trace back to the universe and its origins. This book is devoted to the exploration of that cosmic perspective."

The materialist approach of Sagan to science, history, and social and political questions has been a real contribution against the increasing flood of antiscientific, reactionary ideas that are spread more and more by the ruling class through all of its organs.

Two of the important ruling class publications in the United States, the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*, ran attacks against the "Cosmos" television program. The sharpness of the attacks indicates how seriously the ruling class takes its reactionary ideological offensive.

In an article in the October 24 *Wall Street Journal* Richard Baer wrote:

"... Mr. Sagan suggests that science alone will prove adequate to unravel the mysteries of life. ... It may be scientifically productive to treat nature

as a machine and to stress the random quality of mutations when formulating evolutionary theory. ... [but] such a procedure seems woefully deficient if we want to understand human freedom and responsibility or if we want to deal with the qualitative dimensions of human experience.

"Mr. Sagan's sarcastic voice reveals even more clearly than the script his bias against religion and the church. ... For Mr. Sagan, the church appears to be little more than the realm of ignorance and bigotry.

Scientism

"... Mr. Sagan seems less concerned to interpret history and culture sympathetically than to discredit rivals to his own scientism."

"Scientism" is an epithet against materialism. It is supposed to mean that science is like a religion, to be blindly worshipped.

But this is the opposite of what Sagan is doing. He argues with scientists of ancient and modern times who attempt to keep scientific knowledge as their exclusive preserve.

The great accomplishment of "Cosmos" is to promote knowledge about science and of a scientific approach to nature, history, and society.

When someone in a *Wall Street Journal* article starts talking about "human freedom and responsibility," watch out. Baer counterposes these words to Sagan's explanation of the universe and nature as governed by laws, not the reflection of divine myths.

Human beings and human society come into the picture as a very recent part of the natural universe.

Hydrogen atoms

At one point in the last segment of the "Cosmos" TV series, Sagan shows pictures of human society after describing the origin of the universe. He says, "These are some of the things that hydrogen atoms do, given fifteen billion years of cosmic evolution."

What is the *Wall Street Journal* view of the freedom and responsibility of evolved hydrogen atoms?

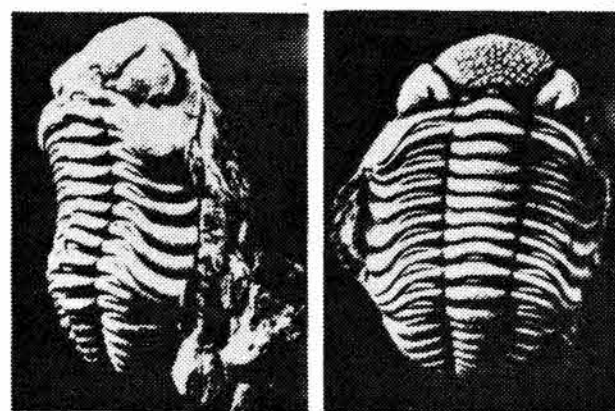
By freedom and responsibility capitalists mean the freedom to exploit other human beings and the responsibility of the exploited not to get uppity—or to know too much about science.

Capitalist exploitation is a stage of human evolution. A stage whose negative, life-threatening consequences have long superceded its progressive features.

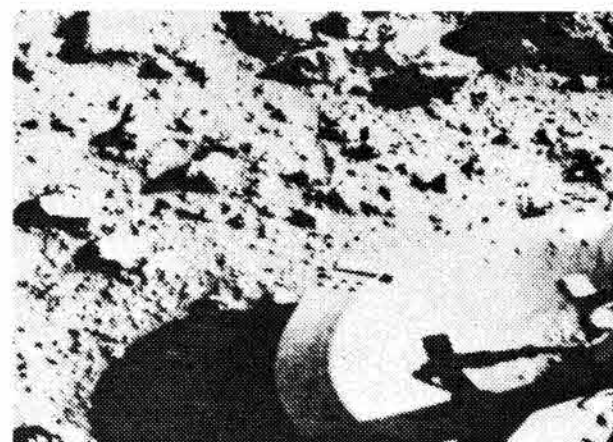
Religion

Baer is right on one thing. Sagan does attack religion. The program is a running criticism of religion and all other superstitions.

As Sagan points out, "For thousands of years humans were oppressed—as some of us still are—by



Fossil remains of trilobites. These animals, the size of large insects, were common 200 to 500 million years ago. None exist today.



First picture transmitted to Earth from surface of Mars, 1976. Bottom right, part of Viking I landing gear.

the notion that the universe is a marionette whose strings are pulled by a god or gods, unseen and inscrutable."

John O'Connor's *New York Times* television column on December 14, 1980—his second attack on the Sagan series—was titled "Putting 'Cosmos' into Perspective."

According to O'Connor, "... the underlying assumptions, both of Dr. Sagan's comments and of 'Cosmos,' are oddly disturbing. In the series, science is approached as a monolithic repository of 'truth.' Throughout 'Cosmos,' there are certain given presuppositions. Foremost among them is that science is infinitely superior to 'religion and superstition,' which are usually linked in Dr. Sagan's observations. Religion, especially, is characterized as being opposed to enlightened progress."

Mom & apple pie

And that's not all. O'Connor goes on to complain that:

"Dropping his mantle of the 'objective scientist,' Dr. Sagan pleads for the causes of nuclear controls and, using the example of Hypatia in Alexandria, feminism. In terms of contemporary sentiments, this is akin to arguing for Mom and apple pie."

Sagan explained that the dark ages, 1,000 years of church-led reaction and scientific degeneration in Western culture, began with the murder of Hypatia in 415 A.D. She was a mathematician, astronomer, and physicist, and the last scientist to work in the Library of Alexandria in Egypt, the cultural center of the western world at the time.

She was killed and the library burned by a mob incited by Cyril, the archbishop of Alexandria, who saw science and learning as a threat to the church. "Cyril was made a saint," Sagan concludes without comment.

One of the most powerful statements in the series is never heard in the "Mom and apple pie" world of the capitalist media. And there is nothing unobjective about it:

"If the inclinations toward slavery and racism, misogyny and violence are connected—as individual character and human history, as well as cross-cultural studies, suggest—then there is room for some optimism.

"We are surrounded by recent fundamental changes in society. In the last two centuries, abject slavery, with us for thousands of years or more, has been almost eliminated in a stirring planet-wide revolution.

"Women, patronized for millenia, traditionally denied real political and economic power, are gradu-

ally becoming, even in the most backward societies, equal partners with men.

Wars of aggression

"For the first time in modern history, major wars of aggression were stopped partly because of the revulsion felt by the citizens of the aggressor nations. The old exhortations to nationalist fervor and jingoist pride have begun to lose their appeal.

"Perhaps because of rising standards of living, children are being treated better worldwide. In only a few decades, sweeping global changes have begun to move in precisely the directions needed for human survival.

"A new consciousness is developing which recognizes that we are one species."

Sagan does not go into all the political conclusions and contradictions involved in this statement. But it points to the technical advances and changed thinking that are increasingly in conflict with the outmoded economic and political relations that characterize capitalist society.

Sagan also discredits astrology, flying saucers, and "ancient astronauts" with the same patient explanations and powerful arguments he uses to promote science.

Irrational beliefs vs. science

He effectively argues that imaginary and irrational beliefs are not nearly as exciting as science. The wonders of space exploration and biological research make the fictions of flying saucer stories and mind-reading seem dull.

O'Connor's attack accuses Sagan of dabbling "imaginatively but dangerously, in pop science fiction."

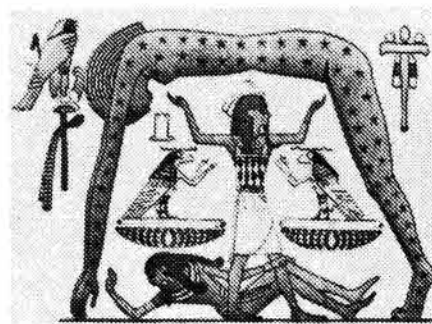
O'Connor is referring to Sagan's suggestion that there is probably other intelligent life in the universe and that serious efforts should be made with radio telescopes to send out messages and try to detect radio transmissions of other civilizations.

This idea has also been presented in science fiction, but what is dangerous about it?

If life and evolution are natural processes, there is no reason why the same processes should not have occurred on other planets in other solar systems, or possibly in this solar system.

That idea is dangerous only to the notion that humans on this planet—created in the image of God—are the focus of the entire universe.

The approach of "Cosmos" to history and earlier



Ancient Egyptian depiction of creation myth. 'Cosmos' takes up history and science from point of view of materialism.

cultures is impressive. It is genuinely objective, scientific, sensitive. Other cultures are seen in the light of the limitations of their science, technology, and their productive level. Contradictory phenomena are described and accounted for, not explained away as is often done.

Sagan explains: "... the great idea arose ... that there might be a way to know the world without the god hypothesis; that there might be principles, forces, laws of nature ..."

"Between 600 and 400 B.C., this great revolution in human thought began. The key to the revolution was the hand. Some of the brilliant Ionian thinkers [in Greece] were the sons of sailors and farmers and weavers. They were accustomed to poking and fixing, unlike the priests and scribes of other nations, who, raised in luxury, were reluctant to dirty their hands. They rejected superstition, and they worked wonders."

Science & Marxism

Sagan is not a Marxist.

But I don't think that anyone, just by being a Marxist, would have an edge on Sagan in explaining the ideas of science and materialism in general.

"Cosmos" is a model of presenting materialist views to a mass audience.

The attempts to discredit the program have focused on attacking Sagan as egotistical, since he appears constantly throughout the series. His looks, his tone of voice are ridiculed.

Whatever point there is to these criticisms—he is a ham and the series could have moved a little faster—they are irrelevant beside the value of the program and the book.

"Cosmos" is supposed to be shown again on televi-

sion next fall, to the discomfort of Sagan's bourgeois and ecclesiastical critics.

Reappearing on TV

Watch it. Organize discussions around the program.

Random House told me that Ballantine is supposed to publish a paperback edition in about a year. But the \$20 hardback, with its beautiful illustrations, is not the worst way to spend your money.

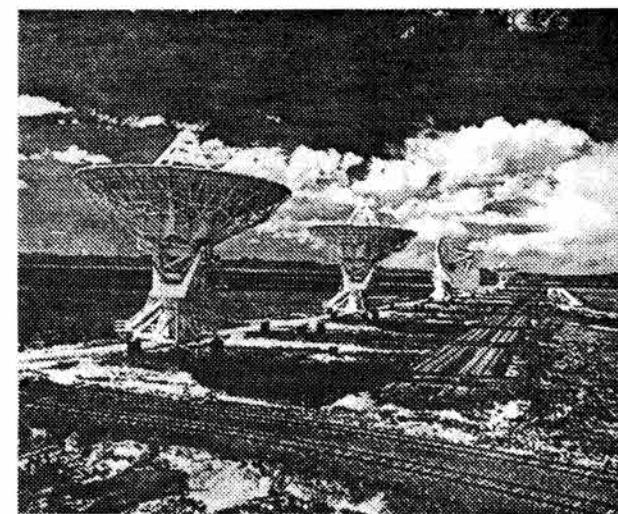
Two of Sagan's other books, *Broca's Brain* and the *Dragons of Eden*, are available in inexpensive paperback editions. They cover some of the same ground as *Cosmos*.

Through the "Cosmos" television series Carl Sagan has become one of the best known advocates of materialism in the United States today.

There are plenty of books by Marxists that complement *Cosmos*, for example, *Origins of Materialism* by George Novack and *Dialectics of Nature* by Frederick Engels. (Both are available from Pathfinder Press).

But there are no television series I'm aware of by Marxists that come close to "Cosmos" on science and materialism. And for that matter, neither Novack's nor Engels's books are as up-to-date, or as well-illustrated as Sagan's. The color photos, paintings, and diagrams in *Cosmos* are really outstanding.

—Stu Singer



Radio telescopes in New Mexico.

Killer cops: anatomy of a cover-up

By Frank Forrestal

MILWAUKEE—Two months ago, *60 Minutes*, the highly rated CBS news program, featured a segment entitled "The Kid, the Cop, and the Knife."

"Anatomy of Racist Terror" would have been more appropriate. The story is about a cover-up in the Milwaukee Police Department more than two decades ago.

What began as routine police harassment on a cold night in 1958 soon turned into cold-blooded murder. When the night was over, Daniel Bell, a twenty-two-year-old Black youth, was lying in a pool of blood.

Bell's crime? Driving with a broken tail light.

Television

The police officer who shot and killed Bell was Thomas F. Grady. Grady placed a knife in Bell's hand so he could plead self-defense in the inquiry that followed.

Truth revealed

Grady's accomplice, Louis Krause, who left the Milwaukee Police Department years ago, revealed the truth to a *Milwaukee Journal* reporter—twenty-two years after the cover-up.

In 1958 an all-white jury ruled that Grady acted justifiably in shooting Daniel Bell.

After Krause went public with the true story, an investigation was launched by the district attorney and on January 29, 1980, Grady pleaded guilty to homicide and to perjury. He was sentenced to seven years in prison.

Although *60 Minutes* attempted to portray Louis Krause as a "broken man ... cursed by a memory," the show gave viewers a good feel for cop terror. And most of it came from Krause himself.

"You've shot and killed him," said Krause. "He [Grady] said, 'Okay. We got to cover this thing up.'"

Grady then proceeded to pull out a knife from his jacket. "And I just stood there," continued Krause. "I was really shocked at—that he would even be trying to do something like this."

"And he put the little knife back in his pocket, and he opened his jacket and he pulled out a bigger knife and he placed it in the man's hand. And I said, 'Tom, what are you covering this thing up for? What are you looking for a knife for?'"

"He says, 'He's just a goddamn nigger kid anyhow.' And he repeated that two or three times."

Following the shooting, the cover-up went into full gear. Krause was told by the chief of detectives and the district attorney to change his story. "So they told me what to write, and I wrote, and signed my name to it," Krause said.

All of the officers involved were told to give the same version of what happened. Although Grady was less than a foot away from Bell when he shot him, the official version said he was nearly eight yards away.

Sylvia Bell, Daniel Bell's older sister, was also interviewed on the show. She pointed out that her brother didn't own a knife. Sylvia Bell knew from the beginning that her brother had been shot in cold blood.

"When I walked into that police room" she recalled, "they said, like, 'Nigger, get out of here.' That was the word. ... I never will forget, because when we went down there, we tried—we asked questions, you know, and, as I say, they ran us out."

"But it did come out that they planted the knife in my brother's right hand, and my brother was definitely left-handed. And that's one—you know, that was really—we really knew from the beginning."

Racist terror against Blacks was routine. The following exchange between Morley Safer, *60 Minutes* commentator, and Krause offers an example:

Safer: "What was the attitude on the force, in the Milwaukee force, back in those days towards black people?"

Krause: "Very prejudiced."

Safer: "In what ways?"

Krause: "Instead of giving them a break, they would give them a ticket or arrest them. I saw them put them on the elevator in the—in the old safety building and give them an elevator ride."

Safer: "What does that mean?"

Krause: "Going to the top floor and back down to the garage, and literally beating the shit out of them."

After the case was reopened, the district attorney got a court order that allowed him to phone tap conversations between Krause and Grady. These taped conversations sealed the case:

Krause: "See, I don't—I don't know what you were thinking about, Tom, when you pulled that knife out of your pocket and put it in that guy's hand. You know, I just—goddamn, I just don't—I can't get that through my mind."

Grady: "Well, remember how they always used to say in police training school: if something like that happens, stick a knife in their hand, (indistinct), stick a gun in his hand, or—or something you know. Protect yourself. You're innocent, but protect yourself."

Bell's family has filed a \$100 million lawsuit against the city of Milwaukee and the police department for the racist murder of their son.

In addition, the Bell family wants the names of all the officials involved. According to Grady, there are still people on the Milwaukee police force who were part of the cover-up.



Have a nice day—On January 20, "traces" of the cancer-causing chemical PCB were found in New York and New Jersey gas pipelines. Also that day, up to a million gallons of oil spilled from a damaged tanker into the bay off Brooklyn. The same day, "a miniscule" amount of radiation leaked from the shut-down Indian Point II nuclear plant north of Manhattan.

No consideration—South Africa's Catholic hierarchy is in quite a tizzy about a nun, sixty-three, who left the church to marry a man, seventy-two. A "scandal" howled a church spokesman.

"It may be a lovely story for the world," he said, "but it's not a nice one for us."

Especially the jobless—Much has been written about the Reagans' snappy style. Art historian Anne Hollander feels it's what the "public" wants. "They represent an ideal," she advised, "and a kind of vision of perfection and affluence that gives us pleasure and makes us want to be part of it."

Timely offer—Buy a Ronald Reagan wristwatch and get a Carter watch

thrown in gratis. Both only \$34.95, plus postage.

Class lines—Vice-president Bush greeted some 15,000 people at an inaugural reception divided into two sections. One for ordinary Republicans, the other for VIPs. As he shuttled to and fro, the MC on the VIP side explained, "As you know, we have . . . the poor on the other side, and the rich over here. He's just talking with the poor for a minute."

Full dose—A Hong Kong consumer council found that twenty U.S. cigarette

brands marketed there had substantially higher tar and nicotine content than those of the same brand offered in this country.

Joe Robotnik—CIA recruiters seek "team players" who fit a psychiatric profile described as the Externalizer-Regulated-Adaptive type. The Externalizer "tends to be . . . more interested in doing than thinking." The Regulated type "does not insist on perspective . . . seeing the world in ordered 'blacks and whites.'" And Adaptive type is "chameleon-like."

By Any Means Necessary

The good ole boys in Reagan's cabinet

Osborne Hart



As the cliché goes, "Honesty is the best policy."

And Reagan's honorable cabinet appointees' integrity is unimpeachable when it comes to Blacks.

James B. Edwards, former governor of South Carolina and ardent proponent of nuclear power, will serve as head of the Department of Energy.

After returning from a tour of South Africa in 1977, Edwards remarked, "The Black influence in American politics prevented the white South African government from getting its fair share of sympathy and understanding."

What Black influence in American policy towards South Africa?

Our protests against U.S. backing for the white minority regime have put pressure on this government, but they haven't forced the curtailment of economic and political ties with South Africa. Not yet, anyway.

Sympathy and understanding?

We're supposed to have sympathy and understanding for a regime that rules through a system—apartheid—based on white supremacy and Black inferiority? Sympathy and understanding for a government that gunned down more than 600 Black school children during the Soweto rebellion in 1976—just a few months before Edwards arrived there?

Then there's James G. Watt, Secretary of the Interior.

Watt has said, "I'm going to be very hesitant to allow a Black doctor to operate on me because I'll always have the feeling that he may have been carried by the quota system."

During his confirmation hearing, Watt refused to discuss or disavow this comment.

Apparently Watt feels more comfortable if Blacks are relegated to shining shoes or sharpening their janitorial skills.

Out of the total enrollment in professional (law and medical) schools, only 4.5 percent are Black. Undoubtedly a good chunk of those Blacks are enrolled because of pressures for affirmative action. And due to the ongoing racist policies of these schools, it's also certain those Black students have to work harder and be more qualified than their white counterparts in order to get their degrees.

Watt didn't say how comfortable he would feel under the knife of a doctor who was "carried" through school by his parents' money or political pull—a much more common occurrence.

The statements by Edwards and Watt, however bold and open, aren't new phenomena for public officials.

Nixon's cronies were known to make off-the-cuff racial slurs.

There was the famous remark by Earl Butz, Secretary of Agriculture during the Nixon and Ford administrations, about Black sexual preferences and other wants—oversized shoes and a warm bathroom. And Billy Carter's *everyone left one in the woodpile* statement.

Butz was forced to resign and Brother Billy was shipped off to an alcohol rehab station.

Edwards and Watt will be with us for a while.

These men reflect the lack of pretense, on the part of the Reagan lot, of favoring the rights of Blacks—an image the Carter administration tried to create.

It came through loud and clear during the Reagan campaign and the Republican Party platform.

Referring to affirmative action, the platform stated, "... equal opportunity should not be jeopardized by bureaucratic regulations and decisions which rely on quotas, ratios and numerical requirements to exclude some individuals in favor of others, thereby rendering such regulations and decisions inherently discriminatory."

In their endorsement of Reagan, the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, said the Republican platform "reads as if it were written by a Klansman."

Reagan's message is clear. The battle lines have been drawn. He plans to continue the offensive against the gains won by Blacks during the past two decades, whether it's affirmative action or desegregation.

On January 15, five days before Reagan took office, a message was sent to him.

More than 100,000 Black people demonstrating in the capital city told Reagan and the likes of Edwards and Watt that we're not going to take what they have to offer.



What's Going On

ARIZONA PHOENIX

THE HANIGAN CASE: UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS FIGHT FOR JUSTICE. Speakers: Tony Bustamante, attorney with National Coalition on the Hanigan Case; Ben Miranda, Phoenix Support Committee for National Coalition on Hanigan Case; Arizona Farm Workers union representative; Phoenix College Black Student Union representative; Josefina Otero, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Jan. 31, 7:30 p.m. Militant Bookstore, 1243 E. McDowell. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (602) 255-0450.

THE HOSTAGES: THE REAL STORY. Speakers to be announced. Sat., Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m. 1243 E. McDowell, Militant Bookstore. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (602) 255-0450.

CALIFORNIA OAKLAND

CUBA TODAY: DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM. Speakers: Roberta Frick, member, International Association of Machinists; Eliseo Pérez-Stable, Antonio Maceo Brigade; Cheryl Letjens, Cuba Resource Group. Sun., Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Socialist Workers Party, Cuba Resource Group, Antonio Maceo Brigade. For more information call (415) 763-3792 or 841-6500.

SAN FRANCISCO

IRAN: BEHIND THE FUROR OVER THE HOSTAGES. Speaker: Barry Sheppard, national co-chair, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Feb. 6, 8 p.m. 3284 23rd St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (415) 824-1992.

POLAND: THE STRUGGLE FOR WORKERS' DEMOCRACY. Speaker: Roland Sheppard, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Feb. 13, 8 p.m. 3284 23rd St. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (415) 824-1992.

INDIANA GARY

REAGAN IN THE SADDLE: CAN WE BUCK HIM? A panel discussion on the meaning of Reagan's election. Speakers: Jesse Smith, Socialist Workers Party; others. Sat., Jan. 31, 3 p.m. 3883 Broadway. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum, Young Socialist Alliance. For more information call (219) 884-9509.

KENTUCKY LOUISVILLE

IRAN: THE HOSTAGE SETTLEMENT. WHY DID IT TAKE 444 DAYS? Speakers: Abdul Qahar, American Muslim Mission; Craig Honts, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m. 131 W. Main. Donation: \$2. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (502) 587-8418.

MICHIGAN DETROIT

REAGANISM: HOW YOUNG PEOPLE CAN FIGHT BACK. Speakers: representatives of Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee, Detroit Young Democrats, Young Socialist Alliance. Sun., Feb. 8, 7 p.m. 6404 Woodward. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: YSA. For more information call (313) 875-5322.

FOUNDING CONFERENCE OF MICHIGAN VETERANS FOR PEACE. Thurs.-Fri., Feb. 12-13, Students Center Building, Wayne State University, Hillberry A-B. Registration—Room 583, 9 a.m. Feb. 12. Plenary 1 p.m. All antidraft U.S. veterans urged to attend national antidraft conference in same building beginning Feb. 13. For more information call (616) 236-5880.

MINNESOTA TWIN CITIES

'SONG OF THE CANARY.' A film on the dangers of the American workplace. Discussion after film. Sun., Feb. 8, 4 p.m. 508 N. Snelling Ave., St. Paul. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Twin Cities Militant Forum. For more information call (612) 644-6325.

MISSOURI ST. LOUIS

CRISIS FOR AUTO WORKERS: THE CHRYSLER

CONTRACT AND PLANT CLOSINGS. Speakers: Bonnie Daniels, vice-president, Local 282 United Auto Workers and Coalition of Labor Union Women; Martha Pettit, United Auto Workers member at GM-Kansas City, former Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senate; others. Sun., Feb. 8, 7 p.m. 6223 Delmar Blvd. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Labor Forum. For more information call (314) 725-1570.

OREGON PORTLAND

RECONSTRUCTION AND THE REVOLUTION IN NICARAGUA. Speaker: Curt Johnson, member, Central America Solidarity Committee and Socialist Workers Party. Sun., Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m. 711 NW Everett. Donation: \$1. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (503) 222-7225.

TEXAS HOUSTON

LOCKHEED: FBI SPY APPARATUS EXPOSED. How a company spies on its workers. Speaker: Andree Kahlmorgen, union activist fired from Lockheed in Atlanta. Sun., Feb. 1, 4 p.m. 806 Elgin. Donation: \$1.50. Ausp: Militant Forum. For more information call (713) 524-8761.

Letters

Labor's future

The most recent edition of Minneapolis Labor Review carried news of the planned celebration this year of what the AFL-CIO calls its centennial.

The current leadership of the AFL-CIO does not seem to know friend from enemy. Supposedly, President Kirkland has invited all Americans to help us celebrate. All? There is no elementary knowledge of the difference between friend and enemy represented by that statement.

Similarly, Kirkland's statement shows no appreciation for a perspective that what is good for the AFL-CIO is ultimately good for the citizens of this country, while not in keeping with all the economic interests which are now a part of the USA. This has to be part of a general incapacity of the current labor

leaders to recognize and deal responsibly with the conflicts of interest that fracture, distort, alienate, and diffuse what would otherwise be the effects of the organization of labor.

No organism can live well or long if its head is separated from its body. Organizations suffer in similar circumstances. The AFL-CIO is now proving that.

If a healthier relationship between the leaders and members of the AFL-CIO is not developed relatively soon without painful dislocation, it means a much more difficult future for the labor movement in particular and the people of this country in general.

In Poland, the impressive new leadership of Solidarity has acted in a responsible manner which proves its conservative opponents irresponsible. We must beware of vulgar comparisons between them and us, but there are appropriate

generalizations that should be made. The task is to recognize opportunities for the organization of labor and act as well as possible upon them.

The value of the *Militant* is not to be found in ABC ratings, plant and machinery, or now even its circulation. It is to be found in the portent of its ideas, the potential for us to be part of the solution rather than part of the problem. The greater the realization of that potential, the greater the possibilities that the future of the labor movement will be much less difficult.

Jim Krahn
Minneapolis, Minnesota

the rest of Lucasville will be locked down too.

We need to speak out about the bad condition of the food, which is cold most of the time.

And there is a need for legal defense for the brothers who are here on frame-up charges or who have rebelled.

There is still a very young administration here at Lucasville, but the games they are using here are very, very old. Divide and conquer.

Also, the KKK is out and out attacking the handful of brothers here who do get out of solitary confinement.

Prisoners
Lucasville Prison, Ohio

The real terrorists

It was simply outrageous to listen to General Alexander Haig (while he was answering questions before the Senate Committee) denouncing Cuba as a "country which fosters terrorism."

General Haig seems to forget that it has been his own government that has fostered terrorism against the Cuban revolutionary government by: planning attempts against the life of Fidel Castro and other Cuban leaders, training and sending the mercenary invasion of Playa Girón [Bay of Pigs] against Cuba in April 1961, training and sending saboteurs to cripple the Cuban economy during the last twenty-two years and, most recently, by allowing organizations such as the infamous "Omega 7" to function freely in this country.

When the U.S. government will stop its hostile actions against the Cuban government, and move against "Omega 7" and all the other terrorist groups which have been receiving open support from the CIA and the FBI, then we might grant some credibility to General Haig's statements.

Meanwhile, he remains a mouthpiece of the military-industrial complex and the forces of reaction in the United States of America.

Adrian J. Alpendre
Fairview, New Jersey

Correction

In the January 16 *Militant* article "Salvador Will Win" we incorrectly reported that the Union of Young Communists of Cuba sent a message to the Young Socialist Alliance convention. The message received came from the Secretariat of OCLAE, the Organization of Students from the Latin American Continent, which is based in Havana.

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.

Isidore Gersh

Dr. Isidore Gersh, Professor Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania, formerly Research Professor in Animal Biology, died on January 13. Throughout his professional life, his knowledge and expertise were recognized and sought after. He was a man of stature in his field.

But this was just one side of Isidore Gersh. Those of us who knew him saw a sensitive, caring, gentle human being. A tall, imposing figure, he could be seen marching in demonstrations to protest the Vietnam war; to demand the Equal Rights Amendment and abortion rights; to support the Nicaraguan and Iranian revolutions. He was fiercely intolerant of oppression and inequality.

Isidore Gersh always gave his support to the struggles of workers for control of their lives. Raised in Brooklyn, the son of a tailor who was a member of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, Isidore witnessed the strikes endured by his father and others, and their determination to win the fight for the union, for decent working conditions and a livable wage.

This made a deep impression on Isidore Gersh, so

that he was among the first faculty members at the University of Pennsylvania to come to the aid of the maintenance workers in their battle for union recognition. He attended every support meeting, walked every picket line, wrote letters to the administration and joined with the students—until the cause was won.

He was pleased and supportive when first his daughter, Ilona, and then his wife, Eileen, joined the Socialist Workers Party. Isidore was not a "joiner," but he attended forums and other activities of the Socialist Workers Party, read the *Militant* and *Intercontinental Press* regularly, and discussed his socialist ideas with others. The Philadelphia branch of the SWP regarded him as an active supporter.

Last year Isidore participated in a tour of Cuba. His enthusiasm for what he saw was unbounded—the emphasis on education, health care, concern for people all over the world. This was a glimpse of the kind of society Isidore wished for.

When I think of Isidore Gersh, I think of "socialist man." It was an honor to have known him.

Naomi Berman
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Hostage hoopla

I don't know what the reaction has been like in the rest of the country, but several of my co-workers here in the D.C. Metro system say they've had it up to their ears with the hoopla over the hostages. Dragging the issue into the Superbowl yesterday was the final straw.

Comments at work last night after the game ranged from, "Personally, I don't have anything against the hostages, but I sure am tired of hearing about them," to "Does anyone mind if I turn this off?" when the station we were listening to in the company van began the umpteenth update on the hostages' condition.

No one minded.
Michael Baumann
Washington, D.C.

Letter from Lucasville

We the oppressed minorities here at Lucasville Concentration Camp have, with a lot of uncertainty and apprehension, agreed it is now the best time to try and reach out to our Brothers and Sisters. We need mutual communication of opinions and views, and support.

A handful of us are being kept locked up in control cells. The guards—whose word is law as far as it goes in the courtroom—are persisting in frame-up lies here. The majority here are locked up in administrative control, which is really solitary confinement.

Many cell blocks are locked down. Without outside support

Iranians & Reagan

People in Iran in their majority have not noticed the coming of the Christian New Year [which is celebrated at a different time in Iran]. However, the year 1981, which is associated with the name of Reagan and his new war administration, has been noticed all right. Huge demonstrations took place here the first week of January with the slogan "Death to Reagan."

If the U.S. were to make the stupid move of attacking Iran directly, this country would become the graveyard of thousands of American soldiers. The mood here, especially among the workers, is one of fight to the last drop of blood.

During the last two years, Iranians have paid too high a price—with thousands of lives lost for our revolution—to let Reagan impose on us a dictatorship like the shah's regime.

One of the popular slogans here says: "The U.S. is hollow; Vietnam was the evidence." I like to add that another evidence was the anti-Vietnam War movement of the American people. I'm sure the working people in the U.S. will once again prove that they will not back Reagan's war moves, but instead back the efforts of our people to liberate themselves from the yoke of imperialism.

A reader
Teheran, Iran

If You Like This Paper, Look Us Up

Where to find the Socialist Workers Party, Young Socialist Alliance, and socialist books and pamphlets

ALABAMA: Birmingham: SWP, YSA, 205 18th St. S. Tel: (205) 323-3079. Zip: 35233.

ARIZONA: Phoenix: SWP, YSA, 1243 E. McDowell. Zip: 85006. Tel: (602) 255-0450.

CALIFORNIA: Oakland: SWP, YSA, 2864 Telegraph Ave. 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: 01004. Tel: (413) 256-0640. Boston: SWP, YSA, 510 Commonwealth Ave., 4th Floor. Zip: 02215. Tel: (617) 262-4621.

MICHIGAN: Ann Arbor: YSA. Tel: (313) 663-7068. Detroit: SWP, YSA, 6404 Woodward Ave. Zip: 48202. Tel: (313) 875-5322.

MINNESOTA: Mesabi Iron Range: SWP, YSA, 1012 2nd Ave. South, Virginia, Minn. Send mail to P.O. Box 1287. 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, YSA, 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 Bill Donovan, 1240 E. Branch Rd. Zip: 16801. Tel: (814) 234-6655.

RHODE ISLAND: Providence: YSA, P.O. Box 1322, Annex Station. Zip: 02901.

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. Baltimore-Washington District: 3106 Mt. Pleasant St., NW., Washington, D.C. Zip: 20010. Tel: (202) 797-7021.

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

Black leaders, unionists back antidraft conference February 13-15 in Detroit

By Joanne Kuniansky

DETROIT—Support for the first National Antidraft Conference is growing in the Black community, the labor movement, and among Central American solidarity activists.

The conference, sponsored by the National Committee Against Registration and the Draft (NCARD), will take place here February 13-15.

Rev. Jim Holley, president of Detroit Operation PUSH, will speak at the opening rally Friday, February 13 at 7 p.m.

The Detroit chapter of the National Black Independent Political Party has endorsed the conference and will have a speaker at the rally.

Phil Shannon, chairperson of the chapter's youth committee, says that it plans to bring Black youth to the conference because "we feel that Washington's war drive is not a substitute for decent jobs. The painful memory of Vietnam is still clear in our minds, when thousands of Black youth were killed or maimed senselessly for greedy corporate profits."

Luis Vasquez, from the Association in Solidarity with Guatemala, and a representative of the Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador will also speak at the conference.

The Detroit Nicaragua Solidarity Committee and the Michigan Inter-Church Committee for Human Rights in Central America have endorsed the conference. A special leaflet will be mailed to activists in solidarity committees here in Detroit.

High School activists met and wrote a leaflet distributed at the high schools. It explains that "a draft would force you to kill the poor, the children, and the oppressed of El Salvador for the selfish profits of the U.S. government."

"Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said, 'I have a dream that one day all men shall work hand in hand.' Military interven-



Militant/Lou Howort

Antidraft protest in Washington last March. National conference in Detroit will chart future course of movement.

tion in El Salvador would crush this dream."

At a cocktail party here January 23, Ramsey Clark spoke out against U.S. intervention in Central America. The event raised over \$1,000 for the national conference.

The conference has also won impressive support from the union movement. Labor speakers at the February 13 rally will include: Dick Greenwood, special assistant to William Winpisinger, president of the International Association of Machinists; Al Benchich, region 1, United Auto Workers (UAW) Youth Council; and Jerry Gordon, Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment.

In addition, the following unionists have endorsed: Mike Rinaldi, president, UAW Local 600 (River Rouge Plant); William Winpisinger; Martin Gerber, UAW vice-president and director of organizing; Robert Lopez, UAW international representative; Reginald McGhee, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees staff representative; Thomas Turner, president, Metro Detroit AFL-CIO; Erwin Johnson, president, AFSCME Council 25.

Other speakers include Russ Bellant, president, Wayne State Student/Faculty Council; Dave Dellinger; Erma Henderson, president of the Detroit City

Council; and Barry Lynn, chairperson of NCARD.

Cars, vans, and buses are coming to the conference from antidraft coalitions in Pittsburgh; Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Amherst, Massachusetts; Chicago; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Los Angeles; Toledo, Ohio; Washington, D.C.; Baltimore; Twin Cities, Minnesota; and other areas.

The rally and conference will be held on the Wayne State University Campus. For further information contact: CARD, Room 798, Student Center Building, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan 48202, or call (313) 577-3451.

Koch & landlords let NY tenants freeze

By Nelson González

New York, the Empire City, Big Apple, city of skyscrapers, the leading city in the most economically advanced country on the face of the earth. People come here from all over the world to marvel at the awesome buildings and gape at the spectacles of the cultural scene.

But there is the other side. On January 5 John Grimes, age sixty-seven, a retired Brooklyn Navy Yard electrician, died in New York City from exposure to the freezing weather.

On January 4 Teddy Puller, age fifty-two, was found dead—another victim of one of the coldest winters in the history of New York.

On January 20 the frozen bodies of two women were found in the Bronx and Brooklyn. One was literally encased in ice.

Were these people trying to swim the frozen Hudson River or walking naked in the middle of Central Park in sub-zero weather?

No. They were sitting in their rent-paid apartments that landlords left

without heat or hot water for nearly two months.

Since the beginning of this winter New York's Central Complaint Bureau had received 205,526 complaints from tenants with no heat or hot water.

On January 9 the Center for Disease Control reported that New York was one of the states suffering outbreaks of influenza of epidemic proportions. In a six-week period dating back from January 9 more than 100 people died as a result of pneumonia, according to the Department of Health.

"My children are sick. I've gone to the doctor several times already; now not even the blankets keep us warm," related Agata Marino of the Bronx. "We all sleep in the living room, close to the kitchen, near the only source of heat we have, a pot of boiling water we keep going twenty-four hours a day."

While tens of thousands of New Yorkers, mostly Blacks and Puerto Ricans, are desperately seeking ways to protect their families, what has been the response of Mayor Edward Koch and his Democratic administration?

Several tenants' organizations have organized no-heat rent strikes and have called for city takeovers of abandoned buildings.

In response, Koch warned that heat and hot water could not be provided without a profit incentive. "Some people want to destroy the private sector in this country," he said.

Simply put, the lives and well being of working people in New York aren't worth a damn next to the right of the landlords to make a profit.

As if to make this point clearer, the Koch administration has given heatless tenants the following choices:

One, under the Heat Emergency Apartment Leasing Program, if you can live without a toilet bowl, a stove, or a refrigerator, you are welcome to relocate to several city-owned apartment buildings made available for "refuge."

Two, you can stay at one of the three understaffed and undersupplied armories made available for heatless tenants, at least those who can make it there (many are elderly).

Finally, if you feel that paying the rent entitles you to some rights, you can take your case to court, like eight families who lived in the Fort Greene section of Brooklyn. They had been in court since their boiler blew up on October 24. It wasn't until January 5, after one of the tenants froze to death, that the judge apologized and asked the tenants if they wanted to temporarily relocate.

As of January 20, there were 22,000 buildings in violation of temperature codes.

While the rents go up, wages go down, and people freeze to death, Koch is proposing a budget with a \$20 million reduction in business taxes and hiring 1,000 cops (no doubt to protect landlords from irate tenants).

Day by day, thousands of New Yorkers are coming to realize that actions like rent strikes or a mass visit to the mayor's well-heated home at Gracie Mansion for some face-to-face complaining are the only way to straighten things out.